

**CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
Roeland Park City Hall  
4600 W 51st Street, Roeland Park, KS 66205  
Monday, May 16, 2022, 6:00 P.M.**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Mike Kelly, Mayor</li><li>○ Trisha Brauer, Council Member</li><li>○ Benjamin Dickens, Council Member</li><li>○ Jan Faidley, Council Member</li><li>○ Jennifer Hill, Council Member</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Tom Madigan, Council Member</li><li>○ Michael Poppa, Council Member</li><li>○ Kate Raglow, Council Member</li><li>○ Michael Rebne, Council Member</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Keith Moody, City Administrator</li><li>○ Erin Winn, Asst. City Administrator</li><li>○ Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk</li><li>○ John Morris, Police Chief</li><li>○ Donnie Scharff, Public Works Director</li></ul> |
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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 6:04 p.m.)

**Pledge of Allegiance**

CMBR Dickens called the City Council meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

City Clerk Nielsen called the roll. Mayor Kelly and CMBR Brauer were absent. Staff members present were City Administrator Moody, City Attorney Felzien, Assistant City Administrator Winn, Public Works Director Scharff, Police Chief Morris, Parks & Recreation Superintendent Marshall, and City Clerk Nielsen.

**Modification of Agenda**

There was agreement to add the Gun Violence Awareness Day Proclamation to the agenda under the Mayor’s report.

**I. Citizen Comments**

**Jay Gruber** (5548 Northumberland , Pittsburgh, PA) Mr. Gruber focused on Native American reconciliation. He felt language regarding the Shawnee Indian Mission is an opportunity to bring unity to both sides of the story. As a visitor to the Kansas City area, he feels there is a potential for something significant to happen and for everything to be better for all people and based on the foundation of Christianity urged them to move forward with compassion. He listened to the Native Americans sharing from their heart at the last meeting and recognizing how desperate they are for change. He urged the Council that this is an opportunity for redemption and truth and the proposed signage could be a starting point in setting a precedent for the rest of the country. He added he is hopeful something positive will come from future meetings.

**II. Consent Agenda**

- A. Appropriations Ordinance #998**
- B. Council Minutes May 2, 2022**
- C. Appoint Macrina Abdouch to the Planning Commission**

**MOTION:** CMBR REBNE MOVED AND CMBR HILL SECONDED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. (THE MOTION 7-0.)

**III. Business from the Floor - Proclamations/Applications/Presentations**

**A. Presentation from the Barn Players**

Barbara Nichols, board member for the Barn Players, approached the Governing Body regarding a partnership with the City. The group would like their new location to be at the Southridge Church on Buena Vista and asked the City for help in the purchase of the building. She said the Barn Players would then lease it back over a 15 to 20-year period for about \$2,000 a month. They would also remodel the inside of the building. She said that Roeland Park has a reputation of supporting the arts in their community and this space would bring a vitality to the City as well as thousands of people a year which will also provide revenue for the City. She said they are eager to build a creative partnership with the City.

CMBR Poppa said that he is a former board member of The Barn Players and appreciated the presentation and that the Barn Players are looking at Roeland Park to bring that culture to their City.

CMBR Faidley said she has looked at the financials. She said that in traditional community theater there is a stipend for positions. Ms. Nichols said the actors are volunteers. CMBR Faidley said she would love to see something in that space and that it could lend itself to not only as a theater but also for chamber music and a focal point for the arts. She added that she would like to see more performance art. She also expressed support of a public-private partnership to make it happen.

Ms. Nichols said the group does have some funds and they have also talked about a capital campaign, but they are open to having discussions with the City.

CMBR Rebne said it has been sad to see the building sitting there unused. He too would like to see something community oriented for that space and it is worth the investment and the risk. Ms. Nichols' presentation changed the way he is thinking about this request.

Ms. Nichols also added that the size is conducive to a community meeting space for the public and for private use.

**IV. Mayor's Report**

**A. "MARC 50 - Forward Day" Proclamation**

**MOTION:** CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR MADIGAN SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MARC 50 - FORWARD DAY PROCLAMATION FOR JUNE 10, 2022. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.)

**B. AAPI Heritage Month Proclamation**

**MOTION:** CMBR POPPA MOVED AND CMBR RAGLOW SECONDED TO APPROVE THE ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS' HERITAGE MONTH PROCLAMATION FOR JUNE 2022. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.)

**C. National Gun Violence Awareness Proclamation**

CMBR Faidley asked if they can change the lights to orange. City Administrator Moody said they can be changed at City Hall and also on the entryway signs.

