

GOVERNING BODY WORKSHOP AGENDA
Roeland Park City Hall
4600 W 51st Street, Roeland Park, KS 66205
Monday, March 5, 2018 6:00 P.M.

- Mike Kelly, Mayor
- Becky Fast, Council Member
- Jennifer Hill, Council Member
- Tim Janssen, Council Member

- Jim Kelly, Council Member
- Tom Madigan, Council Member
- Claudia McCormack, Council Member
- Michael Poppa, Council Member
- Erin Thompson, Council Member

- Keith Moody, City Administrator
- Jennifer Jones-Lacy, Asst. Admin.
- Kelley Bohon, City Clerk
- John Morris, Police Chief
- Jose Leon, Public Works Director

Admin

Fast
Kelly

Finance

Janssen
Thompson

Safety

Hill
McCormack

Public Works

Madigan
Poppa

CMBR Poppa called the meeting to order. Mayor Kelly, CMBR Fast and CMBR Thompson arrived after the start of the meeting.

MODIFICATION OF THE AGENDA

The AAA Traffic Award will be on a future Workshop.

MINUTES

February 5, 2018

The minutes were approved as submitted.

I. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. AAA Traffic Award

Item postponed to a future Workshop.

2. Presentation from Johnson County Appraiser's Office.

Mr. Ramsey, the Residential Real Estate Manager and Bill Neal, the Senior Regional Coordinator for the County Appraiser's Office provided the Governing Body with an update on the 2018 property reevaluations. Mr. Ramsey said the market in Johnson County has been very active and it has been an interesting year for evaluations. The county's general overall population continues to increase and they need about 2,200 residences to handle the increase. The real estate market is considered to be in balance with a six-month supply of homes. Currently Johnson County has about a 1½ month supply. Mr. Ramsey presented the historical average sales prices in Johnson County which continue to be higher when compared to averages throughout the Kansas City regional area. Mr. Ramsey then discussed their mandate to provide fair market values in a uniform and equal manner.

Last year the average appraised value for a home in Roeland Park was \$165,848 and increased to \$192,796 for 2018. The average 2016 sale price in Roeland Park was \$183,825 and increased to \$203, 660 in 2017. The impact on the values throughout Johnson County right now on the sale of homes under \$300,000 and is where the market activity has been.

(Mayor Kelly, CMBR Thompson and CMBR Fast arrived at the meeting.)

CMBR Fast asked how will there ever be fair equity in appraising properties when they only know what is inside of a property is when it goes for sale. Mr. Ramsey said that is one of their biggest challenges and they do only see the

outside and cannot assume that a home has been updated. He said they do get calls from homeowners asking for their property values to be raised, which is usually before they put it on the market. At those times they can find out if there have been remodels or upgrades to a home that they did not know about when they valued the property. Unless they take out a permit, they do not know anything is going on inside the house.

Mr. Neal added that all cities have different requirements for what they would have to take a permit out for. Overland Park has been reducing the amount of permits that are required and, therefore, they know less about what is happening with a property.

Mr. Moody said his takeaway is that the influence that new home construction has on the value of the adjacent existing homes is on the land value and not necessarily the building value per square foot. Mr. Ramsey affirmed that statement.

City Administrator Moody asked if someone's current property has a comparison with new construction should they appeal it. Mr. Ramsey said that everyone has the right to appeal their property. If the comparisons are a concern, they can address that through the appeal process because they can always go out and try to find another comparable.

Mr. Neal said the reverse could also happen where a newly constructed home is compared to an existing or older home because there are no area comparables, which is something they are seeing in Roeland Park right now.

Mayor Kelly asked with the increase in values are they expecting an increase in appeals. And if so, would they have a corresponding increase in staff time to deal with the appeals. Mr. Ramsey said they do expect an increase because of the market activity that has driven values this year and they have anticipated for that increase. Two years ago they had just over 3,000 appeals. Last year they had 5,200 appeals. They are expecting another increase this year. They do not anticipate increasing their staff, but are increasing the number of days they hear appeals.

