

The Richlands Town Council held a "Workshop" in the Richlands Council Chambers on September 27, 2021 at 5:30 pm, with the following present:

Mayor: Rodney D. Cury
Town Manager: John O'Daniel
Town Clerk: Connie Allen
Council Members: Mary Ann Strong, Jeff Hurst, Mike Street, Doug Ratliff
Richard Brown
Council Member Absent: Logan Plaster
Town Attorney : No Attorney Present

Mayor Cury opened the meeting.

John - Opened the meeting and introduced the guest from GDS Associates, Inc. and Blue Ridge Power.

Garrett Cole/Jacob Thomas- GDS Associates – Presentation of Power Point – Discussed and Answered questions along with Alice Wolf from Blue Ridge Power. (Power Point attached)

- Battery Storage – Lower cost
- Solar- Recommended being last option.
- PCA – Need to consider.
- Consider Battery Storage RFP – Four (4) of the Blue Ridge members are planning to release an RFP for battery storage. Would like to have the system online by June 1, 2023.
- Would like to know by November if Council wants to consider joining the RFP.
- Battery Storage and PCA - Put on the Council agenda to consider in October

Mayor Cury - Charter Change Discussion

- Change #1 – Agreed on wording of term limits.
- Change #2 – Difference of Opinion – discuss later
- Change #3 – 3.8(b) – Leave "AS IS" – Strike Change
- Change #3 – 3.8(c) - Discuss later
- Change #4 – Town Manager needs to live in Town, possible time-frame to move to Town.
- No cost to make Charter changes.
- Research wording from other Town Charters.

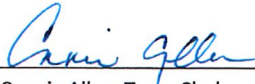
John - Discussed ARPA Funds – Presented attached list and discussed.

- Downtown Revitalization Grant - \$500,000
- WTP and WWTP Upgrades - \$4,164,807
- Drainage issue at Pizza Hut - \$150,000
- Small Business Revolving Loan Fund (IDA) - \$25,000
- PD Body Worn Cameras - \$50,000
- Green Space Phase II - \$25,000
- Drive-Thru - \$20,000 (Hope to be \$0)
- Rec Park Improvements - \$400,000
- Mike asked to add Fire Department – Communication 911
- Doug recommended letting citizens have a say and form a committee.
- Public Hearing – Agreed by Council

Richard - I make a motion to adjourn the workshop, Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no, Mike, Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann-Yes, Richard – Yes, Jeff – Yes
Motion carries – 5/0.

Workshop Adjourned



Connie Allen, Town Clerk



Rodney D. Cury, Mayor