

City of Robbinsdale
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
May 3, 2022
Meeting No. 9

CALL TO ORDER

1. Mayor William A. Blonigan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

2. Present: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan
Absent: None
Staff: Marcia Glick, City Manager; Dustin Leslie, City Clerk; Richard McCoy,
Public Works Director

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

3. Mayor Blonigan opened the floor to anyone wishing to speak on any items not on the agenda.
4. Derek Olson – 4206 Zenith Ave N: Resident asked for Member Kline to resign from City Council because he is impacting city business and causing a distraction. Resident stated he was involved with the recall committee and spoke about feedback he was receiving from residents. Resident finally asked Council to consider a resolution removing Member Kline from committees.
5. Jason Greenburg – 3603 Beard Ave N: Resident asked for Member Kline to resign and spoke about feedback he has received from residents regarding the recall efforts. Resident asked Council to hold Member Kline accountable.
6. Member Webb asked resident what he meant by holding Council accountable. Greenburg stated Council members could make a symbolic gesture by joining other Council members in asking him to resign. Member Webb stated she was disappointed in Member Kline but it was not up to her to take action. Member Webb stated the action would be up to the Ward 1 residents who voted for Member Kline.
7. Greenburg stated he would specifically like to see action from the Mayor as he is the leader of the City Council.

APPROVAL OF THE MAY 3, 2022 MEETING AGENDA

8. Leslie reported the following changes to the agenda:
 - On the agenda, under Consent Item B, the Human Rights Commission minutes approval was missing a date. It should have stated Human Rights Commission minutes on March 24, 2022.
 - A new Consent Item N was added entitled: North End of Lee Park – 3760 Lee Ave N – Purchase from REDA.

- The Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission minutes were updated to include an extra line.
- Replaced New Business A for the Water Treatment Plant chemicals contract. The previous memo was just a placeholder.
- Resident feedback regarding New Business B was added to the agenda.
- New Business C was added to the agenda with Resolution declaring May as No Mow May.
- Voucher report for Other Business A.

9. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve the May 3, 2022 Agenda with the update given to Council by the City Clerk. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA

10. Mayor Blonigan pulled items D and N from the consent agenda for further consideration.

11. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Kline to approve the May 3, 2022 Consent Agenda as listed below with the exception of items D and N which were pulled for further consideration. 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 4/19/22
 - Special City Council Work Session minutes on 4/19/22
- B. Motion to receive advisory commission minutes:
 - Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission Special Meeting minutes on 3/21/22
 - Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission minutes on 3/22/22
 - Human Rights Commission minutes on 3/24/22
- C. Motion to approve issuance of licenses dated 5/3/22.
- D. (Removed).
- E. Motion to acknowledge the financial reports for the quarter ended March 2022.
- F. Motion to hold the second reading of Ordinance 22-06 “AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTIONS 1150.01, 1150.03, AND 1150.05 OF THE ROBBINSDALE CITY CODE AND AMENDING SECTIONS 1150.06, 1150.07, AND 1150.09 RELATING TO FIREWORKS.”

- G. Motion to acknowledge that demolition of the old treatment plants and well buildings is part of the contract for the construction of the new Water Treatment plant and grant approval for the demolition of these structures, noting that work at Plant 3 and Well 4 may be scheduled sooner than the remainder of the structures.
- H. Motion to approve Travail Kitchen and Amusements request to change the June 4 date to June 18 for one of their already approved planned 2022 events on their parking lot with the same times and conditions as approved at the April 5, 2022 City Council meeting.
- I. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7970 "A RESOLUTION REPLACING RESOLUTION 7897 WITH A REVISED RESOLUTION THAT EXTENDS THE APPROVAL OF VARIANCE REQUEST FOR 4011 YORK AVENUE NORTH UNTIL MAY 2, 2023 AND REMOVES CONDITIONS THAT ARE NO LONGER RELEVANT TO THE PROJECT.
- J. Motion to acknowledge the Robbinsdale Wine & Spirits' financial reports for the month of March 2022.
- K. Motion to acknowledge the Deputy Registrar's financial reports for the month of March 2022.
- L. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7971 "A RESOLUTION APPROVING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REQUEST C22-2 FOR 4333 GRIMES AVENUE NORTH TO ALLOW A SECOND ACCESSORY STRUCTURE THAT EXCEEDS 240 SQUARE FEET.
- M. Motion to approve the Diggers Garden Club of Robbinsdale's annual plant sale event on Saturday, June 4, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- N. (Removed).

CONSENT ITEM D: RECOMMENDATION FOR CHARTER COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

- 12. Mayor Blonigan thanked Scanlan for being a longtime volunteer on the Charter Commission.
- 13. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7972 "A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING TO THE CHIEF JUDGE OF THE HENNEPIN COUNTY DISTRICT COURT REAPPOINTMENT OF QUALIFIED VOTER OF THE CITY OF**

**ROBBINSDALE TO THE ROBBINSDALE CHARTER COMMISSION” –
Michael Scanlon. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

**CONSENT ITEM N: NORTH END OF LEE PARK – 3760 LEE AVE N – PURCHASE
FROM REDA**

14. Glick gave the staff report and asked for formal approval of the purchase.
15. **Mayor Blonigan MOVED, seconded by Member Selman to authorize the purchase of 3760 Lee Avenue North from the Robbinsdale Economic Development Authority for \$229,500 for expansion of Lee Park in exchange for the open area used for the centralized water treatment plant. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