Mr. Neal said to put the appeals into perspective, when he and Mr. Ramsey started 20 years ago it was not uncommon for the appeals council to handle 10,000 to 12,000 appeals. Mr. Ramsey he believed in 2000 it was the lowest at about 2,200 appeals.

They are expecting to hear from residents now that the new appraisals have gone out. Their phone traffic has gone down every year as they have much more information on the internet than they ever have had before and believes that has reduced the number of calls they receive.

CMBR Fast has been asked from several residents who feel the smaller home communities and the poorer communities got hit much harder than the wealthier communities like Leawood and felt there may be a bias. And with the average income in the county among the lowest and to have such a huge appraisal increase, they are a group that is less likely to be able to bear that increase, whereas, Leawood only had a half percent to one percent increase or none.

Mr. Ramsey said that is purely real estate market driven. Homes over \$350,000 are still increasing in value, but not at the rate that the under \$300,000 valued homes. He said that northeast Johnson County has always been a desirable area to live. On the contrast, their model of old town Olathe has the lowest average sale price of any of the other 37 models for the county, and that area had a double digit increase just like Merriam, and North Overland Park. Areas that have the lower values are the ones that have seen the largest percent increase because that's the most affordable housing right now.

CMBR Kelly asked if there were any tools or websites or services to help residents understand if they have a case to stand on to appeal or to help them fight the appraisals. Mr. Ramsey said they have some tools and videos on their website to help them through the process. The best thing to do is if they have concerns about their value, or they don't believe based on what they know about their home and their area, or that they couldn't sell their home for

the appraisal value, is to make an appeal. He said it is an informal process for people to come in and discuss with an appraiser for their area. Many appeals are done over the phone, but he added that a picture is still worth a thousand words.

Mr. Ramsey said they will have two town hall meetings which he and Mr. Neal will attend. Also County Appraiser Paul Welcome will be at the meetings. They will be more of a Q&A type session where people can ask questions of Mr. Welcome. There will be one March 7 at the YMCA and one March 12 at the Roeland Park Community Center.

CMBR Janssen asked if there was a key for the abbreviations. Mr. Ramsey said there is a document that does explain the comparable sales and explanations of the abbreviations. Their office staff will be posting that on the website as many people are asking for those.

CMBR Poppa thanked Mr. Ramsey and Mr. Neal for their presentation.

3. Discussion on K-9 Unit Program for the Police Department

CMBR Poppa said this item was brought forward by the Safety Committee.

Sgt. Cory Honas made a presentation on the Police Department's desire to start K-9 unit program within the City. Sgt. Honas met with City Administrator Moody last fall and thanked him for giving him some direction on where to go with the project. He also thanked Safety Committee members CMBRS Janssen and McCormack who had a meeting along with Police Chief Morris.

Sgt. Honas said he has been with the Roeland Park Police Department for about 18 years and was approached by Chief Morris to see if he was interested in a K-9 unit as currently there are no K-9 units in northeast Johnson County. Overland Park, Shawnee, Lenexa, Olathe, Leawood, Spring Hill and Gardner all have K-9 units. Sgt. Honas said he does have some experience in this area. Prior to moving to the area he worked at a sheriff's department in western Kansas and helped establish the first K-9 unit in that area.

The department would like to add a dual-purpose K-9, which would be utilized for narcotics investigations, tracking, and apprehension. Officer safety and citizen safety is one of the primary goals that they would utilize a K-9 for. There have been many times in the City when they have tried to find a K-9 and have had to reach out to outside agencies to utilize their K-9s if they needed assistance with a search, or if a felon was on the loose. If they can come, they will and have been wonderful when they can help. There have been times when a requested K-9 was in en route for them only to turn around to help their own city which is always their first priority. Dispatch does call around to try to find one, but they need as much time on their side that they can get. The more time that elapses the less likely they are to get an apprehension.

Some of the attributes of having a K-9 in the department is they are loyal partners, protect officers and lead from the front. The K-9 they want would bite and hold, and acts no differently than any other tool an officer has such as a duty weapon, oc spray, baton, taser or handcuffs.

