



# CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Richfield, Minnesota

## Regular Council Meeting Virtual Meeting held via WebEx

**February 23, 2021**

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Maria Regan Gonzalez at 7:00 p.m. via WebEx.

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

*Staff Present:* Katie Rodriguez, City Manager; Mary Tietjen, City Attorney; John Stark, Community Development Director; Melissa Poehlman, Assistant Community Development Director; Julie Urban, Housing Manager; Lynnette Chambers, Multi-Family Housing Program Coordinator, Section 8; Jane Skov, IT Manager; Blanca Martinez Gavina, Executive Analyst; and Kelly Wynn, Senior Office Assistant

*Others Present:* Jeffrey O'Neil, O'Neil Dental Center owner

### 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](mailto:kwynn@richfielmn.gov)

Senior Office Assistant Wynn stated there were no callers.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/Supple, S/Whalen to approve the minutes of the (1) Joint Richfield Public School and City Council meeting of February 1, 2021; and (2) City Council Meeting of February 9, 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

<b>Item #1</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA</b>
----------------	-------------------------------

M/Whalen, S/Trautmann 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

<b>Item #2</b>	<b>CONSENT CALENDAR</b>
----------------	-------------------------

City Manager Rodriguez presented the consent calendar.

A. Consider the approval of setting a public hearing to be held on March 09, 2021, for the consideration of the issuance of new On-Sale Wine and 3.2 Malt Liquor licenses for Mos Easley Cantina, LLC d/b/a Sandy's Tavern located at 6612 Penn Avenue South. Staff Report No. 28

B. Consider the approval of a resolution for reimbursement of certain expenditures from the proceeds of General Obligation (G.O.) Grant Anticipation Bonds to be issued by the City for the 77th Street Underpass Improvements Project. Staff Report No. 29

**RESOLUTION NO. 11828**

**RESOLUTION DECLARING THE OFFICIAL INTENT OF THE CITY OF RICHFIELD TO REIMBURSE CERTAIN EXPENDITURES FROM THE PROCEEDS OF BONDS TO BE ISSUED BY THE CITY WITH RESPECT TO 77TH STREET UNDERPASS IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

C. Consider the approval of the Sentencing to Service Program Services Agreement between Richfield and Hennepin County for calendar years 2021 through 2023. Staff Report No. 30

M/Hayford Oleary, S/Supple to approve the consent calendar.

Executive Analyst Martinez Gavina took roll call vote:

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

Motion carried 5-0

<b>Item #3</b>	<b>CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS, IF ANY, REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR</b>
----------------	--

None

<b>Item #4</b>	<b>PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION SPECIFYING THE USE OF FUNDS FROM THE URBAN HENNEPIN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ALLOCATION FOR 2021 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH HENNEPIN COUNTY AND ANY REQUIRED THIRD PARTY AGREEMENTS. STAFF REPORT NO. 31</b>
----------------	--

Council Member Supple read staff report 31.

Council Member Supple encouraged local service providers apply for funding. She then 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 callers.

M/Supple, 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/Supple, S/Trautmann to adopt a resolution authorizing the use of funds for the 2021 Urban Hennepin County Community Development Block Grant Program and authorizing execution of a Subrecipient Agreement with Hennepin County and any required third party agreements.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11829**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING PROPOSED USE OF 2021 URBAN HENNEPIN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH HENNEPIN COUNTY AND ANY REQUIRED THIRD PARTY AGREEMENTS**

Council Member Supple asked for clarification on the additional \$80,000 is an addition to the money being paid off.

Housing Manager Urban confirmed it is an additional amount on top of the repayments.

Council Member Trautmann thanked staff for supplying these programs to keep people in their homes.

Council Member Whalen echoed comments and highlighted the down payment assistance program.

Director Stark spoke of how the CDBG program is not a large amount of money but is federal money which can make it difficult to work with and distribute. He explained how staff went through dozens of reviews to make the program compliant to benefit residents.

Mayor Regan Gonzalez stated she has heard first hand from residents that have been taking advantage of the programs and how thankful they are to have the opportunity.

Executive Analyst Martinez Gavina took roll call vote:

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

Motion carried 5-0

<b>Item #5</b>	
----------------	--

	<p><b>CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE REZONING PROPERTY AT 6945 PENNAVENUE SOUTH AS NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS (C-1). STAFF REPORT NO. 32</b></p>
--	--

Council Member Trautmann presented staff report 32.

Director Stark explained the property owner is available for questions and the rezoning of the area was addressed at a work session.

