

City of Richmond
City Council Workshop Meeting
45 Hall Ave SW

September 19, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES

Item #1: Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

(Roll Call) Chuck-Mike-Tim-Jim-Pat

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

Members noted as being present: Mayor Jim Hemmesch, Councilor Pat Evens, Councilor Mike Mathiasen, Councilor Tim Paczkowski, Councilor Chuck Merten

Also present was Stacy Kalthoff; City Administrator; Jen Rausch, Deputy Clerk; Dave Blommel, SHE; Randy Jenniges, SEH; Derek Mueller, Fire Chief; Emily Massmann, Treemendous; Gordie Dingmann, Public Works

Item #2: Open Public Forum (Those interested in addressing Council whom did not previously request to be on the agenda may address Council for up to 3 minutes. If action is requested, it will be considered at a later Council Meeting.)

None present

Item #3: Approval of Agenda with any additions/deletion

Motion made by Councilor Mathiasen to approve the agenda with the addition of fence on Main Street and County Road 9 under #12, E-bikes driving on sidewalks under #12 and switching #5 and #4 around, Seconded by Councilor Merten. Motion passed.

Item #4: SEH - 2023 Utility Project Discussion

- a. **Resolution 149-24:** Declaring Cost to be Assessed, and Ordering Preparation of Proposed Assessment

Spreadsheet with assessment changes in packet. Almost every resident's assessment went down in cost. If council is ok with this spreadsheet, Dave wants to send the spreadsheet out in the mail to the residents. The council decided to send the entire spreadsheet out to all residents on the list. Discussions were had about the venue on where to have the hearing and it was decided to have it at the City Hall on October 16th at 6:00pm. Councilor Evens wanted to know if the property on 2nd street was going to be deferred the assessment. Since they are not in city limits nothing can be charged to them right now until they annex. Mayor Hemmesch stated he would like numbers set before the meeting.

Motion made by Councilor Evens to approve Resolution 149-24 at 10 years and 4%, Seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Motion passed.

- b. **Resolution 150-24:** Hearing for Proposed Assessment

Motion made by Councilor Evens to approve Resolution 150-24 with the hearing set for 6:00 pm on October 16th at Richmond City Hall, Seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Motion passed.

Mayor Hemmesch had a list prepared for Dave Blommel with SEH on some thing's residents were unhappy about throughout town. Dave stated no matter the time or doing the project once or twice the

project would still cost the same amount. Permission was received from the county to go off of 1st street south as overflow of water due to the county commissioner getting involved. 1st street SE has 2 main low point structures which will be getting the work done to. The problem of standing water should then be taken care of. Hemmesch brought up a few smaller spots in town where when we get a .05 inch of rain the water is still standing. Dave and Gordie will be getting together the last week in September or the 1st week in October to drive around so Dave can see where these areas are and what the options are. Mayor Hemmesch discussed residents being upset they have crabgrass growing where they planted new grass. Blommel suggested SEH get a company come out to spray. There was discussion about the roads not being lined up straight. Blommel stated they needed to keep the handicapped ramps lined up and they went off the councils request to save money when they did the roads. Schreifels property was discussed and how they can take care of the driveway/yard as they are now getting water in the basement when it rains. The church parking lot was also discussed and how they can fix the water that sits in that lot when it rains. This is another issue that will be looked at. Dave Blommel stated he always has a “frequently asked questions list” at his meetings but could also include all these questions to this list and mail out prior to the meeting so the residents can see this list. It would eliminate these questions getting asked twice at the meeting. Councilor Evens asked if the new design doesn’t work whose responsibility is it to cover the cost and the answer from Blommel was “it is a project cost that is designed to work.” Mathiasen made a statement how SEH has been a great company to work with. They have saved the city a lot of money over the years and have done a lot of different projects for the city. This is just one glitch in the road and we can move on from it. Mathiasen stated we need to look at the big picture at how they are a great engineering firm.

Item #5: Tremendous Night Update

Emily Massmann was here to discuss Tremendous Night which will take place on main street Friday, December, 6th. The Fire Department will participate in the parade and the city will sponsor and serve hot dogs, soda and water Emily asked if the fire hall bathrooms could be open to the public.

Motion made by Councilor Evens to approve the events for Tremendous Night , Seconded by Councilor Paczkowski. Motion passed.

Item #6: Department Reports

c. Parks/Arena

Stacy gave the report for Kevin. They are currently in the process of putting ice down at the arena. There will be a division 1 hockey game on September 28th at 6:00pm. All youth hockey activities will start Monday September 30th, figure skating will start on Saturday, October 5th and open ice will start Sunday, October 6th. There was an interview for concessions with Kylie Hess. Centennial shelter will remain open until winter comes. Water has been shut off at Royals Park. Fall soccer is in full swing until the middle of October. Councilor Evens asked if a copy of the report can be printed for future meetings.

