

CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Roeland Park City Hall
4600 W 51st Street, Roeland Park, KS 66205
Monday, February 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. The meeting was held virtually.

Roll Call

Asst. City Administrator Winn called the roll. CMBR Brauer and CMBR Rebne were not present. Staff members present were City Administrator Moody, City Attorney Mauer, Assistant City Administrator Winn, Public Works Director Scharff, Police Chief Morris, and Parks & Recreation Superintendent Nichols.

Modification of Agenda

No modifications were made to the agenda.

I. Citizen Comments

Todd Zimmer (5621 Roe) Mr. Zimmer spoke on the mask mandate. He thanked the Governing Body for the work they are doing to keep all of them safe, but he hoped they would not extend the mask mandate at this time. He said that people have been doing the right thing and staying home when they are sick, but they need to start seeing each other's smiling faces again.

II. Consent Agenda

- A. Appropriations Ordinance #991**
- B. Council Minutes January 3, 2022**
- C. Special Called City Council Meeting Minutes January 12, 2022**
- D. Council Minutes January 18, 2022**
- E. Approve 2022 Super Pass Agreement**
- F. Approve 2022 Swim Meet Letter of Understanding**

MOTION: CMBR DICKENS MOVED AND CMBR POPPA SECONDED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. (THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.)

III. Business from the Floor

A. Applications/Presentations

1. 4th Quarter Social Media Report by Katie Garcia

Katie Garcia, the City's Public Information Officer (PIO) provided fourth quarter social media highlights for 2021. She reviewed stats noting major focuses were on capital projects, the work of the committees, the new Citizens Academy, and COVID information. Instagram was also added as another platform for Roeland Park. Also, the City's open rate on Constant Contact is about 10 percent above average as well as their click-through rates.

Top posts from last year showed there was a lot of interest in the Aquatics Center improvements and had the highest engagement. The City's taser policy, the accident at the pool, fireworks, the hiring of Ms. Winn, the Symphony, and Easter eggs. Ms. Garcia noted the good variety of topics all had strong engagement.

Ms. Garcia said they utilize Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram for social media and their overall audience grew 15 percent in the fourth quarter. Engagement is up and there was a high response to their videos. Their total fan base is up over their competitor cities which shows how engaged the community is.

Citizens Academy hosted by City Administrator Moody and Ms. Garcia had the most five-star ratings. There were 14 participants in the program and they received very positive feedback.

Mayor Kelly thanked Ms. Garcia for her help in getting the community engaged and for listening to their request to have more videos and he is pleased to see how it's working.

IV. Mayor's Report

A. Black History Month Proclamation

Mayor Kelly said the national theme for 2022 is "Black Health and Wellness. He also spoke to the importance of their Racial Equity Committee, their work and also the contributions of staff and the community.

CMBR Faidley also wanted to add the American Jazz Museum as an organization to the list in the proclamation. She said it ties into Black history and the wealth of musicians that performed in Kansas.

Motion: CMBR POPPA MOVED AND CMBR MADIGAN SECONDED TO APPROVE FEBRUARY 2022 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN ROELAND PARK. (THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.)

V. Workshop and Committee Reports

No reports were given.

VI. Reports of City Liaisons

A. Racial Equity Committee

Ms. Winn presented on behalf of Haile Sims for the Racial Equity Committee. She said they are in the second month of their education series. In January, they shared the viewing of a podcast from “Seeing White.” There is also a conversation with the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department which is up on their webpage. In March, Emily Cramer will be leading a discussion on gender and race.

The committee has provided direction for an assessment with regard to workforce development, making sure that Roeland Park is open and inclusive, training and education resources, and engagement activities with the Police Department.

The committee has also given direction that they would like the City to proceed with the legislative approach on racially restrictive covenants and would like to have it addressed by the state and not just for Roeland Park.

CMBR Faidley asked with regard to the legislative approach have they been in conversation with Senator Corson on a possible bill as well as speaking with Representative Xu.

City Attorney Mauer said they have drafted legislation to allow the City, if approved, to file a new plat or amended declarations that remove the covenants. It has been reviewed by the Recorder of Deeds, the County Surveyor, and is now at the County Attorney’s office. They want to make sure that this fix for Roeland Park does not become a headache for the county. As soon as they get something that will work and can be implemented by Johnson County, they will reach out to Mr. Corson, and other state representatives, and whoever else can help them on this matter.

