

Regular City Council Meeting  
May 14, 2013  
7:35 PM

**A. Call to Order:** The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order by Mayor Shelden Snow.

**Council Members Present:** Verlin Springer, Claire Blackburn, Rick Weber and Mary Harris. Mary Ann Platt was absent from the meeting.

**Staff present:** Doyle Sobba and Marla Gadelman.

**Guests Present:** Sister Loretta Roeckers, Betty Bowlby, Donna Thompson, Barbara Lane, Ken Manwarren, Eleanor Scates, Doug McIntosh and Helen Feuerborn.

**B. Public Comment:** None.

**C. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Approval of Minutes of Meetings:** Mary Harris made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the April 9, 2013, Regular Meeting. Verlin Springer seconded the motion. Vote 4-0, motion passed.

Rick Weber made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the April 11, 2013, Special Meeting. Mary Harris seconded the motion, Vote 2-0 with 2 abstentions due to absence from the meeting, motion passed.

**Approval of Monthly Expenses:** After discussion, Mary Harris made a motion to approve the expenses paid since the April 9, 2013 meeting. Claire Blackburn seconded the motion. Vote 4-0, motion passed.

**D. ITEMS OF BUSINESS:**

**1. Swearing in of New Council Members:** Helen Feuerborn recited the oath of Richmond City Council Member. Doug McIntosh recited the oath of Richmond Council Member. The Mayor thanked Rick Weber for his service and welcomed Helen Feuerborn and Doug McIntosh.

**2. Re-appointment City Officials:**

City Attorney: Scott Snow nominated Blaine Finch. No objections were made. The Mayor reappointed Blaine Finch as City Attorney.

City Judge: Scott Snow nominated Constance Sams. No objections were made. The Mayor reappointed Constance Sams as City Judge.

City Treasurer: Scott Snow nominated Sister Loretta Roeckers. No objections were made. The Mayor reappointed Sister Loretta Roeckers as City Treasurer.

City Clerk: Scott Snow nominated Marla Gadelman. No objections were made. The Mayor reappointed Marla Gadelman as City Clerk.

**3. Consider Purchase of Dump Truck.** Jake Strobel found another dump truck from near Harris. It runs good, the bed goes up and down, one tire is bald and some holes need repaired in the bed. The asking price is \$2,400. The truck is available for viewing. The truck is gas powered, 5-speed, hydraulic brakes, no CDL is required and has 32,000 miles on it. Cost savings for the City to own the truck versus what the City pays for rock delivery was discussed. The truck could also be used for other purposes such as hauling snow, brush and hauling material for repairing leaks. After further discussion, Doug McIntosh made a motion to purchase the dump truck for \$2,400. Mary Harris seconded the motion. Vote 5-0, motion passed.

**4. Acceptance of Service Agreement with Hach Company.** This matter was tabled from the May regular meeting to obtain additional information concerning the multi-year option. The Clerk reported that the increase from 2011 to 2012 was 9.5% and the increase from 2012 to 2013 was 11.5%. The locked in rate based on a compounded 3% price increase would be: first year is \$3,578; the cost for the second year is \$3,685.34 and the cost of the third year is \$3,795.90. Hach provides service to the equipment in our water plant and replaces equipment as needed at no cost to the City. After further discussion, Verlin Springer made a motion to approve the three year service contract with Hach Company. Mary Harris seconded the motion. Vote 5-0, motion passed.

**5. Consideration of Purchase of Emergency Radios.** This matter was tabled from the May regular meeting to obtain additional information. The cost for our own frequency would be \$400 for a ten year period, renewable thereafter for about \$200, subject to change. The PM400 radios are capable of getting 64 channels. After discussion of the city's overall financial condition, location of the radios previously owned by the City and other concerns, no action was taken on the purchase of emergency radios due to lack of a motion.

**6. Tammy Sharp – Vehicle in alley.** Although Tammy Sharp is not in attendance, the Mayor asked what the matter concerned. Doyle Sobba said it was the white flatbed sitting behind Bill Woods has not been moved for months. The Mayor will contact the owner of the vehicle. If the vehicle is not moved, the City will send a letter to the owner.

**7. Tabitha Stephens – Special Event Application.** Tabitha Stephens has submitted an application for a special event to be held on June 21 and 22, 2013, from 6:00 PM to 12:00 AM each night. The event would be between Ransom and Baldwin Streets on Central Avenue. Event insurance coverage will be purchased, security will be provided and the Sheriff's Department will be notified by the event holder. Liability of the City was discussed. After discussion, Verlin Springer made a motion to table this matter to confer with our City Attorney regarding our liability. Doug McIntosh seconded the motion. Vote 5-0, motion passed. A special meeting will be scheduled after discussing the matter with the City Attorney.

**8. Tabitha Stephens – Request for Permanent Premise Application Approval.** Tabitha Stephens is requesting the City's approval to have liquor at Central Street Bar & Grill. After discussion, Doug McIntosh made a motion to approve the Permanent Premise Application by Tabitha Stephens. Mary Harris seconded the motion. Vote 5-0, motion passed.

**9. Firemen's Relief Fund.** Betty Bowlby explained that the volunteer firemen would like to request that the City pay 7.5% of the firemen's insurance. The township would pay 7.5% also. The State pays 85% of the premiums and the fire department asks that the township pay 7.5% and the city pay 7.5%. The amount would depend on the insurance coverage and how many people are on the fire department. The exact amount is unknown at this time. The amounts should be similar to what was paid in 2012. Two different checks would need to be issued, one to the Firemen's Relief and the other to the life insurance company. After discussion, Verlin Springer made a motion to approve 7.5% of the Firemen's Relief costs, not to exceed \$500. Mary Harris seconded the motion. Vote 5-0, motion passed.

