

**City of Rainier**  
**REDCO Budget Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**June 7, 2021**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
**Rainier City Hall**

REDCO Budget Committee Chair Robert duPlessis called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

REDCO Budget Committee Members Present: Connie Budge, Terry Deaton, Robert duPlessis, Kris Guist, Mike Kreger, Jan Rich and Brenda Tschida

Staff Present: W. Scott Jorgensen, Sue Lawrence

- A. \*Motion to approve the 2021/2022 Budget by the Budget Committee.**
- B. \*Motion to authorize Option 3 (Standard Rate) Amount From Division of Tax \$300,000.**
- C. If needed, announce time and date to reconvene next budget meeting**  
**Or, \*Motion to adjourn if budget is approved.**

Jan Rich said she had a series of questions about the proposed REDCO budget. Have there been any changes to the stated goals? They're identical to the ones from last year. Connie Budge said there haven't been any changes to the goals for some time. Rich said that she expected some changes, since the A Street project is now complete. She noted the \$200,000 proposed for federal transportation. Robert duPlessis said \$2 million in federal funds may be available for improvements to Veterans Way but require a 20 percent match. City Administrator W. Scott Jorgensen verified that Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici's office had put in a request for \$2 million to be included in a federal infrastructure bill for the Veterans Way project. The 20 percent match equals \$400,000, but the City can spread that out over a few years. Rich asked about the \$3,000 proposed for office expenses. Mike Kreger said that was for accounting software and a new laptop. He explained that the finance officer sets the budget from input from the city's department heads. Budge explained that REDCO is funded through dollars taken from local taxing districts for special projects like the USG debt fund. Some goals were prioritized years ago to address blighted areas and projects were funded to support those goals, like improvements along Highway 30. The city used to provide trainings on urban renewal agencies and how they work and she would like to have that again. duPlessis said the amounts that are collected mostly go to debt service. Deaton said goals are listed but projects are not. The budget should be addressing projects. There should be plans on when those start, end and what their costs are. She would like to get that back on track so it's more functional. REDCO can only budget for projects, not goals. There should be a narrative in the budget. REDCO used to have an intergovernmental agreement with the city for \$75,000 per year. Was that rescinded by the council? duPlessis said that money was being used for projects that the city could do on its own. Rich said that REDCO gets annual reviews, but not audits. With regards to Veterans Way, a

project has to be established before funds can be set aside for it. Budge said there had been no discussion at REDCO about it. Kreger said the REDCO board hasn't met since the potential federal funding has come up. Deaton said an annual report is required to be filed every year with copies sent to all the special districts that fund REDCO. This is not being done. Budge said the city's budget has information but the proposed REDCO budget is one page and does not have a narrative. There are goals but no outline of projects. Because of all that, she will have to vote against passing the budget. duPlessis called for a motion to approve the budget. No motion was made. The next meeting was scheduled for 5 p.m. on June 21.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

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Jerry Cole, Mayor

Attested by: \_\_\_\_\_

W. Scott Jorgensen, City Administrator

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