

**Rivergrove City Council Minutes**  
**Aug 14, 2023, 7:00 PM**

**Standing Items**

1. Call to order and attendance (Mayor, Councilors, and Guests)

*Present: Mayor J Williams, Councilors Barhyte, Tuttle and McLean. Council President B Ruble was not able to attend.*

*Acting City Manager Lisa Merlo-Flores has resigned.*

*Guests Mike Salch, Marcel and Susie Lahsene, Schaefers, J Joyce, Landon and Jude, Billie Cottingham, Andrew Herbert and Amy.*

2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting(s)

*The minutes from the July 10 meeting were written by Counselor Tuttle and sent to the Council. There were no additions or corrections to them, so Councilor Barhyte moved to approve them. Councilor Tuttle seconded. The motion was approved 4-0. [closed]*

3. Approval of City financials

*With the resignation of the City Manager and incomplete quick books information the approval was tabled. [OPEN]*

**Presentations from Outside Agencies and Guests** *there was none*

**Standing Items:**

1. Ask if any member of the public wishes to speak on an agenda item or a non-agenda item. Please limit your speech to 3 minutes

*{3.24} Marcell Lahsene stated that in his opinion the Council has not addressed issues around the boatramp. Of concern to him is the lack of signage, hours, and traffic down Marlin which has a number of senior residents. Susie Lahsene then commented she was saddened and concerned 8.40}to see we lost another City Manager, recently we have lost 3 City Mangers and two City Planners.*

*{8.40} Landon Gentry thought the City should have submitted a request to the Planning Commission to remove an Ash tree. Also concerned about removal of branches from a Maple with an excavator. Expressed concern about the light that was placed at the boat ramp. He argued for a lock on the gate and for pruning the laurel intruding into the ramp.*

2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting

### 3. Discussion and approval of city financials

## Public Comment on Agenda or non-agenda Items

### Planning Commission Report: Representative from the Planning Commission

{14.09} *Andrew Herbert, Planning Commission Chair, stated he did not feel that he had a lot of support from the Council regarding the plan for restoration of the boat ramp and that a plan should have been submitted to the Planning Commission. He believes City Ordinances were not followed. He also disagreed with the Council's decision to return the appeal of the 4810 Dogwood development back to the Planning Commission. He is now feeling uncomfortable with his position as a Planning Commission member and is resigning.*

*Councilor Barhyte stated/yard work he believes the City Ordinances do not require submission to the Planning Commission for what is basically landscaping/yard work. There was discussion between him and Andrew Herbert regarding this matter.*

*Councilor Barhyte stated that the 4810 application was returned to the Planning Commission because they made a decision based on incomplete information.*

## Unfinished Business

### 1. Boat Ramp and Lloyd Minor Park Project Updates

{47.52} *We have allotted \$5,000 to Firwood for a design. Hopefully by October we will take a final design and submit it to the government agencies involved. Probably the start date around May. Two possible solutions, one is more long term. Firwood suggested there may be grant money needed because of the cost of the project exceeding available corona virus funds. We should get a final design and then seek a partner agency to manage the project. We need to allocate \$9,000 to take it to that final stage all the way back to the street. The scope of work has not changed.*

*Councilor Tuttle asked if the survey of the ramp had been completed, and if it had it be sent to Councilors and posted on the web site. He also stated that the City should ensure that there is no adverse possession by adjacent properties if fences are on City property, but the City would not ask for fences be moved until they are repaired or redone. Mayor Williams stated he sees no benefit to making them move the fences, but we should make sure the understanding is documented. [OPEN]*

{1.03.42} Councilor Barhyte suggested that we raise the money allotted from \$4,000 to \$9,000 to funds bids, designs and management of the project from the existing corona virus funds. Mayor Williams made a motion of basically redistributing and reallocating an additional money from the corona to a total of \$9,000 to the boat ramp project as suggested by Councilor Barhyte. Councilor McLean seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

2. New Park Benches for Lloyd Minor Park

{1.07.10} Councilor Barhyte stated we already have allocation for three park benches and discussed the possibility of purchasing signboards. Councilor McLean mentioned there was \$7,000 from system development funds we could spend. Councilor Tuttle pointed out we had previously allocated \$3,000 for 3 park benches that will replace the existing ones. There was no action on purchasing sign boards.

