

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL

May 5, 2015

The Common Council of the City of Richland Center, Wisconsin, met in the Council Room of the municipal building on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 commencing at 7:30 P.M., Mayor Paul F. Corcoran presiding. Alderpersons Michael Kaufman, Judy Shireman, Susan Fruit, Jay Buchanan Mueller, Marsha Machotka, Lisa Miller, Marie Rakow, and Bill Kloehn were present. Mayor Corcoran ascertained from the Clerk that the meeting was properly noticed.

Mayor Corcoran read a resolution honoring Dawn Elliott for her service on the Council over the past two years. Motion by Kaufman, second by Machotka to approve Resolution 2015-9 honoring Dawn Elliott. Motion carried 8-0.

Motion by Machotka, second by Rakow to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the last meeting in lieu of printed copies and to approve the same. Motion carried 8-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Sarah Gieske and Rebecca Furbish talked about the Downtown Neighborhood Association and encouraged everyone to volunteer for the downtown area cleanup on May 15, 2015 from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. with a rain date of May 21st.

Dawn Elliott said the hanging flower baskets will be put up again this year and she asked for donations. Bob Simpson from Simpson Tractor has provided a mule to use for watering and the Electric Utility put up brackets. She also asked for volunteers to help water.

CITY EVENTS AND CITIZEN'S CONCERNS TO BE DISCUSSED AT A FUTURE MEETING: Mayor Corcoran said the Chinese Delegation was in Richland Center again last week for an exchange of gifts. They were presented a quilted wall hanging made by Darlene Kintz and they each received a "Richland Center, Wisconsin A History" book written by Margaret Helen Scott. He showed the writing kit they provided to the City.

A Delegation from Ukraine was present in the audience who are here to study Agriculture and take area tours. They presented the City with a plate showing the map of Ukraine. They stated they would be happy to partner with Richland Center as a sister city. The City presented them with a Margaret Helen Scott book as well.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORT FROM TODD FISCHER, WASTE WATER SUPERINTENDENT: Mr. Fischer said many residents have asked questions about the bike trail and their concerns are not ignored, however, the restoration is in process and once grass grows and the blacktop is done, the concerns will be looked at again prior to final acceptance. He reported the trail is scheduled to be open in August. He gave an update on the new plant project noting it is on schedule. Mr. Fischer stated he has had many concerns on all the trees that were removed for the project which are in a pile. He said they are alive, however, if any do not survive, they will be replaced.

TREASURER'S REPORT: City Clerk/Treasurer Melinda D. Jones presented the report for April 2015. The month end balance is as follows:

General Fund	203,198.10
State Pool - Account # 1	1,521,403.87
Money Market Tax Acct.	12,593.55
State Pool – Account #2 Long Term Care	543,310.37

Restricted Funds:

CDBG - Housing RLF	75,523.26
Revolving Loan Fund- Savings	428,334.98
Revolving Loan Fund – Checking	3,076.95
Landfill Care – CD	281,464.33
Landfill Care - CD	276,809.40
Library Checking	167,557.50
Room Tax	42,933.06
State Pool - Account # 6 - TIF - 2-5	2,245,641.47

Committed Funds:

State Pool - Account # 4 - Project Carryover	1,316,558.15
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Assigned Funds:

Cemetery	4,672.71
Park / Community Center	40,909.13
Park and Rec Checking	4,878.04
RDA Checking	112,818.40

CITY UTILITIES:

Electric Utility Fund	274,643.26
Electric Unrestricted Funds	48,711.52
Water Utility Fund	225,710.59
Water Utility Unrestricted Funds	54,821.47
Waste Water Utility Fund	274,367.57
Waste Water Unrestricted Funds	34,515.45

RESTRICTED FOR PROJECTS:

Electric	1,194,042.20
Water	1,638,766.84
WWTP	1,977,615.19

CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPLICATION FROM RICHLAND CENTER ROCKETS HOME TALENT BASEBALL FOR A TEMPORARY CLASS “B” (BEER) RETAILERS LICENSE FOR MAY 9, 2015 FROM 3:00 P.M. UNTIL 1 HOUR AFTER THE GAME HAS ENDED:

CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPLICATION FROM RICHLAND CENTER ROCKETS HOME TALENT BASEBALL FOR A TEMPORARY CLASS “B” (BEER) RETAILERS LICENSE FOR MAY 17, 2015 FROM 12:00 P.M. UNTIL 1 HOUR AFTER THE GAME HAS ENDED: Motion by Shireman, second by Machotka to approve the

applications from Richland Center Rockets Home Talent Baseball on May 9th from 3:00 p.m. until 1 hour after the game and May 17th from noon until 1 hour after the game. Motion carried 6-2 with Alderpersons Rakow and Kaufman dissenting.

CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON AUTHORIZING NEEDED REPAIRS OF THE WARNING SIRENS: Steve Krueger was present to explain that all sites could be inspected and batteries changed for \$2700.00. If the Council wanted to change the 4 sites that are run on batteries to AC, it would amount to \$11,340.00 total. Motion by Shireman to have the nonfunctioning sirens made functional, inspect the other sirens so there would be 7 working sirens, with the funds coming from contingency, also replace the batteries at the siren near well #7, and pursue a maintenance agreement. Machotka made the second. Motion by Shireman to amend the motion to add a limit authorized to spend of \$2700.00. Machotka seconded the amendment. Motion carried 8-0.

CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON PAYMENT TO RICHLAND OCUNTY FOR 2014 BUDGET OVRAGE AT SYMON'S: Mayor Corcoran stated the expenses were under budget, however, revenue was lower than anticipated through the winter months because of the cold weather and could not be made up for. Motion by Rakow, second by Fruit to approve the payment in the amount of \$13,052.12. Motion carried 8-0.

DISCUSSION ON POSSIBLE CHANGES TO ZONING ORDINANCE CHAPTER 400.04 (6) REGULATING FENCES: Attorney Robb pointed out the visibility issues of any fencing over 30" in front yards and if the ordinance was changed the possibility of how it could look down the street with fences lined up in front yards. Discussion took place on prosecution of violations. Some members would like to see prosecution in the visibility triangles on corners. The consensus was not to pursue changing the ordinance. No formal action was taken.

DISCUSSION ON POSSIBLE CHANGES TO COLLECTION AND CLOSURE PROCEDURES OF LANDFILL CHARGE ACCOUNTS: Clerk Jones reviewed the current procedures that have been followed for years and once an account is 90 days past due their account is prohibited from charging until the balance is paid, however, the customer can use the landfill and pay cash. Once this happens, the next time the account is 90 days past due the account is closed permanently and the customer is not able to use the landfill at all until the balance is paid. She stated she was asked if the policy could be a little more lenient. After discussion, there appeared to be no interest in changing the policy. No action was taken.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS – COUNCIL

REPRESENTATIVES: Motion by Fruit, second by Miller to approve the Council representatives as presented. Motion carried 8-0.

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS: Motion by Machotka, second by Shireman to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 8-0.

MAYOR CORCORAN: He stated the excitement of another partnership with the members tonight from Ukraine.

ALDERPERSON KLOEHN: He requested concerns on stop signs be addressed at Public Safety, he listened to a constituent's concerns about the city's hiring process and said he would bring them up, and he felt the city could look into a debit/credit card machine at the landfill.

ALDERPERSON KAUFMAN: He said he would like to see an economic development committee be set up to bring in new business into the city.

ALDERPERSON SHIREMAN: She showed a sign that was taped to a downtown utility pole and the amount of paint that was removed by taking it down. She pointed out that there is an ordinance that prohibits residents from putting up signs on the city poles. Ms. Shireman spoke on the tourism report from the State and that the county with the largest percentage increase in total money spent by tourists was Jackson County with Richland County being second at 8.8%. Richland County had the largest percentage increase in room tax revenue at 8.66%.

ATTORNEY ROBB: Stated the sale of the land in North Park where the soccer fields are has been transferred to the City.

GAYLE MATHEWS, WATER UTILITY SUPERINTENDENT: Reported the water department is flushing mains and there is an issue on a sidewalk area located in the Burnham and Seminary Streets area that he suggested the city and utility work together on solving.

CLERK MELINDA JONES: She announced the former United Auto business has been sold to Auto Value and encouraged everyone to attend their grand opening and ribbon cutting on May 7th at 11:00 a.m. She reported the mules traded by the parks department were a 1990 and a 1997 model, purchased used, and that an additional 5 year warranty was purchased for the new mule at a cost of \$900.00.

ADJOURN: Motion by Mueller, second by Kloehn to adjourn. Motion carried at 9:40 p.m.
Minutes by Melinda D. Jones, City Clerk / Treasurer

Mayor, Paul F. Corcoran

Attest:

City Clerk / Treasurer Melinda D. Jones