

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

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.
5. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to close the public forum. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 18, 2022 MEETING AGENDA

6. Leslie reported the following change to the agenda:
 - The Voucher Report was added to Other Business B.
 - A public comment from Hy-Vee was added to Public Hearing A.
7. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve the October 18, 2022 Agenda with the update given to Council by the City Clerk. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA

8. Mayor Blonigan removed item D for further consideration.
9. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve the October 18, 2022 Consent Agenda with the exception of item D 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 10/4/22
 - City Council Special Work Session minutes on 9/20/22
- B. Motion to receive advisory commission minutes:
 - Senior Commission meeting minutes on 6/6/22
- C. Motion to approve issuance of licenses dated 10/18/22.
- D. (Removed).
- E. Motion to approve Hy-Vee host a “truck or treat” event in collaboration with Blacktop MN Jeep Club on Sunday, October 23, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. with the conditions listed in the memo.

CONSENT ITEM D: APPOINT METRO BLUE LINE LRT SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER

- 10. Mayor Blonigan thanked Doerrerr for volunteering to serve on the committee.
- 11. **Mayor Blonigan MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to authorize appointment of Dan Doerrerr to the Business Advisory Committee (BAC), and to authorize staff to continue to solicit additional, potential members for the remaining BAC vacancy.**
- 12. Member Backen spoke about the BAC and the non-profit spot that would be represented by Doerrerr.
- 13. Member Selman stated he would vote against the appointment because he would not support anything related to the light rail project.
- 14. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Backen, Webb, Mayor Blonigan. Nays: Selman. The motion passed on a 3-1 vote.**

PUBLIC HEARING – IMPROVEMENT AND ASSESSMENT HEARING FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF HUBBARD AVENUE BETWEEN GRIMES AVENUE AND 38TH AVENUE AND SECTIONS OF GRIMES AVENUE, FRANCE AVENUE, 36TH AVENUE, AND 38TH AVENUE – CITY PROJECTS 38222 AND 45022

- 15. McCoy gave the report highlighting the following areas: water infrastructure improvements, cycling infrastructure improvements, street reconstruction, sanitary sewer/storm sewer improvements, modernizing traffic signals, utility work, LED light additions, construction costs, funding sources, and community feedback.

16. McCoy recommended amending the assessment totals to be lowered for three properties: 3639 Hubbard Avenue North, 3643 Hubbard Avenue North, and 4467 Hubbard Avenue North.
17. Mayor Blonigan and McCoy discussed how special assessment costs were calculated. McCoy referred to the City's Special Assessment Policy used to come up with the figures.
18. Mayor Blonigan opened the public hearing.
19. David Ulbrich – 3700 Hubbard Avenue North: Resident stated he collected 48 signatures from residents on the east side of Hubbard Avenue North and Grimes Avenue North opposing the proposed bike trail included in the project. Ulbrich also spoke for resident living a 3766 who would lost part of her yard with construction of the new bike path.
20. Patrick Mengelkoch – 3644 Hubbard Avenue North: Resident stated he opposed proposed bike trail as it would take away 1/3 of his yard.
21. Michelle Rusch – 3714 Hubbard Avenue North: Resident opposed the proposed bike trail and asked what the cost would be for the project without the bike trail. Resident also stated she would have difficulty paying the cost of the assessment.
22. Christine Groetken – 3720 Hubbard Avenue North: Resident opposed the bike trail because it would make yards in the neighborhood unsafe for children to play.
23. David Robins – 3923 Welcome Avenue North: Resident asked if designated parking spots would be considered as there would be a loss of parking for residents. Resident also asked if there was a way for residents to confirm if their assessment amounts were correct.
24. Jessica Mengelkoch – 3644 Hubbard Avenue North: Resident asked if a painted bike lane could be considered instead of a separated bike lane.
25. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to close the public hearing. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**
26. McCoy addressed concerns noted by residents highlighting the following: city-owned right-of-way, state-aid street requirements, relation of bike lanes to comprehensive plan, assessment cost algorithm, and separated bike path vs. painted bike lanes.
27. Member Backen spoke about designated parking spaces near North Memorial and having them elsewhere would be a double-edged sword for residents wanting to host guests.
28. Mayor Blonigan and McCoy discussed the path of the new bike lane. McCoy noted there would be more connections in the future.

