City of Robbinsdale
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
September 20, 2022
Meeting No. 18

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

2. Present: Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan
   Staff: Tim Sandvik, City Manager; Dustin Leslie, City Clerk; Diaa Tahoun, Finance Director; Richard McCoy, Public Works Director; Kayla Kirtz, Assistant to City Manager – Communication.

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. James Zabilla – 4186 Chowen Ave N: Resident requested more transparency about the future of Sanborn Park and more participation from city departments other than Recreation Services. Resident stated the open house did not give enough information.

5. Member Selman stated the City is still in the information gathering process and the open houses were meant to be a starting point in getting feedback.

6. Member Webb asked Sandvik to inform the community on future process for Sanborn Park. Sandvik stated the City was compiling feedback to start the process.

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 MEETING AGENDA

7. Leslie reported the following change to the agenda:
   - An updated license list was added to Consent Item C.
   - An updated Resolution was added to Consent Item I. MnDOT asked the City to amend the originally approved Resolution with the new Resolution. The updated recommended motion was changed to amend the previously approved Resolution with what was provided by MnDOT and to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute the agreement.
   - The Voucher Report was added to Other Business B.
   - The City Engineer provided a replacement page for the Feasibility study on page 74 of the packet as the original table was incomplete.
   - The Engineer's Feasibility report was accidentally place under consent when it should have been added as new business. Staff recommended moving it from Consent to New Business D.

8. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve the September 20, 2022 Agenda with the update given to Council by the City Clerk. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA

9. Member Backen removed item G for further consideration.

10. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve the September 20, 2022 Consent Agenda with the exceptions 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 9/6/22
   - Special Work Session minutes on 9/6/22
   - Regular Work Session minutes on 9/13/22

B. Motion to receive advisory commission minutes:
   - Planning Commission meeting minutes on 7/21/22
   - Planning Commission meeting minutes on 8/18/22

C. Motion to approve issuance of licenses dated 9/20/22.

D. Motion to approve the August 2022 payment for City credit card charges.

E. Motion to approve, by ratification, the permit for the Minnesota Nurses Association to use 4-5 megaphones for informational picketing on the public sidewalk on Oakdale Avenue North, in front of North Memorial Hospital, utilizing no other amplification, with the conditions listed in the memo.

F. Motion to approve the 2022 Cootie Medallion Hunt, October 19-23, 2022, with the condition that no park infrastructure is damaged in the placement or search of the medallion.

G. (Removed).

H. Motion to approve the parking of three food trailers (Miller Concessions) to be on site September 21-25, 2022, on the HyVee parking lot as shown on the site plan, along with the requirement to obtain appropriate licensing and adhere to staff requirements.

I. Motion to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute agreement for Installation and Maintenance of Art with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and to waive the reading amend the original Resolution #7995 "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR ART ON TRUNK HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY TO THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION" with the updated Resolution provided by MnDOT.

CONSENT ITEM G: AUTHORIZE MAYOR BLONIGAN AND CITY MANAGER SANDVIK TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT TO MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION AND THE MN HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

11. Member Backen stated he was concerned of a conflict of interest with having the Met Council in charge of choosing who performs review process. Through conversations with Sandvik and research, it was noted that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will perform more of the work than Met Council so there would be some separation.

12. Member Selman shared the concerns of Member Backen and stated he did not trust the Met Council and would not support the request.

13. Member Backen stated the contractors would be certified by the FTA which made him more comfortable with approval. Member Backen also noted the request came from the Minnesota Historic Preservation Office.

14. Member Webb acknowledged the strained trust between the city and the Met Council but stated gathering as much information about the project as possible was important.

15. Mayor Blonigan spoke about grammatical errors on the agreement and would sign two – the original and one with his fixes.

16. Member Backen stated he would support the request but with amendments. First, strike that Met Council employees can perform the work and the Council shall contract with SOI-qualified professionals in item 5B.

17. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to authorize Mayor Blonigan and City Manager Sandvik to execute amendment to Memorandum of Agreement between the Federal Transit Administration and the MN Historic Preservation Office with the changes to the agreement from Member Backen and Mayor Blonigan. A roll call was taken. Ayes: Webb, Backen, Mayor Blonigan. Nays: Selman. The motion passed 3-1.**

NEW BUSINESS A: PROPOSED 2023 GENERAL FUND AND DEBT SERVICE PROPERTY TAX LEVIES

18. Tahoun gave the presentation highlighting the overview of levy increases, budget requests, general fund revenue highlights, general fund expenditure highlights, general fund reserves, and tax impact.

19. Member Selman cautioned about using too much of the general fund reserves. Member Backen noted general fund reserves help city between tax payments from the county.

20. Member Selman thanked Tahoun and staff for work on the budget.

21. Mayor Blonigan spoke about adding more to the levy to fund positions and services, most notably the hiring and retention of police officers.

