

**CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Roeland Park City Hall**  
**4600 W 51st Street, Roeland Park, KS 66205**  
**Monday, December 21, 2020 6:00 P.M.**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Mike Kelly, Mayor</li><li>○ Trisha Brauer, Council Member</li><li>○ Benjamin Dickens, Council Member</li><li>○ Jan Faidley, Council Member</li><li>○ Jennifer Hill, Council Member</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Jim Kelly, Council Member</li><li>○ Tom Madigan, Council Member</li><li>○ Claudia McCormack, Council Member</li><li>○ Michael Rebne, Council Member</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Keith Moody, City Administrator</li><li>○ Jennifer Jones-Lacy, Asst. Admin.</li><li>○ Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk</li><li>○ John Morris, Police Chief</li><li>○ Donnie Scharff, Public Works Director</li></ul> |
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**Admin**  
Brauer  
Hill

**Finance**  
McCormack  
Madigan

**Safety**  
Rebne  
Faidley

**Public Works**  
Kelly  
Dickens

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**Roll Call**

City Clerk Nielsen called the roll; all Governing Body members were present. Staff members present were City Administrator Moody, Assistant City Administrator Jones-Lacy, Public Works Director Scharff, Police Chief Morris, City Clerk Nielsen, Public Works Superintendent Vandenbos, Parks and Rec Superintendent Nichols, City Intern Verbrugge, and City Attorney Mauer.

**Modification of Agenda**

*There were no modifications made to the agenda.*

**I. Citizens Comments**

*Public Comments were made in Section IX. Ordinances and Resolutions: Ordinance 1005.*

**II. Consent Agenda**

- A. Appropriations Ordinance #964
- B. Council Minutes December 7, 2020
- C. 2021 Cereal Malt Beverage Renewal for Minit Mart

**MOTION:** CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR DICKENS SECONDED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. (MOTION CARRIED 7-0.)

**III. Business from the Floor**

**A. Applications/Presentations**

- 1. Present Outstanding Service Award

Mayor Kelly said that Roeland Park is successful because of all of the staff and thanked them for their dedication to the City. Admin Committee CMBRS Brauer and Hill, along with City Clerk Nielsen, selected the Outstanding Service Award for the second half of 2020. City Administrator Moody began the award in 2017 to recognize a staff member's exemplary work and service to the community of Roeland Park. Their name is engraved on the traveling "Roe Cup", and they receive a gift certificate.

Mayor Kelly said it is an honor to recognize Assistant City Administrator and Finance Director Jennifer Jones-Lacy for her work in the community. Her work is highlighted by her financial ability for which she and the City have received budget awards and the CAFR award recognition. Ms. Jones-Lacy also has a giving spirit. She provides leadership in the Neighbors Helping Neighbors program and the Community for All Ages program as well as with her work on universal design. She always represents the City in a positive manner and the Mayor congratulated her on this well-deserved honor and thanked her for her service.

Ms. Jones-Lacy expressed her appreciation for the award and said it is an honor to be recognized in this way. She absolutely loves Roeland Park and feels lucky to be able to live and work here. She really believes that Roeland Park is made up of the best people. She said it is an amazing community with such caring people, which hold for both staff and residents.

Mayor Kelly added that he appreciated her hard work for the City and she helps to make them look good. He said it is an honor to have her as a staff member, but more importantly as a neighbor and a friend.

## 2. Years of Service Awards

Mayor Kelly said they appreciate those staff members who invest in the community by working here in Roeland Park.

City Administrator Moody said they have four staff who have reached years of service milestones with Roeland Park.

Police Chief Morris recognized three officers for their dedication and service to the community.

Cory Honas has 20 years of service and is also K-9 Rango's handler.

Anthony Estrada also has 20 years of service as a part-time officer with the City.

Warren Gardner has 25 years of service and was Chief Morris' field training officer when he started.

Chief Morris thanked them for their dedicated service to the department and to the community.

Mayor Kelly said it is an honor to have them in Roeland Park making their community safer and stronger and a better place for all.

