

**MINUTES**  
**RICHWOOD CITY COUNCIL**  
Special Meeting, Tuesday, May 10, 2011  
Richwood City Hall  
215 Halbert  
Richwood, TX 77531  
1:00 P.M.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Michael Johnson, Mayor and presiding officer.

A. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was given by Glenn Patton, City Administrator.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

**II. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Roll call showed the following members present:

Michael Johnson, Mayor and presiding officer  
James Hughes, Position #1  
John Pitts, Position #2  
Lee Bryant, Position #3  
Charles Pettey, Position #4

Absent:

Sandra Boykin, Position #5

A quorum was declared. Others present included Glenn Patton, City Administrator, Karen B. Schrom, City Secretary, Ricky Brinkman, Public Works Director, Gloria Pettey, Pat Griffith, Raymond Burroughs and representing Texas A&M were Dr. Elise Bright, Phil Lasley, Xi Chen, Brad Cooper, Joey Kaspar, Lindsey Key and Thomas Uman.

**III. ANYONE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

There was no one who wished to address Council on matters not on the agenda.

**V. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

A. Presentation by Texas A&M University - Comprehensive Plan

Dr. Bright told Council that the Comprehensive Plan that will be presented today represented 18 months of work from various classes of grad students. Those present today represented the core group. Phil Lasley served as the project manager, Xi Chen worked on land use, Brad

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Cooper handled the environmental work, Joey Kaspar's area was zoning, Lindsey Key tackled population and Thomas Oommen worked on the graphic arts.

Phil Lasley stated that they were very excited about the future of Richwood, in terms of growth and development. This has the potential of adding to the city's charm while creating a vibrant social and economic environment. The Comprehensive Plan offers ways to capitalize on this and offers alternative growth scenarios and development options to guide each aspect of the city - population, economy, housing, land use, the environment, transportation, utilities, community facilities and urban design. Much of what is presented were mentioned in the community survey as elements the citizens wished to see and others address the issues found while conducting the State of the Community Report.

Lindsey Key explained that the 2010 census indicates the City has a population of 3,510. She presented three growth trends:

1. High Growth has a population of 6,421 by 2030
2. Medium Growth has a population of 5,082 by 2030
3. Low Growth has a population of 4,512 by 2030

She also presented economic, population and land use scenarios based on these growth trends.

Brad Cooper then presented information on the environment of the area. He mentioned that Richwood was in an enviable position of having heavy forested areas and wetlands, both of which could be used for enviro-tourism. Based on the environmental suitability study, he presented three ideal areas for development within the city's extra territorial jurisdiction. It was also suggested the City contact the Texas Forest Service and work on tailoring a tree ordinance specifically for Richwood.

Also presented were ideas for a skatepark, splashpad and hiking/biking trails. It was explained that the problems Richwood experiences with the lack of a clear and distinctive urban form can be fixed by creating the hiking and biking trail. This would go a long way to create direct access routes throughout the city. They presented a plan which can be set up in five phases with optional segments as development occurs and can be financed using grant and private money.

The thoroughfare plan offers sustainable plans for the major loop as well as new transects and gateway areas. Careful transportation planning requires an access management plan and road maintenance plan to be developed by the city in conjunction with both TXDOT and the county.

Without such a plan, the primary arterials will likely develop in a traditional method, allowing too many driveways on the primary arterial, hindering traffic flow and increasing the number of signalized intersections.

They also suggested the city should seek to leverage funds with a developer to build a new city hall and police station when the intersection of SH 288B and FM 2004 are developed. By locating the new facility in this location at this time, the city would be able to save on costs of construction. Additionally the new city hall will be able to serve the community as a landmark and gateway to a new town center, serving as a place of arrival.

Mayor Johnson and members of the City Council thanked Team Richwood for all their hard work.

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**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

APPROVED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF COUNCIL ON JUNE 13, 2011.

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Michael Johnson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Karen B. Schrom, City Secretary