

City of Robbinsdale
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
June 7, 2022
Meeting No. 11

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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| 2. Present: | Backen, Webb, Selman, Mayor Blonigan |
| Absent: | None |
| Staff: | Tim Sandvik, City Manager; Dustin Leslie, City Clerk; Richard McCoy, Public Works Director; Rick Pearson, Community Development Coordinator; MaiTeng Moua, Assistant to City Manager – Communications. |
| Guests: | Rob Swanson, Waste Management; Jason Hartman, Waste Management; Jonathan Healey, Human Rights Commission. |

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. Mayor Blonigan asked the audience if anyone was there to speak about Waste Management. Multiple residents raised their hand. Mayor Blonigan noted that two representatives from Waste Management were in the audience and invited them to come up to the mic and speak.
5. Rob Swanson, 4007 Painted Sky Trail, Chaska, introduced himself as the District Manager of Waste Management and gave update of staffing situation of Waste Management and the difficulties with retaining drivers. Swanson stated Waste Management is working to retain employees by improving work/life balance with less hours and training more incoming drivers. Swanson stated yard waste has been suspended and will not resume anytime in June but Waste Management is working to get it back up and running eventually.
6. Member Selman asked about compensation for drivers and if it has improved. Swanson stated Waste Management has increased the wage matrix and new drivers will start at \$23 per hour. Swanson also spoke about benefits offered by Waste Management and that they are hoping to improve automation to make the work easier for drivers.
7. Member Webb noted Swanson is speaking about long-term goals for Waste Management and asked what short-term goals are they hoping to accomplish? Swanson stated that in the short-term, they are creating drop-off sites and making it so drivers do not have to work long hours like they have in the past.

8. Member Webb stated Waste Management presented to Council not too long ago and made a lot of the same promises but are here again with a similar message. Member Webb asked what was different this time? Swanson stated Waste Management will drop some contracts ready to end so they can focus on their current contracts and catch up.
9. Member Backen stated he was surprised Waste Management did not see these staffing issues come up sooner and asked why it took so long to notify the city. Swanson stated Waste Management had enough drivers before the start of the season but had a lot of drivers quit in a short period of time.
10. Member Backen stated the automation of trucks seemed like a long-term solution and wanted to know what would happen in the short-term. Swanson stated the goal would be to have 10% ahead of full staffing needs and to have the trucks automated in the next 6 months.
11. Member Backen asked why the delays were only happening in the North Metro. Swanson stated the issues were also happening in the South Metro but not publicized as much.
12. Member Backen asked if there would be any credits back to customers or any liquidated damages. Swanson stated credits have already been approved and will be working with the city on next steps.
13. Mayor Blonigan stated more frequent communication was needed from Waste Management so residents could be kept up-to-date. Mayor Blonigan also asked if Waste Management would keep providing the city with the drop-off site. Waste Management confirmed they would keep providing the dumpsters.
14. Member Selman stated he has received more questions from constituents about their recent garbage issues than anything else in his 15 years on City Council. Member Selman stated that customers needed to be credited more than the amount of yard waste pickup. Member Selman also stated Waste Management should do a story with CCX to promote their new pay and benefits to attract more drivers.
15. Kent Brun, 4071 Drew Ave N: Resident spoke to Waste Management representatives and told them they should have worked through these issues a long time ago. Resident stated he would be able to haul his yard waste but elderly residents would need more help and they needed to be taken into consideration. Resident stated Waste Management was not completing the job they were contracted to do and seemed like they did not care.
16. Fran Lile, 4401 Robin Ave N: Resident stated she had bags of yard waste falling apart with branches and leaves. Resident stated customer service had her on hold for 30 minutes.

17. Swanson assured audience that he and Waste Management care about their garbage pick up and spoke about next steps the company was working on.

