

**Meeting Minutes of the Richmond City Council
November 3, 2021
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, Mike Mathiasen, Emily Monnens, and Chuck Merten

Also, present were: Tesa Tomaschett, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer; Jesse Kollmann, Fire Chief; Tammy Paczkowski, Cold Spring Record; Jason Blum, Police Chief; Greg Stang, PeopleService; Alec McCuskey, PeopleService

Item #2: Open Public Forum - None

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

Items added: #7, #11, #12, #16

Items deleted: #9

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

Item #4: Approval of the Meeting Minutes of October 6 & October 21, 2021

Motion made by Councilor Evens to approve the Meeting Minutes of October 6 and October 21, 2021 minutes, seconded by Councilor Merten. Motion passed.

Item #5: Approval of Bills Paid

Councilor Evens questioned which well was sealed by Jennings Well Sealings. It was the well on the old River Roost Property which we have an agreement with the state to maintain.

Motion made by Councilor Merten to Approve the Bills, seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Motion passed.

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

- a. Resolution 191-21: Approval of October 2021 Journal Entries
- b. Resolution 192-21: Approval of October Donations/ Contributions
- c. Resolution 193-21: Approval of Seasonal Workers for the River Lakes Civic Arena Ice Season
- d. Acknowledge PeopleService October 2021 Written Report

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

Item #7: Resolution 194-21: Approval of Satisfaction of Repayment Agreement for 48 Main Street W

Tomaschett explained that when the main street project was in process several years ago, there was a 10 year agreement with a small cities grant to help with cost in moving power lines. The agreement is going to expire in 27 days for the property at 48 Main Street W. At this time, it is not worth the amount of money that would have to be collected and in order for the property to close, the Resolution has to be approved.

Motion made by Councilor Merten to Approve the Resolution 194-21: Approval of Satisfaction of Repayment Agreement for 48 Main Street W, seconded by Councilor Evens. Motion passed. Roll Call:

Item #8: PeopleService

Greg from PeopleService introduced Alec McCuskey as the new wastewater treatment plant operator. Alec showed a graph of well drawdowns for Fall of 2013, 2017 & 2021 and explained the differences between well 3, well 4, and well 5 static and drawdown in feet (enclosed in the packet). Greg then explained when bulk water is taken, there is a meter and a notepad for each company to notate the amount they took which in turn they will receive an invoice. Reedbeds were sprayed with a slow kill chemical one time at this point, the plan is that they all die by next year. He also stated that they gave the city a refund from the maintenance agreement for the year. On 11/01/2021 was the 15 year anniversary of the water treatment plant. Also, at this point there have been no complaints of any orders coming from the plant.

Item #9: Ben Weeres- Marketing/Branding update

This item was deleted from the agenda.

Item #10: TreeMendous Night

- a. Road Closure Permit - will be closing Main Street from Ivy to Grant and Hall Ave closed from Main Street to 1st Street SW on the west side of the street.

Motion made by Councilor Evens to Approve the road closure, seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Motion passed.

- b. Hotdog Count – 750

Motion made by Councilor Evens to Approve the hotdog count of 750, seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Motion passed.

Item #11: New Resident Packet

Mayor Hemmesch would like a “Welcome Packet” distributed to new residents which would contain information about City events, parks, trails, utilities etc. The packet will either get delivered or mailed.

Motion made by Councilor Mathiasen to Approve New Resident Packet, seconded by Councilor Merten. Motion passed.

Item #12: American Rescue Plan Act Funds

No earmark at this time, will discuss more in the future.

Item #13: Department Reports

- a. Police Department – Chief Jason Blum reported 93 total incidents for October. The hiring process is underway and applications were accepted through October 29th. He also stated that there has been some damage at city parks which could be due to recent Tik Tok challenges (more info enclosed in packet).
- b. Fire Department – Chief Jesse Kollmann reported 11 total calls for the month of October, two FEMA grants that were applied for got denied, the quarterly 44 plan EMR refresher training session had a great turn out, and Catfish event coming up on 02/11/2022 (more info enclosed in packet).
- c. Public Works/Streets – Street patching has been done including the cost of tar for each section which are in the packet. Councilor Evens recommends that council needs to establish a more detailed Code of Ordinances, Chapter 24. No update on the street sweeper at this time. At this point no street sweeping has been done. Councilor Evens would like to discuss this item at next workshop.
- d. Emergency Management – Report in packet

Item #14: Council Reports

a. EDA- Next Meeting: November 16, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Councilor Monnens gave an update on the branding and logo that was presented at the last EDA meeting. She also explained that the Enhancement Program policies have changed to include businesses should seek trying to restore the building to its original historic character on the exterior. Also exterior maintenance such as painting and pressure washing, will be excluded from the program. Councilor Mathiasen mentioned that a few businesses on main street have been sold, and nice to see that the buildings are no longer vacant.

c. Planning Commission- Next Meeting: November 23, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

d. Rocori Trail- Next Meeting: November 4, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

e. Tri-City Cable

Mayor Hemmesch stated that the Tri-City Committee has a new logo which was approved. They hired a new person for about 1 year and are hoping to have channel 10 carry live events. Camera's can be rented out for an event then aired and edited for TV.

Item #15: Next Council Meeting: November 18, 2021 Workshop at 6:30 p.m.

Item #16: City Hall closed November 11th (Veteran's Day)

Item #17: Adjournment

Mayor Hemmesch asked for any additional items.

Councilor Mathiasen commented on how nice the Arena improvements are. Also, exciting news that Legion Park and the playground is finished.

Mayor Hemmesch declared the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tesa Tomaschett
City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer