



# CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Richfield, Minnesota

## Regular Council Meeting

July 12, 2022

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Regan Gonzalez at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

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

*Council Members Absent:* Ben Whalen

*Staff Present:* Katie Rodriguez, City Manager; Mary Tietjen, City Attorney; Jennifer Anderson, Support Services Supervisor; and Kari Sinning, City Clerk

*Others Present:* Nick Kelley and Blair Harrison, Bloomington Public Health;

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Regan Gonzalez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### OPEN FORUM

Mayor Regan Gonzalez reviewed the options to participate:

- Participate live by calling 1-415-655-0001 during the open forum portion
- Call prior to meeting 612-861-9711
- Email prior to meeting [kwynn@richfieldmn.gov](mailto:kwynn@richfieldmn.gov)

Karin Wolverton, 1001 Rae Dr, shared comments and the need to help people struggling with homelessness in Richfield and the surrounding communities.

Iris Graham, 7717 Chicago Ave, expressed immense gratitude to our emergency responders and service members.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/Hayford Oleary, S/Trautmann to approve the minutes of the: (1) City Council Work Session of June 28, 2022; and (2) Regular City Council Meeting of June 28, 2022.

Motion carried: 4-0

<b>ITEM #1</b>	<b>PROCLAMATION OPPOSING CONVERSION THERAPY IN THE CITY OF RICHFIELD</b>
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Mayor Regan Gonzalez invited Human Rights Commissioner Mara Glubka to the podium and read aloud the proclamation.

Commissioner Glubka shared the importance of this proclamation as it has a personal importance to her and thanked Management Analyst Swanson for the push to make it happen.

<b>ITEM #2</b>	<b>BLOOMINGTON PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL PRESENTATION FROM NICK KELLEY AND BLAIR HARRISON</b>
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Mayor Regan Gonzalez invited Nick Kelley and Blair Harrison to the podium who gave a presentation regarding Bloomington Public Health as an organization, the annual report, a brief covid update, and the upcoming work within the City.

Council Member Supple thanked the presenters and asked if their upcoming work in mental health would help those struggling with addiction as well. Nick Kelley stated that they plan on covering the gap between the county and the providers to offer resources regarding mental health. Blair Harrison commented on homelessness and substance abuse by stating that housing and mental health continue to be a top priority; how to address the drug overdose problem within the homeless community; and how we have to work as partners to address the issue.

Council Member Trautmann thanked them for their work and asked about their outreach and using telehealth to provide care. Nick Kelley stated that they ran the WIC clinic virtually for almost two years and a hybrid model is what they predict for the future.

Mayor Regan Gonzalez thanked the presenters and encouraged our three cities and health commissions to work together instead of separately since Bloomington Public Health oversees Bloomington, Edina, and Richfield. She shared an interest in being involved in the focus on health and housing as the Mayor and also as a public health professional. She also encouraged Bloomington Public Health to support community members identifying and leading their own solutions. She stated that Richfield has opportunities within health in all policies and prevention that we should focus on to better the health and wellness of our community members.

<b>ITEM #3</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA</b>
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M/Trautmann, S/Hayford Oleary to approve the agenda.

Motion carried: 4-0

<b>ITEM #4</b>	<b>CONSENT CALENDAR</b>
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City Manager Rodriguez presented the consent calendar.

- A. Consider a resolution approving the conveyance of 1710 - 78th Street East from the City of Richfield to the Housing and Redevelopment Authority. (Staff Report No. 101)

**RESOLUTION NO. 11987**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY TO THE HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY IN AND FOR THE CITY OF RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA**

- B. Consider a request for an interim use permit allowing Minnesota Independence College and Community to continue to use the property at 2000 - 76th Street West for social, meeting, and office space for their Community Program. (Staff Report No. 102)

**RESOLUTION NO. 11988**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERIM USE PERMIT TO ALLOW SOCIAL, MEETING, AND OFFICE SPACE FOR USE BY MINNESOTA INDEPENDENCE COLLEGE AND COMMUNITY AT 2000 - 76TH STREET WEST**

- C. Consider approval of the:
  - 1. Memorandum of Amendment No. 1 to Site License Agreement; and
  - 2. Amendment No. 1 to Site License Agreement between the City of Richfield and Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless which governs the installation and operation of telecommunications equipment on the Penn Avenue Water Tower. (Staff Report No. 103)
- D. Consider approval of the purchase of a Mack tandem-axle cab/chassis from Nuss Truck & Equipment for \$120,584 and dump box/snow fighting equipment from Towmaster Truck Equipment for \$145,532, totaling \$266,116 plus taxes and licensing in 2023 for use by the Public Works Department and authorize the City Manager to approve contract changes not to exceed \$10,000 without further City Council consideration. (Staff Report No. 104)

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

Council Member Hayford Oleary applauded the brochure attached to item A.