**NEW BUSINESS A: WATER TREATMENT CHEMICALS CONTRACTS – 1ST
REPORT**

16. McCoy gave a report and presented an overview of the chemicals that would be used at the water treatment plant as well as procurement methods and prices.
17. Mayor Blonigan asked for clarifications on when the chemicals would be needed. McCoy stated the chemicals would be needed for testing the second week of July. McCoy further stated the water treatment plant could go online late July or early August.
18. Mayor Blonigan asked if city staff would have a recommendation for what residents can do with their water softeners once the plant was live. McCoy stated the city would run the water from the wells then advise residents of how soft the water was and how to bypass their softeners.
19. Glick stated an update on the progress of the water treatment plant was included in the May Utility Billing insert.
20. There was a discussion about how soft the water would be once the plant was live. McCoy shared 5 pictures of the construction progress with Council and answered their questions.
21. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve the following providers of chemicals for the new Water Treatment Plant for the remainder of 2022 based on the prices received: Hawkins, Airgas, and Graymont. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

**NEW BUSINESS B: NEW 750,000 GALLON WATER TOWER – REQUEST TO WORK
ON SUNDAYS**

22. McCoy gave the report along with the proposed schedule from the contractor. McCoy stated the contractor is asking to work 10 days on and 4 days off which would mean they would only be working every other Sunday.
23. Mayor Blonigan asked why they were requesting this schedule change. McCoy stated it

would allow more flexibility.

24. Member Selman asked if surrounding residents were notified. McCoy stated CSOs delivered letters to surrounding residents. Only two residents from the same household submitted feedback concerning the schedule.
25. Member Selman asked if this potential schedule was brought up during the original quote. McCoy stated it came up during the pre-construction meeting.
26. Member Kline stated he thought 8:00 a.m. was too early to start work on Sundays and would be more supportive with a later start time like 10:00 a.m.
27. Member Backen stated the Lowry Bridge project has been worked on seven days a week and has not bothered him at all. Member Backen stated he would support the request as he wanted the project to be done quickly.
28. Member Selman stated he was not supportive of this request.
29. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to deny the request from Landmark Structures to work 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sundays at the new water tower site. A roll call was taken. Ayes: Selman. Nays: Kline, Webb, Backen, Mayor Blonigan. The motion failed on a vote of 1-4 not in favor.**
30. Member Backen stated he would support the motion if the construction company only worked from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sundays and only worked two Sundays per month. Member Kline agreed with this suggestion.
31. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to allow Landmark Structures to work 2 Sundays per month from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the site of the new Water Tower. A roll call was taken. Ayes: Kline, Webb, Backen, Mayor Blonigan. Nays: Selman. The motion passed.**

NEW BUSINESS C: NO MOW MAY RESOLUTION

32. Glick gave the report and reviewed language in the resolution.
33. Member Kline asked if the city would stop mowing ballfields as it would make it difficult for kids to play baseball. Glick stated ballfields would not be affected. The staff direction would only be to suspend mowing requirements for residents during the month of May.
34. Member Backen stated he usually receives a lot of complaints about tall grass and would want the city to publicize this initiative. Glick stated this year would be a trial to see how it could be done differently in the future. Glick also stated the information would be posted on the website and on social media.
35. **Member Kline MOVED, seconded by Mayor Blonigan to waive the reading and**

order the adoption of Resolution #7973 “A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT “NO MOW MAY” INITIATIVE 2022.” The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS A: DISBURSEMENT REQUESTS

- 36. Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to approve disbursement requests for period ending 5/3/2022. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

37. Glick gave an update on the Graeser Park construction and stated work would be restarting on May 5 completing 10 picnic tables, the bee hive, and fixing erosion. Glick also stated the ovens would be covered with wire in order to prevent fires from being started inside the hive.
38. Glick gave the Council information about upcoming community input sessions from the school district.
39. Leslie stated the city was still looking for residents to complete the community survey. Residents could complete it by visiting www.robbinsdalemn.com/survey.
40. Leslie gave an update about elections. The city was still looking for election judges and candidate filing for Wards 3 and 4 would be open May 17 to May 31.

COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

41. Member Kline thanked Ward 1 resident Tim Burgart for throwing a community BBQ in which about 200 residents were invited.
42. Member Kline spoke about an email he received regarding the bricks outside the Birdhouse restaurant on the park plaza.
43. Member Kline stated Ward 2 residents involved in the Recall petition came to the Council meeting asking him to resign. Member Kline stated he has the full support of his family to stay on the Council and would not be resigning. Member Kline also stated he has reached 100 days of sobriety.
44. Member Webb stated she has received concerns from parents that teenagers were fighting in parks and wanted to know if there were cameras in the parks. Member Webb also received a concern about an unleashed dog on Lake Drive from a resident and urged residents to leash their dogs. Glick stated cameras could be added to parks but they would not be watched live and would only be there to investigate after incidents. Glick stated if they see something, residents should call 9-1-1.
45. Member Selman congratulated Member Kline on being 100 days sober. Member Selman reviewed comments received during the Opportunity for the Public to Speak portion of the meeting. Member Selman noted that if a city employee like the City Manager did the

same thing, they would likely be fired. Member Selman directed city staff to draft a resolution for the next Council meeting to remove Member Kline from committee assignments.

46. Member Backen congratulated Member Kline on being 100 days sober. Member Backen spoke about the Police Department's Catalytic Converter Pilot Project saying it was an easy process and urged residents to sign up.
47. Glick stated Green Corp applications are currently open for people interested in becoming a Green Corp member. Glick also stated Robbinsdale was selected as a Green Corp member host.

Adjournment:

48. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Kline to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**



Dustin Leslie, City Clerk



William A. Blonigan, Mayor