

CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Roeland Park City Hall
4600 W 51st Street, Roeland Park, KS 66205
Monday, March 15, 2021 6:00 P.M.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Mike Kelly, Mayor○ Trisha Brauer, Council Member○ Benjamin Dickens, Council Member○ Jan Faidley, Council Member○ Jennifer Hill, Council Member | <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Jim Kelly, Council Member○ Tom Madigan, Council Member○ Claudia McCormack, Council Member○ Michael Rebne, Council Member | <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Keith Moody, City Administrator○ Jennifer Jones-Lacy, Asst. Admin.○ Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk○ John Morris, Police Chief○ Donnie Scharff, Public Works Director |
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Admin
Brauer
Hill

Finance
McCormack
Madigan

Safety
Rebne
Faidley

Public Works
Kelly
Dickens

(Roeland Park Council Meeting Called to Order at 6:00 p.m.)

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Kelly called the City Council meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

City Clerk Nielsen called the roll. All Governing Body were present. Staff members present were City Administrator Moody, Assistant City Administrator Jones-Lacy, Public Works Director Scharff, Public Works Superintendent Vandenbos, Police Chief Morris, Parks and Recreation Superintendent Nichols, Management Intern Verbrugge, City Attorney Mauer, and City Clerk Nielsen.

Modification of Agenda

There were no modifications to the agenda.

I. Citizen Comments

David Welch (4908 W. 57th) Mr. Welch spoke about what has happened on his street since the pandemic struck. He said a group of neighbors have become a newfound family. They spend time together sharing stories, meals, cocktails, games, and therapy. They laugh a lot and have built trust and genuinely care for one another. They are a diverse group who have become unconditional friends. Mr. Welch said in the depression of a pandemic they are a bright light on a street in Roeland Park. He is proud to live here and no matter where everyone may go, they are a lifelong friendly family.

Mayor Kelly remarked on what a beautiful sentiment this is. He said he has shared time on Mr. Welch’s porch and agreed it is a great block in Roeland Park. He said this goes a long way to affirm the choices made by those who lead the City and this makes it all the worthwhile. He said it is a pleasure to serve as Mayor because of exactly these types of stories throughout Roeland Park. He thanked Mr. Welch for lifting their spirits and setting a great tone for the meeting.

II. Consent Agenda

A. Appropriations Ordinance #970

B. Council Minutes March 1, 2021

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR FAIDLEY SECONDED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0)

III. Business from the Floor

A. Applications/Presentation

There was no Business from the Floor.

IV. Mayor's Report

A. Women's History Month Proclamation

Mayor Kelly expressed his appreciation of the hard-working women they have in the City.

CMBR Hill and CMBR Brauer read the proclamation into the record.

MOTION: CMBR BRAUER MOVED AND CMBR HILL SECONDED TO APPROVE MARCH 2021 AS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH IN THE CITY OF ROELAND PARK. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0)

V. Workshop and Committee Reports

There were no reports given.

VI. Reports of City Liaisons

A. Ad-Hoc Historical Committee Report

Chris Wolff from the Ad-Hoc Historical Committee said they are working on how to preserve the history of Roeland Park, educate its citizens, and showcase the City's history. They are also working on historical signage and have identified 8 to 12 different cultural and historically significant spots around Roeland Park that are good areas for signage. They are also discussing a trail marker stone for their portion of the Santa Fe Trail. The committee is also investigating pricing for the signs and markers.

Another idea the committee has is for more interpretive signs. They suggested a history walk at R Park where signs could go more in depth and people can read them as they walk. The committee is also looking at being able to change the signs for different events, occasions, or history topics and how it relates to Roeland Park.

City Administrator Moody asked Mr. Wolff if they have approached the Parks Committee about an interpretative walk. Mr. Wolff said they have not and was wanting to get feedback if this is something people would be interested in and that the committee is still in the brainstorming phase. City Administrator Moody encouraged them to get on a Parks Committee agenda to get their feedback and see how that might fit into their master plan.

