



STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF FORT BEND
CITY OF RICHMOND

The City Commission for the City of Richmond, Texas met in Workshop Session on December 12, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Becky Haas proceeded to call the meeting to order at 9:02 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- via Zoom
Alex BeMent, Commissioner P4
Terri Vela, City Manager
Howard Christian, Assistant City Manager "ACM"
Gary Smith, City Attorney
Lasha Gillespie, City Secretary

The Mayor proceeded to Skip Agenda items A2 – 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.

Agenda item A3. Employee Recognition for Service with the City of Richmond:
None

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

Agenda item A5. Public Comments. (Public comment is limited to a maximum of 3 minutes per item. No Deliberations with the Commission. Time may not be given to another speaker.)

Agenda item A6. Update on Fire Protection Strategy and Objectives for Emergency Service Coverage

Agenda items selected for discussion:

Commissioner Beard selected items A.7 (2) (3) (4) (6) and (7)

Commissioner BeMent selected items A7. (3) and (7)

A7. (2) Fire Department.

- Commissioner Beard asked about the calls that came from Fire Stations 1-3. He inquired as to whether the calls are mostly County calls and whether the MUDS are included in those calls. Fire Chief Youngblood said that the report covers all calls, even those within the municipal borders, but that a report with more details is also available. Beard said he simply wants to know where most of the City's expenses are going.

A7. (3) Police Department

- Commissioner BeMent inquired about the beat report that the police department had submitted and wanted to know why there wasn't a report for beat numbers 5, 8, or 10. He continued by stating those areas include a sizable area that is located inside the city limits. Police Chief Craig responded by saying that the department is challenged in terms of assigning staff those specific beats on a permanent basis. He continued by saying that although there is not a specific officer assigned to such beats, the locations are still covered by nearby units. He continued by saying that they he is diligently trying to fill openings. Commissioner BeMent encouraged Chief Craig to let them know if there is anything the City Commission can do to assist in that regard.
- The Santa Behind the Badge event, which will start at 6:30 p.m. on December 15 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, was briefly discussed by Chief Craig and Commissioner Beard.
- When commenting on the crime report, Commissioner Gaul noted that while overall crime is slightly up from the previous year's reporting, more serious crimes are drastically down. The police chief was commended by Commissioner Gaul for the work he put into the crime reports.
- After that, Commissioner Drozd asked the police chief about any instances of home burglaries, notably those involving porch pirates. Police Chief Craig responded by saying that there is no discernible pattern in the city showing that Richmond citizens are being targeted by that specific kind of crime. The Chief went on to state that most thefts at Walmart and other retail locations involve shoplifting.

A7. (4) Municipal Court

- Commissioner Beard noted an increase in the number of outstanding warrants. The Courts Coordinator, Carolina Trujillo, stated that despite sending out electronic and paper notification, many still fail to show up for court. She continued by saying that they are attempting to set a date for a warrant roundup and that they are coordinating with collections and Texas Marshals to assist with outstanding warrants.

A.7 (6) Finance

- According to Commissioner Beard, the budget was approved for two positions—an administrative assistant and an engineer. He was curious about the timeline for filling those posts. City Manager Vela said the process is constrained by space. After the office's construction is finished, room can be created in City Hall to accommodate those people.
- After this discussion, the City Commission received some clarification from Finance Director Alderete regarding the date given in the City performance graphs.

B.7 (7) Public Works

- Commissioner Beard requested the department provide a report simpler to interpret. Commissioner Beard continued by inquiring about the East Wastewater Treatment Plant report. The development's utility study and the potential effects on the City were both described by Public Works Director Howard Christian. Commissioner Beard continued by saying that he had not seen the report for the South side. City Manager Vela stated she would make sure that the report gets sent to him. There was further discussion about upcoming GLO projects and timeline for completion which will not likely be in a time frame originally thought. The discussion was ended by Commissioner Beard commending Public Works on the Rainbow Room project which is a program that provides gifts to children in need during the Christmas season.

C.7 (8) Planning

- Mayor Haas proceeded to ask Planning Director Garcia about the site development plan review for 1804 W Laurel Oaks. Director Garcia answered by saying first it needs to be confirmed that the applicant meets the setbacks. If they don't meet the requirements, they will not be able to enlarge a non-conforming structure.

