

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL  
December 1, 2020**

The Common Council of the City of Richland Center, Wisconsin, met on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 commencing at 7:30 PM, with Mayor Todd Coppernoll presiding. The meeting was held virtually via WebEx. Alderpersons present over phone: Scotty Wallace, Susan Fruit, Carson Culver, John Collins, Karin Tepley, Travis Wertz, Melony Walters, and Ryan Cairns. Mayor Coppernoll ascertained from the Clerk that the meeting was properly noticed.

Motion by Collins, second by Fruit to waive the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and approve the same. Motion carried 8-0.

Motion by Tepley, second by Walters to approve the agenda removing item number 9. Motion carried 8-0.

**PUBLIC HEARING, CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2021 BUDGET AND 2020 LEVY:** Kalish provided a summary of the 2021 proposed budget and 2020 levy. The allowable levy increase is \$19,558 making the 2020 levy \$2,237,787. The City mill rate will increase by \$.02 from \$8.22 to \$8.24 per \$1000 of assessed value however, the total mill rate will be \$25.99 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

Mayor Coppernoll opened the public hearing asking if anyone from the public wanted to speak. After asking twice, no one came forward so Mayor Coppernoll closed the public hearing. Mayor Coppernoll read Resolution 2020 – 9 aloud as follows:

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2021 BUDGET**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Common Council of the City of Richland Center, Richland County, Wisconsin that the 2021 Budget was published in the Richland Observer on November 12, 2020 pursuant to Section 65.90 Wisconsin Statutes, the public hearing was held on December 1, 2020. The 2021 budget as well as the 2020 Levy is hereby adopted.

Cairns makes motion to approve Resolution 2020-9, Collins seconds, motion carried 8 – 0.

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMPLOYEE WAGE AND COST OF LIVING INCREASE FOR 2021:** Coppernoll read Resolution 2020-10 aloud as follows:

**RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHLAND CENTER  
ADOPTING COST OF LIVING AND WAGE INCREASES FOR 2021**

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee within the development of the 2021 budget and the Personnel and Insurance Committee recommends adoption of a 1% cost of living increase for 2021 with the exception of the Police Union and the Brewer Library; and  
WHEREAS, the Finance Committee set the 2021 budget and included a cost of living and wage increases in the line item budgets for each department; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City and its employees that the following cost of living and wage increases be approved:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

The employees of the City of Richland Center hereby adopts a 1% cost of living increase for non-union employees with the exception of the Police Union and the Brewer Library employees: All increases are effective January 1, 2021 to be paid from the line item budgets for each department.

Collins make motion to approve Resolution 2020-10, Fruit seconds, motion carried 8 – 0.

**MAYOR AND ALDERPERSONS CONCERNS TO BE DISCUSSED AT A FUTURE MEETING:** None brought forward.

**CITY AND UTILITY DEPARTMENT HEAD CONCERNS:** None brought forward.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** The report for November 30, 2020 with the month end balance is as follows:

General Fund	202,245.04
State Pool - Account # 1	3,141,661.03
Money Market Tax Acct.	17,332.39
State Pool – Account #2 Long Term Care	576,592.03
State Pool #3 TIF-Panorama Estates	210.23
State Pool - Account # 6 - TIF - 2-5	108,387.66
Revolving Loan Fund- Savings	553,537.08
Revolving Loan Fund – Checking	1,164.57

**Restricted Funds:**

CDBG - Housing RLF	28,265.85
Landfill Care – CD	290,935.86
Landfill Care - CD	298,130.77
Library Checking	224,676.86
Room Tax	77,486.72
State Pool #5 Renew RC Loan-Affordable Housing	874,784.07
Renew RC Loan Program Checking-Affordable Housing	42,498.98

**Committed Funds:**

State Pool - Account # 4 - Project Carryover	1,960,759.04
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**Assigned Funds:**

Cemetery	4,798.65
Parks, Rec & CC Checking	9,694.51
Aquatic Center	224,647.19

**CITY UTILITIES:**

Electric Utility Fund	135,654.63
Electric Unrestricted Funds	29,755.69

Water Utility Fund	151,524.76
Water Utility Unrestricted Funds	38,924.22
Sewer Utility Fund	58,011.99
Sewer Utility Unrestricted Funds	31,013.67

**RESTRICTED FOR PROJECTS:**

Electric	823,751.30
Water	719,820.75
WTP	4,086,747.05

Motion by Cairns, second by Tepley to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried 7 - 0.

**CONSIDER SUSPENDING THE RULES, WAIVING THE READING AND ENACTING ORDINANCE CHAPTER 300 PUBLIC NUISANCE AND TO REPEAL ORDINANCE CHAPTERS 306, 307, 321, AND 385 IN RELATION TO THE ACCUMULATION OF JUNK IN YARDS:** Coppernoll noted that Public Nuisance Ordinance Chapter 300 was initially adopted at the previous Council meeting. Coppernoll noted that because the amount of time between approval and publication of Ordinance exceeded 15 days, the Ordinance had to be placed back on the agenda and approved once more. Collins makes motion to approve Ordinance Chapter 300 Public Nuisance, seconded by Culver, motion carried 8 – 0.

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO ROCKWELL AUTOMATION FOR THE AQUATIC CENTER:** Kalish stated that original invoice dated March of 2020 from Rockwell Automation for the aquatic center's splash pad never made its way to the Clerk's Office for payment. Kalish also noted that no late fees were assessed and Jones noted that sales tax was not charged in the amount owed. Wallace noted the item listed on invoice was a variable frequency drive and are typically expensive. Collins makes motion to approve payment to Rockwell Automation in the amount of \$25,578.48, seconded by Tepley, motion carried 8 – 0.

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CHANGES TO THE VIETNAM VETERANS WAR MEMORIAL:** Coppernoll stated that a local resident would like to make changes to the Vietnam Veterans War Memorial with the addition of a plaque. Coppernoll also noted that the City would incur no charges for the proposed changes. Collins makes motion to approve the changes to the Vietnam Veterans War Memorial to include the addition of the plaque presented, seconded by Fruit, motion carried 8 – 0.

**APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND CONFIRM APPOINTMENTS:** No appointments made.

**PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS:** Tepley makes motion to approve monthly bills, Walters seconds, motion carried 8-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** No comments.

**COUNCIL REPORTS:** Wallace reminded all listening that alternate side parking was effective December 1<sup>st</sup>. Collins thanked the utility workers for hanging the Christmas decorations, noted the opening of the ice-skating rink, and how great the lights look in the park. Wertz thanked Dave Fry for placing the fencing on Jefferson street. Cairns noted that although the fence does

look nice, visible damage to it has occurred. Coppernoll noted he has received several positive comments about the fence and residents are tuned into what's happening in the community. Coppernoll also noted that work on the dialysis center has begun.

**DEPARTMENT AND UTILITY REPORTS:** Police Chief Jones noted that random alcohol compliance checks were recently conducted and reported that 6 out of 11 establishments served minors. Chief Jones also noted that the servers in violation were issued citations. Betsy Roesler and Julie Prouty noted the relationship between the RCPD and stated they felt the local coalition is a true partnership and thanked police department for their help. Clerk Kalish reminded all of those up for election that nomination papers could now be circulated for the Spring Election. Zoning Administrator Bill McCorkle reminded all of those listening that the Planning Commission is meeting on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Tepley to adjourn at 8:21 PM, Fruit seconds, motion carried unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Derek S. Kalish, Clerk/Treasurer