

ROBBINSDALE CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
WEDNESDAY JULY 5, 2017
COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM
CITY HALL

1. The work session was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Blonigan 9:49 p.m.
2. Councilmembers Present: Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy (9:58 p.m.), Mayor Pro Tem Blonigan
Staff Present: City Manager Glick, City Engineer/Public Works Director McCoy, Chief Franzen, Assistant to City Manager Tingley.

DISCUSSION: Human Rights Commission recommendation related to 287 (g) program

3. Cara Seeley-Johnson from the Robbinsdale Human Rights Commission went over the proposed resolution drafted by the Human Rights Commission to reaffirm the city's goals and policy regarding immigrants and refugees. A handout with the draft resolution and feedback from the police chief was distributed and made part of the agenda packet. She believes the resolution shows where the City stands and feels it is important given current political climate.
4. Glick noted that, in Robbinsdale's form of government, the City Council provides direction to the City Manager and a resolution directing the police department would be in conflict with the City Charter.
5. Chief Franzen talked about having a good conversation with members of the Human Rights Commission about this issue. Everything proposed is consistent with City Police Department practices already in place. He stated that the federal government can't compel a local law enforcement agency to comply with 287 (g). No agency in Minnesota is a part of the 287 (g) program.

(Murphy arrived 9:58 p.m.)
6. The City Council determined that a proclamation would be a better route to achieving the Human Rights Commission goal of making the public aware of the Robbinsdale Police Departments practices towards immigrant and refugees as well as everyone in the community. A draft proclamation will be prepared prior to the July 27 HRC meeting for consideration at the August 8th council meeting.

UPDATE: Downtown Streetscape Planning/Business Feedback

7. Glick explained that West Broadway will need to be reconstructed to replace aging infrastructure (water/sanitary sewer) and this will include redoing the downtown sidewalks. Timing is not set, but will be prior to LRT construction. Because of the expected changes, the recent work at 40 ½ installed simple concrete sidewalks until the new design is determined. She has been making downtown business owners aware of the upcoming project and getting feedback on the paver bricks.

8. McCoy distributed a handout (made part of the agenda packet) showing a variety of options that could be considered. Given the late hour, discussion was limited.
9. Council acknowledged there would likely be different types of sidewalks on Broadway and that used for the promenade connection to the station.

UPDATE: Wayfinding Feature at 36th & Noble

10. Glick noted that a feature would be installed at this intersection as part of the construction project flagging the route to downtown.
11. McCoy distributed a handout (made part of the agenda packet) showing a variety of options that could be considered. He noted that the space available is about 4 square feet so a pole of some sort would be appropriate.
12. Given the late hour, discussion was limited. Council simply noted that the pole should match the city color scheme.

UPDATE: Downtown Parking Study/Business Feedback

13. Glick distributed a parking availability study completed by the Bottineau Project Office at city request which was made part of the agenda packet. The purpose of the study is to consider the amount of replacement parking which will be needed as part of the station area development. Glick has also been talking to downtown property owners about planned parking limit signs on West Broadway.
14. Given the late hour the information was received and not reviewed in any detail.

UPDATE: Police Training

15. An email Chief Franzen had written to respond to a resident's inquiry about police training was distributed to the Council and made part of the agenda packet. Council believed the email was excellent explanation of what the City of Robbinsdale for training officers, specifically de-escalation tactics.
16. Chief Franzen will reformat the letter to be put on the website and social media.

DISCUSSION: Next steps on tobacco study information

17. Glick quickly reviewed the plan to have a public hearing on September 26th and asked council to select a date for the meeting with tobacco retailers. Council selected a 45 minute window prior to the September 5th meeting.

MONTHLY UPDATE: Problem Properties

18. Glick distributed the handout update which was made part of the agenda packet. Chief Franzen confirmed that in addition to the 3415 Zenith site being cleaned up related to code issues, there had been less police activity.

MONTHLY UPDATE: 2017-18 Goals

19. Glick distributed the updated report and a rough draft of a city-information brochure (both made part of the agenda packet.) The brochure was designed to increase citizen engagement by sharing information about community activities, information available on the city website,

etc. as part of National Night Out packages. Council provided feedback. Updated draft will be shared with council prior to distribution.

20. Tingley updated Council on the progress being made by the Quasquicentennial Committee organizing a 125th Anniversary celebration next year.
21. Mc Coy noted that he would be getting bids for removal of the Triangle Park wading pool. Council requested confirmation that communication was being distributed to pool users that the pool would be demolished at the end of the season and asked that a sign be placed on the fence of the Triangle Pool informing residents of the Pool's demolition this fall. It was noted that use of the pool is very low this year even on hot days likely related to other area options open to multiple-ages.
22. Glick asked Mayor Murphy for clarification on the HeartSafe Community project specifically who would be providing the training. She noted that defibrillators are already available at city property, staff volunteers had been trained and purchase of equipment seemed to be part of the program. Murphy indicated that citizen volunteers would be trained to be trainers of others. Murphy will find details and follow up with Glick.
23. Council members asked how the textile recycling roll out was going and reported that some of them had placed out bags and had not received replacement bags. Glick will follow up.

OTHER BUSINESS: No additional business was raised.

ADJOURNMENT

24. Mayor Pro Tem Blonigan adjourned the work session at 11:08 p.m.



John Tingley, Recorder

William A. Blonigan, Mayor Pro Tem