

**CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
ROELAND PARK CITY HALL
4600 WEST 51ST STREET, ROELAND PARK, KS 66205
November 4, 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. CMBR Dickens was absent. All other Governing Body members were present. Staff present were City Administrator Moody, City Attorney Walker, Finance Director/Assistant City Administrator Jones-Lacy, Public Works Director Scharff, Police Chief Morris, Deputy Police Chief Honas, and City Clerk Nielsen.

Modification of Agenda

There was agreement to move the Historical Committee Presentation to New Business.

Public Hearing

At 6:02 p.m., Mayor Poppa opened the public hearing on the 2024 budget amendment.

Ms. Jones-Lacy said the budget amendment affects three funds, and a formal amendment is required by the state when they plan to exceed the expenditures allowed by the adopted budget. The Public Works facility work from 2023 carried over to 2024 and affects the Equipment Reserve Fund increasing the budget of \$708,393 to 867,000. The actual cost of the budgeted amount for the Public Works facility has not changed, only the timeline. And since it is in 2024, the amendment will allow for that change.

The other two funds in the budget amendment are TIF 1, a fund that was closed because it expired in May of 2024. Per their ordinance, the balance of those funds went to the newly created Economic Development Fund. This amendment will also set the authority for them to use those funds.

Mayor Poppa asked for public comment related to the budget amendment. No comments were made, and the public hearing was closed at 6:05 p.m.

I. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

II. Consent Agenda

- A. Appropriations Ordinance #1054**
- B. City Council Meeting Minutes October 21, 2024**
- C. 2025 Cereal Malt Beverage Renewals**
- D. Approve Leaf Collection Service Agreement with Westwood Hills**
- E. Approve 2024 CDBG Subrecipient Agreement with Johnson County**
- F. Resolution 717 - Tree Mitigation Fee**

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

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

A. 3rd Quarter Social Media Report - Katie Garcia

Ms. Garcia presented the stats on the City's social media accounts. She said the e-mails they send continue to trend up with a 49 percent open rate and trending at 7 percent above others in the industry. The main platform of their users continues to be from a desktop. She said that they also resend e-mails to non-openers if the news is still relevant.

Top posts for the third quarter included the Adult Night at the Pool, National Dog Day and National Cat Day, Dogs at the Pool, and speed bumps. She said that they continue to share a mix of content with a positive response.

Ms. Garcia said that their Twitter (X) account has been removed, but they maintain the "handle" and direct people back to their other social media channels. They have begun adding business content to LinkedIn. Facebook continues to be the most used channel, and they trend higher than most cities. Ms. Garcia said that the fourth quarter looks to be just as busy.

CMBR Raglow asked if personal tablets fall under mobile devices and Ms. Garcia said that they do.

IV. Mayor's Report

Mayor Poppa reminded everyone that tomorrow (November 5) is Election Day, and it is their right and duty to vote.

V. Reports of City Liaisons and Committees

A. Historical Committee Presentation

This item was moved to Item A, New Business.

B. MARC - First Tier Suburbs (Jan Faidley)

The report, including minutes from the last meeting, is included in the agenda packet.

VI. Unfinished Business

There was no Unfinished Business discussed.

VII. New Business

A. Historical Committee Presentation

Historian Anna Jacobson provided an update on the language for the signs at the Roe family home site as well as a land acknowledgement sign.

Ms. Jacobson stated the Roe Family House Sign text has been modified from the original sign after they confirmed the land accuracy. The sign will be installed at the spot of the Roe family home known as "The Cedars of Merriam." It acknowledges the Roe family's contributions to the community.

It was noticed that the year the house was built and taken down is not mentioned and the final sentence notes that much of the Roe Farm was covered when Roeland Park was incorporated.

CMBR Madigan added there will be a lot more information on both signs on their website and they plan to have a QR code sign to direct people to find that additional information.

Ms. Jacobson said the land acknowledgement sign has been condensed. They sought guidance on what should be included, and they reflected on the intent of writing a land acknowledgement. The goal is to inform the unaware and celebrate the longstanding connections between the land and the Indigenous peoples who lived in the area.

