

**RICHLAND HILLS CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 11, 2018  
MINUTES**

Roll Call:

Council present:

Edward Lopez, Mayor  
Travis Malone, Place 1  
Allison Barger, Mayor Pro Tem  
Curtis A Bergthold, Place 3  
Roland Goveas, Place 4  
Athena Campbell, Place 5

Council Absent:

Staff

Eric Strong, City Manager  
Cathy Bourg, City Secretary  
Betsy Elam, City Attorney

**WORK SESSION – There was no Work Session.**

**REGULAR SESSION – Mayor Edward Lopez Called to Order – Time 7:19 p.m.**

**Invocation – Mayor Lopez**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Citizen Appearances/Public Comments**

**(Citizens who have signed a card to speak to the City Council will 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.)**

Richard McMahan, 2945 Gumwood Park is not in favor of the Body Art Studio located on Lathem.

Robert Todd, 7921 Leslie Drive spoke to Council regarding homes on his street not being taken care of and cars are being parked up and down the street.

**B. Presentation of Service Award**

Mayor Lopez presented a 5 year Service Award to Vivian Kay Fisk with the Richland Hills Animal Services.

**C. Presentation of Proclamation - Summer Reading 2018 Libraries Rock!**

Mayor Lopez read a Proclamation for "Summer Reading 2018 Libraries Rock!"

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**2A. Approval of minutes from the May 14, 2018 City Council Meeting.**

**2B. Consider approval of water main replacement in the 3000-3100 block of Rufe Snow Drive**

**2C. Consider approval of emergency sewer main repair/replacement of the Richland Hills Arcadia outfall sewer line along Calloway Branch Creek, running behind the 1300-1400 block of West Redbud Drive in Hurst**

**Motion:** Motion was made by Councilmember Campbell, and seconded by Councilmember Barger to approve the consent agenda.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS, MEETINGS, AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS**

**3A. None at this time**

**ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS**

**4A. None at this time.**

**CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, BID AWARDS AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS**

**5A. Consideration of Mutual Aid Agreement with Allegiance EMS for priority four non-emergency medical transports**

Russell Shelley, Fire Chief presented a Mutual Aid Agreement with Allegiance EMS for priority four non-emergency medical transports. This agreement is aimed at reducing the usage of our emergency ambulance for non-emergency calls to ensure more availability to our citizens and visitors when a true emergency arises.

**Motion:** Motion was made by Councilmember Malone, and seconded by Councilmember Goveas to approve subject to City Attorney approval.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

## **OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

### **6A. Consideration of Committees of the Council Appointments.**

Eric Strong, City Manager presented the following Committees of the Council recommendation:

1. Communication Committee (help with outreach efforts, marketing, bond elections, etc).
2. Finance Committee (help with budget reviews, major financial issues, etc).
3. Infrastructure and Development Committee (help with major infrastructure, development issues, etc.)

Council would like time to consider committee appointments.

Mayor Lopez tabled the item for the next meeting.

## **REPORTS & DISCUSSIONS**

### **7A. Discussion on the ½ cent sales tax previously allocated to the FWTA**

Eric Strong, City Manager, discussed the ½ cent sales tax previously allocated to the FWTA. Once residents of Richland Hills called for a withdrawal election from the Fort Worth Transportation Authority in 2016, the FWTA had a legal and statutory obligation to provide an “exit fee” to Richland Hills within 180 days. While an “exit fee” was eventually provided to Richland Hills, it did not occur until much later than the timeframe that they were legally obligated to do so. The amount that was finally provided was \$3,774,821.85.

To date, the amount that has been collected by the FWTA is \$2,418,550.41. This leaves a balance of \$1,356,271.44. The average amount collected by the FWTA since withdrawing is \$135,835.77 per month. At this rate, the estimated final collection will be made in April 2019. If this date holds, an election may be called for November of 2019. In order to call the election by May of 2019, the final payment would need to be made by February of 2019.

### **7B. Discussion on Future Street and Infrastructure Improvements**

Eric Strong, City Manager, discussed future street and infrastructure improvements. Since the Fort Worth Transportation Authority unilaterally removed all street funding from Richland Hills, we have not had a dedicated revenue source for funding streets. However, we have a list of potential street needs that totals well over \$8,000,000. We also have other large scale capital needs in the general fund, including quality of life improvements, recreational needs and mobility needs.

While there is no funding for these many of these items currently, the Council has been clear in their intention to ask residents to re-allocate the ½ cent that has been collected

by the FWTA for the primary purpose of rebuilding streets and enhancing quality of life improvements within the City.

The anticipated amount that will be collected by the City if the funds are reallocated is \$1,600,000 per year. We will need to have future discussions regarding how exactly it would be allocated and when it will be put to the citizens to consider.

#### **7C. Discussion on Communications with City Leaders**

Eric Strong, City Manager discussed how we can reach our residents and convey information to them. Some of the methods that we have thought of or used previously include: City Website, Social Media, Newsletter, Video Newsletter, Door Hangars, Utility Bill Inserts and Direct Mailers.

Mayor Lopez would like to look at having citizen forums or meet and greet type opportunities. This would give citizens an opportunity to meet directly with Mayor and Council Members to mingle and voice concerns.

#### **7D. Discussion on increased Property Values and Tax Rates**

Eric Strong, City Manager discussed property values and tax rates. The property values are determined by the Tarrant Appraisal District. The City received about 22% of property taxes and the City strives to be effective and efficient with those dollars while accomplishing the goals and visions of the City Council and meeting the needs of the residents.

#### **7E. Discussion regarding clarity of city codes**

Eric Strong, City Manager discussed code enforcement issues and the process of obtaining compliance.

#### **7F. Presentation of Monthly Reports**

No discussion.

### **8. COMMUNITY INTEREST ITEMS**

- Ham's Orchards Trip – Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>
- Lunch Bunch – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month
- Richland's Red, White & YOU! – Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.
- Northeast Family Fourth – Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> 5:00 p.m.
- Camp Connect at The Link – Registration is week to week
- Youth Basketball at The Link – Partnering with the YMCA
- Animal Shelter – Great time of year to adopt a pet

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 at this time.

10. **A motion was made by Councilmember Barger, and seconded by Councilmember Malone to adjourn. Motion passed 5-0.**

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Lopez declared the meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

**ATTEST**

**APPROVED**

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Cathy Bourg, City Secretary

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Edward Lopez, Mayor