

City of Robbinsdale
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
May 2, 2023
Meeting No. 9

CALLED TO ORDER

1. Mayor Blonigan called this meeting to order at 7 p.m.

ROLL CALL

2. Present: Webb, Parisian, Wagner, Murphy, Mayor Blonigan
Absent: None
Staff: Tim Sandvik, City Manager; Chase Peterson-Etem, City Clerk; Rick Pearson, Community Development Coordinator; Richard McCoy, City Engineer/Public Works Director

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

3. Member Wagner opened to floor to anyone wishing to speak on any items not on the agenda. No one spoke and the forum was closed.

APPROVAL OF THE MAY 2, 2023 MEETING AGENDA

4. Peterson-Etem reported the following updates to the agenda:
 - The Voucher Report was added to Other Business A
5. **Member Murphy MOVED, seconded by Member Parisian to approve the May 2, 2023 Agenda with the update given to Council by the City Clerk. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA

6. **Member Wagner MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve the May 2, 2023 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 4/18/23
 - B. Motion to receive advisory commission minutes:
 - Parks & Recreation Commission meeting minutes on 3/28/23
 - C. Motion to approve issuance of licenses dated 4/27/23.
 - D. Motion to approve the application for the annual Public Safety Open House on Saturday, August 12, 2023.
 - E. By motion, approve Memorandum of Understanding for Sochacki Park Water Quality Improvement Project Implementation.

PRESENTATION A: STEP TO IT PROCLAMATION

7. Sandvik Provided an overview of the Step To It Challenge and proclamation.
8. Mayor Blonigan clarified that you can sign up with the Robbinsdale team as well as through other supporting organizations. He also mentioned Minnesota Twins tickets could be won.
9. **Member Murphy MOVED, seconded by Member Wagner to declare the month of May 2023 as Step To It Month in the City of Robbinsdale. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

PUBLIC HEARING A: CONSIDER RENTAL LICENSE FOR 3683 HALIFAX AVE

10. Sandvik presented the report and mentioned council was briefed on the matter at the April 11, 2023 Work Session. He stated the council can consider the suspension, revocation, and non-renewal of a rental license for a property that has experienced four or more nuisance calls within a one-year time period. He further stated the license has had 6 nuisance calls and hasn't responded to any efforts the city has done to contact the licensee.
11. Mayor Blonigan opened the public hearing. No speakers were present.
12. **Member Murphy Moved, seconded by Wagner to close the public hearing. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**
13. Mayor Blonigan asked what the dates of the nuisance calls were. Sandvik provided the following dates: 8/21/22, 9/18/22, 1/16/23, 2/5/23, 2/26/23, and 3/23/23.
14. Mayor Blonigan asked what staff recommends. Sandvik stated staff recommend suspension of the rental license and that public safety is our top priority. He noted staff would like to work with the licensee, but staff has not heard back from the licensee.
15. Member Webb asked about potential options for the license holder. Sandvik stated that information would be outlined in a letter sent from staff.
16. Member Webb asked it is common to not hear back. Sandvik stated no, it is not common.
17. Member Wagner asked if staff could suspend the license without council approval. Sandvik stated that council could suspend the license for 30 days and then could review at a later date and reissue the license if they are in compliance.
18. Mayor Blonigan agreed this is a rare occurrence and asked about tenant options and findings of fact.
19. Member Murphy stated he believes the license should be suspended until the terms have been met.
20. Member Wagner agreed with member Murphy.

21. Member Webb suggested suspension for 30 days and then come back to council.
22. Member Murphy stated he is fine with that, however, it's key to let them know how the fines escalate and asked if they would be assessed to their property taxes. Sandvik stated yes, the fees will continue to accumulate and would eventually go to their taxes if unpaid.
23. Sandvik reiterated that the council is looking to suspend the license immediately and direct staff to notify the license holder. He also mentioned staff could bring this back to council at the June 6, 2023 meeting to further discuss.
24. Member Murphy suggested suspending the license for 30 days to allow the licensee time to respond and if they don't the council can revisit.
25. Sandvik recommended that council suspend the license until June 6, 2023 and revisit the status of the rental license at the June 6, 2023 meeting.
26. **Member Murphy MOVED, seconded by Parisian to suspend the rental license at 3683 Halifax Avenue until the June 6, 2023 Council meeting and determine whether the fines have been paid and whether a formal action plan has been completed at that time.**
27. Wagner asked if the license is revoked, what is the timeline for the current tenants. Sandvik stated if the tenants remain without a license, that will trigger the non-compliance.
28. Member Murphy noted the tenants could stay, but it's up to the owner to address this issue.
29. **A roll call was taken and the motion passed 5-0.**
30. Ayes: Webb, Parisian, Wagner, Murphy, Blonigan.
31. Nays: None.

NEW BUSINESS A: WAIVE THE READING AND ORDER THE ADOPTION OF THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION AWARDED A CONTRACT FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF HUBBARD AVENUE AND ADJOINING STREETS – PROJECTS 38222, 45022 AND 54622 TO NORTHDAL CONSTRUCTION CO. INC. OF ALBERTVILLE, MN.

