

**CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Roeland Park City Hall**  
**4600 W 51st Street, Roeland Park, KS 66205**  
**Monday, April 3, 2023, 6:00 P.M.**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Michael Poppa, 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>○ Tom Madigan, Council Member</li><li>○ Castagna-Herrera, Council Member</li><li>○ Michael Rebne, Council Member</li><li>○ Kate Raglow, Council Member</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Keith Moody, City Administrator</li><li>○ Open, Asst. City Administrator</li><li>○ Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk</li><li>○ John Morris, Police Chief</li><li>○ Donnie Scharff, Public Works Director</li></ul>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**Admin**  
Dickens  
Rebne

**Finance**  
Hill  
Castagna-Herrera

**Safety**  
Madigan  
Brauer

**Public Works**  
Faidley  
Raglow

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

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Poppa 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 with CMBR Madigan appearing virtually. Staff members present were City Administrator Moody, City Attorney Mauer, Public Works Director Scharff, Police Chief Morris, and City Clerk Nielsen.

### **Modification of Agenda**

*There were no modifications to the agenda.*

### **I. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Michael Miller** (3800 W. 52<sup>nd</sup> Terr.) Mr. Miller spoke to The Rocks being an opportunity for Roeland Park to keep its commitment to sustainability. He asked for information on what type of HVAC system would be used that would be in line with the Green Globes certification designation the developer is seeking, and whether that would be through energy efficient heat pumps and also if wind and solar would be integrated into The Rocks.

**Alan Bowman** - Mr. Bowman also spoke about the efficiency of heat pump use, noting that the technology has greatly improved. He also said there are federal incentives for their use.

### **II. Consent Agenda**

- A. Appropriations Ordinance #1017**
- B. Council Minutes March 20, 2023**

**MOTION:** CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS AS PRESENTED. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

### **III. Business from the Floor - Proclamations/Applications/Presentations**

*There was no Business from the Floor.*

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

#### **A. Arbor Day Proclamation**

CMBR Hill read the proclamation into the record declaring April 28, 2023, as Arbor Day in the City of Roeland Park.

#### **B. National Volunteer Service Proclamation**

Mayor Poppa read the proclamation into the record declaring the month of April 2023 as National Volunteer Service Month.

#### **C. Fair Housing Proclamation**

Mayor Poppa also read the proclamation into the record declaring the month of May 2023 as Fair Housing Month.

### **V. Report of City Liaisons and Committees**

#### **A. Parks Committee**

Laura Savidge, Chair of the Parks Committee, reported that the restoration of Cooper Creek is nearly complete. Habitat Architects, who was contracted to rid the creek of invasive species and plant native trees and shrubs, is waiting for the City to sign the contract for maintenance and future treatments. Ms. Savidge said that residents on the east bank affected by erosion have asked the Cooper Creek Restoration group to plant or help plant native trees on their property. Habitat Architects have said they would be willing to work with the City on that if desired.

CMBR Hill said they discussed helping residents along the creek at their forum. Nothing has come from those conversations, but she offered to put it on a future agenda for further discussion.

Ms. Savidge also said there is a lot of excitement around the Nall Park improvements planned for next year. She said that \$45,000 has been set aside in the City's budget for those improvements. She also met with Parks & Rec Superintendent Marshall, City Engineer Miller, and a team of landscape architects to discuss the fees and process towards the Nall Park Master Plan. Mr. Marshall is getting a second bid from Confluence, and they will have that to present to the Governing Body in a couple of weeks. She also noted that Mr. Miller's group is further along than they thought they would be.

R Park playground is scheduled to open this week for the Slide and Ride event. They will have the Mayor's ribbon cutting, the giveaway from BikeWalkKC. They will serve popcorn and lemonade. There will be a decorate your bike parade. All this will run concurrent with the Arbor Day celebration and there will be opportunities to make a mural out of leaves and seeds. Matt Kirby and Matt Lero, who are behind the Mighty Bike play sculpture will be there with a demonstration.

The Wildflower Garden in R Park got a huge boost this week from students at Bishop Miege donating 50 service manhours worth of work. The students also had a cleanup crew along Roe.