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 7, 2022 MEETING AGENDA

18. Leslie reported the following changes to the agenda:
- Updated resolution for New Business A with grammatical updates from the Mayor.
 - Updated proclamation for Presentation B with grammatical updates from the Mayor.
 - Voucher report for Other Business A.
19. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to approve the June 7, 2022 Agenda with the update given to Council by the City Clerk. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA

20. Mayor Blonigan pulled item S and Member Selman pulled item J from the consent agenda for further consideration.
21. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Selman to approve the June 7, 2022 Consent Agenda with the exception of items J and S 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 5/17/22
 - Special City Council Public Works Tour minutes on 5/24/22
 - B. Motion to receive advisory commission minutes:
 - Planning Commission minutes on 4/21/22
 - Parks, Recreation, and Forestry minutes on 4/26/22
 - Human Rights Commission minutes on 4/28/22
 - C. Motion to approve issuance of licenses dated 6/7/22.
 - D. Motion to approve the April 2022 payment for City credit card charges.
 - E. Motion to approve the May 2022 payment for City credit card charges.
 - F. Motion to direct City Manager Tim Sandvik to execute the necessary documents to assure continuity of banking services.
 - G. Motion to acknowledge the Deputy Registrar's financial reports for the month of April 2022.
 - H. Motion to acknowledge the Robbinsdale Wine & Spirits' financial reports for the month of April 2022.

- I. Motion to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to accept the quote provided by idc Automatic Garage Door for the replacement of Garage Doors at the Public Safety building for the estimated amount of \$125,695.00.
- J. (Removed).
- K. Motion to appoint City Manager Tim Sandvik to the Board of Directors of CCX Media, LOGIS Board of Directors, City Liaison to the Robbinsdale Chamber of Commerce, and to the School District 281 Government Advisory Committee.
- L. Motion to extend the variance request V21-5 for 3855 York Ave. N. for one year to July 6, 2023.
- M. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7981 "A RESOLUTION APPROVING VARIANCE REQUEST V22-3 TO ALLOW THE CURB-CUT AT 4001 42nd AVE. N TO BE 31.5 FEET WIDE."
- N. Motion to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to accept the quote provided by Absolute Commercial Flooring Inc. for the replacement of carpet on the 1st floor of the Public Safety building for the estimated amount of \$42,854.00.
- O. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7982 "A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE MN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,500 FOR EMERALD ASH BORER MANAGEMENT."
- P. Whiz Bang Days Block Party – Location Change
 - 1. Motion to approve the request for Robbinsdale Whiz Bang Days block party, hosted by Travail, to be re-located to Lakeview Terrace Park on Friday, July 8, 2022, 3-9 p.m., with the conditions listed in the memo.
 - 2. Motion to approve the request for a food truck at Elim Lutheran Church before and during the parade on Sunday, July 10, 2022, waiving the license fee.
- Q. Motion to approve Wicked Wort putting up a 40' x 60' tent for one day – Saturday, June 11, 2022, 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. for additional seating. Barricades are recommended to be used to close their parking lot for pedestrian safety and also assuring handicap parking is

available.

- R. Motion to approve the following providers of chemicals for the new Water Treatment Plant for the remainder of 2022, based on the prices received: Hawkins Inc, and Rod Anderson & Sons LLC.
- S. (Removed).
- T. Motion to approve the parking of three food trailers (Miller Concessions) to be on site June 8-12, 2022, on the Hy-Vee parking lot with the requirement to obtain appropriate licensing.

CONSENT ITEM J: PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT SURVEY RESULTS.

22. Member Selman spoke about the survey and noted the results of the question about Blue Line LRT support in the City. Member Selman stated 45.04% of residents were Strongly Not in Favor of the project compared to: 23.51% Strongly in Favor, 15.86 Somewhat in Favor, and 12.46% Somewhat Not in Favor. Member Selman stated he was not surprised by the non-support of the project. Member Selman also directed staff to post results on the website.

23. Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7983 "A RESOLUTION DECLARING ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF STATE PERFORMANCE MEASURES." The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

CONSENT ITEM S: AUTHORIZE COOPERATIVE STORMWATER AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF CRYSTAL.

