

**Meeting Minutes of the Richmond City Council
March 6, 2019
City Council Workshop and Meeting**

Item #1: Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Hemmesch called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at Richmond City Hall.

Council Members noted as being present: Jim Hemmesch; Mike Mathiasen; Tim Paczkowski; Pat Evens; Kimberly Craven

Also present were: Tesa Tomaschett, City Administrator-Clerk; Steve Kascht, Fire Chief; Tammy Paczkowski; Jason Blum, Police Chief; Marilyn Zenner; Emily Monnens, LeeAnn Athmann, Jason Spoden

Item #2: Open Forum:

Item #3: Approval of Agenda

Mayor Hemmesch asked if there were any additions or changes to the Agenda.

Add item #6(c) Resolution 124-19: Approval of hire for Arena/Maintenance Assistant

#6(d) Resolution 125-19: Authorization of Temporary 1 to 4 Day Liquor License for the Country Snow Cruisers on July 19-20, 2019 at the Parish Grounds

#7(c) Oath

Remove item 6(c) from consent agenda for further discussion

Councilor Evens asked when Resolution 124-19 was even discussed in the last five meetings. The Arena/Maintenance Assistant position was approved at the June 21, 2018 budget meeting and the time frame for advertising, interviewing, and start date was discussed at the November 29, 2018 meeting. Councilor Evens asked for the resolution to be pulled from the consent agenda. Both Councilor Paczkowski and Councilor Mathiasen were satisfied with the information since it had already been discussed and approved earlier. Councilor Evens is opposed of even looking at this position until more information is given, as far as hours and if full time is even needed, plus looking at benefits and wages.

Motion made by Councilor Mathiasen to approve the Agenda, seconded by Councilor Evens. Motion passed.

Item # 4: Approval of the Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2019 and February 21, 2019

Mayor Hemmesch asked for any corrections or additions to the February 6 and February 21, 2019.

Mayor Hemmesch asked for a motion of approval.

Motion made by Councilor Paczkowski to approve the Meeting Minutes of February 6 and February 21, 2019 seconded by Councilor Evens. Motion passed.

Item # 5: Approval of Bills Paid

Mayor Hemmesch asked if there were any questions or comments. Mayor Hemmesch asked for a motion of approval of Bills Paid.

Motion made by Councilor Evens to Approve the Bills, seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Motion passed.

Item #6: Consent Agenda

- a. Resolution 122-19: Approval of February 2019 Journal Entries
- b. Acknowledge PeopleService February 2019 Written Report
- e. ~~Resolution 124-19: Approval of hire for Arena/Maintenance Assistant~~
- d. Resolution 125-19: Authorization of Temporary 1 to 4 Day Liquor License for the Country Snow Cruisers on July 19-20, 2019 at the Parish Grounds

Motion made by Councilor Evens to Approve the Consent Agenda items A, B, & D, seconded by Councilor Paczkowski. Motion passed.

Discussion of Resolution 124-19: Approval of hire for Arena/Maintenance Assistant.

Councilor Paczkowski would like to move forward on this approval. The full-time employee would replace seasonal staff for both summer and winter. Councilor Evens expressed concerns of the difference between the seasonal hourly rates and new hire hourly rate, PERA, and insurance being offered. Councilor Mathiasen reminded that this position was already discussed with previous council at budget time which is the proper time to do so. Again, Councilor Evens expressed that this position is not needed at the time unless proved otherwise.

Motion made by Councilor Paczkowski to approve Resolution 124-19: Approval of hire for Arena/Maintenance Assistant, seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Roll call- Paczkowski-yes, Hemmesch-yes, Evens-no, Mathiasen-yes. Motion passed.

Item #7: Council Vacancy

Councilor Evens mentioned that the past election results show that Emily Monnens definitely has a following.

Motion made by Councilor Evens to appoint Emily Monnens and approve Resolution 123-19, Mayor Hemmesch asked three times for a second. Motion fails due to a second.

Motion made by Councilor Mathiasen to appoint Kymberly Craven and approve Resolution 123-19, seconded by Councilor Paczkowski. Roll call -Paczkowski-yes, Hemmesch-yes, Evens-no, Mathiasen-yes. Motion passed.

New appointed official Kymberly Craven took Oath of Office.

Item #8: Fire Department

a. Pumper

Councilor Evens asked about having Pumper 2 looked at by a certified mechanic, specializing in wiring. Mathiasen believes this pumper should not be in service as long as it has the current wiring issue due to safety and does not feel a lot of money should be put into it. Should the council look at spending money to see if someone will even come out to give any estimate for fixing it or is the council looking at replacing it in the near future or eliminating the pumper all together. The fire department has already applied for a FEMA grant to replace pumper but still waiting on decision. Chief Kascht vaguely discussed pricing on new and used pumpers. It should not affect ISO rating too much and the city has mutual aid for back up in the event the pumper would be taken out of service and not replaced at this time. The Council asked Chief Kascht to make phone calls to see if he can get any estimates on repairing the damages before making a final decision.

b. Officer pay

When looking at the gathered information from the surrounding cities' fire departments, Richmond was one of the highest for paid officers. But when looking at the rates for trainings, meetings, and calls, Richmond was one of the lowest. Richmond does not get paid for meetings or calls. Both Councilor Mathiasen and Paczkowski are happy leaving the wage the same since it was budgeted this way. Councilor Evens strongly disagrees with keeping the wages the same until discussion of the 2020 budget. He also stated that the city needs to quit raising taxes and starting living within our means.

Motion made by Councilor Paczkowski to approve current budgeted Fire Department officer pay for 2019, seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Roll call- Paczkowski-yes, Hemmesch-abstained, Evens-no, Mathiasen-yes, Craven-yes. Motion passed

Item #9: Department Reports

- a. **Police Department** – Police Chief Jason Blum gave the January, 2019 police report. Police Chaplain Ron Fisher resigned from his position. Chief Blum would like to continue the program so he will be looking for a replacement. Texting to 911 is now available. They ask that short phrases be used and be able to describe where you are since it can't signal location. Reminder of winter parking; please get vehicles off the roads when plow is out. Both canine dogs passed certifications in Fargo. Reminder to keep an eye on your valuable items to help prevent stealing. Department can do scam trainings for any organizations interested.

Item #10: Council Reports

- a. EDA – Mayor Hemmesch reported that Traci Ryan will be helping EDA with development and look for grants to help businesses throughout the city and continue to promote our businesses. An existing building sold on Hwy 23, it is called Renedage Trucking Equipment. EDA still have a vacate seat. Next meeting March 19, 2019
- b. Planning Commission – No February meeting. March 28, 2019 is next scheduled meeting
- c. Rocori Trail –Some members may need to testify on behalf of the trail at the Capital in hopes to get funds through bonding bill. March 7, 2019 is next scheduled meeting

Item #11: Other Matters of Concern and Related Matters

- a. Next Council meeting March 21, 2019 at 6:30 pm
- b. Get dog license by May 1, 2019

Item #12: Adjournment

Mayor Hemmesch asked for any additional items.

Hearing none Mayor Hemmesch declared the meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tesa Tomaschett, City Administrator Clerk-Treasurer