

CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Roeland Park City Hall
4600 W 51st Street, Roeland Park, KS 66205
Monday, May 15, 2023, 6:00 P.M.

- Michael Poppa, Mayor
- Trisha Brauer, Council Member
- Benjamin Dickens, Council Member
- Jan Faidley, Council Member
- Jennifer Hill, Council Member

- Tom Madigan, Council Member
- Castagna-Herrera, Council Member
- Michael Rebne, Council Member
- Kate Raglow, Council Member

- Keith Moody, City Administrator
- Micah Rehmert, Asst. City Administrator
- Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk
- John Morris, Police Chief
- Donnie Scharff, Public Works Director

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. CMBR Brauer was absent; all other Governing Body members were present. Staff members present were City Administrator Moody, City Attorney Mauer, Finance Director/Asst. City Administrator Rehmert, Public Works Director Scharff, Police Chief Morris, and City Clerk Nielsen.

Modification of Agenda

Approval of the Gateway Art Agreement contract under Unfinished Business will be moved to the June 5th City Council meeting as the Governing Body does not have the agreement back from Mr. Pierce.

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

II. Consent Agenda

- A. **Appropriations Ordinance #1020**
- B. **Council Meeting Minutes May 1, 2023**

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

III. Business from the Floor

A. Presentations By Historian

Anna Jacobson, the historian retained by the City to work with the Historical Committee on the sign project and updating *Roe'ling Through the Years*, made a presentation on the scope and strategy for

this project. As an historian, her focus is on environmental and public history. The *Roe'ling Through the Years* history book needs review, updating, and editing. She will also be updating and reviewing the copy for the interpretative signs, focusing on where Roeland Park's history goes from here and how that turns into action. Ms. Jacobson also included a timeline for the project.

The Governing Body was asked to submit any questions they had, and Ms. Jacobson was able to address those. She reviewed her approach, experience, contacts, and who she would meet and interview with to build the story. She also addressed ways of conducting research when there is no written record. She stressed that the research would be equitable, honest, and informative in the hopes to unite the community through a shared history.

Mayor Poppa expressed his appreciation for the presentation and the comprehensive answers to the questions presented. He said he looks forward to working with Ms. Jacobson on the project.

CMBR Faidley asked at what point in time *Roe'ling Through the Years* begins. CMBR Madigan said it starts at the year 1000 which addresses the beginning of colonization.

IV. Mayor's Report

A. Police Week Proclamation - May 14-20

Mayor Poppa read the National Police Week Proclamation into the record and specifically recognized the efforts of Chief Morris and the entire Police Department for their work keeping Roeland Park safe and building community relationships.

(Applause)

B. Public Works Week Proclamation - May 21-27 "Connecting the World Through Public Works"

Mayor Poppa read the Public Works proclamation into the record noting that the quality of life begins with Public Works and is especially true in Roeland Park thanks to Public Works Director Scharff and their staff noting it is evident they take great pride in their work.

(Applause)

C. National Gun Violence Awareness Day Proclamation - Moms Demand Action

Mayor Poppa read the proclamation into the record and added that citizens want gun safety, and the City continues to find ways to make their community safer and work to prevent more tragedy.

DeeDee Cooper and Deanna Barclay thanked Mayor Poppa for signing the proclamation. Ms. Cooper said that gun violence is a big problem in the United States and said they have been documenting statistics for nine years. She also appreciates that Roeland Park is bringing light to this problem.

Ms. Barclay said that with education and a continued effort to raise awareness about the causes of violence their hope is that it will bring about a change.

They invited everyone to their event on Saturday, June 3rd. They will be meeting at the Community Blood Center 10568 Metcalf at 9 a.m. and doing a walk at Meadowbrook Park.

(Applause and photos were taken)

D. National Gun Violence Awareness Day Proclamation - Grandparents for Gun Safety and League of Women Voters of Johnson County

Applause and photos were taken.

Connie Taylor, President of the Kansas League of Women Voters spoke to how gun violence has impacted their public health and thanked Roeland Park for making a pledge to make the community safer. She also provided statistics that 69 percent of gun deaths are due to suicide while 28 percent are due to homicide.

Carla Oppenheimer from Grandparents for Gun Safety said their organization was formed as a result of the Sandy Hook tragedy. Their goal is to educate the public and to date have given out over 5,000 gun locks at various events and to different organizations. They also lobby their legislators to initiate change. They will also have a community forum in October.

They too will be holding an event on June 3rd at the Meadowbrook Park Clubhouse at 9101 Nall in Prairie Village at 9 a.m. where they will be accepting donations for the Safehome Domestic Violence Shelter.

(Applause and photos were taken)

In honor of the Gun Violence Awareness Day, the City's lights will be changed to orange.

V. Reports of City Liaisons and Committees

No reports were given.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Amendment to Land Purchase Agreement with EPC

Staff is recommending the approval of the amendment to the agreement with EPC to extend their closing date to August 30, 2023. City Administrator Moody said the amendment provides for a payment of \$15,000/month for the extension. It also provides for additional earnest money up to \$75,000 that is non-refundable. There is also a provision for reimbursing the City for costs incurred to relocate Public Works if EPC does not close on the project, which is an additional \$75,000.

