

**ROBBINSDALE CITY COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR WORK SESSION MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, March 2, 2021**  
**Web-Ex Meeting**

1. The work session was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Kline at 7:40 p.m.
2. Councilmembers Present: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan
3. Staff Present: Richard McCoy, Public Works Director; Ryan Parks, Recreation Services Manager; Harper Steinbach, Community Engagement Coordinator; Patrick Foley, Police Chief; Rick Pearson, Community Development Coordinator; Dustin Leslie, City Clerk; Marcia Glick, City Manager

Review/Discuss Special Assessments Hearing Process for Street Projects

4. McCoy provided an overview of the council meeting process for street reconstruction projects. He noted that the rates are based on the construction cost index multiplied by front footage. He provided an example of recommendation for adjusting the assessment for triangle lots.
5. Councilmember Selman noted that a section of Lee Avenue was experiencing three seasons of impact from construction in the area should have a lower assessment rate.

Review of Community Statement in Preparation for the Start of Chauvin Trial

6. Glick noted that a statement had been distributed for council review that would be posted March 3<sup>rd</sup> providing.
7. Councilmember Webb will be advertising a listening session for members of her ward. Glick noted that a listening session held by a council member is not noticed as a public meeting. If others are interested in setting up in setting up places and times for meetings that Community Engagement Coordinator Harper Steinbach is the staff person to contact.
8. Steinbach introduced herself and reported on some of her initial work on recreation and equity had been looking at programming for community discussion on race and equity and also writing grants for scholarships to improve access to programming. She noted that she is advocating and facilitating for people to represent themselves.
9. Glick noted that the Chief's statement confirms the work that public safety has been undertaking to get ready for expected and unexpected events related to the upcoming trial.
10. Mayor Blonigan confirmed that Senator Rest had connected with the police staff to discuss plans.

Discuss Surface Treatment Under Playground Equipment

11. Parks shared feedback from recent Park/Recreation/Forestry Commission that the city look at more accessible rubber surface.

12. McCoy noted that the upgraded surface adds \$95,000 to the project; artificial turf additional \$75,000; the engineered wood fiber is acceptable for ADA compliance. Moving forward to take advantage of the sale price and come back later to switch out the surface type is not a simple process.
13. Council members expressed interest in looking at accessible surfaces noting that it might make sense to plan an accessible playground from start to finish and potential of grant. County playground grants are typically \$25,000. Concern on the impact of delays to other playground updates if additional cost of improved surfacing is added.
14. Staff noted that playground equipment is replaced approximately every 20 years, not as part of a master plan consultation. Therefore, the replacement has been a simple search for replacement once the budget is approved annually. Suggested that Sanborn is scheduled for 2023 replacement.
15. Confirmed that staff will add information in the council memo for purchase of the equipment which is scheduled for March 16.

Update: Public Outreach South Twin Lake Expansion of No Wake Restrictions

16. Glick noted that in summer 2020, the City Council had indicated that there should be a city-wide public outreach process. The PRF Commissioners indicated support for expanding the no wake limitations, but did not conduct public outreach as part of this.
17. Mayor Blonigan shared that whenever a public meeting is held; there will be a big turnout.
18. Parks noted that four of the commissioners had shared that they personally use the lake for kayaking/paddle board and supported restriction of motor boat traffic.
19. There was a discussion on how decisions are made on park amenity options. Councilmember Webb noted that when decisions are made regarding public resources, from an equity perspective, it needs to include more than immediate neighbors.
20. Glick noted the issue was initially raised regarding motor boat and jet skis creating wakes which may damage shoreline; the new discussion has been focused on safety concerns with kayaks and paddleboards. She believes that the initial restrictions on the lake were related to the large swimming beach that had been there. She recapped that her understanding of the council consensus is that the city council should hold the hearing; that it is expected to be a large turnout because everyone who lives around the lake will attend as well as others. Councilmember Webb pointed out that a public hearing provides a learning opportunity to find out about the rules and why they exist; it's an opportunity to hear what's happening.
21. In conclusion, Glick will distribute the rules for Crystal Lake and Twin Lake so that everyone has the background information and whether those rules make sense or need to

change and whether the rules are inclusive for all wanting to use the resources. Perhaps there needs to be better advertising about when the lakes are available for various uses.

22. Part of the decision will include whether more people will learn about the discussion if there is an initial public hearing at the Park/Recreation & Forestry Commission followed by a hearing at the City Council or whether it would just be Council listening sessions.

#### Review/Discuss Survey Questions for 2021 Annual On-Line Survey

23. Leslie presented the regular list of questions plus some additional questions suggested from staff. Glick shared this is for an on-line survey and a report that would come back to the City Council in June.
24. Council members provided suggestions including adding a question regarding potential relocation of LRT to the CR81 corridor and an open ended question on suggestions for future topics.

#### Update: Energy Audit for Municipal Buildings

25. McCoy shared that staff had identified a joint effort for Xcel and CenterPoint to come in and prepare a report using a third party vendor to identify additional actions that can be taken to reduce energy use. City Hall, Public Safety, and Public Works would be looked at as they consume the most energy. Initially Public Works wasn't to be included, but there may be some small cost with impact steps that can be done in the interim before a new building is completed in the future.

#### JustDeeds.org Website

26. This information had been discussed during the regular meeting.

#### Monthly Problem Properties Update

27. Pearson reviewed the handout and discussed problem properties. He highlighted recent uptick in new unlicensed rentals and efforts to bring properties into compliance.
28. Mayor Blonigan indicated that he would be interested in seeing comparison of percentage of rental properties at neighboring cities as time allows or information becomes available.

#### Discuss Goal Session on January 23, 2021

29. Glick noted that Mr. Leslie had helped to organize the list of items listed at the goal sessions and merged them into the previous list. She noted she will check to see get notice of new residents with the homestead processes moving out of City Hall as well as confirming the change to ability to provide information packages to new residents.
30. Mayor Blonigan provided an update on the Connect BlueLine Now! coalition. Glick shared reports she had received from CAC members following their meeting. She suggested that the CAC and BAC members should be invited to attend a council work session on April 6<sup>th</sup>. Council members discussed the proposal for BRT to be added on Highway 55.

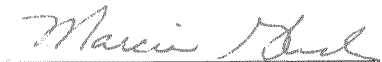
31. Mayor Blonigan asked for a CCX video on Brooklyn Park's Cadet program be forwarded to the rest of the City Council.
32. Glick noted that the Strategic Direction list is huge. There is a plan to get the City Council to tour the parks to discuss long range planning for the parks as well as touring the public safety and public works department.

Other Business

33. Councilmember Backen shared an issue raised by Birdtown Flats regarding visibility exiting the parking ramp onto West Broadway. Councilmember Selman noted concern that if parking spaces were removed on each side of driveways onto West Broadway it could eliminate a lot of the on-street parking.

ADJOURNMENT

34. Mayor Pro Tem Kline adjourned the work session at 9:30 p.m.

  
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Marcia Glick, Recorder

  
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Tyler Kline, Mayor Pro Tem