City of Robbinsdale
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
DECEMBER 15, 2020
Meeting No. 24

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

2. Present: Backen, Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Mayor Murphy
   Absent: None
   Staff: Marcia Glick, City Manager; Rick Pearson, Community Development Coordinator; Jeff Zuba, Finance Director; Richard McCoy, Public Works Director;

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC

3. Mayor Murphy opened the floor to anyone wishing to speak on any items not on the agenda.

4. No one chose to speak. The Mayor closed the session.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

5. Glick noted the addition of Consent Agenda Item Q – liquor license renewal for The Birdhouse Eat & Drink; updated ordinance pages for Old Business B, and updated resolution on Other Business C.

6. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Rogan to approve the December 15, 2020 Agenda with the addition of Consent Item Q and other updates. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA

7. Member Blonigan **MOVED**, seconded by Member Backen to approve the December 15, 2020 Consent Agenda **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Backen, Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

   A. Motion to approve and order placed on file minutes of the City Council meetings:
      - City Council Meeting 12/01/20
      - City Council Work Session 12/01/20

   B. Motion to approve and place on file minutes of the following advisory commission minutes:
      - Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission

   C. Motion to approve issuance of licenses dated December 15, 2020

D. Motion to receive information regarding 2021 Business License Renewals.

E. Motion to approve the November 2020 Payment for Credit Card Charges.

F. Motion to affirm the action of the City Manager to appoint Sherry O'Donnell as City Clerk commencing December 15, 2020.

G. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution No. 7867 "A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING 2021 POLLING LOCATIONS FOR THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE."

H. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution No. 7868 "A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID AND AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS" and motion to authorize the City Manager and Finance Director to issue a purchase order to Macqueen Emergency for the purchase of air packs in the amount of $252,876.74.

I. Motion to approve the 2021 Liquor License Renewal for Wicked Wort Brewing Company subject to the City Clerk's office receiving applicable insurance and all other information needed to satisfy ordinance requirements.

J. Motion to approve the Travail 2021 Liquor License renewal subject to the City Clerk's office receiving applicable insurance and all information needed to satisfy ordinance requirements.

K. Motion to approve the Pig Ate My Pizza 2021 Liquor License renewal subject to the City Clerk's office receiving applicable insurance and all information needed to satisfy ordinance requirements.

L. Motion to approve the Broadway Pizza/Eagles Nest Lounge 2021 Liquor License renewal subject to the City Clerk's office receiving applicable insurance and all information needed to satisfy license requirements, including the CPA statement.

M. Motion to approve the El Toro Mexican Restaurant 2021 Liquor License renewal subject to the City Clerk's office receiving applicable insurance and all information needed to satisfy ordinance requirements.

N. Motion to approve the Hy-Vee Market Grille 2021 Liquor License renewal subject to the City Clerk's office receiving applicable insurance and all information needed to satisfy ordinance requirements.

O. Motion to approve the Marna's Eatery and Lounge 2021 Liquor License renewal subject to the City Clerk's office receiving applicable insurance and all information needed to satisfy ordinance requirements.

P. Motion to approve the 2021 health, dental, life insurance contribution negotiated with all of the Union Groups and the same contributions for the non-represented employees.

Q. Motion to approve The Bird House Eat & Drink 2021 Liquor License renewal subject to the City Clerk's office receiving required CPA statement, applicable insurance, and all information needed to satisfy ordinance requirements.

PRESENTATION- Proclamation Recognizing Mike Opat

8. Glick highlighted items in the resolution. Council members offered their thanks for other assistance including action to prevent BNSF and CP railroads from connecting in Crystal which would have diverted additional rail traffic including long oil trains through the city; the county tax imposed on Target Field activities which provides funding for sports fields, playgrounds and libraries; county administration of numerous services including HCMC and social services; and advocacy for the needs of the northern part of Hennepin County.

9. Mike Opat noted his 29 year residence in Robbinsdale and noted that working with the Robbinsdale City Council was a pleasure particularly in that the City Council comes together to get things done. He noted Robbinsdale's leadership in pushing completion of Highway 100. He hoped that the future alignment of the light rail line would include 2 stops in Robbinsdale adding one at North Memorial Health.

10. Member Rogan **MOVED**, seconded by Member Blonigan, to read and approve the proclamation recognizing Mike Opat. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Backen, Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

PUBLIC HEARING A: Pawn America– Pawn Broker & Second-Hand Goods Licenses – 4134 West Broadway

11. Glick presented the staff report. Member Blonigan asked if 2020 had more issues than in the past.

12. Daron Van Helden, Pawn America, agreed that 2020 had been a struggle.

13. Steve Caulfield, Pawn America COO, noted that the business had a good record in the past. This year with staff shortages and people away from work resulted in issues. The business is reviewing and enforcing procedures and has returned to full staffing.

14. Mayor Murphy opened the public hearing. No one from the public commented.

15. Council members thanked Pawn America for attending the hearing and showing concern for their business' performance. It was agreed that there should be an updated report early in the year. Member Selman encouraged others to accompany staff on one of the regular inspections.

