



New Richland City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

June 9th, 2025

Members Present

Janda Ferguson
Matt Economy
Jason Casey
Josh Warke
Jody Wynnemer

Staff Present

Anthony Martens-City Administrator
Heather Christensen-Deputy Clerk
Shell Johnson-People Service
Bob Johannsen-Care Center Administrator
e) Jason Moran-City Attorney
Sarah Sundve-Ambulance Director

Others Present

Robert Swenson Alex Buckmeier
Pam Gehring Shanon Young
Vanessa Ziemke Brenda Routh
Gail Schmidt Ann Hagen
Sharon Possin Dale Wildgrube
Shelly Moxon
Shannon Sweeney-DDA
Tom Olinger-ABDO

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

- Council Member Wynnemer asked that consent agenda item #3 be removed and moved to New Business #6.
- Motion made by Jody Wynnemer and seconded by Josh Warke to approve the agenda as amended.
Carried (4 yes, 0 no)

Consent Agenda

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

Public Comments

- None

Requests and Presentations

1. 2024 Audit Presentation – Tom Olinger – ABDO
 - a. Tom Olinger with ABDO presented the 2024 City Audit and answered questions from the City Council. Motion made by Jody Wynnemer and seconded by Jason Casey to accept the 2024 City of New Richland Financial Report. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
2. 2024 Street & Utility Improvement Project Bond Sale – Shannon Sweeney – DDA
 - a. Shannon Sweeney with David Drown and Associates presented the results of the bond sale for the 2025 Street and Utility project and answered questions from the City Council. Motion made by Jason Casey and seconded by Matt Economy to adopt resolution 25-23: A Resolution Providing for the Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Improvement and Utility Revenue Bonds, Series 2025A. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)



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Requests and Presentations continued...

3. Golf Cart Issue – Gail Schmidt

- a. Gail Schmidt presented concerns regarding enforcement of golf carts, lawn mowers and atv's using private property previously identified as a trail to get to places like the Willow's without traveling on Hwy 30. The property is no longer a snowmobile trail and was abandoned by the trail association. Staff was directed to check with legal counsel regarding having a trail and any potential liabilities. Discussion of a possible committee regarding the golf cart trail was also discussed.

Public Hearings

- None

Ordinances and Resolutions (see attached)

- None

Reports

1. Ambulance Department

- Ambulance report was presented by Ambulance Director Sundve.
- Motion made by Jason Casey and seconded by Matt Economy to approve the purchase of a Ferno cot, loading system and new AED at a cost of \$86,076.42. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
- Motion made by Matt Economy and seconded by Jason Casey to approve the Ambulance Report. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)

2. Fire Department

- Fire Department report was presented by in writing by Chief Moen
- Motion made by Josh Warke and seconded by Matt Economy to approve Josh Babcock as a new Firefighter. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
- Motion made by Matt Economy and seconded by Josh Warke to approve the Fire Department Report. Carried (4 yes, 0 No)

3. Police Department

- Police Department report was presented by Chief Bruegger
- Motion made by Matt Economy and seconded by Jody Wynnemer to accept the FT resignation status of Officer Joel Jandt. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
- Motion made by Janda Ferguson and seconded by Jody Wynnemer to approve the posting of the FT Police Officer position. Carried (3 yes, 2 no, Economy, Warke)
- Motion made by Jason Casey and seconded by Janda Ferguson to approve the conditional offer to a part-time candidate pending successful physiological and medical evaluation. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
- Motion made by Jody Wynnemer and seconded by Jason Casey to approve the Police Department report. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)

4. Care Center Report – Bob Johannsen, Care Center Administrator

- Care Center report was presented by Bob Johannsen
- Motion was made by Jason Casey and seconded by Josh Warke to approve the Care Center Report. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)



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Reports Continued....

5. People Service Report – Shell Johnson
 - People Service report was presented by Shell Johnson
 - There is a need for rain gutters or something to be addressed with water coming off of the WWTP. Staff directed to work with Shell to come up with some kind of solution.
 - Motion made by Jody Wynnemer and seconded by Jason Casey to approve the People Service report. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)

6. Maintenance & Utility Report – Eric Hendrickson, Maintenance & Utility Supervisor
 - Maintenance & Utility Report was presented in writing by Eric Hendrickson, Maintenance and Utility Supervisor.
 - Motion made by Jody Wynnemer and seconded by Matt Economy to approve the replacement of the city park playground as an insurance claim. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
 - Motion made by Jason Casey and seconded by Josh Warke to approve the Maintenance Department report. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)

Unfinished Business

1. Department Head Purchase Policy
 - a. Motion made by Matt Economy and seconded by Jason Casey to approve the updated department head purchase policy as presented. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)

New Business

1. HRA of New Richland Tax Levy for 2026 – Information
 - a. Administrator Martens provided information regarding the HRA of New Richland's intention of taxing the citizens of New Richland FY 2026
2. May 2025 Check Register
 - a. Motion made by Matt Economy and seconded by Josh Warke to approve the May 2025 check register. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
3. May 2025 Financials
 - a. Motion made by Josh Warke and seconded by Jason Casey to approve the May 2025 financials. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
4. 2025 Street & Utility Improvement Project Pay Request #1
 - a. Motion made by Matt Economy and seconded by Josh Warke to approve the 2025 Street & Utility Improvement Project Pay Request #1. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)
5. Approve EDA Business Grants
 - a. Motion made by Matt Economy and seconded by Jason Casey to approve payment of the EDA Business Grants. Carried (4 yes, 0 No)
6. April 2025 Check Register
 - a. Motion made by Jody Wynnemer and seconded by Josh Warke to approve the April 2025 check register. Carried (4 yes, 0 no)

Miscellaneous

- June 19th, 2025 – City Hall Closed – Juneteenth
- July 4th, 2025 – City Hall Closed – July 4th



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Administrators Report

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

Mayor/Council Comments

- Council Member Warke discussed concerns over policing in the City of New Richland

Closed Meeting

The meeting was closed at 8:11 p.m. pursuant to MN Statute 13D.05 Subdivision 3(b) to discuss attorney-client matters/threatened litigation.

The closed meeting was reopened at 8:31 p.m.

Motion was made by Mayor Janda Ferguson and was seconded by Matt Economy to offer Jim & Mary Stringfield a reduction in their assessment to \$18,000 for a period of 7 days. Should they choose not to accept that offer within 7 days, their assessment would return to the original amount. Carried (4 yes, 0 no).

Adjournment – Motion for adjournment made by Josh Warke and seconded by Matt Economy. Carried (4 yes, 0 no) 8:32 p.m.

Submitted by,

Anthony Martens
City Administrator