

**CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
ROELAND PARK CITY HALL  
4600 WEST 51<sup>ST</sup> STREET, ROELAND PARK, KS 66205  
September 2, 2025, 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
- Debbi Schraeder, Council Member

- Keith Moody, City Administrator
- Jennifer Jones-Lacy, Asst. City Admin.
- Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk
- Cory Honas, Police Chief
- Donnie Scharff, Public Works Dire

**Admin**  
Lero  
Faidley

**Finance**  
Schraeder  
Dickens

**Safety**  
Hage  
Hill

**Public Works**  
Raglow  
Madigan

(Roeland Park Council Meeting Called to Order at 6:00 p.m.)

**I. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Poppa called the meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. Roll Call**

City Clerk Nielsen called the roll. All Governing Body members were present in person. Staff members present were City Administrator Moody, City Attorney Walker, Public Works Director Scharff, Police Chief Honas, Management Analyst Carley, and City Clerk Nielsen.

**III. Public Hearing**

**A. Public Hearing: Exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate and Adoption of the 2026 Budget**

Mayor Poppa stated it is a state requirement to hold a public hearing if the City intends to exceed the revenue neutral rate. Currently the City is at 25.5 mills and to hold the revenue neutral rate, they would need to decrease to 24.118. The proposed 2026 mill rate is 25.2, which is a decrease from the current rate and reflects their commitment to steadily decreasing the mill rate.

The public hearing opened at 6:04 p.m. As there were no public comments, the Mayor closed the hearing at 6:05 p.m.

**B. Resolution 727 - Exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate for 2026**

Following the public hearing, Mayor Poppa called for a roll call vote.

**MOTION:** CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR LERO SECONDED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 727 - EXCEEDING THE REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE FOR 2026. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

**C. Public Hearing: Amending the 2025 Budget**

City Manager Moody said the Stormwater Fund needs to be amended in the 2025 budget as expenses are above the 2025 adopted figure. The reason for this is that 2024 projects were pushed to 2025 and thus necessitates a budget amendment.

The public hearing opened at 6:06 p.m. As there were no public comments, the hearing was closed at 6:07 p.m. The vote to amend the 2025 budget was taken under New Business.

#### **IV. Modification of the Agenda**

Mayor Poppa said the agenda has been modified to move the adoption and amendment of the 2025 budget from Ordinances and Resolutions to New Business.

#### **V. Public Comments**

**Carrie Paulette** (5105 Ash) Ms. Paulette spoke to Resolution 726 and thanked the Council and staff for their advocacy in expanding language access to all voters in Johnson County. She said this is an actionable way to promote Johnson County's commitment to equality. She also thanked the ACLU leaders for bringing this forward.

#### **VI. Consent Agenda**

- A. Appropriations Ordinance #1074**
- B. City Council Meeting Minutes August 18, 2025**

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

#### **VII. Business from the Floor - Proclamations/Applications/Presentations**

- A. Present Award to Public Art Winners**

Mayor Poppa thanked the co-chairs, Mary Schulteis and Marek Gliniecki and the entire Art Committee for supporting this event. Certificates and awards were given to the winners and 1<sup>st</sup> place also received a check. The winners were:

Charlie and Andie Van Towle - "Roeland the Rock Snake." - 1<sup>st</sup> place.  
Kara Steen - "Glow Garden" - 2<sup>nd</sup> place.  
Brittnee Wood - "Spread Kindness Like Wildflowers" - 3<sup>rd</sup> place.  
Mark Mohr - "Cowboy Cat" - 4<sup>th</sup> place.  
Steve Moser - "Lighthouse & Windmill" - Honorable Mention  
Margaret Hanzlic-Burton - "Q Art Code" - Honorable Mention  
Sarah D. Martin - "Petals and Mesh" - Honorable Mention  
Susie Wolff - "Moon Mandala" - Honorable Mention  
Matt Lero - "Can't Keep Roeland Park Down!" - Honorable Mention

(Photos were taken with the Governing Body)

#### **VIII. Mayor's Report**

- A. Latino and Hispanic Heritage Month Proclamation**

Mayor Poppa read the proclamation into the record declaring September 15<sup>th</sup> through October 20<sup>th</sup> as Latino and Hispanic Heritage Month in the City of Roeland Park.

