

**RICHLAND HILLS CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 13, 2023  
MINUTES**

Roll Call:

Council present

Edward Lopez, Mayor  
Curtis A. Bergthold, Mayor Pro Tem  
Douglas Knowlton, Place 1  
Travis Malone, Place 2  
Javier Alvarez, Place 4  
G.W. Estep, Place 5

Council absent

Staff present

Candice Edmondson, City Manager  
Lindsay Rawlinson, City Secretary  
James Donovan, City Attorney

**CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION – 6:30 PM**

1. **Executive Session:** Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.073, 551.074, 551.076, 551.087, 418.183(f) and 418.106(d) & (e). 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.

None.

2. **Presentation of Citizen Survey Results**

City Manager Candice Edmonson introduced Ron Gailey, CEO, Onpointe Insights, who provided a detailed overview of the results of the Citizen Survey conducted from January 31, 2023 through February 20, 2023. A total of 410 surveys were completed through channels including email, Facebook, text messaging, postcards, and the City's website.

Mr. Gailey advised that five main question groups were asked including city facilities, city qualities/benefits, development/growth, safety/security, and operations. He reported that 64 percent of respondents felt the city was headed in the right direction and most people either felt the city had stayed the same (49 percent) or improved (26 percent) over the previous three years.

The main priorities of the respondents was maintain/improve street, curbs and sidewalks, maintain/improve infrastructure (water, sewer, storm), and attract new restaurant businesses. The Fire Department, the Public Library, and the Police Department were all

highly rated and City Events including household hazardous waste, document shredding and planting events, Christmas Tree Lighting event, and Red, White and YOU event were considered very important to most households. He provided detailed demographics information and how to use the presented information in future city planning.

The City Council expressed their appreciation for his work in conducting the survey and presenting the information.

**3. Discuss items listed on tonight’s City Council agenda. No action will be taken and each item will be considered during the Regular Session.**

None.

Mayor Lopez adjourned the work session at 6:57 p.m.

**REGULAR SESSION – Mayor Lopez Called to Order – Time 7:02 p.m.**

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE – Council Member Knowlton**

**PRESENTATIONS**

**1A. 2022 Employee Awards Recognition**

City Manager Candice Edmondson announced the recipients of the 2022 Employee Awards.

Fire Department

Rookie of the Year	Paul Richards – Firefighter/EMT
Firefighter of the Year	Steve Deane – Firefighter/EMT
EMS Provider of the Year	Lainea Nolen – Firefighter/Paramedic
Chief’s Award	Gabriel Munoz – Firefighter/Paramedic/EMS Coordinator

Police Department

Unit Award	Detective Jim Sears Sergeant Daniel Sawyer Officer Michael Vacca
Chief’s Award Non-Sworn	Property/Evidence/Crime Scene Tech Zoe Hansberger
Chief’s Award Sworn	Officer Sheena McEachran
Police Officer of the Year	Officer Cody Sexton

City Core Values

Service	Terri White
Teamwork	Sheena McEachran
Integrity	Ken Harrison
Respect	Valeria Rangel

Mayor’s Award

Justin Meine

Mayor Lopez presented a second Mayor's Award to Kelly Morris who was unable to attend the Employee Appreciation Awards Luncheon.

Additionally, Mayor Lopez presented Scott Russell with a City Core Values Teamwork Award. Captain Russell was also unable to attend the Employee Appreciation Awards Luncheon.

**1B. Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for Fiscal Year 2021**

City Manager Candice Edmondson advised that the City of Richland Hills had received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021 from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA.)

She expressed her appreciation to Finance Director Patricia Albrecht and Senior Accountant Bernadette Gendron for the work they do for the City.

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

Theresa Bledsoe, 2716 Spruce Park, Richland Hills, inquired about an upcoming bulk trash pickup following recent storms and mentioned a streetlight leaning dangerously.

Bill Garretson, 3616 Landy Lane, Richland Hills, made several suggestions regarding decreasing the use of and reliance on vehicles which could help physical health, carbon footprint, and degradation of streets.

Donald Holliday, 6852 Baker Boulevard, Richland Hills, expressed concern regarding water and drainage fees assessed on churches and non-profit organizations.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**2A. Approve minutes from the February 27, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting.**

**2B. Approve a replat for the properties described as Block 1 Lot 6, Richland Hills Addition, Tarrant County, Texas otherwise known as 6912 Boulevard 26, Richland Hills, Texas 76118 and Block 1 Lot 7, Richland Hills Addition, Tarrant County, Texas otherwise known as 6916 Boulevard 26, Richland Hills, Texas 76118**

**Motion:** Motion was made by Councilmember Estep and seconded by Councilmember Knowlton to approve the consent agenda.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

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

3. None.

**ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS**

- 4A. Approved Ordinance 1469-23 amending Chapter 86 “Utilities” by updating the water and wastewater system facility impact fees for new development within the City of Richland Hills.**

Assistant to the City Manager Logan Thatcher presented the item and advised that the City of Fort Worth provides wholesale water and wholesale wastewater services for the City of Richland Hills. In accordance with the uniform wholesale water and wastewater contracts, the City of Fort Worth sets the rate for water and wastewater impact fees for new development. Fort Worth recently adopted revised impact fees for new development occurring January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2026 requiring the City of Richland Hills to update the impact fee rates listed in our ordinances.

**Motion:** Motion was made by Councilmember Knowlton and seconded by Councilmember Malone to approve Ordinance 1469-23 amending Chapter 86 “Utilities” by updating the water and wastewater system facility impact fees for new development within the City of Richland Hills.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

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

- 5A. Approved renewal of unit price contract with Reliable Paving, Inc. for street, curb and gutter repair**

City Manager Candice Edmondson advised that the City Council approved a unit price contract with Reliable Paving, Inc., for street, curb and gutter repairs on January 10, 2022. The unit price contract has been beneficial in helping to expedite work such as localized street patching and repairs, curb and gutter replacement, and asphalt repairs especially on extensive repairs or when staffing has been limited. The contract allows for an annual renewal with cost adjustments reflective of current economic trends. Reliable Paving has requested a renewal with a five percent increase in the contract line-item costs.

**Motion:** Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Bergthold and seconded by Councilmember Knowlton to approve renewal of unit price contract with Reliable Paving, Inc. for street, curb and gutter repair.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

**OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

6. None.

**REPORTS & DISCUSSIONS**

7. None.

**COMMUNITY INTEREST ITEMS**

8. Mayor Pro Tem Bergthold advised of several upcoming events:

- Tuesday, March, 2023, Richland Hills Literary Society, Richland Hills Public Library, 6:30 p.m.;
- Saturday, April 1, 2023, Easter Celebration, Rosebud Park, 10:00 a.m. to noon;
- Thursday, April 13, 2023,
  - Senior Lunch Bunch and Bingo, The Link, 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.;
  - Tarrant County Food Pantry, The Link parking lot, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.;
- Saturday, April 29, 2023, Clean Green & Lean, City Parks and The Link, 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.
- Every Thursday, Coffee Talk, Richland Hills Public Library, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.;
- 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month, Storytime at the library, 6:30 p.m.; and
- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month, Arts and Crafts, 6:30 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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.

**ADJOURNMENT**

10. A motion was made by Councilmember Estep and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bergthold to adjourn.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Lopez declared the meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED:**

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Lindsay Rawlinson, City Secretary

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Edward Lopez, Mayor