

**CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
ROELAND PARK CITY HALL
4600 WEST 51st STREET, ROELAND PARK, KS 66205
August 21, 2023, 6:00 P.M.**

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

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

- Keith Moody, City Administrator
- Jennifer Jones-Lacy, Asst. City Admin.
- 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 meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

City Clerk Nielsen called the roll. CMBRS Dickens and Brauer were absent. All other Governing Body members were present. 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 Hearing - Amending 2023 Budget

Mayor Poppa opened the public hearing. There were no public comments, and the hearing was closed.

II. Public Hearing - Exceeding Revenue Neutral Rate and Adoption 2024 Budget

Mayor Poppa opened the public hearing. There were no public comments, and the hearing was closed.

III. Public Comments

Donald Martin (4935 Wells) Mr. Martin gave the Governing Body a petition signed by residents of Wells Drive requesting speed bumps on their street.

Mayor Poppa said they have seen the petition and it was given to the City Clerk. It will go through a process after which they will reach out to Mr. Martin, and they can plan the next steps.

Jim Constant (5039 Buena Vista) Mr. Constant spoke to the speed and amount of traffic on Buena Vista. He gave the Governing Body personal recounts of traffic issues of cars in his yard, property damage, and almost being struck by vehicles. He said that the stop signs do not seem to help. He also mentioned the child who was struck by a vehicle recently and the numerous close calls. He emphasized they need to do something to slow the traffic down and suggested options of speed bumps or making it a one-way street. He said he has invited police officers to sit in his driveway and they have.

Mayor Poppa thanked Mr. Constant for his comments and said they will be discussing the issue and traffic calming measures at Buena Vista during their Workshop meeting immediately following the Council meeting.

IV. Consent Agenda

- A. Appropriations Ordinance #1026**
- B. Council Minutes August 7, 2023**
- C. 2024 Land Lease with JCPRD for Sports Dome**

MOTION: CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS AS PRESENTED. (MOTION CARRIED 6-0.)

V. Business from the Floor - Proclamations/Applications/Presentations

A. Outstanding Service Award

City Clerk Nielsen said the Outstanding Service Award is being presented to Doreen Dreyer, Administrative Assistant. Ms. Nielsen said she is known for her kindness, helpfulness, fun personality, attention to detail in City communications, and prompt service to everyone she interacts with.

Mayor Poppa said whenever he walks into the office, she is always smiling and attentive. He said he was sorry she couldn't be there to accept the award, but they truly appreciate her work.

VI. Mayor's Report

A. National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month Proclamation

Mayor Poppa said this is a personal issue for him as he has had a brother-in-law and friend die by suicide. He thanked the Johnson County Suicide Prevention Coalition for attending the meeting. He read the proclamation into the record.

Tim DeWeese, the executive director for the Johnson County Mental Health Center was also in attendance at the meeting. He thanked the City of Roeland Park for continuing to bring awareness to this issue. He said that last year there were 111 suicides in Johnson County and 38 this year. He said that even one is too many. Mr. DeWeese said they take about 40,000 calls annually at 988 Lifeline and said there is never a wrong call to make. They are there to provide resources and direction.

Mayor Poppa declared the month of September 2023 as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in the City of Roeland Park. All Councilmembers expressed their support for this proclamation.

(Photos were taken)

- **988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline:** [988Lifeline.org/Talk-To-Someone-Now](https://988lifeline.org/Talk-To-Someone-Now)
- **Johnson County Suicide Prevention Coalition:** JoCoGov.org/SuicidePrevention

B. National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day Proclamation

Mayor Poppa said this day was established to remember those lost to illicit fentanyl poisoning and to acknowledge the devastation of drugs.

CMBR Hill said she has recent experience of a relative and fentanyl poisoning. It is an epidemic affecting adults and children. They are using Narcan in high school and middle schools regularly. She said the time is different now and they need to stress and teach the children that one drug can kill you.

Mayor Poppa read the proclamation into the record declaring August 21st through the end of the month National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day in the City of Roeland Park. All Governing Body members expressed their support of the proclamation.

- **DEA:** <https://www.dea.gov/fentanylawareness>
- **CDC:** <https://www.cdc.gov/opioids/overdoseprevention/help-resources.html>

VII. Reports of City Liaisons and Committees

There were no reports given.

VIII. Unfinished Business

No Unfinished Business was discussed.

IX. New Business

A. Amend 2023 Budget

Mayor Poppa stated that all funds being amended in 2023 are available and that the next three years look positive.

MOTION: CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR RAGLOW SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT OF THE 2023 BUDGET. (MOTION CARRIED 6-0.)

