

**CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Roeland Park City Hall**  
**4600 W 51st Street, Roeland Park, KS 66205**  
**Monday, August 22, 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**  
Raglow  
Dickens

**Finance**  
Rebne  
Hill

**Safety**  
Poppa  
Madigan

**Public Works**  
Brauer  
Faidley

(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. Staff members present were City Administrator Moody, City Attorney Mauer, Assistant City Administrator Winn, Public Works Director Scharff, Police Chief Morris, and City Clerk Nielsen.

**Modification of Agenda**

*There were no modifications to the agenda.*

**Public Hearing - Amend 2022 Budget**

Mayor Kelly called for a public hearing as required by law for amending the current 2022 budget. Two amendments were proposed, one for the Community Center Fund related to capital expenditures budgeted in 2021 that were completed in 2022, and the second, expired TIF 2D, which has \$24,000 in available funds for eligible expenses.

The Mayor then opened the hearing up for public comment related to the 2022 budget amendment.

**Public Comments:**

**Karen Kenney** (5306 Roe). Ms. Kenney stated this amendment should be a public vote and not a decision before the Council. She said that any tax increases which come up in a public hearing should have a public vote. She also spoke to the Roe 2020 project, its expense and that there are dead trees and a lot of weeds. She said the City should not be writing checks when there is no money and expect the homeowners to pay for it.

**Blake Stinnett** (4900 Howe Dr.) Mr. Stinnett spoke to the mill levy taxes saying their home values haven't increased 50 percent in five years, but the mill levy tax has. He asked where the tax dollars were doing. Mr. Stinnett said the City should be more creative in ways to generate income instead of increasing taxes on homeowners.

After public comment was made, Mayor Kelly closed the public hearing.

### **Public Hearing - Exceed Revenue Neutral Rate for 2023 Budget and Adopt the 2023 Budget**

Mayor Kelly opened the second public hearing and asked for public comment.

#### ***Public Comment:***

**Kathleen Whitworth** (5204 Catalina) Ms. Whitworth spoke to the increased tax dollars from Roeland Park as well as increased property taxes. She said that while a mill levy reduction is proposed, the actual dollars residents pay will increase. She said that property taxes have increased 30 percent from 2019 to 2023. She also noted that increased valuations do not equate to spendable income and does not offset increased utilities, groceries, et cetera. She recommended the Council approve a revenue neutral rate ensuring that the same amount collected in 2022 remains the same for 2023.

**Patty Gaines** (5322 Rosewood) Ms. Gaines spoke to the mill levy increase and expressed concern that her property tax has doubled. She had questions about how the tax is calculated and how the mill levy rate would affect her and the other residents of the City.

**Larry Munjak** (5236 Delmar) Mr. Munjak stated that the gaming bill had recently been passed in Kansas and asked where that money would go and doesn't see how it will benefit him. He said he would like Kansas to pass something that would benefit homeowners such as keeping the rates lower, legalizing recreational marijuana, and noted that Colorado is using that revenue to build school buildings.

**Janna Willhaus** (4934 Birch) Ms. Willhaus stated that even though the mill rate is proposed to be reduced, their property tax increases have been over 15 percent. She said it is misleading that reducing the rates are reducing the taxes. She said it sounds good, but it is not a reality for homeowners. She asked what the City would be doing with their 10 percent increase.

**Adrienne Foster** (3609 W. 50<sup>th</sup> Terr.) Ms. Foster spoke to the continuing rise of taxes. She said that according to studies a record percent of Americans are suffering with inflation, groceries, and utilities. She said that taxes have increased on average 7 percent per year. She recommended the Council reduce the taxes and said that just because they collect it, they do not need to spend it.

**Deborah Kaufman** (5535 Sherwood) Ms. Kaufman spoke to the bicycle exhibit in R Park for \$90,000 that the kids are not able to ride. She said it is a beautiful park, but it is not an art exhibit and felt the monies could be spent elsewhere. She said she does enjoy the children playing at the park, but they do not need more amenities.

**Erik Hage** (5401 Nall) Ms. Hage asked if there are opportunities for residents to help other citizens if they are having a hard time. He said that is something they should advertise more.

Following public comment, Mayor Kelly closed the public hearing.