Representatives from El Centro were on hand and photos were taken with the Governing Body.

Justin Gust, Vice President of Community Engagement at El Centro said they are a non-profit serving as a welcoming center for the Latinos in downtown Kansas City, Kansas and described their purpose and services that they offer.

Mayor Poppa thanked El Centro for their work and said they appreciate them partnering with Roeland Park.

#### **B. National Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month Proclamation**

September 2025 is recognized as National Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month.

#### **C. Diaper Needs Awareness Week Proclamation**

National Diaper Needs Awareness Week is recognized from September 15 through September 21, 2025.

All Councilmembers signed onto the proclamations.

### **IX. Ordinances and Resolutions**

#### **A. Resolution 726 - Supporting Language Access for Elections**

Mayor Poppa said this resolution will help to create more informed participation in elections and a more equitable democracy.

Dr. Micah W. Kubic, ACLU Executive Director of Kansas, said the resolution will defend the rights of everyone under the Constitution. He also thanked Mayor Poppa for bringing this item forward. The ACLU supports the resolution for language access in voting rights. The parties responsible for making this change are the Kansas Secretary of State and the Johnson County Election Commissioner. They are being urged to add Spanish for the Spanish-speaking citizens who want it. This is a way for Roeland Park to articulate its values and to affirm its belief in fair voting rights. The hope is that Johnson County will prioritize the inclusions of additional language. This also creates a stronger democracy and there have been no negative consequences for any voting areas that have included additional language and information towards being able to vote.

Mayor Poppa proposed at a future Workshop they discuss providing translators on election day for those who need it.

**MOTION:** CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR HILL SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 726 SUPPORTING EXPANDED LANGUAGE ACCESS FOR ELIGIBLE VOTERS IN JOHNSON COUNTY. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

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

### **A. Planning Commission**

Ms. Jones-Lacy said the Planning Commission has been reviewing City codes with the goal that the Capital Improvement Plan remain consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan. The Commission will be reviewing Chapter 16 and looking at what's dated or irrelevant. This section deals with more administrative topics, and they will look at it through the equity and inclusion lens. The Planning Commission does want to be in line with the direction of the Governing Body and Ms. Jones-Lacy will provide updates to them as the Commission works through their items.

Ms. Jones-Lacy said there is also a pending application that will be their first opportunity to use the residential design standards regarding lot width. The Governing Body will be kept informed on that application process.

CMBR Madigan asked if the Council would have a two-thirds vote on what the Planning Commission recommended. Ms. Jones-Lacy said the goal is to have conversations on the Commission's recommendation before a vote if there are any differences with the Governing Body. But the Council would need to have a two-thirds majority to veto the recommendation of the Planning Commission.

CMBR Faidley asked if it was always the plan to use Confluence with their planning. Ms. Jones-Lacy said they were used in their higher priority sections. They do not need the City planner expertise as much on the administrative components.

## **XI. Unfinished Business**

*No Unfinished Business was discussed.*

## **XII. New Business**

### **A. Adoption of the 2026 Budget**

City Manager Moody said that all City funds are balanced and there are no structural deficits. He added that any excess reserves in the General Fund support ongoing CIP projects.

**MOTION:** CMBR HAGE MOVED AND CMBR DICKENS SECONDED TO APPROVE PROPOSED 2026 BUDGET, INCLUDING THE TEN-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND THE 2026 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

### **B. Amend the 2025 Budget**

The amendment of the budget is required for the 47<sup>th</sup> Place and Mission Road stormwater projects due to their timing.