Motion made by Councilor Evens to approve to hire Kylie Hess for concessions , Seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Motion passed.

d. Public Works

Gordie presented his report which entailed bids for the truck. Gordie had quotes in the packet for the plow and the box. The cheapest option was the quote from Yarmon Ford out of Paynesville which is a State Bid for \$54940.00. That is without a plow or box; just a basic truck. Gordie has \$57500.00 left in his fund for this year and gets \$13,000 in public works and \$13,000 in streets at the beginning of the year so he can use those funds as the truck wouldn’t get here until next year. There is a possibility of selling the old truck as well and using the money from that towards the new truck. Councilor Evens asked when the flushing of water would be taking place. It will be either the end of September or the beginning of October.

Motion made by Councilor Merten to approve the purchase of the new truck for public works and streets from Yarmon Ford and to purchase the accessories for the truck from Renegade , Seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Motion passed.

e. Fire Department

Erik Koenig Resignation as of October 1, 2024

Jake McLellan Returning to Active Service as of October 1, 2024

Steve Kascht New Emergency Management Director

Derek Mueller the fire chief presented his report. The department will be doing training with CentraCare and doing a session on what they can administer and what they cannot. Bottle-fill station is currently on hold until the department can get more funds. They are currently doing some fundraising. The new truck should be here towards the end of October. More grants were applied for the add some additional equipment to that truck. Erik Koenig sent in his letter of resignation so his last day on the fire department was August 30th. Jake McLellan will be coming back from his leave of absence on October 1st and Steve Kascht is the new Emergency Management Director. Steve is taking the place of Erik Koenig. The department has a new applicant; Jim Wenner. Jim was on the department for 11 years. Derek received a lot of positive feedback about Jim coming back. Jim would have to redo his medical training. The fire department will be distributing calendars to the public on Sunday, October 6th starting at 9:00am.

Item #7: Resolution 147-24: Approval of Marco Copier Contract from September 2024-September 2029

Quotes on new machines in packets. Prices went down since our last contract. The city could lease a pre-owned machine would be \$225/month or a new machine which would be \$266/month. The only difference is how many pages it prints per minute.

Motion made by Councilor Mathiasen to approve Resolution 147-24 for the approval of a pre-owned copier at \$225 per month, Seconded by Councilor Evens. Motion passed.

Item #8: Resolution 148-24: Authorization of Temporary 1-to-4-day Amendment to Liquor License for Corky's Bar on September 28, 2024 at Corky's Bar Parking Lot.

Corky's will be having a tailgating party for the hockey game that is coming into town. The parking lot will be coned off. They will also have a food truck in the parking lot. The food truck will get a peddlers license.

Motion made by Councilor Mathiasen to approve Resolution 148-24 for the approval of a temporary 1-to-4-day liquor license for Corky's bar on September 28th, Seconded by Councilor Paczkowski. Motion passed.

Item #9: Approval of selling city property to Jack Stang as proposed on the preliminary plat

74 feet along Grant Ave, 51 feet and 159 long on North side of property 160 on south side. Stang agreed to pay .75 per square foot plus all extra costs and fees

Motion made by Councilor Paczkowski for the approval of the measurements for the property Stang is purchasing and the amount Stang is purchasing it for, Seconded by Councilor Merten. Motion passed.

Item #10: Discussion of Engineering Firms

Mayor Hemmesch decided this topic wasn't needed to be discussed after the conversation that was had with SEH earlier in the meeting. SEH is willing to work with the city.

Item #11: Next Meeting: October 2, 2024 at 6:30 pm

Item #12: Other Matters

There was a discussion about a fence on the property of County Road 9 & Main Street by the substation. Councilor Evens believes it violates an ordinance because it is over 4 feet high past the front of the house. Stacy had stated the homeowner got a permit for the fence and when they homeowner came in Stacy told her she thought this situation was a bit different and unique since they had the substation in their yard. Councilor Merten also stated that this is a unique situation. No action taken on this at this time

Mayor Hemmesch has been hearing residents & business owners complain about E-bikes on the sidewalks. They would like to look into getting signs that say the bikes need to stay off the sidewalks

Item #13: Adjournment

Mayor Hemmesch asked for any additional items. Hearing none, Mayor Hemmesch declared the meeting adjourned at 8:04pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Stacy Kalthoff, City Administrator