

**City of Robbinsdale
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
December 21, 2021
Meeting No. 24**

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; Dustin Leslie, City Clerk; Diaa Tahoun, Finance Director; Harper Steinbach, Community Engagement Coordinator.

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.

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 21, 2021 MEETING AGENDA

5. Leslie reported the following changes to the agenda:
 - Voucher Report for Other Business A.
 - New Consent Item Q: Change in Safekeeping Services in 2021.
 - New item for Other Business B: Changing the next regular Work Session date.
6. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Backen to approve the December 21, 2021 Agenda with the updates given to Council by the City Clerk. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

7. Mayor Blonigan removed item J for further consideration.
8. Member Selman **MOVED**, seconded by Member Webb to approve the December 21, 2021 Consent Agenda with the exception of item J which was pulled by Mayor Blonigan 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 12/7/21.
 - Special City Council Work Session minutes on 12/7/21.
 - Special City Council Work Session minutes on 12/13/21.
 - Regular City Council Work Session minutes on 12/14/21.

- Special City Council Work Session minutes on 12/14/21.
- B. Motion to receive advisory commission minutes:
 - Human Rights Commission minutes on 10/28/21
 - Senior Commission minutes on 11/1/21
 - C. Motion to approve issuance of licenses dated 12/21/21.
 - D. Motion to acknowledge the name change of Pig Ate My Pizza to Nouvelle Brewery by Travail, 4124 West Broadway.
 - E. Motion to rescind the motion to approve Resolution 7933 “A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING CITY WATER, SANITARY SEWER, STORM SEWER, SOLID WASTE, AND STREET LIGHT RATES IN THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE EFFECTIVE FOR ALL USAGE BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022’ and table action to January 4, 2022 where an additional public hearing will be held prior to renewed action on the Resolution.
 - F. Motion to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to sign the service agreement with Hennepin County for the Sentencing to Service Program for the period up to December 31, 2022 subject to review by the City Attorney.
 - G. Motion to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute the Agreement for Criminal Prosecution Services between the City of Robbinsdale and Eckberg Lammers, P.C. for a 5-year term commencing January 1, 2022.
 - H. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7934 “A RESOLUTION APPROVING PARTICIPATION IN OPIOID LITIGATION SETTLEMENTS.”
 - I. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7935 “A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING TO THE CHIEF JUDGE OF THE HENNEPIN COUNTY DISTRICT COURT REAPPOINTMENT OF QUALIFIED VOTER OF THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE TO THE ROBBINSDALE CHARTER COMMISSION.”
 - J. (Removed).
 - K. Motion to approve renewal of 2022 liquor license renewal for Marna’s Eatery and Lounge subject to the City Clerk’s office receiving applicable insurance and all other information needed to satisfy ordinance requirements.
 - L. Motion to approve renewal of 2022 liquor license renewal for Broadway Pizza/Eagles Nest Lounge subject to the City Clerk’s office receiving applicable insurance and all other information needed to satisfy ordinance requirements.

- M. Motion to concur with the recommended adjustment to the City Manager's compensation for 2022 with a 3.5% increase and authorize the Mayor and Mayor ProTem to execute the 2022 Employment Agreement Supplement shown in Exhibit B.
- N. Motion to approve the 2022 Pawnbroker and Second Hand Goods licenses for Pawn America Minnesota, LLC at 4134 West Broadway.
- O. Motion to acknowledge that the public hearings for the 2022-2031 Street Improvement Program and 2022-2031 Capital Improvement Program will be on the January 18, 2022 City Council meeting agenda.
- P. Motion to approve renewal of 2022 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.

CONSENT ITEM J: APPOINTMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONERS

- 9. Mayor Blonigan welcomed the new commissioner members, thanked them for volunteering, and reviewed their experience.
- 10. **Mayor Blonigan MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to appoint Carissa Wyant and Sarah Vanausdall-Smith to the Human Rights Commission for a term to commence January 28, 2022. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS A: ADOPT RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING TO THE 2022 BUDGET AND PROPERTY TAX LEVIES

- 11. Tahoun reviewed the 2022 budget request and gave an overview of budget features and explained levy increases. Tahoun highlighted the levy per population amount is lower than surrounding cities.
- 12. Member Webb asked why if the Council voted to decrease the levy, reserves would go down.
- 13. Tahoun explained that if the levy is lower, the city's budget deficit would increase which would need to be covered by reserves.
- 14. Member Backen commented on the effectiveness of exhibit 2 in the materials showing the levy per population compared to other cities and thanked staff for their work.
- 15. Mayor Blonigan reviewed the average increase for homeowners amounting to approximately \$111 per year. Mayor Blonigan reviewed the budget process and thanked staff for their work.

