

REDMOND CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION SUMMARY

August 13, 2019

Mayor

John Marchione *(not in attendance)*

Members of the Council

Angela Birney, President

David Carson, Vice-President

Jeralee Anderson

Steve Fields

Hank Margeson

Hank Myers

Tanika Padhye

Staff

Maxine Whattam, Chief Operating Officer

Malisa Files, Finance Director

Jonny Chambers, Technology and Information
Services Director

Cheryl Xanthos, CMC, Interim City Clerk

Convened: 7:30 p.m.

Adjourned: 9:52 p.m.

Council President Birney opened the meeting and overviewed the agenda.

Cable Franchise Renewal

Mr. Jonny Chambers, Technology and Information Services Director, and Mr. Tom and Bob Duchen, from River Oaks Communications Corporation, provided a report to the Members of the Council:

- company background;
- Comcast and Frontier are the current cable franchises and have contracts expiring next year;
- review of fees charged;
- Public, Educational, and Government (PEG) fees were phased out in the City;
- PEG fees can only be used for capital programs;
- franchise fees can be used for any purpose;
- recommendation is to amend the contracts to create more opportunities for the City;
- negotiate amended cable franchises;
- FCC changes;
- cost study;
- reviewed recommendations on possible changes to the franchise agreements;
- infrastructure and capacity;
- projected costs;
- Smart City approach; and
- next steps.

General discussion ensued regarding providing follow-up to the Council; infrastructure; fiber optics; the process is being driven by changes in the industry; not pursuing new agreements due to cost and time; being as progressive as other cities; uptime requirements; affordability; support for

amending the agreements; benefits for subscribers; and support for bringing this item forward for Council approval.

(recessed 8:46, reconvened 8:55)

Community Strategic Plan

Ms. Maxine Whattam, Chief Operating Officer, and Ms. Malisa Files, Finance Director, provided an update on the Community Strategic Plan:

- background of the plan;
- program vision;
- public outreach;
- progress to date;
- financial forecast update;
- effect of trade issues on the state;
- 2019-2024 updated forecast shows a smaller deficit than previously due to the increase in sales tax revenue;
- housing choices funding;
- public safety levy has lost buying power since it was approved by voters in 2007;
- community involvement regarding public safety service levels; and
- finalize and adopt the Community Strategic Plan.

General discussion ensued throughout regarding a property purchase and uses of the property; increasing funds in the CIP; forecasting conservatively; types of investments; strategic challenges and necessary actions; issues to focus on; staff resources; strategic priorities; follow-up at a committee meeting; longer public comment period; and adoption of the plan.

Council Talk Time

Councilmember Birney stated that the Finance, Administration, and Communications Committee of the Whole meeting is this coming Tuesday, combined with the Public Safety Committee of the Whole meeting, and the August 27th study session is cancelled; So Bazaar is this Thursday and there will be some road closures; and overviewed the upcoming regular business meeting schedule.

Councilmember Anderson thanked those who planned and attended National Night Out.

Councilmember Myers commented regarding holding a briefing on comments from National Night Out.

Councilmember Fields stated that a resident commented regarding rats in Redmond and it should be followed up on and guidance provided to residents.