

ROBBINSDALE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR WORK SESSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2016.

1. The Work Session was called to order by Mayor Pro-Tem Backen at 9:25 pm.
2. Councilmembers Present: Blonigan, Rogan, Selman, Backen, Mayor Murphy
Staff Present: Public Works Director McCoy, Police Chief Franzen, City Manager Glick
Director of Administrative and Recreation Services Marshall,
Community Development Coordinator Marshall, Finance Director Jacobson,

UPDATE: Localized backyard ponding

3. McCoy noted that Crystal Lake level has stayed high all summer and fall. He showed maps illustrating ponding occurring in back yards near County Road 9, Chowen and Grimes Ave. N. The ponding happens when the lake levels are above 849. Pumping them out is not effective as the water recharges from groundwater until the lake levels go back down. The frequency is about every ten years. Discussion ensued about pumping water out of Crystal Lake and back to Minneapolis and possible options to address backyard drainage. The stormwater management system and funding is intended to drain water from the streets, not back yards. It was noted that some of the water coming into the area is running off of an alley. Engineering will devote more time on the plans and come up with estimates.

REPORTS: RailVolution Conference

4. Councilmember Blonigan presented a power point slide show of the San Francisco Railvolution event. The bike system connecting Oakland via the Bay Bridge and Treasure Island was highlighted. Bike storage areas options were shown noting that secure lockers are preferred. Examples of mixed use were also discussed including workforce housing. Street level commercial space still had vacancies. Parking ratios were reduced to one-half space per unit. One lesson shared in the workshop was that affordable housing should not be mixed with affluent housing in the same building.
5. Selman noted that one example he had seen was installing a decorative bronze leaf instead of an ugly clip to prevent skateboarders from using landscaping walls.
6. Councilmembers Selman and Rogan will present their Railvolution findings at a future worksession.

DISCUSSION: Parking Enforcement

7. Franzen explained Police efforts to respond to parking complaints. The intent of the time limit in the city code is to discourage the use of streets for long term storage of cars. In 2016 through mid-November the police have responded to 305 parking complaints. The majority get resolved though some fall through the cracks. Example where CSO chalks a tire, then gets involved in other priorities. Targeted enforcement of parking regulations can have unintended consequences.
8. Recommendation to refer all parking complaints to the Police along with the understanding that complaints often occur when residents do not know who their neighbors are and need to

be reminded that the streets are public. Suggestion is for the following implementation process:

- Review to case-by-case police review to avoid selective enforcement.
 - Is the car stolen?
 - Does it belong in the area? Contact the owner or ask area residents if they know whose car it is.
 - Mystery car – does it appear to be working, are plates valid, are there signs that the car has been there a long time. Check to see if it's still there after a couple days. Prioritize need to remove the car. Often it's a resident who is out of town or in the hospital. Priority to address stolen and junk vehicles and prevent long-term on-street vehicle storage.
- Police will verify the issue, suggest options, and prior to any area enforcement there would need to be a petition from over 50% of the block owners requesting restrictions.

2017 Proposed Enterprise Fund Operating Budget, 2017 Proposed Capital Project Fund Budgets and the 2017-2021 Proposed Capital Improvement Program

9. Jacobson noted the budget documents that the council had in the packets would be on the December 20th agenda for consideration for adoption. He highlighted that the documents are guides – not assurance that projects will go forward. There are not sufficient funds in streets and parks to do all listed items. Bond sales for projects are paid through debt levy which increases total property tax levies.
10. Glick noted that if there are issues that the City Council wished to address ahead of the December 20th meeting, a work session could be added at the end of the REDA meeting on December 13th.

2017-2021 Proposed Capital Improvement Program: Noble Ave Traffic Calming Concept

11. McCoy reviewed an option for center islands to slow traffic – he suggested starting with painting lines. Council suggested at least one crosswalk at intersections connecting the west side of Noble Ave to Lee Park along with installing “stop for pedestrian in cross walk” centerline signs.
12. McCoy noted that staff will also be recommending mid-block lighting, to achieve the same level of lighting as CR9, with all street lights being installed on the east side of the street. Staff will look at option of adding banners on the light posts.

2017-2021 Proposed Capital Improvement Program: Triangle Wading Pool

13. McCoy reported that there is a short term option to add a fine sand to the paint to get one more season vs. the more expensive sandblasting of the pool.