CMBR Hill asked if there was another type of dog other than a bite and hold. Sgt. Honas said the dog won't always bite on an apprehension. The K-9 would be on a lead at all times with the handler. There are times when the dog would be released on a fleeing subject.

CMBR McCormack asked with the rising debate of marijuana laws, what distinction would you make between personal amounts of marijuana versus intent to sell amounts and how quickly they would use utilize the K-9. Sgt. Honas said that between the state and the county attorney's office the amount determines if it's a municipal charge or a felony charge. If an officer made a traffic stop and felt there was something in the car or something is going on they could run the dog around and get an alert, then it becomes up to the discretion of the officer whether to charge it, confiscate it and not charge them.

Sgt. Honas contacted the City's insurance company and found out there are no problems with insurance for the dog as it is considered an officer of the department. There is zero premium to insure the K-9. Then the dog is filed under an Inland Marine policy which gives a \$50,000 liability in the event something bad happens to the K-9.

If the Governing Body wants to move forward, it now becomes a fundraising item. This purchase is not part of the 2018 budget, so Sgt. Honas looked at what they can do to get it started. He did a community business outreach to see if it was supported in the community. He went to different businesses, met with business owners to get feedback. He did not solicit any funds because he did not have the authority to do that. He did not come across one business against having a K-9. They also could not believe that no agencies in the northeast had a K-9. The first business he approached offered to start off fundraising at \$5,000. Every subsequent business asked how much he needed to start the program and wanted to donate. All he set out to do was get feedback, but instead had a lot of businesses that offered their support to the program just in Roeland Park. The businesses asked him to return once he had approval. Sgt. Honas also stated there are grants and non-profit organizations out there to support this and he has contacted two so far. One agency would help with some equipment and one would help with the purchase of the dog.

The start-up of the program would be \$75,000, which is a lot of money. The K-9 unit itself is \$13,000. Sgt. Honas solicited three bids from different kennels and recommends Hill Country Dog Center K-9 out of Texas, where many dogs in this area have been purchased in the area. They are a proven kennel and provide a one year warranty on workability and health of the dog.

Lowe's and US Bank are also wanting to put together a block party for the citizens of Roeland Park in late spring or early summer. Lowe's asked if they could have a K-9 demonstration as they want to have public safety element to the party. They would also possibly like to get involved with fundraising through that event. Sgt. Honas said there is excitement from the community business owners. Some have even contacted him in the past month to see the progress with the project. Sgt. Honas believes there could be a lot of support with the institution of this program.

Sgt. Honas asked the Governing Body for permission to begin meeting with business owners to determine the extent of their willingness to help. One of the local construction companies wants to build a kennel and has already donated it. Another construction company said they too would help. The Police Department believes this is a tool that's necessary now and for the future of northeast Johnson County.

CMBR Poppa thanked Sgt. Honas for his detailed report.

CMBR Fast said over the years the City's crime statistics aren't that high, but if it protects an officer, it is worth it. She asked would they have enough work for the dog to do. Sgt. Honas said its primary responsibility would be to Roeland Park, but they will reach out to other agencies to assist in northeast Johnson County. Having a dog will also generate income for the department. For example, if a dog is called out to sniff on a vehicle and contraband and cash are seized, the agency standard is 10 to 20 percent goes to the agencies that offered help. After it goes to asset forfeiture and seizure, then most likely they will receive 10 to 20 percent of that seizure. The funds go into the Law Enforcement Trust Fund and can be used for sustainability of the K-9 unit and also to purchase any equipment that the Police Department might need, therefore, reduce the need from the budget.

CMBR Thompson asked for a further details on the handler of the dog. Sgt. Honas said the dog would live with their handler in an outside kennel. Sgt. Honas said he would be the first K-9 handler. He is the logical choice as he is most familiar with the program and will help to make sure that proper policy and procedures are built into the program for the K-9 and that it has a solid foundation for future handlers in the department. They usually get five to seven years from a dog. Other officers would help with the training and those would be interested in being a handler down the road.