3. Canal Road Contract Negotiation with Lake Oswego and Lake Corp

Mayor Willimas attended a meeting with representatives from the Lake Corp and the City of Lake Oswego. An agreement was reached to repair the road with the Lake Corp, a private entity, taking the lead. The contribution from the City of Rivergrove is unknown at this time, but unlikely to exceed \$5,000. Further discussion will be held about a plan for annual maintenance. [closed]

4. Metro Grant Funding for Park Planning

Not discussed

5. Return of the Stark Boat Ramp Sign

{1.39.00} It was returned, Arne Nyberg got it out of his basement and gave it to Lisa Merlo-Flores. It was suggested that it be give to Byron Kibbey to touch up as needed and then put back up. [OPEN]

## **New Business**

1. Request for the Alleyway Restoration from Childs to Dogwood through Lloyd Minor Park

{25.11} Councilor McLean, speaking as a citizen, states that citizens would like to see the alleyway go through to Dogwood. We don't know who actually owns the property or if there is an easement. Mayor Williams recall that because of vehicles degrading the Park, a log was placed in front of Dogwood to prevent that. At this point the City and/or residents need to determine ownership before we can go forward on this issue. [closed]

2. Discussion Regarding adding a Motion Light on the Boat Ramp

*{33.25} Councilor McLean stated that he installed it to light up the boat ramp as a matter of safety. It also might deter people from entering the ramp after hours. Mayor Williams stated he felt that something like this should be considered by the full Council and would need citizen input, especially the adjacent neighbors.*  
[closed]

3. Discussion Regarding Job Postings for City Manager and Contract Planner

*{43.16} Mayor Williams stated that we do have a potential candidate for the City Manager that looks promising. Regarding the previous 3 City Managers, one did not want to work with the present Council, another self-identified that they were professionally unable to do the job. The Mayor is exploring some options.*  
**[OPEN]**

4. Vandalism in Lloyd Minor Park

*Not discussed*

5. Discussion regarding Dog Waste in Heritage Park

*Councilor McLean was down there the other day, and it did not look bad at all.*  
[closed]

6. Citizen Concern regarding Home Businesses

*This item was referred to the Planning Commission. Councilor Tuttle pointed out that since the allegation was a violation of the Land Use code, this was the proper decision.* [closed]

**Council Reports:**

1. Council President Ruble:

*Council President Ruble was unable to attend.*

2. Councilor Barhyte:

*He is working on getting a bid for repair or replacement for the broken slide in Minor Park. His other reports were discussed above under unfinished business.*

3. Councilor McLean:

{1.21.10} *Dogwood and Marlin have all been paved.*

4. Councilor Tuttle:

*No update on emergency management. A citizen talked to me about a fence going up on the southwest side of Childs and Marlin wondering if it met code. Mayor Williams stated there shouldn't be a concern because properties along Childs have hedges bigger than that, but hopefully the sight line at Childs and Marlin meets standards. It is a Clackamas County issue.*

5. Mayor's Report:

{1.26.00} *The Mayor, Lisa Merlo-Flores, two people from the City of Lake Oswego and a representative from Lake Corp met to talk about the issue. Lake Corp will be taking the lead on this issue. Short term solution is a one-time regrading of the road for which there was a reasonable bid. We budgeted \$5,000 for this, but it will likely be less. This will be done fairly soon. A long-term solution is being worked on.*

*He met with a neighbor and had a very productive and polite discussion about challenges and issues with the boat ramp.*

*He had a citizen inquiry about who authorized the limbing of trees in Minor Park and what was the source of funds. He sent out the message to the Council but received no response. The funds came out of Park mowing funds.*

**City Manager Report**

*The interim City Manager resigned so there is no report.*

**Executive Session:** *Not needed*

**Adjournment and Announcement of Next Meeting Time.**