

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL  
April 20, 2021**

The Common Council of the City of Richland Center, Wisconsin, met in person and Webex on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 commencing at 7:30 PM with Mayor Todd Coppernoll presiding. Alderpersons Scotty Wallace, Susan Fruit, Chelsey Walters, John Collins, Karin Tepley, Carson Culver, Melony Walters, and Ryan Cairns were present. 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 said minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Tepley, second by M. Walters to approve the agenda, motion carried unanimously.

**NOMINATE AND ELECT COUNCIL PRESIDENT:** Alderperson Tepley nominated Ryan Cairns. No other nominations were presented. Motion to elect Ryan Cairns as City Council President carried unanimously.

**APPOINT CITY ATTORNEY:** Mayor Coppernoll appointed Chris McGough as City Attorney. Appointment confirmed with roll call vote of 8 – 0.

**APPOINT CITY ASSESSOR:** Mayor Coppernoll appointed Gretchen Jelinek as City Assessor. Appointment confirmed with roll call vote of 8 – 0.

**APPOINT CITY FORESTER:** Mayor Coppernoll appointed Dave Fry as City Forester. Appointment confirmed with roll call vote of 8 – 0.

**APPOINT EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT COORDINATOR:** Mayor Coppernoll appointed Carson Culver as Emergency Government Coordinator. Appointment confirmed with roll call vote of 8 – 0.

**DESIGNATE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER:** Mayor Coppernoll designated the Richland Observer as the City's official newspaper. Designation confirmed with roll call vote of 8 – 0.

**ELECT TWO COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO UTILITY COMMISSION:** John Collins nominated Ryan Cairns and Ryan Cairns nominated John Collins. No other nominations were made. Motion to elect John Collins and Ryan Cairns as the two Council Representatives to the Utility Commission carried unanimously with a roll call vote of 8 – 0.

**APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, AND BOARDS:**

\*chair

Ambulance Committee: Sharon Schmitz, Todd Coppernoll

Finance and Budget: Ryan Cairns\*, Karin Tepley, Melony Walters

Board of Review: Mayor Coppernoll, Ryan Cairns, John Collins, Derek Kalish, Chelsey Walters, Alternate Aaron Joyce

Personnel and Insurance: John Collins\*, Scotty Wallace, Melony Walters

Property: Susan Fruit\*, Scotty Wallace, Chelsey Walters

Public Safety: Scotty Wallace\*, Chelsey Walters, Carson Culver

Public Works: Karin Tepley\*, Carson Culver, Susan Fruit

Richland Fire Department: Mayor Coppernoll\*, Scotty Wallace, John Collins

OTHER COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS:

Historic Preservation - Karin Tepley

Library Board - Karin Tepley

Natorium - Susan Fruit, Melony Walters

Park Board - Susan Fruit

Plan Commission - John Collins, Ryan Cairns

Redevelopment Authority - John Collins, Karin Tepley

Tourism – John Collins

Tree Board - Karin Tepley, \*Ryan Cairns, Chelsey Walters

ADA Committee – Carson Culver\*

Rapid Response - Mayor Coppernoll\*, Ryan Cairns

Utility Commission - John Collins, Ryan Cairns

Citizen Appointments -

Police Commission – Mark Jelinek

Park Board – Allicia Woodhouse

Planning Commission – Mark Jelinek

Tourism Commission: Denny Fry, Christy Adsit, Bob Hershey, and Lenny Schaub

Tree Board: Larry Hallett

Zoning Board of Appeals: David Turk

Rapid Response Team: Keith Behling

Appointments confirmed with roll call vote of 8 – 0.

**MAYOR AND ALDERPERSONS CONCERNS TO BE DISCUSSED AT A FUTURE MEETING:** Collins stated he would like a report be given on the citations generated as a result of the passing of the public nuisance ordinance at the next Council meeting. Culver welcomed newly elected Alderperson Chelsey Walters. C. Walters greets Council and states she’s happy to be present.

Members of the Richland Fire Department brought fire district’s new fire engine for Council to view.

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

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF APPLICATION FROM EAGLES NEST LLC FOR A CLASS “B” BEER LICENSE AND A CLASS “B” LIQUOR LICENSE AT 1450 VETERANS DRIVE IN THE CITY OF RICHLAND CENTER CONTINGENT UPON THE SURRENDER OF CLASS “B” BEER AND CLASS “B” LIQUOR LICENSE FROM DEWEY’S DUGOUT IN THE CITY OF RICHLAND CENTER:** Wallace makes motion to approve the Class “B” Beer and Class “B” Liquor License for Eagles Nest LLC at 1450 Veterans Drive in the City of Richland Center, C. Walters seconds, motion carried 8 – 0.

