



STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF FORT BEND  
CITY OF RICHMOND

The City Commission for the City of Richmond, Texas met in Regular Session on January 18, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Becky Haas proceeded to call the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. The meeting was broadcast via video conference call. All members of the public may participate in the meeting and via video conference call.

A quorum was present, with the following members in attendance:

Becky Haas, Mayor  
Terry Gaul, Commissioner P1 (Attended via Zoom)  
Barry Beard, Commissioner P2  
Carl Drozd, Commissioner P3  
Alex BeMent, Commissioner P4  
Terri Vela, City Manager  
Howard Christian, Assistant City Manager "ACM"  
Gary Smith, City Attorney  
Laura Scarlato, City Secretary

Agenda items A2- A5 were passed over, the meeting started with Agenda item A6.

Agenda item A1. Call to order, Quorum Determined and Meeting Declared Open.

Agenda item A2. Recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag and the Texas Flag. Mayor Haas led the pledges.

Agenda item A3. Employee Recognition for Service with the City of Richmond:

- Devlin Campbell – 5 Years – Facility Department.
- Evan Pinales – 5 Years – Fire Department.
- Hunter Winkelmann – 5 Years – Fire Department.

A4. Mayor, City Commissioners and City Staff Announcements per Sec. 551.0415 of the Texas Government Code.

Agenda item A5. Public Comments.

Agenda item A6, Presentation on Homestead Exemption.

There was a discussion led by Finance Director Justin Alderete. The Mayor requested the item be on the February agenda and considered for approval by March 2022.

Agenda item A7, Presentation on upcoming Fee Resolution with Timeline.

City Manager Vela stated that all the fees are being reviewed with comparisons made to peer cities. The new Fire Marshal is reviewing other programs, fees and permits in other cities as well. This item will be on the February agenda.

Agenda item A8, Update on the upcoming Bond issuance with Timeline.

City Manager Vela stated this is a follow-up to the last meeting reviewing the fire trucks and the re-use agreement. It was stated that the maintenance figures for the fire trucks would be provided as well as the re-use and take or pay contract. There was discussion and the item was closed.

Agenda item A9, Review and consider taking action on Ordinance No. 2021-31, Reclaimed Water Agreement with MUD No. 215 Take or Pay Provision with Veranda.

There was a lengthy discussion with City Manager Vela providing the terms and details.

Agenda item A10. Public Hearing to receive comments for or against a Strategic Partnership Agreement with Municipal Utility District No. 251.

There was no discussion of this item.

Agenda item A11, Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 398-2022 approving and authorizing a Strategic Partnership Agreement with Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 251.

City Manager Vela stated the consent to create MUD 251 was approved, this is the second reading to approve the Strategic Partnership Agreement. There was a brief discussion, and the agenda item was closed.

Agenda item A12, Public Hearing to receive comments for or against a request by the Fleming family to rename the section of 10<sup>th</sup> Street, which is part of the FM 762/10<sup>th</sup> Street extension and improvement project to Arizona Fleming Street.

City Manager Vela provided the background for the request to rename the street. There was a lengthy discussion with the Commission stating their concerns. The Commission stated that the policy and procedure for considering renaming a street should be followed. The requirements were provided, and the agenda item was closed.

Agenda item A13, Staff update on a request by the Fleming family to rename the section on 10<sup>th</sup> Street, which is part of the FM 762/10<sup>th</sup> Street extension and improvement project to Arizona Fleming Street.

This was discussed in conjunction with Agenda item A12.

Agenda A14, Consent Agenda.

Commissioner BeMent pulled A14 (3) and A14 (7)

Commissioner Drozd pulled A14 (6)

Commissioner Beard pulled A14 (2), A14 (3), A14 (5), and A14 (9)

Commissioner Gaul, Nothing

Mayor Haas pulled A14 (7) and A14 (8)

Agenda item A14 (2) Fire Department Report

There was a discussion regarding the three fire station calls versus the Fort Bend County station calls. City Manager Vela stated the City has several agreements that cover the FBC areas. There are approximately eight Fire Protection Agreements, it was suggested to continue to have conversation about this service and the costs. There was a lengthy discussion with City Manager Vela stating the issue would be on a future agenda for further review.

Agenda item A14 (3) Police Department Report

There was discussion regarding the newly adopted tethering laws for dogs. Chief Craig stated the hotspots for accidents are on TxDot roads and only solution is to increase patrol response. The Behind the Badge event was complimented. Also, Officer Tim Anderson, Beat 6 was complimented for his spotlight on the local businesses portion.

Agenda item A14 (5) Tax Assessor/Collector Report

The tax collections are behind which Finance Director Alderete stated part of the lag is timing and taxpayers not being delinquent until the end of January 2022.

Agenda item A14 (6) Public Works Department Report

ACM Howard Christian reported an update to the Quiet Zones stating 2<sup>nd</sup> St. has not been replaced as equipment has not been released to the City. All winterization has been completed. The wayside horns will be "tested in place" by the railroad. ACM Christian indicated that the Parks Department spends the majority of the man hours in George Park. There were several items discussed with ACM Christian and City Manager Vela providing the feedback.

#### Agenda item A14 (7) Planning Department Report

City Planner Jose Abraham addressed the Commissions questions regarding the development projects within the January 2022 report. The onboarding material for the new board members of the Richmond Historical Commission and the Planning and Zoning Commission was complimented.

#### Agenda item A14 (8) Building Department Report

Building Official Lori Bownds provided feedback to questions from the Commission.

