



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Richfield, Minnesota

Regular Council Meeting Virtual Meeting held via WebEx

January 26, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Maria Regan Gonzalez at 7:01 p.m. via WebEx.

Council Members Present: Maria Regan Gonzalez, Mayor; Ben Whalen; Mary Supple; Simon Trautmann; and Sean Hayford Oleary

Staff Present: Katie Rodriguez, City Manager; Pam Dmytrenko, Assistant City Manager; Mary Tietjen, City Attorney; John Stark, Community Development Director; Melissa Poehlman, Assistant Community Development Director; Kristin Asher, Public Works Director; Mike Petersen, Assistant Utilities Superintendent; Jay Henthorne, Public Safety Director; Jane Skov, IT Manager; Blanca Martinez Gavina, Executive Analyst; and Kelly Wynn, Senior Office Assistant

Others Present: Rebecca Kurtz, Ehlers; Scott Hvizdos, Richfield Foundation; Joanna Schnedler, Chair Richfield Foundation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Regan Gonzalez led the Pledge of Allegiance

OPEN FORUM

Senior Office Assistant Wynn reviewed the options to participate:

- Participate live by calling 612-861-0651 during the open forum portion
- Call prior to meeting 612-861-9711
- Email prior to meeting kwynn@richfielmn.gov

Senior Office Assistant Wynn stated there were no comments or callers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/Trautmann, S/Hayford Oleary to approve the minutes of the (1) City Council Work Session of January 12, 2021; and (2) City Council Meeting of January 12, 2021.

Executive Analyst Martinez Gavina took roll call vote:

Regan Gonzalez: AYE
Supple: AYE
Trautmann: AYE
Hayford Oleary: AYE
Whalen: AYE

Motion carried 5-0

Item #1	PRESENTATION RICHFIELD FOUNDATION AWARDING OF GRANTS
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Chair Schnedler shared a presentation of grants totaling \$48,765 given out in 2020 along with how the money will be used within the community. She added that videos are available on the Richfield Foundation site of the grant recipients and she appreciated the support and advocacy from Council.

Council Member Trautmann thanked Chair Schnedler for the presentation and all the work that has been done to support the incredible causes in Richfield.

Council Member Supple expressed gratitude for the volunteers to the foundation.

Council Member Whalen encouraged the foundation to continue to reach out to Council when in need of support.

Mayor Regan Gonzalez spoke of how it is a community based foundation that dedicates time, resources and money to better its residents. She expressed appreciation of leadership displayed by the foundation and its board members.

Item #2	APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
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M/Whalen, S/Supple to approve the agenda

Executive Analyst Martinez Gavina took roll call vote:

Regan Gonzalez: AYE
Supple: AYE
Trautmann: AYE
Hayford Oleary: AYE
Whalen: AYE

Motion carried 5-0

Item #3	CONSENT CALENDAR
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City Manager Rodriguez presented the consent calendar.

A. Consider the adoption of resolutions authorizing the:

- 1. Joint Powers Agreement between the Metropolitan Airports Commission and the City of Richfield for the ownership and maintenance of 77th Street Underpass improvements; and
- 2. Temporary Easement Agreement between the Metropolitan Airports Commission and the City of Richfield for property located near 77th Street and Longfellow Avenue. Staff Report No. 10

RESOLUTION NO. 11817

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE METROPOLITAN AIRPORTS COMMISSION AND THE CITY OF RICHFIELD FOR THE OWNERSHIP AND MAINTENANCE OF 77TH STREET UNDERPASS IMPROVEMENTS

RESOLUTION NO. 11818

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE TEMPORARY EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE METROPOLITAN AIRPORTS COMMISSION FOR PROPERTY LOCATED NEAR 77TH STREET AND LONGFELLOW AVENUE FOR 77TH STREET UNDERPASS IMPROVEMENTS

B. Consider the approval of the purchase of a 2021 Versa-Vac 1000PD Trailer Mounted Vacuum/Hydro Excavation Unit from Flexible Pipe Tool Company in the sum of \$162,610.00 (including trade-in). Staff Report No. 11

C. Consider approval of a resolution approving a Joint Powers Agreement for Distracted Driving Vehicle Program. Staff Report No. 12

RESOLUTION NO. 11819

RESOLUTION APPROVING JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT FOR DISTRACTED DRIVING VEHICLE PROGRAM BETWEEN THE CITY OF RICHFIELD AND THE CITIES OF BLOOMINGTON, EDEN PRAIRIE, EDINA, HOPKINS, ST. LOUIS PARK, AND THE METROPOLITAN AIRPORT COMMISSION

D. Consider the approval of a second reading of an ordinance amending City Code Subsection 721.03 related to connections and discharges to the stormwater system and approval of a resolution authorizing summary publication. Staff Report No. 13

RESOLUTION NO. 11820

RESOLUTION APPROVING SUMMARY PUBLICATION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO SUBSECTION 721.03 OF THE RICHFIELD CITY CODE PERTAINING TO CONNECTIONS AND DISCHARGES TO THE STORMWATER SYSTEM

E. Consider a resolution designation an official newspaper for 2021. Staff Report No. 14

RESOLUTION NO. 11821

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AN OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR 2021

M/Whalen, S/Trautmann to approve the consent calendar.

