

City of Robbinsdale
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
August 16, 2022
Meeting No. 16

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

2. Present: Selman, Backen, Webb, Mayor Blonigan
Staff: Tim Sandvik, 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. No one spoke.

APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 16, 2022 MEETING AGENDA

5. Leslie reported the following change to the agenda:
 - An introduction from the new Robbinsdale Ambassadors was added to the agenda under presentation A.
 - A new item was added to the Consent agenda as Consent Item E: Approval of Railroad Inspections – Regent Avenue Reconstruction.
 - Voucher Report for Other Business B.
6. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Backen to approve the August 16, 2022 Agenda with the update given to Council by the City Clerk. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

7. Mayor Blonigan removed item E for further consideration.
8. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Backen to approve the August 16, 2022 Consent Agenda with the exception of item E 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 8/1/22
 - City Council Work Session minutes on 8/10/22
- B. Motion to approve issuance of licenses dated 8/16/22.
- C. Motion to approve the request for Hy-Vee to hold a community event on Monday, September 5, 2022, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on their parking lot in the pre-approved area as shown on the site plan with noted conditions listed in the memo.
- D. Motion to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to sign the SRO Agreement between the Independent School District 281 and the City of Robbinsdale for the 2022-2023 school year.
- E. (removed).

CONSENT ITEM E: APPROVAL OF RAILROAD INSPECTIONS – REGENT AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION

- 9. Mayor Blonigan gave an overview of the inspection request. Mayor Blonigan questioned the high cost but stated they would have no choice but to approve so he would move it forward.
- 10. **Mayor Blonigan MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to approve the payment of \$30,050.00 to Wilson & Company for inspectors, required to be on-site during the installation of pipework across the Railroad as part of the Regent Avenue Reconstruction Project – Project 43922.**
- 11. Member Selman stated he would support approval of the request, but would like more information on the costs associated with the project and inspection.
- 12. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

PRESENTATION A: ROBBINSDALE AMBASSADORS

- 13. The new Robbinsdale Ambassadors introduced themselves to Council. Mayor Blonigan praised their appearance at the coronation and thanked them for coming.
- 14. Council members congratulated the ambassadors on their new roles and took a picture with them.

OLD BUSINESS A: CONSIDER MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH METROPOLITAN COUNCIL TO FACILITATE “METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION – OBJECTIVE REVIEW & OPTIONS ANALYSIS.”

- 15. Sandvik introduced the MOU and outlined a history of the proposal.

16. Mayor Blonigan asked for clarifications on who wrote the MOU. Sandvik stated the Metropolitan Council drafted the language.
17. Mayor Blonigan stated he submitted grammatical corrections and would approve the MOU if those corrections were made (attachment A). Mayor Blonigan stated he also had language changes but would pull those in order to get it passed and signed by the Metropolitan Council.
18. **Mayor Blonigan MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to authorize the City Manager to execute MOU with Metropolitan Council to facilitate the “METRO Blue Line Extension – Objective Review & Options Analysis” with the grammatical corrections submitted by the Mayor.**
19. Member Backen stated concerns with the issue resolution team meetings and the possibility of them leaving the Council out of the loop.
20. Member Webb asked for next steps in the process. Sandvik stated city staff would start interviewing engineers as early as the current week with work beginning in early to mid-September.
21. Sandvik stated the Issue Resolution Team meetings are standing meetings that involve City Staff, County Staff, and Met Council staff. These meetings are currently held 2-3 times per month to discuss progress of the LRT project. Sandvik stated the results of this study would be shared with the IRT and would further be considered as a part of municipal consent.
22. Member Selman requested language changes throughout the document and stated he would not support the study as it was an exercise in the Metropolitan Council attempting to pacify the city and nothing more. Member Selman added that the study would be a waste of taxpayer money.
23. Member Webb stated she would support the project and asked Sandvik to tell the public why it was needed.
24. Sandvik spoke about the scope of the MOU and described what an MOU accomplishes once it is signed.
25. Backen and Sandvik spoke about the process of making any changes to the MOU if they were needed.
26. Member Selman asked voters to make the next election a referendum on the light rail project in Robbinsdale.

27. A roll call was taken. Ayes: Backen, Webb, Mayor Blonigan. Nays: Selman. The motion passed on a 3-1 vote.

OTHER BUSINESS A: SCHEDULE SPECIAL BUDGET WORK SESSION

28. Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to set the time for a special budget work session to be held on Tuesday, September 6th, 2022 after the regular City Council meeting. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS B: DISBURSEMENT REQUESTS

29. Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve disbursement requests for period ending 8/16/2022. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

30. Leslie reported the results of the Primary Election and thanked election judges and staff for their work in making the election successful. Leslie gave a special thanks to Colleen Patterson for agreeing to be an emergency head judge in Ward 2 on short notice.
31. Leslie stated the candidate filing period for Ward 1 was over and that five candidates had filed.
32. Sandvik gave an update on the yard waste quotes process.
33. Sandvik thanked everyone involved in the Police and Fire Public Safety Open House event.
34. Sandvik gave an update on the CAC and BAC recruitment process.

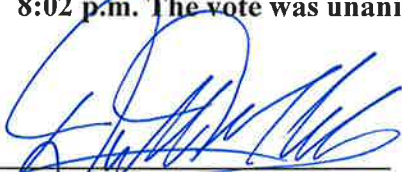
COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

35. Member Selman offered condolences to the family of Carol Ayshford who had recently passed away.
36. Member Backen offered condolences to the Ayshford family.
37. Member Backen thanked staff and election judges for their work on running the election.
38. Member Webb offered condolences to the Ayshford family.
39. Member Webb stated she has always had a smooth voting experience in Ward 2 and thanked everyone who helped with the election.
40. Member Webb spoke of the backpack giveaway at the Robbinsdale Farmer's Market and encouraged residents to attend the next one.

41. Mayor Blonigan spoke about the Farmer's Market and the knife-off cooking competition. Mayor Blonigan encouraged residents to support the Farmer's Market.
42. Mayor Blonigan offered condolences to the Ayshford family.
43. Member Selman offered condolences to Mayor Blonigan for the loss of his mother.
44. Mayor Blonigan spoke about his mother and her life. Mayor Blonigan stated there would be details on a service soon at Sacred Heart Church.
45. Mayor Blonigan spoke about expanding the community garden and giving renters an opportunity to reserve a plot.
46. Mayor Blonigan thanked election workers for a smooth election.

Adjournment:

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



Dustin Leslie, City Clerk

William A. Blonigan, Mayor