Public Works Superintendent Daniel Vandebos recognized Doug Thorell for his 10 years of service. He is the Public Works Impact Leadership Award Winner for 2020. He said he knows all the ins and outs and is his go-to guy. Mr. Thorell is a valuable asset to the team, the best leaf sweeper operator that can do it in less time and still do a great job because he knows the City so well and is efficient. He's also their best in-house mechanic. Mr. Vandebos said he has many ideas to make day-to-day and year-to-year operations easier such as using an asphalt float, which has taken them from 45 minutes to hour to dump asphalt

down to 15 minutes using the float. This not only saves the City money, but saves the staff sweat and back issues. Mr. Thorell is very reliable, doesn't call out, and schedules his vacations well in advance. When he is assigned a job, he gets it done right, efficiently, and safely. He has established good relationships outside of Public Works and works well with the Community Center and Police Department and makes the collaborations seamless.

Mr. Vandebos got a call today about the leaf program. Someone was missed because of a car blocking their leaves. She asked he neighbor to move their car, but the sweeper was already past the leaves. Doug finished the street but circled back because he saw the car had moved. Mr. Vandebos said he always does what is right.

### 3. Art Committee Presentation on Plan for Placement of Art Along Roe Blvd

Michael Poppa from the Arts Committee reviewed the map in the agenda packet that detailed areas of landscaping and art placement at various locations throughout the City. He said certain areas might need to be fine-tuned a little further and noted areas along Roe Boulevard that will join the Roe 2020 project.

"Damsel in Blue" is their newest sculpture and will be placed in front of the portico at City Hall. The sculpture will have electricity to it so it will be lighted. Mr. Poppa added that the project is \$700 less than the original bid that they received. "Ballet Mechanique" has been relocated to the corner by Walgreens. Two other spaces in the City have been identified for more substantial pieces, but the committee is still looking for the right artwork.

The Arts Committee is also looking at a 2021 mural project for the retaining wall near 47<sup>th</sup> and Roe Lane. They would like further discussion with the Council about the Aldi funds for art and having some of that allocated for the staircase in the same area.

Commerce Bank's art is in and they have received a lot of positive comments.

There is an art exhibition scheduled for January in the Schlegel Art Gallery. It will feature about 11 or 12 Roeland Park resident artists.

St. Luke's discussed with their art consultant whether they want to do their art in-house or have the City take that on. There is about \$76,000 combined funds available for that gateway project.

Mayor Kelly thanked Mr. Poppa for the work of the Arts committee and providing suggestions for art placement. He asked about the 57<sup>th</sup> street obelisk and whether sight lines were considered or if it might impede traffic at the intersection. Mr. Poppa said the Arts committee wants to discuss this with the Council. He added that the top of the obelisk is made of glass and believes its placement would add something to the area.

City Administrator Moody said that the refurbished "Industrialized Tree" was damaged and one limb was knocked off. It has been replaced and they want to make sure it is sturdy enough to go back on Roe. If not, then it will be placed in a more protected place though it may be more north on Roe rather than south.

CMBR Hill said she was curious about the funding for the mural. She said it was her understanding that the staircase project was moved up and there are funds slated for that. Mr. Poppa said there is money slated

for the staircase, but that there may be additional funding for it in which case they might be able to reallocate some funding for the mural.

CMBR Faidley asked once the placement of art is decided and landscaping is considered, are the pieces permanently located or is there a potential for them to be moved to different locations? Mr. Poppa said along Roe might be a couple of change opportunities. But most of the larger sculptures would remain in place as long as they can. CMBR Hill asked in regard to the landscaping issue on Roe if the Arts Committee was sensitive to that before placing their artwork. Mr. Poppa said they are working and coordinating with the timeline of the City.

Ms. Jones-Lacy said regarding the one percent for art from Aldi is they are planning to do the staircase design in 2021 with construction slated for 2022. Additional funds will be available because of the increase in the sales tax which was not currently budgeted. They will have additional resources and it is for the Council to decide how to allocate those funds from Aldi. She said they also have the flexibility to make adjustments during the budget process to reallocate those funds.

