

City of Robbinsdale
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
October 19, 2021
Meeting No. 20

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

2. Present: Backen, Kline, Webb, Selman, Mayor Blonigan
Absent: None
Staff: Marcia Glick, City Manager; Richard McCoy, Public Works Director;
Diaa Tahoun, Finance Director

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. Michael Hasse, 4531 Robin Circle, expressed concern that the City Hall US Flag didn't appear to be lit.
5. Steve Carlyle, 4629 France Ave N, expressed continued frustration with operation of the bus stop on Hubbard. He reported that bus drivers are still coming to his business to use the restroom and there's continuing issues with panhandling on his patio. If the Hubbard Marketplace facility were open and public restrooms were available, they wouldn't be coming to his business. He noted that the port-a-potty is not ADA accessible and the facility isn't well maintained.
6. Member Selman suggested that Mr. Carlyle contact the Metropolitan Council Representative Robert Lilligren.
7. Michael Hasse, 4531 Robin Circle, expressed concern about traffic management at Lakeview Elementary at drop off/pick up times. He also shared concern about a fire at his home 10-12 years ago and conditions at the home that had not been flagged by the fire department. There should have been a complete post-fire inspection performed.
8. Member Selman confirmed that there was a light on the City Hall flag but it seemed to be back lit.

APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 19, 2021 MEETING AGENDA

9. Glick reported the following changes to the agenda:
 - License list (Dairy Queen payment for 2021 and 2022 and special event at Sacred Heart) – Consent C
 - Correction to ordinance 21-10 – consent F
 - Updated resolutions/memo for Hennepin County grant applications consent J and K
 - The voucher report for Other Business C was added to the packet.

10. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to approve the October 19, 2021 Agenda with the updates given to Council by the City Manager. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA

11. Member Blonigan removed Item H for further consideration.
12. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Kline to approve the October 19, 2021 Consent Agenda except for Item H. 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 10/5/21
 - Special LRT Work Session minutes on 9/21/21
 - Regular Work Session minutes on 10/12/21
 - Special Work Session minutes on 10/12/21
- B. Motion to receive advisory commission minutes:
- Senior Commission Meeting minutes on 6/7/21
- C. Motion to approve issuance of licenses dated 10/19/21.
- D. Motion to appoint Diaa Tahoun as the alternate LOGIS Board Director and direct the City Manager to report the action to the LOGIS Executive Director.
- E. Motion to hold the 2nd reading and order the adoption of Ordinance No. 21-11 “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ROBBINSDALE CITY CODE SECTION 705.15 REGARDING ESTIMATED WATER BILLS FOR NON-FUNCTIONING EQUIPMENT AND PENALTY FOR DENIAL OF ACCESS.”
- F. Motion to hold the 2nd reading and order the adoption of Ordinance #21-10 “AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING UPDATES TO APPENDIX B OF THE ROBBINSDALE ORDINANCE CODE AND GENERAL FEE SCHEDULE.”
- G. Motion to hold the 2nd reading and order the adoption of Ordinance No. 21-09 “AN ORDINANCE REZONING 4299 46TH AVE N FROM RB TO R3.”
- H. (Removed)
- I. Motion to authorize the Mayor and the City Manager to sign the agreements for the construction of the trail linking Lilac Drive with the Crystal and Twin Lake Regional Trail as approved by the City Attorney.

- J. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7921 “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A FACILITY GRANT UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE HENNEPIN YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAM.”
 - K. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7922 “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT AN EQUIPMENT GRANT UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE HENNEPIN YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAM.”
 - L. Motion to adopt Resolution #7923 “A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT REDISTRICTING FOR METROPOLITAN COUNCIL DISTRICTS INCLUDES ALL OF ROBBINSDALE IN A DISTRICT WITH ADJACENT SMALL CITIES.”
13. Mayor Blonigan explained that he had removed Item H to acknowledge and thank Carol Kile for volunteering to serve on the Senior Commission.
14. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to appoint Carol Kile as an at-large representative on the Robbinsdale Senior Commission for a term commencing immediately. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS A: AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION NO. 7805 – PROJECT 38318.

15. McCoy provided an update on the project noting expectation that Chowen Avenue will not be completed until early summer 2022. Therefore it's recommended to extend the time for interest free special assessments from November 15, 2021 to July 1, 2022. Letters will be sent out to residents after the City Council action.
16. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7924 “A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 7805 ‘A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR CITY PROJECT NO. 38318 – PORTIONS OF CHOWEN AVENUE AND 43RD AVENUE’ BY EXTENDING THE INTEREST FREE REPAYMENT PERIOD.” ROLL CALL: AYE: Backen, Kline, Webb, Selman, Mayor Blonigan. NAY: None. Motion Carried 5-0.**

NEW BUSINESS A: FIRST READING – UPDATE TO SECTION 815.07 AND 2040.

17. Glick reviewed the staff report noting that ultimately any change to water regulations need to be submitted to DNR. DNR will consider both public comments the city received as well as during their own comment period. In communications to lake residents, others expressing interest, and in weekly news updates, it was indicated that second reading of the ordinance would be November 16th. It is recommended that meeting would include a public comment section prior to council vote.

