

City of Robbinsdale
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
May 4, 2021
Meeting No. 9

CALL TO ORDER

1. Mayor William A. Blonigan called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

ROLL CALL

2. Present: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan
Absent: None
Staff: Richard McCoy, Public Works Director; Rick Pearson, Community Development Coordinator; Charnelle Dengnoue, HR Specialist; 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 Blonigan opened the floor to anyone wishing to speak on any items not on the agenda.
4. Kristyn DeGross, Ward 3, represented a resident group working on a Juneteenth event. Proposed to be June 20th from 2-5pm at Sanborn Park using the ice rink area to track attendees for COVID protocol. She described some of the planned activities for a group expected to be under 100 people. The gathering will be advertised through local FaceBook and flyers.
5. Council members indicated support for the concept while encouraging confirming if there would be any other activities planned in the park for the same time.
6. Glick noted that based on the description any licenses/permits needed would just be included on the regular license list on the consent agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 20, 2021 MEETING AGENDA

7. Glick reported the following changes to the agenda:
 - New Business D – Letter to Senators Klobuchar and Smith regarding North Memorial funding request.
 - The disbursement report was added to Other Business A.
 - There were also grammar edits on the resolution on page 55 and an extra word removed from the Juneteenth Proclamation.
8. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Webb to approve the May 4, 2021 Agenda with the updates given to Council by the City Manager. A roll call was taken: Ayes: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan; Nays: None. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA

9. Member **Selman MOVED**, seconded by Member Kline to approve the May 4, 2021 Consent Agenda. A roll call was taken: Ayes: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan; Nays: None. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

- A. Motion to approve and order placed on file minutes of the City Council meeting:
 - Regular City Council Meeting Minutes on 4/20/2021
 - City Council Work Session Minutes on 4/20/2021
 - Special Work Session Minutes on 4/27/2021
- B. Motion to receive advisory commission minutes:
 - Robbinsdale Human Rights Commission Minutes on 3/25/21
- C. Motion to approve issuance of licenses dated 5/4/21.
- D. Motion to approve the March 2021 payment for City credit card charges.
- E. Motion to acknowledge the Deputy Registrar's financial reports for the month of March 2021.
- F. Motion to acknowledge the Robbinsdale Wine & Spirits' financial reports for the month of March 2021.
- G. Motion to approve Travail Kitchen and Amusement planned 2021 events on their parking lot at 4131 West Broadway with planned dates and times and conditions noted in the report:

Planned dates are (all Saturdays):

May 15th (music from 1-7pm) seating times 1pm and 5pm

June 19th (music from 4:30-9:30pm) – seating times 4:30pm and 7:45pm

July 31st (music from 4:30-9:30pm) – seating times 4:30pm and 7:45pm

August 21st (music from 4:30-9:30pm) – seating time 4:30pm and 7:45pm

October 2nd (music from 4:30-9:30pm) – seating time 4:30pm and 7:45pm

- H. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7894 ACCEPTING THE MINNESOTA RECREATION AND PARK FOUNDATION GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,650.
- I. Motion to approve request for Samantha West, 3122 Grimes Avenue North, hosting a private celebration on Thursday, June 17, 2021, from 4:00-8:00 p.m. with barricades placed on the southern side of the Grimes Avenue and 31 ½ Avenue intersection to define the closure of the cul-de-sac for the duration of the event. The street and all other hard surfaces must be thoroughly cleaned of any pony dung at the conclusion of the party

in order to protect the adjacent receiving waters. Any collected dung shall be disposed in an appropriate way so as not to cause water pollution.

- J. Motion to approve the extension of the conditional use permit for altering the flood plain at 4600 Lake Road to November 5, 2023.
- K. Motion to approve the revised Attachment A for Resolution #7854 "APPROVING VARIANCE REQUEST V20-6 TO ALLOW AN ACCESSORY STRUCTURE TO OCCUPY MORE THAN 25% OF THE REAR YARD AREA AND BE LARGER THAN THE MAXIMUM SQUARE FOOTAGE ALLOWED FOR A SINGLE ACCESSORY BUILDING ON A 40 FOOT LOT (4800-36TH AVE N)."
- L. Motion to waive the reading and adopt Resolution #7895 "APPROVING VARIANCE REQUEST V21-2 ALLOWING A DETACHED GARAGE TO EXCEED 25% OF THE REAR YARD AREA FOR 3807 HUBBARD AVENUE NORTH."
- M. Motion to waive the reading and adopt Resolution #7896 "APPROVING VARIANCE REQUEST V21-1 TO REDUCE THE STREET-SIDE YARD SETBACK FOR AN ATTACHED GARAGE ADDITION WITH A DECK TO THREE FEET FOR 3524 MCNAIR DRIVE."

