

Meeting Minutes of the Richmond City Council
October 21, 2021
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, Emily Monnens and Chuck Merten.
Absent: Mike Mathiasen

Also present were: Tesa Tomaschett, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer; Dave Blommel, SEH Engineer;
Kevin Mooney, Parks Director; Gordon Dingman, Public Works Director

Item #2: Open Public Forum - None

Item #3: Approval of Agenda with additions/deletion

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

One addition, Resolution 190-21- approval of Seasonal Workers for the River Lakes Civic Arena Ice Season.

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

Item #4: Public Hearing- 126 Barry Loop - Lot 006 block 001 of Rich River Villas Plat 3, owner is requesting for the vacation of a portion of the drainage and utility easement.

- a. Open public hearing –Letter from resident Jeff Pearson at 124 Barry Loop NW, writes that he is against changing the lot (006) size onto the utility easement of the east side. (Letter enclosed in packet)
-Resident Bob Stewart stepped forward and stated that he is the previous owner of the property and is a neutral party in regards to whether the vacation is approved or not.
- b. Closed public hearing

Motion made by Councilor Evens to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilor Merten. Motion passed.

c. Resolution 189-21: Resolution Vacating Drainage and Utility Easement on 126 Barry Loop.
The approval is based upon the following findings and stipulations.

1. **Findings of fact.** That the vacation of the easements is based upon the determination that it appears to be in the interest of the public to do so, a determination based upon the following findings of fact:
 - A. The City reasonably concludes that utility companies shall not be materially adversely impacted due to the vacation, based upon the fact that this hasn't had utilities put in on this property.
 - B. The public hearing was held in conformance with state laws.
 - C. There will be no future building, planning, or zoning changes and/or modifications on this property for the life as it currently stands.

Motion made by Councilor Evens to approve Resolution 189-21as long as it is noted that there are no other exceptions for ANY changes and/or modifications on this property in the future, seconded by Councilor Merten. Motion passed.

Item #5: Parks Department

- a. Lawn Mower Quotes

Checked with Ron Buerman and he does not provide the type of mower that is needed. Received two other quotes. 1st quote is from Paynesville Midwest Machinery for \$14,507.15 and the 2nd quote is from Sauk Centre Midwest Machinery for \$14,675.00.

Motion made by Mayor Hemmesch to approve the purchase of a lawn mower from Paynesville Midwest Machinery for \$14,507.15, seconded by Councilor Evens. Motion passed.

- b. Resolution 190-21: Approval of Seasonal Workers for the River Lakes Civic Arena Ice Season

Motion made by Councilor Merten to Approve Resolution 190-21, the hiring of three seasonal arena workers, one maintenance and two concession stand workers, seconded by Councilor Evens. Motion passed.

Item #6: Richmond Business Park

Update from Dave Blommel, pipes and curbs are in, pavement goes down tomorrow. There will be a 18 unit cluster box for mail and streetlights poles are included in bid. Council has interest in knowing the cost difference between a standard light pole and a decorative light pole. Also, Mayor Hemmesch questioned why they stopped curb, Blommel stated the county asked for them to stop due to certain requirements.

- a. Pay Request #2 in the amount of \$287,690.17.

Motion made by Councilor Evens to Approve pay request #2 in the amount of \$287,690.17, seconded by Councilor Merten. Motion passed.

Item #7: Street Sweeper

Gordy Dingmann, Public works, spoke about the extensive repairs that the street sweeper is in need of. Council is requesting that MacQueen Equipment, out of St. Paul, will pick up sweeper and bring back to shop to get an estimate of repairs/recondition. Mayor Hemmesch is requesting that in the meantime, a sweeper be rented so fall cleaning can still get done. Dingmann should have an estimate by the next council meeting on November 3rd, 2021. As far as patching, that will be started next week on 2nd street and in front of CentraCare Clinic. Mayor Hemmesch would like to know how much tar is used for patching.

Item #8: American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds

Tomaschett states that each city is receiving \$105.81 per capita based on 2019 census data. Because of that, Richmond will be receiving about \$157,000. We got the first half already and will be receiving the second half in May, 2022. The money has to be spent by December 31, 2024 and only spent on certain items. Tomaschett is asking council if they would like to earmark this money towards water and sewer. This will be talked about in more detail at the next council meeting.

Item #9: New Resident Welcome packet

Mayor Hemmesch is requesting new residents, since 2020, would receive a welcome packet with a map and other information with what the city has to offer. This will be talked about in more detail at the next council meeting.

Item #10: Next Meeting: November 3, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Item #11: Adjournment

Mayor Hemmesch asked for any additional items.
Hearing none Mayor Hemmesch declared the meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tesa Tomaschett
City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer