

**Meeting Minutes of the Richmond City
Council April 5, 2023
City Council 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, Pat Evens, Tim Paczkowski, Chuck Merten and Mike Mathiasen

Also present were: David Konshok, City Administrator/Treasurer; Gordy Dingmann, PW Director; Ron Mumm, Steil Insurance Agent; Greg Stang, People Service; Chief Blum, Richmond/Cold Spring Police; Sargent Spoden, Richmond/Cold Spring Police; Cliff Johnson, Cold Spring Historical Society.

Item #2: Open Public Forum

Cliff Johnson, Cold Spring Area Historical Society, voiced an invitation to the council and community members to an event featuring author William Kent Krueger on 5-3-23 at 6:30 in Cold Spring at the District Education Facility. Cliff also invited people to a historical quilt show which is currently on exhibit at the Cold Spring History Center.

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

No additions or deletions at this time.

Motion made by Councilor Evens to approve the Agenda with additions/deletion, seconded by Councilor Paczkowski. Motion passed.

Item #4: Approval of the Meeting Minutes of March 1 and March 16, 2023

Motion made by Councilor Evens to approve the Meeting Minutes, seconded by Councilor Merten. Motion passed.

Item #5: Approval of Bills Paid

Motion made by Councilor Paczkowski to approve Bills Paid, seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Motion passed.

Item #6: Consent Agenda

Item #7: Resolution 116-23: Approval of March 2023 Journal Entries

Resolution 117-23: Approval of March 2023 Donations/Contributions

Authorization of LG555 Government Approval or Acknowledgment for Use of Gambling Funds
Richmond American Legion Post 292 for \$10,000.00 for Fire Department

Approval of Road Closure Permit for Fine By Friday Band on June 3, 2023

Approval Road Closure Permit for Richmond Elementary and Sts. Peter & Paul Elementary
Schools on May 15, 2023

Councilor Merten asked if the road can be closed later in the day on June 3, 2023 so businesses will not be impacted by the road closure. A discussion took place and it was decided to ask if the road could be closed about 2:00 instead of 12:00.

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

Item #8: Steil Insurance – Ron Mumm update on Property Insurance Renewal

- a. Liability Coverage Waiver Form – Refer to Summary of Coverage/Limits in the packet. Ron Mumm spoke regarding the description of liability insurance and property insurance. A discussion took place regarding the deductible cost. Ron stated he would run a five-year loss history for property damage and get back to the council with results. A question was raised regarding cyber liability. Ron stated that the cost has remained steady even though more computers are being taken home that are not properly protected. A councilor asked about the Petro Fund. Ron stated that Richmond is not included in that since Richmond does not have gas or oil storage. The Fund protects communities if there is a leak. A Liability Coverage of Waiver Form explanation took place.

Item #9: SEH – Dave Blommel RBP Update

Dave Blommel from SEH spoke regarding the bid opening for the CR 23 road project. A decision was made last week regarding the approval for an extension in getting a bid for the asphalt. The bids will be open on Wednesday April 12th at 10:00 AM. The public hearing will take place on Tuesday April 18th. Trees are cut down and stumps will be pulled out for the road project. The pickleball court which will be ready by the 4th of July.

Item #10: Department Reports

- a. Police Department – Chief Blum spoke regarding topics in the report that is in the packet. He also spoke about the budget. (Refer to March 31st Budget Report in the packet.)
- b. Fire Department – Refer to enclosed report.
- c. Emergency Management – Refer to enclosed report.
- d. Public Works – Gordon spoke about snow removal difficulties and the truck not being able to turn in the excessive snow and ice. He spoke about potholes also. Gordon said that weed issues in three places in Richmond will be addressed this year. Also, he heard the Stearns County Assessor talk about property taxes and how evaluations have gone up. Farms are being hit the hardest with high taxes. The housing market has cooled off somewhat, however people are renting more due to the high cost of owning a home. Gordon said that he uses an old tanker for flushing purposes and would like to repurpose the truck. He would like to use the truck as a flatbed to haul snow and other uses. Gordon said he is getting bids to convert the truck. He will bring bids to the council and then a decision would be made if the project is cost effective. He also talked about dog complaints. He said that residents should call PD if there are aggressive dogs that they want to report.
- e. PeopleService – Refer to packet for details. Greg Stang spoke. He said that Alec put his notice in to leave his position at PeopleService. Greg stated that there were issues with chlorine at the water plant. A leak was fixed. Also, an ejector will need to be replaced. He reported a few level sensors will need to be replaced at a waste water plant as well. They would be getting a deal by purchasing them through Alec's Dad. He said that the reed beds will be cleaned of sludge and liquid. Greg spoke about purchasing parts and costs involved. A discussion took place about plants that could possibly be planted after the area is cleaned out.

Motion made by Councilor Evens to approve replacing level sensors on tanks taken out of the repair (as much as possible) and maintenance fund for around \$3400, seconded by Councilor Merten. Motion passed.

- f. Administrator Report – Refer to enclosed report. Included is Contracts with PeopleService, EDA, Planning Commission, Information Technology, Media and Marketing, Audit, and reminder dates.

Item #11: Council Reports

- b. EDA- Next Meeting: April 18, 2023 – Councilor Paczowski spoke about the last EDA meeting. New officers were elected. A flyer will be made for upcoming land uses and the website will be updated.
- c. Planning Commission- Next Meeting: April 27, 2023 – Mayor Hemmesch spoke about a comprehensive plan and if it is needed or not and the costs involved. He talked about the Business Park Roadway loop that the council will discuss and act upon. He talked about the classification of the lot by business Park by Planning and Zoning Commission. The next meeting will be April 27th if needed.
- d. Rocori Trail- Next Meeting: April 6, 2023 – Councilor Paczkowski spoke regarding the grand opening of the Rocori Trail to be held on 06/17/23 at 10:00 AM in Cold Spring at 3rd Street Brewhouse. Paperwork is being worked on regarding the DNR possibly taking over control of the trail.

Item #12: Next Council Meeting

April 12, 2023 Bidding dates for Utility Street project.

April 18, 2023 Public Hearing at the Civic Lake Arena at 6:00 PM

April 20, 2023 Workshop at 6:30 p.m.

Item #13: Other Matters - None

Item #14: Adjournment

Mayor Hemmesch asked for any additional items.

Hearing none, Mayor Hemmesch declared the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Kalthoff

City Clerk