Mayor Kelly said that Representative Rui Xu is aware of this effort and is willing to participate.

CMBR Poppa said he did not expect this to be a bill that was brought forward this year. Mr. Mauer said it would not because of the timing to bring new items forward to the legislature.

B. Sustainability Committee

Judy Hyde from the Sustainability Committee said they have had several guest presenters at their group. They have reviewed the transportation plan and would like to see a potential collaboration with Roeland Park and nearby cities as well as Kansas City, Kansas.

On September 17, 2022, from 9 a.m. to noon, they will hold a Sustainability Fair at the Sylvester Powell Community Center. Both for profit and non-profit organizations will be sponsoring booths to provide information to the community about environmental best practices. There will also be family-friendly activities and demonstrations.

Ms. Hyde said for those who might be interested, the Sustainability Committee is open to new members.

She also offered her congratulations to all who worked on the Complete Streets Ordinance. She said the draft received a high rating and will be used as a guide for safe streets in Roeland Park.

Ms. Hyde continues to post articles in the City newsletter and their Facebook page. Their meetings are still being held virtually on the first Thursdays of the month.

Mayor Kelly also thanked the Sustainability Committee for their work on the Complete Streets ordinance.

CMBR Faidley also thanked Ms. Hyde for stepping up to the task and for the tree canopy article she submitted to the City newsletter.

C. MARC - First Tier Suburbs

CMBR Faidley's meeting notes are in the agenda packet.

D. MARC - Bike & Pedestrian

CMBR Faidley's meeting notes are in the agenda packet.

VII. Unfinished Business

There was no Unfinished Business discussed.

VIII. New Business

A. Approve Firewall Replacement

Mayor Kelly said this item is being proposed by Johnson County DTI.

City Administrator Moody said this item is part of their regular capital replacement program which includes technology/computer-related replacements.

CMBR Faidley asked if the staff anticipated any supply chain issues on the hardware side. City Administrator Moody said there have not been any concerns expressed to them from DTI. The replacements are housed at their facility and DTI is the one to provide the maintenance.

MOTION: CMBR DICKENS MOVED AND CMBR POPPA SECONDED TO APPROVE FIREWALL UPGRADE AS PROPOSED BY DTI. (THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0)

B. Approve Purchase to Replace Patrol Vehicles.

Mayor Kelly said this item is for two hybrid Explorers to replace gas-only units. He noted this was an objective of CMBR Hill. Shawnee Mission Ford came in with the lowest price and the contract has been awarded to them by the State of Kansas for patrol units.

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR MADIGAN SECONDED TO APPROVE THE ORDER OF TWO HYBRID EXPLORERS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AT A TOTAL COST OF \$74,658. (THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.)

IX. Ordinances and Resolutions:

A. Ordinance 1024 - Complete Streets

Mayor Kelly said there has been a lot of work on this ordinance by Council, staff, the Sustainability Committee, their Complete Streets Specialist Paul Wojciechowski. He said their overall score increased

from 49 to 80 when graded by Smart Growth America. He said he is looking forward to the opportunity to work through the process and hopes the ordinance will do the work to make their streets safer and be more multi-modal and pedestrian friendly.

Mr. Wojciechowski said it has been an honor working on this. Mayor Kelly said with his help their 80 score is the highest in the metro area and they are all excited to begin instituting the Complete Streets principles.

CMBR Faidley said she too was appreciative of Mr. Wojciechowski's efforts as well as the work of the Judy Hyde and the Sustainability Committee. She noted the invaluable work of BikeWalkKC which contributed a great deal to this process. She thanked City staff members, their traffic engineer, City engineer, and also the Public Works Department. As a result of this plan, the streets will be safer for everyone in Roeland Park.

MOTION: CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR HILL SECONDED TO ADOPT THE COMPLETE STREET ORDINANCE. (THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.)

B. Ordinance 1025 - Indoor Masking

Mayor Kelly said extending would take them to March 16th as the current mandate is set to expire February 16th. He noted that cities around them have extended theirs and would recommend continuing for consistency's sake.

City Administrator Moody said there is current information provided from the Johnson County dashboard. He said the ordinance is the same with the exception of the date to the March 16th deadline.

CMBR Dickens noted there has been a sharp downward trend nationally. He will vote for the extension for another month but said if they continue to see same kind of trend, he could find himself not voting for another extension. He hopes to see a continued downward trend when they revisit this again in a month and said officially it is time to move on. He keeps sounding on the importance of vaccines and wants to see that message continue.

