

# Village of Richmond

## INCORPORATED 1872

Village President Toni Wardanian called the February 19, 2026 Board Meeting to order at 7:00 PM, 5600 Hunter Drive, Richmond, Illinois.

Everyone in attendance rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### ROLL CALL:

**PRESENT:** Village President Toni Wardanian, Trustees: Lauri Cook, Robert Elliott, Frank Peiler and Linda Weiss.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Jason Weiler.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Village Administrator/Police Chief Ciro Cetrangolo, Management Analyst Kristen Murphy, Attorney Brandy Quance and Village Clerk Karla Thomas.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS:** President Wardanian announced that Trustee Adam Metz has resigned his position to take the Richmond Township Supervisor position and asked Trustees to submit names to her to fill the seat. She reported that James Gerasco has indicated his interest in the seat and had previously been a Trustee.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** The Board reviewed the items on the consent agenda.

- a. Motion to approve the Regular Board Minutes for February 5, 2026
- b. Motion to approve Expenditure of Funds for Warrant Fiscal Year 25/26.10 in the amount not to exceed \$199,785.09
- c. Motion to approve and authorization to execute the 2026 Park Facilities Usage Permit Agreement between the Village of Richmond and the Richmond Burton Baseball Association
- d. Motion to approve and authorization to execute the 2026 Park Facilities Usage Permit Agreement between the Village of Richmond and the Rage Softball Inc. organization

*Trustee Peiler moved, seconded by Trustee Elliott to approve the consent agenda item 7a through 7d as presented. ROLL CALL: AYES: COOK, ELLIOTT, PEILER and WEISS. NAYS: NONE. ABSENT: WEILER. ABSTAIN: NONE. The motion carried.*

**NEW BUSINESS:** President Wardanian presented a motion to approve a request by FAST Endurance to Close off the W. Parking Lot from 8:30 am-3 pm and the E. Parking Lot 8:30 am-5 pm on Sunday, September 20, 2026 for the Richmond Rampage, Illinois Fall Cycling Classic Special Event. Village Administrator Cetrangolo reported that additional parking has been secured at the Nippersink Middle School. The event coordinator Mr. Starykowicz presented the Board with additional information. He anticipates 100-150 riders at this 1<sup>st</sup> time event with registration taking place at Richmond Café from 7 am-10 am. Mr. Starykowicz is in the planning stage for post ride festivities such as, food trucks, possible beer garden, a DJ/MC/Local Band with a bike wash located at the Glass Smith.

*Trustee Weiss moved, seconded by Trustee Cook to approve a request by FAST Endurance to close off the W. Parking Lot until 3 pm and the E. Parking Lot until 5 pm on Sunday, September 20, 2026 for the Richmond Rampage, Illinois Fall Cycling Classic Special Event as presented. ROLL CALL: AYES: ELLIOTT, PEILER, WEISS and COOK. NAYS: NONE. ABSENT: WEILER. ABSTAIN: NONE. The motion carried.*

Mgmt. Analyst Murphy distributed (3) concepts for gateway, wayfinding, downtown parking lot, and pole banner signage. The (3) concepts were titled "Nature", "Classic", and "Modern", for which she explained the differences. Ms. Murphy asked Board members to take the concept images home, review them and pick and choose what concept or elements of each concept they would like to see. She also encouraged them to provide their input via email or in person of any changes to the designs provided or options they preferred. Ms. Murphy will then design a signage plan, with final designs to be finalized by the Board. The signage plan will be implemented over several years.

### COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:** Trustee Elliott reported that the St. Patrick's Day event will be held at The District on Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> and everyone is encourage to attend.

**ADMINISTRATION/POLICE:** Village Administrator/Police Chief provided the following updates/information:

- The Shamrock has been installed downtown for St. Patrick's Day.
- Requested whether the Board wished to take down the old log organizational/welcome sign structures that are over 20 years old. The Board unanimously agreed they should be taken down.

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- The engineering firm Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates (WJE) provided their George Street Bridge Report. The board members were asked to read through the document at home. Administrator Cetrangolo reported that based upon the engineer's inspection, they recommend strong consideration to be given to replacing all the bridge timber framing. One option would be to construct a replica bridge, possibly salvaging some of the existing historic hardware. The board was asked to consider what they want to do, as the report indicates a lot of expensive repairs and ongoing maintenance. This will be a long project for which the Village will have to begin planning and the board will need to decide what they wish to do. Management Analyst Murphy noted that the Village did apply for a grant, but will not hear whether we will be awarded it until spring. Upon notification Ms. Murphy will let the board know. Administrator Cetrangolo reported that basically the engineering firm is stating that the entire structure is beyond repair. The Public Works Superintendent Schmitt has suggested having a pre-built steel bridge constructed in its place and Ms. Murphy came up with the idea of using some of the existing wood for the façade or decorative elements. Ms. Murphy also suggested another alternative by taking a large slab of the wood from the structure and place a plaque on it showing the original structure. It was noted that replacing the bridge would ultimately make it safe. Ms. Murphy reported that the village has a cost estimate from the engineers used for the grant at \$300,000.00-\$350,000.00, but if we received the grant in the amount of \$250,000.00 this would greatly help fund the project.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Administrator Cetrangolo reported that the recent Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) inspection was good.

**VILLAGE CLERK:** None.

**PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:** President Wardanian reported that she spent Tuesday and Wednesday in Springfield with other municipal leaders to discuss concerns about legislation and/or pending legislation that has or will limit local municipality authority, such as, Solar Farms and parking regulations for new developments. There was also recent legislation passed that affects FOIA requests.

**TRUSTEE COMMENTS:** None.


**CLOSED SESSION:** None.

**ACTION RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION:** None.

*With no further business, Trustee Elliott moved to adjourn the February 19, 2026 Regular Board Meeting, seconded by Trustee Peiler. The motion was approved by voice vote.*

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Karla L. Thomas, Village Clerk