

A workshop meeting of the Richland Borough Council was held on Tuesday, August 27, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the meeting room at the Richland Borough Building. The President being in the chair and the Secretary being present.

President Bricker called the Richland Borough Council Workshop Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Bricker completed roll call, Present were President Kelly Bricker, President Pro Tem Larry Hartman, Councilmembers Matthew Johnson, Robert Rittle, Richard Strickler, James Niethammer, Secretary Rebecca Schnoke, Road Supervisor Dwight Belleman, and Road Laborer & Water Technician Benjamin Becker. Absent was Vice President Mark Brubaker, and Mayor Owen Landes.

President Bricker announced that a late submission was received within 24 hours of the scheduled workshop meeting, to authorize the preparation and advertisement of an ordinance to accept bank proposals, authorize the incurrence of debt, and authorize signers to execute documents for consideration at the September 10, 2024, Council meeting. President Bricker explained that with the 2021 amendments to the Sunshine Act that before any business can be discussed a motion is required to amend the agenda to include the late submission. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Robert Rittle to amend the agenda to include the late submission to authorize the preparation and advertisement of an ordinance to accept bank proposals, authorize the incurrence of debt, and authorize signers to execute documents for consideration at the September 10, 2024, Council meeting; Motion unanimously carried. President Bricker advised the amended agenda will be posted within 24 hours following the meeting.

#### Old Business:

Concord Public Finance – A motion was made by Robert Rittle, seconded by Larry Hartman to authorize the preparation and advertisement of an ordinance to accept bank proposals, authorize the incurrence of debt, and authorize signers to execute documents for consideration at the September 10, 2024, Council meeting; motion unanimously carried.

Water Project – President Bricker advised that Solicitor George is preparing the resolution for final payment of 309 Millbach Road for the purpose of the new water storage tank.

#### Playground Project

President Bricker advised for the benches and tables for the park project the Borough can pick the design and material however DCNR would prefer to see the recycled plastic used. The items needed include 11 benches, 10 picnic tables, 3 trash receptacles, and one table & three chair unit. Council reviewed and discussed different design options, styles, and prices. After review & discussion, Council selected the preferred designs that are available through DuMor at costars pricing.

Council reviewed the two alternate bid options included in the park project bid, one for the corn hole toss game and associated concrete pads and the one for the curb restoration and sidewalk extension along pine Street. Council discussed the two alternate bid options and the associated costs. Council decided to include in the bid the corn hole toss game and associated concrete pads but exclude from the bid the sidewalk extension and curb restoration along Pine Street because the

Borough can complete this portion for a cheaper price. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Larry Hartman to include in the bid contract the corn hole toss game and associated concrete pads at an amount of \$9,700.00; motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker advised that Rigidply is selling the pavilions for the park project to the Borough at costs which is a huge cost savings to the Borough. The price for the 24x36 pavilion is \$8,069.63, the 16x20 pavilion is \$3,566.69, and the 12x12 pavilion is around \$1,500.00. Council expressed how thankful they are for Rigidply's generosity and willingness to provide these items at cost. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Matthew Johnson to approve to order the pavilions from Rigidply Rafters; motion unanimously carried.

Council reviewed the 5 park project bids received and the recommendation of YSM. The lowest bid received, and the bid recommended by YSM was from SLC Excavating in the amount of \$568,538.66. A motion was made by Rober Rittle, seconded by Matthew Johnson to award the park project bid to SLC Excavating in the amount of \$568,538.66 plus the \$9,700.00 for the corn hole toss game and associated concrete pads; motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed the trash request received from the Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority that was previously tabled. Secretary Schnoke advised the authority is requesting exemption from having trash service at each pump station and only having one service at the main office at 2 N. Race Street, they are having issues with trash not being collected at pump stations as it is not placed regularly and there is not much generated at these locations. They are requesting an exemption as a fellow authority. After in-depth discussion and debate this was tabled until the September 10<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. Council discussed sewer billing and the difficulties that have been expressed by residents and discussed the idea of possibly offering to extend billing services to the sewer authority.

Secretary Schnoke advised that notice was received that Diversified Technology is discontinuing their partnership with their previous merchant processor Nuvei and will now be utilizing ProPay as the new merchant processor, the only change will be due to government policy changes the \$3.00 flat rate will no longer be available, the new fee will be \$3.00 or 3% which ever is greater. Council discussed this matter and expressed that water bills can be paid at the office via mail, in person, or through the drop box. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Richard Strickler to authorize Secretary Schnoke to switch the merchant processor from Nuvei to ProPay; motion unanimously carried.

Ben Becker advised that the Public Works department reached out to New Holland Sales for a trade in value on the pickup truck for budgetary figures, the trade in amount offered was \$31,000 and the cost of a new truck after trade in would be roughly \$34,000. Benjamin Becker and Dwight Belleman stated that in their opinion the truck only has 12,000 miles, the trade in offer is not worth considering. Council discussed this information for future consideration with no action taken.

Benjamin Becker advised that the SUV would need a water pump which will cost roughly \$2,500, the check engine light is on and giving a code for CAT, it could be the CAT or manifold, additionally there are issues with the front-end wobbling and shaking. The SUV has 176,000 miles on it, and we have had it for almost 3 years. Dwight Belleman stated the SUV is utilized more heavily than the pickup truck and they would prefer a replacement for it. Dwight Belleman and Benjamin Becker advised that with the money required to fix the SUV their recommendation is to sell it on the auction and find a used SUV to replace it. Council discussed options and requested

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public works and Secretary Schnoke to obtain auction information for the next meeting and will consider this matter for future action.

Larry Hartman advised there was another vehicle hit on W. Main Street and expressed his concerns with the speeding on Main Street and throughout the Borough. President Bricker advised the digital speed limit sign are being budgeted for 2025, and advised the Borough Secretary and Public Works employees to put the information together to start updating speed limit signs.

President Bricker asked if there were any comments for the good of the Borough, with no additional matters presented a motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Larry Hartman, to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Rebecca Schnoke,  
Richland Borough Secretary