

**CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
Roeland Park City Hall  
4600 W 51st Street, Roeland Park, KS 66205  
Monday, November 18, 2019 6:00 P.M.**

- Mike Kelly, Mayor
- Jan Faidley, Council Member
- Jennifer Hill, Council Member
- Tim Janssen, Council Member

- Jim Kelly, Council Member
- Tom Madigan, Council Member
- Claudia McCormack, Council Member
- Michael Poppa, Council Member
- Erin Thompson, Council Member

- Keith Moody, City Administrator
- Jennifer Jones-Lacy, Asst. Admin.
- Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk
- John Morris, Police Chief
- Donnie Scharff, Public Works Director

**Admin**  
Madigan  
Thompson

**Finance**  
Faidley  
McCormack

**Safety**  
Janssen  
Poppa

**Public Works**  
Hill  
Kelly

(Roeland Park Council Meeting Called to Order at 6:00 p.m.)

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Kelly called the meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **ROLL CALL**

City Clerk Nielsen called the roll. CMBR McCormack was absent. Staff members present were City Administrator Moody, Assistant City Administrator Jones-Lacy, Public Works Director Scharff, Police Chief Morris, City Clerk Nielsen, and City Attorney Rotto.

## **MODIFICATION TO THE AGENDA**

There were no modifications to the agenda.

## **I. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

**Stephanie Iser** (5714 Cedar) Ms. Iser shared her support of a safe and welcoming ordinance for Roeland Park. She said she would like to see a policy of ICE non-compliance and asked the City Council to vote to pass a safe and welcoming ordinance.

**Letitia Harmon** - Ms. Harmon from the Kansas ACLU also spoke in support of a safe and welcoming ordinance for Roeland Park and also encouraged ICE non-compliance. She asked this to be put to a Council vote at the December meeting.

## **II. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Appropriations Ordinance #938**
- B. Council Minutes October 21, 2019**
- C. Council Minutes November 4, 2019**
- D. 2020 Cereal Malt Beverage Renewals**

**MOTION:** CMBR JANSSEN MOVED AND CMBR MADIGAN SECONDED TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. (CARRIED 7-0)

### III. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

#### A. Applications / Presentations

##### 1. Evergy Update - Rebecca Galati

Ms. Galati from Evergy, formerly KCP&L and Westar Energy, reported to the Governing Body on the City's statistics and new programs. She works as a liaison in Johnson County on special projects and issue management. She said if the Johnson County Emergency Operations Centers opens, she will staff that as well on behalf of the company and will provide key updates in the area.

The two electric companies, KCP&L and Westar merged together under the rebranded name Evergy in October. Ms. Galati said there are many efficiencies coming together as one company. Evergy now has a service territory that includes 1.6 million customers, 10,000 transmission lines and 52,000 miles of distribution lines. The service territories have been renamed and the Kansas Metro territory includes Roeland Park.

There was a merger promise made to customers who received bill credits starting in December of 2018. Also the electric rates have decreased. Savings and efficiencies are on track for what was promised as part of the merger. There were also no layoffs with the merger. On the Kansas side there have been credits for five years and there will be no base rate increases until 2023.

Evergy also provides an energy mix to its customers. They have launched new programs on solar and wind. In the packet is provided a breakdown from 2010 to 2020 on energy sources. They were at 52 percent coal for energy and are working towards reducing that to 40 percent. Renewable energy sources were at 1 percent and now they are approaching 27 percent company-wide.

Evergy also provides tree trimming around their lines and this work is performed year-round. Requests were up 6,000 over last year. Every 4 to 5 years they do a full tree trim and every 2 years they do a spot trim. Also every 12 years a full poles inspection is conducted.

Ms. Galati spoke to power outages noting that 70 percent are weather-related by storms, wind, lightening and ice. Outages can also be caused by animals, falling limbs, and vehicle accidents. There are also planned outages to provide a safe work area.

When the power does go out the restoration process begins first with public safety such as hospitals, fire stations, and water, then they work from the largest to lowest numbers experiencing outages.

Ms. Galati reviewed concerns they have in Roeland Park and they will be coming forward with a plan soon to address those issues.

City Administrator Moody asked how many accounts are served per circuit. Ms. Galati said Circuit 6843 has 1,028 customers, 6854 has 746, and 6821 has 434. Those three circuits serve the majority of the single-family homes in the City.

CMBR Kelly asked if they are participating in the wind farm project. Ms. Galati said that Mayor Kelly and Shawnee Councilwoman Lindsey Constance brought the project forward to Evergy before it even

launched. The program passed in December. There is a threshold of usage that a City has to hit to qualify for the program. Roeland Park was just under the qualifying usage. They are working with Mayor Kelly on that threshold to try to make it possible for Roeland Park to participate. She added that the City has been an incredible advocate on behalf of the program. They are also hoping to procure a wind farm. It would be a new wind farm and residents could buy into that and become a member of it. They still need to meet the threshold and get new customers to sign up.

