

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL

March 5, 2019

The Common Council of the City of Richland Center, Wisconsin, met in the Council Room of the municipal building on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 commencing at 7:30 P.M., Mayor Michael J. Kaufman presiding. Alderpersons Ryan Cairns, Kathy Troxel, Justin Lockwood, John Collins, Travis Wertz, Diane Cox, Marsha Machotka and Karin Tepley. Mayor Kaufman ascertained from the Clerk that the meeting was properly noticed.

Motion by Wertz, second by Collins to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the last meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Cox, second by Tepley to approve the agenda with item #11 deleted. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Suzanne Fish stated she went to the Southwest Partners meeting on February 20th and when it was asked how many additional lifeguard employees are needed for the new pool, Pat Elliott stated 6. At previous ad hoc meetings it was stated there are 8 lifeguards needed per shift so it would be a total of 16. She talked to Shane Stibbe and he said he would be hiring 20. At Symons they have 1 lifeguard with Denise and Tracy filling in as lifeguard when needed. She said it is not acceptable to close a pool if a lifeguard is not available. She also stated the pool was open 74 days last year and with the loan payment and cost of operation with the new pool it would be between \$6600 and \$7000 of expense per day. She asked what the correct numbers are.

MAYOR AND ALDERPERSON CONCERNS TO BE DISCUSSED AT A FUTURE MEETING: Justin Lockwood asked that discussion and possible action take place in transferring funds from the State of WI Investment Pool account #4. Karin Tepley said Lenny Schaub would like to present an update on Tourism at the next meeting.

CITY AND UTILITY DEPARTMENT HEAD CONCERNS: Rod Perry said the Utility will open bids next Tuesday for the water reservoir project.

TREASURER’S REPORT: The report for February 2019 with the month end balance is as follows:

General Fund	441,151.66
State Pool - Account # 1	3,098,754.96
Money Market Tax Acct.	15,177.10
State Pool – Account #2 Long Term Care	561,405.73
Restricted Funds:	
CDBG - Housing RLF	123,851.24
Revolving Loan Fund- Savings	786,005.91
Revolving Loan Fund – Checking	1,217.07
Landfill Care – CD	284,724.37
Landfill Care - CD	290,503.71
Library Checking	349,749.35

Room Tax	63,837.64
State Pool #3 TIF-Panorama Estates	160,539.89
State Pool #5 TIF-Affordable Housing	950,872.44
State Pool - Account # 6 - TIF - 2-5	73,828.55

Committed Funds:

State Pool - Account # 4 - Project Carryover	3,557,887.15
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Assigned Funds:

Cemetery	4,704.82
Park / Community Center	35,231.13
Park and Rec Checking	2,656.70
Aquatic Center	1,015.38

CITY UTILITIES:

Electric Utility Fund	64,273.28
Electric Unrestricted Funds	52,204.33
Water Utility Fund	92,426.05
Water Utility Unrestricted Funds	86,026.85
Waste Water Utility Fund	38,885.78
Waste Water Unrestricted Funds	50,618.74

RESTRICTED FOR PROJECTS:

Electric	738,683.64
Water	756,942.18
WWTP	4,579,073.77

Motion by Lockwood, second by Troxel to approve the treasurer’s report. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION FROM JESSICA SCHROEDER AND SHEILA TROXEL FOR WORDERS COMPENSATION DIVIDEND CHECK: Jessica Schroeder said she is from Community Insurance presenting the City a 10% dividend for the July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 for controlling the workers compensation claims. The check is in the amount of \$8463.90.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT DONATION FROM SHEILA TROXEL: Sheila Troxel said the Class of 1968 constructed a shelter at the Old Mill Pond Park. Wallace Cooper & Elliott then purchased the all access kayak/canoe landing and pier to hold the Mike Edwardson annual memorial fishing derby. With the assistance of the Joan Woodman Orton McCollum Foundation, Wallace Cooper & Elliott Insurance Company staff and customers, playground equipment was installed. Now, she along with the agency, the Aaron and Andrew Troxel families, and one other family, would like to add a slide and butterfly house as well as a mommy swing and basketball court this year.

CONSIDER PETITION FROM LORI AND CARY NORMAN FOR DE-ANNEXATION OF PARCEL LOCATED AT 26136 EXECUTIVE LANE: Mr. Norman said he annexed into the city in 2005 and has not been receiving sewer, water, electric or road repairs from the city so he is requesting de-annexation. Each Alderperson had the chance to comment on their thoughts. Most replied that they have mixed feelings about approving the request because we want to

increase the tax base in the city but they understand the Normans position. Questions were asked such as how did this get to this point, why is the request coming now instead of many years ago, and how many other taxpayers in the city are in a similar position. John Collins said that if a de-annexation is granted Mr. Norman could lower his rent while other rental property owners within the city could not. Alderperson Collins said he would be more inclined to de-annex the property while Alderperson Machotka said she would be against de-annexation. Motion by Cox, second by Tepley to postpone to the next meeting. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ON DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC PLAN: Alderperson Collins said the city has a Comprehensive Plan developed in 2007 and a Master Plan completed in 2003 which are both on the city web site. He reviewed a couple sections then stated there are areas that should be updated and he would recommend the Plan Commission review and update the Comprehensive Plan.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF COMPENSATION TO ELECTED MAYOR AND COUNCIL: Alderperson Lockwood said there was discussion on this at the Finance Committee but no recommendation. In 1988 the \$2400 per year was approved and with the rate of inflation it would be about \$5200 for 2019. It was determined that the pay is not the reason that people run to serve in office. He brought this up for discussion. Alderperson Cairns felt it was good to talk about things from time to time but he did not expect any pay increase. The Mayor position spends a lot of time for the city and basically a person would have to give up a full-time position for \$7500 per year. Alderperson Wertz said he ran for office because he was not happy about an issue and usually spends one full day of every two weeks working on city business. He said an increase may draw others to run. The other Alders said they did not know it was a paid position and it did not matter to them to have a pay increase. No action was taken.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ALLOWING CLERK TO HIRE TABULATORS FOR THE APRIL 2, 2019 ELECTION: Clerk Jones stated that at the end of a long day it helps to have fresh eyes help tally votes. Motion by Wertz, second by Collins to approve. Motion carried 8-0.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Motion by Machotka, second by Tepley to pay the bills. Motion carried 8-0.

Mayor and Alderpersons Reports: Mayor Kaufman asked residents to please keep their sidewalks clear of snow and ice.

ADJOURN: Motion by Cox, second by Collins to adjourn. Motion carried at 9:21 PM.

Minutes by Melinda Jones, City Clerk / Treasurer