

GOVERNING BODY WORKSHOP MINUTES
Roeland Park City Hall
4600 W 51st Street, Roeland Park, KS 66205
Monday, March 20, 2017 6:00 P.M.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Joel Marquardt, Mayor○ Becky Fast, Council Member○ Tim Janssen, Council Member○ Ryan Kellerman, Council Member | <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Teresa Kelly, Council Member○ Sheri McNeil, Council Member○ Michael Poppa, Council Member○ Michael Rhoades, Council Member○ Erin Thompson, Council Member | <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Keith Moody, City Administrator○ Jennifer Jones-Lacy, Asst. Admin.○ Kelley Bohon, City Clerk○ John Morris, Police Chief○ Jose Leon, Public Works Director |
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Admin

Fast
Kelly

Finance

Janssen
Thompson

Safety

Rhoades
Kellerman

Public Works

McNeil
Poppa

CMBR Fast called the meeting to order and members were present.

I. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Review and Preliminary Approval of Objectives

A. Enhance Communication and Engagement with the Community

1. Creating Connection through Celebrating and Recognizing the Community with Holiday Spirit

City Administrator Moody presented a draft copy of the 2018 Organizational Goals & Current Objectives for preliminary approval and to get input from the Governing Body whether they agree these are good ideas for the community and should be pursued further. He also said that staff may lead off with recommendations in order to help prepare a balanced budget. He said this is the first step in a response to the citizen satisfaction survey, determining what areas give the biggest bang for the buck.

CMBR Fast said after driving through Johnson County last year at Christmastime she noticed that Roeland Park was one of the only cities that did not have any type of holiday lighting on their main street. This led her to look for ways how to create Roe Boulevard to be more connecting. She enjoys the spring blossoms on the Bradford pear trees on Roe and inquired about the possibility of putting lights on the trees at the north and south end of the boulevard at Christmas. She also proposed looking into flags for the Fourth of July, but would at least like to start with Christmas lights.

CMBR Poppa said he liked the idea and would help create the idea of a downtown.

City Administrator Moody said they could look into the pricing of Christmas lights.

Public Works Director Leon said there are lights at Sweany Park and the purchase price for those was between \$600-700. A challenge he sees with the Roe Boulevard lighting is that there is no power on Roe Boulevard itself.

CMBR Kelly said she loved the idea and her constituents have said they missed the beautification of Roeland Park and they miss the old banners that hung down the main street years ago. She suggested they begin at City Hall as it has power.

Mayor Marquardt said he liked the idea and that drawing people to Roe with beautification is an important part to make it more walkable. He said this was an important objective and thanked Ms. Fast for bringing it up.

CMBR Rhoades also supported this objective and would like to see it move forward.

CMBR Kellerman said it was a fantastic idea and thanked CMBR Fast for bringing it forward.

City Administrator Moody recapped the discussion. Staff will look at the costs associated with putting ornaments on the street lights. They will also look at the cost and practicality of lighting three to four trees on the north and south end of Roe Boulevard and will incorporate this into the objective.

Public Works Director Leon suggested the Governing Body share all their feelings about Roe Boulevard at the public meeting Wednesday, March 22 at 7:00 p.m.

2. Monthly Communications Report and Public Engagement Plan

CMBR Fast was at the National League of Cities and spent a lot of time with the cities of Shawnee, Manhattan and Lenexa. Brandon Kenig, Council President of Shawnee, said he would come and talk with the Council about CivicLive and integrating their programs. Ms. Fast said that platform will allow Roeland Park to live stream their meetings and have more social engagement by sharing things on Facebook and Twitter. She said they would no longer need Novus and people would be able to apply for dog permits online. She said that this program would optimize and integrate all the social platforms into one website.

City Clerk Bohon commented that the current website with Novus is able to integrate with Facebook.

Ms. Jones-Lacy asked if admin permitting, the website, agenda management would all be one platform. CMBR Fast directed Ms. Jones-Lacy to look at the City of Manhattan use of CivicLive and their website. She said the website was engaging and wondered how Roeland Park could improve their engagement.

City Clerk Bohon said they started permitting and licensing last November and everyone is still getting used to the program. She did say it does have the option to be opened up so that a resident can apply through an online portal, but they have not gotten to that step yet.

CMBR Poppa said CivicLive sounds more like an integrator and that CitizenServe could be the permitting software that just pulls through to this integrator.

City Clerk Bohon and Ms. Jones-Lacy said the RFP for the City's website recently closed and they have only now received those responses.

City Administrator Moody questioned the \$10,000 funding for the staff training budget.

CMBR Fast feels everyone could use more training on social media and how to optimize the City's Facebook. She said they currently do not promote or create events on Facebook and would like to see more videos on Facebook.

CMBR Poppa said the monthly communications report would cost no money to implement and getting the information to the Governing Body and to the public every month either through a news releases or e-mail subscriptions is something that can be done now.

City Administrator Moody believes that communication and engagement of the public is the key to raising citizen satisfaction and supports focusing on ways to improve that engagement. He also provided information on the ways a public information officer could fill that need.

3. Evaluation of NOVUS and Potential Meeting Management Software

CMBR Fast wanted to begin the process of how Novus can interface with the City's new website and whether the City continues to need Novus.

City Administrator Moody suspects that if they have a program that builds the website, it will have an agenda management system and the ability to add on a minutes management system.