Mayor Poppa thanked Ms. Savidge and the Parks Committee for their dedication and is excited for the grand opening on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### **B. Arts Committee**

Marek Gliniecki, co-chair of the Arts Advisory Committee, gave a shout out to Public Works for the plantings in the medians. He also said the galleries and the Senior Arts Council always have a great variety of work and currently have an interesting exhibition.

Mr. Gliniecki said that following the Gateway project being awarded to Nathan Pierce, he met with City Administrator Moody, Mary Schulteis, Arts Co-Chair, and Mr. Pierce for contract negotiations and lighting. They also discussed how that would be supported and the final location. The piece is expected to be installed by Thanksgiving.

The various cherubs will be relocated to an area around the library.

Mr. Gliniecki said the art piece "Eucalyptus" has been damaged twice in Nall Park and it will be relocated to Carpenter Park. They will look for a different sculpture replacement for Nall Park.

He also said the "Speed Limit 34" should be going back to R Park.

The "Ballet Mechanique" will be installed at Walgreens.

The piece "Mother's Passing" is currently in storage at Public Works. They want to be able to reinstall that before Public Works moves but a final site has not been chosen. There had been conservation issues associated with the piece that need to be taken care of mostly regarding the base and lighting.

Mr. Gliniecki said they had been talking with Mr. Marshall about the trash cans in Granada Park. Ashley Corbello who did the Aldi staircase has submitted two proposals. They are also working on the signage program for the parks.

CMBR Dickens asked whatever happened to the bird on the Jorge Blanco bench. Mr. Gliniecki said it is damaged consistent with skateboarding. He said it was either knocked off accidentally or someone stole it. They did order another one. They like it there and want it there, but it is not as secure as they hoped it would be. The bench may be moved to another location and replaced with a more robust piece of public furniture. The birds are about \$600 to replace.

#### **VI. Unfinished Business**

*There was no Unfinished Business presented.*

#### **VII. New Business**

##### **A. Approve Final Development Plan for EPC Project including Building Architecture and Finishes**

City Administrator Moody said this final development plan is consistent with the preliminary development plan. EPC has made some changes that are reflected in the renderings. The City, as landowner, has the authority to approve the architectural finishes. He asked the Governing Body to

notice the proposed screening on the east elevation of the parking garage and asked for feedback whether that met with their approval. He also said there are three locations proposed for public art in the development. Also, the dedicated right turn is shown to be added at the south end of Roe Blvd at 48<sup>th</sup> Street and is the developer's responsibility. Work should be completed in 2024-2025 and the utilities will have the capacity to serve the site.

Brendon O'Leary with EPC Real Estate Group thanked everyone for this opportunity. He also wanted to address the environmental concerns brought up in Public Comment. He said that in addition to the Green Globes, they install electric heating and cooling and do not use gas. He said they will look at heat pumps and determine if they are able to incorporate that.

CMBR Rebne asked, if as a Governing Body, they have the authority to approve the HVAC system. City Administrator Moody responded that if the building plans comply with the City's adopted building regulations, it does not come back to the Council for review and approval.

Josh Doss with DLR Group pointed out one change to the plan. The main corner is now a square to be able to add another unit. Also, the screening of the courtyard is a little better and more efficient. Mr. Doss reviewed the slides to show the maximum efficiency of the building and other structures and how they will work within the site's topography. He also showed the potential location of public art along with other nodes of interest. The final slides showed renderings that reflect the incorporation of the materials to be used.

Mayor Poppa thanked Mr. Doss for his presentation and for incorporating the color palette of the design from the feedback they received.

CMBR Faidley asked if the screening will be sufficient to block headlights. Mr. Doss said they are using a layered approach and there is also a crash wall in the parking garage that will block the headlights.

CMBR Faidley asked about the inner courtyard landscaping and also around the pool area. Mr. Doss said they have been focusing on outer facing elements in the development plan, but once they are in the design process, they will fine tune and detail the green space for the residents. He said they have a lot of plans, and this will be a great place for the residents to hang out.

Mayor Poppa asked if the screening would turn into an artistic element would they contact an artist. Mr. Doss said one other thing beyond the playful patterning of the façade is to further work with art. They have engaged an art gallery and there might be a shifting of elements as an added option.

