

**City of Robbinsdale
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
February 7, 2023
Meeting No. 3**

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

2. Present: Wagner, Webb, Parisian, Mayor Blonigan
Staff: Tim Sandvik, City Manager; Dustin Leslie, City Clerk; Rick Pearson,
Community Development Coordinator.

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

3. Mayor Blonigan opened the floor to anyone wishing to speak on any items not on the agenda.
4. Teresa Baird – 4335 Unity Ave N: resident spoke about wanting to add something to Pocket Park to commemorate her family who has lived in the area for over 30 years.
5. Jerry Blem – 2605 Parkview Blvd: resident spoke about the challenges of towing cars during the last snow emergency due to the impound lot being full.

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2023 MEETING AGENDA

6. Leslie reported the following updates to the agenda:
 - An item was added to the Consent Agenda as Consent item M: Accept Quote for Purchase of Eight Copiers.
 - An item was added to the Consent Agenda as Consent item N: Appointment of Melanie Sedqi to the Human Rights Commission.
 - The MOU for Consent Item K was added.
 - The Voucher Report was added to Other Business C.
 - Additional language was added to Presentation A.
7. **Member Webb MOVED, seconded by Member Parisian to approve the February 7, 2023 Agenda with the update given to Council by the City Clerk. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA

8. Member Parisian removed items G, K, and N from the Consent Agenda for further consideration.

9. Member Wagner MOVED, seconded by Member Parisian to approve the February 7, 2023 Consent Agenda with the exception of items G, K, and N which was pulled for further consideration. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

- A. Motion to approve and order placed on file minutes of the City Council meeting:
 - City Council meeting minutes on 1/17/23
- B. Motion to receive advisory commission minutes:
 - Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission minutes on 10/25/22
 - Human Rights Commission minutes on 10/27/22
- C. Motion to approve issuance of licenses dated 2/7/23.
- D. Motion to acknowledge the Robbinsdale Wine & Spirits' financial reports for the month of December 2022.
- E. Motion to acknowledge the Deputy Registrar's financial reports for the month of December 2022.
- F. Motion to acknowledge the Investment Report for the quarter ended December 2022.
- G. (Removed).
- H. Motion to extend Variance request V22-1 to June 30, 2023 and amend Resolution 7963 accordingly.
- I. Motion to waive the reading and order the adoption of Resolution #8026 "A RESOLUTION APPROVING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REQUEST C23-1 ALLOWING SOLAR COLLECTORS ON AN ACCESSORY STRUCTURE AT 3934 WELCOME AVENUE NORTH."
- J. Motion to authorize the City Manager and Finance Director to issue a purchase order to Maqueen Equipment of St. Paul, Minnesota for the purchase of an Envirosight Rovver Camera in accordance with the estimate dated January 19th, 2023 for a net price of \$115,590.00 including a \$4,250.00 trade-in of the City's existing Aries Pathfinder camera.
- K. (Removed).
- L. Motion to authorize purchase of Getac Worn Cameras (BWC)/Squad Videos System at a cost of \$89,972.82.

M. Motion to authorize the City Manager and Finance Director to issue a Purchase Order to Canon USA Inc. for the Purchase of eight copiers in accordance with the estimate dated February 2nd, 2023 for a net price of \$55,562.07.

N. (Removed).

CONSENT ITEMS G AND N: APPOINTMENT OF THE WARD 3 PARKS, RECREATION, AND FORESTRY COMMISSIONER AND APPOINTMENT OF MELANIE SEDQI TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

10. Member Parisian stated she withdrew the appointment of Denise Beck to acknowledge and thank her for applying to become Commissioner.
11. Member Parisian recognized Melanie Sedqi for her service to the city and thanked her for applying to the Human Rights Commission.
12. **Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve Denise Beck's nomination to the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission effective immediately as well as Melanie Sedqi's application to the Human Rights Commission.**
13. Member Wagner stated he knew Melanie Sedqi and that she would be a fantastic addition to the Human Rights Commission.
14. Mayor Blonigan thanked both residents for volunteering.
15. **The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

CONSENT ITEM K: CONSIDER MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT LABOR SERVICE, INC LOCAL #517, LAW ENFORCEMENT LABOR SERVICE, INC LOCAL #8, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT LABOR SERVICE, INC LOCAL #179

16. Member Parisian asked questions about how the language of the MOU was drawn up and asked if the date range on the incentive payments could be changed to January 1st so that any officers suspended or terminated would not be eligible for the retention bonus.
17. Sandvik discussed the process of writing the MOU and how Council could edit the MOU.
18. Member Parisian suggested tabling the MOU to a work session then future Council meeting so they could further discuss the language.
19. Member Wagner preferred tabling for further discussion.
20. Mayor Blonigan stated he would be ok with tabling and suggested the Police Department come to the work session to present to the new Council.

