

**RICHLAND HILLS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 9, 2021
MINUTES**

Roll Call:

Council present

Edward Lopez, Mayor

Stacey L. Morse, Place 2

Curtis A Bergthold, Mayor Pro Tem

Javier Alvarez, Place 4

G.W. Estep, Place 5

Council absent

Douglas Knowlton, Place 1

Staff present

Candice Edmondson, City Manager

Cathy Bourg, City Secretary

Fritz Quast, City Attorney

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION – 6:08 PM

1. **Executive Session:** Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.073, 551.074, 551.076, 551.087, 418.183(f) and 418.106(d) & (e). Refer to posted list attached hereto and incorporated herein. **Executive Session may be held, under these exceptions, at any time during the meeting that a need arises for the City Council to seek advice from the City Attorney as to the posted subject matter of this City Council meeting.**

None

2. FY 2022 Budget Overview: General Fund and Utility Fund

Patricia Albrecht, Director of Finance and Administration Services gave a presentation on the 2021 Certified Tax Roll (Fiscal Year 2022/Tax Year 2021).

Candice Edmondson, City Manager gave a presentation on the General Fund and Utility Fund for the FY 2022 Annual Budget.

3. **Discuss items and presentations listed on tonight's City Council Agenda. No action will be taken and each item will be considered during the Regular Session.**

None

REGULAR SESSION – Mayor Lopez Called to Order – Time 7:16 p.m.

Invocation – Mayor Lopez

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.

None

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Bergthold and seconded by Councilmember Morse to remove item 2B from the consent agenda for separate discussion.

Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Councilmember Knowlton absent

CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Councilmember Knowlton absent

2B. Approve and adopt the 2021 Certified Tax Roll (Fiscal Year 2022/Tax Year 2021)

**Item 2B was considered following Item 4A.*

Patricia Albrecht, Director of Finance and Administration Services presented the 2021 Certified Tax Roll (Fiscal Year 2022/Tax Year 2021).

Fritz Quast, City Attorney explained new legislation and answered question from the Mayor and Council regarding the proposed Tax Rate and setting the date for a Public Hearing on the Tax Rate.

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Bergthold and seconded by Councilmember Morse to approve and adopt the 2021 Certified Tax Roll

(Fiscal Year 2022 / Tax Year 2021) and set the proposed tax rate for FY2022 at \$0.558551 per \$100 and set the public hearing for September 13, 2021.

Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Councilmember Knowlton absent

PUBLIC HEARINGS, MEETINGS, AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

3A. None

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

4A. Consider Ordinance 1412-20B amending the Municipal Fee Schedule

Candice Edmondson, City Manager presented Ordinance 1412-20B amending the Municipal Fee Schedule.

On June 14th, the City Council considered several amendments to the Municipal Fee Schedule. One of the proposed amendments was to create a Community Event Fee for community events that are not hosted by the City of Richland Hills, but that are held at city facilities and parks or that require city resources.

Staff originally proposed a \$300 Community Event Fee to help recover costs associated with these large public events. After thorough discussion, Council requested staff consider additional modifications to the Community Event Fee. Below are the proposed fee amendments related to community events.

Proposed Fee Schedule Amendments - Community Events:

- Increase Special Event Permit Fee from \$25 to \$50
- Add a Rental Security Deposit of \$150 for community events hosted at city facilities and parks
- Add the following Rental Fees for community events hosted at city facilities and parks:
 - Resident - \$300
 - Non-Resident - \$360

All other fees required for the successful execution of an event will be based on cost per item (barricades, signs, etc.) or the appropriate staff overtime rate if city support is needed during the event. All proposed fees would be presented to the event organizer prior to approval.

The proposed event fees are meant to cover the costs of large community events held at city facilities and parks and do not pertain to general use and enjoyment of these public amenities.

In addition, the City Code of Ordinance establishes fees for the annual registration and inspection of Garage Apartments, Guest Houses and Boarding Houses. Those fees are not currently included in the Municipal Fee Schedule and need to be added.

Proposed Fee Schedule Amendments – Chapter 14. Buildings and Building Regulations:

- Annual Registration and Inspection – Boarding House, Garage Apartment and Guest House = \$150

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Morse and seconded by Councilmember Estep to approve Ordinance 1412-20B amending the Municipal Fee Schedule.

Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Councilmember Knowlton absent

CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, BID AWARDS AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

5A. Consider an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the Cities of Burleson, Haltom City, Keller, Richland Hills, Watauga, the Benbrook Library District and the Forest Hill Library District for Reciprocal Lending of Library Materials

Chantele Hancock, Library Director gave a presentation on an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the Cities of Burleson, Haltom City, Keller, Richland Hills, Watauga, the Benbrook Library District and the Forest Hill Library District for Reciprocal Lending of Library Materials.

On January 11, 2021 the City Council was updated on changes occurring within the MetroPAC library consortium of which the Richland Hills Public Library is a member. The Fort Worth Public Library, who manages the consortium's integrated library system (ILS), announced that the contract would need to be changed from a true consortium to a service provider model. All participating libraries would be required to match their lending policies (check out times and limits, fees, reserves, etc.) with Fort Worth policies, the courier schedule would be determined by Fort Worth, and the cost for administration and maintenance of the ILS and courier fees would increase. In essence, the Richland Hills Public Library and any other libraries remaining in the MetroPAC would lose their autonomy and function as a branch of the Fort Worth Public Library.

After extensive research and discussion, the remaining MetroPAC libraries decided to form a new consortium with a new ILS system. The new MetroShare consortium will launch this fall in partnership with the Cities of Haltom City, Watauga, Keller and Burleson, the Benbrook Library District and the Forest Hill Library District.

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Morse and seconded by Councilmember Estep to approve an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the Cities of Burleson, Haltom City, Keller, Richland Hills, Watauga, the Benbrook Library District and the Forest Hill Library District for Reciprocal Lending of Library Materials.

Motion carried by a vote of 4-0.

5B. Consider renewal of the Interlocal Agreement for Combined Public Safety Dispatching and Jail Services for the Cities of North Richland Hills, Haltom City, Richland Hills and Watauga Texas

Kim Sylvester, Police Chief presented a renewal of the Interlocal Agreement for Combined Public Safety Dispatching and Jail Services for the Cities of North Richland Hills, Haltom City, Richland Hills and Watauga Texas.

In October of 2011, the four cities of Richland Hills, North Richland Hills, Haltom City and Watauga signed a ten (10) year Interlocal Agreement to combine critical safety services amongst the four cities. These services included Communications (Dispatch) and the Detention Facility with North Richland Hills being the host agency of the program.

Sharing a single radio channel and standardizing communications for police and fire has allowed for a better delivery of service for all communities. Each agency is able to hear the radio traffic and respond with assistance immediately as needed. Many historical barriers were eliminated which embraced a “get someone on scene as quickly as possible” philosophy for critical calls. This has allowed officers to easily move between jurisdictions as needed and warranted by the call type. The program provides a much larger contingent of officers than any single agency could have done alone. Likewise, the Fire Departments can more easily respond when needed because they can hear the radio traffic for all cities.

Over the past nine years the program has improved working relationships amongst the partner cities and capitalized on the many benefits that have resulted from combining these services. Therefore, the Partner Cities Chiefs’ have agreed and recommend that it is in the best interest of our respective cities residents and businesses to renew the combined Public Safety Dispatching and Jail Services agreement for another ten (10) year term, beginning on October 1, 2021 and ending on September 30, 2031.

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Alvarez and seconded by Councilmember Estep to approve renewal of the Interlocal Agreement for Combined Public Safety Dispatching and Jail Services for the Cities of North Richland Hills, Haltom City, Richland Hills and Watauga Texas.

Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Councilmember Knowlton absent

OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

6A. None

REPORTS & DISCUSSIONS

7A. None

8. COMMUNITY INTEREST ITEMS

- 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
- Fiesta de Herencia - Saturday, September 18; 4:00 PM – 9:00 PM; The Link Plaza -Mark your calendars for this celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. Attractions including a mechanical bull, entertainment with a live DJ and bands, food from numerous Hispanic vendors and other activities for those of all ages to enjoy.
- Richland Hills Literary Club – Meets at the Library on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
- Vax Shack at the Animal Shelter – The fourth Thursday of each month

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 Bergthold and seconded by Councilmember Morse to adjourn.

Motion carried by a vote of 4-0.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Lopez declared the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

ATTEST

APPROVED

Cathy Bourg, City Secretary

Edward Lopez, Mayor