

**RICHLAND HILLS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 11, 2019
MINUTES**

Roll Call:

Council present:

Edward Lopez, Mayor
Robert DeSoto, 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

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

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Goveas, and seconded by Councilmember DeSoto to move item 2B to item 6C.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

2A. Approval of minutes from the January 14th, 2019 City Council Meeting

2C. Approval of Ordinance 1380-19 amending Chapter 34, Article IV – Graffiti of the City of Richland Hills Code of Ordinances

2D. Approval of a Resolution 507-19 in Support of a Municipal Setting Designation Ordinance for the Fort Worth Transportation Authority

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Campbell, and seconded by Councilmember Bergthold to approve the consent agenda except for item 2B.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS, MEETINGS, AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

3A. Public Hearing and consideration of Ordinance 1381-19 establishing a juvenile curfew

Eric Strong, City Manager presented Ordinance 1381-19 establishing a juvenile curfew.

Mayor Lopez opened the Public Hearing: Time: 7:06 p.m.

No speakers

Mayor Lopez closed the Public Hearing: Time: 7:06 p.m.

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Goveas, and seconded by Councilmember DeSoto to approve.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

3B. Public Hearing and consideration of Ordinance 1382-19 for an SUP located at 6525 Baker Boulevard

Candice Edmondson, Assistant City Manager presented Ordinance 1382-19 for an SUP located at 6525 Baker Boulevard. On November 28, 2018, Ryan Boozer with Stream Realty applied for a Special Use Permit (SUP) for the property at 6525 Baker Boulevard currently zoned Mixed Use. The SUP request is to allow a contractor with outside storage to occupy the building. General contractor with outside storage is allowed with an approved SUP in the Mixed Use zone. Stream Realty intends to purchase the property and lease it to DPR Construction, a national commercial contractor with several regional offices around the country.

The Development Review Committee evaluated the application and noted several modifications that need to be made to the property to bring it into compliance with current City ordinances:

- Upgrade fire safety systems by adding horns and strobes to the office areas, installing Knox boxes at both gates and re-stripping the fire lane

- Replace the chain link fencing on the east side of the property and wooden fencing along the back of the property. Per city code, commercial properties abutting residential property must provide a solid masonry screening wall between the properties. Fences that screen open storage must be either solid masonry, wrought iron with solid landscape screening or slatted chain link.
- Remove an above-ground propane tank
- Remove the empty semitrailer parked on the west side of the property

In addition, the applicant has proposed the following landscape enhancements for the property:

- Screen the a/c units not screened by the shrubs using 42" high angle iron posts painted black and 42" x 42" red cedar horizontal slats
- Prune and cleanup all shrub beds
- Install trees in the grass area between the parking lot and Baker Boulevard, pending approval by Oncor and TxDOT
- Install 210 linear feet of brown edging along the front beds
- Add 5 cubic yards of shredded mulch
- Prune / lift / thin the live oak and other existing trees
- Remove one Nandina in the front entry area and provide 9 Abelia bushes

Mayor Lopez opened the Public Hearing: Time: 7:15 p.m.

Ryan Boozer with Stream Realty gave a presentation on DPR Construction.

Steve Watson, property owner spoke regarding fencing.

Mayor Lopez closed the Public Hearing: Time: 7:41p.m.

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Bergthold, and seconded by Councilmember Goveas to approve with the following conditions added to exhibit A:

- A solid masonry screening wall is required along all property boundaries that border residential properties
- Maintain on top of the existing retaining wall a minimum 6 ft. vinyl or powder coated chain link screening
- The rod iron gate may remain and not be required to conform to Sec. 91-100(b)(2)(d) of the Code of Ordinances, City of Richland Hills, Texas, so long as the rod iron gate is repaired, repainted, and otherwise maintained in good working condition.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

4A. Consideration of Ordinance 1379-19 calling a Special Election to be held on May 4th, 2019 relating to the issuance of bonds; and enacting other provisions relating to the subject

Eric Strong, City Manager presented Ordinance 1379-19 calling a Special Election to be held on May 4th, 2019 relating to the issuance of bonds; and enacting other provisions relating to the subject.

Jonathan Mercer, 7148 spoke in favor of bond election to build a new fire station.

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Campbell, and seconded by Councilmember Barger to approve.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

4B. Consider Resolution 506-19 Calling the May 4, 2019 General Election for City of Richland Hills Council Places 1, 3, and 5

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Barger, and seconded by Councilmember DeSoto to approve.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, BID AWARDS AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

5A. Consideration of purchase of new Fire Engine

Item moved to follow 6C.

