

**ROBBINSDALE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR WORK SESSION MINUTES**

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Following the REDA Meeting which starts at 7:00 p.m. Robbinsdale City Hall

1. The work session was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Kline at 7:08 p.m.
2. Councilmembers Present: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan
Absent: None
3. Staff Present: Marcia Glick, City Manager; Patrick Foley, Police Chief; Rick Pearson, Community Development Coordinator; Richard McCoy, Public Works Director

Mayor's Update Partners In Energy

4. Mayor Blonigan shared that he had met with Xcel's Partners In Energy project team. He presented information about the program noting that every city has a different approach; it can be as much or as little as the community wants to do. The power point presentation and handout have been added to the agenda for reference. The application is due in January and it is important to identify potential community stakeholders.
5. Glick noted that this is a community lead program, not a city council lead program. There would be a staff member assigned to assist in communications; the main program support would be from Xcel staff.
6. Council Member Selman shared that he currently is working for a company on LED conversions; his participation in defining community goals may be limited.

Joint Community Police Partnership

7. Monique Drier-Sutton reviewed information in a power point handout which has been added to the agenda for reference. The JCPP started in Brooklyn Park and Brooklyn Center. Hennepin County human resources and the health department support the project now. Currently other cities have joined including Hopkins, Crystal, and Richfield. New Hope and Robbinsdale are expected to join in early 2022. A Hennepin County staff member would be reporting to work at the city and would assist with creating a Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC). The County liaison would also help with programs for the community and the police department. As a Hennepin County employee, the staff liaison would have an easier path to connect to Hennepin County Resources.
8. Council members indicated support for the program. The contract approval will be on the November 16th City Council Agenda.

Problem Property Update

9. Chief Foley provided an update on 3415 Zenith and participated in discussion on 3800 Vera Cruz. Pearson provided updates on other properties on the report.

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Adopted November 16, 2021

Alley Streetlight Policy

10. Given recent crime activity, Member Selman had requested information on the policy, which currently is funded by residents, and potential cost if the city were to provide the lights.
11. McCoy shared that the city has 168 alley segments, some of which are quite long and would require more than one light. A city funded roll out at current costs would add \$40,000/year; Xcel has announced expected cost increases.
12. Council members discussed alley lighting, what home owners can do to light up alleys, and noted that lights may help to make surveillance easier to see, but does not appear to deter criminals.

Project Updates

13. Glick highlighted some items in the update:
 - Liquor store receipts do contain information on donations to parks. The message and text size/font can be changed. There was discussion on desired marketing updates of the store signage related to the store profits supporting the improvements in parks.
 - The City Attorney confirmed that email addresses provided for the purpose of getting notice when water meters show a sharp uptick in water usage are not available as public data. The same is true of email addresses provided for recreation program registration.
 - Public outreach on proposed change to rental licenses will be in utility bill news and will be shared in the weekly news and social media.
 - BIRD scooter/bicycles had contacted staff regarding their desire to enter into an agreement for use of the public right-of-way in Robbinsdale. After discussing the opportunity and concerns including observations in other cities, the majority of the city council indicated that they were not interested in entering into an agreement at this time. Specific concerns included issues with bikes/scooters left blocking sidewalks providing accessibility barriers.

Other Business

14. Glick noted that she is expecting to receive information from the County Assessor on property tax impacts related to the preliminary levy. If the information is not available in time for the planned work session on November 16th after the regular council meeting, there will need to be a special meeting on November 30th. It is important for the city council to receive this information and provide any updates to staff prior to the December 7th public meeting.
15. Glick noted that the LRT Update meeting will be scheduled on Monday, December 13 at 6:30 p.m. This will be a comprehensive report from Hennepin County and Metro Transit. It is expected that the CMC would be discussing/providing feedback prior to the public release of the draft report expected in mid-December.

16. Kline noted that he had requested information related to side-running LRT through downtown area early in the year, particularly impacts to access points, still waiting for this information from the project team.
17. There was discussion about the recent Minneapolis election. Member Webb will initiate contact with LaTrisha Vetaw, new council member for Ward 4, which borders Robbinsdale along the parkway.

ADJOURNMENT

18. Mayor Pro Tem Kline adjourned the meeting at 9:12 p.m.



Marcia Glick, Recorder



Tyler Kline, Mayor Pro Tem