



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Richfield, Minnesota

Council Regular Meeting

June 23, 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 23, 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; Karl Huemiller, Recreation Services Director; Kate Croteau, Human Resources Director; Mary Bogie, Finance Director; 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	PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS
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a. Gene and Mary Jacobsen Awards Ceremony.

Mayor Supple introduced the Gene and Mary Jacobson Awards ceremony and noted the Richfield Human Rights Commission has presented the Citizen of the Year Award annually since 1971 to recognize a Richfield resident, employee, family, group, organization, or business whose actions promote human understanding, tolerance, and positive human relations.

Mayor Supple introduced the Human Rights Commissioner Valerie Hurst Baker and Kim Jacobsen to present award. Commission Hurst Baker noted accolades to all the nominees for the award including Brianna Darling, Carl Herman, Kimberly Anderson, Melissa Gonzalez, Maria Day, Jaquelyn Sanchez Vidal, Margaret Perez, and Jonathan Sabellos. Mr. Jacobsen announced Maria Day as the recipient of the Gene and Mary Jacobsen Outstanding Citizenship Award and presented the award to her.

Award recipient Maria Day accepted the Gene and Mary Jacobson Outstanding Citizenship Award and expressed gratitude for the recognition. Ms. Day emphasized that the honor reflected the collective efforts of the Richfield community and acknowledged the contributions of local organizations, including VEAP, RCSN, St. Stephen's, Diaper Depot, and donors to the Richfield Little Pantry. Ms. Day thanked the City of Richfield, their family, volunteers, and community leaders for their support and encouraged continued collaboration to build an inclusive and supportive community.

ITEM #4**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

MOTION: made by Council Member Hayford Oleary, seconded by Council Member Burk 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 #5**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION: made by Council Member Hayford Oleary, seconded by Council Member Burk to approve the minutes of the (4a) City Council Regular Meeting from June 9, 2026, and (4b) City Council Special Meeting from June 16, 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 #6**OPEN FORUM**

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.

One resident spoke during Open Forum.

Birgit Johnson, Richfield resident, encouraged the City to continue expanding community outreach and public engagement, stating that increased communication and opportunities for residents to connect can help build trust and strengthen the community.

ITEM #7**PRESENTATIONS**

- b. Receipt of the City of Richfield Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2025.

Finance Director Bogie introduced Bergan KDV, Ltd., Manager Caroline Strutsman, to present the report. Bergan KDV Manager Stutsman presented the 2025 annual audit results and reported an unmodified opinion, concluding that the financial statements are fairly presented. No findings were reported for federal or Minnesota legal compliance audits, and the City remained in compliance with its fund balance policy. Bergan KDV Manager Stutsman also provided an overview of general fund revenues and expenditures, budget performance, and the financial results of the liquor, water and sewer, and storm sewer funds.

MOTION: made by Mayor Supple, seconded by Council Member Christensen, to accept the annual comprehensive financial plan report for the year ended December 31, 2025.

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

ITEM #8	CONSENT CALENDAR
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City Manager Rodriguez presented the consent calendar.

a. Approve Disbursements/Claims

U.S. BANK	
A/P Checks/ETF's: (06-01-2026 through 06-12-2026)	\$1,219,378.03
Payroll (06-18-2026)	<u>\$1,159,399.80</u>
TOTAL	\$2,378,777.83

b. Consider Resolutions of Support for Project Submittals for the 2026 Metropolitan Council Regional Solicitation.

RESOLUTION 12430

SUPPORTING REGIONAL SOLICITATION APPLICATION FOR RICHFIELD BICYCLE MASTER PLAN UPDATE PROJECT

RESOLUTION 12431

SUPPORTING REGIONAL SOLICITATION APPLICATION FOR WEST 68TH STREET SIDEWALK PROJECT

RESOLUTION 12432

SUPPORTING REGIONAL SOLICITATION APPLICATION FOR WEST 73RD STREET TRAIL PROJECT

RESOLUTION 12433

SUPPORTING REGIONAL SOLICITATION APPLICATION FOR RICHFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROJECT

RESOLUTION 12434

SUPPORTING REGIONAL SOLICITATION APPLICATION FOR WEST 76TH STREET MODERNIZATION PROJECT

RESOLUTION 12435

SUPPORTING REGIONAL SOLICITATION APPLICATION FOR WEST 76TH STREET AND NEWTON AVENUE INTERSECTION PROJECT

c. Consider approval of a request for three (3) new Secondhand Goods Dealer licenses for EcoATM, LLC.

d. Consider approval of a Temporary On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor license for the Richfield Foundation's Wine Tasting event scheduled for Thursday, October 8, 2026, in the atrium area of Woodlake Center, located at 6601 Lyndale Ave South.

e. Consider approval of a Temporary On Sale Intoxicating Liquor license for the Fred Babcock Days event scheduled to take place August 1, 2026, at Fred Babcock VFW #5555, located at 6715 Lakeshore Drive.

f. Appoint 2026 Election Judges for the Primary and General Elections.

RESOLUTION 12436

APPOINTING ELECTION JUDGES AND AN ABSENTEE BALLOT BOARD FOR THE 2026 PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTIONS

g. Consider adoption of a resolution authorizing the City to affirm the monetary limits on statutory municipal tort liability.

