

City of Robbinsdale
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 4, 2020
Meeting No. 21

CALL TO ORDER

1. Mayor Regan Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

2. Present: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy
3. Absent: None
- Staff: Marcia Glick, City Manager; Rick Pearson, Community Development Coordinator; Andrew Biggerstaff, City Attorney; Kim Moore, City Clerk

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC

1. Mayor Murphy opened the floor to anyone wishing to speak on any items not on the agenda.
2. No one else chose to speak. The Mayor closed the session.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. Moore noted an update to New Business A item and an additional Consent Item, "J"
4. Member Backen **MOVED**, seconded by Member Selman to approve the November 4, 2020 with these updates. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Backen to approve the November 4, 2020 Consent Agenda. **The motion carried.**
 - A. Motion to approve and order placed on file minutes of the City Council meeting:
 - City Council Minutes on 10/20/20
 - City Council Budget Work Session 10/20/20
 - B. Motion to accept the following commission minutes:
Park, Recreation & Forestry Commission – 9/22/2020
Planning Commission – 9/24/2020
Human Rights Commission – 9/24/2020
 - C. Motion to approve issuance of licenses dated – 11/04/2020
 - D. Motion to approve acknowledge the Robbinsdale Wine & Spirits financial reports for the month of September 2020
 - E. Motion to approve acknowledge the Deputy Registrar's financial reports for the month of September 2020.
 - F. Motion to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute a 1-year

contract extension through December 31, 2021 for tree removal with Nick's Tree Service of Corcoran, MN.

- G. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution No. 7864 "A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 7804 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR CITY PROJECT NO. 43820 – PORTIONS OF BEARD AVENUE AND 43RD AVENUE" BY EXTENDING THE INTEREST FREE REPAYMENT PERIOD."
- H. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution No. 7865 "A RESOLUTION APPROVING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REQUEST C20-6 ALLOWING A SECOND ACCESSORY STRUCTURE EXCEEDING 240 SQUARE FEET AT 3101 DREW AVENUE NORTH."
- I. Motion to designate the City Manager as the voting delegate at the Metro Cities Policy Adoption Meeting.
- J. Motion to approve the Deferral of Special Assessment application for Michael Thompson, 4333 York Avenue North for deferral of a special assessment related to delinquent utilities. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS A: First Reading of Ordinance No. 20 -12 "An Ordinance Amending Section 410 Signs of the City Code".

- 6. Pearson presented the staff report. Pearson also reported that despite the new limitations, the City can regulate commercial speech for off-premises advertising signs including street spanning banners.
- 7. City Attorney Biggerstaff presented commercial sign regulation updates as the result of the Courts upholding Reed v. Town of Gilbert, which precludes cities from regulating signs based on its content. If staff need to read the sign in order to enforce regulations, there will probably be problems with a challenge to regulating that sign. He confirmed that the goal of the City is to bring its sign ordinance into conformance with current laws.
- 8. Rogan would like to look at sign regulations for business areas, especially architectural design guidelines.
- 9. Blonigan suggested that signs may be regulated through a development agreement or TIF agreement.
- 10. Selman asked if the new regulation addresses garage sale and real estate open house signs. Pearson noted they are currently allowed on the premises but not off premises. He also noted the character and materials of signs can be regulated.

11. Biggerstaff noted that the City is limited in regulatory powers. However, if there is a contract, content can be addressed. Variance and conditional use requirements would need to be studied on a case by case basis. Glick suggested studying downtown sign dimensions; Rogan added minimum sign lettering. Blonigan questions ability to regulate advertising signs on vehicles or containers in Section 410.11, subd. 5. Glick suggested adding a line, “does not apply to advertising fines”, provided that none of the above includes off-site advertising.
12. Blonigan asked staff to check for the term, “separability” to be used instead of severability in the code.

Member Blonigan **MOVED**, seconded by Member Rogan to hold the first reading of Ordinance 20-12, including a number of small modifications he and the City Manager suggested, “**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 410 SIGNS OF THE CITY CODE**”. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS A: Voucher Request Pending Approval for Disbursement

14. Member Selman **moved**, seconded by Member Backen to approve disbursement requests for period ending 11/04/20. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

15. Glick noted that it was a different sort of election season. She noted that the early voting totals were over 6,000 votes versus a much smaller number of in-person voting. She reported that the loop created by the temporary walls will be restored when the weather gets colder so that more people can be inside while they wait to be helped at the license bureau.
16. Glick gave “kudos” to Sherry O’Donnell and Sharon Laurel, who worked together to keep the administration of the elections running smoothly, especially while also getting the new City Clerk up to speed with the election activities.
17. Glick reported that she is working on contacting consultants to facilitate the January goals session.

COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

18. Rogan commented that it was good that voters had various opportunities to vote. He also gave “kudos” to everyone at City Hall because of how they managed changes to the elections.
19. Blonigan asked why there was a 3:00 p.m. deadline for the drop-off of absentee ballots on Monday.
20. Rogan explained that the deadline was intended to give the County more time between 3:00 pm and 8:00 pm to match up ballots, providing more accurate tracking and reporting of votes so that the publishing of the results were timely.
21. Backen congratulated Bill Blonigan, Sheila Webb and Tyler Kline on their elections to the City Council.

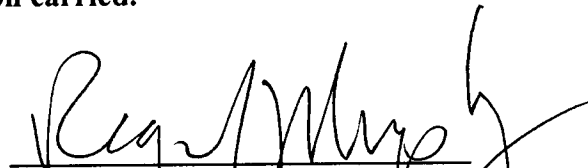
22. Selman also extended his congratulations to the successful candidates. He stated that he was very pleased with the respect exhibited by the candidates and the conduct of the election. He congratulated County Commissioner, Jeff Lunde on his election. He also congratulated and commended Commissioner Mike Opat on his service and retirement. Selman also thanked all the election judges and election workers.
23. Backen also wanted to congratulate the election judges and city staff on an extraordinary election.
24. Rogan also wanted to extend his congratulations to the newly elected on their win,
25. Blonigan extended his thanks to everyone and commented on the respectful campaigns that were run by the candidates. He also encouraged the new Councilmembers to attend the LMC and NLC training opportunities for newly elected officials prior to coming onboard in January.
26. Blonigan also provided his comments regarding proposed changes to the City of Robbinsdale business card. The Council agreed that the suggested changes were good ideas.
27. Mayor Murphy congratulated the prevailing candidates and opponents in Wards 1 and 2 and the integrity that Blonigan exhibited in his race.

ADJOURNMENT

28. Member Backen **MOVED**, seconded by Member Rogan to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.
The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.



Kim Moore, City Clerk



Regan L. Murphy, Mayor