Council Member Whalen asked staff to elaborate as to why there is a second reading on the consent calendar.

Director Asher explained it was a change to an existing ordinance related to the stormwater system and will add salt de-icers to the list of items not allowed to be discharged in the city's stormwater system.

Council Member Trautmann highlighted to Sun Current and encouraged residents to subscribe to the local paper.

Executive Analyst Martinez Gavina took roll call vote:

- Regan Gonzalez: AYE
- Supple: AYE
- Trautmann: AYE
- Hayford Oleary: AYE
- Whalen: AYE

Motion carried 5-0

Item #4	CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS, IF ANY, REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR
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None

Item #5	PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDER THE APPROVAL OF A NOISE VARIANCE PERMIT FOR WOOD LAKE DEWATERING AS PART OF THE WOOD LAKE LIFT STATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. STAFF REPORT NO. 15
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Council Member Hayford Oleary presented staff report 15.

City Manager Rodriguez added the project has not begun due to some Xcel Energy issues.

Assistant Utilities Superintendent Petersen stated the project should start this week and run through the following week.

Council Member Hayford Oleary asked for clarification of the pump will be located.

Assistant Utilities Superintendent Petersen shared a map locating the pump to be along 494 near Panera Bread.

Council Member Hayford Oleary opened the public hearing.

Senior Office Assistant Wynn reviewed the options to participate:

- Participate live by calling 612-861-0651 during the public hearing portion
- Call prior to meeting 612-861-9711
- Email prior to meeting kwynn@richfielmn.gov

Senior Office Assistant Wynn stated there were no comments or callers.

M/Hayford Oleary, S/Whalen to close the public hearing.

Executive Analyst Martinez Gavina took roll call vote:

Regan Gonzalez: AYE
 Supple: AYE
 Trautmann: AYE
 Hayford Oleary: AYE
 Whalen: AYE

Motion carried 5-0

M/Hayford Oleary, S/Supple to approve the noise variance permit for Wood Lake dewatering as part of the Wood Lake Lift Station Improvement Project.

Executive Analyst Martinez Gavina took roll call vote:

Regan Gonzalez: AYE
 Supple: AYE
 Trautmann: AYE
 Hayford Oleary: AYE
 Whalen: AYE

Motion carried 5-0

Item #6	PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A MODIFICATION TO THE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN AND APPROVAL OF A TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN FOR THE 2020-2 TAX INCREMENT FINANCE DISTRICT:EMI. STAFF REPORT NO. 16
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Council Member Supple read staff report 16.

Council Member Hayford Oleary commented on the pictures contained in the report and how much improvements are needed.

Council Member Whalen asked for summary on the variety of units.

Assistant Director Poehlman stated the development will contain an assortment of two bedroom, larger one bedroom, studio, regular one bedroom and one accessible that will be available for 60% AMI.

Council Member Supple opened the public hearing.

Julie Lupensky, 6621 Stevens Ave, asked about the removal of the buildings and how the plan development resolution interacts with the TIF development district.

M/Supple, S/Trautmann to close the public hearing.

Executive Analyst Martinez Gavina took roll call vote:

- Regan Gonzalez: AYE
- Supple: AYE
- Trautmann: AYE
- Hayford Oleary: AYE
- Whalen: AYE

Motion carried 5-0

Assistant Director Poehlman stated this project has planned unit development approvals and is strictly TIF. She added that the stipulations previously negotiated by the neighborhood will stand.

Rebecca Kurtz explained a blight finding needed to be completed as part of the project.

M/Supple, S/Hayford Oleary to adopt a resolution approving a modification to the Redevelopment Plan for the Richfield Redevelopment Project; and approving a Tax Increment Financing Plan for the 2020-2 Tax Increment Finance District: Emi.

