

Meeting Minutes of the Richmond City Council
August 18, 2016
City Council Workshop

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, Pat Evens, Katy Kirchner, Mike Mathiasen, Tim Paczkowski
Also present were: Tesa Tomaschett, City Administrator Clerk-Treasurer; Kevin Mooney, Parks and Arena Director;
Matthew Loven, City Attorney; David Blommel, City Engineer, S E H.; Chuck Merten, Relief Assc. President; Marilyn
Zenner; Bridget Chard; Heidi Stahlboerger; Dorrine Schreifels; Mark E Kremer; Todd Hubbard; Jeff Torgeson; Mike
Hendricks; Kyle Jochman; Chris Boucher; Derek Mueller; James Worm; Chuck Merten;

Item #2: Approval of Agenda

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

Add: to Consent Agenda

d. Resolution 158-16 Tobacco License for period of 9/12/2016 – 6/30/2016

e. Resolution 159-16 Authorization for MN lawful gambling LG220 exempt permit for River Lakes Hockey, Inc.
on December 28, 2016

f. Approval of Data Practice Policies

*Motion made by Councilor Paczkowski to approve the Agenda with additions, seconded by Councilor Kirchner.
Motion passed unanimously.*

Item # 3: Consent Agenda

- a. Resolution 156-16: Hiring of seasonal Workers for the River Lakes Civic Arena ice season
- b. Resolution 157-16: Authorization of Temporary 1 day amendment to liquor license for the Corky's Bar on
September 1, 2016 at Corky's Bar Parking lot
- c. Request for Outdoor Party – September 1, 2016 Corky's Bar
- d. Resolution 158-16: Tobacco License for Jack's of Richmond 9/12/2016 – 6/30/2017
- e. Resolution 159-16: Authorization for MN lawful gambling LG220 exempt permit for River Lakes Hockey,
Inc. on December 28, 2016
- f. Approval of Data Practice Policies

*Motion made by Councilor Evens to Approve of Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilor Paczkowski. Motion passed
unanimously.*

(7:05 pm - temporary recess to Council Workshop)

Workshop Agenda

- A. **Southeast Utility Project-** Blommel reported about the informational meeting they had with the residents
that live in and around the area. He reported that the residents stated no they did not want to annex in and
they had real concerns with the cost of the project. Tomaschett will be meeting with Clerk from Wakefield
Township.
- B. **Commercial Property: 22638 191st Ave** – Todd, Realty Executives – Realtor for the Gary Hart property
He presented the idea of the city of Richmond purchasing the property, or developing. The listed price is
negotiable, and owner is willing to discuss options.
- C. **Fire Relief-** Chuck Merten, President of Richmond Fire Relief
Request for payment – \$8,052.00 – Merten made formal request for payment.
City's yearly contribution – Merten requested to raise the amount for 2017 to \$9,526.00

Motion made by Councilor Evens to increase the amount paid by the City for 2017 to \$9,526.00, seconded by Councilor Kirchner. Motion carried. Hemmesch abstained.

Motion made by Councilor Paczkowski to Approve payment of \$8,052.00 for 2016, seconded by Councilor Mathiasen Motion carried. Hemmesch abstained.

D. Parks- Kevin Mooney, Parks Director

Fitness Stations -

Mooney explained that he is looking at adding fitness stations to Centennial Park (10-20). Tomaschett explained that she and Mooney have applied for a grant through Stearns County Public Health and have received positive response from Stearns County.

Band Shelter –

Mooney explained that he is looking at adding a band shelter at Centennial Park. He explained that he is hoping to collect donated funds to pay for this. Mooney presented a 20 x 20 shelter, but said they would be looking at other designs.

E. MnWARN mutual Aid Agreement – Tomaschett reported that we are not part of the MnWarn Mutual Aid Agreement and is requesting the Council pass a motion allowing us to be a part of this. This allows the City to provide assistance to other cities and to request help from other cities.

Motion made by Councilor Kirchner to approve the MnWarn mutual air agreement, seconded by Councilor Paczkowski. Motion carried.

F. Tremendous Night: Council discussed the event and how they might participate in the event, will discuss further.

Motion made by Councilor Kirchner to approve Tremendous Night on December 2, 2016, seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Motion carried.

G. Compost -

Mayor Hemmesch explained the history of the City hauling brush.

2012-the city was hauling brush to the Chuck Schmitz property at the cost of \$300.00 per year.

2013-after, the city changed its snow removal hauling, Schmitz cancelled the contract for allowing the city to haul brush to his property.

2014-the City Administrator contacted Jim Hemmesch, who was not on the council at the time, and he agreed to allow the city to haul brush to his farm and set a cost of \$200.00.

2015-Jim Hemmesch became Mayor of Richmond. He was unaware of the requirement to bring the contract to the Council for their approval. The Administrator did not (to his knowledge) bring this to the Council.

2016-the check was issued to pay for the service.

2016-Councilor Evens stated that this was a conflict of interest paying the Mayor. Evens also stated that this was brought to the City Attorney and he in written format addressed this issue, outlining the steps necessary to address this issue.

City Attorney Loven stated that this was not an illegal contract, and there is an exception policy and the Council needs to follow this procedure – bring it to the Council, Mayor Hemmesch abstain from voting and the Council unanimously vote to approve the contract.

Motion made by Councilor Kirchner to approve Resolution 160-16 approval of continuing contract with Mayor Hemmesch, hauling brush to the Hemmesch farm until December 31, 2016, and bring back for compost discussion after January 1, 2017, seconded by Councilor Paczkowski, Hemmesch abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

The council decided to open the compost on August 19, 2016. Mooney, the Parks Director will get the site ready, while the Public Works Director is on vacation.

Councilor Kirchner asked about the dumpster located at the business site of Councilor Evens, is it a conflict of interest. City Attorney Loven explained that what he knows of the situation, no fee is being collected and he does not see this as a conflict of interest.

Council Mathiasen expressed his concern with some behaviors of Councilor Evens after the decisions made by the City Council.

H. Message from City Attorney – Matthew Loven, City Attorney,

Loven stated he was brought in to give a “pep talk”, to contend with the issue of compost and how out of hand this has gotten. He stated he believes that this Council is dedicated to serving the tax payers of Richmond and making decisions that are in the best interest of Richmond. Loven explained that elected officials need to follow certain standards of conduct and good governance as an elected official. Loven supplied a template for a code of conduct – as an option for the Council to adopt. He recommended that they review this and discuss this at a future meeting.

“Code of Conduct” will be put on a future agenda.

I. Budget- Tomaschett reviewed the proposed 2017 budget. She explained that with the changes in the Administrator, reducing the Rocori trail budget and raises for the staff, the levy will not be raised.

(Reconvene Council Meeting)

Item #4: Request for Council Action

- a. Purchase Requests, Allocations & Transfers - none

Item #5: Other Matters of Concern and Related Matters - none

City Hall closed Labor Day – September 5, 2016

Next Council Meeting: September 7, 2016

Item #6: Adjournment

Mayor Hemmesch asked for any additional items.

Hearing none Mayor Hemmesch declared the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tesa Tomaschett

City Administrator Clerk- Treasurer