

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL

March 19, 2020

The Common Council of the City of Richland Center, Wisconsin, met in the Council Room of the municipal building on Tuesday, March 19, 2020 commencing at 7:30 PM, Mayor Michael J. Kaufman presiding. Alderpersons Ryan Cairns, Scotty Wallace, John Collins, Travis Wertz, Diane Cox, Todd Coppernoll, and Karin Tepley were present via teleconference on the telephone. Mayor Kaufman ascertained from the Clerk that the meeting was properly noticed.

Presentation and proposal from Administrator Bruce Roesler and Jason Eisermann for the Richland Hospital and the City of Richland Center agreement to work together in the future: Mr. Jason Eisermann under the 340B program there is an opportunity that has not been taken advantage of before. This program requires pharmaceutical companies to give drugs at a discount to provide services to low income persons not on Medicare. It requires a government or an agreement with local government to be part of the program. Each year the Hospital will have to send documentation to the City and a document from the City certifying we are working together. He stated that Richland has a significant population to qualify. Discussion took place. Motion by Cairns, second by Wallace to approve the contract. Motion carried 7-0 via roll call vote.

Consider appropriation of funds from contingency to develop an emergency plan to deal with the Coronavirus or other possible health issues: Mayor Kaufman stated there is an emergency management person that is unpaid and he is looking for some compensation while working during the pandemic. He also stated there is an option for fogging buildings. Alderperson Cairn said anything proactive should be looked at but funds should be used wisely and with common sense. Bruce Roesler, Richland Hospital Administrator, stated the City should encourage citizens to comply with the CDC, Government and the President of the US with social distancing. A person can be non-symptomatic for 4-5 days and spread it to others during this time. The Police and others should have access to personal protective equipment as well as the emergency operations center, Fire, EMS, other Law Enforcement and City Utilities employees. He also mentioned there are reliable web sites to look at such as Richland County Government, the CDC, Richland Hospital, and WI Department of Health. Each Alderperson had the chance to speak with the consensus agreeing with Bruce and Alderperson Cairns. Fogging was felt to be a little premature and it was suggested to look at this issue on a day by day bases. Alderperson Coppernoll suggested the Emergency Government Coordinator Marsha Machotka to work with departments and coordinate inventory. Dale Bender was at the meeting stating that department heads are working together keeping the employees working and safe. He has split the Electric Utility employees to two different locations. He requested one point of contact. Mayor Kaufman said he designated Aaron Joyce as the Media person to work with Emergency Management for the City so that would be the point of contact. It was mentioned that the Emergency Management Coordinator could be paid at the end of this pandemic. Mayor Kaufman requested payment similar to and the same way that Bill McCorkle is being paid. Motion by Wertz to allow Police Chief Billy Jones to spend up to \$5600 for needed supplies from contingency. Collins seconded and the motion carried 7-0 via roll call vote.

Consider approval of Entitlement Transfer Agreement for Richland Airport Terminal Building: Mayor Kaufman said there were delays with the terminal building and since it has not

started yet, the City would be losing Federal and State funding before it is done. In order to prevent that we can loan our \$250,000 to Kenosha and in turn the City would receive it back as soon as our project moves forward. Motion by Wertz, second by Tepley and Wallace to approve the entitlement agreement. Motion carried 7-0 via roll call vote.

Utility Commission Recommendations:

a. Consider approval of prequalified bidders for 2020 Projects. Utility Commission President Rod Perry stated the Public Works Committee and Utility Committee met, went through the contractors request for prequalification and approved A1 Excavating, J & J LLC, Ewers Contracting, and H. James & Sons, Inc. It was noted that those companies can hire subcontractors that were not approved. Motion by Collins to approve the prequalification list including A1 Excavating, J & J LLC, Ewers Contracting and H James & Sons Inc. Wertz seconded and the motion carried 7-0 via roll call vote.

b. Consider approval of bid for Central Ave / Kinder Street project. Clerk Jones went through the cost for the entire project, the share to the sewer utility, water utility, and the city. Rod Perry noted the Highway 80 North sewer project was not approved. Motion by Collins to approve the low bid of \$675,407.75 from A1 to do the Central Avenue, Kinder Street and Burton Street project as presented. Wertz and Tepley seconded and the motion carried 7-0 via voice vote.

Comments: Mayor Kaufman asked that everyone pitch in an extra effort to reduce the pandemic. The election will move forward as scheduled which is bringing a strain on city hall and Aaron Joyce. He called the School District and asked if furloughed teachers could serve as election workers and Mr. Burke approved.

Other comments were that the public should get information from reliable sources, be smart, keep the social distance, wash hands often, another Community has yellow signs up at restaurant businesses that have take-out orders available and suggested we do this, support local businesses, the Federal Government is being contacted to obtain funding for business owners and worker. We need to work together to come out of this pandemic as a better community, country and world.

ADJOURN: Motion by Wallace, second by Collins to adjourn. Motion carried at 7:56 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Melinda D. Jones, Clerk/Treasurer