**MOTION:** CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR FAIDLEY SECONDED TO APPROVE THE NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY FOR FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 2022. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.)

## **V. Reports of City Liaisons and Committees**

### **A. Sustainability Committee**

Judy Hyde said the Sustainability Committee is currently evaluating their next projects of interest. She also said the theme of the Northeast Johnson County Environmental Fair is "Go Green 2022" and will be held Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Sylvester Powell Community Center in Mission. The goal is to provide the community with information on sustainable practices in all aspects of life. There will be family-friendly activities, demonstrations, entertainment, door prizes and other giveaways. More details will be forthcoming as they begin to promote the event.

Ms. Hyde stated that Sustainability Committee meetings continue to be held virtually on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month for those that would like to attend.

CMBR Faidley asked about the signs posted at Cooper Creek discouraging humans and animals from being in the park. She asked how long that would be and why the signs were there. Ms. Hyde said the invasive species are being treated and the signs will come down shortly after the final treatment in a few days.

### **B. Aquatic Center Advisory Committee**

Anthony Marshall was introduced as the new Parks and Recreation Superintendent. Mr. Marshall said they are hiring a lot of staff and getting things ready to go. He said that he is excited to be working for Roeland Park.

CMBR Hill said she has received positive feedback from the new hires.

CMBR Faidley asked if there were any concerns about being able to open on time or being fully staffed. Mr. Marshall said they have a great staff returning and they will open on time.

City Administrator Moody said they will only be operating four days a week as there is currently not enough staff to run a full schedule.

CMBR Rebne welcomed Mr. Marshall and said he was impressed with his résumé, and it was a nervous time for them not to have a Parks and Rec director.

### **C. Arts Committee**

Marek Gliniecki, co-chair of the Arts Committee, provided an update to the Governing Body. He noted the art display in the foyer. He also said that the Committee would like to purchase one of the heart sculptures that are displayed around the metro area. The hearts will be auctioned off June 17<sup>th</sup> and they are estimating a cost of 5 to \$6,000. The intended location would be at the corner where the Boulevard Apartments are.

CMBR Faidley asked if the hearts are two-sided, and Mr. Gliniecki said some of them are.

CMBR Poppa noted that some of the hearts have already been purchased and may not be available for auction.

CMBR Rebne said he was glad to see this on the agenda and hopes Roeland Park will be able to get one.

CMBR Dickens said he would like for them to permanently have a hedgehog sculpture supporting Ukraine.

CMBR Faidley asked about the placement of the “Industrialized” sculpture. Mr. Gliniecki said they are still evaluating the structure and will come back to the Council with that at a future meeting.

Mr. Gliniecki said the Barn Players and their theater program is on the Committee’s radar and they would like to work with them.

The Arts Committee continues to look at possibilities and examples of a gateway sculpture for the end of Roe. They want something that creates monumentality and makes certain it is a gateway to the City, a wayfaring structure that identifies this is Roeland Park. The projected cost is in the \$100,000 range. They feel the one percent for art from the hospital for \$70,000 is a golden opportunity to them, along with their allocation, without expending too much in City funds. Those monies would definitely help the project get into gear.

CMBR Faidley asked if they have considered exploring the possibility of using a Native American artist to create the monument given the significance of the land once having been occupied by native American tribes. Mr. Gliniecki said they are open to that and there is a significance in selecting a sculpture created by a person who has ties to the area.

CMBR Hill said she would like to see a large, fun, and playful sculpture that would be a hit for young families.

Mr. Gliniecki said he would like a consensus from the Governing Body to narrow down the pricing, the type of sculpture, and an artist. He would like them for them to review the examples shown in the agenda packet.

CMBR Poppa said he liked the direction this is going and the impact at their gateway. He also encouraged anyone interested in art in the City to volunteer for the Arts Committee.

CMBR Dickens said in the interest of time the Governing Body should send their ideas through email regarding the gateway element.

## **VI. Unfinished Business**

*There was no Unfinished Business presented.*

## **VII. New Business**

## **A. Approve Purchase of Playground Equipment for Phase 3 R Park Project**

Color recommendations for the playground surface by the Parks Committee were presented to the Governing Body. The Committee has recommended Burke Company for the play structure itself as well as the fall protection surface. Confluence also helped with the design. The preference of the Committee was tan surface with turquoise accents.

