



New Richland City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

November 25th, 2024

Members Present

Janda Ferguson
Ryan Gehrke
Jason Casey
Jody Wynnemer
Brandy Jacobson

Staff Present

Anthony Martens-City Administrator
Bob Johannsen- Care Center Administrator
Shell Johnson-People Service
Eric Hendrickson-Maintenance &
Utility Supervisor

Others Present

Monica Guskey
Larry Goehring
Darrin Stadheim
Mike Shurson
Shawn Weitzel
Marilyn Meyer
Norman Eckart
Eugene Frost
Jim Stringfield
Matt Harrington
Amanda Woodham
Jay Nieson
Frank Thompson
Pam Goehring
Robert Swenson
Nicole Weitzel
Brenda Routh
Belinda Gold
Carol Schlaak
Sharon Eckart
Cathy Stringfield
Jason Seltun
Irene Guerrero
Wade Corbett
Jeremy Waters

Members Absent

None

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Janda Ferguson at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call - All members present

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda

- Motion made by Ryan Gehrke and seconded by Jason Casey to approve the agenda.
Carried (4 yes, 0 no)

Consent Agenda

- Motion made by Jody Wynnemer and seconded by Ryan Gehrke to approve the consent agenda.
Carried (4 yes, 0 no)

Public Comments

- None

Requests and Presentations

- None

Public Hearings

- 2025 Street Improvement Project
 - Engineer Cory Bienfang with Bolton and Menk made a short presentation on the 2025 Street Improvement Project for the Council and those present.
- Mayor Ferguson opened the public hearing at 6:55 pm. The following people arose to speak:
 - Monica Guskey – 404 Ash Ave S
 - Wants to know her costs before the project is done
 - Shawn Weitzel – 113 3rd St SE
 - Wondering if he is responsible for all 30 ft on 4th St
 - Eugene Frost – 303 Broadway Ave S
 - Wanting to know if they will remove the sidewalk on his side of the road
 - Robert Swenson – 506 Broadway Ave S
 - Disagreed with minimizing Broadway and replacing only 25% of the sidewalk



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Public Hearing Continued...

- Brenda Routh – 320 Broadway Ave S
 - Presented and read petition to the City Council. Each member of the council was given a copy of the petition.
- Nicole Weitzel – 113 3rd St SE
 - Concerned with narrowing 3rd Street for garbage trucks/missed collections
- Mike Shurson – 327 Broadway Ave S
 - Unnecessary project. Replace only the stuff required. Too expensive.
- Marilyn Meyer – 341 Ash Ave S
 - Does not want to see Ash Ave widened. No need for it.
- Irene Guerrero – 401 Ash Ave S
 - Believes that since this area is utilized by so many other people that it should be assessed to more than just the homeowners
- Mayor Ferguson asked if anyone else wished to speak. Seeing no one else wishing to speak, motion was made by Ryan Gehrke and seconded by Jason Casey to close the public hearing. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)

Ordinances and Resolutions (see attached)

1. Motion made by Jason Casey and seconded by Brandy Jacobson to adopt resolution 24-25: A Resolution Ordering Plans and Specs. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)

Reports

1. Care Center Report – Bob Johannsen, Care Center Administrator
 - Care Center report was presented by Bob Johannsen
 - Motion was made by Jody Wynnemer and seconded by Jason Casey to approve the Care Center Report. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
2. People Service Report – Shell Johnson
 - People Service report was presented by Shell Johnson
 - Motion made by Jason Casey and seconded by Jody Wynnemer to approve purchase and installation of a lift station pump from Crane at a cost of \$12,978. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
 - Council discussed insulation and heater installation of the shed at the WWTP but chose to hold off on a decision until more quotes are received.
 - Motion made by Jason Casey and seconded by Ryan Gehrke to approve the People Service report. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
3. Maintenance & Utility Report – Eric Hendrickson, Maintenance & Utility Supervisor
 - Maintenance & Utility Report was presented by Eric Hendrickson, Maintenance and Utility Supervisor.
 - Motion made by Jody Wynnemer and seconded by Jason Casey to approve the purchase of salt and in the amount of \$1,200. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
 - Motion made by Jody Wynnemer and seconded by Ryan Gehrke to approve the Maintenance Department report. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)

Unfinished Business

1. Garbage & Recycling Contract
 - a. Bids were presented to the council for trash and recycling from both Waste Management and Thompson Sanitation.
 - b. Motion made by Jason Casey and seconded by Brandy Jacobson to approve a 3-year contract with Thompson Sanitation for Garbage and Recycling.



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New Business

1. October 2024 Check Register
 - a) Motion was made by Jason Casey and seconded by Jody Wynnemer to approve the October 2024 Check Register. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
2. October 2024 Financials
 - a) Motion was made by Jason Casey and seconded by Ryan Gehrke to approve the October 2024 Financials. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
3. Electronic Lock Installation/Upgrades
 - a) Motion made by Jason Casey and seconded by Brandy Jacobson to approve \$3,893.63 to Streamline Communications out of the City Capital fund for upgrades to the city lock system. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
4. Newley Elected Officials Training
 - a) Motion made by Jason Casey and seconded by Brand Jacobson to approve \$700 out of the 2025 Council Training budget to send the new council members to the LMC training for Newley Elected Officials. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)

2025 Budget

1. General Fund
 - a. FT vs. PT PD Discussion
 - i. Motion made by Ryan Gehrke and seconded by Jason Casey to approve migrating to a 3rd FT police position and 200 hr PT position in lieu of a PT police program and to set the final levy below 8%. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
2. Water Enterprise Fund
 - a. No changes to the water fund since last presentation
3. Sewer Enterprise Fund
 - a. No changes to the sewer fund since last presentation
4. Storm Sewer Enterprise Fund
 - a. The council discussed how billing would be done with rental properties. Clarification will be needed. Council directed staff to seek more information on how this may be done.

Miscellaneous

- Community Flood Presentation Thursday December 5th, 2024 – 6pm – 7:30 pm
 - Short Presentation from Houston Engineering followed by Open House

Administrators Report

- Administrator Martens provided a report in writing to the council on tasks completed since last meeting.
- Motion made by Jason Casey and seconded by Ryan Gehrke to approve the City Administrators report. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)

Mayor/Council Comments

- None

Adjournment – Motion for adjournment made by Jody Wynnemer and seconded by Ryan Gehrke. Carried (4 yes, 0 no) 8:55 p.m.

Submitted by,

Anthony Martens
City Administrator