



STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF FORT BEND
CITY OF RICHMOND

The City Commission for the City of Richmond, Texas met in Regular Session on April 15, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was broadcast via video conference call. A quorum was present, with the following members in attendance:

Becky Haas, Mayor- not in attendance
Terry Gaul, Commissioner P1
Barry Beard, Commissioner P2
Carl Drozd, Commissioner P3- not in attendance
Alex BeMent, Commissioner P4
Terri Vela, City Manager
Howard Christian, Assistant City Manager
Gary Smith, City Attorney
Lasha Gillespie, City Secretary

A1. Call to Order, Quorum Determined and Meeting Declared Open.

- No Quorum
- Commissioner Beard nominated Commissioner Gaul to chair the workshop. Commissioner Gaul proceeded to open the Workshop at 9:08 a.m.
- Commissioner Gaul skipped to agenda item A6.

A6. Staff Update on Scenic Texas and Application of Livable Center Program.

- Staff and the City Commission engaged in a Q&A session to explain the concept of Scenic Texas. The discussion included details about the staff's efforts to apply for the Scenic City Certification and prepare a submission for the Livable Centers Program, which requires minimal effort from the staff. Additionally, strategies were discussed for leveraging our platinum status to enhance our marketing approach.
- *Mayor Pro Tem BeMent arrived at 9:17 am, a quorum was determined he called the meeting to order at 9:17 am*

A7. Water usage and wastewater treatment reports over the last 5 year with charts and graphs.

- The discussion clarified the tiered rate system and its methodology, the national and the need to prioritize water conservation.

A8.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Beard selected Fire, PD, Municipal, and Code Enforcement reports for discussion.

- **Fire-** Discussion about whether the Fire Department is adequately staffed. Chief Youngblood announced plans to apply for a SAFER Grant to help increase or maintain the number of trained, front-line firefighters. He confirmed that information on approved positions in the current budget will be provided. Additionally, there was a request for an organizational chart to illustrate sufficient staffing.
- **PD-** Discussion about whether the Police Department is adequately staffed. Chief Craig confirmed that the department has sufficient personnel to deliver the existing services, but he also noted that they are considering potential growth.
- **Municipal-** Commended the courts for reducing outstanding warrants year over year by 400. While there are still outstanding warrants, efforts to clear them are ongoing.
- **Code Enforcement-** It was reported that there are some leaning power poles and trees along route 762. Staff indicated that they would investigate the issue.

REGULAR AGENDA

A9. Review and consider taking action on Ordinance No. 2024-06, permitting/allowing golf carts on roadways, shared use paths and sidewalks.

- Staff mentioned that some aspects, such as obtaining easements, are still in progress. City Commission members voiced continuing concerns about the roadways where vehicles are allowed. However, they expressed approval of the overall direction things are heading.

A10. Review and consider taking action on Quarterly Monthly Financial Report and Quarterly Investment Report.

- Remarks on the Quarterly Monthly Financial Report and Quarterly Investment Report indicate that we are in a favorable position. The income is higher than expected, and expenses are lower.

A11. Review and consider taking action Resolution No. 480-2024, submit application for Community Development Block Grant, Phase XV, North Richmond Sanitary Sewer Improvements.

- The staff reported that this marks the city's fifteenth application for a wastewater improvement project. The submission was made on Friday, April 12, 2024, and this resolution is intended to accompany it. City Commission members suggested that since many of these projects are not visible, being underground, it would be beneficial to install signs or implement communication strategies to inform residents of the northside that these efforts are being undertaken for their benefit.

A12. Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 481-2024, support beautification

of the Richmond Garden Club, located at Hwy 90A and 6th St.

- Clarification was provided on the location of the beautification project for the Richmond Garden Club at Hwy 90A and 6th St. Staff will present a reference map before tonight's meeting. The Garden Club has planned beautification efforts, which they will maintain, having received necessary permissions from the church. The city has requested a formal letter from the church outlining their permissions and contributions. Further discussion is needed on coordination between boards and the sourcing of water.

A13. Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 482-2024, approving interlocal cooperation contract for failure to appear program with our Municipal Court.

- Staff indicated that the agreement is unchanged but needs to be updated due to changes that occurred in the 88th Legislative session.

A14. Review and consider taking action on Resolution No. 483-2024, adopting Municipal Court Confidential Policy.

- Currently there is not a policy in place. Effective March 1st, 2024, as required by Rule of Judicial Administration 7.1, every court must adopt a policy governing court confidentiality no later than May 1st, 2024.

C2. Adjournment.


- With no further business to discuss, Mayor Pro Tem BeMent adjourned the meeting at 10:27 a.m.

APPROVED



Alex BeMent, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:



Lasha Gillespie, City Secretary