#### Agenda item A14 (9) Code Enforcement Report

The Commission commended Assistant Building Official Scott Fajkus for reducing the number of cases and making the citizens more aware of compliance. It was stated that political signs are be allowed 90 days prior to election. There was a discussion regarding signs and where they are located.

#### Agenda item A15, Review and consider taking action on the Quarterly Monthly Financial Report and Quarterly Investment Report.

There was a brief discussion regarding the trends of interest rates and US Treasury Bonds.

#### Agenda item A16, Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 389-2021, appointment of Board Member to the Fort Bend Subsidence District.

Mayor Haas requested this be discussed during executive session and City Manager Vela suggested to move the agenda item to the end of the agenda/meeting.

#### Agenda item A17, Review and consider taking action on Ordinance No. 2022-01, adopting Article V "Vacant Commercial Structures" of Chapter 22 "Nuisances" of the City Code to provide regulations for the registration of vacant commercial structures.

There was a discussion as to the definition of "vacant" structures. City Manager Vela stated the amendments to the ordinances are an ongoing conversation for the Commission to provide input.

#### Agenda item A18, Review and consider taking action on Ordinance No. 2022-02, amending Section 22-19 "Definitions and Applicability" relating to junked vehicle in the City Code.

City Manager Vela stated this is the opportunity to clean up and review the ordinance and to make suggestions for staff.

Agenda item A19, Review and consider taking action on Ordinance No. 2022-03, amending Article IV "Weeds and Rubbish" of Chapter 22 "Nuisances of the City Code to rename the Article and amend provisions related to public nuisances.

The Commissioner reiterated that all of the definitions in the ordinances need to be in sync. There was a brief discussion as to weed height.

Agenda item A20, Review and consider taking action on Ordinance No. 2022-04, amending Article II "Quasi-Judicial Enforcement of Health and Safety Ordinances," of Chapter 1 "General Provisions," of the City Code to authorize the Building and Standards Commission to serve as the appeals board for the technical codes and the electrical code and providing other amendments relating to procedures relating to substandard structures and the Building and Standards Commission.

City Manager Vela stated this is the opportunity to roll the two boards, Electrical Board of Adjustments and Appeals and Building Board of Adjustments and Appeals into the responsibilities of the Building and Standards Commission. This also allows for some clean up to the language for the ordinance.

Agenda item A21, Review and consider taking action on Ordinance No. 2022-05, amending Section 32-19.3 of the City Code regulating the placing of the things that may obstruct sight along streets.

There was a discussion led by City Manager Vela stating this is a safety issue and again the opportunity to strengthen the language. The intent is that no one will be grandfathered. Assistant Building Official Fajkus stated staff is in the process of discussing the issues with homeowners.

Agenda item A22. Review and consider taking action on Ordinance No. 2022-06, amending Chapter 6 "Animals" of the City Code to provide regulations relating to the care and control of animals.

City Manager Vela stated there had been a change in the Local Government Code therefore the City needs to be in compliance. There was a discussion regarding cats, dogs, chains and confinement. This item was to obtain suggestions from the Commission.

Agenda item A23, Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 399-2022, Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for the Election Service with Fort Bend County Elections Office.

City Manager Vela stated the contract had not been received from the County. There was no discussion.

Agenda item A24, Review and consider taking action on Ordinance No. 2022-07, calling a general election for the purpose of electing a Commissioner to Position 2 and election a Commissioner to Position 4.

It was stated the period for a candidate to sign up is January 19, 2022, to February 18, 2022. There was no discussion.

Agenda item A25, Review and consider taking action on the second reading of Resolution No. 395-2021, authorizing the expenditure of funds by the Development Corporation of Richmond for a feasibility study for a hotel/convention center project.

City Manager Vela stated there have been two readings, December 20, 2021 and January 18, 2022. The adoption of the resolution is necessary to move forward. There was no discussion.

Agenda item A26, Review and consider taking action on an Amending Plat – OSP NW 359 Reserve “A” – 4.3164 acres of land – 1 Block – 0 Lots – 1 Reserve. The subject site is located on the west side of Mason Rd and south of the Richmond Fire Station 3.

There was a discussion regarding the amended slab elevation, the questions were addressed.

Agenda item A27, Review and consider taking action on a Partial Replat – Winston Terrace Section One Partial Replat of Lot 7, Block 3 – 0.212 acres of land – 1 Block 1 Lot – 0 Reserves. The subject site is located along Burnet Street within Winston Terrace residential subdivision.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the metes and bounds being provided and the replat being considered with conditions. The concerns of the Commission were addressed.

Agenda item A28, Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 400-2022 regarding consent of 29.422 acres of land into Pecan Grove Municipal Utility District.

City Manager Vela provided the background of the resolution. There was a lengthy discussion of the pros and cons of the addition of the property. The Commission shared their concerns with staff to review them.

Mayor Haas requested to adjourn into executive session pursuant to Texas Local Government Code 551.074 Personnel Matters at 12:20 p.m.

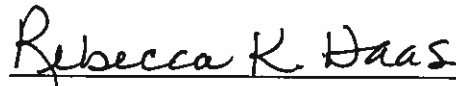
The Commission reconvened into open session at 12:52 p.m. with no action taken.

Agenda item A29. Excuse form Attendance at Regular City Commission Meeting. There were no absences to consider.

Agenda item A30. Consider taking action on requests for future agenda items.

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Haas declared the meeting adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

**APPROVED:**



Becky K. Haas, Mayor

**ATTEST:**



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Laura Scarlato, City Secretary