Jeffrey O’Neil introduced himself and explained how he was not aware of the current zoning of his property as residential.

M/Trautmann, S/Hayford Oleary to approve a second reading of an ordinance that amends Richfield Zoning Code Appendix I to change the zoning designation of property at 6945 Penn Avenue South from Single Family Residential (R) to Neighborhood Business (C-1).

Council Member Hayford Oleary stated his hopes for zoning updates throughout and appreciated the property owner for going through the process.

Council Member Trautmann thanked Jeffrey O’Neil for his investment in the city and having his business in Richfield.

Jeffrey O’Neil stated he planned on being in Richfield for a long time.

Mayor Regan Gonzalez thanked Mr. O’Neil for attending and realizes there is a mismatch in zoning throughout the city but knows staff is working to fix the situation.

Assistant Director Poehlman spoke of how the Community Development Department has been working hard but has become short staffed due to Covid.

Executive Analyst Martinez Gavina took roll call vote:

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

Motion carried 5-0

<p><b>Item #6</b></p>	<p><b>CONSIDER THE APPROVAL OF AGREEMENTS WITH NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO PROVIDE SOCIAL SERVICES TO THE CITY OF RICHFIELD AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS WITH THOSE AGENCIES. STAFF REPORT NO. 33</b></p>
-----------------------	---

Council Member Whalen read staff report 33.

M/Whalen, S/Supple to approve the agreements between the recommended non-profit organizations and the City of Richfield, and authorize the City Manager to execute agreements for services with those agencies

Council Member Supple spoke of the experience to sit on the review committee and how the good work being done. She stated it was tough as requests exceeded the amount of funding but hopes the budget will be re-evaluated next year.

Multi-Family Housing Program Coordinator Chambers leads the program and gave a brief explanation of the program and funding.

Mayor Regan Gonzalez thanked Multi-Family Housing Program Coordinator Chambers for being a trusted leader during the process. She spoke of Richfield's diverse community members and her willingness to advocate additional funding to meet resident needs. Council Member Trautmann thanked Multi-Family Housing Program Coordinator Chambers for her dedicated work and encouraged people and businesses to contribute to the program if possible.

Executive Analyst Martinez Gavina took roll call vote:

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

Motion carried 5-0

<b>Item #7</b>	<b>CITY MANAGER REPORT</b>
----------------	----------------------------

City Manager Rodriguez provided a brief report on Covid. She then spoke of the equity work taking place and how the city is celebrating Black History Month with tributes to poetry and music along with interviews that will be released on social media.

<b>Item #8</b>	<b>CLAIMS AND PAYROLL</b>
----------------	---------------------------

M/Trautmann, S/Whalen that the following claims and payrolls be approved:

<b>U.S. Bank</b>	<b>02/23/2021</b>
A/P Checks 294629 - 295042	\$ 1,569,595.42
Payroll: 160108 – 160411 43392	<u>696,166.41</u>
TOTAL	\$ 2,265,761.83

Executive Analyst Martinez Gavina took roll call vote:

- Regan Gonzalez: AYE
- Supple: AYE

Trautmann: AYE  
Hayford Oleary: AYE  
Whalen: AYE

Motion carried 5-0

<b>Item #9</b>	<b>HATS OFF TO HOMETOWN HITS</b>
----------------	----------------------------------

Council Member Supple spoke of the Portland Ave Legacy Project and encouraged residents to submit input and ideas. She also thanked Public Works for their swift and ongoing assistance to residents with freezing pipes.

Council Member Trautmann highlighted the Wood Lake Nature Center and all of the programs they continue to provide for residents.

Council Member Hayford Oleary referenced a new stop sign at Centennial Elementary School and the impact it will have on student’s safety.


Council Member Whalen reminded residents the city is in phase two of the moratorium regarding the property at 6501 Portland Ave which gives residents a chance to submit feedback.

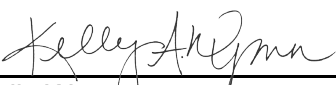
Mayor Regan Gonzalez read a text received from a resident that thanked the city for developing the down payment assistance program. She then spoke of the Richfield Annual Report that is out and highlights things the city accomplished in the last year. She also thanked staff for supplying so many ideas and input to the PAC meetings.


<b>Item #10</b>	<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>
-----------------	--------------------

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:47 p.m.

Date Approved: March 09, 2021

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Maria Regan Gonzalez  
 Mayor

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Kelly Wynn  
 Senior Office Assistant

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Katie Rodriguez  
 City Manager