RESOLUTION NO. 11822

RESOLUTION APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO THE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE RICHFIELD REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT; AND APPROVING A TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN FOR THE 2020-2 TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT: EMI

Executive Analyst Martinez Gavina took roll call vote:

- Regan Gonzalez: AYE
- Supple: AYE
- Trautmann: AYE
- Hayford Oleary: AYE
- Whalen: AYE

Motion carried 5-0

Item #7	CONSIDERATION OF THE APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO FILING OF THE PAY EQUITY REPORT WITH THE MINNESOTA MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET DEPARTMENT. STAFF REPORT NO. 18
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Council Member Trautmann presented staff report 18.

Assistant City Manager Dmytrenko stated that the city is obligated to submit the report every three years.

M/Trautmann, S/Supple to adopt a resolution pertaining to filing of the Pay Equity Report with the Minnesota Management and Budget Department.

RESOLUTION NO. 11823

RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO FILING OF THE PAY EQUITY REPORT WITH THE MINNESOTA MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET DEPARTMENT

Council Member Whalen asked for a brief summary of the report.

Assistant City Manager Dmytrenko stated she would provide Council with an overview of the report.

Council Member Trautmann asked if any data collected revealed any opportunity for growth.

Assistant City Manager Dmytrenko stated adjustments will be made if warranted.

Mayor Regan Gonzalez thanked staff for putting the report together.

Executive Analyst Martinez Gavina took roll call vote:

- Regan Gonzalez: AYE
- Supple: AYE
- Trautmann: AYE
- Hayford Oleary: AYE
- Whalen: AYE

Motion carried 5-0

Item #8	CONSIDER REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE AS THE 2021 LIAISONS TO VARIOUS LOCAL, REGIONAL AND STATE ORGANIZATIONS, AND CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS. STAFF REPORT NO. 17
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Mayor Regan Gonzalez read staff report 17, reviewed appointments and discussed changes with Council members and staff.

M/Regan Gonzalez, S/Whalen to designate City Council liaison appointments to various local, regional and state organizations, and City boards and commissions with revisions noted during meeting.

Executive Analyst Martinez Gavina took roll call vote:

Regan Gonzalez: AYE
 Supple: AYE
 Trautmann: AYE
 Hayford Oleary: AYE
 Whalen: AYE

Motion carried 5-0

Item #9	CITY MANAGER REPORT
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City Manager Rodriguez spoke of the complaints residents have been voicing regarding snowplowing, ticketing and towing. She stated the city puts a snow emergency into effect when more than two inches of snow have accumulated and posted on the city website, multiple social media platforms, local television and text alerts. She explained the police department will prioritize areas where snowplow trucks struggle getting through when cars are present. The city is working on some options to provide refuge parking for residents.

Council Member Hayford Oleary expressed excitement to see other options for parking and is sympathetic to residents who don't have anywhere to park other than the street.

Council Member Trautmann asked about residents complaining regarding being ticketed and towed after streets have been plowed.

City Manager Rodriguez stated the city contracts out for the towing service and there could be a communication error. The intent is to remove cars to help snowplows get through.

Council Member Whalen encouraged residents to sign up for notifications on the city website.

City Manager Rodriguez provided a brief update on covid cases.

Item #10	CLAIMS AND PAYROLL
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M/Whalen, S/Supple that the following claims and payrolls be approved:

<u>U.S. Bank</u>	<u>01/26/2021</u>
A/P Checks 293025 - 293437	\$ 1,468,381.59
Payroll: 158675 – 158950 43269 - 43390	<u>765,470.49</u>
TOTAL	\$ 2,233,852.08

Executive Analyst Martinez Gavina took roll call vote:

- Regan Gonzalez: AYE
- Supple: AYE
- Trautmann: AYE
- Hayford Oleary: AYE
- Whalen: AYE

Motion carried 5-0

Item #11	HATS OFF TO HOMETOWN HITS
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Council Member Supple thanked responsible pet owners for cleaning up after their pets.

Council Member Hayford Oleary expressed excitement to see a family housing fund doing a project with Richfield.

Council Member Whalen thanked applicants for interviewing for the city's boards and commissions. He then encouraged residents to watch the work session from this evening. He also spoke of how Council, HRA and city staff are having discussions around inclusionary housing and will host a work session in the near future.

Council Member Trautmann welcomed all new staff members that have joined the city recently.

Mayor Regan Gonzalez expressed excitement in building equity through the police department and across the city. She then encouraged residents to visit Wood Lake Nature Center.

Item #12	ADJOURNMENT
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The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:25 p.m.


Date Approved: February 9, 2021



 Maria Regan Gonzalez
 Mayor



 Kelly Wynn
 Senior Office Assistant



 Katie Rodriguez
 City Manager