

**CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
ROELAND PARK CITY HALL  
4600 WEST 51<sup>st</sup> STREET, ROELAND PARK, KS 66205  
September 3, 2024, 6:00 P.M.**

- Michael Poppa, Mayor
- Benjamin Dickens, Council Member
- Jan Faidley, Council Member
- Emily Hage, Council Member
- Jennifer Hill, Council Member

- Matthew Lero, Council Member
- Tom Madigan, Council Member
- Kate Raglow, Council Member
- Jeffrey Stocks, Council Member

- Keith Moody, City Administrator
- Jennifer Jones-Lacy, Asst. City Admin.
- Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk
- John Morris, Police Chief
- Donnie Scharff, Public Works Director

**Admin**  
Lero  
Faidley

**Finance**  
Stocks  
Dickens

**Safety**  
Hage  
Hill

**Public Works**  
Raglow  
Madigan

(Roeland Park Council Meeting Called to Order at 6:00 p.m.)

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Poppa called the 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 CMBR Raglow appearing virtually. Staff present were City Administrator Moody, City Attorney Felzien, Finance Director/Assistant City Administrator Jones-Lacy, Public Works Director Scharff, Police Chief Morris, Deputy Police Chief Honas, and City Clerk Nielsen.

### **Modification of Agenda**

*There were no modifications to the Agenda.*

#### **I. Public Comments**

*There were no public comments made.*

#### **II. Consent Agenda**

- A. Appropriations Ordinance #1050**
- B. City Council Meeting Minutes August 20, 2024**

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

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

- A. Life Saving Award for Officer Prodoehl**

Police Chief Morris invited Officers Prodoehl, Hill, Gardner, and Corporal Magee to the front of the chambers. He wanted to recognize these officers for a unique thing that does not happen often and to bring this to the attention of the Council, the public, the administrative staff, and the officers' family members. Chief Morris relayed details of an incident that happened in the northern part of Nall Park on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, around 8:49 in the evening. He said it was an extremely hot and muggy night. The area where the officers went to was thick with vegetation and treacherous terrain. They were responding to a suicidal subject who was on the phone with the crisis line. He stressed that his officers searched this area not knowing what they would encounter. Officer Prodoehl eventually found the subject hanging in a tree and was able to cut him down and comfort him while waiting for his fellow officers, the ambulance, and paramedics. Thanks to their efforts they saved the subject's life.

Police Chief Morris said he reviewed the video and watching it is very emotional and he is proud of the camaraderie of his officers. They put their lives on the line even when they do not know what they are going into. He said the compassion that was shown to the subject is what Roeland Park is all about.

Chief Morris together with Deputy Chief Honas presented the Life Saving Award to Officer Prodoehl and the Meritorious Service Award to Officers Gardner, Hill, and Corporal Magee with a sincere thank you and gratitude for a job well done.

(Applause and photos were taken)

Mayor Poppa thanked Chief Morris and the officers. He said he does not have the words to thank them for what they do in Roeland Park and especially what they did that night.

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

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

Mayor Poppa encouraged all residents to inquire about the well-being of their family, neighbors, and friends over the next few days and to convey their appreciation for their existence in any way they can. He added that suicide is never the answer. He then read the proclamation into the record proclaiming September 2024 as National Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month in Roeland Park.

All Councilmembers signed onto the proclamation.

*For more information, or if you need help, reach out to:*

- 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: [www.988Lifeline.org/Talk-To-Someone-Now](http://www.988Lifeline.org/Talk-To-Someone-Now)
- Johnson County Suicide Prevention Coalition: [www.JoCoGov.org/SuicidePrevention](http://www.JoCoGov.org/SuicidePrevention)

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

##### **A. Community Foundation**

Ms. Jones-Lacy said the board had its quarterly meeting and the meeting minutes are included in the agenda packet. She said funds have been spent for the Go Green event planned for September 14<sup>th</sup>. Staff tracks the committee's financials and those are included in the packet as well.

#### **VI. Unfinished Business**

*There was no Unfinished Business discussed.*

## **VII. New Business**

### **A. Public Fireworks Display Request from Bishop Miede**

Police Chief Morris said this item comes before the Governing Body every year. Bishop Miede would like to do a small fireworks displays as they have done for the past 20-plus years. They have completed their application and submitted the required paperwork. The proposed dates are 9/6, 9/27, 10/4, and 10/25. If the team goes to the playoffs, they will submit a request for additional dates for a fireworks display. Chief Morris said that he or someone from the department will be at the fireworks display for proper guidance. He said there is nothing unusual about this request.

**MOTION:** CMBR LERO MOVED AND CMBR MADIGAN SECONDED TO APPROVE THE SMALL DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS AT BISHOP MIEGE 2024 FOOTBALL GAMES ON 9/6, 9/27, 10/4, AND 10/25. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-1 WITH CMBR HILL VOTING NO.)

