



## MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2025 AT 5:00 PM

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COUNCIL ROOM, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 450 S. MAIN ST., RICHLAND CENTER, WI 53581

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**CALL TO ORDER** Chair Ryan Cairns called the meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM. A quorum was present. Members present were Ryan Cairns, Melony Walters, and Karin Tepley. Deputy Clerk Molzof confirmed that the meeting was properly noticed.

Others Present: Administrator Ashley Oliphant, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Misty Molzof, Director of Public Works Jasen Glasbrenner, Municipal Services Specialist Darcy Perkins, Alderpersons: Ron Fruit and Tom McCarthy and Mayor Todd Coppernoll.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *Motion by Tepley, second by Walters to waive the reading of September 30, 2025, meeting minutes and approve as presented; motion carried 3-0.*

### DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

**Richland County Ambulance Service Contract for 2026:** Oliphant reported ongoing communication with Richland County regarding the 2026 EMS contract. She requested a three-month extension of the current agreement to allow time for thorough review and negotiation; however, the County declined. Instead, the County issued a revised one-year contract that removed asset distribution language, added provisions regarding roof replacement, increased service fees, and shortened the term from three years to one. The County originally required acceptance by November 1, later extending the deadline to November 11. Call volume figures—used to calculate the City's service costs have been revised four times within the past month, with the most recent update received approximately 20 minutes prior to this meeting. Due to a conflict of interest with Attorney Windle serving both the City and the County, Oliphant retained legal representation through Boardman & Clark for contract review. Committee consensus was to direct Oliphant to continue negotiations with Boardman & Clark and prepare a counterproposal to the County, with the intent of maintaining EMS services temporarily while an agreement is finalized.

**Draft 2026 Budget Review and Discussion:** Oliphant provided an overview of the draft 2026 budget, reflecting previously discussed expenditure adjustments including:

- Closure of the landfill in Quarter 1 of 2025
- Separation of Greater Richland Tourism from City responsibility in Quarters 1–2 of 2025
- Hiring freeze for Clerk and Zoning positions until Quarter 2 of 2025
- Street overlay project moved to Capital Projects with potential borrowing if needed
- Use of designated and undesignated fund balances to offset remaining shortfalls

*Motion by Cairns, seconded by Walters, to recommend approval of the draft 2026 budget incorporating the most recent EMS cost estimate provided by the County, and to schedule the public hearing for November 25, 2025, at 6:00 PM. Motion carried 3-0.*

**SET NEXT MEETING DATE** - Regular Meeting on November 4, 2025.

**ADJOURNMENT** *Motion by Cairns, seconded by Walters to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:25 p.m.*

*Meeting Minutes recorded and respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk, Misty Molzof*