

**CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**ROELAND PARK CITY HALL**  
**4600 WEST 51<sup>st</sup> STREET, ROELAND PARK, KS 66205**  
**August 5, 2024, 6:00 P.M.**

- Michael Poppa, Mayor
- Benjamin Dickens, Council Member
- Jan Faidley, Council Member
- Emily Hage, Council Member
- Jennifer Hill, Council Member

- Matthew Lero, Council Member
- Tom Madigan, Council Member
- Kate Raglow, Council Member
- Jeffrey Stocks, 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**

Lero

Faidley

**Finance**

Stocks

Dickens

**Safety**

Hage

Hill

**Public Works**

Raglow

Madigan

(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. All Governing Body members were present with CMBR Dickens present online. Staff present were City Administrator Moody, City Attorney Mauer, Public Works Director Scharff, Deputy Police Chief Honas, Parks and Rec Superintendent Marshall, and City Clerk Nielsen.

**Modification of Agenda**

*There were no modifications to the agenda.*

**I. Public Comments**

**David Reid** (5510 Granada Ln) Mr. Reid stated he has had a gas leak in his back yard since late fall 2023 because of work being done in a neighboring yard when a gas line was hit. Mr. Reid said responses from the gas company have been that it is not serious and not urgent and gave lengthy timelines for it to be repaired. Mr. Reid showed the Governing Body photos of the dying vegetation around the gas leak, sinkholes that are forming, and the holes dug by the gas company to release the gas. He also noted the odor coming from the leak. He expressed his frustration and asked for the City's intervention.

Mayor Poppa responded that he would contact his rep at Kansas Gas to see if they will reevaluate the issue. He also asked Mr. Reid to email him the photos and apologized that he is having to deal with this problem, and they will do their best to get it taken care of.

**Laurel Perkins** (3791 W. 47<sup>th</sup> Pl) Ms. Perkins thanked the City for quickly addressing their gas concern when they had a leak, and that the area is much better for it. Ms. Perkins appeared before the Governing Body to say that the residents on her street do not support the construction of a sidewalk on her street that has no outlet and is a waste of public funds. She noted that residents on the south side will lose parking and will force more cars to park on the street. They do support replacing the street but reiterated the sidewalk resources would be better used elsewhere. She also presented a petition and signatures to the Governing Body. Ms. Perkins did thank Roeland Park for all they do and that they love living in the City.

## **II. Consent Agenda**

- A. Appropriations Ordinance #1048**
- B. City Council Meeting Minutes July 15, 2024**

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

## **III. Business from the Floor**

- A. Outstanding Service Award - Anthony Marshall**

City Manager Moody stated that Mr. Marshall always has an outstanding positive attitude and readily helps the other departments. He noted that R Park has been busy with rentals and that he keeps the events staffed.

(Applause)

Mr. Marshall let the Council and City staff know how much he appreciates the award. He also introduced the staff he has that adds to their success. He introduced Sebastian Mendez who Mr. Marshall hired to “Speak 16” and with his help they have been able to recruit 20 people. He also introduced Luke Wilson, the pool manager, who has been at the center for nine years and Zoe Hobbs who handles administrative functions has been there for four years, both of whom started as young teens with the Aquatic Center.

Mayor Poppa said it is apparent why Mr. Marshall received the award as he gave praise to everyone else.

(There was more applause and photos were taken.)

- B. Social Media Update - Katie Garcia**

Katie Garcia stated that she continues to send emails on Wednesdays and that their open rates are holding steady around 7 percent over industry average. The City is also now sharing information on LinkedIn. She reviewed their most popular posts for the quarter noting they continue to post good and varied content. Their audience rate grew about 2 percent in the second quarter, and they saw increased engagements. Also, they received a 5-star rating for all the questions on the Citizens Academy survey results.

Mayor Poppa thanked Ms. Garcia for handling their social engagement avenues and noted that their residents continue to be very engaged.

CMBR Dickens stated that he has taken himself off Twitter (X) and said that it merits a discussion from the Governing Body as to whether they should withdraw. He knows it is an algorithm-based app, but questioned supporting a platform that does nothing to curb racism, antisemitism and homophobic speech but does promote Nazis. He said they do have other options in Bluesky and Threads.

Ms. Garcia said she was not familiar with Bluesky and would look into it. She also said that sometimes on Twitter (X), their posts are picked up by other news media organizations and reposted.

Mayor Poppa said that they could discuss this, and he would like to get Ms. Garcia's feedback in those discussions. He also would like to hear from other Northeast Johnson County cities as well as their DEI committee.

CMBR Hill clarified that it is X and not Twitter. Mayor Poppa thanked her for that clarification.

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

##### **A. National Fentanyl Preservation and Awareness Day Proclamation**

CMBR Hill said they need to stop looking at overdoses as happening to "those people" and spoke to having a relative pass away from fentanyl poisoning. As a high school educator, she said this does happen and that even in middle school they have used Narcan to revive students. CMBR Hill said they must keep in mind this happens more than we know, and they want to be there to protect others.

