



STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF FORT BEND  
CITY OF RICHMOND

The City Commission for the City of Richmond, Texas met in Workshop Session on November 13, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

Mayor Becky Haas proceeded to call the meeting to order at 4:32 p.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  
Terri Vela, City Manager  
Howard Christian, Assistant City Manager "ACM"  
Gary Smith, City Attorney  
Lasha Gillespie, City Secretary

**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:

- Christopher Clayton – 5 Years – Fire Marshals Department. – Will present at the December 18, 2023, Meeting.

Proclamations: None

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

- Commissioner Beard mentioned that the "Santa Behind the Badge" event will take place, organized by the Police Department, on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m..
- Mayor Haas announced that the "Pecan Harvest" is scheduled for November 18th at 10 a.m., and the "Christmas Walk and Tree Lighting" event is set for December 1st.

**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.)

- A youth member with Reaching Richmond Collaborative addressed the City Commission about safety issues in the Heritage Heights neighborhood and on Pultar Road, focusing on the inadequate street lighting and the absence of sidewalks.

**Agenda item A6.** Staff Update on providing and receiving mutual aid in the Fire Department.

- Lieutenant Richard Munoz of the Fire Department explained the concept of a Mutual Aid Call, clarifying that such calls are counted in reports even if personnel do not leave the firehouse. During the meeting there were discussions about the noticeable differences in call volumes between Richmond and adjacent areas. Chief Youngblood addressed these concerns, attributing the discrepancy to the way calls are reported.

**Agenda item A7.** Consent Agenda

- Commissioner Beard selected the Municipal and PD reports for discussion. There was discussion

regarding both the accident and beat reports for the PD. He went on to commend the Municipal Court on the reduction of outstanding warrants.

- Commissioner Gaul moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of the items related to Municipal Court and PD. Commissioner BeMent seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Beard moved to approve the Municipal and PD reports. Commissioner Gaul seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

### **Regular Agenda**

**Agenda item A8.** Review and consider taking action on a Final Plat – PitStop Express Richmond Texas – 5.7412 acres of land – 1 Block – 0 Lots – 2 Reserves. The subject site is located at 22235 Southwest Freeway, south of US 59 and west of Williams Way Boulevard.

- The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of this final plat at their November 6, 2023. Staff recommends approval of this final plat.
- Commissioner Gaul moved to approve Final Plat – PitStop Express Richmond Texas – 5.7412 acres of land – 1 Block – 0 Lots – 2 Reserves. The subject site is located at 22235 Southwest Freeway, south of US 59 and west of Williams Way Boulevard. Commissioner Beard seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

**Agenda item A9.** Review and consider taking action on a Short Form Final Plat – Veranda Montessori School – 1.8218 acres of land – 1 Block – 0 Lots – 1 Reserve. The subject site is located north of Richmond Parkway and west of Circle Seven Road.

- The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of this plat at their November 6, 2023, meeting. Staff recommends approval of this short form final plat.
- Commissioner Gaul moved to approve a Short Form Final Plat – Veranda Montessori School – 1.8218 acres of land – 1 Block – 0 Lots – 1 Reserve. The subject site is located north of Richmond Parkway and west of Circle Seven Road. Commissioner Drozd seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda item A10.** Review and consider taking action on a Final Plat – IL Texas - 22 acres of land – 1 Block – 0 Lots – 1 Reserve. The subject site is located along the east side of FM 359 and to the south of Plantation Place residential subdivision.

- The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of this plat at their November 6, 2023, meeting with a 3-1 vote (1 member absent). Staff recommends approval of this final plat.
- Commissioner Drozd moved to approve a Final Plat – IL Texas - 22 acres of land – 1 Block – 0 Lots – 1 Reserve. The subject site is located along the east side of FM 359 and to the south of Plantation Place residential subdivision. Commissioner Beard seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

**Agenda item A11.** Review and consider taking action on amending the Rules of Commission.

- City Attorney Smith spoke to the City Commission about the suggested modifications to the Commission's Rules. Commissioner Beard requested further explanation on the changes to item I. 10, which pertains to the handling of written comments and the staff's role in summarizing these comments to aid the Commission.
- Commissioner BeMent moved to approve amending the Rules of Commission. Commissioner Beard seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

**Agenda item A12.** Review and consider taking action on Ordinance No. 2023-29, preventing traffic blocking in major thoroughfares.