22. Sandvik thanked Tahoun and staff for their work on the budget and thanked Council for their support.

23. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7996 "A RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPOSED 2023 GENERAL FUND AND DEBT SERVICE NET PROPERTY TAX LEVIES FOR CERTIFICATION TO HENNEPIN COUNTY."**

24. Member Webb stated it is hard to increase the tax burden on residents but it was important to stay fully staffed, especially in light of national trends.

25. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS B: PROPOSED 2023 HRA PROPERTY TAX LEVY

26. Sandvik gave the report and an overview of the HRA property tax levy.

27. Member Selman spoke of the benefits of the REDA to the community and requested staff put a map of REDA properties in City Hall.

28. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Selman to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7997 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PROPOSED 2023 HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (HRA) PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR CERTIFICATION TO HENNEPIN COUNTY." The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS C: SCHEDULING THE DATE FOR THE TRUTH-IN-TAXATION BUDGET MEETING

29. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7998 "A RESOLUTION SCHEDULING THE DATE FOR THE TRUTH-IN-TAXATION BUDGET MEETING FOR THE 2023 BUDGET AND PROPERTY TAX LEVY." The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS D: 2022 STREET IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FEASABILITY REPORT – HUBBARD / GRIMES / FRANCE / 36TH / 38TH AVENUES

30. McCoy gave an overview of major projects listed in the report.

31. Member Backen noted the primary reason for many of the construction projects was to fix water infrastructure underneath the street, not necessarily the streets themselves.

32. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7999 "A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE CITY ENGINEER'S FEASIBILITY REPORT ON THE HUBBARD / GRIMES / FRANCE / 36TH / 38TH AVENUES COMPONENT OF THE 2022 STREET IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND SCHEDULING PUBLIC HEARINGS ON SAME."**

33. Member Selman stated he embraced the long-term water infrastructure needs and thanked McCoy and staff for the proposed speed measures on Hubbard Ave.

34. Member Webb stated she supported the additional bike trails in the city as they make us greener and safer.

35. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS A: SCHEDULE ENTERPRISE FUNDS BUDGET, CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS BUDGET, AND CIP PLAN WORK SESSIONS

36. Sandvik recommended using October 18th and November 1st as dates for the work sessions and to schedule additional in the future only if needed.

37. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to set work sessions to discuss the proposed City Manager's budget for 2023 Enterprise and Capital Project Funds, and the 2023-2032 Capital Improvement Plan on October 18th and November 1st. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS B: VOUCHER REQUESTS PENDING APPROVAL FOR DISBURSEMENT

38. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Selman to approve disbursement requests for period ending 9/20/2022. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

39. Leslie spoke of National Voter Registration Day and encouraged residents to make sure they were registered. Leslie also stated early voting would begin on Friday, September 23rd.

40. Sandvik welcomed Kirtz as the new Assistant to City Manager – Communications.

41. Sandvik gave Council an update on yard waste services with Waste Management noting pick up has begun again.

COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

42. Member Webb spoke about the School District 281 partnership meeting she attended. Member Webb also wished students and teachers the best for the school year.

43. Member Selman spoke about the Bottineau Community Works regional meeting and voiced concerns about lack of attendance, especially from the Mayor of Minneapolis.

44. Member Selman thanked staff for their efforts on the city budget.

45. Member Selman asked McCoy questions regarding street improvement performed by Crystal at 40th and Zane. Member Selman specifically asked if garbage collection would be affected by the work. McCoy stated he would ask his counterpart at Crystal.

46. Member Backen thanked staff for getting yard waste back on track.

47. Member Webb thanked Sandvik for work in getting yard waste pick up started again. Member Webb also asked how the city was informing residents of yard waste pickup. Sandvik stated the city was relying on word-of-mouth, UB news inserts, social media, and the website.

48. Mayor Blonigan spoke of the swearing-in of Virgil Green at Golden Valley. Thanked Chief Foley and Captain Stensrud for attending.

49. Mayor Blonigan thanked Water Resources Specialist Mike Sorensen for borrowing his kayak and collecting weed samples in Lower Twin Lake.

50. Mayor Blonigan thanked McCoy and staff for their management of improvement projects and asked for an update on the Water Tower and Water Treatment plant. McCoy stated Water Tower was in the process of finishing lifts and that the Water Treatment Plant was in the process of testing. McCoy said there was no definitive date for the completion of the water tower.

51. Mayor Blonigan spoke of the UNCF walk which occurred at the Farmer's Market.

52. Member Webb thanked Chaz Sandifer for a successful first Farmer's Market season.

53. Member Selman spoke about the Crystal Police Station ribbon cutting event.

Adjournment:

54. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

Dustin Leslie, City Clerk

~~William A.~~ Blonigan, Mayor