24. Mayor Blonigan reviewed the agreement and noted the large 114-page report that was not included in the packet. Mayor Blonigan asked staff if the agreement could be approved with the condition that Council have until Monday, June 13, 2022 to read the report before signing off. McCoy stated that signing off by Monday would not upset the timeline for the project.

25. McCoy and Council Members had a conversation about the project and spoke about its operations as well as the Watershed's methods of studying the proposed agreement.

26. Mayor Blonigan MOVED, seconded by Member Selman to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7984 "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A COOPERATIVE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY COUNCIL" and to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to sign the document after the City Council reviews the agreement with a deadline of Monday, June 13, 2022 to give feedback to staff. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

PRESENTATION A: PROCLAMATION TO PROCLAIM JUNE AS LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER INTERSEX, ASEXUAL, AND TWO SPIRIT (LGBTQIA+) PRIDE MONTH.

27. Sandvik gave report and invited a member of the Human Rights Commission to speak to Council.
28. Healy spoke about the proclamation and gave appreciation to Council for supporting it.
29. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to proclaim the month of June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Intersex, Asexual, and Two Spirit (LGBTQIA+) Pride Month in the City of Robbinsdale.**
30. Mayor Blonigan summarized the proclamation for the public.
31. Member Backen stated he was happy to support the proclamation.
32. Member Selman thanked the Human Rights Commission for their work.
33. Member Webb thanked the Human Rights Commission.
34. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Backen, Webb, Selman, Mayor Blonigan. Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

PRESENTATION B: PROCLAMATION TO RECOGNIZE JUNE 19, 2022 AS JUNETEENTH FREEDOM DAY IN THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE.

35. Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to recognize June 19, 2022 as Juneteenth Freedom Day in the City of Robbinsdale.
36. Mayor Blonigan summarized the proclamation for the public.
37. Member Backen stated he was proud to support this proclamation.
38. Member Webb stated the Human Rights Commission pushed the city to pass this proclamation. Member Webb stated the city is blessed to have a group of people looking out for the humanity of the community. Member Webb thanked the Commissioners for volunteering their time and for their hard work.
39. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Backen, Webb, Selman, Mayor Blonigan. Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

PUBLIC HEARING A: CONSIDER IMPLEMENTATION OF 25 MILES PER HOUR (MPH) SPEED LIMIT APPROPRIATE STREETS.

40. Sandvik gave background into the request and the next steps after the comment period. Sandvik stated the comments would be considered at the next City Council work session on June 14.

41. Mayor Blonigan opened the floor to the public to receive comments.
42. Frances Kooker – 4212 Shoreline Drive: Resident stated she was in support. Resident further stated she lived near Sanborn Park and would like lower speed limits within a block of all parks to keep children safer.
43. Christine Groetken – 3720 Hubbard Ave N: Resident stated she had no problem with the change but was worried about enforcement.
44. Kent Brun – 4271 Drew Ave N: Resident stated he was in favor and that he sees so many families walking around with their young kids in the community. Resident also spoke of his support for the Robbinsdale Police Department and that only about 10% of drivers stop at the stop sign near his house so enforcement may be an issue.
45. Patrick Hanlon – 5820 42nd Ave N: Resident stated he thought this was a good idea. Resident spoke about his time as a pizza delivery driver and being hyper aware of his surroundings. Resident finally stated that notifications to all residents about any changes would be helpful.
46. Joel Dueck – 4455 Scott Ave N: Resident asked if West Broadway would be affected as his property abuts the street. Mayor Blonigan stated West Broadway was a County Road and would not be affected. Resident asked Council and staff to consider re-designing streets to make them safer rather than just relying on police for enforcement.
47. Member Webb spoke about a resident email she received in which they asked for road re-designs that would make roads safer.
48. Mayor Blonigan closed the public comment period.
49. Mayor Blonigan summarized public comments received and spoke about road improvements that have already been made.
50. Member Backen stated the state measure to begin this process has been in place for a few years and Council wanted to see how it would go before beginning the research phase. Member Backen clarified that it would be further discussed at the next work session but no action would be made.
51. Member Selman stated he appreciated the messages from residents and that it looks like most are in favor of the change. Member Selman stated the concerns he saw the most were enforcement and road design. Member Selman stated perception could change through enforcement and gave examples of West Broadway and Highway 100 in Edina as examples of places people do not speed because those are places that are usually enforced. Member Selman also stated that cost would not be as high as some people thought and would be strategic about where they put new signs. Finally, Member Selman said the city should look into placing speed bumps in certain places.