Mayor Kelly thanked Evergy for being a nationwide leader in terms of percentage of renewables and continuing to put more wind and solar online. He would state to residents that if they are interested on a household level of participating and do not have the ability to do a solar array on the home there is a subscription service now they can participate in where they're building solar farms.

Mr. Galati said the wind project is for bigger energy uses, but they would like to have resident buy-in for the solar farm.

CMBR Faidley asked if there was a possibility that the parameters would change so the smaller cities could be included. Ms. Galati said it would not be for this specific program of a wind farm where customers would be able to sign up for 5, 10, 15 or 20 years to do that. If they go back in to expand the program they would want to bring that to the table. As a part of the current program, they have had to remove streetlights and unmetered accounts, which is what contributes to Roeland Park being below the threshold, but is something that the company would consider on feasibility of adding those back in because they can be a bigger energy use that the City uses and allow them to qualify for a program like that.

Mayor Kelly thanked Ms. Galati for coming and being responsive to their questions. He noted in the reliability statistics Roeland Park is higher than the average cities and appreciates Evergy continuing to find ways to make them even better.

## **2. Communication Report - Katie Garcia with SturgesWord**

Ms. Garcia said they began working for Roeland Park in January 2019 and the reports presented are year-to-date January through November and compared with available data from 2018.

She said they scan every day and grab any media mentioning Roeland Park. To date, the City has been mentioned 94 times. A lot of their coverage is coming from the *Shawnee Mission Post* and most feedback is neutral-positive.

Top posts with the most engagement rate were when they welcomed a new police officer, the hand-painted snow plows, and the walk to school event. Ms. Garcia said that residents really want to see community news.

Mayor Kelly noticed they had a low rating on video. Ms. Garcia said that video is something they could be posting more of, but it needs to be done professionally enough to make an impact. She will look into more ways they can add video.

### 3. Arts Committee Update

Marek Gliniecki, co-chair of the Arts Advisory Committee, introduced Benjamin Dickens also a member of the Arts Committee. Mr. Dickens spoke to the placement of art in conjunction with the upcoming Roe 2020 project. The committee said they would like to determine the placement of sculptures prior to the completion of Roe. Several reasons were listed in the packet information and included being cost effective to pour sculpture pads at the same time they are doing curbs and sidewalks.

Mr. Dickens said they would like to put in a signature piece at the entrance to the City as well as utilizing an existing piece that is still to be determined.

Christine Webster from the Arts Committee said she suggested the artist Kevin Robb for the north entrance to the City. His works are stainless steel and all of the members of the Arts Committee really like his work.

Ms. Webster said that Kevin Robb suffered a stroke that left him without the ability to speak and communicate with people. He can no longer read and it is difficult for him to walk, but he has continued work. He continues to design his pieces on the computer and then works with workmen and construction people to build his pieces. He is an internationally known artist and they are amazed at his story.

For the south entrance, the committee felt the possible location of the sculpture might be more on the east side by Johnson Drive onto Roe. The committee has been meeting with Spencer Shubert, a local artist who has had one of his pieces on display in the City and said that he would really like to work with Roeland Park. His work is mostly representational, but he wants to see what he can do that is a little different and is willing to work on price simply because of the way he feels about Roeland Park. His work is in bronze and would require minimal maintenance.

Mr. Dickens said they want to have some amount of unity between the two so that there is a tie-in for the City. He added that it was the consensus of the Arts Committee that the south entrance should not just be the initial letters R.P., but the entire name of Roeland Park should be spelled out. They said it would add clarity to what municipality people are entering into. If the Governing Body does decide to use R.P., then the City entrance between Roeland Drive and Ash could provide an appropriate spot for that.

CMBR Poppa, liaison to the Arts Committee, thanked them for their hard work and dedication. He said that the placements proposed by the Arts Committee have been identified by the landscape architects.

Christine Webster added that the Arts Committee works closely with the Parks Committee on their decision-making process. They have also constructed a five-question survey for the general public as they recognize feedback from the community is important.

The Arts Committee awarded CMBR Poppa as a shining star for what the work he has done with the Arts Committee.

(After the applause, photographs were taken)

#### **IV. Mayor's Report**

##### **A. Adopt a Family - Joanna Rush**

Mayor Kelly introduced Joanna Rush, the City's liaison to the Adopt-a-Family Program based out of Mission. The program works specifically to help families throughout their community. They help Shawnee Mission students that live within the City of Mission and the City of Roeland Park. Last year was the first year that they added in Roeland Park children from Shawnee Mission North and Roesland Elementary. The program served 91 families from Roeland Park.

