

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
RIVER OAKS CITY COUNCIL  
MARCH 19, 2024**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

MAYOR DARREN HOUK  
MAYOR PRO TEM JOHN CLARIDGE  
COUNCIL MEMBER BRENT FORESTER  
COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH ANN TURNER  
COUNCIL MEMBER YOLIE RODRIGUEZ  
COUNCIL MEMBER STEVE HOLLAND

**STAFF PRESENT:**

CITY MANAGER MARVIN GREGORY  
CITY SECRETARY PAULA LUCK  
CITY ATTORNEY BRADLEY ANDERLE  
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR JEREMY BELL  
POLICE CHIEF CHUCK STEWART  
EMERGENCY MGT JAMES MYRICK  
FIRE CAPTAIN ROBERT WHATLEY

**ABSENT:**

NONE

1. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Mayor Houk called the Regular Meeting of the River Oaks City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at River Oaks City Hall, 4900 River Oaks Blvd., River Oaks, Texas 76114.

2. INVOCATION

CM Rodriguez delivered the Invocation.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO UNITED STATES FLAG AND THE TEXAS FLAG

CM Rodriguez led the Pledges of Allegiance to the United States and the Texas Flags.

4. READING OF PROCLAMATION(S) AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS BY MAYOR.

-CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH-APRIL 2024-representatives from Alliance for Children were present. They work very closely with Chief Stewart & Lieutenant Nance.

5. PUBLIC TESTIMONY: CITIZENS TO SPEAK ON ANY TOPIC OR ANY AGENDA ITEM BEFORE AN DURING THE MEETING BY RAISING YOUR HAND TO BE RECOGNIZED; HOWEVER, UNLESS THE ITEM IS SPECIFICALLY NOTED ON THIS AGENDA, THE CITY COUNCIL IS REQUIRED UNDER THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT TO LIMIT ITS RESPONSE WITH A STATEMENT OF SPECIFIC FACTUAL INFORMATION, RECITING THE CITY'S EXISTING POLICY ON THAT ISSUE, OR DIRECTING THE PERSON MAKING THE INQUIRY TO VISIT WITH CITY STAFF ABOUT THAT ISSUE, AND NO COUNCIL DELIBERATION IS PERMITTED FOR TOPICS NOT SPECIFICALLY LISTED ON THIS AGENDA.

**NONE**

6. **CONSENT AGENDA** ALL ITEMS UNDER THIS SECTION ARE RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL FOR THE "CONSENT AGENDA". THESE ITEMS ARE OF A ROUTINE NATURE AND REQUIRE ONLY BRIEF DELIBERATION BY COUNCIL. **COUNCIL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REMOVE ANY ITEM ON THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR FURTHER DELIBERATION**

- A. APPROVE MINUTES OF MARCH 5, 2024 REGULAR CALLED COUNCIL MEETING
- B. RATIFY BILLS PAYABLE FOR PERIOD ENDING MARCH 19, 2024 (FY 2024)
- C. APPROVE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT GRANT FOR FADED ART BARBERSHOP LOCATED AT 5408 RIVER OAKS BLVD AS RECOMMENDED BY E.D.C.

**CM Holland moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Claridge to approve the Consent Agenda Items A-C. All voted "Aye".**

7. DISCUSSION OR ACTION TAKEN ON ITEMS WITHDRAWN FROM CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE DELIBERATION.

**NONE**

**PERSONAL APPEARANCES AND/OR ITEMS REQUIRING COUNCIL APPROVAL/ACTION:**

8. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST BY REY CHAVEZ AT 1505 LONG AVENUE FOR REDUCTION IN HIS MONTHLY WATER BILL.

The resident was not present. The average bill at this address is 114 cubic feet which he is being charged the base rate. We can look at how many residents are paying the base rate and go from there. We can also look at other cities' base rates. We can look at a new rate schedule during budget meetings.

No action taken.

9. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH FORT WORTH TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY FOR MOBILITY-IMPAIRED TRANSPORTATION SERVICE.

EDC recommended approving the Mobility Impaired Transportation Service only and cancelling the bus service. The charge would be \$40.33 per trip.