CMBR Rebne thanked Mr. Wolff for his leadership on the committee. He said there is a lot of knowledge amongst its members and they have a great eagerness and passion. He said they welcome

comments from the public if they feel like they have something to offer and they are also taking new members on the committee.

CMBR Faidley asked about the markers and said she thought some were to be on Roe Boulevard after the Roe 2020 project. City Administrator Moody said they are to the point that there is nothing to hold them back on with identifying locations for markers. If the committee has some proposed locations for signage, they can bring that before the Council to approve. Then they can get the signs installed along the corridor. They already know where trees are to be planted, the streets signs are in, and Public Works Director Scharff is working on wayfinding signs along Roe.

CMBR Hill said they did talk about signs down Roe Boulevard, but placement was something they still needed to talk about. She said this is a great idea.

B. Aquatic Center Advisory Committee - Update on Pool Construction Progress and Hiring

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Tony Nichols reported the interior for the men's showers will be installed next week. The new epoxy floor was poured and the painting is almost complete. New pump room for the activity area is finished. The grating was installed this morning and the activity structures have also been installed. Despite the rain, they are still making progress.

All of the shade awnings have been installed around the pool deck. No water or mud has accumulated at the concession deck despite all the rain thanks to the grading that was done.

New handrails have been installed for ADA accessibility. New spray features and some additional plumbing and electrical work still needs to be done on the slides.

Aquatic Center employment opportunities have been posted on the City website and they are in contact with some swim teams for recruiting. Flyers and banners will also be placed on Roe Boulevard and social media posts will be on Facebook and Instagram.

In summary, construction remains on schedule and they are busy recruiting. At the next meeting, Mr. Nichols will be presenting the operational plan. There will also be an offering of public tours of the Aquatics Center in May so people can see the new features and also generate excitement.

CMBR Hill said she was curious about the whale slide what children would slide into. Mr. Nichols said there will be a pad at the bottom and that has not yet been installed.

CMBR Faidley asked if there were any upgrades to the women's restroom. Mr. Nichols said it is being repainted and the hardware was updated. CMBR Faidley said she noticed they addressed the erosion onto the pad at concession, but there is also an issue at the main entrance. Mr. Nichols said they have identified the issue as a clogged line at the end and that will be addressed in the spring with new downspouts.

C. Community Engagement Update

Melissa Dobbin, the new chair of the Community Engagement Committee said they will be doing an Egg Drop this year instead of the egg hunt. They will be dropping off egg baskets at the homes of children who have registered. As of today, 275 children are registered. She said she

appreciates the City offering to help with the costs as they were not expecting such a huge response. She also said they need volunteers to help stuff the eggs and drop off the baskets.

CMBR Rebne said he appreciated Ms. Dobbin stepping up to be the chair of the committee. He also said they estimate the Egg Drop to be 350 children at this point. He also asked for volunteers to help with the event.

Ms. Dobbin added that most households have more than one child and she did not anticipate the drop-off to take very much time.

Ms. Jones-Lacy said when she put the sign-up form on the website, she was surprised to see the immediate response.

To volunteer, contact can be made directly to CMBR Rebne: mrebne@roelandpark.org or to the committee at communityengagement@roelandpark.org

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Approve Waterline Relocation Agreement with WaterOne for Water Main Extension to Serve “The Rocks”

The proposed agreement is included in the agenda packet.

MOTION: CMBR KELLY MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE WATERLINE RELOCATION AGREEMENT WITH WATERONE FOR THE WATER MAIN EXTENSION TO SERVE “THE ROCKS.” (MOTION CARRIED 8-0)

VIII. New Business

A. Approve Change Order with McConnell & Associates for Roe Blvd Stamped Concrete and Curb Replacement

CMBR Faidley asked if in using a different contractor would they be able to match the colors. Mr. Nichols responded they will not have an issue.

