

CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Roeland Park City Hall
4600 W 51st Street, Roeland Park, KS 66205
Monday, March 7, 2022, 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">○ Tom Madigan, Council Member○ Michael Poppa, Council Member○ Kate Raglow, Council Member○ Michael Rebne, Council Member | <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Keith Moody, City Administrator○ Erin Winn, Asst. City Administrator○ Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk○ John Morris, Police Chief○ Donnie Scharff, Public Works Director |
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Admin
Hill
Raglow

Finance
Madigan
Rebne

Safety
Faidley
Poppa

Public Works
Dickens
Brauer

(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 members were present with CMBRS Dickens, Raglow, and Rebne appearing virtually. Staff members present were City Administrator Moody, City Attorney Felzien, Assistant City Administrator Winn, Public Works Director Scharff, Police Chief Morris, and City Clerk Nielsen.

Modification of Agenda

The COVID Report would be offered after Ordinance No. 1028.

II. Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

III. Consent Agenda

- A. Appropriations Ordinance #993**
- B. Council Minutes February 21, 2022**
- C. Johnson County Mental Health Co-Responder Memorandum of Understanding for 2022 Services**
- D. Task Order with SFS for Community Center Phase 1 Improvements**

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

IV. Business from the Floor - Proclamations/Applications/Presentation

There was no Business from the Floor.

V. Mayor's Report

There was no Mayor's Report.

VI. Reports of City Liaisons

A. Community Engagement Committee

CMBR Dickens, Council liaison to the Community Engagement Committee, reported that there will be an in-person egg hunt set on April 10th to be held in R Park. The Easter Bunny will be on site and available for pictures. The committee has asked for volunteers from scout groups, the Governing Body, and City departments. They have also reached out to the Police Department or Fire Department and have asked for a siren start to the egg hunt.

They will also use this opportunity to share information about the upcoming Phase 3 improvements to R Park.

Anyone interested in volunteering can contact CMBR Dickens at: bdickens@roelandpark.org

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Approve Purchase of Admin Electric Vehicles - 2021 Objective

Mayor Kelly said this item is for the purchase of two fully electric Kia Souls at a cost not to exceed \$40,000, which is an increase over the previously approved amount of \$27,500. The requirements for the vehicles are detailed in the staff report.

Ms. Winn said the nature of used cars has changed which has resulted in the price increase.

Ms. Winn provided an update on nature of used cars. They are still looking for the vehicles to meet their criteria.

CMBR Madigan expressed concern about the 7-year warranty on the battery life, and also asked if they had considered a hybrid vehicle. Mayor Kelly said the batteries a ten-year/100,000 warranty. He also said that electric is a great option for them and helps with their sustainability goals, and he would prefer to keep the vehicles all electric.

CMBR Hill also expressed concern about the increased price and with this purchase at this point in time.

MOTION: CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR BRAUER SECONDED TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE AND INCREASE IN PRICE. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

VIII. New Business

A. Approval of Historical Sign Proposal from Historical Committee

Chris Wolff, Committee Chair of the Historical Committee made a presentation on historical markers and signs to be placed around Roeland Park. To move forward with this goal, he said the committee will be holding off on the Santa Fe sign project.

Mr. Wolff said there are eight historical locations in the City where they would like to place markers. He also presented images of different styles of signs and said they would be printed double-sided. He then showed where those locations are tentatively to be placed, noting that Public Works would install them. For the signs, historic emblem, and installation, the cost is estimated to be \$19,220.

Mayor Kelly asked how the language was chosen for what was to be put on the sign. Mr. Wolff said the committee voted to have him write it.

Their second project would be interpretive signs from Panner Graphics, which are guaranteed to last and not fade for ten years. Mr. Wolff said they could extend that by not placing them in direct sunlight. He showed examples of the interpretative signs and said they had chosen Carpenter Park for its ease of parking, being ADA accessible, in addition to being well shaded for sun protection. The cost for the seven signs would be \$7,482.

CMBR Dickens said there is a lot of language on the plaques and asked if that was that typical. Mr. Wolff said it is standard, but he tried to keep it concise and used as few words as possible.

CMBR Raglow asked if the signs had been reviewed by the Racial Equity Committee and would like to see it go through them before moving forward.

CMBR Faidley said she would like to have some vetting of the park as there are some issues mentioned to her by a diverse group of citizens.

Mayor Kelly also asked about the emblem on the historical signs. Mr. Wolff said that was something the committee created. Mayor Kelly said the City went through their own branding process and they have tried to be intentional with its use on publications and signage. Mr. Wolff said the City's branding was considered but they wanted something that was timeless as the City's brand could change again in a few years.