CMBR Hill said the statistics are down for the Omicron variant, but it is still well above the Delta. She said they are nowhere near the time for removing masks.

CMBR Madigan thanked CMBR Dickens for his statements and agreed with them fully.

CMBR Poppa said they are moving to an endemic period, but they are not there. He asked if they should look at a percentage of cases and possibly 10 percent.

Mayor Kelly said if they continue through March 16 and should cases get to a point where remove they can remove the requirement, they have the ability to do so prior to the 16th.

CMBR Faidley said consistency across the communities is important and the least they can do is to align with the March date. She added that what is missing is the effect that this spike surge of Omicron has put on the healthcare system, and it has not receded. She said they are leaving that out of the discussion, and they need to look at what the numbers still are, what the doctors are saying, and it is

just too early. CMBR Faidley said she also took letters to business owners, and everyone was relieved and thankful the Governing Body was taking this issue on. She also said that signage has not gone out.

CMBR Raglow agreed with CMBR Faidley that it is too soon despite the numbers. She also noted that March 16th is the start of spring break for many and there will be traveling, so possibly they should wait until even after to see how numbers are trending once people are back from traveling.

CMBR Hill said when CMBR Poppa asked about a percentage, she suggested going with the school districts which is 3 percent. She also said she saw a large sign at Walmart and agreed with CMBR Raglow about her comments on spring break.

CMBR Dickens said he does intend to vote for the extension. He added he works in healthcare, has conversations with physicians he works with who say masking is helpful and not a bad thing. He is painfully aware the health system is overloaded and that hospitalization stays are 90 percent of unvaccinated individuals.

Mayor Kelly said he appreciates everything they are doing to mitigate the effects of the pandemic. He advocates they listen to the science, review the data, and listen to Dr. Areola from Johnson County DHE.

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR RAGLOW SECONDED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 1025 EXTENDING THE MASK REQUIREMENT UNTIL MARCH 16, 2022. (THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.)

X. Workshop Items

There were no Workshop items discussed.

XI. Reports of City Officials:

A. COVID Report and Mitigation Update

Ms. Winn said this report was put together with City Intern Moorhead. She reported that they are at an 18.8 percent positivity rate and still in high community transmission. She also said the second order of business signs are in.

They had 425 households sign up for KN95 masks and that distribution went smoothly. She will also be looking at prioritizing distribution to at-risk populations such as educators and seniors.

They do have some at-home tests, but PCR tests at the Community Center and pharmacies, she would like to hold off distribution until they get all of their orders in.

Mayor Kelly thanked Ms. Winn and Ms. Moorhead for their work on the report. He said it is encouraging to see numbers drop as well as the positivity percent, but they are still higher than they would like. He said it is prudent to hold distribution for at-home tests to meet demand. He said he appreciates them looking at the Johnson County numbers but would suggest they look at the MARC dashboard as Roeland Park is close to Kansas City and the metro cities and that information might be more pertinent than comparisons to their more western counterparts in Johnson County.

CMBR Raglow asked how long the testing site would be at the Community Center. Ms. Winn said it is managed by the health department, but it is expected to end in March, but they have an option to extend that should they choose to.

CMBR Madigan agreed with Ms. Winn on the distribution of at-home tests.

B. 2021 Johnson County Utility Assistance Report

Ms. Winn said the organization has had a surplus of funds and is going through state and federal dollars first before utilizing municipality funds. The City has pledged \$15,000 for 2022.

CMBR Faidley asked how they are getting the word out of the funds availability to their residents. Ms. Winn said it was previously included in the newsletter and in a social media blast, but she is happy to include that as a reminder again.

CMBR Madigan asked if the funds are available all year for air conditioning and heat. Ms. Winn said she will check into that.

Mayor Kelly asked if the Community Center serves as an extreme weather center for heating and cooling. City Administrator Moody said it is not published for that purpose, but people are free to come by when it is open during the week.


Ms. Winn said they have a new court clerk and Mayor Kelly welcomed her to the team.

Police Chief Morris thanked the Governing Body for approving their two new cars. He said he has recently hired three officers but still needs one more for a full staff.

Adjourn:

MOTION: CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR FAIDLEY SECONDED TO ADJOURN. (MOTION CARRIED 6-0)

(Roeland Park City Council Meeting Adjourned at 7:06 p.m.)



Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk



Mike Kelly, Mayor