CMBR Thompson asked if the cost of training is included in the estimate and Sgt. Honas said it is.

CMBR Hill asked what the special requirements would be for a vehicle. Sgt. Honas said a K-9 vehicle comes with a cage in the back for the dog. It also has a flat seat in the back along with water bowls. There is a temperature gauge that monitors the internal temperature of the car and alerts the officer's phone or honks the horn if it gets too hot or too cold in the car. Otherwise, the car will have the standard computer and radio, but the back will be specifically made for a K-9. The back doors are made to pop open if the handler gets in trouble and needs the K-9 to come help him. The officer can pop the door and the dog will come out and go to the handler.

CMBR Janssen asked if any of their current vehicles could be used for this purpose. Sgt. Honas they could equip one, but would it would put a patrol car out of service when the K-9 wasn't on duty. They would like to try to look at outfitting another vehicle that is not within their fleet. CMBR Janssen asked what a typical workday would look like. Sgt. Honas said they are not adding a position or an officer. The handler trains in excess of 16 hours a month. There would be one day that they would train and then the handler would work a normal patrol schedule as much as possible. Under FSLA law, the agency has to reimburse the handler for the care of the dog every day. They also can be called out any time of day or night.

Mayor Kelly asked if Sgt. Honas could take a guess at how many times a dog would be utilized. Sgt. Honas said he has learned through his research that they will use the dog more than they ever thought they would. When officers make a traffic stop and something is not right, they would not have tools that they can utilize. They could have the K-9 run around the car and possibly stop an illegal activity. He has been told by people who have them they will not regret the decision and they will use them.

CMBR Madigan asked what breeds they were considering. Sgt. Honas said the most popular choices are Dutch Shepherd, German Shepherd and Belgian Malinois, which is what most of the kennels train. They are apprehension dogs, but they are not trained to be as aggressive as they once were. CMBR Madigan asked what they do if they can't call the dog off. In policy, if the handler goes down there are numerous options. One option is to have another officer pull the patrol car as close to the dog and say Kennel. And lot of times that dog knows where it's supposed to go and it's going to go right into its kennel and jump in the back of the car. Also they carry a bite sleeve in the car. All the officers would be familiar with it. If the dog is not wanting to engage but stay with the handler because the handler is down, that officers simply just goes up, has the dog grasp on to the sleeve and drag it over to the car, put it in and contact an outside agency who will take care of it from there.

CMBR Madigan thinks a K-9 unit would be a great PR asset to the police department. People are fascinated by K-9 units. And as CMBR Fast said anything that protects the public at large and their officers he supports. He also said he didn't think they should shy away from the budget. He believes they need this unit as the City needs the help.

Sgt. Honas said there is a lot of excitement for this. He added also that things are going well for a lot of businesses and business owners, but they can't tell if six months down the road if they will be willing to provide the assistance they are willing to give right now.

CMBR Madigan asked what breed they would prefer. Sgt. Honas said he preferred a Belgian Malinois. They are amazing. The dog would also do public demonstrations.

City Administrator Moody stated this would be a regional service value, being able to provide this service to other communities. It has value. And believes it is worth a conversation with those other communities to see if they're willing to support the program in a financial manner. They do share services in the northeast and if they are going to respond to their communities with the K-9, he thinks they would recognize that value. He would like to see them continue the discussions of how to help with funding. He would also be interested to learn how much revenue through seizures have the communities experienced to get an idea of what is the potential for that service and wat opportunity does the program have to help fund itself.

Sgt. Honas understands the desire to want to reach out to outside agencies for financial support. He said they need to be careful with cost-sharing with outside agencies. The dog cannot be expected to work 24/7. If the handler

doesn't respond to an agency that offered financial support of the K-9, or if it can't respond, then that agency would say, well, we've paid X-amount of dollars and would expect the dog to come out. The dog does need its down time just like a human and they cannot put a lot of stress on or overwork the dog. He would caution cost-sharing and look at the stress and health of the dog above anything. Also he didn't recommend counting on the trust fund to self-fund the dog as the fund is not used as revenue, but for officer safety and fluctuates year to year.

