

**RICHLAND HILLS CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2017  
MINUTES**

Roll Call:

Council present:

Travis Malone, Place 1  
Allison Barger, Mayor Pro Tem  
Curtis A Bergthold, Place 3  
Place 4, Vacant  
Athena Campbell, Place 5

Council Absent:

Bill Agan, Mayor

Staff

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

**WORK SESSION – Mayor Pro Tem Allison Barger 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.

Mayor Pro Tem Barger reconvened into open session. Time: 6:20 p.m.

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

Eric Strong, City Manager presented the following agenda items:

- 2C. Approval of rerate notice from TMLIEBP for group health insurance for 2018. The rate for the health insurance will be increasing by 15%.
- 2D. Approval of interlocal agreement with the cities of Richland Hills, Haltom City, North Richland Hills and Watauga establishing the terms of the Northeast Tarrant Teen Court.

- 4A. Consideration of Ordinance 1335-17, updating the fee schedule to eliminate late fees at the Library. Chantele Hancock, Library Director gave a presentation to remove late fees at the library in order to save staff time and money and increase citizen goodwill.
- 7B. Discussion of appointments to Boards and Committees.
- 7A. Fort Worth Transportation Authority and Exit Obligation. Mr. Strong presented a recap of the City's history with the FWTA. The Comptroller and the FWTA have both agreed to accept the results of the November 8, 2016 Special Election, to no longer have the Fort Worth Transportation Authority be continued in the City of Richland Hills. The exit obligation dollar amount will be \$3.7 million.

**REGULAR SESSION – Mayor Pro Tem Barger Called to Order – Time 7:00 p.m.**

**Invocation** – Mayor Pro Tem Barger called for a moment of silence in honor of 9/11

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**PRESENTATIONS**

**1A. Citizen Appearances/Public Comments**

**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 Speaker

**1B. Promotional Pinning for Fire Department**

Cathy Bourg, City Secretary administered the Oaths of Office to Jeff Stow for his promotion to Fire Engineer.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- 2A. Approval of minutes from the August 28, 2017 City Council Meetings.
- 2B. Approval of grant submittal to the Texas Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division, for the acquisition of (23) rifle resistant body armor

**external plates & carriers to provide an enhanced level of protection for our police officers.**

**2C. Approval of rerate notice from TMLIEBP for group health insurance for 2018 with a 15% increase.**

Item was discussed in the work session under item #2.

**2D. Approval of interlocal agreement with the cities of Richland Hills, Haltom City, North Richland Hills and Watauga establishing the terms of the Northeast Tarrant Teen Court.**

Item was discussed in the work session under item #2.

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

Motion carried by a vote of 4-0.

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

**3A. Public Hearing regarding FY 2018 Tax Rate.**

Eric Strong, City Manager presented the FY 2018 Tax Rate. This will be the second of two public hearings and the anticipated vote on the tax rate will be on September 25<sup>th</sup>. The budget was built on the rollback rate, which is .563738. This is higher than the effective rate of .538970, but lower than our current rate of .595633.

Mayor Pro Tem Barger opened the Public Hearing: Time 7:08 p.m.

No Speakers

Mayor Pro Tem Barger closed the Public Hearing: Time 7:08 p.m.

**3B. Public Hearing regarding FY 2018 Budget.**

Eric Strong, City Manager presented the FY 2018 Proposed Budget. This is the second of two public hearings on the proposed budget. The proposed budget will be considered for approval on September 25<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember Campbell proposed that \$25,000 be put into the Animal Shelter wages budget for a part time Animal Control Officer to come from the General Fund. She believes the ACO is stretched too thin and it affects the daily operations, hours of operation and programs at the shelter. She recommended taking \$5,000 from Recreation, \$5,000 from Community Development, \$5,000 from Library and \$10,000 from The Link to balance the budget.

Mayor Pro Tem Barger opened the Public Hearing: Time 7:08 p.m.

Doug Knowlton, 2749 Spruce Park, Richland Hills commented that the Animal Shelter stinks and new cats being brought in are being put in with cats already kenneled.

Chantele Hancock, Library Director and citizen of Richland Hills commented that she can see a need for additional staff in many city departments, but drastically cutting funds from other departments in this year's budget without time to prepare would be devastating.

Mayor Pro Tem Barger closed the Public Hearing: Time 7:30 p.m.

### **ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS**

#### **4A. Consideration of Ordinance 1335-17, updating the fee schedule to eliminate late fees at the Library.**

Council continued their discussion from the work session.

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

Motion carried by a vote of 3-1. Councilmember Malone against.

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

#### **5A. None at this time.**

### **OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

#### **6A. None at this time.**

### **REPORTS & DISCUSSIONS**

#### **7A. Update on the FWTA and Exit Obligation**

Item was discussed in the work session under item #2.

#### **7B. Discussion of appointments to Boards and Committees**

Item was discussed in the work session under item #2.

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

- New Adult Basketball League – Register at The Link
- Lunch Bunch – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month
- New Balance Class at The Link

- Water Feature – closed for the season, will reopen in the Spring
  - National Night Out Tonight – October 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - Community Recycling Event – October 7<sup>th</sup> 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
  - Bulk Waste Collection – October 16<sup>th</sup>
  - Take Back Meds Day – October 28<sup>th</sup> 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
  - Introduction of New Employee – Kay Duffy, Community Development Coordinator
  - Animal Shelter Splash & Dash – September 30<sup>th</sup> 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
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 Malone, and seconded by Councilmember Campbell to adjourn. Motion passed 4-0.**

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Pro Tem Barger declared the meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

**ATTEST**

**APPROVED**

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Cathy Bourg, City Secretary

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Bill Agan, Mayor