

**RICHMOND CITY COMMISSION
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 23, 2021
VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE
CITY OF RICHMOND, KY COMMUNITY INFORMATION FACEBOOK
PAGE
6:00 PM**

TAKE NOTICE that for the present, the Board of Commissioners for the City of Richmond will continue to meet in accordance with the schedule for its regular monthly meetings and remain in compliance with all applicable statues and regulations. In view of the COVID -19 pandemic, however, and in an effort to prevent the spread of that virus, the public can view the meetings as they occur on the City's Community Information Facebook page. Anyone wishing to address the City Commission may submit comments on any topic or agenda item electronically to the City Clerk at lcassity@richmond.ky.us. The Agenda for the meetings can also be found on the city website. Citizens may also phone City Hall at (859) 623-1000 ext 1103 to provide a comment about an agenda items or concern if a computer is unavailable.

Mayor Blythe called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**PRESENT: Commissioner Arnold, Brewer, McDaniel, Newby and Mayor Blythe
ALSO PRESENT: Rob Minerich: City Manager, Lisa Cassity: City Clerk and Tyler Johnson: Community Development and Media Coordinator, Tyler Frazier: City Attorney, Scott Althaus: Richmond Utilities, Taylor Six: Richmond Register, Rodney Richardson: Assistant Police Chief, James Ebert: Police Chief, David Stipes: Richmond Industrial Development Corporation Executive Director**

Minutes

1) Regular Commission Meeting held on February 09, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion: Commissioner McDaniel

Seconded: Commissioner Arnold

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

Ordinance 21-02: An Ordinance of the City of Richmond, Kentucky Relating to the 2020-2021 Annual Budget and Amendment thereof. - Liberty Place

First Reading

Read by City Clerk

Motion: Commissioner Brewer

Seconded: Commissioner McDaniel

No Vote Taken

Ordinance 21-03: An Ordinance of the City of Richmond, Kentucky Declaring the Existence of a Local State of Emergency in the City.

First and Final Reading

Read by City Clerk

Motion: Commissioner Newby

Seconded: Commissioner Arnold

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

Order 21-18: An Order of the City of Richmond, Kentucky Regarding an Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan as Required under Section 104 (D) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as Amended.

Read by City Clerk

Motion: Commissioner McDaniel

Seconded: Commissioner Brewer

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

Order 21-19: An Order of the City of Richmond Establishing a Procurement Policy for the City of Richmond, Kentucky Community Development Funds and Home Funds.

Read by City Clerk

Motion: Commissioner Brewer

Seconded: Commissioner Arnold

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

Order 21-20: An Order of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Richmond, Kentucky Authorizing the City Manager to Disburse Local Small Business Covid19 Funds.

Read by City Clerk

Motion: Commissioner Arnold

Seconded: Commissioner Newby

City Manager announced that 72 businesses applied, 55 were eligible for the funds and currently 16 only qualified. The remaining businesses that were eligible need to contact the Finance Department, Jennifer Hurt and resolve any business license or tax issues that are pending.

Commissioner Brewer requested for consideration that these businesses wait until all the other eligible business are compliant before disbursing funds.

Commissioner Arnold responded that it's not fair to make these businesses wait for the other businesses to be compliant. Which may or may not ever happen. She explained that they applied based on needing the funds in order to survive the pandemic and by waiting on others who aren't compliant isn't fair at this point.

Commissioner Brewer further questioned if there's a conflict of interest that exists since Tyler Johnson wrote the grant on behalf of the city and his wife's business is now being awarded the funds.

Commissioner Arnold responded that she didn't see any conflict since he's not an elected official that has difference code of ethical standards.

City Manager interrupted and reminded the commission that the business in question did qualify and is eligible for the funds. He felt that this business should not be penalized and denied the funds based on her husband working for the city.

Mayor announced in order to move on with conducting the meeting, since there's tension with just one business, asked for a **Motion to Remove Adorabelles payment for further investigation into Conflict of Interest.**

Motion: Commissioner Brewer
Seconded: Commissioner Newby

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

City Manager further explained that this will not be the only disbursement of funding. As the other businesses become complaint, we'll have another Order for your consideration.

