

ROBBINSDALE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, August 10, 2021

Robbinsdale City Hall – Following Regular REDA Meeting

1. The work session was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Kline at 7:57 p.m.
2. Councilmembers Present: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan
3. Staff Present: Marcia Glick, City Manager; Rick Pearson, Community Development Coordinator; Richard McCoy, Public Works Director; Jeff Zuba, Finance Director; Brittany Sibell, Accountant

DISCUSSION – American Rescue Plan Act Funding Options/Process

4. Zuba shared that cities over 50,000 population have to file their plan by the end of August. Small cities are indicating that 90% are planning to use funds on utility projects; some are looking at expanding broadband. There is an option for Robbinsdale to use on utility improvement projects that qualify for Minnesota drinking water or water quality programs through the Public Facilities Authority.
5. Glick noted that there is a public process required as part of creation of the plan. She noted that the County will be creating programs to assist with human service needs.
6. Webb suggested that staff create a web page noting the proposed use of funds, links to resources for those with human service needs, and a list of FAQs.

UPDATE: 2022-23 Budget

7. Zuba reviewed the memo in the agenda package. The budget work session going into detail will be on August 24 at 7pm.

Review: 2022-23 West Broadway Reconstruction/Streetscape Update

8. McCoy reviewed the memo in the agenda package. The timing of construction and the timing of special assessments were discussed. McCoy will provide an update on construction timeframe with the capital improvement budgets.

DISCUSS: Partners In Energy Program

9. Glick reviewed the memo in the agenda package. Council members will reach out to identify potential participants at which time staff will set up a work session with Xcel.

DISCUSSION: Crystal Airport Joint Airport Zoning Board

10. Glick reviewed the memo in the agenda package. Pearson reviewed an additional handout. McCoy confirmed that the new water tower would not be impacted by the height restrictions. Council suggested seeing if there were any pilots that would be interested in being on the commission. Glick indicated that she would check with a local business owner who is a pilot.

Council Additions: Styrofoam To-Go Boxes

11. Kline noted with his interest in reducing the use of Styrofoam to-go boxes. Council members noted that advance notice would need to be given and that customers should let the business owners know that they would prefer to see alternate packaging.

12. Glick will find out if Hennepin County, which has business recycling initiatives, would also have information on packaging alternatives.
13. Selman noted the recent study and recommendation to businesses to consider plastic straw alternatives and noted that St Louis Park has a straws by request only policy.

Council Additions: Point of Sale

14. Pearson shared statistics on the program that were added to the agenda package.
15. Glick noted that the objective of the Point of Sale is for the benefit of new property owners, not those leaving the community. Prior to this program, council had noticed properties going through multiple owners when not aware of defects that required correction.

Council Additions: Bagster Pick Up

16. Glick noted that there is already code language in place that allows code enforcement to notify those with Bagsters that they are not approved for lengthy exterior storage and need to be picked-up.

Discuss Regular Work Session Schedule

17. Glick noted that Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur were corresponding to scheduled meeting dates in September for 1st Council meeting and Planning Commission. After discussion it was determined that the 1st Council meeting in September would be rescheduled to September 14th. Council consensus was that the regular work sessions should continue to be scheduled on 2nd Tuesdays along with REDA meeting.

Select Dates – Facility Tours

18. Glick encouraged City Council to participate in the Public Safety Open House and connect with staff members at the events. All agreed that the public safety and public works tours need to be scheduled.

MONTHLY UPDATE: PROBLEM PROPERTIES

19. Pearson provided updates requested by council members.

PROJECT UPDATES

20. Given the time, Glick just noted that a Council work session with updates on LRT planning would be scheduled for August 24 at 6 pm as well as a work session with Met Council Representative Lilligren for September 21 at 6 pm.

OTHER BUSINESS

21. McCoy reported that there would be some overnight work to bring in large beams for the CR81/West Broadway bridges by North Memorial.

ADJOURNMENT

22. Mayor Pro Tem Kline adjourned the meeting at 9:38 p.m.



Marcia Glick, Recorder



Tyler Kline, Mayor Pro Tem