Police Chief Morris addressed the Governing Body. He stated that the program is not to generate money. They are there to protect their officers' lives and to protect the lives of Roeland Park's citizens and make a difference in the community by setting an example of what we can do as a community by providing another tool in law enforcement to battle crime and keep the bad guys out the neighborhoods. He said the K-9 program is an excellent tool and says to Northeast Johnson County that they care what goes on their community and they want to keep the officers safe, and now they have an advantage over the bad guys and keeping everyone safe. They are not asking for money right now from the Governing Body. They want to make this as their own unit. He wants Roeland Park to shine and to let people know they really care. Crime statistics are going down and he wants to keep it that way. They have people right now with money in their pockets that can't give it away fast enough and he would like permission tonight to move forward to start collecting those funds. If they don't get enough, they can battle that at a later date. If he has to give the money back, then so be it. But he would like to start somewhere.

CMBR Poppa clarified the action item asked for approval to purchase the K-9, but what they're really asking for is basic direction to be able to start soliciting funds and come back to the Council at a later date.

There was unanimous Governing Body support to start soliciting donations to begin a K-9 program.

4. Discussion of Agenda Management Systems

Ms. Jones-Lacy updated the cost comparisons, but they do not include voting or live streaming, as well as addressed mobility and compatibility between Novus, Accela and Civic Plus.

One drawback to the current program Novus is when they are creating an item it is an HTML and cannot be formatted the same way you can format a Word document. Also migrating items to Novus and Accela are free, but Civic Plus charges a fee.

Ms. Jones-Lacy said her recommendation would be to stay with Novus as it makes the most sense financially and also from a usability perspective.

CMBR Janssen said he would support staying with Novus and including the voting the options.

Mayor Kelly said he would defer to staff on the system that they want to use. As it relates to voting, the Governing Body expressed some interest in testing the system before purchasing it.

City Clerk Bohon she believes Novus will let them test-run it. She said everyone would have to be able to vote on their laptop, iPad. She didn't believe they could use a phone, but she would check into that.

CMBR Poppa said he was in favor of staying the course with Novus as well and it is the most user-friendly.

There was consensus to stay with Novus and wait for an update on trial use of the voting program.

5. Discussion Concerning the Electric Vehicle Charging Station

Ms. Jones-Lacy said their subscription with Charge Point has expired and asked for direction of the Council. Their options are do they want renew their subscription (the best price is for three years), upgrade or get rid of the station and gain two parking spots. Currently they do not charge for the use of the stations, but they do have the ability to

charge for use at \$0.40 a kilowatt hour. The annual cost to the City was \$327 last year. Roeland Park was the first charging station in the state of Kansas and they received tax credits to obtain them. They are no longer under any obligation to do so. One reason usage is believed to be low is that they are not in a prime location and people do not know that they are there. Last year they had 54 unique drivers. Ms. Jones-Lacy's recommendation is to keep status quo and continue the service and continue the software package at the three-year level.

Mayor Kelly - believes there will be an increase in their usage as the number of stations increase. He also agrees with the recommendation of having a charging station. He would like to see going forward to modernize the station. He recommended the one-year contract to see if the trend continues to increase.

CMBR Fast said she sees people there that are not Roeland Park resident and added that they are subsidizing others not from the community. She also said that other charging stations people have to pay. She didn't understand why the City would provide it free and it not be used by our residents.

CMBR Janssen didn't see ceasing the program as prudent as usage has increased over several years. He did support a three-year extension and suggested they watch the usage in terms of wanting to upgrade or start charging. He asked about fees charged by others.

City Administrator Moody said there is an app with a map where you can search for charging stations that provides that information. He agreed that it would be more common to pay for the electricity.

CMBR Poppa said the station on Lamar at the eye center is still free.

Ms. Jones-Lacy said the one at Hy-Vee is a pay one.

CMBR Hill stated with the number of people wanting to move into Roeland Park that it is a great PR piece. She asked if they extend for three years could they upgrade during that time. Ms. Jones-Lacy felt that they could.