RESOLUTION 12437

AFFIRMING MUNICIPAL TORT LIABILITY LIMITS ESTABLISHED BY MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 466.04

- h. Consider approval of an agreement with Preferred Properties, in the amount of \$263,970, for the replacement of exterior soffit on rink one of the Richfield Ice Arena.

MOTION: made by Council Member Hayford Oleary, seconded by Council Member Coleman-Woods, to approve Consent Calendar items 7a-h 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 #9	CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS, IF ANY, REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR
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None.

ITEM #10	PUBLIC HEARINGS
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None.

ITEM #11	PROPOSED ORDINANCES
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- a. Consider the first reading of an ordinance amending Subsection 840.11 of the Richfield City Code, pertaining to alcohol in City parks.

Council Member Hayford Oleary presented staff report 11a, Consider the first reading of an ordinance amending Subsection 840.111 of Richfield Cit Code, pertaining to alcohol in City parks.

BILL 2026-06

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SUBSECTION 840.11 OF THE RICHFIELD CITY CODE PERTAINING TO ALCOHOL IN CITY PARKS

MOTION: made by Council Member Hayford Oleary, seconded by Council Member Coleman-Woods, to approve the first reading of an ordinance amending subsection 840.11 of the code of ordinances pertaining to alcohol in city parks, and schedule the second reading for July 14, 2026.

Council members expressed support for the proposed ordinance revisions, with one member encouraging staff to continue evaluating security requirements for smaller events. Council also discussed whether to explicitly prohibit alcohol in the pool area. Staff noted that alcohol has not been permitted there and that the Recreation Services Director has discretion to deny requests for safety reasons. Council agreed to leave the ordinance as drafted without additional amendments.

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	RESOLUTIONS
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- a. A resolution related to the amended 2026 General Pay Plan.

Council Member Christensen presented staff report 12a, Amending the General Pay Plan, adding pay grades 23 through 25 and reclassifying the City Manager position to pay grade 25. The

proposed changes were recommended to better align the position with the current market and support future recruitment and retention.

Human Resources Director Croteau explained that the proposed amendments to the 2026 General Pay Plan reflect changes in the compensation market and recent legislative updates affecting city manager salaries. The additional pay grades are intended to maintain a competitive and equitable pay structure and provide flexibility for future position classifications.

RESOLUTION 12438

AMENDING THE 2026 GENERAL PAY PLAN

MOTION: made by Council Member Christensen, seconded by Council Member Coleman-Woods, to approve the resolution amending the 2026 General Pay Plan.

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

Motion carried: 5-0

Council noted that the 2023 removal of the state salary cap for local government employees has allowed city manager compensation to better align with market rates, resulting in higher salaries for comparable positions.

b. Summary of the City Manager's Annual Performance.

Mayor Supple presented Item 12b, Summary of the City Manager's Annual Performance Evaluation, covering the period of July 2025 through June 2026. The evaluation was conducted in closed sessions on June 9 and June 16, 2026, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.05, Subdivision 3(a). Mayor Supple noted that the Council recognized City Manager Rodriguez for her outstanding leadership, organizational improvements, and efforts to support the City and region during challenging events.

RESOLUTION 12439

AMENDING THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF RICHFIELD AND CATHERINE RODRIGUEZ, CITY MANAGER

MOTION: made by Mayor Supple, seconded by Council Member Coleman-Woods, to approve the resolution amending the city manager's employment agreement with the city reflecting a salary adjustment.

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	OTHER BUSINESS
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None.

ITEM #14	CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
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City Manager Rodriguez reported there were no speakers at the previous open forum. City Manager Rodriguez thanked the Finance Department staff for their work completing the annual audit and expressed appreciation to the City Council for its support and guidance.

ITEM #15	COUNCIL DISCUSSION
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a. Hats off to Hometown Hits.

Council Member Coleman-Woods thanked the City Manager for her guidance and support and congratulated Ava Wiederholt on winning a gold medal at the Special Olympics, recognizing her representation of Richfield.

Council Member Christensen reminded residents of the upcoming Fourth of July celebration in Richfield, including the pancake breakfast, wreath-laying ceremony, parade, fireworks, music, and food trucks.

Council Member Hayford Oleary expressed excitement for the Fourth of July celebration and thanked the Fourth of July Committee, police officers, and City staff for their efforts in coordinating the event.

Council Member Burk had nothing to report this week.

Mayor Supple thanked volunteers, staff, and community partners for their work on recent Juneteenth and Summer Kickoff events. Mayor Supple expressed appreciation for community efforts, including Joe Carr's annual lemonade stand fundraiser for Gillette Children's Hospital, and for City Clerk Friedrich and staff supporting upcoming election services.

b. Council Liaison Reports

No reports were discussed.

ITEM #16	ADJOURNMENT
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MOTION: made by Mayor Supple, seconded by Council Member Coleman-Woods to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

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

Motion carries: 5:0

Date Approved: July 14, 2026



Michelle Friedrich
City Clerk



Mary Supple
Mayor



Katie Rodriguez
City Manager