16. Member Selman **MOVED**, and Member Rogan seconded to close the public hearing. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

17. Member Blonigan **MOVED**, and Member Rogan seconded the motion to approve the 2021 pawn broker and second-hand goods licenses for Pawn America – 4134 West Broadway.

18. Blonigan noted that Pawn America pays for the cost of the audit and is a highly regulated business.

19. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

PUBLIC HEARING B: Fly Vintage & Vinyl – Second Hand Goods License – 3900 36th Ave N

20. Glick reviewed the staff report. Backen noted the value of the business. Murphy indicated it is a unique place for gifts and cards.

21. Mayor Murphy opened the public hearing.

22. Betsy Rupert Kan, business owner, noted that the business had been closed since March. They had converted to an on-line store shipping out all over the country. The facility is too small for social distancing. They can't wait to reopen to the public.

23. Member Blonigan **MOVED**, and Member Selman seconded to close the public hearing. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

24. Member Rogan **MOVED**, and Member Backen seconded the motion to approve the second-hand goods licenses for Fly Vintage & Vinyl – 3900 36th Ave N. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

PUBLIC HEARING C: City Street Improvement and Reconstruction Plan 2021-2030

25. Zuba noted the plan does include expectation of issuance of bonds.

26. McCoy reviewed the purpose of the plan and list of projects proposed. Priority is given to infrastructure with greatest need.

27. Blonigan noted the pie chart in the report showing a list of sources of funds for street reconstruction.

28. McCoy noted that some of the city's infrastructure was installed in the 1920s and 30s though progress is being made to replace the oldest fixtures.

29. Selman suggested adding the pie chart to the public presentation for each of the projects moving forward.

30. Rogan confirmed that when Shoreline Drive was repaved in the 1990s, the utilities underground were not replaced.

31. Mayor Murphy opened the public hearing. No one from the public commented.

32. Member Selman **MOVED**, Member Rogan seconded, to close the public hearing. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

33. Member Blonigan **MOVED**, Member Selman seconded to approve Resolution No. 7869 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY'S STREET IMPROVEMENT AND RECONSTRUCTION PLAN 2021-2030" including a statement in the 2nd paragraph that public comment had been considered.

34. Rogan noted his disappointment that he would not be on the city council when the project on Chowen was finally completed. He thanked staff for their efforts in undertaking the difficult project and hoped that the weather would cooperate.

35. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

PUBLIC HEARING D: City Capital Improvement Plan 2021-2030

36. Zuba noted the public hearing opens the option for future bonding without additional hearing.

37. McCoy reviewed the list of projects planned across the 10 years.

38. Murphy suggested lobbying for funding for the public works building replacement.

39. McCoy noted that Crystal Lake has been pumped down to near Ordinary High Water.

40. Rogan confirmed that the concept plan for the LVT activity area between the pavilion and ballfields had been approved by City Council and no further approval was required.

41. McCoy affirmed that there is an allocation for invasive weeds for both Crystal Lake and the Ryan-Twin Lakes as well as a recreational channel in Twin Lake.

42. Mayor Murphy opened the public hearing. No one from the public commented

43. Member Backen **MOVED**, Member Selman seconded, to close the public hearing. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

44. Member Backen **MOVED**, Member Blonigan seconded to approve Resolution No. 7870"A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2021-2030" including a statement in the 2nd paragraph that public comment had been considered. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS: Adoption of 2021 Budget and Property Tax Levies

45. Zuba reviewed the report.

46. Murphy observed that Robbinsdale's taxes are more volatile than some neighbors'.

47. Backen noted the levy per population is lower than neighbors'.

48. Rogan pointed out that he had requested information on lower levy options. The proposed budget still has a deficit of $287,000 and that unless the expectation is for eliminating a service, he didn't think a larger deficit/lower levy was advised. The staffing is already lean. He cautioned that the council needs to be aware of the trend and the need to do something different going forward.

49. Others indicated support. Murphy concluded that the budget is not wasteful; it is prudent. The major revenue source is taxes. If residents want lower levy, the city needs to look at service reductions.

50. Member Rogan **MOVED**, seconded by Member Blonigan to waive the reading and consider Motion to approve Resolution No.7871 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2021 CITY PROPERTY TAX LEVY IN THE AMOUNT OF $7,759,245 AND ORDERING ITS CERTIFICATION TO THE HENNEPIN COUNTY AUDITOR."

51. Blonigan noted the levy includes $1M in bonds for infrastructure and equipment in the CIP. Bonding theory is that 1-2% bond interest rate is preferable to get projects completed vs. waiting and encountering higher construction costs.

52. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

53. Member Backen **MOVED**, seconded by Member Selman to waive the reading and consider Resolution No. 7872 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2021 FINAL BUDGET AND COMMITTING FUND BALANCE." **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

54. Member Backen **MOVED**, seconded by Member Blonigan to waive the reading and consider Resolution No. 7873 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2021 HRA PROPERTY TAX LEVY IN THE AMOUNT OF $237,409 AND ORDERING ITS CERTIFICAITON TO THE HENNEPIN COUNTY AUDITOR." **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS: 2nd Reading Franchise Fee Ordinances – Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy

55. Glick reviewed the staff report

56. Moved by Backen second by Blonigan to hold the second reading of Ordinance No. 20-13 "AN ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTING AN ELECTRIC SERVICE FRANCHISE FEE ON NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY, A MINNESOTA CORPORATION, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, FOR PROVIDING ELECTRIC ENERGY SERVICE WITHIN THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE" **and** Ordinance No.20-14 "AN ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTING A GAS ENERGY FRANCISE FEE ON CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP.,d.b.a. *CENTERPOINT ENERGY* MINNESOTA GAS ("CENTERPOINT ENERGY"), f.k.a. CENTERPOINT ENERGY MINNEGASCO, A DIVISION OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES, CORP., f.k.a. RELIANT ENERGY MINNEGASCO, A DIVISION OF RELIANT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP ., A DELAWARE CORPORATION, FOR PROVIDING GAS ENERGY SERVICE WITHIN THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

<u>OTHER BUSINESS A: Voucher Requests</u>

57. Moved by Selman, second by Backen to approve payment of the requested vouchers. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

<u>OTHER BUSINESS B: Resolution Thanking Dan Rogan For His Service</u>

58. Glick reviewed the staff report.

59. Council members shared their appreciation in working with Member Rogan during his tenure. They highlighted his dedication and hours spent studying the budget and other subjects. Mayor Murphy noted that when Member Rogan speaks first, everyone else says "I agree with Dan." He is reasonable and sees the broad picture.

60. Member Rogan thanked the council members as well as the residents of Ward 2. He noted that it takes someone to stand up and run for office and have people judge you. In Robbinsdale, Local Government works. He noted the improvements to the parks, expansion of downtown restaurants, and the downtown renewal starting with a low interest loan to Wuollet Bakery to open a retail space rather than just a production bakery. He shared that it has been a joy to go to meetings where discussions are on issues and don't get personal. He hoped that the public also saw that at our meetings. He thanked staff for their talent and dedication and the residents for their passion, pointing out that the public also has always been respectful when offering differing viewpoints.

61. Moved by Blonigan, second by Backen to approve Resolution No. 7874"A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING DAN ROGAN FOR HIS COMMUNITY SERIVCE, DEDICATION, TIME AND TALENT IN REPRESENTING THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE AS WARD II COUNCIL MEMBER."**A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. Acknowledged: Rogan The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS B: Resolution Thanking Regan Murphy For His Service

62. Backen thanked the Mayor for 8 years noting that his family had grown up with him as Mayor and the time the job takes away from family. He noted that Robbinsdale has always addressed issues in a respectful way, even when people don't agree.

63. Blonigan noted that Mayor Murphy had prepared for the position by growing up in Robbinsdale as well as serving on two commissions. He noted that Mayor Murphy's strength has been promoting the community and several of his successes bringing businesses into town.

64. Rogan shared that Mayor Murphy has been the face of the City, an incredible ambassador and cheerleader; making people want to be here. He shared is admiration on how well the Mayor ran meetings and controlled the room while making meetings approachable.

65. Selman shared how Mayor Murphy had reached out after the election resulted in his rise to the position in a close election. He noted the generous contribution to the completion of the pavilion and pushing the line forward to get other projects completed.

66. Mayor Murphy thanked the council for their comments. He noted the pride in the improved perception of the city and that his vision had flourished with the support of council and staff. He recalled that he and Member Selman had worked together on the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon project. He reflected on many challenges at the beginning including a police chief resignation, the sink holes caused by the JWC watermain failures, the threat of oil trains on the railroad, and the Terrace Theater eliciting phone calls from the National Media. He was proud at the change in perception of the city with the downtown, Hy-Vee, Wicked Wort and the boardwalk and trails with the partnership with Three Rivers. People love being here and we foster an environment to make that happen. He thanked his family for their support through his time on the council.

67. Moved by Rogan, second by Selman to approve Resolution No. 7875 "A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING REGAN MURPHY FOR HIS SERVICE, DEDICATION, AND ENTHUSIASTIC COMMUNITY PROMOTION IN REPRESENTING THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE AS MAYOR."**A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen; Nays: None. Acknowledged: Mayor Murphy The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

68. Glick shared a brief update on the roll out of the Love Local promotion for businesses.

COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

69. Selman confirmed with McCoy that the Ryan Lake railroad fence had been moved and city has access to the outflow. There is a plan for public works staff to start clearing the creek area.

70. The group agreed to try to get a group photo on December 22 at 3pm at City Hall.

71. Selman thanked the incoming council members for participating in the meetings to be ready to keep rolling in 2021. Others agreed.

72. Others indicated their enthusiasm for the new council members and the new role for Mayor Elect Blonigan.

ADJOURNMENT

73. Member Backen **MOVED**, seconded by Member Rogan to adjourn the meeting at 10:17 p.m. **A roll call was taken. Ayes: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy; Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

Marcia Glick

Marcia Glick, Recording Secretary

William Blonigan

William ~~A.~~ Blonigan, Mayor