

# STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF FORT BEND CITY OF RICHMOND

The City Commission for the City of Richmond, Texas met in Workshop Session on May 16, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Becky Haas proceeded to call the meeting to order at 9:00 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
Barry Beard, Commissioner P2
Carl Drozd, Commissioner P3
Alex BeMent, Commissioner P4 – Via Zoom
Terri Vela, City Manager
Howard Christian, Assistant City Manager "ACM"
Gary Smith, City Attorney – Via Zoom
Laura Scarlato, City Secretary

# The Mayor proceeded to Skip Agenda items A1 – A5.

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.

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

- Timothy Bunch 15 Years Fire Department.
- Aaron Hafer 15 Years Fire Department.
- Proclamation:

Peace Officers Memorial Day.
National Police Week.
Public Works Week.
Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month.

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

Agenda item A5, Public Comments.

A6. Discussion on residential rental property registrations.

City Manager Vela introduced the item asking for direction from the Commission as to how robust the program should be for the rental property registrations. Staff would like to receive input and initiate a dialog. There was no discussion at this time.

A7. Presentation by Municipal Court on process to Clear Warrants.

The Commission stated they would hold the questions and comments until this evening, and they are looking forward to the presentation.

A8. Presentation on Fire Protection Cost of Service.

There was no discussion although Commissioner Beard stated he appreciates the effort that has gone in to providing the presentation for this evening.

### Agenda item A9, Consent Agenda.

Mayor Haas requested items to be pulled for discussion from the Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Beard pulled Agenda items A9. (4) (5) (7) (8) (10) (11)

No other items were pulled.

### A9. (4) Municipal Court

Carol Trujillo explained the large disparity in court appearances from 2021 to 2022. The appearances by zoom have decreased which is the cause for the decline. Text reminders are being sent to offenders which the Commission expressed appreciation for being proactive.

# A9. (5) Finance Report

The Adjusted Sales Tax Collections Graph was explained by Finance Director Justin Alderete. The net amount after the comptroller takes out the payback provision of \$89,612 is what is reported. The graph will be provided with numbers in the future for better understanding.

# A9. (7) Public Works Report

The waterline that was repaired in Rosenberg due to an error on the contractor's part was questioned as to if the City had any recourse. Legal will need to review.

Assistant City Manager Howard Christian will check on the steel plate located on Loop 762.

### A9. (8) Planning Report

City Planner Jose Abraham assured the Commission that during the pre-development meetings that the core values of the City are being expressed. Staff has received a revised plan from Williams Ranch Business Park and the Commission will be kept informed as to the status.

### A9. (10) Code Enforcement Report

Building Official Scott Fajkus was commended for including before and after pictures of the properties. The improvement that can be seen around the City gives the Commission inspiration. Code Enforcement will check into the fence on FM 762 to verify a pending case.

# A9. (11) Emergency Operations Report

The Commission asked if the ERCOT (Electric Reliability Council of Texas) recommendations is being pushed out to our citizens. Robert Oliver, Emergency Management Director stated the City is using all social media platforms to share the information.

Agenda item A10, 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 including provisions related to dangerous dogs.

City Attorney Gary Smith stated a revised document would be sent out today for review. No further discussion.

Agenda item A11, Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 405-2022 selecting an engineer to assist the City in its application and implementation of funding from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

ACM Howard Christian addressed the Commission stating LJA Engineering, Inc. had been chosen as the engineer/architect for the project implementation and that approval of a resolution is a requirement of the grant.

Agenda item A12, Review and consider taking action on authorizing City Manager to negotiate a contract for extending utilities.

ACM Christian stated of the sixteen firms that were received from the RFQ solicitation, AARK Engineering was selected by unanimous decision. The design work will include

extending the existing water line from the south side of HWY 59 and construction of a lift station and force main to tie into the South Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Agenda item A13, Review and consider taking action on authorizing City Manager to negotiate engineering services for south wastewater plant.

There was a lengthy discussion with both ACM Christian and City Manager Vela fielding questions. The City has an agreement to provide services to MUD 207. The wastewater service will require the city to expand the existing South WWTP.

Agenda item A14, Review and consider taking action on authorizing City Manager to execute a design contract for a new water well at the surface water treatment plant.

ACM Christian provided the background of the item and the results of the RFQ. The Surface Water Treatment Plant Groundwater Well is to cost \$275,000 which is considered high by one Commissioner. ACM Christian stated typically the cost is 15% of the overall cost however, this falls at 11%.

Agenda item A15, Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 406-2022, determining a minimum parking requirement for a proposed school at 902 Richmond Parkway.

Mayor Haas recused herself from the discussion due to having ownership in a private school in Old Towne. Mayor Pro Tem Terry Gaul led the agenda item discussion. There were concerns expressed about the layout of the project, the timing of the expansion of Richmond Parkway, and traffic impact. There was a brief discussion, and it was stated that representation will be available at the meeting this evening for questions. City Manager Vela will provide who owns and has responsibility for Richmond Parkway at the meeting this evening.

Agenda items A16, Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 407-2022, determining a minimum parking requirement for a proposed addition to the Fort Bend Women's Center at 1500 Pultar Road.

City Planner Jose Abraham provided the information for the resolution. The dwelling units are assigned to individuals based on certain eligibility criteria and car ownership of residents is lower than a general neighborhood. There was a brief discussion, and it was stated that representation will be available at the meeting this evening for questions.

Agenda item A17, Excuse from Attendance at Regular City Commission Meeting.

No action

Agenda item A18, Consider taking action on request for future agenda items.

No action.

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Haas declared the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

**APPROVED:** 

Rebecca K. Haas.
Becky K. Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura Scarlato, City Secretary