

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
September 19, 2017**

The Common Council of the City of Richland Center, Wisconsin, met in the Council Room of the municipal building on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 commencing at 7:31 PM, Mayor Paul F. Corcoran presiding. Alderpersons Dan Schweinfus, Marsha Machotka, Diane Cox, Travis Wertz, Justin Lockwood, Mike Kaufman, Kathy Troxel, and John Collins were present. Mayor Corcoran ascertained from the Clerk that the meeting was properly noticed.

Motion by Cox, second by Kaufman 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: Jay Buchanan Mueller asked the council to consider regulating rental properties in the city for safety purposes. Mueller added that the Salvation Army will be adjusting holiday bell ringing hours to accommodate the loss of the grocery store in the Richland Square. He anticipates the need for social services and community programs will continue to increase.

Motion by Machotka, second by Kaufman to approve the agenda. Motion carried 8-0.

REPORT FROM DR. CHARLES CLARK, REGIONAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER & DEAN OF UW COLLEGES-SOUTHWEST: Dr. Clark reported that UW Colleges generally function as a co-ownership, with the respective counties owning the facilities and the university system managing the operations. Clark said that there is \$4-million in deferred maintenance at UW-Richland that is being addressed with a 10-year maintenance plan with the county to address the problems. The first project includes borrowing \$300,000 to repair a portion of the roof at Melville Hall and replace a condensing unit at the Science Hall. Dr. Clark said that the UW-Richland Alumni Association and the Richland County Campus Foundation are very strong and active. Enrollment at UW-Richland this fall is 287 compared to 280 last fall (2016). Clark stated that changing demographics is affecting the UW System. In terms of economic value, UW-Richland provides \$3-million in general purpose revenue to the county each year. Dr. Charles Clark encouraged people with questions to call him or Campus Administrator Dr. Tracy Davidson.

2016 AUDIT REPORT FROM BILL MOILIEN OF JOHNSON BLOCK & COMPANY, INC: Mr. Moilien from Johnson Block gave the City's audit report for 2016 stating the city maintains a strong financial position, cash liquidity and fund balances. The city's general fund balance increased \$205,744, and the overall governmental fund balance increased by \$289,836. The city's fund balance makes up 17 months' worth of operating expenses – a very strong fund balance according to Moilien. In addition, the City of Richland Center has 96.8% of its debt capacity remaining as of December 31, 2016.

CONSIDER AUTHORISING THE PAYMENT OF \$4,000 TO SOUTHWEST PARTNERS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES: Motion by Wertz, second by Collins to authorize the payment of \$4,000 to Southwest Partners for Economic Development Purposes. Motion carried 8-0.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

CONSIDER APPROVING SITE PLAN AND CURRENT STANDARD LAND LEASE FOR BRENT MONTRY TO CONSTRUCT A NEW 60'X60' PRIVATE HANGAR AT THE RICHLAND AIRPORT: Motion by Kaufman, second by Cox to approve the site plan for Brent Montry to construct a new 60'X60' private hangar at the Richland Airport contingent upon land lease updated per the state by Attorney Robb and state-approved plans. Motion carried 8-0.

PARK BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CHANGING MEAL SITE AGREEMENT TO ALLOW HOURS OF USE AS 8:30 AM TO 1:00 PM RATHER THAN FROM 9:30 AM TO 1:30 PM: Motion by Kaufman, second by Schweinfus to approve changing the meal site agreement to allow the hours of use as 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM rather than from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM. Motion carried 8-0.

REPORT FROM LON ARBEGUST ON POSSIBLE TOURISM STUDY: Lon Arbegust, Richland Center Tourism Coordinator, reported to the Council that Richland County ranked 63rd out of 72 counties in overall visitor tourism spending. He said that the Department of Tourism has a no-cost self-assessment available to develop an inventory of tourism assets. He said that he would like to receive Council support for a tourism study. That issue will be put on the October 17th agenda for consideration. Arbegust also said that Richland Center should again become a Main Street Community because it could open the door for revitalization efforts and funding. Arbegust added that entries for the October 7th Canyon of Lights Parade are coming in. 7 area bands have committed to participate. This year's parade theme is "Richland Rocks: Light Up the Night".

OLD BUSINESS:

CONSIDER ORDINANCE DEPUTIZING BUILDING INSPECTORS AND GIVING AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE CITATIONS RELATED TO DISTRESSED PROPERTIES: Mayor Corcoran stated that Platteville has a plan in place to authorize deputizing people to cite unkempt properties. No action was taken.

APPOINTMENTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS AND CONFIRM APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Kaufman, second by Lockwood to approve Kathy Troxel, Pat Elliott, Deb Fontana, Liz Perkins, Sheila Troxel, Raymond Wilson, Paul Corcoran, Kathryn Lewandowski, Andrea Wertz, Dale Bender, and Mick Cosgrove to the Ad Hoc Pool Committee. Motion carried 6-0, with Alderperson Troxel and Alderperson Wertz abstaining.

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

ALDERPERSONS SCHWINEFUS THROUGH COLLINS – REPORTS, ETC. Alderperson Kaufman reported that the Richland Airport fuel system project will begin soon, with the hopes it will be operational by the end of the year.

Motion by Machotka, second by Cox to go into closed session per WI Stats. 19.85 (1) (e) for the purpose of investment of public funds related to the A.D. German Warehouse Conservancy. Motion carried 8-0.

ADJOURN: Motion by Collins, second by Machotka to adjourn. Motion carried.

Minutes by Aaron Joyce, Deputy City Clerk / Treasurer

Mayor, Paul F. Corcoran

Attest:

City Clerk / Treasurer Melinda D. Jones