A workshop meeting of the Richland Borough Council was held on Tuesday, April 22, 2025, 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 workshop Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Bricker advised quotes for the cost of security camera’s & installation, and the pavilion electric installation for the park were received after the agenda was posted. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Robert Rittle to amend the agenda to add the review of the quotes for the cost of security cameras & installation, and the pavilion electric installation for the park and to award the contract; motion unanimously carried.

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

Old Business:

Water Rules, Rates, and Regulations – Council reviewed current water fee schedule and compared to neighboring water authorities fee schedules. Discussion occurred and fee increases were suggested. Fee schedule to be revised and water rules, rates, and regulations to be reviewed by the Borough’s engineer.

Employee Handbook – Council and employees reviewed revisions. President Bricker advised not all aspects of the handbook may apply to current employees the handbook is a guide in place for potential future new hires. A motion was made by Larry Hartman, seconded by James Niethammer to adopt the Employee Handbook as amended 4/22/2025; motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker advised a letter documenting current employee’s health care compensation is part of their compensation package to be kept on file in their employee files.

Park Project Updates – President Bricker advised a park update letter has been posted on the website and Office door, to explain why the park is still blocked off and unavailable for public use. Discussion occurred regarding angling the parking spots along Peach Alley for the park.

Discussion occurred regarding Park rules and signage.

Water Project Updates

Well No. 9 - Kinsley Construction is working on the Well No. 9 project, anticipate boring to begin next week.

Water Storage Tank – Becker Engineering is receiving a significant number of questions from potential bidders pertaining to the elevated water storage tank bid, to allow for adequate time to address questions the bid let date has been extended one week from 4/29/25 to 5/8/25. Most questions being asked pertain to whether weekend work is allowed. Council discussed this matter in depth and determined weekend work will not be allowed, but exceptions will be considered for extenuating circumstances.

New Business:

President Bricker advised the scope of work for the park security cameras was reviewed and revised, only 3 cameras are required compared to the original 12 cameras quoted. A quote was received from Star Dust Electric for the cost of security cameras and installation for the park. Council reviewed and discussed the quote. President Bricker advised she thoroughly researched the cameras being quote, the quality is excellent, they track and have infrared. President Bricker advised attempts to get additional quotes were made but we were unable to obtain additional quotes, Fromm, Blatt & Myers, and Aegis do not deal in security or the desired cameras. A motion was made by Robert Rittle, seconded by James Niethammer to award the park security camera project to Star Dust Electric in the amount of $19,895.00; motion unanimously carried.

President Bricker advised SLC forgot to run conduit for the electric under the concrete at the large pavilion, they were going to try and go under the concrete to install but rather than them cracking the concrete in this attempt, Dwight is installing a post for the electrical outlets. A quote was received from Star Dust Electric for the park pavilion electric installation. The quote was reviewed and discussed. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Matthew Johnson to award the park pavilion electric installation project to Star Dust Electric in the amount of $3,985.00; motion unanimously carried.

2025 Road & Alley Repairs Tar & Chip – two sealed bids were received and opened. Bids received were from Russel Standard Corporation in the amount of $53,103.07 and Martin Paving Inc. in the amount of $40,162.69. Bids will be sent to Solicitor Andrew George for review prior to contract award at the May, 13, 2025 Council meeting.

Park Landscape Project – Three quotes were obtained: Integrity Land Works LLC in the amount of $13,849.65 plus $457.00 per service for watering of al newly planted trees, Oakdale Nursery in the amount of $10,157.50, and Tomlinson Bomberger in the amount of $18,304.00. Quotes were reviewed, compared, and discussed. A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Richard Stickler to award the park landscape project to Oakdale Nursery in the amount of $10,157.50; motion carried with four in favor, zero opposed, and two abstaining. President Kelly Bricker and President Pro Tem Larry Hartman abstained from the vote to award the park landscape project to Oakdale Nursery, due to conflict of interest

Leaf Truck – Council discussed action to be taken with the old leaf truck. A motion was made by Robert Rittle, seconded by Matthew Johnson to approve to sell the 2007 Freightliner Leaf Truck on Municibid with the bid award pending approval by vote of Council; motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made by James Niethammer, seconded by Larry Hartman to approve Secretary Schnoke to advertise the sale of the leaf truck; motion unanimously carried.

Dwight Belleman expressed his opinion that the next mower should have a bagger in light of the park revitalization project. Council briefly discussed this matter.

Dwight Belleman brought to the attention of Council that the oil and oil filter was changed on the zero-turn mower and there were some metal shavings present in the oil and filter and advised that Council take this into consideration.

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 Robert Rittle, to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Rebecca Schnoke,

Richland Borough Secretary