21. Sandvik suggested creating language prior to date/shift requirements, related to suspensions. Council agreed with this suggestion.
22. **Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Member Wagner to table the discussion and approval of the MOU to a future work session and Council meeting. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

PRESENTATION A: UPDATES TO EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

23. Sandvik gave the report and described each update to Council.
24. Mayor Blonigan suggested grammatical changes to the break times portion of *Attendance and Work Hours*.
25. Member Wagner and Sandvik discussed break times and how often employees should have a 15-minute break.
26. Sandvik introduced Volunteer Time Off (VTO) to Council.
27. Member Wagner stated he liked that the volunteering would be done in Robbinsdale.
28. Member Webb asked to look at allowing volunteer opportunities outside of Robbinsdale in the future. Member Parisian suggested an approval process on a case-by-case basis for any volunteer time outside of Robbinsdale.
29. Member Wagner stated he preferred the language centered around Robbinsdale.
30. Sandvik introduced Paid Parental Leave.
31. Member Wagner and Sandvik discussed using partner rather than spouse in the policy. Sandvik stated spouse is legally defined while partner is not.

PRESENTATION B: PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2023 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN THE CITY OF ROBBINSDALE

32. Member Webb spoke about Black History Month and its importance and acknowledged the contributions made by Black Americans throughout history.
33. Member Webb recited the proclamation in its entirety for the public.
34. **Member Webb MOVED, seconded by Member Parisian to proclaim the month of February, 2023 as Black History Month in the City of Robbinsdale. A roll call was taken. Ayes: Wagner, Webb, Parisian, Mayor Blonigan. Nays: None. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS A: LETTER OF COMMITMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EV SMART PROGRAM

35. Sandvik gave the report.
36. Mayor Blonigan stated Great Plains has a great website which directs people to a lot of environmental resources and that they would be good partners to work with.
37. **Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to authorize the Mayor to sign the EV Smart program letter of commitment and to designate Kayla Kirtz, Assistant to City Manager – Communications, as the EV Smart program liaison. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS A: SCHEDULE CANVASS BOARD MEETING

38. Leslie spoke about the requirements for canvassing and asked Council to schedule the meeting before the next Council meeting so the new member could be sworn in.
39. **Member Webb MOVED, seconded by Member Wagner to set the time for the Ward 1 Special Election Canvass Board meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. before the regular City Council meeting. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**
40. Leslie gave a special election update and how residents could vote.

OTHER BUSINESS B: SCHEDULE SPECIAL WORK SESSION FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH

41. **Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to schedule a special work session to discuss the Blue Line Light Rail Project on Tuesday, February 28 at either 6:00 p.m. as well as a special work session with Commissioner Lunde on Tuesday, March 21 at 6:00 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS C: DISBURSEMENT REQUEST APPROVAL

42. **Member Wagner MOVED, seconded by Member Webb to approve disbursement requests for period ending 2/7/2023. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

43. Sandvik spoke about issues residents were having with accessing Council agendas online and that staff have made them available directly on the website.
44. Sandvik spoke about the Green Sheet transitioning to the Birdtown Brief and that the new format has been well-received so far.
45. Sandvik spoke about various meeting he attended and encouraged residents to check out the League of Minnesota Cities if they wanted to learn more about legislation.

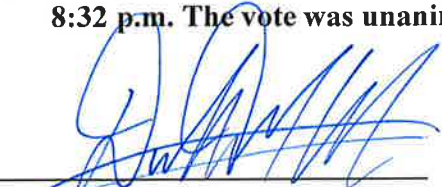
46. Sandvik reminded Council and the public that the next REDA meeting and work session would be held Wednesday instead of Tuesday due to the Special Election.

COUNCIL GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

47. Member Wagner stated he recently had an interview with CCX and thanked them for a positive experience.
48. Member Webb spoke about the most recent Human Rights Commission meeting she attended and thanked them for the work they do.
49. Member Webb spoke about the “Table Talk” she and Member Parisian had with residents at Birdhouse. Member Webb stated it went well. Member Webb stated the next one would be held March 28 at Birdhouse.
50. Member Parisian spoke about the success of the “Table Talk” meeting.
51. Member Parisian praised Member Webb for her work on the Black History Month proclamation and how it inspired her. Member Parisian also thanked staff for including events in the Birdtown Brief for Black History Month.
52. Member Parisian encouraged Ward 1 residents to vote in the upcoming Special Election.
53. Mayor Blonigan spoke about upcoming Black History Month events for residents and wished everyone a good Black History Month.

Adjournment:

54. **Member Parisian MOVED, seconded by Member Wagner to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**



Dustin Leslie, City Clerk

William A. Blonigan, Mayor