

**Richlawn City Commission
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
October 2020**

This meeting was conducted using google meetings. Signs were posted at the bank to inform residents of the change in "location" due to the Covid 19 pandemic. In attendance were Mayor Carpenter; Commissioners Cassidy, Brotzge, and DeVore; Clerk/Treasurer Sullivan; and City Attorney Porter. Residents were Alexis Carey of 4122 Ledyard; Todd and Amy Hendershot 127 Gibson; Rae Taylor 214 Gibson; Paul Downs 209 Gibson; Cassie LaFollette 120 Gibson that were identified.

1. City Attorney: Mr. Porter did the first reading of the Lighting Ordinance. He captured the language from the Dark Skys Group. The Purpose is to reduce glare, keep dark skys by pointing light downward, keep appropriate amount of light with the benefit of reduced electrical usage, keep light on individuals property, and exceptions for "status quo" are included in language to make compliance enforceable. Mr. Cassidy asked for a plain language summary to augment the legal language which may cause confusion of interpretation. The Commission also will include a plain language summary of the enforcement process. The goal is to keep a resident's light on their own property at the appropriate level and prevent light shining into another resident's home. The Mayor and Mr. Porter will work together on the plain language summary and fine tuning the language of the ordinance.

The LaFollettes have engaged the services of an attorney and Mr. Porter will cooperate with them concerning the Walmart tree cutting and pruning issues.

Todd Hendershot reports his neighbor to the south is using chemicals on the easement of the power lines where their respective properties meet. Mr. Porter reminded the group that Richlawn does not control utility easements. Mr. Brotzge added that yard waste issues across property lines are between property owners.

2. Resident/Guest Forum: Paul Downs was present since he added his name to the list of write in candidates for Richlawn Commissioner and expressed his desire to serve the city.

3. City Clerk/Treasurer: Little activity to report in tax revenue and fund collections. We will see increased police patrols in the second half of November to the end of December due wanting a presence in Richlawn to reduce the theft of e-commerce packages. (Mr. Cassidy called Tourinho on 11/8 to call the Mayor about the patrol increase request. He was not present at the meeting.) All other financial items are in line with expectations. Mr. Cassidy asked to add to financial statements and minutes that tree reimbursement was capped at \$4500 until April 2021 when the Commission planned to increase levels to \$7500 as budgeted. This budget concern was placed to protect for potential Covid revenue shortfalls. Property values are going up in recent sales which are increasing revenues, but Pier 1 has left one of our strip malls. 10 to 15 percent of Richlawn revenues come from commercial property taxes and bank revenue taxes. Mr. Sullivan is still making inquiries to the State about Covid funds.

\$985 was added to bills for payment to Greenscapes.

Commissioner Brotzge made a motion to approve the bills and Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Joe Dukes was added as an attendee to the September minutes.

Commissioner Brotzge made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

4. COE: Not present.

5. Commissioner Cassidy: See above concerning clarification of tree reimbursement budget caps. Mr. Cassidy will make a notation on each form that the reimbursement will be reviewed

by the Commission at the April meeting and the order of submission. After the \$7500 cap is reached, the notation will change to consideration with no obligation for the July 2021 meeting when final payments are approved for the current fiscal year. He has not had luck contacting Michael Brown of Greenscapes for tree trimming/cutting process. (Contact was made the following week.) The Mayor will add the additional language to the tree form concerning tax payment and multiple usage of the program. Jennifer Wolczyk may use a cease and desist order concerning her neighbor with yard waste.

6. Commissioner Brotzge: He reported that 4193 Blenheim has been issued four citations for overgrowth, animals creating holes in the structure, and broken glass in windows and doors. Mr. Cassidy clarified that the board in the front yard was placed there by MSD for a sinkhole. Alexis Carey asked about the amount of fines assigned by Richlawn and Metro government before further action will take place at a higher level. Mr. Porter stated it is best to monitor the response of Metro Government first before stating what monetary level will force action by the Commission.

He approved construction work at 4187 Blenheim and the addition of a screen porch in the backyard of 125 Heady.

7. Commissioner DeVore: The waste pickup by Anytime is going smoothly now. She has concerns about an individual filling Richlawn's common trash cans with yard waste; she suggests putting up a wildlife trail camera to monitor the situation. We need to replace street signs at the intersections of Heady and Don Allen along Blenheim Road. The Commission will stick with current signs even though the expense is greater than standard green sign. It is important to keep the single appearance of signage. Mr. Porter stated the streets of the city are named after the original developers. She will walk Richlawn to place recycling stickers on black cans with yellow lids which are missing them. The Commission commented that Anytime's can colors do not make it easy to identify the can designated for recycling. She will continue to monitor the separation of yard waste and trash pickups.

8. Commissioner Williams: Not present.

9. Mayor Carpenter: He reminded all residents that they are responsible to maintain the road easements and maintain the pick up of leaves and yard waste along the easement. He encouraged all residents to vote and added a link to the Richlawn website. Reminded residents that Paul Downs was a legal write in candidate. Mr. Cassidy added that Corey Philipe of 4195 Blenheim was interested in serving on the commission.

He suggested moving the start of Commission meetings to 6:30 pm starting with the January 2021 meeting. Commissioner Brotzge made a motion to approve the change and Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Pat Scott of 127 Heady will be celebrating her 90th birthday and asked all residents to celebrate with her the Thursday of this week. He asked all attendees to practice safe distancing. He encouraged all to practice social distancing and safe practice of candy distribution on Halloween. 218 Don Allen is being purchased by a former owner's parents; it is interesting how several homes in Richlawn stay in a family.

10. New Business: None

Commissioner Brotzge made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion. All voted in favor.