

**RICHLAND HILLS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 26, 2021
MINUTES**

Roll Call:

Council present

Edward Lopez, Mayor
Douglas Knowlton, Place 1
Stacey L. Morse, Place 2
Curtis A Bergthold, Mayor Pro Tem
Javier Alvarez, Place 4
G.W. Estep, Place 5

Staff present

Candice Edmondson, City Manager
Cathy Bourg, City Secretary
Fritz Quast, City Attorney

REGULAR SESSION – Mayor Lopez Called to Order – Time 7:00 p.m.

Invocation – Councilmember Knowlton

PRESENTATIONS

A. Citizen Appearances/Public Comments

Citizen comments emailed to Cathy Bourg (cbourg@richlandhills.com) on an item either listed on this agenda or not listed on this agenda will be heard at this time. Citizens in attendance at the meeting who have signed a card to speak to the City Council will also be heard at this time. In compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, unless the subject matter of the presentation is on the agenda, the city staff and City Council members are prevented from discussion of the subject and may respond only with statements of factual information or existing city policy. Public comment will not be taken on items that the Council has previously considered in a public hearing.

David White, 7008 Hovenkamp spoke regarding trees hanging down in the street and the need to clean the creek.

Travis Malone, 2641 Mimosa Park spoke regarding budget funds to repaint crosswalks.

CONSENT AGENDA

2A. Approve minutes from the June 28, 2021 City Council Regular Meeting

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Knowlton and seconded by Councilmember Morse to approve the consent agenda.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS, MEETINGS, AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

3A. Consider Ordinance 1280-14A adopting an updated Drought Contingency and Emergency Water Management Plan PUBLIC HEARING

Scott Mitchell, Director of Neighborhood Services presented Ordinance 1280-14A adopting an updated Drought Contingency and Emergency Water Management Plan.

The Drought Contingency and Emergency Water Management Plan for the City of Richland Hills was last revised in 2014. This item is an update reflecting the most recent Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ) rules as well as updated requirements as part of the contract the city has with the City of Fort Worth for the provision of potable water and sewer treatment services. The revised plan also updates the current use data from the City of Richland Hills. A public hearing on the plan is required prior to adoption of the ordinance.

The adoption of this ordinance will maintain the City's full compliance with state regulations as well as contractual requirements from the City of Fort Worth.

Mayor Lopez opened the Public Hearing: Time: 7:13 p.m.

None

Mayor Lopez closed the Public Hearing: Time: 7:13 p.m.

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Knowlton and seconded by Councilmember Morse to approve Ordinance 1280-14A adopting an updated Drought Contingency and Emergency Water Management Plan.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

4A. Consider Resolution 543-21 to the Texas State Legislature in support of legislation to end the arbitrary application of ancillary service charges by electricity providers.

Candice Edmondson, City Manager presented Resolution 543-21 to the Texas State Legislature in support of legislation to end the arbitrary application of ancillary service charges by electricity providers.

In May, the City of Richland Hills received a letter from Gexa Energy regarding increased services incurred during the winter storm. The letter indicated that while the City's energy costs remained stable throughout the winter storm, the storm's impact resulted in higher than anticipated ancillary service costs.

On June 28th, the City Council considered payment of the increased ancillary service charges to Gexa Energy. While the Council approved payment of the charges, the members were not pleased with Gexa Energy passing these costs onto the City and asked that a resolution be created requesting immediate legislative action on the application of ancillary service charges.

Resolution 543-21 documents the Richland Hills City Council's desire to see legislation passed that will prohibit electricity providers from arbitrarily imposing ancillary service charges to Texas consumers without any clarification as to where and how the charges were derived.

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Morse and seconded by Councilmember Estep to approve Resolution 543-21 to the Texas State Legislature in support of legislation to end the arbitrary application of ancillary service charges by electricity providers.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, BID AWARDS AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

5A. None

OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

6A. None

REPORTS & DISCUSSIONS

7A. Fire Station Project Update

Russel Shelley, Fire Chief presented a construction update on the Fire Station Project.

