ROBBINSDALE

City Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 18, 2025
Meeting No. 4

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present:	Blackledge, Greenberg, Parisian, Wagner, Mayor Sutton
Absent:	
Staff:	Tim Sandvik, City Manager; Chase Peterson-Etem, City Clerk; Kayla Kirtz, Sustainability Coordinator; Matt Bazyk, Recreation Services Manager; Richard McCoy, Public Works Director/City Engineer

MICROPHONE CHECK

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

Jonathan Hansen, 3927 Noble Ave. N., Noble Ave. N., recognized Black History Month and asked the city to promote racial justice every month.

Miles Toth, 4318 West Broadway, mentioned the new water tower lights and noted members of their neighborhood also affected by the lights are in attendance. He noted their commitment to staying and raising their families in Robbinsdale and asked the Council to listen to their constituents and turn off the lights.

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 18, 2025 MEETING AGENDA

Peterson-Etem noted the addition of the voucher disbursement report for Other Business Item 11A.

Member Wagner MOVED, seconded by Parisian to approve the February 18, 2025, agenda. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Greenberg to approve the consent agenda. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

A. Approve City Council meeting minutes from October 15, 2024

B. Approve City Council meeting minutes from November 6, 2024

C. Approve City Council meeting minutes from November 19, 2024

D. MPCA Stormwater Resilience Implementation Grant

E. Approve entering into an agreement with TimeSavers for taking City Council Meeting Minutes

F. Quarterly Financial Information for General, Water, Sanitary Sewer, Storm Sewer , and Solid Waste

G. Approval of Licenses

H. Accept quote for purchase BS&A cloud version – City project # 8217

I. Approval of Credit Card Charges and Payment

PRESENTATIONS

A. Annual Sustainability Update

Kirtz presented the item and provided details on the work that has been happening over the last year, including programs, capital projects, and engagement.

Member Parisian thanked Kirtz for all her work and noted how impressive it has been. Parisian asked if there would be plans to host a future Green Corp member in the coming year. Kirtz mentioned the application to host a Green Corp member is currently open and staff can explore that option if that is the direction of the Council. Parisian noted she would support another Green Corp member. She continued that it was great to see how grants were pursued and is excited to see that there will be a continued focus on grant funding for sustainability work, including the federal tax credits. Lastly, she commended staff for starting the residential Sustainability Committee and has seen and heard that it has been successful.

Member Greenberg thanked Kirtz for the presentation. He noted the change in administration at the Federal level and asked if there was concern about funding sources related to sustainability. Kirtz noted that it has been discussed among her peers in other cities, but noted the tax benefits are written into law, so those should be safe for our funding. She continued that programs relating to federal grant programs are uncertain at this point. Member Greenberg asked if some of the data that was presented tonight could be shown in a more simple way for residents to understand how much energy and water is being saved.

Member Wagner noted the addition of the Sustainability Coordinator position last year and that the work Kirtz has done has exceeded his expectations. He thanked her for all her work this past year and stated her work doesn't just save the city money but helps save the environment. He also noted the accessibility of transit routes, bike routes, and access to fresh food and vegetables. He asked about the solar garden program and if that was similar to the program residents can sign up for. Kirtz noted yes, they are similar programs and that residents could also sign up to get their electricity from a solar garden.

Member Blackledge thanked Kirtz for her work and is excited to see the continued focus on sustainability. He also acknowledges the collaboration between her and other cities.

Mayor Sutton stated how impressive the work has been and noted he would love to see data on the percentage of goals that have been met. He also commented on the payback time for the solar arrays, noting the quick return.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. None

OLD BUSINESS

A. Parks Master Plan Adoption

Sandvik provided a brief overview, noting the history and planning of the process and that the Council saw a draft of this at the last meeting. He noted this effort has been collaborative and included staff, the commissions, and community feedback. He thanked the Council for support on this noting the amount of time and work from both staff and the Council.

Member Wagner thanked the community for their input and stated this can be adjusted going forward but lays down great roots.

Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Blackledge to Adopt the Parks Master Plan in its current form. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

B. Consider a Closed Session to Discuss the Purchase of Real Property

Sandvik noted that staff is asking the Council to move into a closed session pursuant to MN State Statute 13D.05 sub 3(c)(3) to discuss the purchase of real property, 3400 Oakdale Ave. N.

Member Wagner MOVED, seconded by Greenberg to move into a closed session pursuant to MN State Statute 13D.05 sub 3(c)(3) to discuss the purchase of real property, 3400 Oakdale Ave. N., at 7:56 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

The Council reconvened at 8:30 p.m.

Member Wagner MOVED, seconded by Parisian to adopt Resolution No. 8144 "RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACQUISITION AND EMINENT DOMAIN PROCEEDINGS TO ACQUIRE CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY." The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution allowing the use of electronic signatures

Peterson-Etem provided an overview of the item, noting the benefits of using electronic signatures and stated the Minnesota Uniform Electronic Transactions Act provides the legal framework for electronic signatures and recognizes their validity and enforceability. He described the implementation process and stated electronic signatures would only be used for a limited number of documents to start but could be expanded later.

Member Wagern asked if this would be for staff or Council documents. Peterson-Etem noted it would mostly be for Council documents, but other items could be sent via electronic signature too. He noted the hope would be for electronic signatures to be used for all documents throughout the city.

Member Greenberg MOVED, seconded by Blackledge to adopt Resolution No. 8145 "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE USE OF ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES." The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Voucher Requests Pending Approval for Disbursement

Member Wagner MOVED, seconded by Greenberg to approve disbursement requests for the period ending 2/18/2025. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

B. Schedule 2025 Goals and Top Priorities Session

Sandvik noted this is something that has been discussed, but the Council is being asked to formally schedule the 2025 Top Goals and Priorities session.

Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Blackledge to schedule 2025 Goals and Top Priorities Session for February 24, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

C. Schedule a Special Work Session to review Water Tower 1 Lighting

Sandvik suggested scheduling the Water Tower 1 Lighting meeting after the February 24 Top Goals and

Priorities meeting, since it will be dark, and the Council will already be committed to that night.

The Council discussed options.

Member Blackledge MOVED, seconded by Wagner to schedule the Water Tower 1 Lighting Work Session for Monday, February 24, 2025, at 8:15 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Peterson-Etem noted updates about the Solid Waste Hauler transition, noting some upcoming communications and encouraged people to visit the city website for the most up-to-date information.

Sandvik stated the city is currently hiring a few position and those can be found on the website. He noted community garden plot applications are now being accepted. He shared that the city has been promoting a variety of events to recognize Black History Month in the community and encouraged folks to check them out. He noted the water efficiency rebate program is open, as well as the Home Energy Squad Visits.

COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

Member Wagner thanked the Public Works department for their work clearing the snow. He also thanked residents for showing up and participating in the engagement process. He also noted his support for the Council minutes to be contracted out and also recognized the MPCA grant, noting his excitement.

Member Blackledge thanked the residents for their commitment and involvement and thanked the staff.

Member Parisian noted she is looking forward to the Goal Setting Session and those sessions have been very productive in past years.

Member Greenberg recognized Salon Halo, noting they are collecting prom dresses for donation.

Mayor Sutton also mentioned snow removal, noting the city is not looking to ticket or tow and encouraged people to remove their vehicles for a safe and efficient snow operation.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Greenberg to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Signed by: 5C4C4DACAFC74C9...	Signed by: Bradley Sutton E744AB5DFC73409...
Chase Peterson-Etem, City Clerk	Bradley Sutton, Mayor