18. Council members confirmed that all of the previous comments would be included in the DNR materials so that people who had previously commented would not need to submit again.
19. Mayor Blonigan noted that Section 815.07, subd. 3b indicates South Twin Lake would be "Full Time No Wake Lake" and Section 2040, subd. 5 has a definition of "Slow-No Wake." Glick will bring this to the attention of the City Attorney prior to 2nd reading. She indicated that the police chief's report had used capitalized "Full Time No Wake Lake" and she wasn't sure if this was a DNR description.
20. Kline noted that concerns for making South Twin Lake a No Wake Lake had been a frequent request from his Ward and he was glad to see the change moving forward.
21. Member Backen noted that residents around the lake had not been interested in recommendations for natural vegetation as a solution to erosion problems. He believes that the change in allowed lake use would be a disadvantage to a number of people.
22. Mayor Blonigan noted it would also be an advantage to kayakers, paddle boarders, canoe paddlers and swimmers. No wake would be an advantage to those people.
23. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Kline to hold the first reading or Ordinance No. 21-13 "AN ORDINANCE UPDATING ROBBINSDALE CITY CODE SECTIONS 815.07 AND 2040 RELATED TO LAKE REGULATIONS." ROLL CALL: AYE: Kline, Webb, Selman, Mayor Blonigan. NAY: Backen. Motion Carried 4-1.**

OTHER BUSINESS A: SCHEDULE CITY MANAGER SEARCH WORK SESSION.

24. Glick noted her plan to retire before summer 2022. Exact date will correspond to appointment of a new City Manager. Council members had discussed two consultant approaches and indicated interest in hearing more from Craig Waldron. She noted an error on the proposed work session date in the memo which should indicate November 16th.
25. Member Selman emphasized the importance of this process.
26. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to schedule a work session at 6:00 p.m. on November 16, 2021 to discuss proposal and process offered by Craig Waldron for the City Manager search in 2022. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried**

OTHER BUSINESS B: SCHEDULE INFORMATIONAL LRT WORK SESSION.

27. Glick reported this meeting will give the city council the opportunity to look at detail of a large sale map from 39th to 47th with correct lane and LRT widths and corresponding impacts on adjacent properties. The map does not include location or width required for a station in the downtown area.

28. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Webb to schedule a work session at 6:15 p.m. on October 26, 2021 for updates on LRT information. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried

OTHER BUSINESS C: DISBURSEMENT REPORT

29. Member Backen **MOVED**, seconded by Member Blonigan to approve disbursement requests for period ending 10/19/21. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

30. Glick noted that there would be a budget work session at the conclusion of the regular meeting.
31. Glick provided update on LRT Municipal Consent process. The Blue Line Extension “Locally Preferred Alternative” selection goes back many years when the cities in the area wanted to get a light rail transit instead of bus rapid transit. That is the mode of transportation being studied and in order to continue to be in line for federal funding for the project, the mode can’t change and the alignment needs to be similar to the original (i.e. going through the same general area.) She noted that a lot of the in depth studies such as projected time travel and ridership would not be until after there is one route being looked at, as well as location of stations and many other details.
32. Glick reminded the public that there would be an open house on the light rail study on October 27 from 5-7 pm at Elim Lutheran Church. The City Council will also have a work session on October 26th from 6:15-7pm at City Hall to look at LRT layout.
33. Member Backen noted that there are still a lot of questions. He expressed disappointment at the very low turn out at the last LRT public information session at Manor Park. He would also like to see all the survey responses submitted by residents to the project team.
34. There was a lengthy discussion on the LRT and how to engage the public in the process. There was a question about what if any outreach was being done by the agencies awarded contract by the project office to do LRT outreach. There was discussion of a professional survey to gather feedback on the new alignment as well as the option of a ballot question. Overall concern was how to reach out to the full community on the project.
35. Glick will follow up with the city attorney regarding ballot questions and follow up with the project office for documentation of outreach efforts and data from surveys.

COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

36. Kline shared that he had spent a lot of time quarantining with COVID and was grateful that there had been no known transmission to people with whom he had been in contact.

37. Webb shared concern on increased violence and the need for public safety and information. She noted it's easy to be complacent. People who prey on others make it hard. Violence is up in the community and we need to support each other. She asked if the police would be making a presentation on what is being done for public safety.
38. Glick shared the press release that had been sent out earlier in the day. She indicated that there would be a neighborhood meeting, but she was uncertain of the day or time.
39. Selman asked about progress on the crosswalk safety issue at 42nd and Yates. Glick reported that the police had looked at doing a pedestrian crossing awareness action and had determined that the crossing is not safe. Staff are looking into the process for removing the cross walk marking.
40. Selman confirmed that the US flag at city hall was lit, but that the flag was at half-staff which may be the cause of low lighting.
41. Selman shared that Mark Morris would be retiring soon from Citizens Independent Bank and noted his years of community service with the Chamber of Commerce and Whiz Bang Days.

Adjournment:

42. **Member Kline MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 pm. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**



Marcia Glick, Recorder



William A. Blonigan, Mayor