

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL

February 6, 2018

The Common Council of the City of Richland Center, Wisconsin, met in the Council Room of the municipal building on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 commencing at 7:31 P.M., Mayor Paul F. Corcoran presiding. Alderpersons Justin Lockwood, Travis Wertz, Marsha Machotka, John Collins, Michael Kaufman, Kathy Troxel, Jacob Lundgren, and Diane Cox were present. Mayor Corcoran ascertained from the Clerk that the meeting was properly noticed.

Motion by Collins, second by Cox to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the meeting on January 16, 2018 in lieu of printed copies. Motion carried 8-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Suzanne Fish raised concerns about the size and cost of the proposed aquatic center. Lisa Miller discussed a feasibility study done on placing a grocery store in the former O'Brien Building. In addition to the significant initial financial loss, Miller stated that there would be roadway access concerns with that location. Jim Heiar asked for clarification on the city's borrowing capacity and the current projects that funds are borrowed for. It was noted that funds are currently borrowed primarily for road projects. Cary Norman shared concerns about the cost of the proposed aquatic center. Norman asked if the project could be scaled back and use some borrowing capacity to benefit a grocery store.

CITY EVENTS, CITIZEN CONCERNS, & ALDERPERSONS CONCERNS TO BE DISCUSSED AT A FUTURE MEETING: Alderperson Collins asked that improved signage be considered in the future that highlight the areas and historic highlights of the city. Collins said that a 2007 study was done regarding signage. Alderperson Wertz asked that the aquatic center be on the agenda.

APPROVE AGENDA: Alderperson Troxel requested that item #18 be removed. Alderperson Kaufman requested that Items #17, #20a, and #20b be removed from the agenda. Motion by Alderperson Machotka, second by Alderperson Collins to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried 8-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT: City Clerk/Treasurer Melinda D. Jones presented the report for January 2018. The month end balance is as follows:

General Fund	253843.26
State Pool - Account # 1	2,039,883.98
Money Market Tax Acct.	2,726,878.43
State Pool – Account #2 Long Term Care	550,770.88
Restricted Funds:	
CDBG - Housing RLF	112,129.67
Revolving Loan Fund- Savings	761,192.08
Revolving Loan Fund – Checking	1,217.07
Landfill Care – CD	283,370.90
Landfill Care - CD	290,503.71

Library Checking	88,886.30
Room Tax	56,028.93
State Pool #3 TIF-Panorama Estates	764,869.00
State Pool - Account # 6 - TIF - 2-5	3,918,573.19

Committed Funds:

State Pool - Account # 4 - Project Carryover	1,048,821.77
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Assigned Funds:

Cemetery	4,695.57
Park / Community Center	35,441.37
Park and Rec Checking	1,857.32

CITY UTILITIES:

Electric Utility Fund	115,413.56
Electric Unrestricted Funds	48,719.19
Water Utility Fund	155,541.51
Water Utility Unrestricted Funds	54,821.47
Waste Water Utility Fund	73,243.18
Waste Water Unrestricted Funds	34,515.45

RESTRICTED FOR PROJECTS:

Electric	1,212,360.62
Water	1,154,054.19
WWTP	4,896,319.85

CONSIDER SALE OF LAND IN INDUSTRIAL PARK NORTH TO JELINEK PLUMBING & HEATING: Jelinek Plumbing & Heating is seeking Lots #26 & #27 which comprise 2.55 acres at the intersection of Bowen Circle and West Robb Road in the North Industrial Park. Motion by Wertz, second by Kaufman to approve the sale of Lots #26 & #27 to Jelinek Plumbing & Heating for a total sale price of \$6,000 with no job requirements. Motion approved 7-1, with Machotka dissenting.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ONE-TIME BONUS FOR CITY EMPLOYEES: It was explained that the funds for the bonuses would come from each department's 2018 salary accounts. Alderperson Cox stated that feedback from her constituents did not yield support for employee bonuses. Alderperson Kaufman stated that city employees are valued, but funds are tight and he did not support employee bonuses. Agenda item failed for lack of a motion.

