



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, Sutton

Absent:

Staff: Tim Sandvik, City Manager; Chase Peterson-Etem, City Clerk, Chad Stensrud, Police Captain;
Heather Rand, Community Development Director

MICROPHONE CHECK

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

None.

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 3, 2025, MEETING AGENDA

City Clerk Peterson-Etem noted three additions to the agenda tonight.

1. Addition of Business Item 11A, Voucher Disbursement report
2. Addition of Consent Item N, Appointment of Human Rights Commissioners (HRC)
3. Addition of Consent Item O, Minnesota Nurses Association Loudspeaker Device Application

Member Wagner MOVED, seconded by Greenberg to approve the June 3, 2025, City Council agenda as amended. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Member Greenberg removed Item J for further consideration.

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

- A. Approve City Council Meeting minutes from May 20, 2025, City Council Meeting Agenda June 3, 2025
- B. Approve City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2025
- C. Approve City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes from April 8, 2025
- D. Approve City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes from May 13, 2025
- E. Receive Sustainability Committee Meeting minutes from April 16, 2025
- F. Receive Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of April 17, 2025

- G. Approve Quote for Elevator Work at the Public Safety Building
- H. Robbinsdale Wine & Spirits' Monthly Financial Statements
- I. Quarterly Financial Information for General, Water, Sanitary Sewer, Storm Sewer, and Solid Waste
- K. Deputy Registrar's Monthly Financial Statements
- L. Approval of Licenses
- M. Accept quote for Hurst Tool Replacement – City project # 8172
- J. Diggers Garden Club Event

Member Greenberg commented that he removed Item J to call attention to Diggers Garden Club plant sale that is happening on Saturday, June 7, at the Robbinsdale Historic Library.

Member Greenberg MOVED, seconded by Parisian to approve the Diggers Garden Club Annual Plant Sale Event on June 7, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS

A. Growth Through Opportunity – Empower Inclusion

City Manager Sandvik discussed the history of Empower Inclusion's background with the City and introduced the two Cadets participating this summer as Oscar and Jesus.

Cadet Oscar introduced himself and described his role.

Mayor Sutton thanked the Cadets for being in attendance.

Police Captain Stensrud highlighted his past experience with Empower Inclusion and commented on what the Cadets will participate in this summer.

Owner of Empower Inclusion, Alex Oladoyin, described the program and stated the internship is beneficial to everyone who participates.

Member Blackledge thanked Oladoyin for the information and her work.

Mayor Sutton stated he is proud of Robbinsdale for participating and delighted the Cadets are here.

Member Parisian expressed gratitude for the overview of the program and thanked the Cadets in advance for their work. She noted she would love a recap of the Cadets' experiences after the internship concludes in a few months.

B. Whiz Bang Days Committee – Event Requests

Sandvik introduced two volunteers from the Whiz Bang Days Committee, President Becky Schwartz and Secretary Pam Scheiller.

Schwartz highlighted the planned events, event locations, need for firework donations, and desired amendment to a road closure.

Mayor Sutton encouraged residents to contribute to fireworks and is excited for all of the events.

Member Blackledge asked if registration is still open for the kids' market. Schwartz stated yes.

Member Parisian noted her excitement for the events and thanked the Committee for their work.

Member Greenberg expressed thanks for the Committee's hard work.

Sandvik encouraged residents to join the Committee and stated that Staff recommends approval for blocking West Broadway from 41st Avenue North to 42nd Avenue North.

Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Greenberg to approve the request for Robbinsdale Whiz Bang Days activities and locations from Thursday, July 10, to Sunday, July 13, 2025, as indicated in the memo with the amendment changing road blockage from 41st Avenue North to 42nd Avenue North. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

C. 2025 LGBTQIA+ Pride Month Proclamation

Sandvik introduced the history of the proclamation and its importance.

Member Parisian commented on her support of this proclamation and noted the Council's commitment to make Robbinsdale a welcoming community for all.

Member Wagner wished everyone a Happy Pride and thanked Staff for putting the proclamation together.

Member Greenberg thanked Council for supporting this proclamation and wished all a Happy Pride.

Member Blackledge stated Happy Pride.

Mayor Sutton commented on his support of this proclamation.

Member Wagner MOVED, seconded by Parisian to approve the 2025 LGBTQIA+ Pride Month Proclamation. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. None

OLD BUSINESS

A. None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for Outdoor Firework Sales Tent at 4050 Lakeland Ave N

Community Development Director Rand provided an overview of the item and detailed the timeframe, application, and intent. Rand noted the tent would be zoned properly, won't affect parking, meets all State building codes, meets fire codes, and no residents expressed concern at the public hearing. The Planning

Commission recommends Council approval.

Member Greenberg thanked Rand for the thorough review and asked if the business will be picked up before Whiz Bang Days starts. Rand invited the owner of Renaissance, Mark Lazarchic, to speak to this question. Lazarchic noted they will be out prior to Whiz Bang Days weekend.

Member Wagner asked how they secure the site. Lazarchic stated they use storage containers and donut locks which are very secure.

Member Parisian asked what the planned operating hours are. Lazarchic stated Renaissance gives a lot of discretion to employees, but most often employees open by 10:00 a.m. in the morning and close no later than 8:00 p.m. in the evening.

Member Greenberg MOVED, seconded by Blackledge to approve the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for Outdoor Firework Sales Tent at 4050 Lakeland Ave N. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

B. First Reading of an Ordinance related to Camping on City Property

Sandvik provided an overview of the item and discussed Robbinsdale Police Department policy and resources for unhoused people. Staff recommends holding the first reading and posting for the second reading at a subsequent Council meeting.

