

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor Bill Agan and members of the Richland Hills City Council
From: Linda Cantu, City Secretary
Date: September 27, 2013
Subject: Minutes 9-17-2013

City Council Action Requested:

Consider approval of September 17, 2013 City Council Meeting Minutes

Background Information:

Attachment - Minutes

Board/Citizen Input:

N/A

Financial Impact:

N/A

Staff Contacts:

Linda Cantu, City Secretary
817-616-3810
lcantu@richlandhills.com

**MINUTES OF
RICHLAND HILLS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2013**

Roll Call:

Council present:

Council Absent:

Roland Goveas, Place 1
Toya Norton, Place 2

Bill Agan, Mayor

Beverly Williams, Place 4
Edward Lopez, Place 5

Robert DeSoto, Place 3

Staff

Curtis Hawk, City Manager
Linda Cantu, City Secretary
Betsy Elam, City Attorney

WORK SESSION – Mayor Pro Tem Lopez Called to Order at 6:10 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). Refer to posted list attached hereto and incorporated herein.

Mayor pro tem Lopez convened into Executive Session at 6:10 p.m.

2. Reconvene into open session for possible action resulting from any items posted and legally discussed in Executive Session.

Mayor pro tem Lopez reconvened the meeting into open session at 6:52 p.m.

No action necessary from Executive Session.

3. Discussion of proposed FY 2013-14 Annual Budget.

City Manager Hawk reviewed the revised budget and changes to the first draft.

4. Discussion of items listed on tonight's City Council Agenda.

No discussion at this time.

REGULAR SESSION

CALL TO ORDER- Mayor Pro Tem Lopez Called to Order at 7:04 p.m.

INVOCATION - Council Member Norton.

PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE - All Council Members led the pledge of allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

1. PRESENTATION AND APPEARANCES

A. Presentation of Service Awards – None at this time.

B. Citizen Appearances/Public Comments – None

2. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes of August 27, 2013, Special called City Council Meeting and September 3, 2013, Regular City Council Meeting.

MOTION: Motion made by Councilmember Goveas, and seconded by Councilmember Williams to table the minutes of August 27, and September 3. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Councilmember DeSoto Absent.

B. Approval of Local Transportation Project Advanced Funding Agreement (LPAFA) for the Green Ribbon Project.

MOTION: Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez, and seconded by Councilmember Goveas to approve. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Councilmember DeSoto Absent

C. Approval of Interlocal Agreement for Participation of Fort Worth's Environmental Collection Center Household Hazardous Waste Program.

Councilmember's questioned the use of the voucher system and the need for the system now. Initially, the voucher system was used to determine if there was abuse in the program.

According to Asst. City Manager Strong, the reports that the city received from the Environmental Center indicated there is no abuse of the Household Hazardous Waste program.

After discussion, Councilmember's decided the voucher system was not necessary.

MOTION: Motion made by Councilmember Goveas, and seconded by Councilmember Norton to approve. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Councilmember DeSoto Absent

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

A. None at this time.

4. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

A. Ordinance No. 1253-13 Amending FY 2012-13 Annual Budget and Adopting the FY 2013-14 Annual Budget.

There was discussion regarding the longevity pay for employees. Mayor pro tem Lopez stated due to the fact that the city is going to raise taxes, he felt the longevity pay is not appropriate at this time.

Councilmember Goveas stated he feels the city is in a better position now and can do something for the employees. Mr. Goveas said the city should give the employees some type of compensation.

Councilmember Williams stated she is in favor of giving the employees the longevity pay.

Councilmember Norton stated she understood both sides of the situation.

City Manager Hawk stated the longevity pay in this proposed budget is a one-time payment based upon the state formula for longevity pay, \$4.00 per month for each year of service up to a maximum of 25 years, from \$48 for one year to \$1,200 for 25 years. Mr. Hawk said the recommendation does not bind future Councils to continue the longevity pay, that it is a decision for

each Council to consider each year until the city reaches 10,000 population when it will be required.

Councilmember Goveas stated that the Finance Committee could work with the City Manager to come up with a different system in future years.

MOTION: Motion made by Councilmember Williams, and seconded by Councilmember Goveas to approve the proposed budget along with the longevity pay. Motion carried by a vote of 3-1, with Mayor Pro Tem Lopez voting nay. Councilmember DeSoto Absent.

B. Ordinance No. 1254-13 setting the Ad Valorem Tax Rate.

City Manager Hawk stated the proposed \$0.528094 tax rate is divided into the Maintenance and Operations (M & O) Rate and the Debt Service Rate, that portion of the rate necessary to pay the interest and provide a sinking fund for the payment of each issue of bonds issued for various City purposes. The total M & O portion of the tax rate is \$0.467694. The debt service portion of the rate is \$0.060400.

MOTION: Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez, and seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve the Ad Valorem Tax Rate. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Councilmember DeSoto Absent.

C. Consider Resolution No. 415-13, Creation of Committees of the Council.

The addition to the Finance Committee, the Standing Committees of the Council shall also include the following: Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, a Public Safety Committee, a Community Enrichment Committee, and a Community Development Committee.

