

## **REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL**

**February 18, 2014**

The Common Council of the City of Richland Center, Wisconsin, met in the Council Room of the municipal building at 450 S. Main Street on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at 7:30 P.M., Mayor Paul F. Corcoran presiding. Alderpersons Marie Rakow, Susan Fruit, Lester Parker, Jay Buchanan Mueller, Marsha Machotka, Judy Shireman, Dawn Elliott and Lorna Dilley present. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Mayor Corcoran ascertained from the Clerk that the meeting was properly noticed.

Motion by Alderperson Machotka, second by Alderperson Rakow to waive the reading of the minutes of the last meeting (February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014) in lieu of printed copies and to approve the same. Motion carried 8-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mr. Benjamin Lewis asked the Council to consider reviewing the parking ordinance as he felt there is inconsistency in applying the ordinance to situations.

### **CITY AND UTILITY DEPARTMENT HEAD CONCERS:**

**POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:** Chief John Annear gave the 2013 annual report. Highlights include traffic crashes were down which he felt is due to more controlled intersections. Service awards were given to department personnel, Detective Jim Lane retired, Officer Jason Pilla was promoted to Detective, Billy Jones was promoted to Lieutenant and Officer Chad Kanable was given his 4<sup>th</sup> Life Saving award. Chief Annear said the bulk of time in the department is spent on criminal investigation and that drug use continues to be a problem which increases theft crimes.

**WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Water Department Superintendent Gayle Mathews stated the project planned for 2013 is replacing water mains on Collins Drive, under Main Street by Krouskop and North Parks. He reported on the 4 main breaks this year with the frost at 5 ½ feet deep and the 15 services have been frozen to date. He encouraged residents to continue running water as it takes almost a full day to unfreeze a service and get the property restored.

**DISCUSSION ON SHARED RIDE TAXI:** Concerns discussed were no service available throughout the night hours if someone is taken to the emergency room by ambulance that have no ride to return home. Another time lacking is for those in the area working night shift that need a ride home from their work. In today's issue of the Shopping News it was reported that Carley's Towne Taxi will provide 24 hour service. Discussion took place on the ability to offer 24 hour service through the shared ride taxi service and the additional costs involved. No action was taken.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON REPLACEMENT OF SNOW PLOW FOR PUBLIC WORKS:** It was stated the cost to the City is \$3580 that could be covered under the equipment repairs. Motion by Fruit, second by Machotka to approve the purchase of the new plow and hitch from Universal Plow for a total cost of \$9780 with the City portion being \$3580. Motion carried 8-0.

**CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON REPLACEMENT OF SERVER IN CLERK'S OFFICE:** Motion by Rakow, second by Dilley to postpone to the next meeting. Motion carried 8-0.

**CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RENEWAL OF NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES CONTRACT:** Clerk Jones stated the contract is usually for a 2 year period, however NHS does a great job and she added wording to renew the contract automatically, changed the dates and NHS of Richland County to NHS of Southwest Wisconsin. Motion by Rakow, second by Elliott to approve the contract. Motion carried 8-0. It was asked that NHS give a presentation to the Council on their services and the public survey they recently did.

**REVOLVING LOAN FUND COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON AMENDMENTS TO REVOLVING LOAN FUND MANUAL TO ALLOW LOANS FOR JOB RETENTION. SECTION 3.6 (4)(A) THE PROJECT WILL RETAIN EXISTING JOBS WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN LOST LOCALLY:** This section was removed accidentally when the State required the last amendment. In looking out for the best interests of the local businesses, the RLF Committee recommended to approve adding the section into the manual. Motion by Rakow to approve the amendment to the RLF Manual adding section 3.6 (4)(a) as presented; second by Machotka. Motion carried 8-0.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:** Motion to approve the payment of the bills by Shireman; second by Dilley. Motion carried 8-0.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Shireman, second by Fruit to adjourn. Motion carried 8-0.

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Mayor, Paul F. Corcoran

Attest:

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City Clerk / Treasurer Melinda D. Jones