TREE BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF EMERALD ASH BORER PLAN: City Forester Dave Fry reported that the EAB plan is for 2018-2021, and can be modified as years progress. Fry said that the first year's plan is essentially set, with ash trees that are leaning in the park and city boulevards targeted for removal first. Motion by Machotka, second by Cox to approve the Emerald Ash Borer Plan as presented. Motion approved 8-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR BIDS RELATED TO EAB ISSUE: Motion by Machotka, second by Troxel to approve a bid request for ash tree treatment. Dave Fry said that the treatments would strictly be meant for trees used for Rotary Lights. He hopes to get three years out of a treatment. It was stated that the treatment costs are based on the diameter of the tree and can range from \$3 to \$12 per diameter inch. Motion approved 8-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AVAILABILITY LIST FOR REPLACEMENT TREES DUE TO THE EAB ISSUE: Dave Fry said that he'd like to offer a variety of replacement trees to homeowners, however the goal is to not have over 20% of one type of tree. Motion by Wertz, second by Kaufman to approve the replacement tree list. Motion approved 8-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PLAN FOR SELLING WOOD FROM ASH TREE REMOVAL: Dave Fry stated that he would like to advertise ash tree firewood for sale on a first come, first serve basis. The purchaser would be responsible for loading and hauling the wood. Motion by Machotka, second by Cox to approve the sale of wood from the ash tree removal. Motion carried 8-0.

CONSIDER AWARD OF BID FOR SALE OF LAWN TRACTORS FROM THE PARKS & GROUNDS DEPARTMENT: The department sought bids for four used lawn tractors. Motion by Kaufman, second by Wertz to award the bids to the highest bidders as presented. Motion carried 8-0.

CONSIDER PURCHASING 4 PORTABLE MOROROLA POLICE RADIOS: Motion by Machotka, second by Collins to approve the purchase of portable police radios with the total cost of the radios before trade-in is \$3,928. The entire police force will be equipped with new radios after the purchase. Motion carried 8-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUESTING BIDS OR PROPOSALS FOR AQUATIC CENTER ENGINEERING: Josh Layer with Burbach Aquatics spoke to the council about his concerns with the proposed aquatic center developed by the Pool Ad Hoc Committee. Layer, a Richland Center native, said that in his estimation the proposed facility is about 2 to 2 ½ times larger than what is typically needed for a community the size of Richland Center. He also questioned the pool construction the design is based on. Layer said that the design standard is 2-foot walls and 1-foot floor. Josh Layer also stated that the staffing and operational costs would be much higher. Motion by Machotka, second by Cox to send the pool design back to the ad hoc committee for reevaluation. Motion carried 5-4, with Mayor Corcoran casting the tie-breaking vote. Voting yes were Alderpersons Machotka, Cox, Kaufman, and Collins. Voting no were Alderpersons Wertz, Lockwood, Troxel, and Lundgren.

DISCUSSION ON PURCHASING FLAGS AND/OR BANNERS FOR THE DOWNTOWN STREET LIGHTS: Alderperson Lundgren reported that he was quoted that 40 banners could cost \$60 each. Alderperson Collins said that a previous study on signs could be revisited to include street banners or flags. It was recommended that the Tourism Committee and Chamber work on branding the city and incorporating signs with that project.

UPDATE ON SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROJECT AND CONSIDER KNOWLES-NELSON GRANT APPLICATION FOR PAVING OF TRAIL: Dale Bender reported that the previous attempt to secure grant funding for the walking/biking trail to the Richland Middle School was unsuccessful. He said that Southwest Partners has worked with property owners and obtained an easement to place a gravel trail from the intersection of Hwy 80 and Hwy 14 to the Middle School. He would like permission to try for the Knowles-Nelson Grant this spring to pave that graveled trail. The deadline is May 1st. Motion by Wertz, second by Kaufman to approve applying for the Knowles-Nelson Grant. Motion carried 8-0.

PUBLIC SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS

CONSIDER APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY CLASS “B” AND “CLASS B” BEER AND WINE LICENSE FROM RICHLAND COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS COUNCIL ON MARCH 17, 2018 FROM 5:00 pm TO 11:59 pm FOR THE VIC FERRARI “SYMPHONY ON THE ROCKS” CONCERT: Motion by Machotka, second by Kaufman to approve the license pending proof of liability insurance. Motion carried 8-0.

CONSIDER WAIVING 2-HOUR PARKING REGULATIONS FOR ALCAM EMPLOYEES DURING THE HASELTINE STREET PROJECT: Motion by Machotka, second by Cox to suspend the 2-hour parking on both sides of the street in the 100 Block west and 100 Block east of Seminary Street during the construction. Motion carried 8-0.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, AND CONFIRM APPOINTMENTS: Mayor Corcoran stated that there is interest to reconvene the Historic Preservation Board. Those interested should contact the mayor.

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

ALDERPERSONS MACHOTKA THROUGH COLLINS:

Alderspersons Lundgren, Collins, and Kaufman thanked Josh Layer for attending the meeting to provide his expertise and answer questions about aquatic center construction.

ADJOURN: Motion by Cox, second by Collins to adjourn. Motion carried 8-0 at 10:15 PM.

Minutes by Aaron Joyce, Deputy City Clerk / Treasurer

Mayor, Paul F. Corcoran

Attest:

City Clerk / Treasurer Melinda D. Jones