B. Adopt the 2024 Budget Including CIP and Objectives

CMBR Madigan recommended to remove the sales tax objective and research for Roeland Park to no longer collect sales tax on food.

CMBR Rebne said he understands the desire to remove the objective. He said that the residents voted on a tax increase to pay for objectives. He said he thinks it is still worth looking into, even with Governor Kelly making moves to remove sales tax on food. He suggested they could look at a modified food sales tax and possibly not collect on certain items such as unprepared foods.

CMBR Madigan said the research shows that in reducing sales taxes property taxes rise. He said he can't support something that would cause the property tax to increase to make up for the reduction in sales tax collected.

CMBR Hill expressed agreement with removing the item. She said it was estimated they would need to raise the levy about 19 mills to cover the loss of a food sales tax. She said that all their major retailers sell food, and it would be devastating to their residents to raise the mill that much.

CMBR Raglow stated she was also in favor of removing the item and see this as robbing Peter to pay Paul in that the monies will need to be made up somewhere. She added that individuals shopping from outside of Roeland Park help to provide those funds, whereas, property taxes are paid only by their residents.

There was majority agreement of the Governing Body to pull the objective from the budget.

CMBR Faidley asked about wage benefit study results and wanting to implement it for this budget cycle.

City Administrator Moody said the admin committee met and they will be bringing a recommendation to the Governing Body on September 5th, which is post-adoption of the budget. The implementation plan they will be bringing as a recommendation stays within the budget set for 2023 and 2024. They also believe the adoption of an amendment for the 2024 budget will afford them the resources to complete the implementation of the new pay scale. The committee's focus was to stay within those budget resources. It does provide moving everyone below the new minimum to the minimum, with a minimum of \$1.25 per hour adjustments.

Mayor Poppa said he, CMBR Raglow, and CMBR Dickens from the Admin Committee and the department heads were a part of the committee who will make the recommendation. CMBR Raglow stayed on the committee pass her term for continuity.

MOTION: CMBR RAGLOW MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED 2024 BUDGET INCLUDING THE 5-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND 2024 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES, INCLUDING FUNDS FOR PROJECT RISE IN A NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$100,000 IN 2024. (MOTION CARRIED 6-0.)

C. Public Fireworks Display Request from Bishop Miede

Mayor Poppa said this is an item that comes before them every year. It consists of three to five booms at home football games after the National Anthem. The requested dates in September are 9/1, 9/15, 9/29, and in October on 10/20.

Police Chief Morris said this has been a long-standing tradition. He has off-duty officers that will be working at those games, and he personally will be at those games. He said they make sure the school follows all the guidelines and noted that all the requirements have been met. Police Chief Morris said he does not have an issue with the request.

Mayor Poppa asked if they notify the surrounding neighbors. Police Chief Morris said since it has been going on for years, most residents would be aware of it. He said it is very quick. He also said if they go

into playoffs there may be additional dates, but the school is in compliance with the City with their request.

CMBR Faidley asked if they do a social media push as a heads up to residents. Police Chief Morris said they notify dispatch and the Fire Department in case they receive any calls. Currently he is not aware of any social media. CMBR Faidley asked if they can do that, and give the approximate time. Chief Morris said that was a great idea and they can do that.

CMBR Hill said it is important to remember why they banned fireworks in Roeland Park. She said that so many people have PTSD and pets are traumatized, as well as war veterans. She said that just because something has always been done shouldn't necessarily mean it should continue. She reiterated this is the reason why they put the ban in place to begin with.

Police Chief Morris said this is not his request, but from their application. He wanted the Governing Body to know that they had complied with all the points they needed to for approval. He added that the Fire Department has signed off on this request.

CMBR Madigan said that setting off something like this is not unusual and that many sports set off fireworks or cannons. He said it is only once. The ban on fireworks affects the whole city. With a little education, they can let the people know they're going to be affected by this. He said that if someone is prepared, it is a lot different than not knowing when something is going to happen.

CMBR Rebne said they have heard from many people and that it might be a good idea to reassess their fireworks ordinance. He noted that Bishop Miege School was asking for permission, and he supports their request.

CMBR Castagna-Herrera agreed with putting the word out on their social media pages noting if they know something is coming, people are better able to handle it.

Police Chief Morris will notify the school to do a social media push and he will have it put on the City, Police, and Fire Department Facebook pages.

MOTION: CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR CASTAGNA-HERRERA SECONDED TO APPROVE THE PUBLIC FIREWORKS REQUEST BY BISHOP MIEGE HIGH SCHOOL. (MOTION CARRIED 5-1 WITH CMBR HILL VOTING NO.)