CMBR Madigan said he originally questioned the location when the station was first put in as he did not think it was a viable spot. In his research he noticed a lot of Walgreens have them. The stations were initially meant for short-term top-offs. You plug the car in, and do your shopping while you top them off. If they do decide to keep the station, they should charge for them. He also recommended approaching Walgreens about putting one in.

CMBR Thompson supports continuing with the program three years and is not concerned with where the users are coming from. It's good for the environment and believes it is worth it and it is a minimal amount of cost to the city.

CMBR Kelly said since they are the only ones in Roeland Park to have one, they should keep it and help out the community. If another commercial site puts one in, then let them take it over.

CMBR Poppa would like to see better signage.

There was a majority consensus to maintain what they have and continuing the agreement for three years with no cost to users.

6. Discussion Concerning Tagline and Condensed Logo

Public City Administrator Moody said they have had discussions on this, but they never established a direction. Vireo has completed an estimate of what the components might cost. This would be for an icon that would be applied to a shirt or to an emblem on a car or even an emblem for street signs.

CMBR Poppa added that it would be something that comes out of the currently adopted logo and relates back to it. It would also be a limited use. The hope is it would be scalable as the currently approved logo is not scalable.

CMBR Kelly asked if they have to work with Vireo. City Administrator Moody said they are not bound to them but could work with them through an extension of their agreement.

CMBR Hill would like to move forward with this. She said there have been some community members who have shown interest and would be willing to put some effort into this. Her constituents have expressed concern on the amount of money spent on this project and they should keep that in mind.

CMBR Fast asked if they could reach out to one of the companies that submitted an RFQ previously. City Administrator Moody said it was a possibility.

CMBR Poppa understands going with someone from the community or putting out an RFP, but it has already been in two different hands and he would support staying with Vireo.

CMBR Thompson recommended continuing with Vireo. They have done the work, know all the stats, and have worked through what the marketing committee did.

CMBR Madigan said CMBR Janssen and CMBR Poppa were on original committee and that the Council went nuts trying to decide on a logo. He said they have got to streamline this somehow and they cannot go through this again. He has no problem with condensing the logo and that it should be simple thing to do. He too would support staying with Vireo.

There was a majority consensus to stay with Vireo on condensing logo or tagline.

7. Status on Website

City Clerk Bohon said they have had two meetings with Civic Plus. At their last meeting they worked on content preparation and are getting that cleaned up. The cutoff for the conversion is March 30th. She also attached a timeline for the meeting schedule and cut-offs. The goal is to go live August 2nd, but they are hoping they can move that date up.

8. December Year-End Financials

Ms. Jones-Lacy stated that property taxes are higher, but they did have a delinquency rate of 1.5 percent in 2017. They have also received back taxes of \$32,000 that same year. Sales and use taxes are up 7.7 percent from 2016. Franchise fees are 0.07 lower. Gas was the only revenue that gained, while all other utilities were down. Court fines were 7.5 percent lower as a result of the lower fee structure.

General Fund was down \$78,513 due to transfers approved by the Governing Body into other funds, with the big one to the Capital Improvements Fund for Special Infrastructure. She reminded them that they are not debt funding their projects. There was also a transfer made to TIF2 and to the Equipment Reserve Fund for needed expenses at the pool.

City Administrator Moody said the decrease in the fund balance was anticipated and meets projections for both the General Fund and bond and interest fund.

Ms. Jones-Lacy added that they are meeting their stated fund balance goals.

The Equipment Reserve Fund is up as they were not tapped into this year.

Bella Roe will be closing out the TIF this month and those monies will be used for Roe 2020.

The pool showed a loss and funds were spent on a heater blower and painting the two pools.

The City has \$6.7 million invested in agency bonds, which has earned \$77,000 in interest.

CMBR Hill asked if it is typical for the pool loss considering it was closed most of the winter season. Ms. Jones-Lacy said the pool does have certain ongoing costs such as utilities. City Administrator Moody added it is not a typical loss, but is less because it wasn't open as much. Even when it is open, the pool consumes more than it generates.

9. Ordinance TIF 3a Closeout

Ms. Jones-Lacy would like to wait to discuss this until the next meeting as there is more information she needs.

10. Council Appointment to Committees – Arts, Parks, Sustainability, Events and Community Foundation

CMBR Fast requested to stay on Parks another year as she has been working on some of the projects for a number of years.

CMBR Madigan said he gave up his choice of Parks and would like to be on the Community Foundation.

CMBR Poppa said he would like to be on the Community Foundation because he's on Arts and enjoys that, but is an alternate for Northeast Animal Control and for 47th Street, but would like to be involved in one of the community activities.

CMBR Madigan said he has been trying to get on this committee since the first year. It is his belief that it needs more transparency. He said he has no problem with CMBR Poppa being on it. He believes that committee should report to the Governing Body.

CMBR Poppa said if CMBR Madigan withdraws to allow him to be on it, he will work with to make sure there is more transparency. CMBR Madigan said he would withdraw and asked CMBR Poppa to remember it next year. CMBR Poppa promised he would.

Ms. Jones-Lacy said it is on the next agenda to discuss the Community Foundation and to provide an overview of what it is and what they do and to go through the financials.

Mayor Kelly suggested CMBR Madigan continue to attend the Community Foundation meetings and his input would be welcome there.

After discussion the choices were:

Arts Committee - CMBR Poppa and CMBR McCormack as an alternate

Parks - CMBR McCormack, CMBR Fast.

Sustainability - CMBR Hill

Events - CMBR Hill

Community Foundation - CMBR Poppa

There was consensus to add this item to the Consent Agenda.

11. Discuss Continued Participation in NEJC Animal Control

City Police Chief Morris expressed his ongoing concerns with the quality of service that they receive from Animal Control. He said that once Roeland Park began suggesting leaving the group it did get their attention and they have increased their activity. They do continue to run a deficit in their budget and he also has concerns about continuing with them, the increased fees and their service.

CMBR Fast said they have limited options and that the officers are not happy to be more active in animal control. She also said that privatizing the service is not the answer.

Chief Morris said the city averages about one call a day and pays \$60,000 a year for that service.

Mayor Kelly said the message has been received by the other cities that Roeland Park is discussing this issue. He has received calls from Fairway and Mission Woods and they have asked for patience that when a budget is discussed there could be some changes how it currently operates to make it more palatable for the larger cities such as Roeland Park. If Roeland Park leaves that may be the end of Northeast Animal Control. They asked for patience until the meeting Thursday and through 2018. Mayor Kelly added that there are services they bid together with their neighbors such as fire and trash and given how intimately they are connected with their neighbors, they may need their cooperation on other things in the future. He added that dollars are only one factor, but not the only factor to consider in a joint operation with neighbors.

Chief Morris thanked the Mayor for making that point. He said he does not want his officers being dog catchers.

CMBR Hill agreed with the Mayor on having patience, and does not want to see the Police Department on animal control. They have had a rash of raccoons with distemper and that is not what their Police Department needs to be handling. When animal control is down for the weekend and there is no help that is a larger problem.

City Administrator Moody said an increase in funding would allow them to pay for more staff. At one point their fee was high enough to have a reserve and they have been using that to subsidize their operations. As staff they can only present an idea, but the City's voting members need to be there engaging the other members on the board. He commended the captain who has been involved in this developed a line item budget item.

CMBR Kelly would like for members to carry the message to the board about their problem of not having a quorum. If they do not get a quorum, then they are not a viable organization need to disband or reorganize. He recommended that they act like a real group.

CMBR Madigan asked for this to be put on the agenda as he wanted direction on how the Council felt. He said he now has some ideas to take to the committee.

III. NON-ACTION ITEMS:

There no items discussed.

IV. ADJOURN

CMBR Poppa thanked everyone for pushing through the agenda and adjourned the meeting.

(Roeland Park Governing Body Workshop Adjourned)