

CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
ROELAND PARK CITY HALL
4600 WEST 51ST STREET, ROELAND PARK, KS 66205
September 18, 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 Madigan and Brauer were absent. All other Governing Body members were present. Staff members present were City Administrator Moody, City Attorney Mauer, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Jones-Lacy, Public Works Director Scharff, Public Works Superintendent VandenBos, Police Chief Morris, Parks and Rec Superintendent Marshall, 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 comments. There was no public comment, and the hearing was closed.

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

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

III. Public Comments

There were no public comments made.

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Appropriations Ordinance #1028

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

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

There was no Business from the Floor.

VI. Mayor's Report

Mayor Poppa informed everyone that Everygy would be presenting at the Community Forum on October 30th at 6 p.m. in the Community Center. Further information will be sent out through the normal channels.

CMBR Faidley wanted to thank Ms. Jones-Lacy for bringing to their attention National Week Without Driving beginning October 2nd. She said that they have the opportunity to sign up as an individual, an organization, or as a public official. She also didn't know if everyone was interested in making this a city-wide effort. Ms. Faidley also noted that it also coincides with National Walk to School, and they are working with Roesland Elementary PTO to bring that back this year.

Ms. Jones-Lacy added that she is including information in the October/November newsletter but towards an individual effort. She said there is nothing precluding them from being able to change that should they wish to participate as a group or in a city-wide effort.

Mayor Poppa said he would love to get a team together and join the effort.

VII. Reports of City Liaisons and Committees

A. Aquatic Center Advisory Committee

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Anthony Marshall reviewed his report attached to the agenda packet. He provided numbers of pool passes issued and annual revenue for the past three years a comparison. Also included in the report was a breakdown of pool attendees from other cities.

CMBR Faidley noted that their non-resident packages were up over their resident packages. Mr. Marshall attributed that to the RPAC not being open on Fridays. CMBR Faidley also asked for numbers showing cost versus revenue, so they can see the amount the City subsidizes for the Aquatic Center operations.

City Administrator Moody said those figures will be available at the end of September, and Mr. Marshall will come back and present them at that time.

CMBR Dickens also commented on the Super Pass numbers being down due to reduced pool hours.

CMBR Raglow asked if there was information available for daily attendance. Mr. Marshall said he does attendance numbers by the week, but can track the daily numbers and will include those for the next season. CMBR Raglow said it would be helpful to know which days are their busiest. Mr. Marshall was very positive that they will be open every day next season.

CMBR Hill also would like to see number comparison pre-renovation versus post-renovation at the pool. Mr. Marshall will work with City Administrator Moody to gather that information noting that he was not with the City prior to the Aquatic Center renovations.

City Administrator Moody said they have 2019 numbers to put an accurate comparison together.

B. Ad-Hoc Historical Committee

Jim Grebe, a representative of the Ad-Hoc Historical Committee provided an update on what the committee is working on. The committee is working on updating “Roe’ling Through the Years” and the necessary research before they place historical marker signs in the City.

A credentialed historian, Anna Jacobson, has been hired and she has been providing the committee bi-weekly reports. To date she has spent over 200 hours researching Roeland Park history. She is writing essays to supplement her historical research with topics to include pre-colonization, environment and indigenous history, the Shawnee Nation, as well as other missions in the area. Included will be information about John Roe, his family and their importance as well as redlining, white flight, and Roeland Park becoming a front runner for LGBTQ rights in Kansas. Ms. Jacobson will also document oral histories.

Mr. Grebe said their next meeting is Thursday, the 21st, at 6 p.m. at City Hall.

Mayor Poppa thanked Mr. Grebe, the committee and the Council liaisons for their work that will allow them to reflect the accurate history of Roeland Park.

CMBR Raglow is one of the Council liaisons to the committee and said that Ms. Jacobson has been diligent in her work and has also provided great reports to the committee, of which the Governing Body receives copies. She said the Ad-Hoc Historical Committee will be meeting with the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee to work together so they can move forward on the historical signage.

VIII. Unfinished Business

No Unfinished Business was discussed.

IX. Ordinances and Resolutions

A. Resolution 706 - Intent to Exceed Revenue Neutral Mill Rate

A roll call vote was taken.

MOTION: CMBR DICKENS MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 706 - INTENT TO EXCEED REVENUE NEUTRAL MILL RATE. (MOTION CARRIED 6-0.)

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. Amend 2023 Budget

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

B. Adopt 2024 Budget Including CIP and Objectives

CMBR Faidley noted they removed the objective to study the effects of dropping the City's sales tax.

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR REBNE SECONDED TO APPROVE ADOPTION OF THE 2024 BUDGET TO INCLUDE THE CIP AND OBJECTIVES. (MOTION CARRIED 6-0.)

C. Temporary Increase in Vacation Time Maximum Balance for Police Personnel

Ms. Jones-Lacy said this request is to suspend the vacation limit for police officers due to the ongoing recruiting crisis that is not limited to Roeland Park but nationwide. Currently the department is down four police officers, and they have one detective vacancy. The officers are working additional overtime and are unable to take their vacation. They do not want them to lose their vacation time and would like to accommodate them at this time. She noted they can revisit this item again in the future as the situation changes.

CMBR Dickens asked about the prospects the Police Department has with current staff. Police Chief Morris said those that have applied did not make past the initial background check.

CMBR Faidley said this is a less than ideal situation and asked if the officers were reaching burnout. Police Chief Morris said they are always tired during the summertime months, but the officers have been working hard and continue to do a good job. He noted that they were extremely busy today and they are putting in a lot of hours. CMBR Faidley said they need to have a pizza party again for the officers. Police Chief Morris said they always enjoy food. He said they are hanging tough and doing the best they can noting that their situations is not unique, and they will continue to try to get good quality applicants.

Mayor Poppa added his thanks noting that their Police Department is tough and that everyone is pulling together. He hopes by passing this motion it continues to show their appreciation and support for the Police Department.

MOTION: CMBR DICKENS MOVED AND CMBR CASTAGNA-HERRERA SECONDED TO APPROVE SUSPENSION OF THE 240-HOUR VACATION ACCRUAL BALANCE LIMIT FOR SWORN POLICE OFFICERS FOR THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024. (MOTION CARRIED 6-0.)

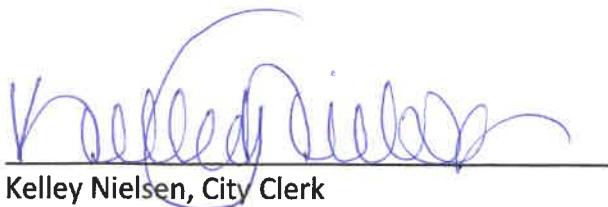
XI. Reports of City Officials

There were no reports given.

Adjourn:

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

(Roeland Park City Council Meeting Adjourned at 6:25 p.m.)



Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk



Michael Poppa, Mayor