**Mayor Pro Tem Claridge moved, seconded by CM Holland to approve the agreement with Fort Worth Transportation Authority for Mobility-Impaired Transportation Service.**

10. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ON LETTER OF INTENT FROM TOWERPOINT TO PURCHASE INTEREST IN WIRELESS TOWER SITE.

Towerpoint is offering to buy out the current agreement at \$360,000.00 with no monthly rental payments to the city for 35 years. The city would lose money if we went with this agreement. Telecom Law Firm does not recommend the agreement with Towerpoint.

No action taken.

11. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ON ENTERING INTO A MARKETING AGREEMENT FOR THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES SERVICE LINE PROGRAM OFFERED BY UTILITY SERVICE PARTNERS, INC.

This is to help residents with out-of-pocket expense for unanticipated and costly service lines and replacements by providing homeowners affordable protection against unexpected costs to leaking, broken or clogged water lines, sewer lines and in-home plumbing. This company will hand out brochures with the city's logo on them. There is a royalty of 50 cents per product per month to the city or else the city can decline it and in turn those that enroll will get a 50-cent reduction per month. This would be a 3-year agreement, but the city can terminate by giving 90 days' notice.

We can bring the representative to the next city council meeting. No action taken.

12. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO AMEND ACTION TAKEN ON AGENDA ITEM #19 FROM THE JULY 28, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING.

This is regarding sending out packets to election candidates.

**CM Holland moved, seconded by CM Forester to repeal action taken on July 28, 2020 Council Meeting for Item #19. All voted "Aye".**

13. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATION FROM THE RIVER OAKS STORM WATER TASK FORCE TO ADOPT THE STORM WATER LOGO AS THE OFFICIAL LOGO OF THE RIVER OAKS STORM WATER UTILITY SYSTEM.

Storm Water recommended logo #3 for some promotional items and logo #4 for other promotional items.

**CM Forester moved, seconded by CM Rodriguez to approve Storm Water logo #3 and logo #4 with replacing the wave above water with the city logo. All voted "Aye".**

**ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS REQUIRING COUNCIL APPROVAL/ACTION:**

14. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE #1419-2024 DESIGNATING THE RIVER OAKS NEWS AND THE FORT WORTH STAR TELEGRAM AS THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS OF THE CITY OF RIVER OAKS AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

An ordinance must be approved every year by statute.

**Mayor Pro Tem Claridge moved, seconded by CM Rodriguez to approve Ordinance #1419-2024. All voted "Aye".**

**OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:**

15. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING UPDATES FROM THE CITY MANAGER ADVISING THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL ON PERSONNEL, CITY'S FISCAL CONDITION, PANDEMIC EXECUTIVE ORDERS, SCHEDULING COUNCIL WORK SESSIONS, FUTURE NEEDS OF THE CITY AND OTHER CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDATIONS.

Personnel-Police looking at a candidate for the one position that is open. Public Works has two openings.

Water Plant-start date is this Thursday but will still have to get TCEQ approval to pump water which could take several weeks.

IT Services-have publicized going out for bids. Bids due April 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m., with the opening at 2:00 p.m.

Tarrant County-notice has been sent to Commissioner Manny Ramirez requesting additional funds for the Long Avenue Street Improvements.

TXDOT meeting regarding 183 will be held and the school and virtually on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

UTA approached if the city has any in-person needs. CM Gregory mentioned needing a capital improvement plan.

16. UPDATE ON SUBSTANDARD PROPERTIES AT:

- 1513 SKYLINE-up for sale, not in compliance.
- 5016 ALMENA-liens paid, no updates.
- 1909 YALE-under the time frame.
- 4833 SHERWOOD-pulled permits, work started.
- 4816 BARBARA RD (FIRE DAMAGE)-demolished, re-building.
- 4904 ALMENA RD (FIRE DAMAGE)-no updates.

**QUESTIONS RELATED TO MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS INCLUDING:**

17. **POLICE DEPT. MONTHLY REPORT** INCLUDING PATROL ACTIVITY, RESPONSE CALLS, NUMBER OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION CASES, WARRANTS ISSUED AND ANIMAL CONTROL CALLS INCLUDING CITATIONS ISSUED.

