

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Blonigan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Wagner, Murphy Parisian, Blonigan

Absent:

Staff: Tim Sandvik, City Manager; Chase Peterson-Etem, City Clerk; Heather Rand, Community Development Director; Kayla Kirtz, Sustainability Coordinator; Jenna Wolf, Water Resources Specialist

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Nancy Johnson, 4230 Abbott Ave. N., noted she feels the route for the blue line extension is wrong and that County Road 81 was updated in the early 2000s for bus rapid transit. She stated the light rail would take away the lanes that were added and questioned what the drivers would gain here. She also wondered if there would be increased traffic and traffic delays.

Greg Salyers, 3980 Lake Curve, stated his concerns about accessible access for folks if the light rail comes into Robbinsdale and wanted the council to be aware of that. He wanted to make sure everyone was being thought about during these discussions.

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 18, 2024 MEETING AGENDA

Peterson-Etem noted the addition of the voucher disbursement report to Other Business Item A.

Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Murphy to Approve the June 18, 2024 meeting agenda. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Blonigan removed Items J and K for further consideration.

Member Murphy MOVED, seconded by Wagner to approve the Consent agenda. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

- A. Approve City Council meeting minutes of May 7, 2024
- B. Approve City Council Work Session meeting minutes of May 15, 2024
- C. Approve City Council meeting minutes of May 21, 2024
- D. Approve Canvassing Board meeting minutes of May 21, 2024

- E. Receive Senior Commission Minutes
- F. Accept Water Efficiency Grant from the Metropolitan Council
- G. Authorize Adoption and Implementation of State Performance Measures
- H. Faith Lilac Way Lutheran Church Event
- I. Approval of Licenses
- J. Block Party Request

Mayor Blonigan noted the item recommendation states the Council should review and discuss, rather than approve the event. He wanted to make sure the motion was adjusted to include approval language.

Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Murphy to approve the block party request for 4500 Ewing Ave. N. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

- K. Whiz Bang Days Committee - Event Requests

Mayor Blonigan welcomed the Whiz Bang Representatives up to the podium to talk about the event.

They noted their excitement about the event and highlighted new events happening this year as well as what days and times activities would be happening. They also encouraged people to volunteer as well as come out and enjoy the festivities.

Member Murphy thanked the committee members and asked about donations received and how they raised the funds. The committee noted several organizations donate, as well as individual contributions, and they sell merchandise.

Member Parisian also thanked the committee and stated how great it is to bring the community together.

Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Murphy to Approve Whiz Bang Days Committee - Event Requests. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

- L. Mutual Aid and Automatic Aid Agreements with Brooklyn Center Fire Department (BCFD)
- M. Pets Under Police Security (PUPS) Joint Powers Agreement (JPA)

PRESENTATIONS

- A. None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. None

OLD BUSINESS

- A. None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve the adoption of a Sustainability Committee

Sandvik provided an overview and noted the Council had previously discussed this at the May 21 City Council meeting as well as at the June 11 City Council Work Session. He noted at the Work Session, the council discussed the options of creating a Sustainability Commission versus a committee. He detailed the pros and cons of each option and noted that, ultimately, the Council had decided to move forward with creating a committee rather than a commission at this point. He further noted the committee would also work towards creating parameters for an eventual commission.

Member Wagner stated he is excited about this and thanked staff for their efforts on this.

Mayor Blonigan noted a committee would allow more people to be involved, since there is no cap on committee numbers. He also noticed they would follow the data practices act and open meeting law and wanted to make sure the committee members would be aware of the laws around these items.

Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Wagner to Approve the Adoption Of A Sustainability Committee. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

B. First reading of an Ordinance amending sections 120, 210, 815, and 2040 of the Robbinsdale City Code relating to Lower Twin Lake

Sandvik briefly explained that this ordinance update includes some housekeeping items, but also more clearly defines the parameters for the uses on Lower Twin Lake. He provided further details on each section to be updated and noted any information that is changed will be sent to other jurisdictions, including other cities and the DNR.

Mayor Blonigan noted he lives on this lake and reiterated this ordinance would codify that Lower Twin Lake is a no wake lake, which will help with erosion. He also stated the new signage at the landing has helped with lowering the number of watercrafts causing wakes.

Sandvik noted Jenna Wolf, Water Resource Specialist, was in attendance and could speak about some of the efforts happening around preservation of the lake and erosion control.

Wolf noted she kayaked around the lake recently and did find some invasive plants but has been working with the cities of Brooklyn Center and Crystal to come up with a plan to help mitigate future spread of invasive plants. She also stated there were many healthy and native plants too, which help with fish populations and supports the overall health of the lake.