Ms. Rush said the families come to their attention through social workers. Through donations and contributions they are able to provide a full Thanksgiving meal and Hy-Vee gives the program a great discount on some of the foods. At Christmas they also provide a ham dinner and presents. Last year, some of the Councilmembers purchased individual gifts or adopted an entire family. The families normally ask for things like socks, pajamas, and coats in addition to a few toys. Ms. Rush said 100 percent of every dollar they receive goes directly to the families either as food or as gifts. They have recognized there is a year-round need and they have been reaching out to Harvester's. There will be a Harvester's Food truck at Shawnee Mission North usually on the 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday. Ms. Rush will provide information to the City to publicize that information.

As a committee they are looking for canned good donations of non-perishable food and can include canned goods, rice, pasta, detergent, soaps, and toothpaste. A box will be placed at City Hall through December 20<sup>th</sup> where people can drop off donations. She added that people can also make tax-deductible monetary donations. And lastly, Ms. Rush asked for help from people to do a little extra shopping to donate gifts and gift cards.

She said volunteers will be gathering Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at Sylvester Powell to pack items for the Thanksgiving feast.

For Christmas wrapping, she anticipates they will do that on Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Kelly said they appreciate their work and the support they are providing the community.

Ms. Jones-Lacy said that Mission has given them three families from Roesland Elementary School that have signed up. Last year, they had five families from Roesland that were nominated by the social worker and all of the families were adopted by the City. She will send out the details on what they can do to support this year's families.

#### **V. Workshop and Committee Reports**

*No Workshop or Committee Reports were given.*

#### **VI. Reports of City Liaisons**

*No reports were given.*

#### **VII. Unfinished Business**

*No unfinished business was discussed.*

## **VIII. New Business**

### **A. 2020 IT Service Agreement with Johnson County**

Ms. Jones-Lacy said this is the same agreement but does reflect a 7 percent price increase from 2019. One reason for the increase is they have added new employees the Community Center. Next year, the increase is anticipated to be about 3 percent.

CMBR Kelly asked if they go above 38 employees would the contract be prorated to \$825/employee. He asked if the employee numbers include unfilled positions and whether the new parks and recreation director position would be included in that figure. Ms. Jones-Lacy said it is not.

City Administrator Moody said they have not contemplated any additional staff full or part-time for the 2020 budget. The City is to assume the management role of the pool in 2021 and they will be looking at that impact as they budget for 2021.

Ms. Jones-Lacy if they take on the pool in 2021, then the rate would obviously exceed the three percent.

CMBR Kelly said if they do get to 39 employees they would pay a significant increase of \$32,175 over what is in the contract now. Ms. Jones-Lacy said that scenario is not anticipated.

CMBR Faidley asked if the service includes the guest connection used at City Hall. Ms. Jones-Lacy said it does. Johnson County does the networking and they are in the process of scheduling the installation of a wireless access point which should help improve connectivity.

CMBR Madigan said they have discussed a camera. Ms. Jones-Lacy said there is one in the room, but it is not operational. They are working through the process of making sure they have all the necessary computer equipment in place to make it work.

**MOTION:** CMBR POPPA MOVED AND CMBR FAIDLEY SECONDED TO APPROVE THE 2020 IT SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH JOHNSON COUNTY. (MOTION CARRIED 7-0)

### **B. 2020 Land Lease Agreement to JCPRD for Sports Dome**

Ms. Jones-Lacy said this is an annual update to the agreement with JCPRD where they provide the sports dome at a lease price of \$1 and this has been the case for many years. Should it change, they would have to provide a 90 day notice from the date of renewal for an amendment to the agreement.

CMBR Kelly recommended adding to 4(A)(13) the phrase, "the ordinances of Roeland Park."

CMBR Poppa said he had asked the same thing regarding the agreement for the Aquatic Center and the City Attorney mentioned that Roeland Park's local ordinance is a part of state statute. He said that if that is not the case, then he would like to see it added.

CMBR Kelly said he would like to see it in writing.

CMBR Hill said that since they are no longer partnering with JCPRD that going forward she would like to look into what an actual fair rental amount would be for land usage.

CMBR Madigan said he was not sure what is meant that they are no longer working with JCPRD, but they pay for everything at that site and it is of no cost to the City. They rent the space for \$1, but Roeland Park gets the benefit of the people coming to the City.

CMBR Faidley said the upkeep is the responsibility of JCPRD. She asked how has the past experience been and what is involved in maintaining the dome. City Administrator Moody said the dome will periodically need to be replaced as they have learned. It has an air handler heater unit that does have to be replaced and maintained.