- Following in-depth discussions about the inclusion of minor arterial streets, enforcement strategies, and assigning responsibility for traffic queuing, the City Commission and staff concluded that the proposal requires further review. As a result, no decision was made at this time.

**Agenda item A13.** Review and consider taking action on authorize City Manager to execute a construction contract for well rehabilitation at Winston Water Plant.

- Mike Moody addressed the City Commission stating Staff solicited a Buy Board Cooperative

purchasing bid from Weisinger Incorporated for the well rehabilitation. He went on to explain that this rehab should extend the life of the well 7-10 years. Staff's recommendation is to award the Winston water well rehabilitation construction contract to Weisinger Incorporated in the amount of \$280,226. After a brief question and answer session regarding the Buy Board Cooperative process, Commissioner Drozd moved to approve the Winston Water Well Rehabilitation construction contract to Weisinger Incorporated in the amount of \$280,226. Commissioner Drozd amended his motion to approve the City Manager to execute a construction contract for well rehabilitation at Winston Water Plant. Commissioner Beard seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

**Agenda item A14.** Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 460-2023 appointing the HGAC Representative and Official Alternate.

- Commissioner Beard moved to approve taking action to appointing the HGAC Representative and Official Alternate. Commissioner Beard proceeded to amend his motion to approve a Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Richmond, Texas, designating its Representative and Official Alternate to the General Assembly of the Houston- Galveston Area Council; providing notice of such to the executive director of the Houston-Galveston Area Council; and establishing an effective date as clarified with Mayor Haas and Mayor Pro Tem BeMent. Commissioner then amended this motion to include Resolution No. No. 460-2023. Commissioner Drozd seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

**Agenda item A15.** Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 461-2023 casting ballots for Fort Bend Central Appraisal District Board Directors.

- Commissioner Beard noted that this might be the final instance where this Board receives approval in its current form as future members are expected to be elected through a general election process.
- Commissioner Gaul moved to approve Resolution No. 461-2023 casting ballots for Fort Bend Central Appraisal District Board Directors as indicated. Commissioner Drozd seconded. Commissioner Beard abstained (Disagreed with the process). Motion passes 3-1.

**Agenda item A16.** Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 462-2023, appointing the Investment Officers for the City.

- Finance Director Preza addressed the City Commission stating Management and staff recommend that the Commission designate Augusto Isaias Preza, Maritza Salazar, and Terri Vela as the City's Investment Officers in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 2256, and City Commission Policy CC100.
- Commissioner BeMent moved to approve Resolution No. 462-2023, appointing the Investment Officers for the City. Commissioner Beard seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

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

- None

**Agenda item A18.** Consider taking action on requests for future agenda items.

- Commissioner Beard moved to have an update on all outstanding grant projects. Commissioner Gaul seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

**Agenda item A19.** Adjourn to Executive Session, as authorized by Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071 Consultation with Attorney; 551.074, Personnel Matters; and 551.087, Economic Development Negotiations.

- Mayor Haas adjourned the meeting to Executive Session at 5:55 p.m.

**Agenda item C1.** Reconvene into Open Meeting, and take action on items, if necessary.

- Reconvened into Open Meeting at 6:46 p.m.
- Commissioner Beard moved to authorize the City Manager to address the personnel issue presented regarding time off without pay. Commissioner Gaul seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda item C2.** Adjournment.

- With no further business to discuss, Mayor Haas declared the meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

**APPROVED:**



Becky K. Haas, Mayor

**ATTEST:**



Lasha Gillespie, City Secretary