

**Richlawn City Commission  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
April 21, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Richlawn City Council was held on Monday, April 21, 2014, at the Old National Bank on Shelbyville Road & Hubbards Lane. Present were Commissioners Dirk Gowin, Roger Rymarz, Henry Thoben and Rae Taylor, along with Clerk/Treasurer Jeff Barrick and Richlawn Attorney Steve Porter. Mayor Pat Coomes was absent. Also in attendance was Richlawn residents Kasey McKaig and Marcia Baker.

Commissioner Gowin called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**A. Mr. Barrick presented the bills to be paid in April:**

Rumpke	ACH	2716.35
LG&E	ACH	430.36
Extra Space Storage	VISA	106.00
Louisville Water Company	ACH	25.55
Old National Bank	ACH	112.96
Division of Unemployment Insurance	1985	13.20
Eagle Sign & Design, Inc	1986	259.00
FedEx Kinko's	1987	49.20
Internal Revenue Service	1988	481.95
Louisville Metro	1989	69.30
Mattingly, Michael & Angela	1990	243.67
Neighborhood Security & Asset Protection	1991	490.00
Valley Crest	1992	850.00

- Commissioner Taylor made a motion to pay the bills , Commissioner Rymarz seconded the motion and it passed unanimously

**B. Minutes from March Meeting**

- Commissioner Rymarz made a motion to approve the minutes from the March meeting. Commissioner Thoben seconded the motion and it passed unanimously


**C. Infrastructure (Hubbards Lane/Sidewalks)**

- Kasey McKaig and Marcia Baker attended the meeting to get an update on the Hubbards Lane project. They want to know what the purpose of the project to expand Hubbards Lane
- Commissioner Gowin stated Hubbards Lane is a Metro Road. Al Andrews is the Project Manager for Louisville Metro. Ms. McKaig thinks this is a conflict of interest for Commissioner Gowin to be working on the project for Louisville Metro and being a commissioner for Richlawn.
- Ms. McKaig stated the next public meeting will be on May 29 @ Trinity High School from 7 – 9 PM.
- Ms. McKaig stated the backups on Hubbards are from the train and she is concerned people will use the center turn lane to clear the intersection on Shelbyville Road. Commissioner Taylor stated he is also concerned about the train.
- Ms. McKaig stated the City Council's job is to do what is best for the residents of Richlawn as a whole, not just the people on the interior streets of Richlawn.
- Ms. Baker asked if the Westport exchange from I-264 has lessened the number of cars on Hubbard's lane.
- Ms. McKaig asked if the environmental study had been completed. She asked if there was a study on bicycle safety for the addition of the bike lanes.
- Commissioner Rymarz stated Commissioner Gowin has brought the city's concerns about drainage to the project committee. Ms. McKaig was surprised this idea of putting a pipe in for drainage had not come up before.
- Ms. McKaig asked if there was any concern that Hubbards Lane would go commercial. Mr. Porter stated the properties are zoned R-4 which is single family homes.
- Ms. McKaig asked if the funding for the project was tied to getting bike lanes. Commissioner Gowin said no.
- Mr. Porter stated there were no jaywalking rules/laws outside of downtown.
- Commissioner Taylor agrees with Commissioner Gowin that the sidewalks on both sides of Hubbards are necessary for those that are disabled. He has mixed feelings about if the bike lanes are necessary.
- Ms. McKaig is also concerned with speed.
- Commissioner Thoben asked why there had not been many public meetings. He asked if there was any deadline to finalize the construction plans. Commissioner Gowin was not sure.
- Ms. McKaig asked if the environmental study will include the amount of drainage that comes through. She assumed they cannot increase the amount of water.
- Commissioner Thoben asked if MSD was part of the project. Commissioner Gowin stated they will have to do a review.
- Mr. Porter suggested the format of the next meeting should allow for a public forum and allow people to voice their concerns. Ms. McKaig feels that no one will give her a straight answer to her questions. She has tried to get lots of information from Metro Council woman Tina Ward-Pugh, the engineering firm, and individual research and she doesn't feel she gets a straight answer or they push her off to someone else. She feels that if she felt someone was looking after the interests of the homeowners, she would be much more comfortable.
- Commissioner Gowin stated he has fought for the narrowest configuration possible. He has pushed for 10' lanes and to do away with the ditch.
- The sidewalk project on Shelbyville Road has begun

#### D. 2015 Budget Presentation

- Mr. Barrick presented the preliminary FY2015 budget with a proposed tax rate of .149 per \$100 of assessed value. This would represent the first decrease in over three years. The city could increase the rate to .154 without taking a vote. The council decided to leave the rate at .150 which is the same rate it has been for three years.
- Commissioner Gowin is in favor of re-paving the roads this coming summer. He is recommending the city put \$150,000 in next year's budget to re-pave the city streets.
- Mr. Porter suggested getting an unbiased opinion on what our roads need.
- Commissioner Rymarz makes a motion to hire an engineer to evaluate our roads and give an opinion on the best method to repair the roads. Discussion ensued and the motion was withdrawn.
- Commissioner Gowin stated Richlawn can piggy-back on Louisville Metro's annual contract with Flynn Brothers. He will ask Flynn Brothers to give a recommendation on what needs to be done.

