

The Richlands Town Council held a "Special Called Meeting" in the Richlands Council Chambers on February 21, 2022, at 6:00 pm, with the following present:

Mayor: Rodney D. Cury
Town Manager: John O'Daniel
Town Clerk: Connie Allen
Council Members: Mike Street, Doug Ratliff, Darrell Addison, Jeff Hurst,
Richard Brown
Council Members Absent: Mary Ann Strong
Town Attorney: No Lawyer Present

Mayor Cury opened the meeting.

Mayor Cury gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Cury - Approve the Agenda as Presented, I would ask Council's consideration, Blake Ray texted me at 5:00pm to speak, and we don't have public speakers on this agenda. If it is Council's desire, I would strongly suggest that Council have "Unscheduled Public Comments" of three (3) minutes allowing anyone to speak that is here, if that is something Council wants to entertain otherwise, I suggest no speaking, I will entertain a motion for that. It is in fairness to all.

Mayor Cury - Hearing no motion to amend the agenda, I will entertain a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Jeff - I make the motion to approve the agenda as presented, Richard seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call -Doug- Yes, Jeff- Yes, Darrell - Yes, Richard- Yes Mike - Yes Motion carries - 5/0

Mayor Cury - Consideration of Grant Resolutions

- a. Thompson Charitable Foundation (b) USDA Rural Business Development Grant

Jeff - Read Resolution R-2022-02-02

John - This Resolution is to continue with Pop-Up Richlands, they currently have funds for 1 ½ rounds, will continue to bring in grant funding to help support that program for multiple years moving forward. This grant will be for a \$25,000 allocation from this organization to help fund the additional rounds as we move forward. There is no required match. They seemed to be pretty favorable in grants of this type.

Richard - In the last paragraph it is "for the Town Manager to execute project administration agreements for any approved Thompson Charitable Foundation projects", is this just specifically for Pop-Up Richlands, because we have used them for different grants.

Mayor Cury - I think it is ambiguous.

John - Our intent is just for this specific application; any additional documents can be brought back to Council for further consideration.

Mayor Cury - Is that why you ask Richard, you thought it was open-ended?

Richard - I know we use Thompson Charitable Foundation on multiple projects; hopefully we will be able to use them in the future.

Mayor Cury - They are very generous; we are very grateful for their support.

Darrell - I make the motion to adopt Resolution R-2022-02-02, Jeff seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Doug- Yes, Jeff- Yes, Darrell - Yes, Richard- Yes Mike – Yes Motion carries – 5/0

John - Before Jeff reads, the first line “The Governing Body of Richlands Town Council consisting of six (6) members”, we need to strike consisting of six (6) members.

Jeff – Read R-2022-02-03

Richard - I make the motion to adopt R-2022-02-03, Mike seconded the motion.

John - Before we move on I would like to elaborate, this is for a revolving loan fund that we will use IDA, to fund some of our small businesses in Town, we are applying for \$75,000 and they require 3% we plan on matching up to \$5000, we have spoken to other Towns that have been successful with it and thought \$5000 was a good match for the Town.

Mayor Cury - When will we know about this grant, John?

John - I am not sure on the deadline but I can get back with Council on that.

Doug - Who will control the fund?

John - The Town will manage it financially but the IDA and Ashley’s department. It is a micro loan it goes to the individual not the business, a lot of people done this before us, we don’t want to do something we would regret in the future, there is more to this, and we will discuss further.

Doug - I am going to vote no, I think we have many more problems, I am from the business community and I don’t think \$5000 for a business it’s not going to work, you might have one or two pop up but they are not going to last very long. Richlands is anti-business, Why? Richlands is too high to operate here, too high of electricity and taxes. Giving someone \$5000 and expecting them to make it, it is not going to work. We need to work on the problems of lowering the electricity and taxes and revitalize the Town by building a new Police Station, Fire Station and Rec Center.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Doug- No, Jeff- Yes, Darrell - Yes, Richard- Yes Mike – Yes Motion carries – 4/1 – (Doug No)

Darrell – I make the motion to adjourn, Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Doug- Yes, Jeff- Yes, Darrell - Yes, Richard- Yes Mike – Yes Motion carries – 5/0

Adjourned



Connie Allen, Town Clerk



Rodney D. Cury, Mayor