

GOVERNING BODY WORKSHOP MINUTES
Roeland Park City Hall
4600 W 51st Street, Roeland Park, KS 66205
Monday, April 3, 2023, 6:00 P.M.

- o Michael Poppa, Mayor
- o Trisha Brauer, Council Member
- o Benjamin Dickens, Council Member
- o Jan Faidley, Council Member
- o Jennifer Hill, Council Member
- o Tom Madigan, Council Member
- o Castagna-Herrera, Council Member
- o Kate Raglow, Council Member
- o Michael Rebne, Council Member
- o Keith Moody, City Administrator
- o *Open*, Asst. Admin.
- o Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk
- o John Morris, Police Chief
- o Donnie Scharff, Public Works Director

Admin

Raglow
Dickens

Finance

Rebne
Hill

Safety

Castagna-Herrera
Madigan

Public Works

Brauer
Faidley

(Governing Body Workshop Called to Order at 7:15 p.m.)

ROLL CALL

CMBR Hill called the meeting to order. All Governing Body were present with CMBR Madigan attending virtually.

I. MINUTES

1. Governing Body Workshop Meeting Minutes March 20, 2023

The minutes were approved as presented.

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Review Proposed 2024 Solid Waste Assessment

City Administrator Moody led the discussion reviewing what items are reflected in the Solid Waste Assessment currently. He noted that the leaf collection program does not include the manhours to operate it, but the fuel, equipment use, and disposal costs are included. Weekly garbage, recycling, and yard waste are also included in the assessment and is collected by GFL. That service will increase \$0.30 per account next year.

The glass recycling program is a new assessment for 2023 and will have a slight increase per the contract of \$0.03 per account for 2024. Currently 24 percent of the program costs are assessed to the single-family homeowner with a plan to transition that completely to the homeowner over a four-year timeframe. Next year, the homeowner share will be 54 percent.

A breakdown of the fees are \$196.25 for GFL; yearly City admin fees of \$1.53; glass recycling at \$16.59; and \$14.73 for leaf collection for a total assessment of \$229.10 per year. City Administrator Moody noted this is a 2.52 annual increase which is under the 15 percent increase residents saw in their 2023 assessment. He said this is an exceptional value considering they have added a new service and that they were fortunate to lock in their increases with GFL when they renewed their agreement.

CMBR Madigan asked if it is possible break out the individual costs for each service on their property tax bill versus one price for all so that residents can see a breakdown of what they are paying. City Administrator Moody said he would look into it to see if that's possible.

CMBR Faidley where they are compared to other cities. City Administrator Moody said that information is included in the single-family cost of living comparison. Roeland Park admittedly has more services provided than most cities by comparison.

There was consensus to move the 2024 Solid Waste Assessment to the next Consent Agenda, and if possible, they would like the different service costs broken out on the assessment statement.

2. Review Proposed 2024 Storm Water Utility Fee

City Administrator Moody said this Storm Water Utility Fee is a new assessment. They are doing it at this time because they need to have the assessments approved and recorded. They calculated impervious surface as .025 per square foot of a single-family lot. Based on lot size average the assessment will be \$57.75. They are using an average because surveying each lot would be an exorbitant cost and would not remain the same as changes are made to a lot. This fee will allow them to continue to reduce the mill levy over a four-year implementation. Currently there are three storm water improvement districts that have a special assessment, and they will not be charged an additional assessment, but will pay the average assessment once theirs rolls off.

CMBR Faidley asked how they get the education out to their constituents. She suggested that maybe they could highlight projects by noting they are paid for from the fee and these are "an example of your dollars at work." She also wanted to know if this fee will be reevaluated annually.

City Administrator Moody said the Governing Body will do an annual review and it will be approved on an annual basis. As far as communicating to residents, he acknowledged it will be challenging down the road. He said they will appreciate the mill levy going down over four years, but they will likely see an increase in the stormwater utility fee because assessed values continue to go up.

CMBR Rebne noted that the property increases with increased valuation and more tax is collected, whereas the stormwater assessment will be the City of Roeland Park raising the tax and those monies will stay within the City. City Administrator Moody said the assessments for solid waste and stormwater rest with the Council and not from the appraisal.

