



City of Robbinsdale

City Council Meeting  
Tuesday, September 19, 2023  
Meeting No.

## **MINUTES**

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### **CITY COUNCIL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

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

### **ROLL CALL**

Present: Parisian, Wagner, Murphy, Webb, Mayor Blonigan  
Absent: None  
Staff: Tim Sandvik, City Manager; Chase Peterson-Etem, City Clerk; Diaa Tahoun, Finance Director

### **MICROPHONE CHECK**

Present: Parisian, Wagner, Murphy, Webb, Mayor Blonigan

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

Jonathan Hansen, of Robbinsdale, thanked the Council for their advocacy and support of the Blue Line Extension and encouraged them to continue to pursue this.

### **APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 MEETING AGENDA**

Peterson-Etem noted two items to add to the agenda. The first is an addition to the consent agenda for a request from Miller Concessions to park three food trailers in the Hy-vee parking lot. The second item is the voucher disbursement report that accompanies Other Business item A.

Member Murphy MOVED, seconded by Webb to approve the September 19, 2023 Meeting Agenda. The vote was unanimous and the motion Passed.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Member Wagner to Approve The Consent Agenda. The vote was unanimous and the motion Passed.

- A. Motion to approve the City Council meeting minutes of September 5, 2023.
- B. Motion to receive the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission minutes of May 23, 2023.
- C. Robbinsdale Wine & Spirits' Monthly Financial Statements
- D. Deputy Registrar's Monthly Financial Statements
- E. Approval of Credit Card Charges and Payment
- F. Scheduling the date for the Truth-in-Taxation Budget Meeting

- G. Amendment of the 2024 Budget Calendar
- H. Hy-Vee Movie Night
- I. Memorial Bench Donation
- J. Approval of Licenses
- K. Gathering Community Church Event
- L. Miller Concessions at Hy-Vee

### **PRESENTATIONS**

- A. None

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- A. None

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans 4628 41<sup>st</sup> Ave. N.
  - Conditional Use Permit C23-1 for multiple family units.
  - Variance V23-1 to reduce parking, lot and unit area requirements.
  - Conditional Use Permit C23-3 for off-site parking.

Pearson introduced the item and noted this is a project the City has been working on for several months. He stated the Minnesota Assistant Council for Veterans (MACV) is going to update the living space to convert some sleeping rooms into 4 apartments, which requires us to bring the building up to current standards. He noted there is limited parking and usable area and so land will be leased from Robbinsdale Economic Development Authority. He noted MACV also has an agreement with Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority for 7 additional parking spaces. He stated the Council is being asked to approve a resolution for a conditional use permit for multiple family units, a conditional use permit for off-site parking, and a variance to reduce parking lot and unit area requirements.

Member Murphy asked about parking around the property and if there would be staff living there. Pearson stated staff would be working there, but not living there.

Jon Lovald, Minnesota Assistant Council for Veterans (MACV), stated they want to provide dignified housing for low income veterans and that there is more need for single apartments rather than for single room occupancy.

Member Parisian thanked the planning commission, City staff, and Mr. Lovald for their efforts on this.

Member Wagner MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to Approve Resolution No. 8051 A Resolution Approving Variance Request to Reduce Onsite Parking, Lot Area, Usable Open Space and Apartment Square Footage, Conditional Use Permit Requests For Multiple Family Use And For Off-Site Parking At 4628 41<sup>st</sup> St

Avenue North for The Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans. The vote was unanimous and the motion Passed.

**B. Proposed 2024 General Fund and Debt Service Property Tax Levies**

Sandvik stated there is a lot of time and energy that goes into creating and implementing a preliminary budget and noted that the Council has spent several hours at Work Sessions discussing this. He also mentioned the Council goals that were established earlier this year and noted that was the framework for this year's budget.

Tahoun presented the item and gave an overview of the budgeting process. He noted the preliminary proposed tax levy was 8% and detailed the components of the 2024 budget, including budget requests, general fund revenue and expenditures, and tax impacts.

The Council thanked Mr. Tahoun and staff for their work on this.

Mayor Blonigan noted that the money that comes from the legislature is provided to the City towards the end of the year, and so it's important to have a reserve. He also mentioned the city's AA+ credit rating and is hopeful that the levy will be lowered when it's approved by the City Council in December.

Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Webb to Approve Resolution No. 8052 Setting the Proposed 2024 General Fund and Debt Service Net Property Tax Levies for Certification to Hennepin County. The vote was unanimous and the motion Passed.

**C. Proposed 2024 HRA Property Tax Levy**

Member Wagner MOVED, seconded by Murphy to Approve Resolution No. 8053 Adopting the Proposed 2024 Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) Property Tax Levy for Certification to Hennepin County. The vote was unanimous and the motion Passed.

**D. Enterprise Funds Budget, Capital Project Funds Budget, and CIP Plan Work Sessions**

Sandvik noted the Council is being asked to schedule a Special Work Session and provided several dates for them to choose from.

Member Murphy MOVED, seconded by Webb to Schedule a Special Work Session on October 17, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the Enterprise Funds Budget, Capital Project Funds Budget, And CIP Plan. The vote was unanimous and the motion Passed.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**A. Voucher Requests Pending Approval for Disbursement**

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Sandvik thanked Ann Tranvik for her donation of a memorial bench as well as members of the community who went to the Meet & Greet held by the Robbinsdale Chamber of Commerce. He noted Saturday, September 23, 2023 is the last day of the Robbinsdale Farmers Market and also mentioned the City will be hosting the Boo Bash on October 6, 2023.

Peterson-Etem noted that September 19, 2023, is National Voter Registration Day and encouraged people to register to vote.

**COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Member Parisian stated that she was impressed with the Fall/Winter Newsletter and also encouraged people to attend the Robbinsdale Farmers Market. She noted that the Metropolitan Council has openings on their Transportation Advisory Board and are looking for diverse community members to serve on the board.

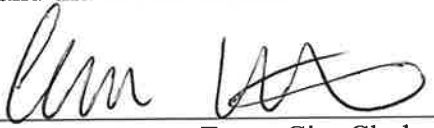
Member Murphy mentioned resident concerns over rising utility bills and stated it would be nice to offer an FAQ to residents who want to understand their utility bills more.

Member Webb invited members of the Community to attend the Robbinsdale Farmers Market.

Mayor Blonigan mentioned that Chaz Sandifer who directs the Robbinsdale Farmers Market, is in the running for an award as Black Business Woman Owner of the Year for an organization in the Twin Cities and encouraged people to vote for her.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Member Murphy MOVED, seconded by Parisian to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion Passed.



Chase Peterson-Etem, City Clerk

  
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William A. Blonigan, Mayor