Mayor clarified, that if the city determines no conflict of interest with Adorabelles, it can still be disbursed.

VOTING:	YES	NO
Commissioner Arnold	x	

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

Public Comments- City Clerk read one public comment

1. Virgil Gardner- Room in the Inn Representative

Room in the Inn Update from recent weather.

Average 20-30 people a night. Local churches or organizations donated the extra funding in order to house the participants. As well as restaurants and volunteers provided the extra meals. Citizen felt the program has been a success and thanked everyone that helped with the additional rooms and food.

Departmental Reports

- 1) Richmond Industrial Development Corporation Update- David Stipes (Attached)

City Manager's Report-

- 1. Parks Tasty Tuesday program- Food trucks application has been extended t February 26th with first event beginning March 9th. Each Tuesday there will be about 4-5 trucks at the Irvine McDowell Park.
- 2. Richmond Outdoor Committee (ROC) will have a meeting Friday 10:00 a.m. located at the Betty Miller Center.
- 3. Parks is also accepting sign ups for fast pitch this Saturday.
- 4. Parks is hiring seasonal workers.
- 5. Thanked several departments for their hard work during the winter weather storm. He noted that street department used 500 tons of salt and covered over 4,5000 miles.
- 6. Pothole patchwork will begin on West Main Street in front of Parrish Ave and the Catholic Church. He advised citizens that a lane will be closed tomorrow during that work.

Board of Commissioner's Discussion

McDaniel-

- 1. Thanked all the departments during the winter storm
- 2. Questioned why citizens weren't notified that Waste Management services were stopped during the winter weather.

Arnold- No report

Brewer-

- 1. Asked citizens to be patient on recovery clean up with trees down, but the city will pick up the tree limbs.

2. Requested the city contact Waste Management with the request that they pick up items that aren't in the can since service has been backed up.

Newby- No report

Mayor Blythe-

1. Thanked everyone that checked in on him by calls, cards and meals while he wasn't feeling well. He said he feels much better and glad to be back.
2. His news article this week in the Richmond Register is focused on First Responders and the circumstances they endure. He also thanked Public Works Department for always having a positive attitude.
3. Noticed the Parks Grounds crew using a small snow plow on the downtown sidewalks and thought downtown looked great.
4. Kentucky League of Cities Board meeting was this morning on Zoom and JD Chaney cautioned us to be on the look out for possible new legislation for Food Trucks to be regulated by the state and no longer local jurisdictions. He added that KLC is lobbying against that legislation and preferred cities be able to oversee that operation.

Executive Session- Per KRS 61.810 (1) (f) Personnel at 6:54 p.m.

Motion: Commissioner McDaniel

Seconded: Commissioner Arnold

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

Out of Executive Session at 7:07 p.m.

Motion: Commissioner Newby

Seconded: Commissioner McDaniel

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

Action Taken

Motion to Amend the Agenda to include Order 21-21 and Resolution 21-03

Motion: Commissioner Arnold

Seconded: Commissioner McDaniel

VOTING:	YES	NO
Commissioner Newby	x	

Commissioner Arnold x
 Commissioner Brewer x
 Commissioner McDaniel x
 Mayor Blythe x

Order 21-21: An Order of the City of Richmond Accepting a Resignation by an Employee in the Police Department.

Read by City Clerk

Motion: Commissioner McDaniel

Seconded: Commissioner Brewer

VOTING: **YES** **NO**

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

Resolution 21-03: A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Richmond, Kentucky Approving Recommendation of Discipline of a Police Officer.

Read by City Attorney

Motion: Commissioner McDaniel

Seconded: Commissioner Arnold

VOTING: **YES** **NO**

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

Adjournment at 7:11 p.m.

Motion: Commissioner Arnold


Seconded: Commissioner McDaniel

VOTING: **YES** **NO**

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



 MAYOR

ATTEST:


 City Clerk