CMBR Madigan said they had addressed the language through the Historical Committee and did not believe it needed to go to the Racial Equity Committee for review.

CMBR Raglow said regarding the Racial Equity Committee, they have reached out to groups and have had different conversations and they have almost had their hands slapped by saying they are not coming across as genuine in the language and the wording they were using. She said they are not looking to change history, but as a learning experience, she would like them to review the language to be certain they are not being insensitive to any group.

CMBR Rebne added that Mr. Wolff and the committee have worked hard on their research and did speak at length about the racial implications. He would support getting the Racial Equity Committee's additional perspective. He added that if the markers are going to last 50-70 years, they can take the time to make sure the language is what they want it to be before they make the purchase.

CMBR Madigan said the Historical Committee has worked very hard, and if they referred it to the Racial Equity Committee, he would like their review to be ASAP so if there is a problem, then the Historical Committee can work on it.

CMBR Poppa said he is now the Council liaison to the Historical Committee and agreed with the amount of work Mr. Wolff and the committee have done when he was on the original Council to approve this back in 2019.

Ms. Winn said she will put this item on the March 29th agenda for the Racial Equity Committee.

CMBR Faidley said she had trouble reading the language in Google docs. Mr. Wolff said the written proposal has the actual language and acknowledged the words in the photos were fuzzy but were for demonstrative purposes.

MOTION: CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR DICKENS SECONDED TO PURCHASE THE HISTORICAL MARKER SIGNS. (THE MOTION FAILED 2-6 WITH CMBS BRAUER, FAIDLEY, HILL, POPPA, RAGLOW AND REBNE VOTING NO.)

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR FAIDLEY SECONDED TO FORWARD FOR REVIEW BY THE RACIAL EQUITY COMMITTEE THE HISTORICAL MARKER LANGUAGE PRIOR TO PURCHASE. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-1 WITH CMBR MADIGAN VOTING NO.)

B. Appoint Kailee Noland to the Parks Committee

MOTION: CMBR BRAUER MOVED AND CMBR POPPA SECONDED TO APPROVE KAILEE NOLAND TO THE PARKS COMMITTEE. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

C. Approve Annual Cooperative Agreement with Johnson County for Stormwater Best Management Practices Program

Public Works Director Scharff stated that there are no substantive changes to the agreement, and he is glad they have this county resource to help with their program. He also said they had nine applications last year.

CMBR Faidley said she would like to see the City do more to promote these resources. She also suggested an interview of someone who has used this program and provide it as video content for their social media.

CMBR Madigan said he would like to see this get into the *Roeland Parker*.

MOTION: CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR DICKENS SECONDED TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH JOHNSON COUNTY FOR THE STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES PROGRAM. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

IX. Ordinances and Resolutions:

A. Ordinance 1028 - Restricting Parking on 48th Street

The City's traffic engineer studied the area around Roesland Elementary and said the parking on both sides of the street is causing sight distance and pedestrian concerns. His recommendation is to implement no parking from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. only on school days. They also worked with the residents who agree with the plan.

CMBR Faidley asked if the issue is from parents picking up. She also asked if they implement this schedule will the Police Department be available until people get used to the idea.

Public Works Director Scharff said he will coordinate with Police Chief Morris on the schedule and enforcement.

CMBR Madigan recommended adding the word "standing" to the language. City Attorney Felzien said they can amend the ordinance language.

MOTION: CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR HILL SECONDED TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 1028 TO INCLUDE THE WORD "STANDING." (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

MOTION: CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR HILL SECONDED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 1028, AS AMENDED, RESTRICTING PARKING ALONG WEST 48th STREET. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

(The meeting continued with the COVID-19 report.)

B. Ordinance 1029 - Extending the Indoor Masking Requirement

This item was not included in the discussion.

C. Ordinance 1030 - Amending the Indoor Masking Requirement

Ms. Winn stated the proposed language would be that one of the three counties, Johnson, Wyandotte in Kansas, and Jackson County in Missouri is rated high for COVID at the community level, the City's mask mandate would be in place. The City Administrator would check weekly to determine the community level for those three counties to determine if the ordinance will be in effect. Notice would then go out to the City residents. The masking ordinance would be the same as currently exists with the same rules and exceptions.

City Attorney Felzien expressed concerns basing Roeland Park's ordinance off of areas other than Johnson County. He realized they are all interconnected communities but said it might be a hard defense when they are not relying on data specific to Roeland Park, and recommended the language be in line with Johnson County only.

