

**RICHMOND CITY COMMISSION
MINUTES
WORKSHOP MEETING
MARCH 15, 2022
CITY HALL
SECOND FLOOR TRAINING ROOM
9:30 AM**

Mayor Blythe called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**PRESENT: Commissioner Brewer, McDaniel, Newby and Mayor Blythe
ALSO PRESENT: Rob Minerich: City Manager, Lisa Cassity: City Clerk, Tyler Frazier: City Attorney, Rodney Richardson: Police Chief, Sam Kirby: Fire Chief, Taylor Six: Richmond Register, Scott Althaus: Richmond Utilities, Tyler Johnson: Community Development, Althea Cause: Human Resources, Sharon Cain: Finance Director, Susan Lillis and Jennifer Fielder: Section 8, Lori Tatum and David Jones: Tourism
ABSENT: Commissioner Arnold
GUEST: FAHE, Kentucky River Foothills Council.**

Towing Ordinance Amendments- Richmond Police Department

Assistant Police Chief, BJ O'Donnell presented an updated Towing Application for tow companies that respond to vehicle accidents. The Ordinance rates and requirements have not been updated since 2007. Since then, officers and dispatch struggle to locate tow operators that will respond to vehicle accidents. Currently the rates are so low that the businesses are often losing revenue by responding to the city's call for assistance. He explained to the commission that he's met with the companies several times and they are proposing the rates in cooperation with the requirements all being on the same across the board for all companies wishes to be placed on the "Tow List."

Commission clarified requirements and different vehicles that are required for all the companies to be eligible.

Commission saw no objection from moving forward with amendments.

Budget Amendments- City Manager and Finance Director 9:45 a.m.

City Manager announced that the Madison County Fiscal Court provided a \$2.00 per hour raise to their employees for retaining and retention. He suggested that the city also follow suit in order for the city to also retain the current talented employees.

Finance Director provided the Commission with 3 options to consider:

- a. \$2.00 across the board
- b. \$1.00 increase over \$15.50 hour, and \$2.00 increase for less than or equal to \$15.50

- c. \$2.00 increase only for staff less than or equal to \$15.50 per hour

Commission discussed the 3 options and settled on the first option of \$2.00 across the board, so it would be fair for all employees. They also reviewed the fiscal year staff expenditures from 2022- 2028 on all options and discussed sustainability budgets.

Commission agreed to move forward with the budget amendments as presented.

Kit Carson Commons Project Vouchers- Section 8 Housing Department 10:00 a.m.

Mayor announced that Order 22-18 was tabled at the February 22, 2022 Regular Meeting. Mayor referred back to Order 21-112 that was unanimously voted at the August 17, 2021 Regular Meeting to approve the 30 vouchers for this program. Mayor requested clarification on a particular word “authorized” within the Order 21-112. City Attorney questioned the commission on what was their intent when they voted on Order 21-112. The Commission agreed that it was to give the 30 vouchers to the program.

Commissioner Brewer questioned then why are we here today on something that’s already been before the commission. Susan Lillis, Section 8 Director responded that they already provide 30 vouchers for the Eastern Scholar House Project which are not all being utilized. If the department now gives another 30 vouchers to a project-based program, it takes away from Madison Countians. Kentucky River Foothills rebutted that this program is what makes Section 8 vouchers a success with citizen getting a trade or degree and being self-sufficient.

Mayor assured attendees to the meeting that this discussion will need to move forward more quickly as we’ve already discussed this in many meetings. He questions where do we go from here.

Commission decided that since the 30 vouchers were already authorized by Order 21-112 that is what the commission will provide for the program to be successful. All Commission members verbally agreed to the decision for the 30 vouchers to be utilized on Kit Carson Commons Project.

Departmental Reports- None

City Manager’s Report- Requested that the Commission consider a proposed Order for the meeting to authorize the city’s application for a Scenic By-Way on the Robert R. Martin By-Pass T1 Corridor. Commission agreed to move forward with the application.

Amend Agenda to include Order 22-26

Motion: Commissioner Newby

Seconded: Commissioner McDaniel

VOTING:	YES	NO
Commissioner Brewer	x	
Commissioner McDaniel	x	
Commissioner Newby	x	
Commissioner Arnold	absent	

Mayor Blythe x

Order 22-26: An Order of the City of Richmond, Kentucky Authorizing Action Under KRS 177.571 – 177.576 to Request Designation of a Scenic Highway.

Motion: Commissioner Brewer
Seconded: Commissioner Newby

VOTING:	YES	NO
Commissioner McDaniel	x	
Commissioner Newby	x	
Commissioner Arnold	absent	
Commissioner Brewer	x	
Mayor Blythe	x	

Board of Commissioner’s Discussion

Ed McDaniel- Noted that he’s excited to see the Armory Project progressing for the community.

Krystin Arnold- Absent

Mike Brewer- Advised the Commission that he’s received a lot of calls with concerns of the Armory Building Demolition. He said that he’s been trying to reassure the citizens that the new park property will be a great asset to the neighborhood when completed.

Jim Newby- No report

Mayor Robert Blythe- Complimented all the growth of Richmond by the additional businesses of Freddie’s Restaurant, Buc-ee’s soon and all the potential for the Duncannon Lane Corridor.

Executive Session- Per KRS 61.810 (1) (b) Acquisition/ Sale of Property at 10:40 a.m.

Motion: Commissioner McDaniel
Seconded: Commissioner Brewer

VOTING:	YES	NO
Commissioner Newby	x	
Commissioner Arnold	absent	
Commissioner Brewer	x	
Commissioner McDaniel	x	
Mayor Blythe	x	

Out of Executive Session at 11:00 a.m.

Motion: Commissioner Newby
Seconded: Commissioner McDaniel

VOTING:	YES	NO
Commissioner Arnold	absent	

Commissioner Brewer x
Commissioner McDaniel x
Commissioner Newby x
Mayor Blythe x

No Action Taken

Adjournment at 11:00 a.m.

Motion: Commissioner Brewer


Seconded: Commissioner McDaniel

VOTING: YES NO

Commissioner Brewer x
Commissioner McDaniel x
Commissioner Newby x
Commissioner Arnold absent
Mayor Blythe x


MAYOR, Robert R. Blythe

ATTEST:



City Clerk, Lisa Cassity