CMBR Hage is appreciative of the City putting this item forward. She runs a non-profit called First Call and they are working hard to raise awareness and do education about how to spot an overdose and train to reverse it. She said if anyone needs naloxone, testing strips, training or just has questions to contact her. Her agency has items they can distribute for free. She said this is an extremely dangerous game that is being played and is glad they are having this conversation.

CMBR Faidley asked if they could use their social media outlets to do more education on this with an article from CMBR Hage on the resources that are available.

CMBR Hage will coordinate with staff and Ms. Garcia to put something out.

Mayor Poppa proclaimed August 21, 2024, as National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day in the City of Roeland Park. All Councilmembers signed on to the proclamation.

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

##### **A. MARC - Bike & Pedestrian (Jan Faidley)**

*CMBR Faidley's report was included in the agenda packet.*

##### **B. MARC - First Tier Suburbs (Jan Faidley)**

CMBR Faidley clarified that the most recent meeting and the April meeting are included in the packet.

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

*There was no Unfinished Business discussed.*

## **VII. New Business**

### **A. Award Bid for 47<sup>th</sup> Place NSRP Street Project**

Public Works Director Scharff recognized that the sidewalk is a low priority, but they are a Community for All Ages and provide those sidewalks so that residents have a place to walk. Staff is recommending Kansas Heavy as the contractor for the base bid.

CMBR Hill asked if Kansas Heavy built the Aldi staircase. Public Works Director Scharff said they were.

CMBR Madigan asked if the bid included sidewalks on both cul-de-sacs. CMBR Faidley said it is only for one side of the street. Public Works Director Scharff said sidewalks are for both cul-de-sacs and only one side of the street.

CMBR Stocks said at the community meeting there was very vocal opposition to the sidewalk. Considering that opposition, the disconnect of the sidewalk, and the cul-de-sacs, he would be supportive of moving forward without the sidewalk. There was not a lot of support, or compelling arguments made to do the sidewalks.

Mayor Poppa asked what the ratio was for signatures regarding homes. Ms. Perkins made comments that were not picked up on the record. Public Works Director Scharff said the signatures were for the west side of the street.

CMBR Madigan stated he agreed with CMBR Stocks' comments.

CMBR Hill said she has a growing concern that every project that is on the Comprehensive Plan and has been planned for years and that feeds into a Community for All Ages, is sustainable, and helps people transverse the neighborhood that the Council is checking them off as something they do not need. She said there is a lot of history that has gone into the planning, and there will always be people who get upset at what they do, but overall, they are planning a Community for All Ages with sidewalks and bike lanes so they can get around the City safely.

CMBR Faidley said sidewalks are a part of the Complete Streets policy passed by the Council to make public roadways safe for all users. She added that she supports the inclusion of the sidewalks on this project and that it is particularly important to stick with the policies they have.

**MOTION:** CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR FAIDLEY SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AWARD OF THE BID TO KANSAS HEAVY CONSTRUCTION FOR THE 47<sup>TH</sup> PLACE NSRP STREET PROJECT TO INCLUDE THE BASE BID AND ADD ALTERNATE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$556,971.40. (THE MOTION CARRIED 6-2 WITH CMBRS MADIGAN AND STOCKS VOTING NO.)

### **B. Approve Task Order with Lamp Rynearson for Final Design and Construction Inspection for Mission Road Project**

**MOTION:** CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR LERO SECONDED TO APPROVE THE FINAL DESIGN TASK ORDER WITH LAMP RYNEARSON FOR THE 2025 MISSION ROAD PROJECT AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$183,400. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

**C. Interlocal Agreement with the City of Mission for the E-Bike Share Program**

**MOTION:** CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR HAGE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF MISSION FOR THE ELECTRIC BICYCLE PURCHASE FOR THE BIKE SHARE. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-1 WITH CMBR DICKENS VOTING NO.)

**D. Approve Third Party Agreement with KDOT and Mission for E-Bike Share Program**

**MOTION:** CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR STOCKS SECONDED TO APPROVE THE THIRD-PARTY AGREEMENT WITH KDOT AND THE CITY OF MISSION FOR THE BIKE SHARE PROGRAM. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-1 WITH CMBR DICKENS VOTING NO.)

**VIII. Ordinances and Resolutions**

**A. Ordinance 1056 - Amendments to Chapter 16 Zoning Codes**

The Governing Body thanked Chris Shires from Confluence for his assistance as they worked through the regulations.

**MOTION:** CMBR LERO MOVED AND CMBR FAIDLEY SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY'S ZONING AND SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS - CHAPTER 16, ARTICLES 2, 4, 6, 9, 10, AND 14. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.)

**B. Ordinance 1057 - Adopt 2024 STO**

**MOTION:** CMBR RAGLOW MOVED AND CMBR HAGE SECONDED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 1057 -2024 STO (STANDARD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE) BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE LEAGUE OF KANSAS MUNICIPALITIES. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.)

**C. Ordinance 1058 - Adopt 2024 UPOC**

**MOTION:** CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR HAGE SECONDED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 1058 - 2024 UPOC (UNIFORM PUBLIC OFFENSE CODE) BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE LEAGUE OF KANSAS MUNICIPALITIES. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.)