Presentation A: Proclamations with Thanks to the Robbinsdale Human Rights Commission for their recommendation on these matters:

- 10. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Webb to **Proclaim the month of June, 2021 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, and Two Spirit (LGBTQIA2+) Pride Month in the City of Robbinsdale.**
- 11. Mayor Blonigan noted that this was the first time Robbinsdale had declared June to be Pride Month. He summarized the proclamation.
- 12. Member Webb acknowledged the work of the Human Rights Commission and noted that all are truly welcome in Robbinsdale.
- 13. **A roll call was taken:** Ayes: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan; Nays: None. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**
- 14. **Member Webb MOVED**, seconded by Member Selman to **Proclaim Saturday, June 19, 2021 as Juneteenth in the City of Robbinsdale.**
- 15. Member Webb thanked the Human Rights Commission for their work in bringing forward the proclamation. She was very proud to be a part of the City Council and community.
- 16. Member Kline thanked the Human Rights Commission for their work.

17. Mayor Blonigan was honored to sign the 1st Robbinsdale proclamation declaring June 19th as Freedom Day.
18. **A roll call was taken:** Ayes: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan; Nays: None. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

Presentation B: Presentation from the Hennepin County Sheriff, David Hutchinson

19. Sheriff Hutchinson phoned into the meeting. He thanked Chief Foley for his work and noted that it has been a challenging year. He provided an update on the Hennepin County Sheriff Office's work with the North Memorial guard including assisting in a homicide and other investigations at the medical center; working regularly with city staff. He noted that last June his team had assisted with a person in Twin Lake that the water patrol helped to safety. He noted that there is Opioid Training including distribution of Narcan kits to the community. He recommended the website drugdisposal@hennepin.us and also noted that the Sheriff's team includes a mental health professional working with his staff full time.
20. Member Selman thanked the Sheriff and his staff for their assistance.
21. Mayor Blonigan echoed thanks noting the many services that Hennepin County provides in partnership with the city.
22. Sheriff Hutchinson thanked the council for the proclamation of Pride Month.

Public Hearing A: On-Sale Wine License w/ Sunday Sales for Mama Lupita's Taqueria Café & Grill.

23. City Clerk Leslie reviewed the staff report noting earlier misunderstanding that 3.2 liquor did not include strong beer sales.
24. Mayor Blonigan opened the public hearing. No one spoke.
25. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Kline to close the public hearing and consider testimony from the public. A roll call was taken: Ayes: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan; Nays: None. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**
26. Member Backen **MOVED**, seconded by Member Kline to approve the issuance of the On-Sale Wine License w/ Sunday Sales to Jeovani Alkiviadis Gomez, dba Mama Lupita's Taqueria Café & Grill, 4080 West Broadway, Suite 129, if all requirements are satisfied. A roll call was taken: Ayes: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan; Nays: None. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**
27. Jeovani Gomez thanked the city council for approving the license and was looking forward to serving breakfast all day, tacos at lunch and Central American food in the evening.

New Business A: City Charter Amendment 39 Matters Pertaining to Elections and Posting

28. Glick reviewed the staff report noting that changes had been discussed last year and submitted to the City Attorney for language review. The City Attorney noted additional changes related to compliance with state law.
29. Member Kline thanked the commission for their work.
30. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Backen to hold the first reading of Ordinance #21-03 City Charter Amendment 39 “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ROBBINSDALE CITY CHARTER CHAPTER 2 AND CHAPTER 4 FOR CONFORMANCE WITH MINNESOTA ELECTION LAWS” and to direct the City Clerk to publish a public hearing notice for two weeks and schedule the public hearing on the proposed amendment for June 15. A roll call was taken: Ayes: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan; Nays: None. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

New Business B: FIRST READING of an ordinance concerning the demolition of non-residential buildings

31. Pearson reviewed the staff report noting that the City Council had discuss the change at their March 16th agenda. The demolition permit requirements were the same as those that City Council had been identifying in their previous actions.
32. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Backen to hold the first reading of Ordinance No. 21-04 “AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CITY CODE SECTION 400.01, SUBD. 4 DEMOLITION OF BUILDINGS.” A roll call was taken: Ayes: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan; Nays: None. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

New Business C: Variance request for an addition to the house including an attached garage

33. Pearson reviewed the staff report. He noted that staff had originally recommended requirement for a rain garden related to the additional hard surface on the property. The Planning Commission modified to include “or other storm water best management.”
34. The applicants, Deb Kersten and Spencer Pannhoff, 4011 York, indicated that they were not concerned with the recommendation but would like to see guidelines from staff.
35. Glick noted that the staff review the plans for addressing the storm water run off; they do not design the plan.
36. McCoy indicated that options in addition to rain garden could include a French drain where water is diverted to an area where a hole has been filled with rocks allowing water to filter in vs. running off.

