

# CITY OF RICHLAND CENTER - AGENDA ITEM DATA SHEET

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**Agenda Item:** Repeal and Replace Chapter 40 Fixing the Boundaries of the Wards and the Aldermanic Districts of the City and Establishing a Single Reporting Unit

**Requested by:** Amanda Keller, Clerk

**Presented by:** Amanda Keller and Matt Williams, Zoning Administrator

**Background:** Original Chapter 40 Fixing the Boundaries of the Wards and the Aldermanic Districts of the City was adopted 2011 and covers the original 12 Wards and which Aldermanic Districts they are placed in. Ordinance #2020-4 was created Amending Chapter 40 to create Wards 13 and 14.

- Wards are designated in state statute 5.15 for voting purposes and this is normally adjusted following each decennial census and consist of a single voting population
- Recent state redistricting combined all city wards into the same state districts – no long effects city wards
- Every time the city annexes a property from the township the new city parcel(s) retains the original County Supervisory District until the county were to re-establish their supervisory district boundaries
  - A new ward must be created to contain the annexed area if it does not connect with another ward with the same Supervisory District
  - Does not matter if there is a zero population – still requires its own ward to be created
- Since the original adoption of Chapter 40, the following Wards have been created:
  - Ward 13 – West Reservoir and Well No. 8
  - Ward 14 – South East Reservoir
  - Ward 15 – 0.195 acre lot on HWY 14 near Duncan Donuts
  - Ward 16 – Lots annexed by the Richland Hospital for a potential new building
- When these new wards were annexed, they were not properly listed in the correct Wards or Aldermanic Districts, rather than go through each correction it would make sense to repeal and replace the entire ordinance to correct all ward designations.
- There are other annexations that will also be added before the next decennial census which will either be added to these new wards if they are in the same Supervisory District or will necessitate the creation of additional wards
- The county clerk and Wisconsin Election Commission have been in communication to determine the best plan going forward and agree that we should be able to reassess the ward plan following the next federal census.
  - MSA has already updated the county GIS maps to reflect the most current wards
  - Wisconsin Election Commission has included all 16 Wards for the City of Richland Center into the voting information

**Department Recommendation:** Update the Ward Designation to reflect all current district changes. Following the next decennial census the Ward Plan should be re-assessed to reduce the number of wards in the city and work with the county to set Supervisory Districts that would allow future Annexations from the township without necessitating the creation of additional wards.

**Financial Impact:** None.

**Requested Action:** Repeal and Replace Chapter 40 to include new Wards and correct Aldermanic District designations.

**COUNCIL:** Motion to Repeal and Replace Chapter 40 Fixing the Boundaries of the Wards and the Aldermanic Districts of the City of Richland Center