



City of Robbinsdale

City Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 21, 2023
Meeting No. 22

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 21, 2023 MEETING AGENDA

Peterson-Etem noted two additions to the agenda including New Business Item B and an addition to Other Business Item A.

Member Wagner MOVED, seconded by Parisian to approve the November 21, 2023, meeting agenda. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Blonigan removed item F from the Consent Agenda for further consideration.

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

- A. Approve City Council Meeting Minutes of November 8, 2023
- B. Approve City Council work session minutes from November 14, 2023
- C. Receive Planning Commission meeting minutes from October 26, 2023
- D. Authorize Utility Adjustment
- E. Approval of Credit Card Charges and Payment
- F. Removed
- G. Ward 1 Polling Place Location Designation

CONSENT ITEM REMOVED

- F. Approval of Licenses

Mayor Blonigan asked about the burning permit. Sandvik noted this would be discussed later in the meeting.

Mayor Blonigan Moved, seconded by Wagner to approve the licenses dated November 21, 2023. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

PRESENTATIONS

- A. None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. None

OLD BUSINESS

A. None

NEW BUSINESS

A. 1st Reading of Ordinance Adopting Updates to Appendix B - Fee Schedule

Sandvik introduced the item and stated this has been discussed at previous work sessions. He noted the fee schedule sets fees for licenses, permits, and various other City services. He highlighted several changes being proposed and noted the complete document is available. He also explained how staff determine the fees and that the City looks to neighboring communities as well as what staff resources and time are needed to administer the services.

Mayor Blonigan appreciated staff collecting information from other jurisdictions in their process to determine the appropriate fees.

Member Murphy asked what the body camera footage fee was previously at. Sandvik stated it was previously at \$75.

Mayor Blonigan asked about the burning permit and if the people that already paid \$35 this past year would be charged again. Sandvik stated they would be exempt from having to pay again, if the location they plan to use the burning permit doesn't change. He also noted the fee would be increased for new people seeking burning permits as the permits may no longer need to be renewed annually, but that will increase staff time in monitoring and educating burning permit holders.

Mayor Blonigan asked staff to look into portable fire pits and how we could incorporate allowing them to be moved within a burning permit.

Member Murphy MOVED, seconded by Wagner to approve the first reading of Ordinance 23-15, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE FEE SCHEDULE." The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

B. Letter of Support for Hennepin County and Met Council to apply for a grant for anti-displacement funding related to the Blue Line Extension.

Sandvik presented the item and noted this was received last minute, but is due next week, which is why we added it to the agenda tonight. He stated Hennepin County reached out to us looking for a letter of support for the Thriving Communities Regional Pilot program grant to advance the implementation of community prosperity efforts and anti-displacements strategies for the Blue Lind Extension project. He provided a brief history of the efforts the anti-displacement work group has been doing and noted three specific areas this grant will focus on. Those include technical assistance, capacity building, and peer learning. Sandvik reiterated we are asking if Council supports issuing a letter of support and we are seeking a formal vote on this.

Mayor Blonigan confirmed this is not a municipal consent vote the Council would be taking tonight. Sandvik noted that is correct.

Member Murphy asked about the capacity building section and why the letter specifically calls out Minneapolis. Sandvik stated the letter is specific to all the cities in the corridor, but was unsure why Minneapolis was called

out. Member Murphy asked if we could replace Minneapolis with Robbinsdale or to say communities along the corridor.

Council members agreed to eliminate the part that states “21st Avenue Bridge, Minneapolis,” and replace it with “Robbinsdale.”

Member Parisian stated she is glad to support this effort for grant funding and that anti-displacement is something that often comes up with projects like this.

Mayor Blonigan noted some grants in the future will only be given if the Council provides municipal consent and stated we should look into that in the future. He also recognized that the anti-displacement efforts for the Blue Line Extension have been very comprehensive, however he is concerned, eventually, that Minneapolis and Brooklyn Park will be given priority with the anti-displacement monies.

Sandvik stated that policies and programs have been identified as very valuable, but connecting that with funding will need to be addressed. He noted that whether Robbinsdale is directly applying for grants, or benefiting from Hennepin County or the Met Council applying for grants, it's important we recognize that it is a team effort. He noted his involvement with the project and the anti-displacement work group, and how he has been advocating for support and resources for Robbinsdale.

Member Wagner MOVED, seconded by Parisian to approve the updated letter of support and authorize the Mayor to sign and direct staff to send the letter to Hennepin County and Met Council.

Member Wagner stated he would like to know more about what this grant will actually do, but is happy to support it. He also mentioned the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) study that is mentioned in the letter and noted they have many recommendations for renters' protections and making sure renters have a voice.

Member Parisian noted she has had the opportunity to speak with representatives and the Director of CURA and it's great to see them represented in the letter of support.

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 the Voucher Disbursement Report. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Sandvik reminded folks that the next City Council meeting will cover two large items, including approval of the levy and the truth in taxation meeting. He recognized the amount of effort and time that goes into these items, and if residents do have questions, staff would be happy to help answer those. He also mentioned that Council will be asked to approve the 10-year Capital Improvement Plan at the December 19, 2023, Council meeting. He noted there is a new information sheet that highlights how the levy funds are distributed and used. He also mentioned events coming up in Robbinsdale, including the Annual Tree Lighting on December 5, 2023, at 6 p.m., the Robbinsdale City Band will have a Concert on December 7, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. at the Crystal Community Center, and there would be a comprehensive work session in January covering information related to LRT.

COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

Member Murphy asked for an update related to yard waste. Sandvik stated we are working with our hauler to figure out a solution and more information will be provided shortly.

Member Murphy asked about a permit related to Kick Rocks Ink and where it is located. Sandvik noted he would provide that address to Member Murphy.

Member Murphy inquired about the kiosk that was installed allowing people to renew their vehicle registration at Cub Foods. Sandvik stated there is an algorithm that will provide us with revenue from that kiosk, along with others in a specified area.

Member Parisian gave a brief update on her time at the National League of Cities, City Summit, in Atlanta, Ga. She also asked staff to incorporate time into an upcoming Work Session to further share what she learned.

Member Wagner wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mayor Blonigan also wished people a Happy Thanksgiving and noted he too attended the City Summit through the National League of Cities and would share more at an upcoming Work Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Murphy MOVED, seconded by Wagner to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.


Chase Peterson-Em, City Clerk


William A. Blonigan, Mayor