

**Official Minutes of the City of Mount Rainier  
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SESSION  
SUN TRUST BANK  
DATE: April 18, 2020  
Webex Meeting**

**Call to Order**

9:30 PM, Webex Meeting

**Presiding Officer**

Mayor Malinda Miles

**Officials Present**

Councilmember Celina Benitez  
Councilmember Scott Cecil (Called in later to the Public Session)  
Councilmember Luke Chesek  
Councilmember Bryan Knedler

**Staff Present**

Interim City Manager Latasha C. Gatling  
City Clerk John Hoatson  
Sofonda McMillian, Staff Accountant

**Minutes provided by:**

City Clerk

**Call to Order 9:36 AM**

**Motion to Call Meeting to Order: Mayor Malinda Miles**

**Move: Councilmember Luke Chesek**

**Second: Councilmember Bryan Knedler**

**Vote Recorded: 3-0-0**

Mayor Miles stated the purpose of the meeting was to get some old signatures off and new signature on at Sun Trust Bank.

Agenda was read by Councilmember Bryan Knedler

**Motion to Approve The Agenda: Mayor Malinda Miles**

**Move: Councilmember Luke Chesek**

**Second: Councilmember Bryan Knedler**

**Vote Recorded: 3-0-0**

**Mayor Miles** - Still have old signatures including Miranda Braatz on the credit card accounts. This came to Mayor & Council's attention because of actions that took place during the last couple of days. Sun Trust sent a document over and need to fill it out and determine the names of the people who will be allowed access to the credit card. No can right now can use the credit card. Mayor asked Interim City Manager where is the resolution that established the credit card policy. This is a time to talk about the policy and

**Councilmember Luke Chesek** asked if Interim City Manager Latasha Gatling had any recommendations for the credit cards.

**Interim City Manager** stated that you already have policy in place. You already passed a resolution regarding control of the credit card. Go with what you already have on record or already agreed to.

**Mayor Miles** asked if it allows for one credit card holder or more?

How many cards are being ordered?

**Councilmember Bryan Knedler** stated this resolution is what got Mayor & City Council in trouble. It has a clause that City Manager can amend it. Does not say they have to come back to Mayor & City Council.

**Mayor Miles** stated she wants to sign the Sun Trust but amend the resolution to reflect who is holding the credit cards. Also make sure no liquor is being purchased on the credit card.

**Interim City Manager Latasha Gatling** added that good practice is to have at minimum two to three names – someone from Mayor & City Council that is the person who has longevity as long as they are in office, City Manager and someone who Mayor & City Council designate.

**Councilmember Celina Benitez** stated that there needs to be at least two or three credit cards because one is not working.

**Mayor Miles** stated that hearing the recommendation, she would want Mayor & Council. Not just Mayor, not just Council. She would also want the City Manager, maybe the Finance Director but definitely the Police Chief.

**Councilmember Luke Chesek** stated he agrees it should be City Manager, Director of Finance and Police Chief. Does not want Mayor & City Council to have one.

**Mayor Miles** stated someone has to have the authority to make the changes at the bank. It is not Latasha and not the Chief.

**Luke Chesek** stated he is ok with three credit cards. City Manager, Finance Director and Police Chief. With access to bank account he is fine with recommendations.

**Councilmember Bryan Knedler** asked about the limit on the credit card

**Sofonda McMillian**, Staff Accountant stated that the limit on the credit card that DeMornai had was \$35,000.00.

**Councilmember Luke Chesek** stated there seems to be consensus that credit cards would be issued to City Manager, Director of Finance and Police Chief with the \$10,000 limit.

**Mayor Miles** wants a motion made to agree to the terms and conditions of the bank and add the following names to the credit cards.

Interim City Manager, Latasha C. Gatling

Police Chief, Anthony Morgan

Whoever the new / old Finance Director will be on this document.

Also need to set the limit at \$10,000. Exceptions may be made by decision of Mayor & City Council.

**Interim City Manager Latasha Gatling** stated that the form is to say that Mayor & City Council authorize to have a credit card. This just says that Mayor & Council will have a credit account with Sun Trust.

**Sofonda McMillan** stated that this form will also remove Miranda Braatz as a signer on the credit card.

**Mayor Miles** stated that the motion needs to say that Mayor & City Council agree to have a credit card with Sun Trust.

**Interim City Manager** stated that only one person needs to sign the document. The following names will be added to the document. Mayor Malinda Miles, Councilmember Bryan Knedler, Councilmember Celina Benitez and Councilmember Luke Chesek. Scott was attending to a personal matter and not on this call.

**Mayor Miles** stated to get the document to her for signature if not use electronic signature. Make sure date is on it with titles.

**Motion to authorize the City of Mount Rainier to enter into agreement with Sun Trust to use its credit card.**

**Move: Councilmember Luke Chesek**

**Second: Councilmember Bryan Knedler**

**Vote Recorded: 3-0-0**

**Motion Passed**

Mayor Miles stated the Credit card policy needs to be amended or reviewed. There is one in place going forward. Need to go back and visit Resolution 05-2017. Before any changes are made it must come back to Mayor & City Council.

**Councilmember Bryan Knedler** is charged with fixing the wording in Resolution 05-2017

(Councilmember Scott Cecil joined the meeting late and abstained) Mayor Miles will call Councilmember Scott Cecil and bring him up to speed on what was decided.

**Motion to Adjourn Public Session: Mayor Malinda Miles**

**Move: Councilmember Bran Knedler**

**Second: Councilmember Celina Benitez**

**Vote Recorded: 3-0-0**