## **I. Citizen Comments**

*No comments were made regarding the Council meeting agenda.*

## **II. Consent Agenda**

- A. Appropriations Ordinance #1003**
- B. Council Minutes July 18, 2022**
- C. 2023 Land Lease Agreement to JCPRD for Sports Dome**
- D. Approve Location of Heart Sculpture**

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

## **III. Business from the Floor - Proclamations/Applications/Presentation**

*There was no Business from the Floor.*

## **IV. Mayor's Report**

### **A. National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month Proclamation**

Mayor Kelly reviewed the statistics of suicide in the country and wants to make certain that everyone understands the resources available to them. He said his heart goes out to all who struggle with intrusive thought and urged them to find ways to reach out when they are in crisis. He added that Roeland Park is a leader in the county and the area with their mental health co-responder program in providing that resource to their police force.

**MOTION:** CMBR POPPA MOVED AND CMBR RAGLOW SECONDED TO APPROVE THE PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2022 AS NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH IN THE CITY OF ROELAND PARK. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

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

### **A. MARC - Bike & Pedestrian (Jan Faidley)**

CMBR Faidley said her detailed report is in the agenda packet. She also posted a couple things online such as the link to the bike map and the Complete Street Network analysis which were not originally included in her report.

### **B. MARC - First Tier Suburbs (Jan Faidley and Benjamin Dickens Alt.)**

This report is also included in the agenda packet. CMBR Faidley noted at their last meeting the city of Grandview, MO transformation was featured and how they have flourished.

CMBR Rebne where they are in regards to the Complete Streets ordinance implementation. CMBR Faidley said they did pass the ordinance and they are following those guidelines in Roeland Park when looking at street reconstruction and looking at it from an all users lens.

## **VI. Unfinished Business**

*There was no Unfinished Business discussed.*

## **VII. New Business**

### **A. Approve Inflation Adjustment for 2022**

This adjustment is a 4 percent increase in staff wages for the remainder of the year and is reflected in the 2022 budget amendment.

CMBR Madigan stated the hourly increase will vary depending on the pay of employees. City Administrator Moody said a 4 percent merit increase was administered at the beginning of the year. CMBR Madigan asked what the new increase would cost the City and felt that an increase in the middle of the year was unusual.

CMBR Faidley said it is the intention of the Council to respond in a timelier fashion addressing inflation understanding that their staff is their most valuable asset.

CMBR Madigan said for those on a fixed income they receive an annual increase. He said that he feels he's a valuable asset. He also noted that the 4 percent merit increase, and the 4 percent inflationary increase is to avoid giving an 8 percent increase in 2023.

Mayor Kelly stated that their staff is an investment and an asset, and they retain informational knowledge the City relies on. He added that elected officials come and go, but their staff dedicates their careers to the City, and they just cannot hire anyone off the street. They must provide a working environment for them to continue and provide a competitive wage. Mayor Kelly stated he supports the adjustment.

City Administrator Moody said the 4 percent increase equates to \$100,000 over a half year, and is further detailed in the packet. He also stated this was discussed at prior Workshops with the Council.

**MOTION:** CMBR DICKENS MOVED AND CMBR POPPA SECONDED TO APPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A \$1.10/HOUR INFLATION INCREASE TO STAFF HOURLY WAGES EFFECTIVE WITH THE AUGUST 4, 2022. PAYROLL. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-1 WITH CMBR MADIGAN VOTING NO.)

### **B. Amend 2022 Budget**

**MOTION:** CMBR REBNE MOVED AND CMBR BRAUER SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT OF THE 2022 BUDGET AS PROPOSED. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

### **C. Approve Glass Recycling Service Agreement with Ripple**

Mayor Kelly thanked Piercyn Charbonneau with Ripple Glass for working with Roeland Park on creating this program and being available to answer their questions through the process.

CMBR Madigan said this is the wrong time to implement this program due to inflation. He also stated he believes the gas estimate in the report is off and that expenses will be higher than the estimates.

CMBR Rebne said he appreciated Hanna Willhaus' analysis during public comment earlier. He said as a City, they should have figured out glass recycling decades ago. The fact that they are figuring it out now is just a testament in their delay of doing this. He expressed his support for the program adding that anything that makes it easier for folks to recycle glass is something they have to do.

City Administrator Moody said the fuel economy is based upon the actual numbers that Ripple calculated during the pilot program.

Ms. Winn said the numbers used in the table determine the fiscal and environmental impact and are based on results from the pilot. They chose to present a certain range, but it is impossible to say how it will translate to the City as a whole.

CMBR Raglow thanked Ripple Glass and staff for working hard on this program. She said that she personally has spent time on this and for her it comes down to the timing, and now is not the time. She does fully support recycling and would love to have it, but they do have other solutions such as the Aldi bin which does get a lot of use.

CMBR Madigan said he is more in favor of allowing residents to opt in and then rebating them for 50 percent of the cost, so that those who use it pay for it.