Council Member Trautmann lifted up Minnesota Independence College and Community (MICC) and the successes that they provide for neurodivergent people.

Motion carried: 4-0

<b>ITEM #5</b>	<b>CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS, IF ANY, REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR</b>
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None.

<b>ITEM #6</b>	<b>SUMMARY REVIEW OF THE CITY MANAGER'S ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FOR 2021 AND THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 2022, HELD ON JUNE 28 AND JULY 12, 2022, AS REQUIRED BY MINN. STATUTES 13D.05 SUBD. 3(A), AND CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AMENDING EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF RICHFIELD AND CITY MANAGER KATIE RODRIGUEZ. (STAFF REPORT NO. 105)</b>
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Mayor Regan Gonzalez presented Staff Report No. 105 and summarized the discussion from the closed sessions. In summary, the Council was thankful for the leadership that City Manager Rodriguez has shown in the past three years and happy with her performance.

Council Member Trautmann appreciated City Manager Rodriguez’s leadership and expressed his confidence in City Manager Rodriguez’s role.

M/Regan Gonzalez, S/Supple to approve the resolution amending the City’s Manager’s employment agreement with the City reflecting a salary adjustment as amended.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11989**

**RESOLUTION AMENDING THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF RICHFIELD AND CATHERINE RODRIGUEZ, CITY MANAGER**

Mayor Regan Gonzalez added that the City Manager position will be included in the upcoming compensation study performed for the City and the City Manager shall continue to participate in a facilitated peer city managers group. She also read aloud the amended resolution.

Motion carried: 4-0

<b>ITEM #7</b>	<b>CITY MANAGER’S REPORT</b>
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City Manager Rodriguez expressed a heartfelt thank you to Council for their support and recognized all those that help her in her role. She responded to the open forum comment from Ruane Onesirosan regarding the sale of lots owned by the HRA.

City Manager Rodriguez commented on the passing of the State law allowing the sale of limited THC products. Support Services Supervisor Anderson stated the considerations that we may need to talk about with licensing and permitting establishments to sell these products and the compliance of the establishments much like alcohol sales. City Attorney Tietjen stated that the State law does not help a lot with regulation and cities will have the final say in the zoning and permitting.

Council Member Hayford Oleary commented on the age control of the delta-8 products already widely available and stated that he would not support a moratorium. He asked how zoning would work for gas stations that are currently selling edibles. City Attorney Tietjen stated that to her knowledge there isn’t anything in the zoning code that prohibits sales. Council Member Hayford Oleary shared that the zoning restrictions placed upon medical dispensaries should be lightened if gas stations are going to sell the products.

Council Member Trautmann shared that he is not enthusiastic about a moratorium either and asked about a possible work session regarding this topic. City Manager Rodriguez stated that it could be brought to a work session in the next three months.

Mayor Regan Gonzalez thanked staff for keeping them updated on the issue.

<b>ITEM #9</b>	<b>CLAIMS AND PAYROLL</b>
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M/Trautmann, S/Supple that the following claims and payrolls be approved:

<b><u>U.S. BANK</u></b>	<b><u>7/12/2022</u></b>
A/P Checks: 307370 – 307716	\$3,800,828.18
Payroll: 171474 – 171837, 43473 – 43477	<u>\$748,742.69</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,549,570.87</b>

Motion carried: 4-0

<b>ITEM #10</b>	<b>HATS OFF TO HOMETOWN HITS</b>
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Council Member Supple expressed condolences to the family of Nel Swanson, who was an educator, historian, and mentor for many years.

Council Member Trautmann lifted up the Urban Wildland Half Marathon and the Richfield Leadership Network basketball tournament at Donaldson Park on July 23.

Mayor Regan Gonzalez mentioned National Night Out on August 2.

<b>ITEM #10</b>	<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>
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The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:08 p.m.

Date Approved: July 28, 2022

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Maria Regan Gonzalez  
Mayor

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Katie Rodriguez  
City Manager

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Kari Sinning  
City Clerk