

MINUTES

RICHWOOD CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, December 11, 2023 at 6:10 PM

BE IT KNOWN THAT a City of Richwood City Council will meet Monday, December 11, 2023, beginning at 6:10 PM at Richwood City Hall, located at 1800 Brazosport Blvd. N., Richwood, Texas 77531 with the following agenda:

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Michael Durham, Mayor:	Present
Mike Johnson, Position 1:	Present
Mike Challenger, Position 2:	Present
Amanda Reynolds, Position 3:	Present
Rory Escalante, Position 4:	Present
Jeremy Fountain, Position 5:	Present

Others present: Eric Foerster, City Manager; Kirsten Garcia, City Secretary; Tricia Ditto, Finance Director; Clif Custer, Public Works Director; Police Chief, Stephen Mayer; Phillip Knop, City Attorney.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of minutes from regular meeting held November 13, 2023.
- B. Approval of minutes from special called meeting held November 17, 2023.
- C. Budget Report, October 2023
- D. Budget Report, November 2023

Motion to approve consent agenda.

Motion made by Amanda Reynolds, Seconded by Mike Johnson.

Voting Yea: Mike Johnson, Mike Challenger, Amanda Reynolds, Rory Escalante, Jeremy Fountain

Motion carried.

V. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

- A. Final review and action on re-plat of lots 65 & 66; block 1 of Oakwood Shores Subdivision section 1 also known as 32234 Bayou Bend.

Motion to approve re-plat of lots 65 & 66; block 1 of Oakwood Shores Subdivision section 1 also known as 32234 Bayou Bend.

Motion made by Amanda Reynolds, Seconded by Mike Challenger.

Voting Yea: Mike Johnson, Mike Challenger, Amanda Reynolds, Rory Escalante, Jeremy Fountain

Motion carried.

- B. Discussion, on-site inspection, and possible action regarding the City of Richwood service center and P.K. Forrest Building.

(The City Council will travel to 720 N. Mahan to inspect the service center and community building.)

Motion to move this item to after the executive session.

Motion made by Mike Johnson, Seconded by Mike Challenger.

Voting Yea: Mike Johnson, Mike Challenger, Amanda Reynolds, Rory Escalante, Jeremy Fountain

Motion carried.

Motion to table.

Motion made by Amanda Reynolds, Seconded by Mike Challenger.

Voting Yea: Mike Johnson, Mike Challenger, Amanda Reynolds, Rory Escalante, Jeremy Fountain

Motion carried.

- C. Discuss and consider appointing Marcus Smith as the City of Richwood Fire Marshal.

Eric Foerster, City Manager, presented information.

Councilman Challenger is in opposition to hiring a new employee at this time.

Motion to table this item. Motion made by Mike Challenger.

Motion dies from lack of a second.

Discussion was held on costs incurred and benefits of having someone in-house.

Discussion was held on the status of inspections.

Motion to appoint Marcus Smith City of Richwood Fire Marshal.

Motion made by Mike Johnson, Seconded by Amanda Reynolds.

Voting Yea: Mike Johnson, Mike Challenger, Amanda Reynolds, Rory Escalante, Jeremy Fountain

Motion carried.

- D. Discuss and consider adopting Ordinance 23-513, amending Chapter 4, Article 1, Section 4-2 (Referenced Codes) of the City of Richwood Code of Ordinances, establishing minimum standards for continued use and occupancy that apply to all buildings regardless of the date of construction.

Kirsten Garcia, City Secretary, presented.

Discussion was held on the possible financial burden on residents.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 23-513, amending Chapter 4, Article 1, Section 4-2 (Referenced Codes) of the City of Richwood Code of Ordinances, establishing minimum standards for continued use and occupancy that apply to all buildings regardless of the date of construction.

Motion made by Rory Escalante, Seconded by Mike Johnson.

Voting Yea: Mike Johnson, Mike Challenger, Amanda Reynolds, Rory Escalante, Jeremy Fountain

Motion carried.

E. Consider items removed from the consent agenda

No items were removed.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council recessed into executive session at 6:29 p.m.

Pursuant to Chapter 551.0745, Personnel Matters to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee, or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee:

1. Stephen Mayer, Chief of Police
2. Eric Foerster, City Manager

Pursuant to Chapter 551.071, Consultation with Counsel on legal matters:

1. Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool

VII. ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council reconvened into regular session at 9:24 p.m.

Pursuant to Chapter 551.0745, Personnel Matters to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee, or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee:

1. Stephen Mayer, Chief of Police
No action was taken.
2. Eric Foerster, City Manager
No action was taken.

Pursuant to Chapter 551.071, Consultation with Counsel on legal matters:

1. Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool
No action was taken.

VIII. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS UPDATE

Clif Custer, Public Works Director, presented.

IX. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Eric Foerster reported on the upcoming Shop with a Cop event.

X. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS & REPORTS

Mike Johnson reported that we had a great Christmas party and that he appreciates the work put into hosting it.

Mike Challenger wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Amanda Reynolds echoed Councilman Challengers sentiments.

Jeremy Fountain expressed thanks for hosting the party and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

XI. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Durham expressed thanks for the party, adding it was good to meet everyone. He also thanked the fire department for hosting their Christmas event, spoke regarding shop with a cop and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

XII. ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

No Report.

XIII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Tabled field trip to the service center.

Personnel policy updates

Wastewater plant discussion/water discussion

General election order

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Being there no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

These minutes were read and approved on the 08th day of January 2024.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Secretary