



COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday February 22, 2022

1. Call to Order Time: 6:00pm

2. Old Business

A. Discussion of Increase on Cemetery Fee's

There was discussion on increasing the cemetery fees. Council member Andy mentioned raising the prices no more than \$50.00. Council member Mary agrees as does Vera. Council did question if there was something in specific that was not on the fee list. It was then confirmed that oversized liners were not included. Mayor did question broken vases and if the city would be responsible for replacing stolen or broken ones. Council member Arturo did confirm that the city would pay for up to one time only.

There was conversation about closing the cemetery gates afterhours. Mayor reports vandalism and finding people in parked cars outside the cemetery sleeping. Mayor suggest designating someone to close the gates before leaving and having public works open them when they arrive. There was a concern from council member Vera who is concerned about the weekends. Mayor agrees to leave the gates open on the weekends for now.

There was also conversation on creating a new cemetery board.

Josh reports the cost of an oversized liner which was \$631.80. Josh also mentioned this was the only time he had ran into this situation since he's been employed with the City. There were no further questions on the increase of cemetery fees.

3. New Business

A. Discussion with Commissioner LaDon Linde

- ARPA funds- opportunities to help our local cities and port districts by partnering with them if they have projects that fit our criteria.

Mr. Linde explains ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds and how the Yakima County intends to use their 48 million-dollar funds. LaDon reports that they have not spent any of their APRA funds and would like to team up with other towns to match projects. Some projects that could be accepted are public safety, repair infrastructures, produce clean water or create new infrastructures.

An application is being created and should become available in about a month. There will be a

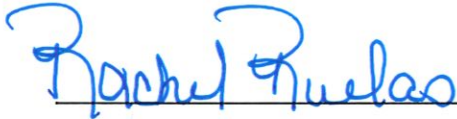
press release with this information. Once the application is available, the city can then fill out the application and submit it for consideration. The intention is not to spend it all in one year. Josh did clarify that these funds are what the city calls Covid Money. Mayor Ruelas did ask about possibly ding a duplex or triplex building for the community. Mayor asked if that would be considered as a qualifying project. Mr. Linde did confirm it could potentially be taken into consideration.

- Community cleanup. The County Commissioners are hoping to encourage local cleanups through some financial assistance.

Mr. Linde explains community cleanup. The contribution that the County Commissioners are willing to offer is covering tipping fee at the landfill. It was also explained that this is all coordinated through the Yakima County Code Enforcers.

4. Adjournment:

Time: 6:22p.m



Rachel Ruelas, Mayor



Sylvia Sanchez, City Clerk