**MOTION:** CMBR DICKENS MOVED AND CMBR RAGLOW SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT OF THE 2025 BUDGET. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

### **C. Approve KDHE E-RAMP Grant Agreement for Sustainability Consultant Services**

Joey Carley, the City's Management Analyst, said the City has been working on this grant. They were approached by KDHE through MARC. This is for an Emissions Reduction and Mitigation Plan (E-RAMP) with up to \$200,000 spending on a list of set objectives. This does align with the 2025 objective the City had to do a greenhouse gas emissions analysis. Additional goals and objectives could also be accomplished with this funding, and they have changed the scope of work to include those fundings. The work is centered around sustainability efforts. There is also no matching fund requirement by the City. Also, up to 15.6 percent of the grant can be used for staff wage reimbursement.

CMBR Hage asked about the timeframe and would this work with the consultant. Mr. Carley said the timing does align with the scope of work with the hope of accomplishing it in six to nine months.

CMBR Faidley referenced the challenge to read the agreement. She is glad to have a company on tap who has done these E-RAMP grants.

**MOTION:** CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR LERO SECONDED TO APPROVE THE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

#### **D. Approve Sustainability Consultant Services Agreement**

Mr. Carley said they issued an RFQ in July and were pleasantly surprised with the ten proposals returned. The selection committee narrowed it down to two. Those companies were asked to provide a more expanded scope of work. The committee feels that Lotus would be the right teammate and partner for Roeland Park.

City Manager Moody said that Mr. Carley did an exceptional job administering the process through coordination and producing a way to objectively assess the submittals. He also appreciated the members who agreed to serve on the interview committee. The member selection helps the Governing Body vote with confidence when they use fellow Governing Body members and experts in the arena. He thinks Lotus will be a great partner and Roeland Park will have the best sustainability action plan in Johnson County when all is said and done.

CMBR Faidley mentioned this funding is intentionally for planning and not for implementation, which she said is too bad as they could have used those extra dollars for implementation.

Mr. Carley said the \$45,000 set aside initially could be used for implementation.

**MOTION:** CMBR LERO MOVED AND CMBR FAIDLEY SECONDED TO APPROVE THE SUSTAINABILITY CONSULTANT SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH LOTUS ENGINEERING AND SUSTAINABILITY, LLC. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

### **XIII. Reports of City Officials**

#### **A. Public Works Report**

Public Works Director Scharff reviewed ongoing projects. There have been utility conflicts with the improvements on Nall Road, but they are progressing. The curbs and drives to the north are largely complete.

They are beginning the CDBG sidewalk on El Monte. They are also getting the stormwater infrastructure installed. There have been no issues to date on this project.

Mission Road is largely complete. The surface is done, and they are doing some restoration. The streetlights are anticipated to be installed in October.

The two cul-de-sacs reconstruction on 47<sup>th</sup> Place is progressing, and they are still putting in stormwater infrastructure.

CMBR Faidley asked about the striping on Mission Road and whether signage will go up for the bike lanes. Public Works Director Scharff said they have the permit signs, but instead of installing secondary traffic poles, they will be on the streetlights. They are putting out temporary signs on wooden stakes with hours that reflect when no parking is allowed.

#### **B. City Manager's Report.**


City Manager Moody spoke about the Nall Park Master Plan improvements. The City has received \$0.8 million from STP. They also applied for \$1.4 million from KDHE and received confirmation of \$1.5 million. This will help with the historical geological analysis during the excavation process. This is one of the larger awards that KDHE has given.

Mayor Poppa said they have amazing staff and projects that are helping to grow their city, and they should congratulate themselves. He noted that the dog Paw Party is tomorrow from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the Aquatics Center.

#### **XIV. Adjournment**

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

(Roeland Park City Council Meeting Adjourned at 7:04 p.m.)

  
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Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk  
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Michael Poppa, Mayor