Mayor Kelly agreed with CMBR Rebne that this is long overdue. He said this doesn't mean that because they haven't done it in the past, they shouldn't be innovative and let this be a cornerstone of their solid waste service. He said they will be negotiating their solid waste contract and being able to reduce the weight collected as a result of glass recycling could put them in a better position on rates.

CMBR Poppa suggested a correction that the cost per household should go from \$2.65 as written to \$2.50. Ms. Winn said that is correct in that Ripple has been able to secure grant funding for the cost of the totes and they are passing that savings along to the City, which will be spread out over the three years of contract.

**MOTION:** CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO AMEND THE AGREEMENT TO REFLECT THE REDUCED COST PER HOUSEHOLD FROM \$2.65 TO \$2.50 AS A RESULT OF A GRANT SECURED BY RIPPLE GLASS. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

CMBR Poppa inquired about the note attached to the agreement on Item 2.B. Ms. Winn said the comment was made by staff regarding the logistics of tracking pricing. Ripple Glass wanted them to know that they have wholesale fueling at their plant and the City will be able to look at those receipts on a monthly basis.

CMBR Poppa said in talking with Ripple, as part of their education efforts he would like to see them take advantage of a dedicated support number with automated participation in the program. Mr. Charbonneau said they have seen increased participation with texts sent the night before and the morning of collection.

CMBR Faidley said it's great to hear about the grant. She also said that it should not be entirely on Ripple to take all the risk. She also spoke to the fact there is no recycling at the Boulevard complex, and this gives them an opportunity to get started and to maybe move ahead with their management to start a recycling program.

CMBR Poppa asked if there were other grant opportunities that would lower the cost even further. Ms. Winn said there is a lot of interest in the program, and it is a unique problem, and dollars do exist. She said that they are committed to constantly look for ways to save for the City.

Mayor Kelly added that there are two programs that Roeland Park has that provides income-based help to help alleviate the tax burden to residents. Additionally, there is also the Neighbors Helping Neighbors program with volunteers assisting City homeowners with home improvements.

CMBR Poppa asked about TIF funding. Ms. Winn said those funds are restricted in how they can be used. She also added that the Governing Body agreed to double the budget for Neighbors Helping Neighbors for 2022 and 2023. She said there are dollars left and they want to make sure that they use them.

Mayor Kelly said that if you know your neighbor is struggling, have them contact the City and they will walk them through the property tax assistance program.

The Mayor called for a roll call vote on the recycling agreement.

**MOTION:** CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE GLASS RECYCLING AGREEMENT WITH RIPPLE GLASS AS AMENDED. (THE MOTION CARRIED 5-4 WITH CMBRS MADIGAN, DICKENS, RAGLOW, AND BRAUER VOTING NO, AND THE MAYOR CASTING THE TIE-BREAKING VOTE OF YES.)

**D. Approve 2023 Solid Waste Assessment**

**MOTION:** CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE 2023 SOLID WASTE ASSESSMENT AS PROPOSED. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

**E. Resolution Exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate and set the 2023 Mill Rate**

Mayor Kelly said the proposed mill rate is 27.517 to exceed the 24.905 revenue neutral rate.

CMBR Poppa said from public input there needs to be a clarification between the tax rate versus the mill levy. He said they are basically being forced to be put in a position to make it look like they are raising taxes by the state. He said the current state legislature is trying to chip away at local control.

City Administrator Moody stated that tax revenues have increased and also the mill rate has remained constant over the past few years. In 2018 and 2019, the mill rate decreased 2.5 points in each year. The rate then remained constant until 2022. Despite that, revenues have increased. Discussions have been held at public meetings as they work through the budget addressing this. The revenue neutral approach also has failed in light of rising costs and there needs to be a way to capture revenues for those increases.

Mr. Stinnett spoke out that the additional cost of glass recycling is not a needed expense. City Administrator Moody noted that glass recycling is included in the solid waste assessment which also covers trash, recycling, and the leaf pickup program. Additionally, the glass recycling portion of the solid waste assessment represents 30 percent of the cost of the total program. The remaining portion is paid for through taxes collected by the City.

CMBR Madigan said ten years ago they raised the mill levy in anticipation of Walmart leaving. Walmart is still in the City, and they have returned back down to that level.

CMBR Poppa said the City captures very little of the tax revenue. He said that lowering the mill levy to a revenue neutral rate would impact them greater than they might think as it will also affect what businesses pay considering they pay more per dollar than residents.

City Administrator Moody said that 16 percent of every tax dollar collected goes to the City with the largest portion going to the school district. City Administrator Moody said the average single-family home value for 2022 is \$277,319 and equates to \$877.56 in taxes.

