

## Rivergrove City Council Special Meeting Minutes

April 13th 2023, 7:00 PM

### STANDING ITEMS

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

*Present were Mayor J Williams, Council President Brenda Ruble, Councilors Chris Barhyte, Bill Tuttle and Doug McLean*

*Acting City Manager June Carlson has resigned.*

*Citizens Attending Dave Pierce, Billie Cottingham, Janice and Bob, Mary Mann Carolyn Bahrmn, Landon and June, Michael Hawkins, Lisa Merlo-Flores, Mary Lou, Joan Joyce, Roger and the Shaeffers*

*Mayor J Williams noted that we were behind the normal timeline for the annual budget meeting. He asked if anyone, or anyone they knew, would be willing to serve on the committee, let him know.*

### PUBLIC COMMENT ON CORONA VIRUS FUNDING

*Mayor J. Williams started the conversation by stating we would need to ensure that projects approved meet the requirements for funding.*

*Susie Lahsene was concerned about citizen input. She stated that the list currently considered was not the one the previous council developed with citizen input. Wanted the council to remember to consider transparency. She went through the current list comparing it to the old one. One specific concern was that the current list addresses only one area of the city. Specifically, a Park plan for Heritage was not included.*

*Landen and Jude had submitted an email with their comments and expressed five areas of concern as follows:*

1. *They felt that there were only two days of notice for the current list of projects to consider.*
2. *They were concerned about the Councilor's lack of knowledge about what the funds could be used for.*
3. *They felt the list focused too much on the area around Lloyd Minor Park.*
4. *Some items on the list seemed nonsensical.*
5. *Finally, they expressed concern that we spend money for things, but not for maintenance.*

*Dave Pierce stated that he, along with Council President Ruble had spent considerable time trying to discern what was eligible for funding and what was not. It was difficult for some items, and he suggested that when approved, we need to get in writing that the project.*

*The current list is somewhat of a departure from the previous, but some of those did not meet criteria and some others were eliminated for good reason. We need to maintain what we have.*

*We need to ensure we have the authority to do the ADA ramp, but because of liability, we need to prioritize it.*

*For Lloyd Minor Park, we should not limb up trees without an arborist report and some neighbors appreciate the privacy that the current situation gives them.*

*The prior list had been in the public domain for quite a while, don't throw it away, but maybe reprioritize. Suggest focusing on Lloyd Minor Park and the boat ramp.*

## **CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

*Mayor J Williams reviewed all e-mails submitted, and summarized the findings and opinions. The e-mails were from Susie Lahsene, Marlow, and R Shafer.*

*Councilor Tuttle's priorities are as follows: 1. Construct the ADA ramp because it is a legal issue. 2. Develop Park plans for both Minor and Heritage Parks. 3. Repair the boat ramp.*

*Council President Ruble prioritized repairing the boat ramp and maintaining what we have. She resonated with Landon's comments on using volunteers when possible, instead of paying for everything. She said she would be making her decisions based upon the public trust doctrine.*

*Councilor McLean said he talked to two people with the League of Oregon C stated that the park and boat ramp projects would meet criteria. Public opinion has been welcomed for over a year. We need to submit our projects and estimated costs by April 30, 2023.*

*Councilor McLean stated that the electronic gate was pulled from projects because of the cost. He believes the gate should not even be there. repair comes before the gate. Suggests that them ADA ramp could come out of the highway fund. Volunteers could trim up trees.*

*After discussion, Councilor Barhyte made a motion to approve the boat ramp restoration bid with On Demand Excavation for \$42,775.00 not to include the electronic gate. Mayor Williams seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

*Mayor J Williams made a motion to approve the J&J Costa bid of \$2,000.00 to construct an ADA ramp between Lorna Lane and Dogwood Ct Councilor Tuttle seconded with the addendum that the money be taken from the Highway fund if possible. Motion passed 5-0.*

*Councilor Barhyte made a motion to approve Minor Park renovation and improvement. The adding of benches and tables from Rivergrove Elementary will not be included, nor will limbing up of trees. Councilor Tuttle stated that there is no park plan to determine where benches and tables are to be placed, and that the City Arborist needs to review limbing up trees. The bid is by Caldwell Landscaping for \$29,200.00 when the benches and tree trimming is excluded. Motion passed 4-1 with Mayor J Williams voting nay.*

*Councilor Tuttle suggested having a work session with the public to develop ideas for park plans.*

*Council President Ruble said we need a Comp Plan update to proceed with Heritage Park development.*

*Councilor Mclean wanted to discuss taking down the gate, but this cannot be discussed because it was not on the published agenda.*

*Mayor J Williams calculated that we have now allocated \$81,970.00 of the Corona virus funds.*

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*Mayor J Williams adjourned the meeting.*