

**RICHLAND HILLS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 22, 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 – Mayor Lopez Called to Order – Time 6:00 p.m.

- 1. 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.

- 2. Discussion regarding utility fees and rates.**

Eric Strong, City Manager gave a presentation on utility fees and rates. The goal is to ensure the base bill remains the same for residential customers, while providing needed resources for water and wastewater line repairs. Additionally, after comparisons show we have lower commercial rates than many of our neighbors and comparable cities, there should be some increase to the commercial rates above what is being charged currently. Mr. Strong discussed the history of rate changes, expenses by function and department as well as the following proposed notable changes: Eliminates the \$8.17 EPA Fee; Reduces the Drainage fee by \$5 per month; Adds a volume charge for the first 2,000 gallons of water; and Changes Water and Wastewater base rates and volume charges.

The new rates are projected to generate approximately \$4,058,000 in revenue. This includes \$550,000 in infrastructure. The new rate structure increases revenues above the combination of the old rate structure and EPA fee by approximately \$250,000 per year.

3. Discussion of items and presentations listed on tonight's City Council Agenda.

Eric Strong, City Manager presented the following agenda items for discussion:

- 2B. Approval of Ordinance 1369-18, amending Chapter 10, Boards and Committees by updating reporting requirements.
- 2C. Approval of Ordinance 1370-18, amending Chapter 70, Public Buildings, by removing rental provisions for facilities that no longer exist.
- 2D. Approval of Ordinance 1371-18, amending Chapter 62, Sign Code, by revising regulations for political signs.
- 5A. Consideration of Amendment to Transportation Contract with Real Time Transport.
- 5B. Consider Interlocal agreement authorizing Crime Victim Liaison program between Richland Hills, North Richland Hills, Watauga and Haltom City.
- 6A. Consideration of reclassification of Police Department position.

Mayor Lopez called for a break. Time: 6:42 p.m.

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

Invocation – Councilmember Malone

Pledge of Allegiance

- 1A. 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.)

No speakers

CONSENT AGENDA

****Item 2B removed from the consent agenda for separate discussion.***

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Malone, and seconded by Councilmember Goveas to remove item 2B from the consent agenda for separate discussion and add 5B and 6A to the consent agenda.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

- 2A. Approval of minutes from the October 8th, 2018 City Council Meeting.**
- 2C. Approval of Ordinance 1370-18, amending Chapter 70, Public Buildings, by removing rental provisions for facilities that no longer exist.**
- 2D. Approval of Ordinance 1371-18, amending Chapter 62, Sign Code, by revising regulations for political signs.**
- 5B. Consider Interlocal agreement authorizing Crime Victim Liaison program between Richland Hills, North Richland Hills, Watauga and Haltom City.**
- 6A. Consideration of reclassification of Police Department part-time position.**

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

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

- 2B. Approval of Ordinance 1369-18, amending Chapter 10, Boards and Committees by updating reporting requirements.**

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Malone, and seconded by Councilmember Goveas to approve by changing Section 10-9 to read as follows: All boards shall submit to the city council a written or oral report as requested.

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 Amendment to Transportation Contract with Real Time Transport.**

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Barger, and seconded by Councilmember Malone to approve subject to the city manager negotiating the indicated rate or better.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

5B. Consider Interlocal agreement authorizing Crime Victim Liaison program between Richland Hills, North Richland Hills, Watauga and Haltom City.

Item was discussed during the work session, under item 3.

**Moved to consent agenda*

OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

6A. Consideration of reclassification of Police Department position.

Item was discussed during the work session, under item 3.

**Moved to consent agenda*

REPORTS & DISCUSSIONS

7A. Presentation of Monthly Reports

City Manager Strong addressed Councilmember Campbell's questions regarding the Public Works reporting software and Parks and Recreation collection of bad debt.

8. COMMUNITY INTEREST ITEMS

- Community Dinner has been postponed until January due to the various holiday schedules. Please check back with us in January for more information
- Lunch Bunch and Bingo - Thursday, November 8th Noon – 2 PM
- Tricky Treat Trail & Haunted Stacks - Friday, October 26th 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
- Senior Craft Fair - Saturday, November 3rd 9 AM – 1 PM
- Veterans Day Ceremony - Saturday, November 10th 11 AM – 12:30 PM
- Youth Basketball League - Ages 5-12 Registration open through Nov 1
- October is Adopt a Pet Month
- Vax Shack – October 25th
- Early Voting – October 22nd through November 2nd and Election Day is November 6th

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 Bergthold to adjourn. Motion passed 5-0.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Lopez declared the meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

ATTEST

APPROVED

Cathy Bourg, City Secretary

Edward Lopez, Mayor