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MUNICIPAL TOBACCO LICENSE FOR EAGLES NEST LLC:** Wallace makes motion to approval Municipal Tobacco License for Eagles Nest LLC, Culver seconds, motion carried 8 – 0.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**CONSIDER APPROVAL FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT TO PURCHASE VEHICLE:** Cairns stated that the vehicle will be used by narcotic officers and that funds to purchase it will come from the Richland Grant Iowa Drug Task Force. Cairns makes motion to approve purchase of vehicle for 10,703.50, Wallace seconds, motion carried 8 – 0.

**CONSIDER APPROVAL TO ADJUST PRICE OF FUEL AT AIRPORT:** Cairns noted that the price of fuel at the airport is considerably higher than surrounding airports. Cairns makes motion to reduce price of fuel at the airport to \$4.19 per gallon, Collins seconds, motion carried 8 – 0.

**CONSIDER SUSPENDING THE RULES, WAIVING THE READING, AND ENACTING AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE CHAPTER 980.05 RELATED TO THE SCHEDULE OF DEPOSITS FOR USE WITH CITATIONS ISSUED:** McGough explained that the publication deadline was missed from the passage of the ordinance amendment at the last meeting. McGough also noted that the item needed to be put back on agenda and approved again given the missed

publication deadline. Culver asked about the citation fees associated with snowmobile violations and McGough explained a schedule exists for some fees. Fruit asked how the ordinance is enforceable downtown and Chief of Police Billy Jones stated that the Police Department should be contacted to report any ordinance violations. Cairns makes motion to suspend the rules, waive the reading, and enact amendment to ordinance Chapter 980.05 related to the schedule of deposits for use with citations issued, M. Walters seconds, motion carried 8 – 0.

**PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS:** Cairns makes motion to pay bills as presented, Tepley seconds, motion carried 8 – 0.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**MAYOR AND ALDERPERSONS – COMMITTEE/COMMISSION/BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS:** Wallace thanked group of volunteers that cleaned up garbage along Highway 80 S and McGough noted it was the local Lion’s Club. C. Walters noted that she was working with a group to create yard signs with positive sayings on them. Collins stated that discussions were taking place to make the current tourism coordinator a full-time position. M. Walters reminded citizens to pick up animal droppings and clean up after them while outside. Coppernoll noted that flashing crosswalk signs have been installed and that if they are flashing, you must stop.

**DEPARTMENTS AND UTILITY REPORTS:** McCorkle noted that the Schmitz/Jarvis/Burnham Streets project start date has been delayed until possibly mid-May. Fry noted that members of Student Council picked up garbage at North Park and that Jefferson School was also helping. Fry also noted that the StoryWalk exhibit panels would be installed soon, water and electricity is beginning to be turned back on in various parks locations, and that the airport open house will be held on April 25, 2021.

**CONSIDER MOVING INTO CLOSED SESSION UNDER SECTION 19.85(1)(E) FOR THE PURPOSE OF DELIBERATING OR NEGOTIATING THE PURCHASING OF PUBLIC PROPERTIES, THE INVESTING OF PUBLIC FUNDS, OR CONDUCTING OTHER SPECIFIED PUBLIC BUSINESS, WHENEVER COMPETITIVE OR BARGAINING REASONS REQUIRE A CLOSED SESSION. THE POSSIBLE AGREEMENT FOR CITY OWNERSHIP OF STORI FIELD AND HIVE DRIVE FROM THE RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL BE ADDRESSED. RESULTS OF THE RED HOUSING THINK TANK REPORT REGARDING HOUSING DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE CITY OF RICHLAND CENTER WILL ALSO BE ADDRESSED:** Collins makes motion to move into closed session, Tepley seconds, motion carried unanimously.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**MOTION TO RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION TO VOTE ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION:** Tepley make motion to reconvene into open session, Collins seconds, motion carried unanimously. Tepley makes motion for the City of Richland Center to engage in dialogue with the Richland School District regarding possible City acquisition of Stori Field and Hive Drive, C. Walters seconds, motion carried 8 – 0. Culver makes motion for Economic Development Director to pursue land for housing development as outlined in priorities #1 - #4 listed in the Housing Thinktank report, Collins seconds, motion carried 8 – 0.

**ADJOURN:** Tepley makes motion to adjourn at 9:06 PM, Wallace seconds, motion carried unanimously.

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