

City of Richland
Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting – Incoming Council
January 12, 2026

The incoming Richland City Council met on Monday, January 12, 2026, in regular session. Mayor John Capps called the meeting to order at 7:03pm. Council members Michael Hadley, Steve Pfeifer, Cyndia Crafton and Jim Gaines were present. Council member Joe Adrian was absent. Also present: City Clerk Sarah Claeys and Public Works Supervisor Calder Bender.

Hadley moved and Crafton 2nd to approve the agenda: 4 ayes, motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Public Works Supervisor Calder Bender said the lagoon discharge is finished, and the city is waiting for the test results. He has completed his level 1 certifications.

City Clerk Sarah Claeys stated the city's year end reporting is done and she will resume working on the FY27 budget. The final reporting for the DNR Derelict Building Grant should be finalized and submitted this week.

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS –No action to be taken:

No comments.

Mayor Capps appointed Steve Pfeifer as Mayor Pro Tem. Hadley moved and Gaines 2nd to approve this appointment: roll call vote, 3 ayes, motion carried. Pfeifer abstained.

Pfeifer moved and Hadley 2nd to appoint Sarah Claeys as city clerk: roll call vote, 4 ayes, motion carried.

Katie with The News Review presented the city council with information regarding their publication. Hadley moved and Gaines 2nd to use The News Review as the City of Richland's official publication: 4 ayes, motion carried.

Gene Reed was not present to discuss the vacant lot at 121 and 123 N Richland Street. No action taken.

Claeys presented a proposal from Municipal Impact for website hosting. Crafton moved and Pfeifer 2nd to use Municipal Impact to host the city website: 4 ayes, motion carried.

The council members discussed the city's vehicles, specifically the 2003 red truck that is having issues. Mayor Capps presented quotes from Stivers Ford and Fesler Auto for a new Ford F250. Pfeifer moved and Crafton 2nd to approve the Fesler quote for a Ford F250 XLT to be ordered at a total price of \$48,576.20: roll call vote, 4 ayes, motion carried.

The city council assessed the value of the motor grader or if it should be auctioned. The council determined it is valuable to keep. No action taken.

Crafton moved and Gaines 2nd to approve the LL Pelling pricing for 2026: 4 ayes, motion carried.

The council members discussed future street repairs for budgeting purposes. No action taken.

Hadley moved and Gaines 2nd to approve the liquor license renewal for Country Junction: 4 ayes, motion carried.

Richland council members examined the 28E draft for fire protection. Hadley moved and Crafton 2nd to have the city attorney work directly with the fire department attorney for revisions, approve the amount shown of \$15,000 and use the city attorney's discretion on the township being listed in the agreement: 4 ayes, motion carried.

Crafton moved and Gaines 2nd to approve Resolution 01-12-26: Area 15 Regional Planning Commission: roll call vote, 4 ayes, motion carried.

Gaines moved and Pfeifer 2nd to approve Resolution 01-12-26 (1): Wage Increase for Public Works Supervisor: roll call vote, 4 ayes, motion carried.

Mayor Capps adjourned the meeting at 8:18pm.

ATTEST: _____

Mayor John Capps

City Clerk Sarah Claeys