CMBR Hill wants to make sure the mural does not get pushed off because of the stairs. She said this project will help to beautify the City.

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

Mayor Kelly wished everyone a happy holiday, Merry Christmas, Happy Hannukah, Happy Kwanza, Happy Solstice, and a Happy New Year. He encouraged everyone to take community responsibility and wear a mask, wash their hands, limit the size of gatherings, and to take care of each other.

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

*No report was given.*

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

*No reports were given.*

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

*There was no unfinished business discussed.*

#### **VIII. New Business**

##### **A. Gaga Ball Presentation by Girl Scouts**

Park & Rec Superintendent Tony Nichols introduced Sarah Nielsen and Josie Yungeberg, 8<sup>th</sup> grade cadets from Girl Scout Troop 1236. He said they are working on their silver award project. They gave their presentation before the Parks and Tree Committee and it was well-received. They wanted to share their idea with the City Council.

The scouts proposed the installation of a gaga ball pit for Nall Park. There is already a gaga ball pit on the east side of Roe, so they believe that Nall Park would be a good fit. They said it is an entertaining asset for kids and parents. They also explained the rules of gaga ball. The pit they are proposing would have an

ADA accessible gate. Financing of the project will be through fundraising, a Girl Scouts grant and hopefully a donation from Lowe's donation. Building the gaga ball pit would begin in late spring and be completed by June. September 1 is the deadline for silver award projects to be completed.

Mayor Kelly thanked them for their thorough and comprehensive presentation and their dedication through scouting.

CMBR McCormack commended the Scouts for their work in putting this together and said it will be a wonderful asset for Nall Park.

CMBR Faidley asked how different surfaces affect play and whether there would be liability for the City.

Mr. Nichols said the Parks Committee and the Scouts chose this area of Nall Park is for the flat surface and it will also provide better access to the ADA disability issues. There would be increased maintenance in a grass setting. They also did not want to create a mud pit and that is why they considered the square dance area.

CMBR Hill said she could see why they chose Nall Park. She asked if there would be more use if it was placed in a neighborhood. The Scouts said it was originally proposed for R Park, but the park plans were complete so they chose Nall Park because it has the flat surface.

Mr. Nichols said the Parks Committee considered both parks and felt that R Park had many play options already and there is a flat surface at Nall Park and it is needing more play opportunities.

CMBR Brauer thanked the Scouts for bringing to the community for residents of all ages. Mr. Nichols said Public Works will monitor the weathering of the treated lumber and routinely inspect the hardware used to attach the pit to the play surface.

CMBR Rebne said his kids like to play gaga ball and thanked them for bringing smart fun to Nall Park.

Police Chief Morris commended the Scouts on their project and said it was a great idea. He said he would donate \$100 to the project.

Mayor Kelly also donated \$100 to the project.

CMBR Kelly asked if there is a way to put material underneath the pit for safety. The Scouts said they mostly use their hands and there is not any running and not much falling. They said they can research it.

CMBR Faidley asked about the anchoring system into the concrete and whether that would prevent other uses on the concrete. Mr. Nichols said there will still be a lot of space on the pad to allow for skating and such.

CMBR Brauer and City Attorney Mauer also donated \$100 to the project and CMBR Rebne donated as well.

CMBR Hill asked if they could put turf under the pit. Mr. Nichols said he did not know, but he could get an estimate on what that would look like.

Stephanie Nielsen, the troop leader, said the difference between the cost of treated lumber versus composite lumber is between \$3,000 and \$4,000. The Scout project will use treated lumber with a cover on top of the bars to prevent splinters.

**MOTION:** CMBR KELLY MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE GAGA BALL PIT AT NALL PARK. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0)

B. Approve Service Agreement for HVAC Maintenance

CMBR Faidley asked if the covered equipment list is updated. Public Works Director Scharff said the items and units were updated and considered in the agreement.