Recent Progress

- Working through punch list items
- Station is fully operational
- Most Asbestos abatement is complete
- All salvageable items have been removed from the building

This Week

- Demo company mobilizing on 7/27
- Saw cutting to begin
- Demolition starts on 7/30

Next Steps (August)

- Site to grade by 8/13
- Underground utilities & drainage
- Preliminary concrete work toward the end of the month

Project Budget

- The pay application for June totaled: \$464,609
- To date, we have paid out: \$4,198,961
- This is 77.1% of the Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$5,445,843

7B. Street Improvements Project Update

Scott Mitchell, Director of Neighborhood Services provided a Street Improvement Project update.

FY 20-21 Street Projects

- Dreeben Drive – Partial Curb and Gutter, Road Pavement Reconstruction
 - Water services had to be lowered due to shallow depth
- Vance Road – Utility Construction in Progress
 - Staging area, stockpile and spoils pile at Kate Baker Park
 - Pavement cutting prior to excavation for pipe installation
 - Flagman in use due to one lane traffic flow
 - Once all utilities are completed, curb and gutter will be repaired/replaced as needed, then entire road milled, stabilized and repaved from Dover south to Baker Blvd.

7C. Quarterly Finance and Investment Report

Patricia Albrecht, Director of Finance and Administration Services presented the Quarterly Finance and Investment Report.

7F. June Department Reports

Candice Edmondson, City Manager highlighted the following May Department Reports:

- Police Department – Sergeant Miller graduated from the School of Police Supervision at the Institute for Law Enforcement Administration. Police Department has responded to 439 more service calls compared to last year.
- Animal Services – Vax Shack was held on June 24th and performed over 60 spay/neuter surgeries. Vax Shack shot clinic on the same day immunized 78 pets.
- Parks and Recreation – June was a great revenue month for The Link. Programs, rentals and membership, along with all of the other smaller revenue streams, added up to the highest revenue generation The Link has ever had. In fact, it out-paced the highest by almost \$5,000. The Link currently has 313 active memberships. The Camp Connect and Link Learner's Academy is continuing to grow. Most weeks of summer camp program's registration are at 48 (full capacity) throughout the whole summer. Performance Experience will be offering new

classes this summer. The Link hosed Pops & Pickles in June and Senior Programs have started back up.

- Hike and Bike Trail Grand Opening – This event was held on Saturday, July 24th

Council asked staff questions regarding the Public Works June report.

8. COMMUNITY INTEREST ITEMS

- National Parks & Recreation Month – Now thru Saturday; City Parks and The Link Plaza - Join the Parks & Recreation Department as they celebrate the last week of National Parks & Recreation. There are six days of activities left. Don't miss Lawn Games tomorrow night at The Link where staff will have cold treats and Chalk The Walk on Wednesday night at Creek Trail Park. Visit TheLinkRec.com for the full calendar of activities!
- End of Summer Reading Finale & Carter Bloodcare Drive - Thursday, July 29, 5-7 PM, The Link Plaza - The public is welcome to enjoy FREE activities and food. We also encourage you to donate blood. You may register for blood donation online or walkup.
- Senior Lunch Bunch – Indoor Seating & To Go Orders - Thursday, August 12; 12 noon – 1 PM; The Link
- Tarrant County Food Pantry - Thursday, August 12; 5:30 PM – 7PM; The Link Parking Lot, Free groceries for any Tarrant County resident provided curbside at City Hall's parking lot. Sponsored by Trinity Point Church.

9. Executive Session: Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, Sec. 551.071, Sec. 551.072, Sec. 551.073, Sec. 551.074, Sec. 551.076, Sec. 551.087 and Sec. 418.0183 (f) and 418.106 (d) & (e) of the Texas Government Code (Texas Disaster Act).

None

10. A motion was made by Councilmember Morse and seconded by Councilmember Estep to adjourn.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Lopez declared the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

ATTEST

APPROVED

Cathy Bourg, City Secretary

Edward Lopez, Mayor