16. Member Selman spoke of the importance of paying staff a fair and equitable wage compared to other cities in order to retain employees and stay competitive. Member Selman said he was proud of the budget and the importance of maintaining a well-run city.
17. Member Kline talked about the importance of the budget and getting the process right. Member Kline thanked staff for their work.
18. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7936 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2022 CITY PROPERTY TAX LEVY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,795,245 AND ORDERING ITS CERTIFICATION TO THE HENNEPIN COUNTY AUDITOR." The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**
19. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Backen to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7937 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2022 FINAL BUDGET AND COMMITTING FUND BALANCE." The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**
20. **Member Selman MOVED, seconded by Member Kline to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #7938 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2022 HRA PROPERTY TAX LEVY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$250,525 AND ORDERING ITS CERTIFICATION TO THE HENNEPIN COUNTY AUDITOR." The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS A: ALLOCATION OF SPACE AND SALE AT LVT FOR A ROBBINSDALE FARMERS MARKET

21. Steinbach reviewed the Farmers Market pilot proposal and introduced Chaz Sandifer, the founder of the Camden Farmers Market.
22. Sandifer presented an overview of her background as well as the history of the Camden Farmers Market which would move from the Camden neighborhood in North Minneapolis to Robbinsdale. Sandifer also gave an overview of programs to be offered at the Farmers Market as well as a timeline for opening.
23. Mayor Blonigan confirmed with Sandifer that it would be moving from North Minneapolis to Robbinsdale rather than being a second location. Mayor Blonigan thanked Sandifer for her interest in moving to the community.
24. Member Webb thanked Sandifer and complimented her background. Member Webb said she has wanted a Farmers Market in Robbinsdale for a while.
25. Member Kline thanked Sandifer and said this proposal would be a nice way to bring the community together.

26. Member Backen spoke about past attempts with Farmers Markets in Robbinsdale and said he was looking forward to this new opportunity. Member Backen did express concerns about parking at Lakeview Terrace.
27. Sandifer said a plan was worked out with City staff so there would be minimal issues with parking. Sandifer further stated the hours of the market would be from 8am to noon.
28. Sandifer continued with her presentation and gave an overview of logistics and possible vendors. Mayor Blonigan said the City would help with advertising.
29. Member Selman said the City has had uphill battles with Farmers Markets in the past but likes the new energy of this proposal. Member Selman expressed concerns of how the market would look when residents drove by; he did not want it to look like a flea market on the side of the road. Member Selman also said he needed to be assured the area would be picked up afterwards. Finally, Member Selman encouraged Sandifer to join the Robbinsdale Chamber of Commerce and to get involved with Whiz Bang Days.
30. Sandifer concluded her presentation by reviewing possible food vendors, fitness opportunities, events, and plans for inclement weather. Sandifer also said advertising for vendors to participate in the market would begin in January.
31. **Member Webb MOVED, seconded by Member Kline to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to sign the memorandum of understanding to allow the Farmer's Market to act as a pilot program for the market year of 2022. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**
32. Member Webb stated this market would create an equitable resource that could be affordable for most families in the community.
33. Glick briefly spoke about the reasons for making this a pilot program. Glick stated due to zoning laws, a pilot would work more easily before allowing full approval going forward. Glick stated zoning laws could be revisited in the future.

OTHER BUSINESS A: DISBURSEMENT REQUEST APPROVAL

34. **Member Backen MOVED, seconded by Member Selman to approve disbursement requests for period ending 12/21/2021. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

35. Glick thanked the team at City Hall for pulling together while so many were out of the office.

COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

36. Member Kline said since it was the last meeting of the year, he wanted to thank the following: Council colleagues, City staff, the community, and his family.

37. Member Webb stated that she has learned a lot during her first year as a Council member. Member Webb thanked City Manager Glick and the City Council for their support.
38. Member Webb stated that school is currently out and encouraged members of the community to check on family members and neighbors to make sure they are ok after a difficult 2 years.
39. Member Selman spoke about being meeting with his local Girl Scout troop and encouraged Council to get involved with local youth groups in the community.
40. Member Selman reminded residents to clean up around fire hydrants after heavy snowfalls to help out the Fire Department.
41. Member Selman wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year.
42. Mayor Blonigan spoke about drafting a Resolution to declare a climate emergency in the City of Robbinsdale and asked the Council Members to review it before acting in January.
43. Mayor Blonigan expressed condolences to the Osterhus family for the passing of Dan Osterhus who had been a longtime business owner in the community.
44. Mayor Blonigan extended congratulations to Kate Menendez, wife of former Council Member Dan Rogan, for being appointed to a Federal judgeship.
45. Mayor Blonigan wished the community a Happy Hanukah, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. Mayor Blonigan also thanked City staff for their hard work.

Adjournment:

46. Member Webb MOVED, seconded by Member Selman to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 pm. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.



Dustin Leslie, City Clerk

William A. Blonigan, Mayor