CMBR Madigan asked Ms. Jacobson to explain the different guidelines used in a land acknowledgment sign. Ms. Jacobson said they used the Kansas Association for Native American Education toolkit for guidance. This was put together by a Kansas organization and included items to consider such as naming dates, thinking about specific words, and addressing some of the harder elements. Ms. Jacobson noted that they used the words "tribe" and "nation" interchangeably with "Nations" capitalized. In their work, they also took guidance from the Native American Governance Center, which suggested self-reflection as to why they want to do a land acknowledgement as well as what to do going forward.

CMBR Faidley asked if the material for the signs would be the same and CMBR Madigan said they would be. She then asked about the location of the signs wanting to confirm that the land acknowledgment sign would be at City Hall. CMBR Madigan said the Roe house sign would be by the location where the home originally stood.

CMBR Faidley said she appreciates the depth to the approach they took to this process of land acknowledgement. She also asked if any Native American or anyone from the Kansas City Indian Center were consulted on this. Ms. Jacobson said they did not consult with any group or individuals on this.

CMBR Hill said there was a lot of discussion about who to include in the process. Part of the reason no one from the outside was contacted is that it is Roeland Park's acknowledgement of what they are willing to do and uphold. This is not really the situation to ask a Native American to do the work on something that Roeland Park says they are wanting to do. Ms. Jacobson said they wanted to avoid any appearance of asking an individual or organization to check our work, and it is totally appropriate to have relied on the guidance established.

CMBR Madigan said in one of the guidelines it states not to ask an Indigenous person to write this. They did want to show the group from Lawrence that had previously come to a Council meeting what they have done, not necessarily to ask for their input, but in any case, they have been unable to find a contact any longer.

CMBR Raglow echoed CMBR Hill's comments that this conversation has been happening for over two years since before she was a part of the conversation. There was consideration given of who they want to be involved. This has been reviewed by the Historical and DEI Committees who are comfortable with the language. She said they will never get it perfect, but it has been considered by the City's committees and they appreciate the work that has been done to get to this point.

CMBR Hage said it is challenging work to trim the content of something with such a weighty importance. She hopes they commit to ongoing education informing the unaware. She said it is their obligation to help residents understand why things happened.

CMBR Hill said that the signs shown in the packet are not the final item.

CMBR Madigan said it will take about a year after they order the signs. The question has also been how to get the QR code on there. He said that he and Commissioner Fast, when she was on the Council, were working on this, and they wanted them to be educational.

Mayor Poppa thanked Ms. Jacobson, the Historical and DEI Committees, for their dedication and for putting in so much time into this work.

MOTION: CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR HILL SECONDED TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE AND DEI COMMITTEE OF THE TEXT FOR THE ROE FAMILY HOME SIGN CHANGING THE WORD "COVERING" TO "INCLUDING," AND ALSO TO ACCEPT THE LANGUAGE OF THE LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT SIGN. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.)

CMBR Madigan said that since it takes over a year to get the sign, they want to try and coordinate that with the City's birthday.

B. Committee Reappointments

MOTION: CMBR LERO MOVED AND CMBR RAGLOW SECONDED TO APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENTS OF DARREN NIELSEN TO THE BZA AND PLANNING COMMISSION; JAIME DAVIS, LINDA THORNBURGH, SARA MARTIN, AND LINDA HEINEN TO THE PARKS COMMITTEE; MEGAN REAVIS AND GRACE SUH TO THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE; ELIZABETH BADDELEY AND MICHAEL CALOVICH TO THE AQUATIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE; AND INA TOMPKINS TO THE AD-HOC HISTORICAL COMMITTEE. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.)

C. Amend the 2024 Budget

CMBR Faidley asked for the balance of TIF 1 when it was closed out in May of 2024, and whether all those funds were transferred to the Economic Development Fund. Ms. Jones-Lacy said the entirety was transferred to the fund after the ordinance was approved to establish the fund. Some of the funds were credited to other capital projects that were allowable under the TIF plan and that had already been approved in the past. In May, the TIF 1 balance was \$1.6 million.