CMBR Dickens said he has a concern with a week-to-week review without input from the Governing Body and residents as it does not allow the opportunity to discuss any nuances.

CMBR Rebne said he liked the ordinance, and it is a consistent continuation of what they have been doing. He said they share the same hospitals, schools, shops, and everyday situations with those neighboring counties, and they need to consider everyone they interact with on a day-to-day basis.

CMBR Madigan said he too had concerns of a week-to-week decision made by the City Administrator without input from the Governing Body.

CMBR Raglow said this would create the yo-yo effect that CMBR Brauer had mentioned and would have a huge impact on the community and City staff. She would like to see the current ordinance remain in effect and for them to be proactive due to spring break coming up.

CMBR Brauer said she too is concerned with the weekly movement. She is not opposed to a mask requirement should there be a need, but possibly changing it weekly, it becomes diluted.

CMBR Poppa expressed his concerns with the weekly review. He asked if there would be a certain length of time they need to be in before the masks are triggered and when would they come down. He also added that they shouldn't be in this position and the leadership in the state house has failed them and they should be protected by now.

CMBR Hill said the weekly evaluation was not part of the original action item, but she would be open for a discussion on how that would look going forward.

Mr. Felzien said the CDC puts out a seven-day rolling average and it would be the highest frequency for the most up-to-date data. As soon as their report is written, Johnson County amends their status, and if it was high, then the Roeland Park ordinance would be in effect. It would remain up to City staff and the Police Department on how to notify the public as well as its enforcement. As the language is written, this would be an automatic process.

CMBR Hill said this ordinance was to remain in place but leave them some space if the numbers shoot up, they will not need a special call and could just say, high risk mask up.

CMBR Madigan said he visited QuikTrip in Roeland Park and noticed they had taken their signs down and were not wearing masks. He asked why that was and they told him the CDC said they do not need masks. Mr. Madigan added that they cannot do this week to week as it would drive their businesses crazy and it's unfair.

Mayor Kelly said he appreciated the idea and had extreme concerns on its legality and it also creating the yo-yo effect they are trying to prevent. He said that COVID fatigue is real though it is not reflective of the pulse of their community. He said they do have low transmission but also some of the highest vaccination rates in the county. He too agreed with CMBR Poppa in saying that the state of Kansas has failed them.

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR FAIDLEY SECONDED TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 1030 TO REMOVE JACKSON COUNTY, Missouri, AND WYANDOTTE COUNTY, Kansas FROM THE ORDINANCE LANGUAGE. (THE MOTION CARRIED 6-1 WITH CMBR REBNE VOTING NO.)

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED, CMBR RAGLOW TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 1030, AMENDING THE INDOOR MASKING REQUIREMENTS BASED ON COMMUNITY LEVELS, AS FURTHER AMENDED. THE MOTION FAILED 4-5 WITH CMBRS MADIGAN, DICKENS, BRAUER, POPPA, AND MAYOR KELLY VOTING NO.

X. Reports of City Officials

A. COVID Report and Mitigation Update

Ms. Winn presented the new CDC mask guidelines based on the community level metrics. She said that currently Johnson County is at a low community level, Wyandotte County is high, and Jackson County, Missouri is a medium. A low community level means that masks are a personal preference.

(The meeting went back to discuss Ordinance 1030.)

B. City Administrator's Report

City Administrator Moody reported that some easements for Buena Vista and Johnson Drive are still outstanding, and the Governing Body will likely be seeing resolutions which is the first step in condemnations to complete the easements.

C. Assistant City Administrator's Report

Ms. Winn said the COVID testing site at Community Center will be closing Friday due to low turnout. There are still testing sites available in local areas.

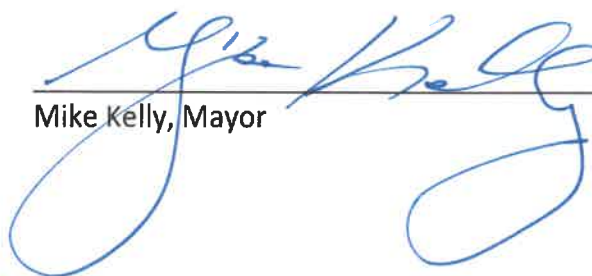
Adjourn:

MOTION: CMBR POPPA MOVED AND CMBR FAIDLEY SECONDED TO ADJOURN. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0)

(Roeland Park City Council Meeting Adjourned at 7:20 p.m.)



Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk



Mike Kelly, Mayor