

ROBBINSDALE CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL WORK SESSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021
Web-Ex Meeting

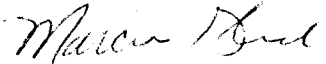
1. The work session was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Kline at 6:15 p.m.
2. Councilmembers Present: Kline, Webb, Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan
3. Staff Present: Marcia Glick, City Manager; Derek Archambault – Eckberg-Lammers; Tom Weidner, Eckberg-Lammers; Patrick Foley, Police Chief; Munna Ali, IT Technician.

Annual Presentation by City Prosecutors

4. Attorney Archambault identified that he was the main prosecutor for the firm addressing Robbinsdale cases. It has been a challenging and unusual year. In the relationship between law enforcement and prosecution, the city is fortunate to have hard working staff who do excellent work preparing information for cases. The counts are down beginning in March as everyone worked on what the health guidance met. Cases were resolved where possible. Hennepin County got the courts open on a restrictive basis in June before converting to an on-line platform. Only higher priority cases moved forward; traffic and retail cases are mostly on hold. Everything will continue on-line until at least June 1. It is difficult to know if people fail to appear or just have technology issues.
5. In 2020 ride-alongs were limited. They did do some work with the Hennepin County Mental Health Court. The prosecution team also participated in a Robbinsdale Human Rights Commission forum. In general DWI and theft is down with bars and retail closed or restricted; assault and domestic abuse is up. The total files were down 25% compared to 2019.
6. Attorney Weidner noted that there were fewer traffic stops across the metro with fewer DWI. He applauded the City Council on the appointment of Chief Foley noting his great leadership for the department. The MN Supreme Court has set case priority. Violent felonies and “in custody with speedy trail, and victim centered cases are higher priority. There had been no Robbinsdale cases with the City Prosecution team in 2020.
7. The prosecutors have regular updates with the police department on law changes. They applauded the city for adding the embedded social worker as a resource in the department for mental health referrals. They are already tied in with domestic abuse advocacy and are in touch on a weekly basis.
8. There is a process to communicate with victims of crime with contact early in the process for input on the case, restitution, and a letter goes out to all victims from the dedicated Witness Coordinator within the firm. Working on adding a 2nd person in this role.
9. Courts do collect data on race. Not certain how the information is shared. Attorney Archambault shared that people have a right to decline to provide this information and it is wide-spread that people decline to provide the information.

ADJOURNMENT

10. Mayor Pro Tem Kline adjourned the work session at 6:54 p.m.



Marcia Glick, Recorder



Tyler Kline, Mayor Pro Tem