

**City of Richmond
Regular City Council Meeting
45 Hall Ave SW**

April 3, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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, Mike Mathiasen, Chuck Merten, Tim Paczkowski.

Also present were: Stacy Kalthoff, City Clerk; Dave Blommel, SEH; Jason Blum, Police Chief

Item #2: Open Public Forum – Cliff Johnson spoke regarding the Cold Spring Area Historical Society. A new display will be set up on area athletes that have performed after their schooling. Wed. May 1st. at 6:30 Patty Wetterling will speak about her book “Dear Jacob” at the Parish Center. At the end of May there will be a fund raiser garage sale. The sale will run May 23 to 25. People may drop off items at the History Center.

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

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

Item #4: Approval of the Meeting Minutes of March 6, March 14 and March 21, 2024

Motion made by Councilor Merten to approve meeting minutes for March 14th and March 21st, 2024. Seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Motion passed.

Item #5: Approval of Bills Paid

Councilor Merten made a motion to approve the Bills Paid, Seconded by Councilor Paczkowski. Motion passed.

Item #6: Consent Agenda (approved by one motion)

- a. **Resolution 122-24**: Approval of March 2024 Journal Entries
- b. **Resolution 123-24**: Approval of March 2024 Contributions/Donations
- c. Approval of LG555 for Use of Gambling Funds from the Richmond Lions to the Richmond Lions Park

Motion made by Councilor Merten to approve LG555 for use of gambling funds from the Richmond Lions to the Richmond Lions Park. Seconded by Councilor Evens. Motion passed.

Item #7: SEH Update – Dave Blommel – Dave spoke about the future road project. At this point it is a needs/wish list. Refer to the report in the packet. He talked about funding from the PFA and from the USDA. He said he will seek funding for the water from the PFA. And he may use USDA funding for sewer, however it is not set yet. There will be more information at the workshop regarding a total cost estimate.

Item #8: Music in the Park Schedule – The schedule for Music in the Park has been set. It will start June 11th and end August 20th. It will be posted on the City of Richmond web site and posters will be posted around town.

Item #9: Administrator position update – Four applications have been received. More discussion will take place at the workshop to discuss interviews and candidates.

Item #10: Department Reports

- a. Police Department – Police Chief Jason Blum spoke regarding the report in the packet dated April 3, 2024. Thefts are on the rise with the warmer weather. He stated that residents should always lock vehicles and trailers. There are several scams going around. For example, money scans are popular especially with Bitcoin. www.rocoriarea.tv has a presentation on scams. He spoke about gun safety.
- b. Fire Department – Jim Hemmesch spoke. For the Truck Committee, members applied for the FEMA grant for \$70,000 to replace air tanks, also the Firehouse grant was applied for. There is a \$7,000 cost to adjust the truck to mount equipment. Also 4 firefighters will be at a training in Moorhead April 13 and 14.
- c. Public Works – Gordy will be informed that street painting should be completed by June 1st weather permitting. A resident on 1st Street SE stated that the street light is out.
- d. PeopleService – Jim Hemmesch spoke regarding the water treatment plant and said he is running chemical free.

Item #11: Council Reports

- a. EDA- Next Meeting: April 16, 2024 Councilor Paczkowski spoke regarding Melissa Nelson is now on the committee, 6.1 thousand people were on social media, he spoke of the many views for the photo contest, the commercial enhancement fun was update, there have been new enquires regarding the new business park, Tracy Ryans contract was renewed and the EDA will be at the Rocori Area Expo April 20th.
- b. Planning Commission- Next Meeting: April 25, 2024 – Extension of Maple Street. The proposed distribution center was talked about. The builder had a concept drawing so the final drawing will be shown in the next month. They want to buy 2 lots at the East end.
- c. Rocori Trail- Next Meeting: April 4, 2024 There will be a final coat applied to the trail, there will be some tree trimming along the trail.

Item #12: Next Council Meeting: Workshop April 18, 2024 Workshop at 6:30 p.m.

Item #13: Other Matters - Wednesday, April 10th there will be a meeting with the weed inspector with Gordy and Jim. There have been some issues with the Emerald Ash Borer insect in Richmond.

Item #14: Adjournment

Mayor Hemmesch asked for any additional items. Hearing none, Mayor Hemmesch declared the meeting adjourned at 7:12.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Kalthoff, City Clerk