**D. Ordinance 1059 - Providing Police Chief Authority to Temporarily Restrict or Allow On-Street Parking**

CMBR Hill asked if there was a timeframe for how long on-street parking would be allowed in an emergency situation. City Manager Moody said the ordinance does not detail that out, but the intent is for it to be temporary. If it were to become permanent, they would need to amend the appropriate sections of the code.

CMBR Faidley noted this stemmed from a construction issue on 55<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Poppa said approval of this will authorize the Police Chief to allow on-street parking.

**MOTION:** CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR LERO SECONDED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 1059 - PROVIDING POLICE CHIEF AUTHORITY TO TEMPORARILY RESTRICT OR ALLOW ON-STREET PARKING AND TO CLARIFY THAT APPROVAL PROCESS. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

**E. Ordinance 1060 - Allowing Evening Parking Over Planned Mission Road Bike Lane**

Mayor Poppa said this ordinance would allow vehicle parking on Mission Road from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

CMBR Faidley asked about the parking times in Westwood. Mayor Poppa said there is no parking from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. on the peripheral streets and never any parking on the Westwood side of Mission Road.

CMBR Hage asked what that rationale was for the 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. timeframe. City Manager Moody said that as a result of discussions with staff, the Governing Body, and community members is these are times when people normally leave for work or school. It is after rush hour, after dark, and the time is easy to remember.

CMBR Hill felt they were not being transparent in this. She said that parking over bike lanes is not safe and that they will be back in a year to discuss this issue again. She said that they know this is not a safe situation, the experts have all said it is not safe and there is no way she can vote in support of this.

CMBR Hill and Mayor Poppa discussed the bike lanes on Elledge. Mayor Poppa felt they do allow parking near the school for pick-up, but CMBR Hill noted that cars are not parked but are considered stopped as they wait in queue to pick up their students.

CMBR Madigan said he would not want anyone to travel that far away to retrieve their cars in all kinds of weather and it did not make sense. He said they need to have empathy for the residents who only have a one-car garage, one-car driveway.

CMBR Hage said she understands the concerns of CMBR Hill, but the outcome is unknowable. If they are thinking safety, then having protected bike lanes during daylight hours is a measure that works towards mitigating the risk. The theoretical of what might happen is not enough to change her support of the ordinance.

Mayor Poppa recommended changing the hours from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. to allow more bikes in the daylight hours. There was no Council majority support for this.

CMBR Raglow suggested they leave it 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. She noted there will be more daylight hours and the cyclists will be able to see the cars parked on the street.

CMBR Faidley concurred with CMBR Hill that parking in bike lanes is not safe. She also stated it is not recommended by their traffic engineer. She said these recommendations are not made without any data and reminded the Council of an email from BikeWalkKC containing statistics on cyclists being doored by a car and the cost of a fatality in comparison of the condemnation process to have those designated bike lanes. She does not want to have to come back to discuss this again because an accident happened because of their action. She said they need to look at the bigger picture but does

hope it has the desired effect. She said this sends a mixed message by putting in bike lanes that allow for bikes and then to limit it for cars. She said she will not be able to support this ordinance.

Mayor Poppa said there was discussion about liability to the City and they have been advised this would not create any liability. He added that an ordinance passed in good faith does not attach any liability to the City.

A roll call vote was taken.

**MOTION:** CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR STOCKS SECONDED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 1060 - ALLOWING EVENING PARKING ON THE WEST SIDE OF MISSION ROAD OVER THE PLANNED BIKE LANE PRIOR TO THE 2025 CONSTRUCTION TO FOSTER SUPPORT OF THE EASEMENTS NEEDED TO COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROJECT. (THE MOTION CARRIED 6-2 WITH CMBRS FAIDLEY AND HILL VOTING NO.)

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

### **A. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financial Report**

City Manager Moody provided the financial report noting that property taxes collected are on schedule. Sales taxes are about 6 percent less than what was collected in 2023, and the budget will be amended for 2024. Franchise fees are trending lower than normal and is attributed to the reduction in electric rates. Court costs are lower than projected. All funds, however, are trending as projected and expenditures are within budget. Mr. Moody reviewed various accounts from his report that is contained in the agenda packet noting that their idle cash investments continue to increase.


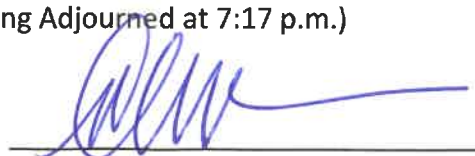
### **Adjourn:**

Mayor Poppa said that in their last conversation it brought up a lot of emotion. He believes that each of them on the Governing Body are doing their best and making the best decisions that they can at the time with the information they have. They are doing the best that they can for the City but realize that they will never get all of it right. They do, however, have the ability to revisit an issue and continue to work to get it right. They are working for the sustainability and safety for the future of Roeland Park. Mayor Poppa thanked everyone for doing that.

CMBR Madigan added that because they disagree it does not mean that either of them is wrong.

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

(Roeland Park City Council Meeting Adjourned at 7:17 p.m.)

  
Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk  
Michael Poppa, Mayor