

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL

May 19, 2015

The Common Council of the City of Richland Center, Wisconsin, met in the Council Room of the municipal building on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 commencing at 7:30 P.M., Mayor Paul F. Corcoran presiding. Alderpersons Susan Fruit, Marie Rakow, Marsha Machotka, Judy Shireman, Lisa Miller, and Bill Kloehn were present. Mike Kaufman was present via telephone. Jay Buchanan Mueller was absent. Mayor Corcoran ascertained from the Clerk that the meeting was properly noticed.

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 7-0.

INTRODUCTION OF LUCAS CLEMENTS HIRED AS THE NEW POLICE CHIEF: Mayor Corcoran announced Lucas Clements as the selection for the new Chief by the Police Commission. Mr. Clements stated he is looking forward to the opportunity and working with everyone.

CITY EVENTS AND CITIZEN'S CONCERNS TO BE DISCUSSED AT A FUTURE MEETING: Mayor Corcoran stated he would like to see more hiring of bi-lingual staff, also hold events, and other programs for those that speak other languages.

CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF ENGINEERING PLANS FOR STREET PROJECTS AND APPROVE TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS ON THE 2015 PROJECTS: Mr. Kurt Muchow gave an overview of the projects and specifications designed for each. He said they looked at available grants and the Local Road Improvement Program would be a good fit for Union Street in 2016. He pointed out the City would be approving only the street projects, no utilities. The cost estimate for Third Street is \$62,000.00, N. Park & E. 11th Streets is \$139,000.00, East Union St. from Main to Church is \$115,000.00 and East Union from Church to Park is \$70,000.00. Motion by Rakow, second by Machotka to approve the plans and authorize bidding the 2015 projects. Motion carried 5-1 with Alderperson Kloehn voting no and Kaufman abstaining.

REPORT ON THE RICHLAND MUSEUM AND VISITOR CENTER: Laurene Behrendt said the depot is open from Monday through Saturday between 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM and staffed by volunteers. She thanked all of the volunteers and the lady that works on the landscaping, the City Custodian, Clerk's Office and the Library History Room staff. New exhibits are offered and they have placed a map up where visitors can place a pin where they are visiting from.

CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RESOLUTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CITY OF RICHLAND CENTER AND NOVOROZDIL, WESTERN UKRAINE: Mayor Corcoran announced that the visitors from Ukraine were present at the last meeting and asked if the council wanted to move forward with drafting a resolution. Motion by Shireman, second by Machotka to draft a resolution establishing a sister city relationship. Motion carried 7-0.

UTILITY COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS:

CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON PAY APPLICATION FROM JAMES PETERSON SONS, INC FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE FORCE MAIN UNDER CONTRACT B: Motion by Rakow, second by Kloehn to approve the payment request in the amount of \$139,629.01. Motion carried 7-0.

CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON PAY APPLICATION FROM STAAB CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE WWTF & LIFT STATION UNDER CONTRACT A #RC-55: Motion by Rakow, second by Machotka to approve the payment request in the amount of \$2,153,332.80. Motion carried 7-0.

REPORT ON THE RICHLAND FIRE DISTRICT FROM ALDERPERSON SHIREMAN:

Prior to 2004, the Fire Department was organized by a Rural Fire District, consisting of one member from each of 16 Townships, owned several trucks and equipment and paid 49% of the expenses. The City owned the fire station, several trucks and equipment and paid 51% of the expenses. All bills were approved by the Rural and the City. The City paid actually paid the bills and the Rural gave a reimbursement check to the City.

The Richland Fire District was established on January 1, 2004 with the organization under one Board. All equipment, 14 trucks and the fire station were transferred to the District at no charge. The Board consists of two votes for every agenda item, one from the Rural Fire District and one from the City. If there is one vote in favor and one against, more discussion takes place until both are in agreement. The members that sit on the Board are representatives from each Township in the Rural District and appointed members of the City Council.

Both the City and the Rural District are each billed an assessment of \$139,654.50 for the year, which has been the same for the past 5 years. This assessment covers the difference between the income to the district from fire calls and the expenses.

The Board meets the second Monday of each month in the Fire Station meeting room at 8:00 p.m. The District and the Fire Department run very efficiently.

The Richland Fire Department is a paid on call volunteer department comprised of 45 members including seven line officers and the chief. The department's proper legal name is the Richland Fire Department, but it is also known as the Richland Center Fire Department (RCFD). Our department protects the City of Richland Center, WI, one incorporated village, and all or parts of twelve of Richland County's sixteen townships. The area protected by the RCFD comprises of 310 square miles, with all of our fire equipment being housed in a single station in the city of Richland Center. RCFD travels to the county line in two different directions from the station. This makes the department one of the largest first response service areas in the entire state protected by a fire department either volunteer or full time in the state of Wisconsin.

She listed all of the Officers and Fire Fighters, thanked them and invited everyone to the open house on Saturday June 13th after the Rodeo/Dairy Days parade.

DISCUSSION ON THE RICHLAND AMBULANCE SERVICE: Mayor Corcoran reported that the department is losing volunteers and the hours available to work are harder for volunteers to sign up for. He said since April 1st, there has only been one missed call but with the decrease in volunteers, more have been missed recently. There is a meeting tomorrow night at the Courthouse that is open to the public. Alderperson Shireman asked if any contract has been signed with Baraboo Ambulance. Mayor Corcoran reported he was informed that the Baraboo Board of Directors approved all changes that Darin Gudgeon presented them back in March and the contract was not on the March or April ambulance agenda for action. He said he was informed that Darin Gudgeon misunderstood the conversation with Baraboo.

PUBLIC SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS:

CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPLICATION FROM DAVID PICKARTS DBA PICKARTS FORESTRY PROJECTS FOR A MUNICIPAL LICENSE FOR TREE CUTTING: Motion by Machotka, second by Kloehn to approve the license. Motion carried 7-0.

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS – CONFIRM: Motion by Rakow, second by Kloehn to approve the list of appointment for both citizens and council members. Motion carried 7-0.

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS: Motion by Machotka, second by Kloehn to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

ADJOURN: Motion by Kloehn, second by Shireman to adjourn. Motion carried at 8:55 p.m.

Minutes by Melinda D. Jones, City Clerk / Treasurer

Mayor, Paul F. Corcoran

Attest:

City Clerk / Treasurer Melinda D. Jones