5B. Consideration of Interlocal Agreement with Tarrant County for the rebuilding of a portion of Midway Road from the bridge at Big Fossil Creek to the west city limits

Eric Strong, City Manager presented an Interlocal Agreement with Tarrant County for rebuilding a portion of Midway Road. This section of Midway Road experienced a complete failure of the roadbed due to excessive cut-through traffic avoiding the TXDOT construction project at SH 121 and Handley Ederville Road. The road became impassable and was actually causing damage to the Big Fossil Creek channel. It was necessary to close the road pending re-construction of the failed section.

Mayor Lopez spoke with Commissioner Fickes and asked if the County had the ability to participate with the City in rebuilding the portion of Midway Road. Tarrant County agreed to fund \$70,000.00 toward funding the reconstruction of the failed section of roadway, with the city paying the balance of the project. Estimated cost for the entire project is approximately \$105,000.00. Approval of this Inter-Local Agreement will allow this funding stream to move forward.

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Barger, and seconded by Councilmember DeSoto to approve.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

6A. Consideration of options for Library roof replacement

Chantel Hancock, Library Director presented options for replacement of the Library roof. Over the past couple of years, there has been an increase in water penetration coming from the Library roof. In August, an evaluation of the roof system was completed by two roofing companies, DK Haney Roofing, Inc. and A-Lert Roof Systems. Based on the results of their evaluations, both companies recommended replacement of the roof system.

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Goveas, and seconded by Councilmember DeSoto to approve option #2, A-Lert Roof Systems with a Kynar finish in the amount of \$152,731.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

6C. Approve sale of reserve fire engine (formerly 2B)

Eric Strong, City Manager provided the background information regarding the reserve fire engine. Staff planned to include in our FY 2020 budget submittal a proposal to replace this vehicle and remove it from our fleet. However, the current condition of the reserve engine requires us to address replacement now. Staff recommends selling the engine through public auction and proceeding with the purchase of a new fire apparatus as discussed at the last Council meeting.

Russell Shelley, Fire Chief answered questions from Council regarding costs related to repairs made to the reserve fire engine and the front line engine.

Councilmember Goveas presented options that could save money by possibly running the reserve fire engine for two more years.

Chief Shelley expressed concerns with the safety and reliability of the reserve fire engine, if they had to put it in service.

Jonathan Mercer, 7148 Dover Lane spoke in favor of the sale of the reserve fire engine.

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Barger, and seconded by Councilmember Goveas to approve.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

5A. Consideration of purchase of new Fire Engine

Eric Strong, City Manager presented information for the purchase of a new Fire Engine. The City will take delivery of the new truck in six to seven months and we will not start making payments until the next budget year.

Motion: Motion was made by Councilmember Barger, and seconded by Councilmember Campbell to approve.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

6B. Budget Public Forum

City Manager Strong presented the Public Forum for the express purpose of obtaining citizen comments on items they would like to see included or considered in the budget for the upcoming year.

There was no public comment.

REPORTS & DISCUSSIONS

7A. Presentation of December Departmental Reports

No discussion

7B. Discussion on legislative session and items affecting cities

Eric Strong, City Manager discussed the legislative items affecting cities. The State is proposing a cap on property tax increases for anything over 2.5% without a voter approved mandate. In some legislative drafts, this exempts some small cities, so it might not currently pertain to Richland Hills. The cap would severely limit our ability to increase pay for our employees and attract new employees or allow additional funding for any other needs/projects (animal control, library, streets, parks/recreation, court, building inspections, etc).

Mayor Lopez commented that he has not heard from citizens the same message that the leaders in Austin say they are hearing regarding restraining local elected officials in their duties to present a budget and raise taxes. Mayor Lopez welcomed anyone to come and speak with him on their concerns regarding property taxes.

8. COMMUNITY INTEREST ITEMS

- Bulk Waste Collection – February 18th
- Missing Link 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run – Registration opens February 1st
- Senior Lunch Bunch – Thursday, February 14th 12 noon – 2 PM at The Link
- New Senior Trips for 2019 - Please remember to register early as these trips tend to sellout! A few spots remain for the February 26 trip to Texas

Tulips, and in March we will be off to the Dallas Arboretum for “Dallas Blooms”. Check out our new Winter/Spring Connection Brochure or TheLinkRec.com for more information.

- BISD Spirit Night & Open House – Friday, March 8th 6 PM – 8 PM
- Animal Shelter has experienced positive adoptions with only two dogs currently in the shelter

- 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 Bergthold, and seconded by Councilmember Barger to adjourn. Motion passed 5-0.**

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Lopez declared the meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

ATTEST

APPROVED

Cathy Bourg, City Secretary

Edward Lopez, Mayor