



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Richfield, Minnesota

Council Regular Meeting

June 9, 2026

ITEM #1	CALL TO ORDER
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The meeting was called to order by Mayor Supple at 7:00 p.m. on June 9, 2026, in the Council Chambers.

Council Present: Mary Supple, Mayor; Walter Burk, Sean Hayford Oleary, Sharon Christensen, and Rori A. Coleman-Woods.

Staff Present: Katie Rodriguez, City Manager; Sack Thongvanh, Assistant City Manager; Kristin Asher, Public Works Director; Melissa Poehlman, Community Development Director; Karl Huemiller, Recreation Services Director; Sam Ketchum, serving in place for Mary Tietjen, City Attorney; and Michelle Friedrich, City Clerk.

ITEM #2	PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
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Mayor Supple led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM #3	APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
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MOTION: made by Council Member Hayford Oleary, seconded by Council Member Christensen to approve the agenda as presented.

Voting Aye: Mayor Supple, Council Member Burk, Council Member Hayford Oleary, Council Member Christensen, and Council Member Coleman-Woods.

Motion carried: 5-0

ITEM #4	APPROVAL OF MINUTES
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MOTION: made by Council Member Burk, seconded by Council Member Hayford Oleary to approve the minutes of the (4a) City Council Work Session from May 26, 2026, and (4b) Regular Meeting from May 26, 2026.

Voting Aye: Mayor Supple, Council Member Burk, Council Member Hayford Oleary, Council Member Christensen, and Council Member Coleman-Woods.

Motion carried: 5-0

ITEM #5	OPEN FORUM
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Mayor Supple noted the process for individuals wishing to speak during Open Forum and reviewed the three-minute time limit for public comments and explained the use of time warning cards to alert the speaker when their time is almost expired. Instructions were given for speakers to state their name and city of residence before speaking. No residents participated in the Open Forum opportunity.

ITEM #6	PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS
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a. Proclamation Celebrating Juneteenth.

Mayor Supple read the proclamation celebrating Juneteenth. The proclamation was received by Human Rights Commission Liaison Council Member Burk.

b. Proclamation Celebrating Ava Wiederholt.

Mayor Supple read the proclamation celebrating Ava Weiderholt. The proclamation was received by Ava Weiderholt.

ITEM #7	CONSENT CALENDAR
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City Manager Rodriguez presented the consent calendar.

a. Approve Disbursements/Claims

U.S. BANK	Thru 06-05-2026
A/P Checks/ETF's: (05-15-2026 through 05-29-2026)	\$3,530,526.30
Payroll (06-05-2026) <i>Includes health insurance premiums for June 2026.</i>	<u>\$1,371,441.82</u>
TOTAL	\$4,901,968.12

b. Consideration of a Professional Service Agreement with TC2 to assist the City with the 2050 Comprehensive Plan update.

c. Resolution supporting the City of Richfield's selection to host a Minnesota GreenCorps Member.

RESOLUTION 12426

SUPPORTING THE CITY OF RICHFIELD'S SELECTION TO HOST A MINNESOTA GREENCORPS MEMBER

d. Resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to execute two Active Transportation Grant Agreements with the Metropolitan Council.

RESOLUTION 12427

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE TWO ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION GRANT AGREEMENTS WITH THE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

MOTION: made by Council Member Coleman-Woods, seconded by Council Member Burk, to approve Consent Calendar items 7a-d as presented.

Voting Aye: Mayor Supple, Council Member Burk, Council Member Hayford Oleary, Council Member Christensen, and Council Member Coleman-Woods.

Motion carried: 5-0

ITEM #8	CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS, IF ANY, REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR
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None.

ITEM #9	PUBLIC HEARINGS
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None.

ITEM #10	PROPOSED ORDINANCES
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None.

ITEM #11	RESOLUTIONS
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- a. Consideration of a policy for use of the 4d (1) tax classification as a tool to create and preserve affordable housing.

Council Member Hayford Oleary presented staff report 11a, a proposed policy for the use of the 4d (1) tax classification to support affordable housing. The policy reflects the direction of the Council and the Housing and Redevelopment Authority Commission's direction that 4d (1) should be used only as a last resort after other funding sources have been exhausted. Priority would be given to preserving existing affordable housing and projects that advance key housing goals. For new construction, 4d (1) would only be considered when it meets City priorities and is financially beneficial to the City.

MOTION: made by Council Member Hayford Oleary, seconded by Council Member Burk, to adopt a resolution approving a policy governing the use of 4d (1) tax classification to help create and preserve affordable housing.

Council Members expressed support for the 4d (1) policy and thanked staff for their work developing a balanced approach. Council discussion emphasized the importance of adhering to the policy when evaluating future requests, recognizing the need to balance affordable housing goals with the tax impacts on other property owners and agreed that the policy will serve as a useful framework for evaluating future requests.

RESOLUTION 12428

APPROVING THE ADOPTION OF A 4d (1) TAX CLASSIFICATION POLICY

Voting Aye: Mayor Supple, Council Member Burk, Council Member Hayford Oleary, Council Member Christensen, and Council Member Coleman-Woods.