**MOTION:** CMBR MCCORMACK MOVED AND CMBR BRAUER SECONDED TO APPROVE THE 2021 THROUGH 2023 SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH LIPPERT MECHANICAL. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0)

C. Approve Service Agreement for Plumbing Maintenance

**MOTION:** CMBR MCCORMACK MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE 2021 THROUGH 2023 ON-CALL BUILDING SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR PLUMBING WITH LEXINGTON PLUMBING. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0)

D. Approve Service Agreement for Electrical Maintenance

CMBR Faidley asked about the hourly rate rather than an annual contract fee and whether this is a company they have worked with in the past. Public Works Director Scharff said that Pro Circuit is based on references with the City of Prairie Village. He said they did not use a lot of electrical services last year and so they are going with a cheaper contractor based on their infrequency of use.

City Administrator Moody added these are for on-call services. He said there is nothing preventing them from using another contractor or requesting other quotes. In a situation where it is not planned or emergency, they will know what the fee will be per hour.

**MOTION:** CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR BRAUER SECONDED TO APPROVE 2021 THROUGH 2023 ON-CALL BUILDING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PRO CIRCUIT, INC. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0)

E. Update to Temporary Personnel Policies Related to COVID

Mayor Kelly said the challenges of COVID continue and they need to make an update to the temporary personnel policies.

**MOTION:** CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR DICKENS SECONDED TO APPROVE THE UPDATED TEMPORARY PERSONNEL POLICIES RELATED TO COVID. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0).

**IX. Ordinances and Resolutions:**

A. Ordinance 1005 - Protecting Public Safety and Community Resources Act

**Public Comment**

**Stephanie Iser** (5714 Cedar) Ms. Iser said she had mixed feelings about the draft language. After more than a year, she is grateful the vote is here. She had hoped for language that would include the need for a judicial warrant and clearly defined public safety exclusions where a warrant might be bypassed. The advocate groups said it is necessary to build trust and was explicitly requested by the immigrant community. She understands that the language has been vetted by City leaders and cannot be included at this time. She said they accept the ordinance as drafted to get it in place and started but asked that the work continue to get better protocols included and finish what has been started. She thanked everyone who worked on this.

**Carrie Paulette** (5105 Ash) Ms. Paulette thanked those who have worked on the ordinance for immigrants. She also thanked the immigrant community who trusted them during this process. She also appreciates that the ordinance extends to all City departments and that once it is passed, the City Council will continue to discuss it.

**Grant Mayfield**, one of the founders of Safe and Welcoming Roeland Park, thanked the Council for taking this matter up and acknowledged the work done over the last year. He said it is not exactly what they envisioned, but it does consider the input from many individuals, those that signed petitions, reached out to the Council, and those who shared their stories. He looks forward to being able to continue the work on the policy.

**Rui Xu**, Kansas legislator, provided a broad general support of the ordinance and thanked all who worked so hard on this over the past year.

Mayor Kelly said the community members have made this a priority and staff, professionals, the Police Department, and the residents have all worked on this to make it happen.

There are two versions of the ordinance. The first draft is consistent with what they discussed in Workshop and the second redline version incorporates suggested changes after working with Safe and Welcoming Roeland Park. The changes have been reviewed both by the City Attorney and the Chief of Police.

CMBR Kelly asked about the purpose behind Section 2.A.7. Mayor Kelly said it was discussed and is consistent with language passed by Lawrence, Kansas in September. He said the goal is to form bonds of trust with immigrants in the community and is a show of transparency that the City is not interested in defeating its own ordinance. CMBR Kelly asked why they give an alert to identify or say they are not taking a specific action.

CMBR Rebne, in response to CMBR Kelly said he is in support of including the passage. He said the ordinance has been worked on for over year to make sure to get closer in solidifying trust with the Police Department and ICE.

CMBR Kelly how they would be providing an alert and how it would be disseminated to the public.

CMBR Faidley said this really goes to the question of transparency and trust and supports the ordinance as written.

CMBR Kelly said he does not see this as transparency and does not know the mechanism that would be used.

Mayor Kelly said the ordinance sends a message that the City stands with immigrants and a community for all. Their work to protect to serve all people is enhanced when its people feel safe. He looks forward to continuing this work. This will be carried forward into the community, especially to immigrants who have been afraid to be an active member in the community.