#### E. Open Forum

- Commissioner Gowin stated there is an application to re-zone a building on Thierman Lane to OR-3 which will allow for office space. He stated it is a medical building and they are going to connect to buildings. The plans look good.
- **Merger with St. Matthews**
  - Commissioner Gowin presented a work paper that compared the services for each city. He is in favor of merging with St. Matthews.  
  
Services Comparison.pdf
  - He stated the vote must appear on a standard election and must be approved by the majority of both cities.
  - Commissioner Rymarz asked if Richlawn could have a homeowner's association.
  - Mr. Barrick stated as a resident, he is opposed to the merger. He feels Richlawn would lose a lot of the charm the city has now like street lamps and street signs. Commissioner Gowin said the city would have to negotiate a lot of that with St. Matthews.
  - Commissioner Rymarz asked about Lang Field. If St. Matthews owns it, they have zoning power and could sell it to a developer. Commissioner Gowin asked if Richlawn could dedicate it as a park to hold it through the merger. Mr. Porter said we could put a deed restriction on it. He asked if Richlawn should do a straw poll on merging with St. Matthews to see what the majority of the residents want to do.
- Commissioner Thoben wants to get a bid to re-paint the speed humps. Commissioner Gowin stated the city should hold off until the streets are re-paved.
- Commissioner Thoben stated elections were coming up

#### F. Adjourn

1. Commissioner Gowin stated the next meeting will be held on Monday May 19, 2014 at 7:30 PM at Old National Bank on Hubbards Lane
2. Commissioner Rymarz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 PM; it was seconded by Commissioner Taylor and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

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Jeff Barrick  
Clerk/Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patrick Coomes  
Mayor

**Numerous residents have expressed interest in the City of Richlawn joining the City of St. Matthews. Following is a comparison of services for each City. Please vote in the fall election!**

<b>Service:</b>	<b>Richlawn</b>	<b>St. Matthews</b>
<b>Government</b>	Mayor and four (4) commissioners. Meet on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at Old National Bank.	Mayor and eight (8) councilpersons. Meet on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at St. Matthews City Hall.
<b>Property Taxes</b>	Tax rate of \$0.15 per \$100 of assessed value.	Tax rate of \$0.20 per \$100 of assessed value, with a 40% discount if paid on or before October 31 (equivalent to \$0.12 per \$100 of assessed value).
<b>EMS Ambulance</b>	St. Matthews EMS	St. Matthews EMS
<b>Fire</b>	St. Matthews Fire	St. Matthews Fire
<b>Police</b>	Louisville Metro Police Department.	St. Matthews Police Department.
<b>Trash Collection</b>	Provided by Rumpke. Pickup on Monday morning with bins placed at the edge of the street.	Provided by Rumpke. Pickup day of the week may change. Pickup is at rear door. Edge of the street pickup is optional.
<b>Recycling Program</b>	Provided by Rumpke. Provided bins are placed at the edge of the street every other week.	Provided by Rumpke. Provided bins are placed at the edge of the street every other week.
<b>Yard Waste</b>	Leaves can be disposed of at the time of your normally scheduled garbage pickup. Leaves must be in biodegradable or clear plastic bags or placed in trash containers marked "Yard Waste Only." Branches must be placed in trash containers or bundled with twine.	Fall leaf pickup occurs at the end of October or early November. Leaves are raked to the edge of the street by the resident for vacuuming. Leaves can also be disposed of at the time of your normally scheduled garbage pickup. Leaves must be in biodegradable or clear plastic bags or placed in trash containers marked "Yard Waste Only."
<b>Junk Pickup</b>	To request pickup of large items (appliances, etc.) contact Rumpke (billable to resident)	One large item each week, at the time of your regular garbage pickup. If you have several items, contact Rumpke (billable to resident).
<b>Sidewalks</b>	To report damage to an existing sidewalk, contact Metro government. New sidewalk is at the discretion of the Commission.	To report damage to an existing sidewalk, <a href="#">click here</a> . Please have the street name and closest business or residential address to the damaged area being reported. New sidewalk installation can be requested for your residential block by a petition.
<b>Snow Removal</b>	Snow removal is contracted. Service providers balance demands with several clients.	All streets within the city receive snow removal service, operated by the City.
<b>Speed Humps</b>	By request and approved by a majority of the block.	By request and approved by a 2/3rds majority of the block.
<b>Storm Debris</b>	Storm debris should be placed in marked Yard Waste Only trash containers or bundled with twine.	After a severe storm event where large tree branches have fallen & debris is present, place storm damage at curb side. City workers will remove at their first opportunity.
<b>Tree Planting</b>	Provides \$200 for approved large species trees.	By request. Planted by the City within the public right-of-way.