CMBR Madigan says the monies are non-refundable, but asked if there is a condition where EPC can get their money back. City Attorney Mauer said that if the City does not meet their obligations or chooses not to move forward with the project those monies could be refunded.

CMBR Faidley inquired as to how much equity has been secured at this time.

Brendon O'Leary from EPC said that they have every intention of moving forward with the project. He said due to the economy and rising interest rates it is taking longer to have the conversations with equity partners as both sides are going through a more stringent due diligence process. He said that they have raised about 65 percent and the project will move forward once they have that 100 percent.

Mr. O’Leary said they are having good conversations and is confident the project will proceed as scheduled once they reach that 100 percent.

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR DICKENS SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO THE LAND PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH EPC EXTENDING THE CLOSING DATE ON THE ROCKS TO AUGUST 30, 2023 (90 DAYS. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0)

B. Approve Gateway Art Agreement with Nathan Pierce

This item was moved to the June 5, 2023, City Council meeting.

VII. New Business

A. Approve Facility Use Agreement within Johnson County Community College

The agreement is for use of rooms at the Community Center for an adult education center. Mayor Poppa said he is glad to have the partnership with JCCC in the City.

CMBR Faidley said she too is excited about this collaboration and the opportunities it will bring for their residents and the surrounding community.

MOTION: CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR RAGLOW SECONDED TO APPROVE A FACILITY USE AGREEMENT WITH JOHNSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO PROVIDE ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER. (MOTION CARRIED 7-0)

B. Approve Patrol Car Purchase Changes

Police Chief Morris said finding hybrid vehicles for their fleet is becoming increasingly difficult. He said that they have five patrol units in the Police Department and went over the age and high mileage. Currently they have orders in for 2023 Fords but only one has a VIN to be built, two do not, and there is no guarantee of delivery. Also, the order period for 2023 is closed and 2024 has not been announced.

Chief Morris reviewed options and recommended the purchase of two Dodge Durangos at a good price and which they will customize for their department. There is also a Ford Explorer Turbo available in which they will be able to utilize the custom equipment donated for the K-9 unit that is specific to the Explorer. Chief also noted that the mileage is comparable to that of the hybrids. He said there is enough money in the CIP as they have not been able to get replacements. They have done a good job with what they have to this point. The vehicles he is recommending are available immediately. They would also sell the one they would be replacing and put that money back into the fund.

Mayor Poppa asked if they would cancel the current order for the 2023 hybrids. Police Chief Morris recommended keeping them on hold and not cancelling the order.

CMBR Dickens asked if the order with the VIN was canceled, would the Ford Explorer Turbo be used for the K-9. Police Chief Morris said it would be, and he would also like a 2024 contingent plan for the hybrid. He also would like to have all his vehicles have the same logos and signage to be consistent.

CMBR Madigan said if they keep dragging out the discussion and not purchasing any vehicles there will be nothing left to purchase as they are competing with everyone.

CMBR Faidley asked for an explanation of how the order process works and whether if an order is canceled it automatically gets placed for the following year. Police Chief Morris said the process starts again and the prices are going up quickly. He said in 43 years, this is the first time he has had any difficulty in getting fleet. He is concerned if they wait, the 2024 costs will be much higher.

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR RAGLOW SECONDED TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF TWO DODGE DURANGOS AND ONE FORD EXPLORER TURBO AND TO KEEP THE FORD EXPLORER HYBRID WITH AN ASSIGNED VIN ON ORDER. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.)

VIII. Ordinances and Resolutions

Resolution 702 to approve the 2024 to 2028 CARS Program.

Mayor Poppa stated they are required by the county to submit this information annually.

City Administrator Moody added that they do this every year even though it is a five-year outlook. They do this to accommodate any changes and also project out how they plan to use the resources.

CMBR Faidley asked about the Roe Project. Public Works Director Scharff said it is for the area of Roe and Johnson Drive and is a joint project with the City of Mission. Mission on the east side will add a crosswalk and Roeland Park will add pedestrian facilities in that location.

MOTION: CMBR REBNE MOVED AND CMBR CASTAGNA-HERRERA APPROVE RESOLUTION 702, A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PROPOSED 2024-2028 FIVE-YEAR PROGRAM UNDER THE COUNTY ASSISTANCE ROAD SYSTEM (CARS) (MOTION CARRIED 7-0)

IX. Reports of City Officials

A. Police Department

Chief Morris said the license plate readers were in, but the remainder of his comments were made away from the microphone.

B. Public Works

Public Works Director Scharff said in honor of Public Works Week, they are having a taco bar next Thursday at the Public Works facility. Invitations were sent out by email, and he asked for the Governing Body to let him know if they were going to attend and if there are any dietary restrictions.

CMBR Hill said she hoped they would be getting some direction on the Aquatic Center hours and days of operation as she is fielding inquiries from residents. City Administrator Moody said they are still hiring lifeguards, some of whom who are still going through the certification process. If they can get at least 30 lifeguards, they should be able to operate a five day a week schedule. At 35, they could operate seven days a week.

Adjourn:

MOTION: CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR CASTAGNA-HERRERA SECONDED TO ADJOURN. (MOTION CARRIED 7-0.)

(Roeland Park City Council Meeting Adjourned at 7:11 p.m.)



Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk



Michael Poppa, Mayor