**10. Prairie Paws Animal Shelter – Request for Donation.** The Council was provided a letter from Prairie Paws Animal Shelter requesting a donation from the City for its 2014 budget year. The Shelter is requesting \$1,638 from the City based on its per animal costs for animals that the City has taken to the shelter. A proposal was also provided to the Council from Fred Gardner, Countryside Veterinary Clinic located in Garnett. The charges by the Garnett Clinic would have to be paid for any animal dropped off; the Shelter is simply asking for a donation. The City has not paid any amounts to the Shelter for animals dropped off in the past few years. In 2012 the City took 13 dogs to the Shelter. The Mayor noted that the Shelter provides free cat food to a couple residents to feed the cats running at large in Richmond. The City does not have certified kennels to keep stray animals. After further discussion, Claire Blackburn made a motion that we donate \$500 to Prairie Paws Animal Shelter to help with their expenses. Helen Feuerborn seconded the motion. Vote 5-0, motion passed.

**11. Myrna Beauchamp Water Leak – Sewer Adjustment.** The Beauchamp's had a water leak about a week ago and had used 22,000 gallons of water. The Beauchamp's are requesting that the City waive a portion of the sewer charge since the water did not go down the sewer pipes. Their average usage is 3,000 gallons per month. The water charge only would be \$176.00. Other cities are using the average of January, February and March to get the sewer charge for the year for each customer. The sewer charge would be about \$60. After discussion, Doug McIntosh made a motion to adjust the sewer charge for Myrna Beauchamp to the average of the last three months due to leak and charge the full rate for the water usage. Verlin Springer seconded the motion. Vote 5-0, motion passed.

**12. Eleanor Scates – Dogs at Large.** Eleanor Scates reported to the Council that she has filed a complaint that she has had her chickens killed three times, the dogs get under her fence and has torn up the fence. The dogs are owned by Johnathan Crawford. Ms. Scates does not believe the 7-9 dogs are licensed by the City and she believes the City should require the dogs to be licensed. Ms. Scates has reported the incident to the Franklin County Sheriff's Department and was told she could "take care of the dog". Ms. Scates would like to see the owners forced to tag their dogs. Letters will be sent to all residents that had previously tagged animals in prior years but have not obtained a current year license for their animals. No further action was taken by the Council at this time.

**13. Any other necessary city business.** The Mayor announced that we need to consider the election of a President since Mary Ann Platt is no longer on the Council. Claire Blackburn nominated Verlin Springer as President of the Council. Mary Harris seconded the nomination. Vote 4-0, passed.

Doug McIntosh brought up the window coverings on the front glass. Mr. McIntosh questioned whether there was an ordinance to put the mirror tinting on the windows. Mr. McIntosh has checked and the tinting can be removed. The Clerk is not complaining, but is concerned as a safety aspect since people cannot see in the windows. The Mayor noted that safety was a concern when the tinting was put on. After discussion, Doug McIntosh made a motion that in the interest of safety that we remove the mirror coating on the front windows and door of City Hall. Claire Blackburn seconded the motion. Vote 5-0, motion passed.

**E. Staff Reports.** Doyle Sobba reported that there would be a fishing tournament at the Richmond Lake this weekend. The kids free derby is from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. with registration at 8:30 a.m. The catfish tournament is that night with a \$10.00 entry fee.

Doyle reported that the flower pots are full of dirt and getting planted. All the pots will be painted and planted before Memorial Day.

Doyle may be mowing along the highway before the flags are put up for Memorial Day.

Everything at the sewer and water plants are running well.

Doug McIntosh brought up a safety concern that Doyle and Jake Strobel brought up earlier at the sewer plant. Doyle reported that they have started double chaining the motor while they are working to pull the debris out to reduce the safety concern. Doyle offered to give all council members a tour of the water and sewer plants.

Marla Gadelman reported that we had received the new codification books from the League of Kansas Municipalities. The Mayor plans to call a special meeting to adopt the codification prior to our next regular meeting. All council members received a copy of the codification so they can review prior to the special meeting. The Clerk stressed that this is the final version provided by the League and that we should let the League know of any changes that we make. There are several blanks that need to be filled in, such as fees. After the code has been adopted the Clerk will provide receipts for council members to sign that they have received a copy and will return the book once they are no longer on the council.

The new Governing Body Handbook has been mailed by the League. Additional copies may be ordered for \$25.00 each.

The Clerk requested that the new members complete W-4s and K-4s for withholding purposes if they elect to receive compensation. Doug McIntosh asked whether if he refused to be paid, would he still be taxed on money he could have received. The Clerk only reports money paid. Doug McIntosh reported that he would not be accepting payment for attending council meetings. The Clerk also requested that all council members complete and return an Employment Eligibility Verification or I-9 form.

**F. Council Comments and/or Reports.** The Mayor requested that all members review the codification as soon as possible so that a special meeting can be called to adopt the codification.

Rick Weber requested to speak now since he was not a part of the public audience for the Public Comment Section. Mr. Weber asked the City to contact the cable company regarding

their cable hanging on his back fence. Mr. Weber will be removing part of the fence in the near future and if the cable is still there he will be cutting it. The Clerk will contact Zito Cable Company again to request that they remove their cable.

**Adjournment:** Doug McIntosh made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Verlin Springer seconded the motion. Vote 5-0, motion passed.

APPROVED:

By:   
Shelden Snow, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Marla Gadelman, City Clerk