A.7 (10) Code Enforcement

- Mayor Haas asked for more information on the new open cases on Morton St. and what the issues are. Building Official Scott Fajkus stated he can provide detailed information as relates to property maintenance and or major rehab.

Regular Agenda

Agenda Item A8. Review and consider taking action on term sheet for the Performance Agreement for the YMCA of Greater Houston.

- Commissioner Beard gave input stated that we should defer doing things before they have been approved. City Manager Vela answered by stating we will be more cautious next time. There was further discussion about the term's requirements of the term sheet.

Agenda Item A9. Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 438-2022, amending the bylaws of the Development Corporation of Richmond relating to the City Commission Board Members.

- There was some discussion last meeting regarding the terms. City Manager Vela stated the only change was reformatting but no changes to the language and revision for the terms. City Attorney Smith added clarification stating the Mayor may nominate an individual, the Commission appoints.

Agenda Item A10. Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 437-2022, appointing a Fort Bend Subsidence Board Member.

- City Manager Vela stated, the Subsidence District board has informed them that Mr.

Michael Scherer, who was filling the unexpired term of Mr. Karl Baumgartner will have his term expire at the end of January 2023. The request is to reappoint or appoint someone. Mr. Scherer has shown an interest to continue in his position, but the Mayor must nominate him and the Commission must approve the appointment.

Agenda Item A11. Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 439-2022, appointing a HGAC representative and alternate.

- Annually this appointment is made. This is for the next calendar year starting in January 2023 for the appointment. There's an opportunity for a representative and there's an opportunity for an alternate. The previous members were Commissioner Beard and Commissioner BeMent was the alternate. The city Commission requested more information on the roles such as how often in the requirements. City Manager Vela stated that info will be provided in this evening's meeting.

Agenda item A12. Review and consider taking action affirming appointments of the interview boards and commissions.

- Every year, we review the interview board appointments to begin the process of either renewing or filling the boards and commissions. There were letters distributed to generate interest.

Agenda item A14. Review and consider taking action on a Replat – Morton Cemetery Section FBJ a Replat of Block No. 7 of DeChaumes Addition, approximately 2.083 acres land being the Morton Cemetery Associations call 0.518 acre tract (Fort Bend County Official Public Records 9781819); the call 0.342 acre tract (Fort Bend County Official Public Records 2008098757); the call 0.172 acre (Fort Bend County Official Public Records 2011107983) and the call 0.164 acre tract (Fort Bend County Official Public Records 2012088153): known as and block No. 7 of the DeChaumes Addition (Volume C, Page 495; Deed Records) and being in the William Morton League, Abstract No. 63: City of Richmond, Fort Bend County Texas – 112 Blocks – 896 Spaces (plots) – 0 Reserves. The subject site is located at 403 North 2nd Street.

- No discussion.

Agenda item A15. Review and consider taking action on Ordinance No. 2022-35, authorizing the issuance of City of Richmond, Texas Combination Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2023.

- No discussion

Agenda item A16. Review and consider taking action on a Citizen Participation Plan as required by the Texas General Land Office to receive Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funding.

- Finance Director Alderete-gave some clarification stating our Grant Administrator guides us along the way to make sure that we have everything that meets the obligations not only for the CDBG- MIT program but also the GLO specific requirement as relates to the citizen participation plan.

Agenda item A17. Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 440-2022, approving a Chapter 43 Development Agreement with Williams Way Partnership, LTD.

- City Manager Vela addressed the Commission stating during the last meeting enhancements were made to the previous Resolution that was provided. This is based on input received by the City Commission as well as Williams Way Partnership, Ltd providing a response as well as executing on their portion of the development agreement.
- Commissioner Gaul asked how we ensure that a future owner is also obligated to the same terms of the agreement. City Manager Vela responded by saying this agreement will be recorded with Fort Bend County and that it also states on 11.3 that the agreement shall run with the property and be recorded in the real property records of Fort Bend County, Texas.

Agenda item A20. Adjournment.

- Mayor has adjourned the workshop at 10:21 AM.

APPROVED:



Becky K. Haas, Mayor

ATTEST: 

Lasha Gillespie, City Secretary