

MINUTES
RICHARDSON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 16, 2023

- **Call to Order**

Mayor Dubey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following Council members present:

Bob Dubey	Mayor
Arefin Shamsul	Mayor Pro Tem
Curtis Dorian	Councilmember
Jennifer Justice	Councilmember
Joe Corcoran	Councilmember
Ken Hutchenrider	Councilmember

Absent:

Dan Barrios	Councilmember
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The following staff members were also present:

Don Magner	City Manager
Kent Pfeil	Chief Financial Officer
Michaela Dollar	Assistant City Manager
Aimee Nemer	City Secretary
Haley Alsabrook	Management Analyst
Greg Sowell	Director of Communications

Consultants:

Rick Robinson, Ramsee Consulting

WORK SESSION – 6:00 PM, MULTIPURPOSE ROOM #CH 157

A. VISITORS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PUBLIC COMMENT CARDS

There were no public comment cards submitted.

B. REVIEW AND DISCUSS CITY COUNCIL GOALS FOR THE 2023-2025 COUNCIL TERM

Rick Robinson, Ramsee Consulting, reviewed the proposed Role of Council, Rules of Engagement, Vision Statement, Balanced Scorecard Goals, and Key Strategies. He explained that a formal resolution would be presented to Council on October 23 for consideration.

- **Role of Council – Proposed New Draft**

The role of the Council is to be responsible, ethical, transparent, and resourceful advocates of the City. We communicate with, seek input from, and provide a voice for residents and all stakeholders. We set policies and develop strategies that will ensure transparency and enable us to achieve our vision.

The Council supports City Staff by providing the resources, direction, and guidance that enables the City Manager to implement the operational and tactical aspects of our Vision, Goals and Strategies.

- **Rules of Engagement – Proposed New Draft**

The Council will work to achieve a result that is in the best interest of our residents and all stakeholders. We will strive to keep our discussions relevant and productive and will be supportive of all council decisions. While executing our duties, the Council will interact with each other, staff, and stakeholders:

- Respectfully
 - We are willing to listen to and recognize the potential value of differing ideas and opinions in a non-partisan manner
- Professionally
 - We are Punctual, Focused, Present, and Prepared. We are fair, impartial, and unbiased when voting on actions
- Efficiently
 - We value City resources and the time of others, and we will work to limit interruptions and distractions

We agree to use these rules to hold each other accountable

- **Vision Statement – Proposed Version**

Richardson is recognized and studied for being a well-run, professionally managed, forward-looking city, and for our ability to create a clean, safe, vibrant, diverse and inclusive community in which residents and all stakeholders enjoy high-quality amenities, arts, and entertainment.

- Residents and visitors value our accessibility, the quality and variety of our city services, recreational opportunities, green spaces, housing, educational opportunities, retail choices, and transportation options
- We have a thriving, diverse business community whose success is supported by a superior infrastructure, access to a talented, well-educated, and engaged workforce, a business-friendly environment, and easy access to the North Texas region

- **Proposed Balanced Scorecard Goals**

- To effectively, efficiently, and transparently manage city resources while maintaining and enhancing city services
- To have residents and all stakeholders choose Richardson as the best place to locate, contribute, and engage
- To have clear, effective, efficient, continuously improved, and consistently applied processes and policies that make it easy for residents, employees, and all stakeholders to interact with the City
- To have well-trained, engaged, and innovative employees who deliver an exceptional customer experience while working in a safe, inclusive, and equitable environment

- **Proposed New Key Strategies**

- Attract, develop, and retain high-quality, innovative employees
- Document and continuously improve business processes
- Improve access, usability, and user experience with policies, processes, and procedures
- Promote an innovative approach to business processes

- Ensure systems are safe and secure
- *Continue to explore unique opportunities to attract and retain residents and all stakeholders*
- *Promote economic development that benefits the whole city*
- Promote avenues for public engagement and input
- Work to maintain a balance between responsible neighborhood integrity and the regulatory environment
- Leverage our regional leadership position to positively impact County, State and Federal issues
- Maintain strong fund balance and bond rating
- Value, protect, and create a positive return on City, resident, and other stakeholder investments in the City
- Leverage county, state, and federal opportunities

C. REVIEW AND DISCUSS THE REMOTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING POLICY

Greg Sowell, Director of Communications, reviewed state law requirements, a review of peer cities, technical capabilities, and proposed recommendations.

- City Council meetings that involve videoconference participation by one or more City Council members shall be conducted in compliance with state law.
- Remote participation shall be limited to meetings in the Council Chamber.
- Attendance for remote participation shall be for good cause (sickness, work, family care).
- Requests for remote participation should be made to the City Secretary as early as possible.
- No more than two members may videoconference at any one time. Requests to videoconference will be on a first-come/first-served basis.
- The mayor, or council member acting as the presiding officer, must be physically present where the quorum of the meeting is located.
- Member(s) desiring to participate remotely are responsible for ensuring they have the equipment and connectivity to make the connection.
- The City Council meeting will not be paused or adjourned due to technical issues hindering participation of the member(s) participating remotely.
- During any executive session or closed meeting, the council member(s) participating remotely by means of videoconference must safely prohibit all audio and video communication from being seen, heard, or recorded.
- Only City Council members are allowed to remotely attend meetings; the presiding officer may allow staff to attend remotely for good cause.
- Members of boards, commissions, and committees may not remotely attend meetings.

Council requested to define good cause including vacation, limit the number of requests to four per term with the fourth one being by request to the Mayor, and to add an appeals process. Council requested clarification on the Mayor attending remotely with a presiding officer physically present and define how the appeals process would work operationally.

D. REVIEW AND DISCUSS STRATEGIES TO PROMOTE PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND INVOLVEMENT

Greg Sowell, Director of Communications, reviewed a new Council tactic of exploring the creation of a board to celebrate and promote diversity, inclusion, and accessibility.

He reviewed peer-city examples of similar boards and provided a proposed purpose for the City's board.

- The committee shall serve as the advisory board to the City Council and City management in matters involving community engagement and interaction.
- The committee is charged with promoting harmony, education on diversity, and constructive collaboration amongst all diverse communities.

Council discussed the board's objective, goal, and role. They also selected elements from the peer-cities that they liked. Mr. Magner explained that staff would take their feedback and draft a proposed purpose and charge for Council to consider.

E. REPORT ON ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

Council reported on items of community interest.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

In compliance with Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code, Council will convene into a closed session to discuss the following:

- Deliberation Regarding Personnel Matters
 - Discussion regarding appointments/reappointments for the quasi-judicial boards and commissions (City Plan Commission, Civil Service Board, and Zoning Board of Adjustment/Building and Standards Commission)

Council Action

Council convened in Executive Session at 7:50 p.m.

RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION

Council will reconvene into open session, and take action, if any, on matters discussed in Executive Session.

Council Action

Council reconvened in regular session at 8:41 p.m. There was no action taken as a result of the Executive Session.

F. REVIEW AND DISCUSS APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS TO THE ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION, CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION, LIBRARY BOARD, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION, SIGN CONTROL BOARD, AND TAX INCREMENT FINANCING BOARDS

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.


MAYOR

ATTEST:


CITY SECRETARY