



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Richfield, Minnesota

City Council Work Session

July 23, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Regan Gonzalez at 5:00p.m. in the Bartholomew Room.

Council Members Present: Maria Regan Gonzalez, Mayor; Edwina Garcia; Mary Supple; Simon Trautmann; and Ben Whalen

Staff Present: Katie Rodriguez, City Manager; Pam Dmytrenko, Administrative Services Director/Assistant City Manager; Kristin Asher, Public Works Director; John Stark, Community Development Director; Amy Markle, Recreation Services Director; Chris Regis, Finance Director; Wayne Kewitsch, Fire Chief; Mike Flaherty, Deputy Public Safety Director/Deputy Chief; Bill Fillmore, Liquor Operations Director; Neil Ruhland, Communications and Engagement Manager; Kari Sinning, Deputy City Clerk

ITEM #1	DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED 2019-2020 GOALS & OBJECTIVES
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City Manager Rodriguez gave a presentation on the goals and objectives that City Staff and Council agreed upon. There was discussion on a few items to focus on such as equity being a staple in all things that we do.

Council Member Trautmann thanked the City Staff for their work on this project.

Mayor Regan Gonzalez also thanked City Staff and advocates for the use of the City's strong suits to become a better community for all.

ITEM #2	PROVIDE UPDATED KEY FINANCIAL STRATEGIES INFORMATION AND PROPOSED 2020 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET (CIB) AND 2021-2024 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP) BASED ON COUNCIL DIRECTION AT THE MAY 14, 2019 WORK SESSION
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City Manager Rodriguez presented an overview of the budget schedule and stated that there will be more information to come on August 27.

Finance Director Regis went over the capital improvement budget and capital improvement plan.

There was general discussion about the prioritization of the City projects to help residents.

Community Development Director Stark shared the reasoning behind the HRA deficits in the future.

Public Works Director Asher presented the utility rates increase and stated that water usage has been going down. Council Member Trautmann asked if there could be incentives for those that use less water. Mayor Regan Gonzalez commended the City on its water and the residents should know more about the water quality that the City of Richfield provides.

With the impending projects, there was discussion about the storm water run-off and where it would go. Public Works Director Asher also proposed two different options for the increase of storm water of which the Council agreed with a steady increase versus a variable increase.

Mayor Regan Gonzalez asked about organized recycling/organics and how that could affect the residents. Recreation Services Director Markle explained the benefits of organized recycling/organics for homeowners as the City would be able to negotiate a lower price with the vendors. Council Member Trautmann urged for communication to the residents about the organized collection.

Mayor Regan Gonzalez asked Fire Chief Kewitsch about the change in office staff. Fire Chief Kewitsch stated that the additional staff will help with the amount of inspections that the Fire Chief has to process throughout the City.

Council Member Supple asked about \$10,000 that the Arts Commission has for public art and where that money is found. City Manager Rodriguez stated that this will have to be looked into.

Council Member Garcia asked about \$500 for each commission. Assistant City Manager Dmytrenko stated that the staff liaison for the commission is in charge of the monies and she would have to check on the procedure that is followed.

Council Member Whalen asked about Local Government Aid (LGA) and how that can be used. Mayor Regan Gonzalez also asked about the history of LGA for the City. Assistant City Manager Dmytrenko shared that the monies from LGA are not always there and the City cannot count on it.

Mayor Regan Gonzalez thanked City Staff on their work on the budget.

ADJOURNMENT

The work session was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:34 p.m.

Date Approved: August 13, 2019

Maria Regan Gonzalez
Mayor

Kari Sinning
Deputy City Clerk

Katie Rodriguez
City Manager