Member Greenberg commented that Council does not want anyone camping in City parks, not only unhoused individuals.

Member Greenberg asked for clarifying language to be added to the Ordinance regarding setting up a tent overnight versus during the day. Sandvik stated that leaving it vague gives a little bit of room for interpretation and flexibility.

Member Wagner stated that he would appreciate a designated timeframe allowance prior to the code being enforced upon an individual.

Member Wagner asked if the Robbinsdale Police Department policy had already been put in place. Sandvik affirmed it was.

Member Wagner asked how many instances have occurred related to this Ordinance. Sandvik commented that leaving language vague allows for interpretation. Sandvik noted he does not have a list regarding how often instances such as this have occurred.

Member Wagner asked what the penalty would be for violating this Ordinance. Sandvik noted the penalty would be on the fee schedule, however, the Ordinance is more to dissuade individuals versus punish them.

Member Wagner asked if there would be a public hearing if the Ordinance was approved tonight. Sandvik stated a public hearing would not be hosted as it doesn't fall in that section of Code.

Member Wagner commented that he would like more public engagement on this issue and believes the Ordinance is overly broad. Therefore, Member Wagner stated he would like to abstain from voting on the Ordinance.

Member Parisian agreed with Member Wagner regarding the need for further public engagement.

Member Parisian asked if, once the Ordinance is enacted, the Robbinsdale Police Department Policy would then be enforced related to respecting personal property as opposed to throwing it away or some other form of disposal. Sandvik stated yes.

Member Parisian asked what the policy was for parking a recreational camping vehicle on a City street. Sandvik noted parking limitations regarding overnight parking.

Member Blackledge would like to see more feedback from the community, but does like the vagueness in language for flexibility's sake.

Member Greenberg supports greater public feedback and asked if Council could go back and change the language later if the Code appeared too vague. Sandvik stated they would need to go through policy and procedure to change Code.

Mayor Sutton thanked Council for their thoughts. Mayor Sutton supports the vagueness in the Code language and highlighted the Robbinsdale Police Department's proven compassion. He supports public input, but feels that Council can't leave this unaddressed.

Sandvik asked Council what type of feedback would leave Council with more reassurance, and in what ways staff can help with that.

Member Greenberg noted they could bring it back as old business to hear what the public has to say and see if it changes the direction of the conversation.

Member Wagner asked about posting requirements for public input. Sandvik stated they could have the public input as early as July 15, 2025, and could advertise it to the public.

Member Wagner noted his preference is to table the item and do the public input along with the first reading at the same time, but he also supports hosting a public input that coincides with the second reading if other members want to keep the item moving along.

Member Greenberg asked if they can create a public input for this item. Sandvik stated a second reading for old business would allow for a public input.

Member Wagner asked how it would work if the majority of Council votes down the second reading. Sandvik stated it would not be able to be brought back up for six months.

Member Wagner stated he does not feel comfortable making a motion at this time.

Mayor Sutton commented that if Council makes a motion to approve this first reading, it would go to a second reading on July 15, 2025, with public feedback.

Member Blackledge asked for clarification regarding the six-month rule and if Council can revisit this Ordinance in six months if the vote is nay. Sandvik noted the purpose of the six-month rule as to not repeat things not to the appetite of Council.

Member Greenberg MOVED, seconded by Blackledge to approve the first reading of an Ordinance Amending Section 930 of the Robbinsdale City Code Relating to Camping on Public Property and set second reading for July 15, 2025.

A roll call was taken:

Ayes: Blackledge, Greenberg, Parisian, Sutton

Nays: None
Abstain: Wagner
The motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Voucher Requests Pending Approval for Disbursement

Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Wagner to approve voucher disbursement requests ending June 3, 2025. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

B. Set Upcoming Special Work Session to tour the Public Works Facility

Sandvik provided an overview of the item and noted an upcoming tour on Tuesday, June 17, at 6:00 p.m. at the Public Works facility.

Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Blackledge to approve setting a Special Work Session for Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at 6 p.m., to be located at 4601 Toledo Avenue N., Robbinsdale, MN 55422. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Peterson-Etem commented that some Staff members will be at Golden Valley City Pride this weekend on June 7, 2025, to support Golden Valley and invited Council Members to join. He also encouraged residents to attend and wished everyone a Happy Pride.

Sandvik noted the first DREAM session for the LRT group regarding the Metro Blue Line extension, Garden Diggers Club plant sale, CenterPoint Energy's work on Shoreline Drive, Hennepin County's grant funding for bins, and Robbinsdale's upcoming summer events.

COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

Member Wagner wished everyone a Happy Pride and gave his condolences to the family of Diana West, who lives in Ward 4.

Member Parisian stated Happy Pride and hopes to make it to the Golden Valley Pride event. She reminded residents to fill out the community survey on the City website and highlighted the availability of girls-focused sports camps in the City.

Member Greenberg stated Happy Pride. Member Greenberg recognized the issues that have occurred with Republic services and thanked staff for continuing to inform Council. He also stated rest in peace to Jim Marshall.

Member Blackledge congratulated graduates and wished athletes participating in State tournaments good luck. Member Blackledge reminded residents to say hi to their neighbors and wished residents a Happy Pride.

Mayor Sutton noted he is aware of issues occurring with Republic Services and appreciates the patience. He offered his condolences to the City of New Hope and Family of Andy Hoffe. Lastly, he wished everyone a Happy Pride.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Greenberg to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Signed by:


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Chase Peterson-Etem, City Clerk

Signed by:


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Bradley Sutton, Mayor