There was an agreement to move this item to New Business at the next Council meeting.

3. Discuss Renewal of Options Carbon Emissions Tracking Dynamhex

City Administrator Moody said they have not had a lot of use on the platform and the feedback they have received is that it's not easy to use. Prairie Village has chosen not to renew their contract and has moved to another platform. He recognized that \$2,000 is not a large amount, but the tool is dynamic. It allows for continuous updating of carbon emissions in the community, but it relies on the participation of the residents. He asked the Governing Body for their opinion on whether they should renew it.

Mayor Poppa said he had been on the platform a few times but didn't have the time to figure it out and agreed it is not user-friendly. He said to be effective it relies on other neighbors to input their information. He recommended that once they are appropriately staffed, to have more research don't that would look into the tool that Prairie Village is using to replace Dynamhex. He added that he does not see any reason to renew the contract if it is not being utilized.

CMBR Faidley asked if this would be something they would an RFP out for. She said that since this was introduced by the previous mayor, have they had any input from him. City Administrator Moody said they can put out an RFP, but this is a specialized niche and Dynamhex is one of the first to design and implement the technology. He has not spoken with previous mayor Johnson County Chair Kelly about this. CMBR Faidley said they could put a feeler out to Climate Action KC. CMBR Hill said she was on that committee and would ask.

CMBR Dickens said he loves the concept, but agreed with Mayor Poppa that if there is little participation from the community, he doesn't see a need to continue. He too would like to see how the new program with Prairie Village goes before they invest in another contract if nobody is going to use that one either.

CMBR Madigan said he agrees with the comments being made. It is a great idea, but the residents weren't ready. He suggested surveying the residents to determine their interest.

CMBR Rebne said that they are responsible for their own footprint, but this deflects from the biggest corporate carbon polluters out there.

Mayor Poppa reiterated that if they do want to look at something else to please give staff time. He asked that they not send suggestions to them right now to let them get their staff levels up. He also said he would love something like this for the residents to be able to use.

There was consensus to not renew the contract.

4. Discuss Application of Racial Equity Lens on Agenda Items

Mayor Poppa said they adopted the racial equity impact questions and began putting them on the discussion items. He would like to see them put those questions front and center on the action item summary, action item form, and the community impact questions to keep them top of mind.

CMBR Hill said the idea of equality is not giving everyone the same thing, but to say it in a way that one group may need it more than another.

CMBR Faidley noted that the work is time consuming and does take a lot of energy. She asked if there was a way not to make this as budget objectives but for agenda items and also to give guidance to Racial Equity Committee to give them more direction.

CMBR Hill said she is appreciative of those offering training, but she and CMBR Rebne receive DEI training in their job.

CMBR Raglow said it does broaden their thinking when looking through that lens. She agreed it is not perfect and it needs to be discussed recognizing that it does add time, but that it is worth it. She said it

is important that they support each other through the process. She said sending the questions to the Racial Equity Committee and asking for their answers is fine, but the ultimate responsibility is the Council to make the decisions.

CMBR Rebne said they will need to have those discussions and name the accountability whether it's spending \$40,000 for a compensation survey, money on parks and walkability. He said they will need to do the research and get consultation if they believe they are ready to spend the money on something.

CMBR Faidley asked if they have used up all their allotted hours with UCS that were given for technical assistance to the cities that participated. City Administrator Moody said he will follow-up on that.

Mayor Poppa said he would like direction or feedback about moving the questions up and adding them to the action item form with a glossary of terms and how does it align with the strategic plan.

City Clerk Nielsen said she will work that out with Novus.

CMBR Faidley likes visiting the priorities chart for capital improvements and having a parameter that might factor this in. Mayor Poppa said they may need help from UCS on that.

CMBR Madigan said they need to remember that staff is shorthanded and can't be overloaded. He said the majority of things on agenda should be from the Mayor, Council President and the City Administrator.

III. NON-ACTION ITEMS:

No items were presented.

IV. ADJOURN

CMBR Hill adjourned the meeting.

(Roeland Park Governing Body Workshop Adjourned at 8:07 p.m.)