City of Robbinsdale
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
July 5, 2022
Meeting No. 13

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

2. Present: Backen, Webb, Mayor Blonigan
   Absent: Selman
   Staff: Tim Sandvik, City Manager; Dustin Leslie, City Clerk; Diaa Tahoun, Finance Director
   Guest: Aaron Nielson, CPA

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. Marion Johnson – 3302 46th Ave N: Resident asked Council what was being done about Waste Management's poor service. Resident also noted her trash pickup was missed again this week.

5. Sandvik spoke about solutions being implemented within the bounds of the contract. Sandvik also spoke about driver shortages and nationwide CDL shortages.

6. Member Backen stated the Council has looked at many solutions including liquidated damages, staff performing yard waste pickup, and even breaking the contract. Backen stated there were drawbacks to many of the options and spoke of similar challenges throughout the metro.

7. Member Webb spoke of frustrations with Waste Management and what she was hearing from residents.

8. Mayor Blonigan spoke of frustrations with Waste Management and noted the potential higher costs of breaking the contract with Waste Management and going back out to bid for a new service.

9. Laney Skeel – 4312 Zenith Ave N: Resident came on behalf of the Robbinsdale Diggers Garden Club to speak about the sprinkler system at the library not working properly. Skeel stated her group received a bid for about $3,000 to fix the sprinkler system and asked the city to find funding in the budget to pay for it.

10. Member Backen stated he thought it would be a good investment but would like to see additional quotes. Member Backen asked staff to look into options for this request.

11. Sandvik stated he and staff were looking at options including grant funding and would look further into it.

12. Jonathan Healy – 3927 Noble Ave N: Resident thanked City Hall for hosting the League of Women Voters event that he participated in. Healy asked Council and staff to consider 6 roll away containers for yard waste placed throughout the city instead of just one at the Public Works Facility. Healy asked about status of the community center being built and if it was still in the budget. Finally, Healy spoke about the Robbinsdale Police Department app. Healy thought a tip about vandalism would go to the police department. However, the tip never went to them and Healy stated this could be confusing for residents.

13. Member Backen directed staff to look into the app concerns.

14. Member Backen stated the City was planning on having an open house sometime in September about the potential community center.

APPROVAL OF THE JULY 5, 2022 MEETING AGENDA

15. Leslie reported the following change to the agenda:
    - Voucher Report for Other Business A.

16. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve the July 5, 2022 Agenda with the update given to Council by the City Clerk. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA

17. Mayor Blonigan pulled item G for further consideration.

18. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve the July 5, 2022 Consent Agenda with the exception of item G which was 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 6/21/22

B. Motion to receive advisory commission minutes:
   - Human Rights Commission minutes on 5/26/22

C. Motion to approve issuance of licenses dated 7/5/22.

D. Motion to acknowledge the Deputy Registrar's financial reports for the month of May 2022.

E. Motion to acknowledge the Robbinsdale Wine & Spirits' financial reports for the month of May 2022.

F. Motion to accept the quote received from SOLitude Lake Management for the 2022 Crystal Lake Alum Treatment for the estimated cost of $59,392.50.

G. (Removed).

H. Appointment of the Absentee Ballot Board.

1. Motion to appoint MaiTeng Moua as a temporary Deputy City Clerk through the duration of the 2022 election season.
2. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7986 "A RESOLUTION APPOINTING AN ABSENTEE BALLOT BOARD FOR THE 2022 ELECTION SEASON."

I. 4030 Lakeland Avenue North Redevelopment.

1. Motion to hold the 1st reading of Ordinance #22-08 "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING DISTRICT MAP OF ROBBINSDALE MINNESOTA."
2. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7987 "A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY PLAT REQUEST SUBD. 22-1 FOR RIDGECREST MARKETPLACE AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REQUEST C22-3 FOR DRIVE THROUGH SERVICE AT 4030 LAKELAND AVENUE NORTH."

CONSENT ITEM G: APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION JUDGES FOR THE 2022 PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTIONS

19. Mayor Blonigan asked if people outside of Robbinsdale could serve as an election judge. Mayor Blonigan stated his neighbor moved to Blaine but would still be a great judge for Robbinsdale.

20. Leslie stated people outside of Robbinsdale could still serve as an election judge for the city.

21. **Mayor Blonigan MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7988 "A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ELECTION JUDGES FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION AUGUST 9, 2022 AND**

GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 8, 2022." The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

PRESENTATION A: CITY OF ROBBINSDALE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2021

22. Tahoun gave basic overview of the audit and introduced auditor Aaron Nielson to Council.

23. Nielson gave the audit presentation highlighting: auditor's role, opinions & findings, types of funds, financial position, revenues, expenditures, enterprise funds, and net position.