Mayor Kelly said JCPRD has a line item for replacement of the dome in 2022 at a value above \$1 million. They are also budgeting for continuing the partnership into the future.

CMBR Hill said they have a duty to the residents to have the conversation of fair land rate and that does not mean they are or not doing anything.

City Administrator Moody said the City maintains the parking area and does the snow removal. There is a project for 2020 to address significant repairs to the parking area as well as to address ADA accessible issues in the parking area and the sidewalks.

CMBR Faidley said \$1 million for replacing the dome is a fairly significant investment. She added that the programs that run in the dome are quite popular. The popularity they see is similar to the programs at the Community Center as well. They are providing the service to them by doing all the logistics related to the leagues that play there and she doesn't see a problem with encouraging that to continue. She would really hate to see them cut off lines of cooperation with the county.

CMBR Kelly said if a Roeland Park citizen is participating in a program at the Roeland Park dome in a league or game, then maybe they could get a discount like the one they did with the pool. He said he was looking for some sort of a benefit of the agreement.

CMBR Poppa said he appreciated the discussion but questioned whether it was germane to this item.

**MOTION:** CMBR KELLY MOVED AND CMBR HILL SECONDED TO AMEND THE 2020 LAND LEASE AGREEMENT MODIFY TO SECTION 4(A)(13) TO READ: "IT WILL ABIDE BY THE LAWS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATUTE OF LAW OF THE UNITED STATES, THE STATUTES OF THE STATE OF KANSAS AND THE ORDINANCES OF ROELAND PARK. (MOTION CARRIED 7-0)

**MOTION:** CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR THOMPSON SECONDED TO APPROVE THE 2020 LAND LEASE AGREEMENT WITH JOHNSON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE SPORT DOME AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$1 AS AMENDED. (MOTION CARRIED 6-1 WITH CMBR KELLY VOTING NO)

## **IX. Ordinances and Resolutions:**

### **A. Resolution Describing the Boundary of Roeland Park**

Mayor Kelly said that Resolution 672 will be the first time the boundary has changed since 1959.

**MOTION:** CMBR THOMPSON MOVED AND CMBR JANSSEN SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 672 - UPDATING THE CORPORATE BOUNDARY OF ROELAND PARK. (MOTION CARRIED 7-0)

**X. Workshop Items:**

*There were no Workshop Items discussed.*

**XI. Reports of City Officials:**

**A. Leaf Pickup Update**

Mayor Kelly said the leaf pick-up program seems to be moving along on schedule and he appreciates that.

Public Works Director Scharff concurred that all was going well. He said they completed pick-up on the entire west side of Roe last Saturday and have collected leaves in front of 635 homes. They have disposed of 17 truckloads which is equivalent to 25 cubic yards per load. They have had only one machine issue, which was a wiring issue with the backloader. That item was quickly resolved.

CMBR Faidley said the sweeper was in her area and there are people still piling leaves in the street. She asked if the street sweeper takes care of those

Public Works Director Scharff said they have instructed residents not to place them in the street or they will not pick them up. They are taking addresses down of residences with leaves in the street and providing them to Wade Holtkamp so he can go to their house and provide them a flyer with proper information.

Mayor Kelly thanked Mr. Scharff and told him to keep up the good work.

**B. Upcoming Events**

City Clerk Nielsen gave a list of some of the upcoming events, but said everything is on the Community Calendar on the website.

November 21 - Comprehensive Plan Community Meeting

November 28 & 29 - City offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday

December 5 - Holiday Tree Lighting, 6:00 p.m. at the Community Center

December 6 - Staff Christmas Party

December 9 - Swearing in of new Councilmembers and reception

December 13 - Art Reception for Photo Contest Winners

Mayor Kelly said there are a lot of fun events and they have a very busy December.



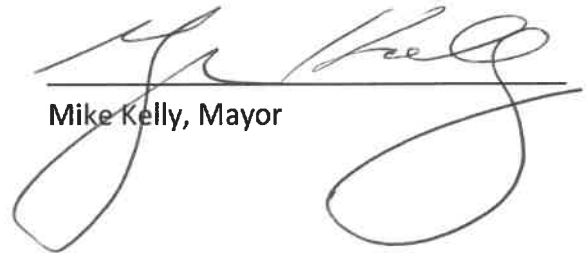
**XII. Adjourn**

**MOTION:** CMBR JANSSEN MOVED AND CMBR KELLY SECONDED TO ADJOURN. (MOTION CARRIED 7-0)

(Roeland Park City Council Meeting Adjourned)



Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk



Mike Kelly, Mayor