Member Murphy asked about property landscaping on Lower Twin Lake and if people are using native shoreline to prevent erosion. Wolf stated not many properties had native shoreline and that could lead to increased erosion. She noted that native shorelines also detract from geese, which can be a nuisance. Murphy noted the city should continue to educate people on improving these measures.

Member Murphy MOVED, seconded by Wagner to Approve First Reading of An Ordinance Amending Sections 120, 210, 815, And 2040 Of The Robbinsdale City Code Relating To Lower Twin Lake. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

C. First reading of an Ordinance amendment to Section 510.11 Subd. 1 (f) of the Robbinsdale zoning ordinance increasing the minimum setback for detached garages with metal roofs to five feet

Rand provided an overview and noted the current language for setbacks and overhangs works fine for asphalt roofing. However, there has been increased requests for metal roofs, which act differently when there is snow on them. She continued that asphalt roofs allow snow to melt and drip, whereas with a metal roof the snow slides off, causing snow piles in alleys and potential safety risks. She noted the amendment would only apply to

metal roofs and not asphalt roofing. She stated the planning commission did unanimously approve the changes.

Mayor Blonigan noted this also happens with solar panels and that could be something to consider in the future.

Member Murphy asked how this issue came about. Rand stated that city staff noticed a large pile of snow that had slid off a metal roof and notified the Community Development department. She also noted individuals could still request a variance but would need good justification as to why.

Member Murphy noted that staff could consider altering the setback requirement if a property owner installed baffles on the roof to help prevent that situation. He also asked how we would address structures that may want to install metal roofs but would not be able to meet that setback requirement. Sandvik noted conditional use permits or variances could be used for specific situations.

Mayor Blonigan noted in the future we could create another ordinance to make it not legal to allow the snow piles to create an impediment, similar to not being able to throw leaves into the street.

Member Wagner MOVED, seconded by Parisian to Approve First Reading of An Ordinance Amendment To Section 510.11 Subd. 1 (F) Of the Robbinsdale Zoning Ordinance Increasing The Minimum Setback For Detached Garages With Metal Roofs To Five Feet. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Voucher Requests Pending Approval for Disbursement

Member Murphy MOVED, seconded by Wagner to Approve Voucher Requests Pending Approval for Disbursement. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Peterson-Item stated that early voting for the August 13 State Primary Election starts on June 28, and Robbinsdale residents can vote early at City Hall. He noted that the city is hiring a Temporary Elections Assistant, and that people can apply on the city website. Lastly, he stated that City Hall would be closed for Juneteenth.

Sandvik stated summer recreation programs are up and running and noted we have been in partnership with Baztec Inc. He continued that the city was awarded a grant through No Child Left Inside through the DNR, which has allowed the city to take groups of kids out fishing, many who may not traditionally be engaged in programs like that. Similarly, he stated the recreation team has made its first delivery of fresh produce to multifamily residences under the Fresh Produce Program, a grant through Hennepin County. He noted several events happening throughout the summer, including Movies in the Park, Pet and Wheel Parade, and Whiz Bang Days. He encouraged people to complete a parks master plan survey and noted volunteer opportunities that are available. Sandvik stated the registration to host a block party for National Night Out is now open. He also encouraged folks to look into volunteering for one of the city's commissions. Lastly, he noted free Home Energy Squad audits are still available and encouraged people to have those done and that we continue to work with the Center for Energy and Environment to provide grant funding for home improvement projects.

COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

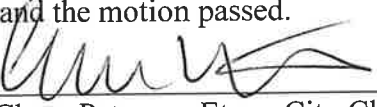
Member Wagner wished everyone a happy Juneteenth. He also thanked the residents who completed the performance measures survey and noted that information is helpful.

Member Parisian encouraged people to continue attending the Lakeview Terrace Farmers Market and wished folks a happy Juneteenth.

Mayor Blonigan also wished people a happy Juneteenth. He encouraged people to go enjoy Whiz Bang Days and to volunteer either their time or money if they are able. He asked about the Minnesota State flag and if the city was able to get one and put it up. Sandvik noted staff is in the process of getting this completed. Mayor Blonigan also asked about gas savings and if there were any updates on being supplied with gas via a state contract. Sandvik noted there could be cost savings by pairing with a local jurisdiction, but staff is in the process of getting that up and running. Lastly, he noted the quality of staff that had been hired and thanked Sandvik for his work with that.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Murphy MOVED, seconded by Parisian to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.


Chase Peterson-Etem, City Clerk


William A. Blonigan, Mayor