City Administrator Moody said the project remains under budget and even with the change order it is will be \$300,000 less than estimated.

Mayor Kelly said this is a great reminder of the work that has been done on this project and it is good to be reminded of the fiscal stewardship of the City.

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR DICKENS SECONDED TO APPROVE THE CHANGE ORDER WITH MCCONNELL & ASSOCIATES FOR ADDITIONAL CURB REPAIR AND STAMPED CONCRETE WORK IN MEDIANS NORTH OF 48TH STREET AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$86,253. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0)

B. Approval to Purchase Used Electric Vehicles to Replace Neighborhood Services Vehicles

City Administrator Moody said their criteria for what they are looking for in a vehicle is listed in the agenda packet. They will do a nationwide search for vehicles and will work to get the best deal they can for the City. The wraps they add will promote the City's efforts to be green.

CMBR Faidley asked if the budgeted amount of \$27,500 includes the wraps for the vehicles. City Administrator Moody said they have budgeted \$30,000 in total for the project and \$2,500 of that is for the wraps.

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF TWO WHITE OR BLACK USED FULLY ELECTRIC KIA SOULS NOT TO EXCEED \$27,500 (INCLUDING SHIPPING) WHERE THE VEHICLES MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA: MODEL YEAR OF 2017 OR NEWER, LESS THAN 30,000 MILES, BATTERY STANDARD OF HEALTH (SOH) OF 90 PERCENT OR GREATER. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0)

C. MOU with JOCO for Rental Assistance Program

Ms. Jones-Lacy said that staff is suggesting shifting the \$15,000 annual contribution from utility assistance to rental assistance. Attached in the packet is a Letter of Intent (LOI) with Johnson County Aging & Human Services. This is being recommended for 2021 and 2022. The LOI is written for one year and can be reevaluated by Council in a year. Ms. Jones-Lacy said the balance in the utility assistance fund is sufficient to cover the two years and is why they are making the recommendation for a shift. She said there are a lot of programs to help with utility assistance but not for rental assistance. She also said the City has assistance program for homeowners such as the property tax rebate program, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, and "Contain the Rain" rain barrel reimbursements.

CMBR Madigan expressed concerns over a shift of funds for two years. He asked what would happen if they used up the fund in one year, they would have nothing of the next. Ms. Jones-Lacy said the agreement is only for the 2021 year. They also anticipate the current fund balance will be spread over two years. If it does become depleted and the Council wants to allocate the funds back, they are welcome to do so. Ms. Jones-Lacy also recommended the Council consider reallocating the funds going forward. She said their City rate is way beyond any other participating city. She reiterated there is other utility funding available, but almost no assistance to renters.

CMBR Faidley asked about quarterly reports. Brandy Hodge with Johnson County Aging & Human Services said they will send those reports on rental assistance and utility assistance.

CMBR Rebne said shifting this funding would help them lean into the equity efforts they are making.

MOTION: CMBR MCCORMACK MOVED AND CMBR FAIDLEY SECONDED TO SHIFT THE CITY'S UTILITY ASSISTANCE FUNDING OF \$15,000 TO RENTAL ASSISTANCE IN 2021 AND 2022 AND APPROVING THE ATTACHED LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING WITH JOHNSON COUNTY AGING & HUMAN SERVICES. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

D. Participation in Johnson County Racial Equity Pilot Program

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH UNITED COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE RACIAL EQUITY IN CITIES PILOT PROGRAM AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$6,000. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

E. Appoint Monica Espinosa to the Racial Equity Committee

Mayor Kelly said Ms. Espinosa comes with a high recommendation from the Racial Equity Committee.

MOTION: CMBR DICKENS MOVED AND CMBR KELLY SECONDED TO APPOINT MONICA ESPINOSA TO THE RACIAL EQUITY COMMITTEE. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

G. Approve Public Defender Service Agreements

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR DICKENS SECONDED TO APPROVE THE PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE AGREEMENTS. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

IX. Ordinances and Resolutions:

A. Ordinance 1010 - Making the Racial Equity Committee a Standing Committee

Mayor Kelly said he is excited about the work and dedication that the committee has brought to Roeland Park, their robust committee membership and the way they have identified numerous goals and tasks far more than they could accomplish with an ad-hoc status.