32. McCoy presented the staff report and stated the bid proposals for this project had been publicly opened on April 20, 2023. He noted five bids were received and the winning bid was awarded to Northdale Construction Co. Inc.
33. Mayor Blonigan asked about the difference between the bid amount and the engineering estimate. McCoy stated there may be additional oversight, testing, and staff time. He also mentioned it could help cover unforeseen costs.
34. Mayor Blonigan noted improvements in the type of soil the contractors use as well as

communication efforts with the residents. McCoy added the soil has more organic material in it and that staff are setting higher expectations for communication.

35. Member Wagner asked if it would be all of Hubbard that will be reconstructed. McCoy stated the parts of Hubbard will run from Grimes to 38th Ave.
36. Member Wagner asked about the traffic signals. McCoy stated the traffic signals at 36th and France Ave are being replaced.
37. **Member Murphy MOVED, seconded by Wagner to adopt the Resolution No. 8041 "A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING BIDS AND AWARDED CONTRACT FOR RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT – HUBBARD AVENUE AND ADJOINING STREETS – CITY PROJECTS 38222, 45002, AND 54622."** The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS B: BY MOTION, PROVIDED ALL CONDITIONS ARE MET, ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 8040 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO POLICY FOR USE OF THE DOWNTOWN PLAZA FOR COMMUNITY EVENTS SPONSORED BY LOCAL BUSINESSES TO INCLUDE USE BY ADJACENT RESTAURANT."

38. Sandvik presented the report and stated this would be to update the policy the city keeps with the downtown plaza. He noted the resolution would be to formally adopt the policy and that in order for The Birdhouse to use this space, additional items still need to be met.
39. Member Webb stated she doesn't want this to be inequitable for all members of the community and other business owners. She continued that clarity around the use and sharing of the space is important.
40. Mayor Blonigan clarified that staff is asking council to establish a policy.
41. **Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Webb to adopt Resolution No. 8040 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO POLICY FOR USE OF THE DOWNTOWN PLAZA FOR COMMUNITY EVENTS SPONSORED BY LOCAL BUSINESSES TO INCLUDE USE BY ADJACENT RESTAURANT."** The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS C: FIRST READING OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO ELIMINATE THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REQUIREMENT FOR SOLAR PANELS ON ACCESSORY STRUCTURES MOTION TO HOLD THE FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 23-08 "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 510.15 AND 515.01 OF THE CITY CODE MAKING SOLAR ENERGY DEVICES AN ACCESSORY USE ON PRINCIPAL AND ACCESSORY STRUCTURES AND IN REAR YARDS AND CREATING AN EXCEPTION TO HEIGHT LIMITATIONS."

42. Pearson presented the staff report. He stated this is a proposed amendment to the zoning ordinance that will eliminate a conditional use permit (CUP) requirement for solar panels attached to accessory structures.
43. Mayor Blonigan stated the council was unanimously in favor of this at a previous work

session. He also noted he was glad to see the updated language in the ordinance.

44. Pearson noted a building permit would still be required to install solar devices and that permit would make sure the structure can support solar devices.

45. **Member Murphy MOVED, seconded by Wagner to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 23-08 "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 510.15 AND 515.01 OF THE CITY CODE MAKING SOLAR ENERGY DEVICES AN ACCESSORY USE ON PRINCIPAL AND ACCESSORY STRUCTURES AND IN REAR YARDS AND CREATING AN EXCEPTION TO HEIGHT LIMITATIONS." This vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS A: MOTION TO APPROVE DISBURSEMENT REQUESTS FOR PERIOD ENDING 5/2/2023.

46. Mayor Blonigan asked about the addition of new business.

47. Peterson-Etem stated the additional item was the disbursement report.

48. Member Wagner asked if the liquor store items could be a separate report.

49. Sandvik stated he would check with staff and bring back to council.

50. **Member Wagner MOVE, seconded by Webb to approve disbursement requests for the period ending 5/2/2023. This vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

51. Sandvik noted the city is hosting an annual benchmark survey as a part to provide annual feedback and encouraged residents to fill it out before the end of May.

52. Sandvik stated RPD will be joining other agencies for the Bike Rodeo on May 4th at New Hope City Hall from 6 – 8 p.m.

53. Sandvik noted on May 20th the Lakeview Terrace Park Farmers Market is scheduled to open and will include the first Story Saturday.

54. Sandvik mentioned the city will be placing posters up around town and on social media highlighting a summer events schedule and these posters will be translated into four different languages.

COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

55. Member Webb noted the Lions Club hosted a presentation about social awareness on using social media and avoiding scams and thanked the Lions Club as well as Robbinsdale Police and Fire.

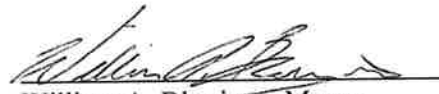
56. Member Parisian welcomed Chase Peterson-Etem as the new City Clerk.

57. Member Parisian thanked the city for recognizing Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage month in May and stated they should be celebrated for their contributions to the city.
58. Member Parisian recognized that May is Mental Health Awareness Month and encouraged folks to have conversation about mental health and remove the stigma around mental health and share resources.
59. Member Parisian encouraged people to practice “No Mow May” to promote pollinators.
60. Member Parisian thanked the city staff for hosting the Arbor Day Celebration at Lee Park.
61. Member Wagner thanked the staff and community members for the Earth Day trash pickup event.
62. Member Wagner stated May 1, 2023 was “May Day” which is an important event for workers rights.

ADJOURNMENT

63. **Member Wagner MOVED, seconded by Murphy to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m.**
The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.


Chase Peterson-Em, City Clerk


William A. Blonigan, Mayor