The responsibilities of the additional standing committees shall be as follows:

Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, to address issues with the T, roads and streets, drainage structures, and water and sewer lines as they relate to physical infrastructure;

Public Safety Committee, to address issues dealing with Fire, Police, Animal Control, Code Enforcement, and Public Health;

Community Enrichment Committee, to address issues relating to Parks, Library, Open Space and medians, the Community Center, Special Events, and other quality of life issues;

Community Development Committee, to address issues that relate to growth and development matters in the community.

Each committee shall consist of two members of the Council to be appointed by majority vote of the Council, and each member of the standing committees shall serve until their successor is appointed. Following the initial appointment, members of the Committee shall be appointed annually, at a date to be determined by City Council, following the election of Council members in the General Municipal Election.

MOTION: A motion was made by Councilmember Goveas, and seconded by Councilmember Norton to approve. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Councilmember DeSoto Absent

- D. Consider Ordinance No. 1255-13, Amendments to Chapter 10, "Boards, Committee, and Commissions," Richland Hills Code of Ordinances.

City Manager Hawk briefed Council Members on the ordinance revising Chapter 10 of the Code, including ~~and~~ the boards that would be removed from Chapter 10 and longer be a board, the appointments, terms, and qualifications of the remaining boards. Mr. Hawk pointed out that the ordinance provides that City Council would no longer serve as the building board of appeals, but would be a board with members appointed by Council. Councilmember Goveas wanted to be sure the ordinance provides that the new appeals board be appointed by place as with the current boards. Councilmember Williams wanted to make sure that the ordinance provides for a transition so that all members would not be up for reappointment at the same time. Mr. Hawk stated he wasn't expecting Council to act at this meeting but wanted to be sure he was on right track with what Council wants to see in the ordinance.

No action taken.

- E. Consider Ordinance No. 1256-13, Amending Chapter 14, "Buildings and Building Regulation," Richland Hills Code of Ordinances.

No action taken.

5. CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, BID AWARDS AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

A. Bid Award for Matthews Interceptor Project.

Michael Barnes, City Engineer, briefed Councilmember's on the recommendation of the bid award to the low bidder, DCi Contracting Inc., in the amount of \$1,764,853.00.

The Matthews Interceptor Project will start in October, 2013, will consist of the installation of 6x6 and 8x8 box culverts. Mr. Barnes further stated storm water that has been on the surface will now be underground. The culverts will allow water to flow to the sump area.

Because of the project, reconstruction of road work will be done at Matthews from the sump area to Joanna Court. The box culverts have to be installed in the middle of the street. The City and Contractors are well aware of the residents and will accommodate them as much as possible during the construction work. Letters have already been sent to residents along Mathews and Park Place notifying home owners of the scheduled work. All residents south of Baker Blvd. will also be notified by letter of the planned work and door hangers will be put out at each house in this area.

MOTION: A motion was by Councilmember Goveas, and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez to approve. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Councilmember DeSoto Absent.

6. OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- A. Consider appointments to Committees of the Council and to various boards, commissions and committees.

MOTION: A motion was by Councilmember Goveas, and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez to re-appoint Athena Campbell to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Councilmember DeSoto Absent.

- B. Pending Economic Development Incentive Agreements.

No action taken.

- C. Authorization to Seek Proposals for Employee Group Health Insurance.

Eric Strong, Asst. City Manager, briefed Council on the increasing health insurance rates. A recommendation is to seek proposals for employee group health insurance. Historically, the city renews October 1, of each year. Staff would prefer to go out for bids and start the insurance plan January 1, 2014.

MOTION: A motion was by Councilmember Goveas, and seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve the plan to seek proposals for employee group health insurance plan. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Councilmember DeSoto Absent

7. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Update on Mosquito Abatement Program

Two more confirmed cases of West Nile Virus were reported in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. There were no positive samples and no cases of West Nile in Richland Hills. Staff will continue to inform Councilmember's of any and all updates.

B. Amendments to Richland Hills Home Rule Charter.

A sample ballot was sent to Councilmember's for their review. The Charter was translated into Spanish and will be put on the web site as well.

C. Presentation of Department Reports.

The reports are available for Council's review. If there are any questions, please contact staff members.

8. COMMUNITY INTEREST ITEMS

Eric Strong, briefed Councilmember's on the last Richland Hills Senior Lunch. Guest speaker was Commissioner Gary Fickes, who spoke about the "Empowering Seniors" program. The event went very well.

Councilmember Williams announced the next Richland Hills Lunch Bunch is scheduled for Friday, October 11th.

City Manager Hawk announced Texas Night Out is Tuesday, October 1st.

Council Member Goveas thanked staff for the excellent budget process.

Mayor pro tem Lopez announced the city wide Shredding Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 21, in front of the Fire Station.

9. Executive Session: 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). Refer to posted list attached hereto and incorporated herein. **Executive Session may be held under these exceptions at any time during the meeting that a need arises for the City Council to seek advice from the City Attorney as to the posted subject matter of this City Council meeting.**

No executive session at this time.

MOTION: A motion was by Councilmember Williams, and seconded by Councilmember Norton to adjourn.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor pro tem Edward Lopez declared the meeting adjourned at 8:46 P.M.

ATTEST

APPROVED

Linda Cantu
City Secretary

Edward Lopez
Mayor pro tem