D. Approve Community Center Change Orders

Mayor Poppa said the change order includes additional brick tuckpointing on the exterior and flooring in Room 4, the Neighbors' Place. He said it timing makes sense to do it now rather than in Phase 2.

MOTION: CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO EXTEND APPROVAL TO THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO AUTHORIZE UP TO \$50,000 OF ADDITIONAL WORK AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER THROUGH CHANGE ORDERS AND CONSTRUCTION CHANGE DIRECTIVES. (MOTION CARRIED 6-0.)

E. Discuss Replacement of Police Duty Weapons

Police Chief Morris requested approval from the Governing Body to replace the department's current .40 caliber Glock with a 9mm. He said that all in-car tactical rifles are currently 9mm. The reason for wanting the change is to have all weapons whether in-car or side arm to be the same caliber. This will save the department time and money as ammunition is quite expensive. He also wants to add some optics to the handguns to include a sight on top and a flashlight underneath. The flashlight will eliminate the need for an officer to carry both a handgun and a light. These 9mm units have less recoil, better target recognition, and are safer as one-unit. Their current handguns have a trade-in option that will be applied to the new purchase price. There is also \$5,000 in the CIP for replacement of weapons, and \$5,294 from the Special Law Enforcement Fund to apply towards the purchase. The total expense will be applied towards the optics with a pointing dot, flashlights, new holsters and the 9mm handguns.

CMBR Faidley asked when switching to the new caliber guns if the officers will be required to have new training. Police Chief Morris said they will go through training at the range so that can be qualified on the new weapons.

CMBR Madigan said he was trained on side arms. He said the size of the bullet does not matter, it's whether you are hitting the target. He added that there is a higher probability of hitting a target with a 9mm than a .40 caliber. He supports this move in light of what happened in Mission recently.

CMBR Rebne said he is afraid that none of the money is devoted to encounters with folks who are in a law-breaking situation. He would want to see the emphasis on de-escalation rather than on shooting to kill. He added there is so much work that still needs to be done to keep everyone safe and would not vote to approve the \$20,000 expense of weaponry.

CMBR Faidley asked if the flashlight has a switch to turn it off and on. Police Chief Morris said it will.

Police Chief Morris said there is criteria that the officers have to be able to use their weapon. He said the new weapons help to protect themselves and the community. He said that Johnson County is changing and with the newer weapons they have a potential to be more accurate and not hit a bystander. He said this is not about killing but protection, and that de-escalation always comes first. Chief Morris said he would much rather talk with someone than fight with them.

CMBR Madigan said they should not lose sight of the fact they pay for a co-responder as a way to help de-escalate problems. The issue they're talking about is an active shooter situation and if someone is endangering people, an officer needs to return fire.

MOTION: CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR RAGLOW SECONDED TO APPROVE THE REPLACEMENT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT DUTY WEAPONS. (MOTION CARRIED 5-1 WITH CMBR REBNE VOTING NO.)

F. Approve Service Agreement with Confluence to Update the City Zoning Code

Mayor Poppa said that Confluence was involved in the City's Comprehensive Plan and worked on the Roe 2020 project. They also helped with redesigning their building standards and are familiar with the City and their codes. The \$40,000 service agreement is approved in the budget.

CMBR Faidley said that Confluence is known to them. Also, she asked about the amount of public engagement they are looking at in this process and questioned whether one time is sufficient.

City Administrator Moody said Planning Commission meetings are public and this will be largely handled there. They have planned one engagement session and those who want to continue to share are welcome to attend the Planning Commission meetings. He said their meetings are relatively informal and more open to public engagement.

CMBR Madigan agreed they need more public involvement. He would like to see something where the public can come to a venue like the Community Center's Multi-Purpose room so they can see what is proposed and be able to talk about it. He said people want to be more involved.

City Administrator Moody said their intent is to bring public engagement into the process. He also said there is not a timeline for this to be completed. If there is greater public participation, they can take whatever time they need to make certain the discussion is thorough, and everyone has the opportunity to be heard.

MOTION: CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT WITH CONFLUENCE TO UPDATE THE CITY'S ZONING CODE. (MOTION CARRIED 6-0.)

X. Ordinances and Resolutions

There were no ordinances or resolutions presented.


XI. Reports of City Officials

There were no ordinances or resolutions presented.

Adjourn:

MOTION: CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR RAGLOW SECONDED TO ADJOURN. (MOTION CARRIED 6-0.)

(Roeland Park City Council Meeting Adjourned at 7:02 p.m.)


Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk
Michael Poppa, Mayor