City of Robbinsdale
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
December 20, 2022
Meeting No. 24

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; Diaa Tahoun, Finance Director; Richard McCoy, Public Works 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. No one addressed the Council, Mayor Blonigan closed Matters not on the Agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 20, 2022 MEETING AGENDA

5. Sandvik reported the following change to the agenda:
   - The Voucher Report was added to Other Business D.
   - Staff also recommended considering the Public Hearing regarding Streets BEFORE the Capital Improvement Plan

6. Member Selman requested consideration of a discussion for Old Business, Item E - a Resolution regarding Light Rail Transit - Blue Line Extension.

7. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve the December 20, 2022 Agenda with the update and recomendation given to Council by the City Manager and Councilmember Selman's addition to Old Business. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA

8. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve the December 20, 2022 Consent Agenda 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 12/6/22
   - City Council Work Session minutes on 12/13/22

B. Motion to approve issuance of licenses dated 12/20/22.

C. Motion to approve the November 2022 payment for City credit card charges.

D. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #8011 "A RESOLUTION APPROVING RE-APPOINTMENT OF WAYNE SICORA AS COMMISSIONER TO THE SHINGLE CREEK AND BASSETT CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSIONS FOR THE TERM CONCLUDING JANUARY 31ST, 2026."

E. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #8012 "A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ELECTION JUDGES FOR THE SPECIAL ELECTION FEBRUARY 14, 2023."

PUBLIC HEARING A: PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS REGARDING THE CITY'S STREET IMPROVEMENT AND RECONSTRUCTION PLAN AND ADOPT THE CITY'S STREET IMPROVEMENT AND RECONSTRUCTION PLAN.

9. Mr. Tahoun introduced the item. Mr. McCoy presented staff's recommendation for the Street Improvement and Reconstruction Plan.

10. Mayor Blonigan opened the public hearing at 7:48.

11. No one spoke. Backen motioned and Webb seconded to close the Public Hearing. Mayor Blonigan closed the Public Hearing.

12. Council briefly discussed how this plan is described in the 10 year map

13. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Selman to waive the reading the order the adoption of Resolution #8014 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY'S STREET IMPROVEMENT AND RECONSTRUCTION PLAN 2023-2032**

14. Council thanked staff for the work on this item. Mayor Blonigan confirmed with staff, that by hearing the Streets plan first, was intentional as the streets plan plays into the Capital Improvement Plan. Sandvik confirmed.

15. **PUBLIC HEARING B: PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS REGARDING THE CITY'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2023-2032 AND TO ADOPT THE CITY'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2023-2032**

16. Mr. Tahoun introduced the item. Mr. McCoy presented staff's recommendation for the ten-year Capital Improvement and Plan.

17. Mayor Blonigan opened the Public Hearing at 8:29.

18. David Robbins of Welcome Ave N expressed the concern of the City carryng financial reserves.

19. Jason Greenberg of Beard Ave expressed his support to maintain the current (historic) water tower.

20. Karen Schull of Crystal Lake Boulevard asked if it would be cheaper to maintain the historic water tower or o remove it. She also asked about the financing for the Street Improvement and Reconstruction plan affects property taxes. She also expressed concerns related to Light Rail Transit.

21. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to close the public hearing at 8:40. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

22. Selman noted that this plan is a best effort to forecast, as things change over time. He also offered thanks to staff.

23. Backen reiterated this is a blueprint for planning for the future.

24. Blonigan and Webb both thanked staff.

25. Blonigan shared his thanks to the public for their comments.

26. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution ."#8013 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2023-2032." The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS A: ADOPT RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING TO THE 2023 BUDGET AND PROPERTY TAX LEVIES

27. Mr. Tahoun introduced the item. Mr. Sandvik provided reminders that this item was described in detail at the previous City Council meeting, and as is tradition with Council, was tabled to allow for additional feedback from the public. Sandvik thanked staff and Council for the months long process of developing the 2023 budget.

28. Backen shared the process, going back to the summer, and offered thanks to staff.

29. Blonigan thanked staff for their work on the budget.

30. Webb shared that Council was responding to residents concerns over an increase in crime, which resulted in additional support for Public Safety. Webb also shared these are incredibly difficult decisions.

31. Selman reiterated these are difficult decisions.

32. Blonigan offered thanks to the two, outgoing, Council Members for their work on the budget.

33. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #8015 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2023 CITY PROPERTY TAX LEVY IN THE AMOUNT OF $9,269,027 AND ORDERING ITS CERTIFICATION TO THE HENNEPIN COUNTY AUDITOR." The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

34. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #8016 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2023 FINAL BUDGET AND COMMITTING FUND BALANCE." The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

35. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #8017 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2023 HRA PROPERTY TAX LEVY IN THE AMOUNT OF $274,836 AND ORDERING ITS CERTIFICATION TO THE HENNEPIN COUNTY AUDITOR." The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS A: NON-UNION PAY AND INSURANCE INCREASES

36. Sandvik shared that Council has traditionally observed any cost of living adjustments (COLA) increases. While observed in the budget, this adds additional transparency to the process.

37. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve the non-represented employees 3.25% wage adjustment effective January 1, 2023 and change in monthly health insurance contribution. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS B: FIRST READING OF A CITY OF ROBBINSDALE ORDINANCE TO REGULATE THE SALE OF LEGALIZED ADULT-USE OF ANY PRODUCT THAT CONTAINS TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL

38. Sandvik introduced the item, reminding Council that an emergency moratorium went into effect last summer after a change at the legislature. Sandvik shared it is staff's intent to have second readings of Licensing Ordinance, Zoning Ordinance, and an Ordinance lifting the emergency moratorium at the second Council meeting in January.

39. Selman expressed frustration at the amount of time the process took.

40. Backen shared that this was something Council had as a priority, and appreciated the discussion of the past months.

41. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to waive the reading and hold the first reading of Ordinance #22-11 "AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE THE SALE OF LEGALIZED ADULT-USE OF ANY PRODUCT THAT CONTAINS TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL." The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS A: RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING PAT BACKEN FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE AS WARD IV COUNCIL MEMBER

42. Sandvik introduced the resolution, and shared his thanks with Councilmember Backen for his service to Robbinsdale.

43. Council shared their appreciation with Council Member Backen.

44. Backen expressed his gratitude to staff, his fellow Council Members, and the Community for his years on Council.

45. **Mayor Blonigan, seconded by Member Webb to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #8018 "A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING PAT BACKEN FOR HIS COMMUNITY SERVICE, DEDICATION, TIME, AND TALENT IN REPRESENTING THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE AS WARD IV COUNCIL MEMBER." The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS B: RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING GEORGE SELMAN FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE AS WARD III COUNCIL MEMBER

46. Sandvik introduced the item, and shared his thanks to Council Member Selman for his service to Robbinsdale.

47. Council shared their appreciation with Council Member Selman.

48. Selman reflected on his years on Council, celebrating many accomplishments. He shared his thanks with his fellow Council Members, current and past, and shared that he looks forward to continuing to serve Robbinsdale in other capacities.

49. **Mayor Blonigan MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #8019 "A RESOLUTION RECOGNZING AND COMMENDING GEORGE SELMAN FOR HIS COMMUNITY SERVICE, DEDICATION, TIME, AND TALENT IN REPRESENTING THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE AS WARD III COUNCIL MEMBER." The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS C: SET WORK SESSION FOR COMMISSION AND COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

50. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to schedule a special work session to discuss City Commission and Council Appointments for January 3, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS D: VOUCHER REQUESTS PENDING APPROVAL FOR DISBURSEMENT

51. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve disbursement requests for period ending 12/20/2022. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS E: DISCUSSION ON A RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY SELMAN, TO CONSIDER A FORMAL OBJECTION TO LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT – BLUE LINE EXTENSION

52. Selman introduced the draft resolution, that staff provided to Council. He shared a variety of concerns related to the proposed Light Rail Transit project, and the process hosted by the project office.

53. Webb asked for public testimony.

54. Joanne F of York Ave shared concerns for project.

55. Aaron Wagner of Miranda Drive shared he believes the project would be a benefit to the community and promote infill redevelopment. He found the language in the resolution to not be productive.

56. David Robbins of Welcome Ave applauded the courage of Council Member Selman.

57. Council discussed the resolution, including an additional 'Whereas' presented by Backen.

58. Member Backen MOVED and seconded by Member Selman to approve execution of the draft resolution. Members Selman and Backen voted in favor, Members Webb and Blonigan voted in opposition. The Resolution failed.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

59. Sandvik shared his thanks to Mr. Sicora as Council approved his re-appointments to the Shingle Creek and Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commissions. Shared there is a special election for Ward 1 on February 14, 2023.

60. Webb shared the District 281 meeting went well this morning. Reminded people to sign up for Tip 411.

61. Selman shared a resident had passed along concerns related to grocery carts being left in streets and on sidewalks.

62. Backen offered a thanks to all residents during his time on Council.

63. Blonigan wished all a happy holiday season and New Year. Expressed appreciation for the new Newsletter that has been sent to residents.

COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

Adjournment:

64. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Selman to adjourn the meeting at 10:53 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

Dustin Leslie, City Clerk

William A. Blonigan, Mayor