

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL

December 3, 2019

The Common Council of the City of Richland Center, Wisconsin, met in the Council Room of the municipal building on Tuesday, December 3, 2019 commencing at 7:30 PM, Mayor Michael J. Kaufman presiding. Alderpersons Ryan Cairns, Scotty Wallace, John Collins, Travis Wertz, Diane Cox, Todd Coppernoll, Karin Tepley, and Aaron Ewing were present. Mayor Kaufman ascertained from the Clerk that the meeting was properly noticed.

Motion by Collins, second by Wallace to waive the reading of the minutes of the November 19th meeting and approve said minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mayor Kaufman paused the meeting to present a proclamation to Deputy Clerk/Treasurer – Accountant Shawn Walsh for her 30 years of service to the City of Richland Center. Walsh began her service with the city on December 4, 1989. December 4, 2019 has been declared “Shawn Walsh Day” in the City of Richland Center.

Motion by Collins, second by Tepley to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

MAYOR AND ALDERPERSONS CONCERNS TO BE DISCUSSED AT A FUTURE MEETING: Alderperson Coppernoll stated that a puppy mill recently established in Spring Green has caused numerous legal concerns despite strong opposition to the operation. Coppernoll encouraged Richland Center to consider an ordinance against that type of business. He invited Rebeka Klemm of Dane 4 Dogs to speak on the topic. Klemm stated that Spring Green was not prepared to prevent such operation and a denial of a conditional use permit has led to a lawsuit. Klemm stated that communities with ordinances in place are in stronger legal position to prevent such industries from beginning there. Coppernoll requested that the council take up such an ordinance at the next council meeting. Alderperson Collins requested that an ordinance that prohibits vaping in city parks be put on the council agenda following consideration of the Park Board.

CITY AND UTILITY DEPARTMENT HEAD CONCERNS: None

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

General Fund	272,687.05
State Pool - Account # 1	3,485,637.62
Money Market Tax Acct.	17,285.18
State Pool – Account #2 Long Term Care	572,268.95
Restricted Funds:	
CDBG - Housing RLF	100,278.78
Revolving Loan Fund- Savings	795,885.20
Revolving Loan Fund – Checking	1,217.07
Landfill Care – CD	285,783.31

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Library Checking	241,951.80
Room Tax	82,638.59
State Pool #3 TIF-Panorama Estates	208.66
State Pool #5 TIF-Affordable Housing	967,548.44
State Pool - Account # 6 - TIF - 2-5	107,575.02

Committed Funds:

State Pool - Account # 4 - Project Carryover	4,925,601.25
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Assigned Funds:

Cemetery	4,749.34
Park / Community Center	8,853.01
Park and Rec Checking	930.04
Aquatic Center	113,408.97

CITY UTILITIES:

Electric Utility Fund	109,421.54
Electric Unrestricted Funds	52,204.33
Water Utility Fund	146,358.65
Water Utility Unrestricted Funds	86,026.85
Waste Water Utility Fund	64,797.88
Waste Water Unrestricted Funds	50,618.74

RESTRICTED FOR PROJECTS:

Electric	729,032.77
Water	747,203.59
WWTP	4,182,983.90

Motion by Tepley, second by Cairns to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