37. Mr. Pannhoff confirmed that the requirement for a rain garden had been part of the initial discussion with Mr. Pearson.
38. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Backen to waive the reading and adopt the resolution #7897 "A RESOLUTION APPROVING VARIANCE REQUEST V21-3 ALLOWING A REDUCTION OF THE SIDE YARD SETBACK TO ALLOW AN ADDITION WITH LIVING SPACE AND AN ATTACHED GARAGE FOR 4011 YORK AVENUE NORTH." A roll call was taken: Ayes: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan; Nays: None. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

New Business D: Request for Letter of Support related to Federal Community Funding Request

39. Mayor Blonigan explained that he had received a request from North Memorial for a Mayor's letter of support for \$1M Federal Community Project Funding. Letters to Senator Klobuchar and Senator Smith had been prepared for the full City Council to sign if others supported.
40. It was noted that with the water treatment plant being able to provide softened water that staff have been working through the logistics of changing the water connection for the hospital from Minneapolis back to Robbinsdale.
41. Member Kline **MOVED**, second by Member Backen to approve sending letters from the full city council to Senators Klobuchar and Smith supporting North Memorial's request for \$1Million Federal Community Project Funding. A roll call was taken: Ayes: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan; Nays: None. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

Other Business A: Disbursement Requests:

42. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Webb to approve disbursement requests for period ending 5/4/2021. A roll call was taken: Ayes: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Other Business B: Discuss In-Person vs. On-Line Meetings

43. Glick noted the plan to continue on-line meetings through May. Staff will be publishing notices soon regarding June meetings and determination needs to be made as to whether they will be in person or still on line.
44. After a robust discussion it was concluded that the City Council will continue to meet on line through June. A decision will be made in early June regarding July meetings.

Administrative Reports:

45. Glick noted that there would be a regular work session at the conclusion of the regular meeting. She noted an error on the date of the Human Rights Commission meeting minutes that will be corrected in the agenda and minutes.
46. Glick encouraged everyone to look at all the fun activities being offered through Recreation Services this summer.

Council General Communications:

47. Member Webb noted the importance of mental health services and that there is no shame if you need to address mental health. She urged support for more services in the community including the schools.
48. Member Webb noted that this is Teacher Appreciation Week and shared that the Education Assistant of the year was Annette Davis at Cooper High School and the teacher of the year was Susan Cunningham 2nd grade teacher at Lakeview Elementary.
49. Member Kline acknowledged the naming of David Engstrom as the new Robbinsdale Schools Superintendent.
50. Member Kline noted that he and Mayor Blonigan had met with constituents about a recent protest and brought attention to the listening session that the police administration and city manager were holding with the Robbinsdale for Racial Justice group.
51. Member Kline noted that his 6 year hold was looking forward to learning to play soccer through the city's recreation programming.
52. Member Selman noted the passing of former Ace Hardware owner Dale Runke. Dale was a great supporter of Whiz Bang Days for nearly 40 years.
53. Member Selman noted that there is a dead tree in Kelly Park for the forester to check.
54. Member Backen expressed condolences to the Runke family.
55. Mayor Blonigan noted that the hardware store is the heartbeat of a small city. He thanked Interim Superintendent Stephanie Burrage for her service and congratulations on her appointment to the State Department of Education.
56. Mayor Blonigan noted the program at Sanborn Park last weekend and thanked Harper and Emily for the well planned event. He noted that Teri Blonigan had volunteered to read to the children at the event.

57. Mayor Blonigan thanked the staff for helping to keep the city running with all the extra pressures this year.
58. Member Selman thanked Mayor Blonigan for the video presentation used for the annual employee appreciation to staff members hitting 5-year milestones.
59. Mayor Blonigan indicated that Charnelle Dengnoue made everyone look good with her video production skills.
60. Member Webb reminded the community of the upcoming FaceBook Live event on May 26th.

Adjournment:

61. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Backen to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 pm. A roll call was taken: Ayes: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan; Nays: None. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**



Mayor William A. Blonigan



Marcia Glick, Recording Secretary