24. During the opinions and findings portion of the presentation, Mayor Blonigan asked the auditor to elaborate on the "timely reconciliation of investment transactions at year-end." Nielson stated it was an area to improve because of staff turnover and was satisfied it would not be an ongoing issue.

25. During the enterprise funds portion of the presentation, Member Backen asked if the water utility fund would be lower due to the water treatment plant being completed. Nielson confirmed that it should be lower in the next audit.

26. During the net position portion of the presentation, Mayor Blonigan asked about the profitability of the liquor and if there were any resources to see how they compare to similar liquor stores throughout the metro. Nielson stated the annual state auditor's report may be a good resource.

27. Mayor Blonigan thanked staff and the auditor's office for all their work.

28. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to acknowledge receipt of the City's Audited Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the year ended December 31, 2021, Auditor's Management Report, and Special Purpose Audit Reports as submitted by Malloy, Montague, Karnowski, Radosevich & Co., P.A., and direct staff to distribute the report to other agencies as required. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

PRESENTATION B: CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

29. Mayor Blonigan gave background information and an overview about the award and noted the city has received it every year since 1979.

30. Tahoun noted that the GFOA award is the highest form of recognition for local and state government finances.

31. Member Backen thanked Tahoun and his staff for all their hard work. Tahoun presented the award certificate to the Mayor.

PRESENTATION C: BLUE LINE EXTENSION – PROPOSED CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CMC) RESOLUTION

32. Sandvik gave the report and spoke about the proposed resolution that was included in the packet.

33. Mayor Blonigan explained that the resolution to the Corridor Management Committee (CMC) officially asks the Governor, Senators, and Congresswoman to figure out a way to pressure BNSF into agreeing to putting part of the LRT route back on the railroad tracks as noted in the original proposal.

34. Member Backen said this resolution was a great idea but did not think it would be passed by the CMC because the Metropolitan Council seemed not interested in listening to the city. Member Backen stated it would be good to have this resolution given to them to get member votes on the record.

35. Member Webb stated it was great to advocate to our government officials.

36. Mayor Blonigan stated he would bring the resolution to the CMC and thanked Sandvik for his work in writing it up.

NEW BUSINESS A: ROBIN CENTER – MOBILE FOOD UNIT IN EXCESS OF 10 DAYS/YEAR

37. Leslie gave the report.

38. Member Backen stated he would support it if the condition that the food truck must leave the premise at the end of each day and that it would not park overnight.

39. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve the parking of Emily Moon-Bar-B-Que Ribs on Wheels to park in lower Robin Center, beginning July 10, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022, 12-5pm, Wednesday-Sunday with the conditions listed in the memo and on the condition that the food truck leaves the parking lot after each business day and to approve the mobile food unit license and recommend the northern-most parking space closer to Broadway Pizza. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS A: DISBURSEMENT REQUESTS

40. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve disbursement requests for period ending 7/5/2022. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

41. Leslie reminded that early voting for the primary was taking place and residents could vote at City Hall.

COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

42. Member Backen gave a reminder about Whiz Bang Days and spoke about his favorite events.

43. Member Backen spoke about the League of Women Voters forum and stated he was not able to attend due to his son testing positive for COVID the night before the event.

44. Member Webb stated she would be in the Whiz Bang Days parade and at the fireworks event.

45. Member Webb gave an update about issues with Waste Management and thanked Sandvik for his work.

46. Member Webb asked residents to support the new Farmer's Market which was being held on Saturdays from 8am to Noon at Lakeview Terrace Park.

47. Member Webb stated she has heard from residents who want renters to have priority in getting plots at the community gardens. Member Webb stated she would like to discuss this in the future.

48. Member Webb congratulated staff in receiving the GFOA award and thanked them for their hard work.

49. Mayor Blonigan stated he agreed with Member Webb in having the discussion about renters receiving priority at the community garden.

50. Mayor Blonigan spoke about the Farmer's Market being involved in Whiz Bang Days activities.

51. Mayor Blonigan spoke about Waste Management and asked Sandvik to give an update. Sandvik gave an update on Waste Management issues, solutions being explored, and future communication strategies. Mayor Blonigan stated updates regarding Waste Management should become more frequent for residents.

52. Mayor Blonigan encouraged residents to attend Whiz Bang Days.

Adjournment:

53. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

Dustin Leslie, City Clerk

William A. Blonigan, Mayor