CMBR Dickens said he preferred the turquoise as the main color of the play area and asked what the reasoning was behind changing it. CMBR Madigan said it was more difficult to see children especially if they were laying on the ground. CMBR Faidley added turquoise is also a more reflective surface. City Administrator Moody said the committee also felt the large surface of turquoise would become dingy-looking over time while the tan/brown color is more in line with the pavilion and restroom structures the play area is in proximity to.

CMBR Hill asked if there was any input from children in the design.

CMBR Madigan said they listened to the input from those who had children and valued their perspective.

City Administrator Moody said they are asking for approval of the equipment from the Governing Body as it has a long lead time, and they want to get it out to bid. They will also need to coordinate with the general contractor and other work that is going on at the park.

CMBR Dickens said that Judy Hyde from the Sustainability Committee commented online that the playground subcommittee did have members with children.

CMBR Raglow said while on the Parks Committee there were three choices given and didn't know if they had been narrowed down from a larger selection. City Administrator Moody said there were quite a few color choices for panels, posts, and accents. He added he did not know all the Parks Committee went through as they looked at different designs.

CMBR Hill said would prefer turquoise but does like the color scheme chosen.

CMBR Madigan said the Parks Committee works very hard to get people from every part of Roeland Park to participate in the decision process.

CMBR Faidley said there is a lot of discussion going into this and she supports the committee's decision for the provider, design, and color scheme. She asked if there would be sufficient funds available for the perimeter walkway and traffic garden. City Administrator Moody estimated they would be \$60,000 over budget, but the Special Infrastructure Fund is adequate and will not put them in jeopardy of being unable to complete the project.

CMBR Poppa asked if this would be one structure or two. City Administrator Moody said the two current structures would be replaced by one large one.

CMBR Madigan added that it includes the merry-go-round which is separate from main structure.

CMBR Poppa said he would like to discuss in a Workshop the play bike structure as the main play feature.

CMBR Dickens said they need to move forward with what is proposed due to time constraints before attempting to change the entire play design. City Administrator Moody said the bike play sculpture is of a much smaller scale compared to this playground area.

There was discussion about the placement of the bike sculpture and some uncertainty about its proposed location.

CMBR Madigan said the committee felt the bike play structure should be closer to the other playground equipment and the pavilion so the parents could keep an eye on their children. He said he was unaware of it being in the middle of the field and would like to see further clarification on its location.

**MOTION:** CMBR POPPA MOVED AND CMBR MADIGAN SECONDED TO CALL THE QUESTION. (THE MOTION CARRIED 6-1 WITH CMBR POPPA VOTING NO.)

**MOTION:** CMBR POPPA MOVED AND CMBR MADIGAN SECONDED TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR PHASE 3 OF THE R PARK PROJECT. (THE MOTION CARRIED 6-1 WITH CMBR POPPA VOTING NO.)

## **VIII. Ordinance and Resolutions**

*There were no ordinances or resolutions presented.*

## **IX. Reports of City Officials**

### **A. COVID Report**

Ms. Winn reported that the percent of COVID-19 cases are increasing but the community level remains low.

CMBR Faidley said that cases are up and are vastly undercounted because people are not getting tested or they are testing at home. She also asked if the cyberattack on Wyandotte County has affected their data as nothing is being reported.

CMBR Hill noted that two of the elementary schools have returned to masking.

### **B. City Administrator's Report**

City Administrator Moody said they received their electric vehicle today and are still looking for another one. The new one is getting City logos and design. This is just one more example of their commitment to the environment. The new vehicle will be assigned to Neighborhood Services.

### **C. Assistant City Administrator's Report**

Ms. Winn said the 47 Foodie Fest will be held on June 5<sup>th</sup> from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m., and said they are looking for volunteers to help with the event.

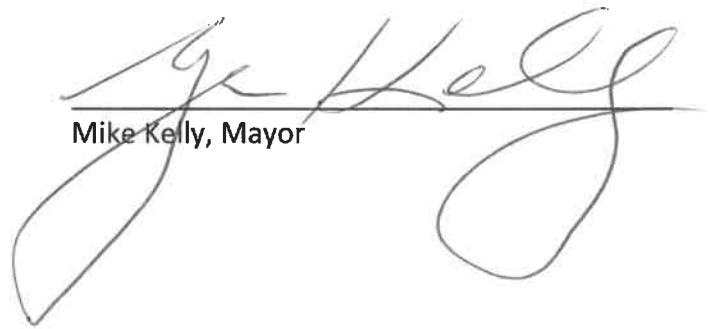
**Adjourn:**

**MOTION:** CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR HILL SECONDED TO ADJOURN. (MOTION CARRIED 7-0)

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



Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk



Mike Kelly, Mayor