Motion carried: 5-0

ITEM #12	OTHER BUSINESS
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- a. Consider and approve either a 46-day in-person or an 18-day early voting period for 2026 based on new election legislation passed on May 15, 2026, establish an absentee ballot board with Hennepin County, and a city absentee ballot board on election days, and as needed throughout the 46 days of absentee voting.

Council Member Coleman-Woods presented staff report 12a, which included options for implementing new state election legislation that allows municipalities to choose either a 46-day in-person absentee voting period or an 18-day in-person early voting period for 2026 elections. Staff also recommended appointing Hennepin County as the absentee ballot board during the absentee voting period and establishing a City absentee ballot board for election days and as needed throughout the voting period.

Council Members asked questions about how residents would access and return absentee ballots under the proposed 18-day in-person voting period. Staff explained that residents still have availability to vote beginning 46 days before an election through mail, online requests, or at Hennepin County Government Center, and can still drop-off ballots at City Hall. Staff also outlined plans to communicate the changes to residents and confirmed that computer access would be available at City Hall to assist voters with requesting mail-out ballots or with registering to vote. Council members expressed support for the 18-day option, noting that it maintains voter access and ballot security while reducing administrative workload and costs.

MOTION: made by Council Member Burk, seconded by Council Member Christensen, to approve a resolution establishing an 18-day in-person early voting administration process for the statewide primary and general elections in Richfield, Minnesota; appointing Hennepin County as the primary absentee ballot board for Richfield elections during the 46-day absentee voting period; establishing a City absentee ballot board as needed during the 46-day absentee voting period; and establishing a City absentee ballot board for the statewide primary election on August 11, 2026, and the general election on November 3, 2026.

RESOLUTION 12429

ESTABLISHING THE CITY OF RICHFIELD'S ABSENTEE AND EARLY VOTING ADMINISTRATION PERIOD AND ADMINISTRATION OF ABSENTEE BALLOT BOARD FOR ALL FUTURE PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTIONS HELD ON THE SAME DAY AS A STATEWIDE ELECTION PURSUANT TO MINNESOTA STATUTES § 203B.05

Voting Aye: Mayor Supple, Council Member Burk, Council Member Hayford Oleary, Council Member Christensen, and Council Member Coleman-Woods.

Motion carried: 5-0

ITEM #13	CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
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City Manager Rodriguez noted nothing to report for this evening.

ITEM #14	COUNCIL DISCUSSION
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- a. Hats off to Hometown Hits.

Council Member Coleman-Woods expressed appreciation to all the 2026 Richfield graduating seniors.

Council Member Christensen reminded residents that the Richfield Pool is opening at Veterans Park on Friday, June 12.

Council Member Hayford Oleary thanked Pizza Lucé for hosting its annual bike tour, which connects all eight metro-area locations. Council Member Hayford Oleary noted he participated in part of the ride and noted strong community participation, with more than 100 bicycles filling the bike racks and parking area at the Richfield location. The event highlighted local biking activity and provided a fun opportunity for residents to engage in the community.

Council Member Burk expressed appreciation to City Clerk Friedrich for providing a thorough and informative presentation to the Human Rights Commission on election laws and election administration in Richfield.

Mayor Supple invited residents to attend the Summer Kickoff event at the Municipal Center and Heredia Park, featuring family-friendly activities, community information booths, entertainment, and a State of the Community address. The mayor also congratulated local graduates, students, and educators on the completion of the school year and thanked Frasier School for hosting a recent tour of its facilities.

b. Council Liaison Reports

No reports were discussed.

ITEM #15	CLOSED SESSION
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a. Closed Session City Manager Evaluation

Mayor Supple announced the closed session item, and stated, "Council is moving into a closed session meeting in the Babcock Room for the purpose of conducting a performance evaluation of City Manager Katie Rodriguez, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.05, subdivision 3(a).

MOTION: made by Council Member Burk, seconded by Council Member Coleman-Woods to recess the regular meeting and move into the closed session meeting.

Voting Aye: Supple, Burk, Hayford Oleary, Christensen, and Coleman-Woods.

Motion carries: 5:0

Council recessed to closed session at 7:32 pm.

Council reconvened the regular meeting at 9:13 pm.

Mayor Supple stated, "Council will now reconvene the regular meeting at 9:13 pm. The Council met in a closed session to conduct the performance evaluation of City Manager Rodriguez pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.05, subd. 3(a). The Council will hold another closed-session performance evaluation meeting on June 16, 2026; and as required by law, will provide a summary of the performance evaluation at the June 23, 2026, regular council meeting.

ITEM #16	ADJOURNMENT
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MOTION: made by Council Member Burk, seconded by Council Member Coleman-Woods to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

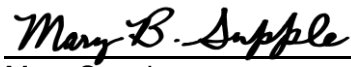
Voting Aye: Supple, Burk, Hayford Oleary, Christensen, and Coleman-Woods.

Motion carries: 5:0

Date Approved: June 23, 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michelle R. Friedrich", written in a cursive style.

Michelle Friedrich
City Clerk

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mary B. Supple", written in a cursive style.

Mary Supple
Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Katie Rodriguez", written in a cursive style.

Katie Rodriguez
City Manager