

MINUTES
RICHWOOD CITY COUNCIL
Special Meeting, Monday, September 30 2013
1800 N. Brazosport Blvd.
Richwood, TX 77531
5:00 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Clint Kocurek, Mayor and presiding officer.

II. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Roll call showed the following members present:

Clint Kocurek, Mayor and presiding officer
Paul Raymond, Council, Position #1 (arrived at 5:19)
John Pitts, Council, Position #2
Jarrod Beaty, Council, Position #3
Morgan Laird, Council, Position #4
Donna Lacy, Council, Position #5

A quorum was declared. Others present included Glenn Patton, City Manager, Karen B. Schrom, City Secretary, Kenny Williams, Public Works Director, Brad Caudle, Police Chief, Dude Payne, County Commissioner, Lynse Ellison, Gayle Pitts, Jennifer Beaty and Alan Nieschwietz, The Facts.

III. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

A. Discussion of Animal Complaint

A young lady was bitten by a raccoon at the convenience store located at the intersection of FM 2004 and Business 288B. In response, the City has put up "Do not feed the animals" signs. She had been to the site before and fed the raccoons. On this occasion, she showed her hands to the animals to indicate she didn't have any food and that's when she was bit.

Commissioner Payne stated that he has been in contact with Mr. Patton and has offered to help in any way. They provided the city with the signs and poles. Chief Caudle stated that the young has been able to cease rabies shots since there has not been any indication of rabies in that area.

Lynse Ellison lives on Briar Creek. In the past, she has had problems with raccoons. They have gotten into a tussle with her dogs and killed her ducks. Since we are raising awareness about the dangers of feeding them, she's afraid there will be more incidents like this.

Mr. Patton explained that if they do become a big problem in the residential areas, there are trappers that we can contact. Under state law, however, they can only be moved within 10 miles of their natural habitat. Chief Caudle stated that Texas Parks and Wildlife is of the opinion that if people did stop feeding them, they will resort to their natural habits.

B. Ordinance No. 386 - regulating the discharge of firearms within the City Limits

The City has received numerous complaints about the discharge of bows within the city limits,

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predominantly in Oakwood Shores. Ordinance No. 386 repeals Ordinance No. 8B which was written in 1958 and updates it to include bows, zip guns and other devices.

On motion by Councilman Pitts, seconded by Councilman Laird, with all members present voting aye, Ordinance No. 386, regulating the discharge of firearms with the city limits was approved as presented.

City Council recessed at 5:19 p.m.

City Council reconvened at 5:56 p.m.

C. Goals and Visions for the Upcoming Year

Richwood Department Goals:

- Glenn Patton, City Manager
 - o Look at increasing tax rate in the future as well as water sewer tax rates
 - o Look at going to electronic water meters. Half million to upgrade entire city. Around 1,400 meters at the most. Cost per meter \$125 compared to about \$95 per meter now.

- Kenny Williams, Public Works Director
 - o Lift station rehab on lift station 4 (350K)
 - o Lift station 3 can be done in house
 - o Parks – Audubon Wood I residents would like a pocket park .25 acres at the Dove trail retention.
 - o Picnic tables with small pavilions on the city park
 - o Tractor, mower, and box blade for mowing. 75K

- Brad Caudle, Police Chief
 - o Full time receptionist for the police department (35K-40K)
 - o Dedicated Phone lines
 - o In the future add another officer to have 2 full time on the street at all times
 - o Utilizing in house jail on a more regular basis
 - o Carport for City vehicles behind the city hall
 - o Richwood Police Department Facebook page and Citizens Police Academy

- Karen Schrom, City Secretary
 - o Will check to see what we can do to come up with the money for these items
 - o Digitalize council meetings and getting to e-documnets
 - o Court tie ins with the police department and getting setup for online payments

Richwood Council Goals:

- Paul Raymond, Council, Position #1

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- o Develop a long range plan with the next 5 years
- o Promotion of the city and things we can offer. Pamphlets for the city and get citizen involvement
- o Interaction and dialogue with city employees
- o Develop a relationship with our citizens

- John Pitts, Council, Position #2
 - o Streets and sidewalks
 - o Sewer plant long term plan
 - o Committees – citizen involvement

- Jarrold Beaty, Council, Position #3
 - o Visibility – be more visible in the community
 - o Accessibility
 - o Establish Relationships
 - o Jarrod’s Vision: Richwood, A city on the move through building relationships and a sense of community.

- Morgan Laird, Council, Position #4
 - o Recognition for our citizens

- Donna Lacy, Council, Position #5
 - o Citizens Police Academy
 - o Sidewalks
 - o Fast Food Chain
 - o Dispatchers
 - o Urgent Care Center
 - o Consider naming the Council Chamber in honor of Glenn Patton City Manager
 - o Bingo, dancing and things for the teenagers

Mayor’s Goals

Promote the City:

- Establish a Vision
- Develop a strategic plan and redo all branding
- Revamp the City’s website to include a mobile app
- Develop stronger relationship to media
- Develop relationship with Schools
- Develop public communication plan for e-flyers

Increase Council Awareness

- Have Council deliver quarterly reports on various departments
- Have Department heads attend council meetings
- Look for cost savings to expand revenues and decrease expenditures such as electronic agendas and moving toward more electronic processes

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TML involvement for all council members
Establish the Richwood Economic Development Committee that is aggressive on growth
Spend this year revising ordinances and filling in gaps
Increase citizen participation

City surveys on website and social media
Local annual event or charity event
More community events such as bands or movies in the park
State of the Union address

IV. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Patton stated that he will present the seclusion mapping information at the next council meeting. He urged every one to support the levee bond issue otherwise building in the lower Brazoria County will be severely hampered.

V. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

APPROVED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 14, 2013.

Clint Kocurek, Mayor

ATTEST:

Karen B. Schrom, City Secretary
Richwood, Texas