TOBACCO (VAPING) USE – PARTNERS FOR PREVENTION COALITION PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON VAPING IN PUBLIC PARKS: Betsy Roesler, Richland County Health & Wellness Coordinator and Prevention Specialist, leads a group called Partners for Prevention – a 10-year effort with Richland Center and Ithaca high schools. Seven students from Richland Center and Ithaca attended a youth summit on November 13th. RCHS students Mirabella Carpenter and Brianna Vigil presented information on vaping use and its affects among students. It was learned that students vape in Richland County at a higher rate than others in the region. 14% of high school students have vaped in the last 30 days, while 40% have tried vaping ever. Carpenter and Vigil said that student athletes have been suspended from participating because of their vaping use. Vaping at the middle school level is also becoming a concern. The students also displayed several vaping equipment/items, which are often used to conceal their identity. It was noted that the City of Reedsburg has a draft vaping ordinance that prevents vaping in areas where smoking is prohibited. It also includes public parks.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH RICHLAND COUNTY CAMPUS FOUNDATION FOR BUS PROGRAM: The contract was previously approved by the Finance Committee. It is month-to-month and allows any party to terminate the contract at any time. The foundation will prepay the city quarterly and VARC will bill the city for the service. The service will be operational the first week of January 2020. Motion by Tepley, second by Cairns, to approve the contract with the Richland County Campus Foundation for the bus program. Motion carried 8-0 on a roll call vote.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BID FOR SKID STEER TRAILER: Three bids were received. Motion by Cairns, second by Ewing, to approve the bid from Augelli Concrete in the amount of \$5,900 with the funds coming from the Roadways Equipment Rental account. Motion carried 8-0 on a roll call vote.

CONSIDER APPROVAL TO BID RIP RAP PROJECT ALONG PINE RIVER WEST OF THE WEDGEWOOD SUBDIVISION: The Wastewater Utility will supply the stones for project. The city's portion would come from flood mitigation funds available in State Pool #4. Motion by Cairns, second by Cox, to send the project out for bids the rip rap project along the Pine River west of the Wedgewood Subdivision contingent on the Wastewater Utility providing the stones for the project. Motion carried 8-0 on a roll call vote.

CONSIDER SUSPENDING THE RULES, WAIVING THE READING AND ENACTING ORDINANCE CHAPTER 420 RELATING TO STRUCTURES AND DWELLINGS AND PROVIDING FOR ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF SUCH CODES: Attorney Robb explained that the current building and electrical code ordinances are obsolete. The proposed codes would be the statewide uniform building code and would allow for local enforcement. It was noted that the current building inspector Tracy Johnson is the certified individual to enforce the code. Motion by Wertz, second by Collins, to suspend the rules, waive the reading and enact Ordinance Chapter 420 relating to structures and dwellings and provide for administration and enforcement of such codes – with item 420.04(d) “Replacement of major building equipment, including furnaces and central air conditioners” removed. Motion carried 8-0 on a roll call vote.

CONSIDER SUSPENDING THE RULES, WAIVING THE READING AND ENACTING ORDINANCE CHAPTER 101.13 RELATING TO UNNECESSARY ACCELERATION/UNNECESSARY NOISE WITH A MOTOR VEHICLE: Attorney Robb stated that this is what is often referred to as the Display of Power ordinance. He said that there are minor wording changes and a clarification to the forfeiture that aligns with state statutes. Motion by Wertz, second by Coppernoll, to suspend the rules, waive the reading, and adopt Ordinance 2019-13 relating to unnecessary acceleration/unnecessary noise with a motor vehicle. Motion carried 8-0 on a roll call vote.

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND CONFIRM APPOINTMENTS: Mayor Kaufman requested that Sharon Schmitz serve as a voting alternate on the Richland County Ambulance Committee for the remainder of his term. Motion by Collins, second by Tepley, to approve Sharon Schmitz as an alternate voting member of the Richland County Ambulance Committee when Mayor Kaufman is unable to attend. Motion carried 8-0 on a roll call vote.

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS: Motion by Cairns, second by Ewing to pay the bills as presented. Motion carried 8-0 on a roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

MAYOR AND ALDERPERSONS – COMMITTEE/COMMISSION/BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS: Alderperson Collins requested that the city department heads provide annual reports at the upcoming council meetings. Alderperson Coppernoll reported that there will soon be a “Best Burger” competition in the county. He added that there will be additional “Best Of” competitions to help promote Richland County tourism.

DEPARTMENTS AND UTILITY REPORTS: Clerk/Treasurer Melinda Jones reported that a special council meeting will take place December 10th to discuss the 2020 budget and employee evaluations. Jones also said that interested residents can take out papers for city council and mayor.

ADJOURN: Motion by Ewing, second by Collins to adjourn. Motion carried at 9:05 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Aaron Joyce, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer