

**Meeting Minutes of the Richmond City Council
March 18, 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, Mike Mathiasen, Emily Monnens and Chuck Merten

Also present were: Tesa Tomaschett, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer; Gordie Dingmann, PW Director; Dave Blommel, SEH Engineer; Traci Ryan, EDA Consultant; Justin Kurtz, and Greg Stang, PeopleService; Jason Buerman, PW/Arena/Parks Asst.; Chad Vogt; Scott Kron; Doreen Lemke; Dolores Schroeder

Item #2: Open Forum- Dolores Schroeder and Doreen Lemke with Richmond Ladies Auxiliary asked if they could hold their meetings at city hall instead of maintenance building. Meetings would be held between April and November. They also would like access to the kitchen.

Item #3: Approval of Agenda with additions/deletion

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

Remove:

Item# 4: Resolution 120-21: Authorization for Lawful Gambling Exempt Permit Application by Country Snow Cruisers on June 6, 2021, at Corky's Bar

Item# 7.5: Ladies Auxiliary- City Hall Rental

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

Item #4: Resolution 120-21: Authorization for Lawful Gambling Exempt Permit Application by Country Snow Cruisers on June 6, 2021, at Corky's Bar

Motion made by Councilor Evens to Approve Resolution 120-21, seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Motion passed.

Item #5: Ryan Development Consulting

- a. TIF- Resolution 118-21: A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED CREATION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TAX INCREMENTFINANCING DISTRICT NO. 1-8 WITHIN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT NO. 1, THE PROPOSED ADOPTION OF A TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN RELATING THERETO IN RELATION TO THE RICHMOND BUSINESS PARK

Motion made by Councilor Evens to Approve Resolution 118-21, seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Motion passed.

- b. TIF Reporting Proposal

Motion made by Councilor Evens to table discussion to April 15, 2020 meeting, seconded by Councilor Merten. Motion passed.

- c. Gilk Plumbing

Motion made by Councilor Evens to approve this information but would like Gilk Plumbing at a meeting in 6-8 months if construction hasn't started, seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Motion passed.

Item #6: PeopleService

- a. Wash Water Fee- Justin presented different prices from surrounding cities who take wash water. The average amount was \$30 per 1000 gallon.

Motion made by Councilor Evens to set wash water fee to \$30 per 1,000 gallon and do quarterly testing, seconded by Councilor Merten. Motion passed

- b. Water Tower Repairs- Greg informed the council that the water tower by city hall is leaking. A valve cracked during the cold spell. Council can either repair it or quit using the tower all together. Council discussed the importance of keeping that tower in operation.

Motion made by Councilor Evens to approve quote to repair the tower for \$7,500, seconded by Councilor Monnens. Motion passed.

Item #7: 2021 Street Project

- a. **Resolution 119-21: Ordering Improvement and Preparation of Plans-**
Council discussed taking Fir Ave between 3rd St. SW and 2nd St. SW and 3rd St. SW between Fir Ave SW and Grant Ave off the project since there are no utilities under the road. The city would still do a mill and overlay to repair the roads but it will not be assessed to property owners.

Motion made by Councilor Evens to Approve Resolution 119-21 with deletions discussed, seconded Councilor Mathiasen. Motion passed

(Temporary Recess for Council workshop)

Workshop Agenda

Item #7.5: Ladies Auxiliary- City hall rental

Council discussed allowing the Ladies Auxiliary to use city hall and the kitchen for their meetings. Their meeting would be the second Tuesday of the month. Tomaschett expressed concerns of security since they will be able to access the fire bay in order to use the bathrooms.

Motion made by Councilor Evens to approval usage with a one-year agreement, seconded by Councilor Merten. Motion passed

Item #8: Fees

- a. Utility Bill late fee- Council discussed the current late fee which is at \$25.

Motion made by Councilor Evens to decrease the utility bill late fee to \$15 from \$25 for each billing cycle, seconded by Councilor Mathiasen. Motion passed

- b. Compost Fee- Currently the compost fee is \$30 for non-residential which includes commercial. Jason Buerman checked with other cities to see what they do. Paynesville is the only city who allows non-residential use but they have a camera system to monitor the use. Discussion was to put up a better camera system and signage to go with that and also, charge \$75 for non-residential and no commercial.

Motion made by Councilor Merten to approve \$75 for non-residential and no commercial use, seconded by Councilor Mathiasen.

Item #9: Alleyway discussion in Neighborhood Business district

The council reviewed information from the city code which states under Section 20-30 Repair of sidewalks and alleys “*Duty of owner. The owner of any property within the city abutting a public sidewalk or alley shall keep the sidewalk or alley in repair and safe for pedestrians. Repairs shall be made in accordance with the standard specifications approved by the council and on file in the office of the city administrator/clerk.*” So, to stay in line with the city code, they council decided that they are not responsible for any repairs over by the bank or with the Neighborhood Business district. Dingmann made the comment that he plans to continue to grade the alleys in the area.

Council also discussed too many garbage cans in the area behind Jerry’s Firehouse. They are causing issues with drive through there. Evens asked that letters be sent out.

(Reconvene Council Meeting)

Item #11: Next Meeting: April 7, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Item #12: Adjournment

Mayor Hemmesch asked for any additional items.

Hearing none Mayor Hemmesch declared the meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tesa Tomaschett
City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer