

City of Robbinsdale
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
March 1, 2022
Meeting No. 5

CALL TO ORDER

1. Mayor Pro Tem Sheila Webb called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

2. Present: Kline, Webb, Selman.
Absent: Backen, Mayor Blonigan.
Staff: Marcia Glick, City Manager; Dustin Leslie, City Clerk.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

3. Mayor Pro Tem Webb opened the floor to anyone wishing to speak on any items not on the agenda.
4. Jason Greenburg – 3603 Beard Ave N: Resident stated his heart went out to Ukraine. Resident also called for Member Kline to resign from the City Council. Resident further stated Member Kline's actions were irresponsible and observed that no residents have come to support him at Council meetings. Resident suggested the Council could adopt a resolution asking for Member Kline to resign.
5. Charles Austinson – 4360 Robin Ave N: Ward 1 Resident stated the first portion of the meeting should be recorded for transparency. Resident stated that the community speaking out against Member Kline is important and should be seen.
6. Regan Murphy – 4001 Orchard Ave N: Ward 1 Resident asked for Member Kline to resign and stated he was speaking for multiple members of the community who could not make the meeting. Resident also asked if insurance will cover the costs of the damaged police vehicle or if Member Kline would pay for it. Resident further stated Brooklyn Park recently censured a member of their Council based on their code of ethics and asked Council Members to consider that for Member Kline as well as removing him from advisory commissions.
7. Glick stated the beginning portion of the meeting is audio recorded and part of the minutes. Member Selman noted that the topic of recording the beginning of meetings would be discussed at a future work session.

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 15, 2022 MEETING AGENDA

8. Leslie reported the following changes to the agenda:
 - Minor correction to a heading in the Consent Item F Meeting Minutes for 2/15/22.
 - Voucher Report for Other Business B.

9. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Kline to approve the March 1, 2022 Agenda with the updates given to Council by the City Clerk. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried. Member Backen and Mayor Blonigan absent.

CONSENT AGENDA

10. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Kline to approve the March 1, 2022 Consent Agenda. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.
- A. Motion to approve and order placed on file minutes of the City Council meeting:
- City Council Meeting minutes on 2/15/22
 - Special City Council Meeting minutes on 2/22/22
 - Special City Council Work Session minutes on 2/22/22
- B. Motion to receive advisory commission minutes:
- Planning Commission meeting minutes on 12/16/21
 - Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission meeting minutes on 1/25/22
 - Human Rights Commission meeting minutes on 1/27/22
- C. Motion to approve issuance of licenses dated 3/1/22.
- D. Motion to acknowledge the Deputy Registrar's financial reports for the month of January 2022.
- E. Motion to acknowledge the Robbinsdale Wine & Spirits' financial reports for the month of January 2022.

**PRESENTATION A: PRESENTATION FROM ROBBINSDALE AREA SCHOOLS
SUPERINTENDENT DAVID ENGSTROM**

11. Glick introduced Superintendent Engstrom to the Council. Engstrom thanked the Council for having him present and spoke about his background. Engstrom gave an update about the school district including: impacts from COVID, staff shortages, remote learning, strategic planning, and its partnership with the City Council.
12. Member Selman asked for an update on the bus transportation situation.
13. Engstrom spoke about contracting with a new transportation vendor and that they had difficulties attracting drivers. Engstrom stated staffing shortages has been a nationwide struggle. Engstrom stated mitigation efforts included having a school van pick up affected students on certain routes, opt-out option for families, and lowering the amount of routes in the district through parent feedback. Engstrom stated next year there will be an opt-in procedure for parents who want bus service.
14. Mayor Pro Tem Webb asked Engstrom to speak about inequities in the school district.
15. Engstrom stated COVID has widened the inequities for certain groups of students,

especially BIPOC student. Engstrom further stated that access to WiFi and connecting their devices correctly was more difficult for certain groups of students. Engstrom also noted some teachers struggled with technology in their classrooms. Engstrom spoke about strategies to lessen impacts and reduce inequities throughout the school district.

16. Member Kline stated the Adventure Club does great work and that the staff is amazing.

17. Member Kline asked about the school district's masking policy and if there would be any upcoming changes.

18. Engstrom stated there would be an announcement about masks the morning after the Council meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS A: SCHEDULE SPECIAL WORK SESSION TO DISCUSS CITY MANAGER CANDIDATES

19. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Kline to schedule a special work session to discuss City Manager candidates for March 23, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried. Member Backen and Mayor Blonigan absent.

OTHER BUSINESS B: DISBURSEMENT REQUESTS

20. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Kline to approve disbursement requests for period ending 3/1/2022. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried. Member Backen and Mayor Blonigan absent.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

21. Glick stated the Chamber of Commerce will once again host their Eggstravaganza at a new location: Lakeview Terrace Park Pavilion. The event will take place April 9th at 1:00 p.m.

COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

22. Member Kline thanked front desk staff at City Hall for helping him purchase garbage stickers earlier in the day. Member Kline said they did a great job and that Waste Management was easy to speak with over the phone.

23. Member Selman read an email he received asking for Member Kline to resign. Member Selman stated he also received two similar phone calls from residents. Member Selman asked Member Kline to respond.

24. Member Kline stated resigning from his job was his own personal decision and that his treatment plan was something he took seriously. Member Kline stated he is working through the legal process through the courts.

25. Member Selman stated he would not attend the upcoming March 12 goals session if Member Kline was still a Council Member. Member Selman stated that since he may not

be a Council Member at the end of the year, he should not have any say in city goals. Member Selman also summarized statements from residents who spoke in the first portion of the meeting. Member Selman asked Glick if the Council could pass a similar measure censuring Member Kline.

26. Glick stated the Council could adopt a resolution but it would not have the force of law behind it. Glick further stated that the Brooklyn Park City Council has a written code of ethics which Robbinsdale City Council does not have.

27. Member Selman concluded by noting the Hennepin Technical College President recently resigned as an example of a public sector employee stepping down for misconduct issues.

28. Mayor Pro Tem Webb stated the Council should look at creating a code of ethics and rewriting their mission statement.

29. Mayor Pro Tem Webb extended prayers to the people of Ukraine.

Adjournment:

30. Member Kline MOVED, seconded by Member Selman to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried. Member Backen and Mayor Blonigan absent.



Dustin Leslie, City Clerk



Sheila Webb, Mayor Pro Tem