### **B. Leaving the Twitter/X Platform**

Ms. Jones-Lacy said that CMBR Dickens made an earlier request that the City leave the Twitter/X platform. Mayor Poppa had requested the DEI Committee review that request and to provide any additional information. Ms. Jones-Lacy said the DEI Committee reviewed the request, and the initial impetus is that X in its current form has become more offensive in terms of the misinformation that is coming through the platform and the filters against that are not strong. There is also a push for people to pay for official accounts. The platform identifies certain accounts as being state run media or whatever. Ms. Jones-Lacy said that personally she is not a big user of X and cannot speak to what it was versus what it is now. She did note that Merriam left earlier this year for the reasons that have been stated. The DEI Committee said the platform does not align with the City's values or that of the DEI Committee and recommended the City drop its use. Katie Garcia, the City's PIO, has no concern about dropping it as it is not the City's main source to get information out. Ms. Jones-Lacy said it is helpful with emergencies, but is not as well used as their website, the newsletter, or Facebook.

CMBR Stocks said he is not a big user of X, but his one suggestion would be that they retain the name so that someone cannot use it to spread misinformation. He said not to use it but to keep it as a placeholder.

CMBR Dickens said this is a great idea. He said he previously was an avid user and hopes that one day there will be new ownership over the platform. He also noted that just this past weekend the country of Brazil banned X because of their rhetoric.

**MOTION:** CMBR DICKENS MOVED AND CMBR MADIGAN SECONDED FOR THE CITY TO LEAVE THE TWITTER/X PLATFORM FOR DISSEMINATION OF CITY INFORMATION BUT RETAIN THE ROELAND PARK HANDLE TO PREVENT IT BEING USED BY SOMEONE ELSE OR POTENTIAL USE IN THE FUTURE. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

## **VIII. Ordinances and Resolutions**

### **A. Resolution Setting Date on Public Hearing to Amend TIF3 Boundary**

City Manager Moody said setting a public hearing is required by the state to amend the TIF boundary. The date requested is October 7<sup>th</sup>. It will be an expansion of the land area to include Nall Park and the Community Center to allow the use of TIF3 funds for improvements on those two sites.

CMBR Faidley asked if the funds could be used for sidewalk connections to Nall Park, not only from the Community Center but to Nall Park itself. City Manager Moody said it can be used for that.

**MOTION:** CMBR HAGE MOVED AND CMBR FAIDLEY SECONDED TO APPROVE THE DATE OF OCTOBER 7, 2024, FOR THE PUBLIC HEARING TO AMEND THE TIF3 BOUNDARY. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

**B. Resolution - Fees**

Ms. Jones-Lacy said they received their first request for a food truck permit and realized they did not have a fee schedule. They are recommending a \$50 annual permit fee which is equivalent to their business license fee.

CMBR Dickens asked if the food truck would need a business license separate from the permit. Ms. Jones-Lacy said that most food trucks have a brick-and-mortar operation, which would require a business license permit. The food truck permit would essentially be their business license to operate in Roeland Park. And a requirement of that application requires compliance with health inspections as well as from the fire marshal.

CMBR Faidley stated that Roeland Park does not allow food vendors in residential areas. Mayor Poppa added they can only set up in a business area.

Ms. Jones-Lacy said they will be reviewing that section of the City code later in the Workshop. She does not recall the code having those restrictions but will look further into it and bring that back to the Governing Body for review.

CMBR Faidley asked if the food truck would need a special use permit to operate on any public property. Ms. Jones-Lacy said they do not need such a permit, and the food truck permit would be their authorization to operate.

Further details regarding this item will be discussed at the Workshop.

**MOTION:** CMBR LERO MOVED AND CMBR MADIGAN SECONDED TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION ADOPTING FEES AS IT RELATES TO FOOD TRUCK PERMITS IN THE CITY OF ROELAND PARK. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

**IX. Reports of City Officials**

**City Clerk's Office**

City Clerk Nielsen said there will be a dog pool party on September 4<sup>th</sup> from 5-7:30 p.m. at the Aquatics Center.

**City Administrator's Office**

City Manager Moody said there was a Community Center Design meeting today and they are honing in on those plans, which the Governing Body will look at their next meeting. City Manager Moody will be

looking for their acceptance and then they will move the final set of plans to get bids for the work. After that, there will be a second amendment to the construction manager at risk agreement for a not to exceed price. Universal will also be present at the meeting to detail what is included in Phase 2 and to review what has been completed during Phase 1 of the project.

**Police Department & Public Works Department**

Both Police Chief Morris and Public Works Director Scharff gave a thumbs up that they are at full staff.

**Adjourn:**

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

(Roeland Park City Council Meeting Adjourned at 6:28 p.m.)

  
Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk  
Michael Poppa, Mayor