**MOTION:** CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR DICKENS SECONDED TO APPROVE THE FINAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE ROCKS MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

#### **B. Approve Agreement for Compensation Study with McGrath**

City Administrator Moody said the Admin Committee met and scored the RFP responses. The composite reflects McGrath with the highest score, and the committee expressed support to move forward with McGrath.

CMBR Raglow added that the committee felt that McGrath was the best fit for the City. They have done this type of work in surrounding areas and their information was very thorough. They are very collaborative, and McGrath wants to work with them and staff to meet our timeline. She reiterated that they were very impressed with their work.

CMBR Dickens said what tipped the scales for them was the collaborative side. They seemed to be more invested in the community in their presentation and that resonated with them more.

CMBR Madigan expressed concern about the add-on for the remote study portion. He said it doesn't take long to realize that the majority of employees cannot work remotely noting especially that police officers and Public Works have to be there. He felt it was an exorbitant amount of money to talk to a small group of people about their ability to work remotely.

City Administrator Moody said it is a complex discussion. McGrath is looking to bring someone in who has been through this process in another city to work through it. He said that a one person turnover in Roeland Park is equal to the cost of the study portion.

CMBR Dickens said the committee recognized it is a large amount and they talked about being able to get out in front of the way the world is moving. Being able to work remotely as a portion of the study is necessary from a human resources standpoint. It will also help them craft a policy, which they currently do not have.

CMBR Raglow said the study involves a lot of research and data and is a huge time commitment. Providing them with the extra resources to be able to do this is worth it to get ahead of the trend and be proactive to help staff in their ability to make accommodations moving forward.

CMBR Faidley said they need to recognize as far as remote work is concerned that things are not just moving in this direction, they are already there. She said they can't be old school about it, and they need to know what will keep employees on board.

**MOTION:** CMBR RAGLOW MOVED AND CMBR DICKENS SECONDED TO APPROVE ENTERING INTO A COMPENSATION SURVEY SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH MCGRATH. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

#### **C. Reappoint Macrina Abdouch to the Planning Commission**

CMBR Faidley asked how long Ms. Abdouch has been on the Planning Commission. City Clerk Nielsen said that she is filling an expiring term, and this is a three-year appointment.

**MOTION:** CMBR BRAUER MOVED AND CMBR DICKENS SECONDED TO APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENT OF MACRINA ABDOUCH TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

### **VIII. Ordinances and Resolutions**

#### **A. Ordinance 1044 Allowing Alcohol at R Park for Special Events**

Mayor Poppa said this ordinance is for their summer concert series and is a normal thing for them to do. The concert dates are listed in the ordinance.

**MOTION:** CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 1044 ALLOWING ALCOHOL AT R PARK FOR SPECIAL EVENTS. (MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

#### **IX. Reports of City Officials**

City Administrator Moody said they are excited to see the play surface go down around R Park and about the traffic garden. He also reminded everyone of the Easter Egg Hunt.

The gas company is replacing a line on Canterbury. City crews and the contractor will begin work in the area in May.

At the next Council meeting, they will see bid packages for the Public Works renovation along with a recommendation so they can get started. The plans have also been submitted to the Unified Government.

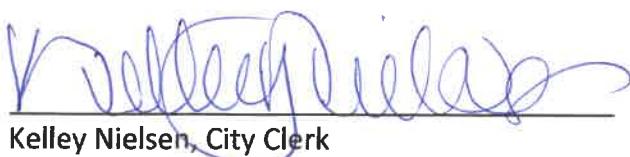
CMBR Rebne asked if they had talked to the city about the benches at the bus stop. City Administrator Moody said they need to speak with the adjoining property owner pertaining to the benches along Roe Blvd. He said their heaviest ridership is at the stops by Walmart and Price Chopper. They have contemplated two benches and trash enclosures. They would need to obtain a permanent easement to access the area around a bench for maintenance as there is not enough room in the right-of-way. He said that the placement of a bench and a trash receptacle will only enhance the area.

Police Chief Morris said he will be escorting the Easter Bunny to R Park on April 8<sup>th</sup>. The event starts at 10 a.m. and more detailed information is available on the City's website.

**Adjourn:**

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

(Roeland Park City Council Meeting Adjourned at 7:10 p.m.)



Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk



Michael Poppe, Mayor