

**RICHLAND HILLS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 14, 2019
MINUTES**

Roll Call:

Council present:

Edward Lopez, Mayor
Robert DeSoto, Place 1
Allison Barger, Mayor Pro Tem
Curtis A Bergthold, Place 3

Council Absent:

Roland Goveas, Place 4

Athena Campbell, Place 5

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).**

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Campbell, and seconded by Councilmember Bergthold to convene into executive session. Time: 6:01 p.m.

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

Mayor Lopez reconvened into open session. Time: 6:46 p.m.

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

Police Chief Kim Sylvester presented the following agenda item:

7A. Discussion regarding renewal/continuance of Curfew Ordinance.

The City Council originally passed a curfew ordinance in 1994, which was subsequently renewed in 1997 and 2000. Texas Local Government Code 370.002 requires reviewing the ordinance and holding public hearings every three (3) years to ensure the ordinance's continued effectiveness in deterring juvenile crime and disorder issues within the City.

The Police Department believes the continuation of a curfew ordinance to be in the best interest of the public's health, safety, and welfare as it assists in the reduction of disorder and crimes committed by juvenile offenders and further encourages school attendance.

Mayor Lopez called for a break. Time: 6:51 p.m.

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

Invocation – Mayor Lopez

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

1B. Fire Department Pinning Ceremony

Mayor Lopez administered the Oaths of Office to the following Firefighters:

- Bryan Brindley
- Cody Corder

CONSENT AGENDA

2A. Approval of minutes from the December 10th, 2018 City Council Meeting.

2B. Consideration of Waiver of Conflict for TOASE to develop agreement for joint permitting of project with Haltom City.

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

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

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. None at this time.

OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

6A. Consideration of appointments to Boards and Committees and City Council Committees.

Eric Strong, City Manager presented appointment information for the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Campbell, and seconded by Councilmember Bergthold to appoint Mary Witt to Alternate 1 of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

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

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember DeSoto to appoint David Baker to Alternate 2 of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Motion failed for a lack of a second.

6B. Consideration of repair or replacement of fire engine.

Russell Shelley, Fire Chief presented background information and different options regarding the repair or replacement of the current reserve fire engine. The first option is to replace the front-line engine with a new fire engine and moving the current front-line engine into reserve status. The second option would be to purchase a used fire engine to serve as the reserve engine until FY 2023 when the current front-line engine would need to be replaced and shifted to reserve status due to age.

Current value of the reserve fire engine is \$5,000 to \$10,000 via auction or competitive sealed bids. The cost of a new fire engine has been estimated at \$615,000 and staff has provided lease purchase financing options of 5, 7, and 10 years for this purchase. The cost of a used fire engine to serve as the reserve engine is between \$200,000 and \$250,000.

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Bergthold, and seconded by Councilmember Campbell to approve the purchase of a new fire engine.

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

6C. Consideration of action regarding potential Fire Station remodel and/or reconstruction.

Russell Shelley, Fire Chief presented information regarding the potential Fire Station remodel and/or reconstruction. Following the December City Council meeting Staff was directed to conduct a feasibility study into the potential remodel or replacement of the existing fire station. Staff initially evaluated the feasibility of remodeling the existing facility and after evaluation has determined that this option would be very difficult to complete due to building age, structural condition, lack of reorganizable space, and failing underground utilities. This option was determined to be cost prohibitive and a short-term fix at best. Staff then engaged with Brinkley Sargent Wiginton Architects to conduct a feasibility study for the construction of a replacement fire station. Chief Shelley gave a presentation on the feasibility study which included a room programming plan, floor plan layout, site plan and cost estimate.

Eric Strong, City Manager discussed the option of combining the Fire Administration and the current Police Station. Staff has looked at the option of not placing Fire Administration in the new station by considering utilizing the existing portion of the Police Department that was previously the jail. Using this space for Fire Administration will allow us to realize the efficiencies of sharing select spaces rather than duplicating them in a new fire station. This includes spaces like a Training Room, Conference Room and Break Room. This project will also allow us to fix several building layout issues we currently have with the Police Station as well as the possibility of relocating the Post Office space to the sally port off of Baker Blvd. It will also be more cost effective to remodel the existing space than to build it with a new station. The estimated total costs for the project is \$6,375,000.

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Barger, and seconded by Councilmember DeSoto to direct staff to present an item on the Feb 11th agenda to consider calling a Bond Election.

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

REPORTS & DISCUSSIONS

7A. Discussion regarding renewal/continuance of Curfew Ordinance.

**Item was discussed during the work session under item #2.*

Curfew Ordinance will be presented at the February 11th meeting for consideration for renewal.

7B. Presentation of November Departmental Reports

No Discussion

8. COMMUNITY INTEREST ITEMS

- Link Membership Sale - extended thru January 31st
- Camp Connect - Summer Camp registration starts February 1 for children currently enrolled in K-5th grade.
- Missing Link 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run - Registration is open to all runners and walkers on February 1. The run supports PE and athletes in participating schools as well as Richland Hills athletics. For more information go to thelinkrec.com or visit The Link.
- Senior Lunch Bunch - Thursday, February 14 from 12 noon – 2 PM at The Link
- New Senior Trips for 2019 - New programs have begun for 2019 including new senior trips. Please remember to register early as these trips tend to sellout!
- Vax Shack – Thursday, January 24th
- Public Meeting to Discuss and Review Park Plans, Future Trail Plans and a possible new Fire Station – January 28th 5 PM to 7 PM at The Link

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 Campbell to adjourn. Motion passed 4-0.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Lopez declared the meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

ATTEST

APPROVED

Cathy Bourg, City Secretary

Edward Lopez, Mayor