29. Member Webb asked staff to speak about the comprehensive plan to inform the public what it contains. Pearson gave an overview of the comprehensive plan and its inclusion of making the city more walkable and bikeable.
30. Member Selman stated lack of support from members of the audience gave him pause in supporting the bike lane and suggested tabling the approval.
31. Mayor Blonigan stated the bike trail was in line with the comprehensive plan making the city greener.
32. Member Selman asked staff if the discussion could be tabled or if there was a deadline. McCoy stated the decision was up to Council. There was also a discussion about adding a sidewalk instead of a bike trail.
33. Ulbrich stated he would also oppose a sidewalk being installed on the east side of Hubbard Avenue North.
34. Member Webb stated she was initially supportive of the bike trail but resident concerns made her want to table discussions to a future date.
35. Member Backen stated he was fine with tabling the discussion but was supportive of the bike trail.
36. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to table further discussions of both projects to a November 1st Special Work Session. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**
37. Council Members thanked residents for coming to speak on the project.
38. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to received a public comment submitted by Hy-Vee. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS A: WATER TREATMENT PLANT – CHANGE ORDER 16 – CITY PROJECT 53217

39. McCoy gave the report as well as an update on the water treatment plant.
40. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Selman to authorize Change Order 16 consisting of the reconciliation of unit rate items, alterations to lime sludge transfer pumps and the size of the pitless adapter to be used for Well #4 as part of the Water Treatment Plant – Project 53217 for an increase of \$333,995.00. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS A: INCREASE OF ACTIONS FOR NON-COMPLIANT WATER METER PROPERTIES

41. McCoy gave the report.

42. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Backen to authorize staff to adopt the actions and timelines in the memo in order to achieve full compliance with the water meter change out project and to authorize staff to send out a series of letters to the non-compliant account holders to give advance notice of the timeline for increased compliance actions and that account holders who feel they have specific hardships that prevent compliance be invited to communicate with staff to see if a mutually beneficial resolution can be developed.**

43. Member Webb asked why the city would need to raise fees from \$50 to \$100. McCoy stated it could incentivize more properties to comply and that raising fees has been a successful method in the past. McCoy stated he would work with any residents who needed special accommodations.

44. Member Backen asked how many times residents have been notified of the water meter installation. McCoy stated the contractor reached out five times and that the city reached out more often after that.

45. **The motion passed on a 3-1 vote with Member Webb voting no.**

OTHER BUSINESS A: SCHEDULE NOVEMBER 1 SPECIAL WORK SESSION

46. Sandvik stated the work session would cover the 2023 Capital Investment Fund, the 2023-2032 Capital Improvement Plan, and other budget concerns. Sandvik also requested to include a discussion about the bike trail relating to projects 38222 and 45022.

47. Member Selman requested having the bike trail discussion at 6:00 p.m. before the Council meeting. Other Council Members concurred.

48. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Selman to schedule a special work session at 6:00 p.m. and immediately following the November 1, 2022 City Council meeting. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS B: VOUCHER REQUESTS PENDING APPROVAL FOR DISBURSEMENT

49. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to approve disbursement requests for period ending 10/18/2022. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

50. Leslie invited members of the community to get involved in the Trash-or-Treat event at Lakeview Terrace Park on October 29.

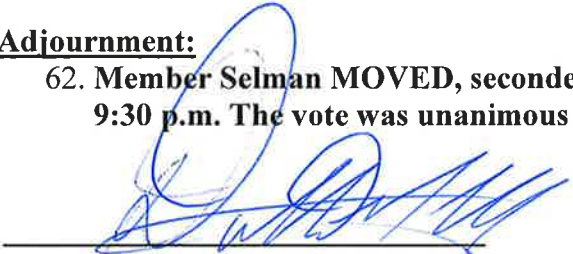
51. Sandvik spoke about the Sochacki Park Joint Powers Agreement meeting as well as the Sanborn Park Open House and Tri-City Police meeting.
52. Sandvik congratulated Crystal City Manager Anne Norris on her retirement.
53. Sandvik reminded residents of the Blue Line LRT Open House taking place at Elim Church on October 25.

COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

54. Member Backen apologized for missing the League of Women Voters/Chamber of Commerce Candidate Forum due to his illness.
55. Member Backen encouraged residents to attend the Blue Line LRT open house at Elim Church.
56. Member Webb stated applications for student loan forgiveness were open at www.studentaid.gov.
57. Member Webb stated residents were calling her in regards to her stance on the situation with Mike Opat. Member Webb stated she did not have a stance and hoped Opat would get love and support from the people around him.
58. Member Selman congratulated Anne Norris on her retirement.
59. Member Selman spoke about the Anti-LRT coalition he was forming in Robbinsdale.
60. Mayor Blonigan congratulated Anne Norris on her retirement.
61. Mayor Blonigan noted that it was the 50th anniversary of the Clean Air Act and spoke of work being done by the city's Water Resources Specialist Mike Sorensen.

Adjournment:

62. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**



Dustin Leslie, City Clerk

William A. Blonigan, Mayor