



## CITY OF RICHMOND HILL MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Tuesday, March 24, 2020  
7:00 P.M.

Richmond Hill City Hall Council Chambers  
40 Richard Davis Drive  
Richmond Hill, Georgia 31324

**Present from City Council:** Russ Carpenter, *Mayor*; *Councilmembers:* Kristi Cox, Robbie Ward, Mark Ott and Steve Scholar

**Staff Present:** Chris Lovell, *City Manager*; Scott Allison, *Assistant City Manager*; Dawnne Greene, *City Clerk*

Mayor Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Councilmember Cox gave the invocation and Councilmember Ott led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes of meeting **March 3, 2020**

**Councilmember Scholar made a motion to approve the March 3, 2020 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cox. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Cox, Ward, Ott and Scholar.**

**Councilmember Cox made a motion to amend the agenda for emergency measures. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ott. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Cox, Ward, Ott and Scholar.**

### **COVID-19 STATEMENT FROM MAYOR CARPENTER**

Good evening,

Today, we learned that two of our own here in Bryan County have been diagnosed with coronavirus. We offer our heartfelt prayers to them for healing and recovery.

We understand the concerns and fears felt by our residents – because they are ours too. Despite all of the unknowns, please know that our top priority is the safety of our citizens. This is paramount to us.

As we continue to place regulations that aim to flatten the curve and keep this community safe, I ask that you think of someone you care about and what you'd be willing to do to keep them safe. Think of all the people you care deeply for.

I am imploring you -- our residents, businesses and faith communities – to adhere to the CDC's recommendations – as we are doing – and help protect your families, neighbors, coworkers and our community during this unprecedented time. Staying at home can save the life of someone you love and the lives of others in this community.

I am calling on my fellow Richmond Hill residents to fight this virus with everything you've got. Let's show COVID19 that it can't beat the Hill. We are all in this together -- and together, we can beat this virus.

We are counting on each other to consciously do the right thing. The right thing is to follow the state and local mandates and the guidance of healthcare professionals by using best practices – regular hand-washing, social distancing, and disinfecting frequently used areas to prevent infection.

I ask that we pray for the continued safety of our first responders, healthcare workers, elderly, and medically fragile.

Thank you.

**Councilmember Scholar made a motion to discuss a resolution amending the joint city-county COVID-19 agreement. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ward. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Cox, Ward, Ott and Scholar.**

**Councilmember Scholar made a motion to approve the discussed resolution amending the joint city-county COVID-19 agreement, effective March 25, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ward. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Cox, Ward, Ott and Scholar.**

#### **CITY MANAGER TOPICS**

1. Approval/Disapproval of the Contract Award for the Richmond Hill Regional Connector Road Construction

**Councilmember Scholar made a motion to table the Contract Award for the Richmond Hill Regional Connector Road Construction to the next meeting on April 7, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cox. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Cox, Ward, Ott and Scholar.**

2. Approval/Disapproval of the Contract Award for the State Route 144 at Interstate 95 Water and Sewer Relocation

**Councilmember Ward made a motion to approve the Contract Award for the State Route 144 at Interstate 95 Water and Sewer Relocation not to exceed \$675,122.00. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ott. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Cox, Ward, Ott and Scholar.**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Approval/Disapproval of an amendment to the City of Richmond Hill Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2, "Administration," Article II, "City Council," Section 2-31, "Meetings," to read "(a) The city council shall meet at city hall in the city council chambers in Richmond Hill, Georgia, at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month for a council meeting. The city council shall also meet at city hall on the third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. for a council workshop.;" for the purpose of adjusting the city council meeting date; and for establishing an effective date of Wednesday, March 25, 2020.

**Councilmember Cox made a motion to approve the amendment to the City of Richmond Hill Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2, "Administration," Article II, "City Council," Section 2-31, "Meetings," to read "(a) The city council shall meet at city hall in the city council**

chambers in Richmond Hill, Georgia, at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month for a council meeting. The city council shall also meet at city hall on the third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. for a council workshop.;" for the purpose of adjusting the city council meeting date; and for establishing an effective date of Wednesday, March 25, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Scholar. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Cox, Ward, Ott and Scholar.

2. Executive session for personnel

Councilmember Ward made a motion to enter Executive Session for personnel matters only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ott. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Cox, Ward, Ott and Scholar.

Councilmember Scholar made a motion to authorize the City Attorney to carry out the recommendation of Council during Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ott. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Cox, Ward, Ott and Scholar.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M. in a motion by Councilmember Ward. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Cox. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Cox, Ward, Ott and Scholar.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawnne Greene  
City Clerk

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND HILL  
ESTABLISHING THE PRACTICE OF ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS  
IN REGARDS TO THE COVID-19 EVENT**

**WHEREAS**, a joint resolution declaring a state of emergency in the county of Bryan, The City of Richmond Hill, Georgia and the City of Pembroke, Georgia established the practice of certain recommendations from the CDC and the Georgia Department of Public Health in regards to the COVID-19 event was adopted on March 23, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 10 of the joint resolution states that no provision of that declaration shall preclude the County, or any City with respect to its territorial limits, from adopting more stringent measures requirements or prohibitions.

**NOW THEREFORE, IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED** as follows:

**Section 1:** Effective March 25, 2020, the following regulations shall be required within the City of Richmond Hill limits.

**Section 2:** All eating establishments must cease dine-in services. They may continue to prepare and serve food and drink via delivery, drive-thru and takeout. Cafeterias in hospitals, nursing homes, hospice centers and similar facilities will not be subject to these restrictions and may continue normal operations.

**Section 3:** All gyms and fitness centers must be closed.

**Section 4:** All houses of worship must use social media or other video outlets to broadcast worship services.

**Section 5:** Barber shops, beauty parlors, tattoo parlors, and personal care salons must operate by appointment only and adopt regular deep cleaning practices between clients.

**Section 6:** This Declaration shall be effective until April 3, 2020, when it shall terminate unless extended, altered, or amended by further declaration.