18. **FIRE DEPT. REPORT** INCLUDING NUMBER OF CALLS FOR SERVICE AND FIRE TRAINING EXERCISES.

19. **INSPECTIONS AND CODE COMPLIANCE ACTIVITY REPORTS** INCLUDING NUMBER OF PERMITS ISSUED AND CODE VIOLATIONS WORKED.

20. **MUNICIPAL COURT** INCLUDING COURT ACTIVITY FROM FINES, BONDS, WARRANT FEES, COURT TAXES, COURT FEES, ARREST FEES, COURT SECURITY FEES, COURT TECHNOLOGY FEES, PAYMENT PLANS, STATE COURT COSTS AND AGENCY COLLECTION FEES

21. **PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITY REPORT** INCLUDING ROAD REPAIRS COMPLETED, SIGNS INSTALLED, WATER PRODUCTION, WATER MAIN AND SERVICE LEAKS REPAIRED, NUMBER OF FIRE HYDRANTS AND DEAD-END LINES FLUSHED, NUMBER OF SEWER OVERFLOWS AND STOPPAGES, CUBIC TONS OF SOLID WASTE COMPACTED AND PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT REPAIRS

22. **PARK BOARD ACTIVITY REPORT** INCLUDING BALLFIELD RENTALS, GRANT UPDATES AND QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO MINUTES FROM THE PARK BOARD
23. **EVENT CENTER ACTIVITY REPORT** INCLUDING NUMBER OF COMMUNITY CENTER RENTALS, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES
24. **CITY SECRETARY ACTIVITY REPORT** INCLUDING REVENUE FROM SALES TAX, DOLLAR DONATIONS, EDC SALES TAX, TEXPOOL AND CRIME SALES TAX
25. **EDC ACTIVITY REPORT** INCLUDING FUNDED PROJECT UPDATES AND UPCOMING PROJECTS.
26. **STORM WATER TASK FORCE ACTIVITY REPORT** INCLUDING ACTINS TAKEN UNDER THE MS4 PERMIT, COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTIONAL EVENTS REGARDING STORM WATER PREVENTION POLLUTION
27. **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY REPORT** INCLUDING POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND INFORMATION PERTAINING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANNING

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

28. COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Mayor Pro Tem Claridge-code is doing their job. Moved a car to the backyard parked on grass and received a letter from code.

CM Rodriguez-met Brenda that owns the bakery across the street. April 6<sup>th</sup> is their grand opening. Thanked our Animal Shelter for having an adoption event at Russell's and thanked DPC Perkins for helping out on his day off.

CA Anderlee-reminder the Texas Rangers opening day is March 28<sup>th</sup>.

CM Turner-on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, the after-school program students will be attending the council meeting to say the pledge and to have a presentation.

CM Holland-noticed vacant lots are starting to grow grass/weeds.

CM Forester-senior class having a classic car show this weekend at the school stadium from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and all proceeds go to the senior class.

Mayor Houk-the Wednesdays Child that was filmed at Grumps is airing tomorrow on Channel 8 at 5:30 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

29. CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE: THE COUNCIL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION(S) FROM TIME TO TIME ON ANY POSTED AGENDA ITEM TO RECEIVE ADVICE FROM ITS ATTORNEY AS PERMITTED BY LAW DURING THIS MEETING. THE COUNCIL MAY CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING:

- a. Section 551.071 Pending or contemplated litigation or to seek advice from attorney;
- b. Section 551.072 Discussion regarding possible sale, lease or acquisition of real estate;
- c. Section 551.074 Personnel matters – To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment of duties, discipline or dismissal of a Public Officer or Employee or to hear a complaint or charge against an Officer or Employee,
- d. Section 551.076 Deliberation regarding security devices.

**NONE**

**RECONVENE:**

30. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ANY ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

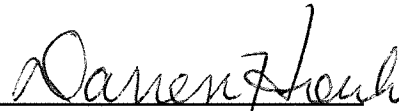
**NONE**

**ADJOURN:**

31. ADJOURN

**At 7:14 p.m., Mayor Houk adjourned the meeting.**

**APPROVED:**

  
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Darren Houk, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
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Paula Luck, City Secretary