CMBR Faidley asked if what is shown currently is what remains after the transfers to other qualifying projects and Ms. Jones-Lacy confirmed that it is.

MOTION: CMBR HAGE MOVED AND CMBR FAIDLEY SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE EQUIPMENT RESERVE, TIF 1, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDS. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.)

D. Approve Nall Park Master Plan

Mayor Poppa said the Governing Body discussed this item at their last Workshop and no changes have been made since that time.

CMBR Madigan said he knew that City Manager Moody was working on grants and that if they get all the grants, it may necessitate them to push back the project to 2027 to do all the phases. City Manager Moody said they have applied for \$800,000 in TAP funds which would be available in 2027.

As City Manager Moody was appearing virtually, the connection was poor and CMBR Madigan said he would speak with Mr. Moody offline and will follow up with him to talk about that grant.

CMBR Faidley said the grant is administered by MARC, and it would apply to one phase of the Master Plan and that all phases would not need to be put on hold until 2027.

MOTION: CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR LERO SECONDED TO APPROVE THE NALL PARK MASTER PLAN. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.)

E. 2025 Agreement with Johnson County for IT Services

Ms. Jones-Lacy said the changes to the IT Services agreement with Johnson County are reflected in the staff report and are largely due to increased personnel costs. She noted that the City will be adding six new users. The amount budgeted for DTI in 2025 was \$51,000 and the request is to increase it to \$53,966, which Ms. Jones-Lacy said can be absorbed within the budget.

CMBR Faidley went over the new positions as added in the staff report, noting they include Community Center employees, crossing guards, pool staff, an administrative assistant, and support for a device for the new Management Analyst.

MOTION: CMBR RAGLOW MOVED AND CMBR HAGE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE 2025 AGREEMENT WITH JOHNSON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION (DTI) FOR IT SERVICES. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.)

VIII. Ordinances and Resolutions

A. Ordinance 1067

City Manager Moody said they took the recommendations from Consolidated Fire District No. 2 and put them into the proposed ordinance. The language is more succinct and in better alignment with other communities that they service. The language has been updated to gender neutral pronouns.

Also, the DEI committee reviewed the ordinance and recommended to allow fireworks requests outside of July 4th when related to an ethnic holiday where fireworks are common.

The only other change not in the redline but added to the packet was a recommendation by CMBR Lero regarding interconnected fire alarms stating that any new builds or substantial renovations should be required to have interconnected fire/smoke alarms.

Building Inspector Wade Holtkamp said the devices are usually a smoke/carbon monoxide detector. Ms. Jones-Lacy said they did not add anything about carbon monoxide. Mr. Holtkamp said that is the common device.

CMBR Hill asked if the detectors must be hardwired or can they be interconnected through Wi-Fi. Mr. Holtkamp said with new construction they are typically hardwired. Ms. Jones-Lacy asked about remodels and Mr. Holtkamp said that is an option. He noted that it could be too cost prohibitive and could be more of a project to hardwire when it is not an extensive remodel project.

Ms. Jones-Lacy said the language attached applies to new, substantially remodeled homes, and multi-family units shall be installed with interconnected smoke alarms that will activate all alarms in the structure if one is triggered.” There is nothing specific to wired or wireless.

Mayor Poppa said he will look to Mr. Holtkamp for direction. Mr. Holtkamp said it is nice to be able to have options and reiterated a hardwire in a remodel might be more difficult than in a new build.

CMBR Madigan asked who would approve the use of fireworks. Ms. Jones-Lacy said that typically the requests for fireworks would go to the Police Chief per Section 7-408. Then it would come to the Governing Body for approval. The DEI Committee request is that approvals of fireworks on other days may be granted by City staff in addition to July 4th for religious holidays as per Section 7-404.