CMBR Faidley asked for a clarification on the changes to the ordinance. Ms. Jones-Lacy said they have included a minimum number of representatives to be not less than three people, one of which will be a member of the Governing Body and the other two residents of the City. They have removed the maximum number of members. The chair and committee members decided not to limit how many people can participate. If it does get to the size where it is unmanageable or unproductive, then they have the option of reviewing new memberships and not making a recommendation to the Governing Body. Ms. Jones-Lacy said they will clarify the language and make certain the final ordinance states there is not a specific maximum.

Haile Sims from the committee said he is glad the Council is considering making them a permanent committee. He said they are just getting started and can do a lot of great work. The permanence in the establishment of the committee is a step in the right direction.

CMBR Rebne asked what the policy is for recommendations made by the committee and how to get that onto a Council agenda, and also whether that needs Governing Body signatures. Mayor Kelly said it would still need the required Councilmember signatures. He added that during committee updates, they can put forward their recommendations, but for a Workshop discussion agenda, it would still need Councilmember support.

MOTION: CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR MADIGAN SECONDED TO AMEND THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE 1010 LANGUAGE TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP CONSIST OF NOT LESS THAN THREE MEMBERS, ONE OF WHICH IS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY, AND TWO RESIDENTS. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0)

MOTION: CMBR REBNE MOVED AND CMBR DICKENS SECONDED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 1010 - MAKING THE RACIAL EQUITY COMMITTEE A STANDING COMMITTEE AS AMENDED. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

X. Reports of City Officials:

A. COVID Report

City Intern Chris Verbrugge reported that Johnson County has a different survey for healthcare providers who have not been vaccinated. He asked for them to please make sure and fill out the survey so the county knows how to allocate vaccination doses.

Johnson County will be receiving the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

Johnson County Board of County Commissioners has approved a designated clinic facility.

The American Rescue Plan has passed and he hopes to have information in his report on what Roeland Park will be receiving.

Mayor Kelly called on everyone to maintain appropriate safety measures while traveling, to continue wearing masks, washing hands, and maintaining social distance.

B. Update on Johnson County Housing Task Force

Ms. Jones-Lacy said they held their third installment on racial equity and talked about the history of segregation in Kansas City and Johnson County. They also discussed how property taxes support different school systems and can create inequities. In their breakout sessions, they talked about more of what they have seen in their own communities as far as racial equity or if they have noticed historical segregation throughout Johnson County. They also talked about the implications of the past going into the future. Ms. Jones-Lacy also shared a photo where they mapped different regions of racial inequity. They are getting close to the end of the task force meeting and they will share their insights from the various committees and subgroups.

Ms. Jones-Lacy also said that she appreciates everyone who has emailed her to support the Teachers' Appreciation Week the first week in May. She is aiming for support for \$400 to provide a meal to Roeland's teachers and has reached about half her goal.

C. City Administrator

City Administrator Moody had information to share on the American Rescue Plan Act. Clarification and details are still being issued by the federal government. General observations will be sent to the Governing Body and staff would like to get an idea of what to allocate the funds of \$936,000 they anticipate receiving. Mr. Moody noted this is four times the amount they received under the CARES Act. They still need to learn what the parameters are for the distribution and will share that with the Governing Body once they receive that clarification.

D. Police Department

Police Chief Morris said they got the Platinum AAA Traffic Award for the seventh year in a row. He said they have their first department intern who will be working on some projects for them.

Adjourn:

MOTION: CMBR MCCORMACK MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO ADJOURN. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0)

(Roeland Park City Council Meeting Adjourned at 7:18 p.m.)



Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk



Mike Kelly, Mayor