A roll call vote was taken on Option 1 for Resolution No. 697.

**MOTION:** CMBR REBNE MOVED AND CMBR FAIDLEY SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 697, OPTION 1, EXCEEDING THE REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE AND SETTING THE MILL RATE AT 27.517 MILLS. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-1 WITH CMBR MADIGAN VOTING NO.)

**F. Adopt 2023 Budget including CIP and Objectives**

Mayor Kelly thanked his fellow Governing Body members for their laborious efforts in working to meet the needs of the City as well as the residents.

CMBR Poppa asked to make amendment removing his participatory budget objective. He said he is looking forward to continuing to work on that, but does not believe the \$10,000 needs to be in the budget for next year. He also stated that he would look for a source of funding. He said it continues to be important to bring residents into their budget process.

**MOTION:** CMBR POPPA MOVED AND CMBR MADIGAN SECONDED TO REMOVE THE PARTICIPATORY BUDGET OBJECTIVE FROM THE 2023 BUDGET. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

CMBR Rebne said he appreciates the work and what they have funded in their budget as he uses the offerings of the City with its bikeability, leaf collection program, glass recycling, and the improvement of its parks. He also stated that CMBR Faidley has brought up the concern of sales tax in the past and would like for them as a Governing Body to look into that in the coming year. He views that tax as regressive noting that people pay more in food tax than with their property increase.

CMBR Madigan said it was his goal for the City to fund Rango as it is a necessary expense. He also stated that in the future they should discuss dollar limits on Council goals keeping in mind that the citizens are paying for them.

**MOTION:** CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR DICKENS SECONDED TO ADOPT THE 2023 BUDGET INCLUDING THE 5-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND THE 2023 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES AS AMENDED. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-1 WITH CMBR MADIGAN VOTING NO.)

**G. Approve purchase of 2023 Patrol Unit Replacement**

Police Chief Morris said due to supply issues they have an opportunity to place an order for a vehicle now for 2023. This would be for a 2023 Ford Explorer hybrid for their K-9 unit. The cost of the vehicle is \$46,215 and will not be paid for until it arrives. The special equipment for the vehicle has been privately funded and the monies are available when the unit arrives.

**MOTION:** CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR DICKENS SECONDED TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THE 2023 PATROL UNIT REPLACEMENT VEHICLE. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

**VIII. Ordinances and Resolutions**

*There were no ordinances or resolutions presented.*

**IX. Reports of City Officials**

**A. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financial Report**

Ms. Winn reviewed key budget trends noting they are above 50 percent of budget for collections of property which is attributable to how they are collected. They are still seeing growth in sales and use taxes, but that percent of growth is slower than last year. Franchise fees are on track, but court fees are trending far below projections. Due to the City's desire to lower fines, they have adjusted their projections to reflect those lower revenues.

Ms. Winn noted the Community Center line item increase which is a result of shifting the timeline of improvements. Also, the Special Infrastructure Fund reflects the purchase of properties along Johnson Drive.

The General Fund revenue were also reviewed as well as expenditures, details of which are in the agenda packet. City investments have accrued \$27,000 in interest and the monies are used to help fund future projects.

The County Economic Research Institute(CERI) provides information for all Johnson County cities and Ms. Winn reviewed those retail sales figures for the first five months of 2022. It was noted that there was a small increase over last year and when compared to the county.

CMBR Faidley expressed concern about the lower number of permits issued. City Administrator Moody said the number began to drop in 2021 in not only the number of permits issued but also the value of those permits. He said at this time they are not certain what is driving that.

CMBR Rebne asked how the permit fee is determined. City Administrator Moody said it is based on the value of the construction.



**B. COVID Report**

Mayor Kelly said the COVID Report is provided in the agenda packet.

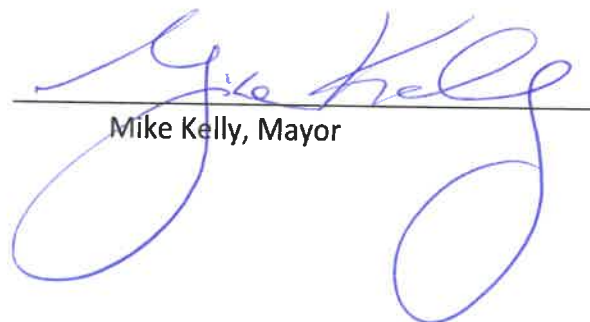
**Adjourn:**

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

(Roeland Park City Council Meeting Adjourned at 7:31 p.m.)



Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk



Mike Kelly, Mayor