

**RICHLAND HILLS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 11, 2024
MINUTES**

Roll Call:

Council present

Edward Lopez, Mayor
G.W. Estep, Mayor Pro Tem
Douglas Knowlton, Place 1
Travis Malone, Place 2
Theresa Bledsoe, Place 3
Javier Alvarez, Place 4
Roland Goveas, Place 6

Council absent

Staff present

Candice Edmondson, City Manager
Lindsay Rawlinson, City Secretary
James Donovan, City Attorney

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION – 6:33 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). 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.
 1. Section 551.071: Consultation with City Attorney
 - a) Child-Care Facility Property Tax Exemption Amendment
 2. Section 551.072: Deliberation regarding real property
 - a) 2721 Handley Ederville Road, Richland Hills, TX

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Knowlton and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Estep to adjourn into Executive Session at 6:34 p.m.

Motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Mayor Lopez reconvened into open session at 7:13 p.m.

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

None.

Mayor Lopez adjourned the work session at 7:13 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION – Mayor Lopez Called to Order – Time 7:13 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE – Councilmember Malone

PRESENTATIONS

1A. 2023 Employee Awards

City Manager Candice Edmondson announced the recipients of the 2023 Employee Awards based on the City's core values.

<u>Service</u>	Kay Fisk Lead Animal Control Officer
<u>Teamwork</u>	Juan Martinez Public Works Technician Robert Freeman Public Works Technician
<u>Respect</u>	Lien Nguyen Library Assistant
<u>Integrity</u>	Ronnie Miller Police Lieutenant Christian Gaytan Police Lieutenant
<u>Vision</u>	Josh Izaguirre Parks Technician
<u>Empowerment</u>	Stephen May Police Officer/School Resource Officer
<u>Mayor's Award</u> Kimberly Sylvester Chief of Police	

Mayor Lopez presented an Integrity Award to Lieutenant Christian Gaytan who was unable to attend the Employee Appreciation Awards Luncheon.

1B. Telecommunicator Appreciation Week Proclamation

Mayor Lopez read a proclamation declaring April 14-20, 2024, as “Telecommunicator Appreciation Week” in Richland Hills and presented the proclamation to Dispatchers Heather Bierman, Diane Skaggs, and Chelsea Duncan.

1C. Citizen Appearances/Public Comments

John Garza, 7900 Leslie Drive, Richland Hills, expressed his appreciation to the City Council for their work and expressed his desire for the government and citizens to work together.

CONSENT AGENDA

2A. Approved minutes from the February 26, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting

2B. Approve Resolution 593-24 participating in the National Wildlife Federation’s Mayor’s Monarch Pledge

2C. Approve Ordinance 1493-24 amending Article IV “Stopping, Standing and Parking”, Section 82-313 “Driving and/or Parking on Sidewalks and Curbs Prohibited; Owner and/or Driver Liable for Damage to Streets, Sidewalks and Curbs; Owner Prima Facie the Operator” and repealing Article VII of Chapter 34 in order to update provisions pertaining to parking, stopping or standing vehicles on public and private streets and other places

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

Motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS, MEETINGS, AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

3. None.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

4. None.

CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, BID AWARDS AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS**5A. Approved renewal of unit price contract with Reliable Paving, Inc. for street, curb and gutter repair**

Director of Public Works and Capital Projects Kip Dernovich presented the item to the City Council and advised that on March 13, 2023, the City Council approved a unit price contract with Reliable Paving, Inc., for street, curb, and gutter repairs. The unit price contract has helped the City expedite work such as localized street repairs due to water and sewer main breaks, residential driveway approach repairs, curb and gutter replacement, etc. especially on extensive repairs or when staffing has been limited. Reliable Paving has presented a renewal with a five percent adjustment to all line items. A review of the proposed increases determined that the cost differences were consistent with current economic and market conditions.

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Knowlton and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Estep to approve renewal of unit price contract with Reliable Paving, Inc. for street, curb, and gutter repair.

Motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**6A. Accepted the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2023**

Interim Finance Director Terry Leake introduced Daniel Hungerford, representing the accounting firm, George, Morgan & Sneed, P.C., who advised that the auditors issued an unmodified, or clean, opinion, and the auditor was able to perform the required work on the statements provided by management, and has no reservations with respect to these financial statements.

The City Council thanked Mr. Hungerford and his accounting firm for their work.

Motion: Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Estep and seconded by Councilmember Goveas to approve and accept the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2023.

Motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

REPORTS & DISCUSSIONS**7. None.**

COMMUNITY INTEREST ITEMS

8. Mayor Pro Tem Estep advised of several upcoming events:

- Applications for the Citizens Fire Academy are being accepted for the next class to begin Thursday, April 4, 2024;
- Monday, March 11, 2024 through Friday, March 15, 2024, Spring Break Camp;
- Thursday, March 14, 2024,
 - Senior Lunch Bunch and Bingo, The Link, 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.;
 - Tarrant County Food Pantry, The Link parking lot, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.;
- Saturday, March 23, 2024, Easter Celebration, Rosebud Park, 10:00 a.m. to noon;
- Every Thursday, Coffee Talk, Public Library, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.;
- Through August 9, 2024, Summer Camp Connect Registration, The Link;

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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.

ADJOURNMENT

10. A motion was made by Councilmember Knowlton and seconded by Councilmember Malone to adjourn.

Motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Lopez declared the meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Lindsay Rawlinson, City Secretary

Edward Lopez, Mayor