2017-2021 Proposed Capital Improvement Program: Miscellaneous Works

14. McCoy provided background on the handling of very small contracted works where a contractor performs the work in a batch and often curbswork is delayed by weather. Staff will work to improve communication with adjacent residents and will consider temporary patches where there will be a long wait between the work in the curb area and replacement of the curb.
15. McCoy noted that staff will investigate options for additional downtown Christmas lights.

2017-2021 Proposed Capital Improvement Program: Other Capital Projects

16. McCoy shared plans for Oakdale Avenue to address North Memorial pedestrian crossing concerns. Full reconstruction was estimated at \$2.5 M; the "Oakdale Lite" plan for mill and overlay with enhanced pedestrian crossings were estimated at \$250,000-\$300,000. Assessments for improvements will be reviewed with North Memorial.

UPDATE: Hollingsworth Park

17. Marshall distributed a preliminary layout which was added to the agenda packet. The concept shows enhancements in the flagpole area which is proposed to include a firefighter memorial – details are being reviewed with staff and concept will be brought to the City Council at a future meeting – and another area with a brick pattern inlay with the Maltese Cross. Anchor Block has donated bricks for the project. The Whiz Bang Days stage would be at the west edge of the proposed work.
18. Council members indicated concern that the development showed more stone and less grass. They also noted that city winter maintenance would be for the pedestrian trail around the lake.

UPDATE: Simple Recycling: Textiles & Household Goods

19. Glick distributed a handout which was added to the agenda packet providing detail on proposed contract requirements. She noted that the program is a new option being introduced in Brooklyn Park, Brooklyn Center, Crystal and New Hope starting in February 2017. Due to time constraints – this option will be discussed at a future meeting.

UPDATE: Municipal Liquor Study Recommendation

20. Glick distributed a handout which was added to the agenda packet. She noted that a new location adjacent to the new Hy-Vee was expected to increase sales by \$1M. Two stores would help to retain some current customers, but with the loss of sales to the new store, the current store would no longer cash flow on its own. Lease negotiations with Hy-Vee will determine whether the new location will improve city profits. Staff will continue to explore the option of a separate tax parcel for the store footprint where the City would be exempt from property taxes.

DISCUSS: Rental Property Density Option

21. This topic was last discussed in depth with the City Attorney on January 5, 2016 along with increasing fees for license start-up, single family home conversion, increased penalties and a tiered license fee system. Fees and administrative penalties were updated on January 19. Work on the rental property density option was put on hold early summer 2016. Glick noted that South St Paul had decided not to move forward with rental property density restrictions after a discussion with property owners.

DISCUSS: Performance Measure Survey Option

22. Glick noted that related to the state law for LGA distribution, the city forfeits about \$1900 in LGA and could be subject to levy limits unless it performs an annual performance measure survey. With other projects, and estimate that the performance measure analysis would cost

more than the penalty, the penalty has been taken. Staff will be considering options to add this tool.

REVIEW: Plan for 2017 Goal Session

23. Glick noted that the Goal session with Richard and Irina Fursman has been scheduled for January 28, 2017 starting at 9 am. The first 3 hours are planned to be devoted to review of the 2020 Vision and progress towards goals including both Council and Department Heads. After a lunch break, an exercise to expand upon key projects to determine anticipated timing and staffing needs noting this could be a good exercise for rental housing density or discussion of city hall/community center.

MONTHLY UPDATE: Problem Properties.

24. Report was distributed and has been added to the Agenda Packet.
25. Backen noted that some on the list had been resolved.
26. Glick noted action had been taken to move forward on civil action to abate 3800 Vera Cruz.

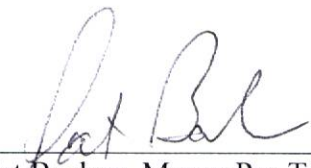
MONTHLY UPDATE: 2016 Goals.

27. Update distributed and has been added to the Agenda Packet.
28. Glick noted that a developer had gotten estimates and had information to discuss related to costs for preparing Robbins Beach for development. A work session has been added to the end of the REDA meeting for this discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

29. Backen adjourned the meeting at 11:42 p.m.


Rick Pearson, Recorder


Pat Backen, Mayor Pro Tem