52. Member Webb stated she was supportive of the proposed decrease and should be citywide rather than just certain spots. Member Webb stated that while most residents she spoke to were supportive, the residents who voiced concerns wanted to make sure the city was serious about enforcement.
53. Mayor Blonigan thanked everyone for their input and spoke about wanting Minnesota to eventually allow Photocop in cities.
54. Member Backen stated he was in favor of this but was concerned it may not result in big changes.

NEW BUSINESS A: WARD 1 VACANCY AND SPECIAL ELECTION.

55. Sandvik gave the report.
56. Member Selman stated the 9-month vacancy was ridiculous and that the Charter Commission should look into it in the future.
57. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Selman to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7985 A RESOLUTION DECLARING A VACANCY AND CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE WARD 1 CITY COUNCIL SEAT.**
58. Mayor Blonigan summarized the resolution and told residents next steps in the process.
59. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Backen, Webb, Selman, Mayor Blonigan. Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS A: DISBURSEMENT REQUESTS

60. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Selman to approve disbursement requests for period ending 6/7/2022. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

61. Sandvik stated it was his third week on the job as City Manager and thanked staff and Council for the welcome.
62. Sandvik gave an overview of upcoming recreation programs and stated the Manor Park splash pad was now open for residents.
63. Sandvik stated the city will be communicating with residents via postcard about yard waste updates.

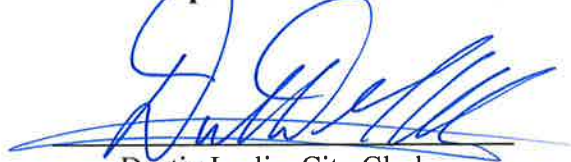
COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

64. Member Backen welcomed Sandvik to the city.

65. Member Backen spoke about the Blue Line Anti-Displacement meeting he attended.
66. Member Backen stated the fundraising for flower baskets on West Broadway will soon begin and to stay tuned for a GoFundMe page.
67. Member Webb stated the new Farmer's Market has successfully been supported by the community. Member Webb encouraged residents to visit as it was a good way to support local businesses.
68. Member Webb spoke about the importance of mental health support and encouraged residents to check on their loved ones.
69. Member Selman welcomed Sandvik to the city.
70. Member Selman summarized the Opportunity for the Public to Speak portion of the meeting and directed staff to give each member of the Council copies of the Waste Management contract. Member Selman also thanked a Ward 3 resident for volunteering to pick up yard waste for elderly residents.
71. Mayor Blonigan welcomed Sandvik to the city and spoke about his background.
72. Mayor Blonigan spoke about asking for an engineering study to look into the proposed Blue Line project and to include it on the next work session agenda.
73. Mayor Blonigan spoke about going to the new Farmer's Market and encouraged residents to go as well.
74. Mayor Blonigan spoke about attending the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office open house. Mayor Blonigan stated they had good mental health resources available.
75. Mayor Blonigan spoke about Waste Management and that staff was working with them to improve services.
76. Member Webb welcomed Sandvik to the city and stated she looked forward to working with him.

Adjournment:

77. **Member Webb MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**



Dustin Leslie, City Clerk



William A. Blonigan, Mayor