City Clerk Bohon said Novus was chosen in 2014 as having the best price, very good support, and a quick turnaround with that support which is very important. City Administrator Moody added they currently do not take advantage of all the capabilities of Novus, but they are starting to use it more, so they have the ability to address concerns.

CMBR Fast said she does not like the Novus system and has heard many complaints from residents.

CMBR Kelly said it is worth comparing it to other systems, but she is not ready to get rid of Novus adding she has not had a bad experience and has not received complaints. She believes this is for staff evaluation and will support anything staff believes is going to streamline their work process and make a better experience for them, the Council and citizens.

City Clerk Bohon said she was willing to work with CMBR Fast to resolve any of the issues she has been having.

CMBR Fast said she is just asking that the system be evaluated.

Ms. Jones-Lacy asked for clarification on what evaluating means. CMBR Fast said since the City is getting a new website, they would want to look at how well Novus would integrate with the new website.

CMBR McNeil asked how the staff likes Novus.

City Clerk Bohon said she really likes it and it is easy to use. She is not the only person who can work the program and all of the department heads can submit their information. She added that the website links can all be added to Facebook and Twitter.

CMBR Fast said she realized that staff is not interested in making any changes.

CMBR Kellerman said there was a consensus to at least review other systems. He said he was under the original impression that Novus was really meant for the Governing Body and staff. He too has heard complaints about not being able to find information and asked if it is possible to look at a one-click system.

Ms. Jones-Lacy said she sees the Novus system as a one-click. She said in her opinion she does not have a problem with change and believes the Novus platform is a matter of personal preference. She added that she looked at the links from other communities CMBR Fast sent her and personally found Roeland Park's easier to navigate.

CMBR Poppa said they should be reevaluating their systems every once in a while to ensure they are providing the best service they can. Most of the problems he sees are being related to the website.

Public Works Director Leon answered CMBR McNeil stating that when he started with the City they only had Word and it was a headache because he could not find what he needed. Since switching to Novus, he can easily find the meeting or information he needs and click on the link and search for the information. From his perspective, it has been great compared to what it was.

CMBR Fast reiterated that as CMBR Poppa said there are platforms that integrate much better.

4. Electronic Voting System for Council Chambers.

CMBR Rhoades would like to see electronic voting to clarify how Councilmembers are actually voting.

CMBR Poppa said he like the idea and did see on the Novus website that that is a package is also available. He added for \$15,000, he would take roll on every vote. He also suggested that they could do a roll call for a while.

City Administrator Moody said some disadvantages without a system are that people may look to see how someone else votes or changing their vote while waiting for roll call. By employing the voting system no one sees the vote until after it has closed.

CMBR Kellerman said he would like it and CMBR Kelly said it is a good idea. She liked the anonymity piece of it. She would like to see this investigated to see if tools are already available for a lesser cost and whether it can be integrated into the whole system.

CMBR Rhoades would like a staff person to look into that. City Clerk Bohon said she would investigate what the process would be and come up with a cost number.

CMBR Fast said that in the new websites they would have that option.

CMBR Rhoades wants it looked into further without agreeing to do anything just yet.

B. Improve Community Assets

1. Provide Maintenance or Removal of Public Art in Roeland Park

CMBR Kelly was approached by Arts Committee. She said the committee is not doing any events this year and they have not been able to satisfactorily review their past events or take care of inventorying the City's public art. They have asked for funds to finish inventorying the public art so that they can see what needs to be repurposed, removed or renovated. In 2018, they would take action if they received the funding. CMBR Kelly said this would fall in line with Roe 2020 and beautifying the city. She added that Roeland Park used to be known for its public art, but when the budget was cut they stopped rotating the art. She supported giving them the requested funding.

CMBR McNeil questioned the \$10,000 to repair, remove, and renovate.

City Administrator Moody said this was an objective for 2017 and the \$5,000 has been allocated. The inventory would include a condition assessment and then a plan would be developed to retire, repair or relocate the pieces. The \$10,000 would continue the effort.

Public Works Director Leon wanted to remind everyone of the upcoming work scheduled for Roe Boulevard and recommended waiting on any changes that may cause artwork to be removed even temporarily.

CMBR Kelly said several pieces of art have been removed over time throughout the city as it has deteriorated. She also said there are several spots in R Park that are being reserved for pieces of art.

Mayor Marquardt said he does like the City's art program and recognized the challenge they have had with rejuvenating pieces that deteriorate quickly. He mentioned John Northington's glass, steel and concrete pieces and they have held up better than some. He would prefer the dedication of funds go towards new pieces or trying to figure out the positioning for Roe 2020. He did not support the spending of money on quickly deteriorating art pieces and would encourage the Arts Committee to use the funds to create new fresh works.

CMBR Rhoades said he would like to move forward with the request, but in the future it might become a no.

CMBR Fast said she would support changing the title to Maintenance, Removal or Purchase of Public Art so that there is more flexibility as the title only says maintenance and removal.

CMBR Kellerman said he was not in favor of the maintenance.

II. NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no items presented.

III. ADJOURNMENT

There was consensus to discuss the remaining topics at the end of the Workshop portion of the Council agenda if there was time remaining.

CMBR Fast adjourned the meeting.

(Roeland Park Governing Body Workshop Adjourned at 9:10.)