CMBR Madigan said that fireworks is an ambiguous word and asked if there was anything specific about what fireworks can be used considering that what Bishop Miede uses is different than what is permitted for individual residents. Mr. Holtkamp stated Section 7-403 outlines what is permitted for use by residents on July 4th. For the larger displays such as those at Bishop Miede, they are only permitted by a licensed contractor as laid out in Section 7-406.

CMBR Faidley readdressed the interconnectivity of fire alarms noting the costs might be too onerous on a remodel. She asked if it was very expensive on new construction. Mr. Holtkamp said it is easier to install in a new build when the wiring is already being done, but also noted that wireless systems also work well. CMBR Faidley recommended leaving the language to give people an option.

CMBR Hill stated she has a wireless system, and it costs about \$100 for each unit. They all go off when there is a problem. She noted this is much less expensive than having an electrician come in and hardwire a system.

CMBR Hill added regarding the fireworks, the Governing Body spent a lot of time and diligence making their City a no fireworks zone noting the impact it had on pets, those with PTSD, recognizing the problem it is and the negative stress it causes in their residents' lives. She said that she will always vote against fireworks in the City no matter who it is for.

CMBR Hage said her read of CMBR Madigan's question is the permit process would be for those wanting to do fireworks other than what is normally allowed by residents on July 4th.

Mayor Poppa asked if they need to update the fireworks ordinance to show this carve out for cultural or religious holidays. Ms. Jones-Lacy said the language adopted into the code on 11/1/2021 should not require an update.

CMBR Madigan asked what is allowed in the current code does not make a big bang. When he hears of a cultural event, he expects that to make a loud bang. Mayor Poppa said they would still have to go through the permitting process, and they cannot be set off year-round. It would still need approval.

MOTION: CMBR LERO MOVED AND CMBR FAIDLEY SECONDED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 1067 RECOMMENDING CHANGES TO CHAPTER 7 - FIRE CODE OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE. (THE MOTION CARRIED 6-1 WITH CMBR HILL VOTING NO.)

IX. Reports of City Officials

A. 3rd Quarter Financial Report

Ms. Jones-Lacy went over the highlights of her report, noting that sales and use taxes are slightly higher in collections year to date and ahead of target. Franchise fees are 9 percent lower than last year. Court fees are 29 percent higher than this time last year. And all the funds show healthy balances. She added that there is not a lot of expenditures remaining for the year.

Also, Ms. Jones-Lacy has submitted the application for the distinguished budget award.

B. City Manager's Report

City Manager Moody said they are progressing on Phase 2 of the Community Center and Universal Construction is getting in bids for all the work. They did get approval for three different components for long lead times at the last meeting. He will have those numbers ready in December for the Governing Body for an amendment to construction manager at risk maximum not to exceed price. Mr. Moody said they are in a good position to make sure it gets done in a timely fashion starting at the beginning of the year.

C. Public Works Director's Report

Mayor Poppa asked about the Buena Vista traffic calming measures and whether they have received the correct materials. Public Works Director Scharff said he just received an e-mail from the vendor, and he is waiting for a tracking number that the items have been shipped with the hope they will receive them in the next week.

Also, Public Works Director Scharff noted the leaf program started today.

CMBR Madigan said the people that came and picked up the leaves did a wonderful job. His street looks immaculate. Public Works Director Scharff said he appreciates hearing that.

City Manager Moody said if anyone has not been by the Public Works facility since it has been painted is encouraged to do so as it looks very nice.


CMBR Faidley asked about waiting on the landscaping. City Manager Moody said they are waiting for rain, and they also need fencing for the retaining wall to protect the plantings.

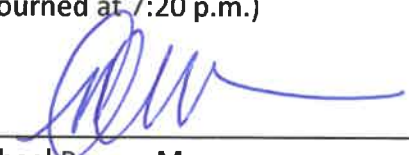
Ms. Jones-Lacy thanked everyone who responded to the invitation to the Chamber Gala.

Adjourn:

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

(Roeland Park City Council Meeting Adjourned at 7:20 p.m.)



Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk

Michael Poppa, Mayor