**MOTION:** CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 1005 - PROTECTING PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES ACT, VERSION 2. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

**B. Resolution 687 - In Support of Court Fine Changes Proposed by Judge Torline**

CMBR Rebne asked CMBR McCormack if what they are voting on is what she envisioned on her budget objective. CMBR McCormack said that Judge Torline has embraced the idea behind reducing fines and fees for court cost. She said the fines do make money for the City, but it also unfairly punishes poorer citizens. They will look at what it does to the budget and how it affects the way the court runs, and whether this reduction really does help people. In all, she felt it was an excellent iteration of her budget objective.

**MOTION:** CMBR MCCORMACK MOVED AND CMBR HILL SECONDED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 687 - SUPPORT OF COURT FINE CHANGES PROPOSED BY JUDGE TORLINE. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0)

**X. Workshop Items:**

*There were no Workshop items presented.*

**XI. Reports of City Officials:**

**A. COVID Report**

Chris Verbrugge, City Intern, provided an update for the first half of December. In the packet are holiday scheduling announcements as it relates to county COVID testing. Governor Kelly has launched a new COVID campaign, "Help stop the spread. It's up to us, Kansas." The call is to help healthcare workers who are overrun to please get a flu shot. The report in the packet also includes an update on CARES Act funding projects. They are still waiting on HVAC upgrades and confirmation that the touchless faucets have been installed.

Mr. Nichols said the vendor they were using to purchase the touchless faucets is not able to meet the deadline and, therefore, cannot complete the project by the end of the year.

CMBR Faidley thanked Mr. Nichols for overseeing ongoing testing at Community Center, noting that it is very well run. She said you can register in advance and there is no cost.

CMBR Hill said she and her son went, the process was easy, no waiting and there is a quick turnaround.

**B. City Administrator Report**

City Administrator Moody said the signals at 51<sup>st</sup> street have been taken down and adjustments have been made to the stop sign. They have added another southbound traffic sign in the median. With those



additions it has addressed the issue of visibility. They are projecting at the end of January for them to be up and operational. They are doing back of curb work and sodding north of 51<sup>st</sup>. Most of hardscape is complete and striping is in place. The workers are taking advantage of the good weather.

The pool project is on schedule as well. They are finishing up pouring the concrete and erecting different features.

#### C. Asst City Admin

Ms. Jones-Lacy provided an update on Dynamhex. She and Katie Garcia have been working with the principal engineer configuring the tool to make it user-friendly. It will help the City measure sustainability and greenhouse reduction goals. The second component is the public interface where residents can look at the City's carbon footprint, how it changes, their own footprint, changes they can make such as a more efficient vehicle or modifications in their home. They intend to go live February 1. There will be a public campaign to make sure public awareness knows this is coming.

Mayor Kelly said he is excited and happy for residents to be able to use the tool.

#### D. Public Works

Public Works Director Scharff said they are on track and working on wrapping up the leaf program.

#### E. Parks & Rec

Mr. Nichols provided an update on COVID testing through the Kansas Department of Health & Environment. Sign-ups for testing through the KDHE website. People are encouraged to sign up ahead of time. There were 56 people tested on Saturday, 67 on Sunday, and 45 on Monday. The service is well-used and operating efficiently.

Mayor Kelly asked for an update on the City's solar project. City Administrator Moody said solar installation at the Community Center is under way. The City Hall solar work will begin after they finalize the roof installation.

Aldi will also be doing a solar installation on their roof. City Administrator Moody said it's nice to see a business following the City's lead.

The Sunflower Medical Building has two tenant finishes underway and are also installing their MRI capability. They are on schedule to meet their deadline for completion with a hundred percent occupancy.

CMBR Hill commented when trying to schedule appointments for COVID that at first Roeland Park was not listed and the following day it showed up and went away again. Mr. Nichols said he will bring that to his point of contact and see what is going on.

## XII. Adjourn

**MOTION:** CMBR MCCORMACK MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO ADJOURN. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0)

(Roeland Park City Council Meeting Adjourned at 7:41 p.m.)



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Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk



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Mike Kelly, Mayor