

CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
ROELAND PARK CITY HALL
4600 WEST 51ST STREET, ROELAND PARK, KS 66205
January 20, 2026, 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
- Harold Morales, 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 Director

Admin
Faidley
Schraeder

Finance
Dickens
Hage

Safety
Hill
Raglow

Public Works
Madigan
Lero

(Roeland Park Council Meeting Called to Order at 6:02 p.m.)

I. Pledge of Allegiance

CMBR Hill called the meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Roll Call

City Clerk Nielsen called the roll. All Councilmembers were present. Mayor Poppa arrived after roll call. Staff members present were City Administrator Moody, City Attorney Walker, Public Works Director Scharff, Police Chief Honas, Parks and Rec Superintendent Brungardt, and City Clerk Nielsen.

III. Modification of the Agenda

There were no modifications to the agenda.

IV. Public Comments

There were no public comments made.

V. Consent Agenda

- A. Appropriations Ordinance #1082
- B. City Council Meeting Minutes January 5, 2026
- C. Committee Appointments and Reappointments

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

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

- A. Presentation from Commissioner Fast

Johnson County Commissioner Becky Fast said that Johnson County is a large county nationally and is an innovator with strong relations to their cities. She said that areas were redistricted and the areas are large, so they may be looking at adding a commissioner to ensure the good representation that residents have come to rely on.

In speaking of the roles of the Commission to serve as an administrative arm of the state, provide state required services, and locally determined services, they will be discussing motor vehicle fees with the legislature. Commissioner Fast said the state takes 85 percent of the fees yet there has been a 369 percent increase in the wait times with no ability to hire more employees. She also noted that \$2.4 million in county property tax revenues subsidized those operations in 2024.

Commissioner Fast spoke to the state legislature's desire to put a 3 percent appraisal cap on properties. Cities would retain their ability to raise their mill levy. She did note that they are all aware that residents are not happy with the direction of property taxes. She also spoke to the updates of the property tax relief programs and how critical they have become.

She also expressed how proud they are of the CARS and Stormwater Management programs and addressed their funding sources.

Commissioner Fast also organized a Water Summit for discussion on how they protect their water sources, especially with the drought in western Kansas. She sees this as being a critical issue for Johnson County in the next five to ten years. She also spoke to her personal project of the work done to repair the Kuhlman EPA Superfund site at 164th and Mission Road noting what a beautiful area it has become and spoke of the plans to improve the green area for public use.

The Merriam Plaza library is now complete and open, and the Corinth Library will have a redesign. Also noted were the Roeland Park Cedar Roe improvements with updated restrooms, finishes, and fixtures.

Commissioner Fast said that housing is a priority in Johnson County. She also noted the difficulty of the eviction laws in Kansas. There is now a mediation program for residents to work with their landlord with the help of a neutral third party.

Also, Councilmember Fast helped to implement a SHICK (Senior Health Insurance Counseling) program with trained counselors to help seniors navigate Medicare, answer questions, and assist in the enrollment process. They have received a grant to help fund that program.

The Commission is also aware of the growing mental health crisis and is supporting centers for youth and adults to have a place to go rather than a detention center. Also, the 988 crisis line has been integrated into the 911 dispatch. She also spoke to several agencies that are working with housing for families, those that need developmental support, and the county-funded home repair program.

Councilmember Fast said with the FIFA World Cup, the county is involved in providing transit to the area in conjunction with Kansas City as well as developing their own routes.

CMBR Faidley asked about the HUD income requirements for the property tax rebate. City Manager Moody said he was unsure of the exact number but noted that Roeland Park changed their requirements so that a greater number of folks could qualify. Commissioner Fast said that 13,000

residents fall into that very low category. When the county looked at raising the limit, the next group of individuals was too large and was too great a dollar amount.

City Manager Moody said that a large part of the discussion is to find some cooperative way to make it simpler for those who qualify to participate. He said that there is a way for the Commission to work with the state to identify those who meet the criteria. Commissioner Fast said the county has identified the number of residents from the census but does not have information on individuals who meet the criteria. The county just knows that they are out there.

Mayor Poppe thanked Commissioner Fast for her report and she said they can contact her anytime.

B. Social Media Report - Katie Garcia

Ms. Garcia, the City's Public Information Officer, provided highlights from 2025. The top posts included spring photos that residents submitted followed by the announcement of the Leaf Thief, the leaf collection maps, and a hello to the Grim Leafer. She reviewed the number of followers across all their platforms noting they had over a million impressions. Facebook continues to be their highest channel with the most impressions, but they are also receiving a lot of activity on LinkedIn. Ms. Garcia reviewed the demographics of those interactions as well as numbers compared to their competition. She said the numbers show that people are looking to them for the news.

C. Ripple Glass - Franklin Rosario & Justin Miller

Franklin Rosario, the Regional Sourcing Manager, said he normally handles everything outside of the Kansas City area but is managing Kansas City operations on an interim basis. Justin Miller, Plant Manager, also introduced himself to the Governing Body.

Mr. Rosario said they saw a plateau of participation and went through a breakdown of the numbers throughout the year.

City Manager Moody said they are seeing that neighbors copy their neighbors and he wants to see them do a push in their neighborhoods to participate in the glass recycling program.

CMBR Hill said in looking at the data, Monday pickups do well. She questioned if those not recycling glass are also not putting out their trash as well. Mr. Rosario said he would expect those numbers to be similar.

CMBR Faidley noted they do have a turnover of residents in certain parts of the city. She said they need to continually educate their residents so that new people know about the service and how to use it.

CMBR Hill also asked about the possibility of rolling bins for those who might need assistance getting to the end of the driveway. Mr. Rosario said they can investigate something more accessible, but the challenge is to find something small enough that is also compatible with their trucks. He said he was certainly open to having that conversation.

CMBR Faidley said they also need to educate the realtors that glass recycling is part of the services provided by the City.

CMBR Dickens asked how often they are getting social media posts out reminding people to set out their glass. Mr. Rosario said they send the info out monthly reminding everyone of the days, but they can do more.

Mr. Rosario said the collection bin at Aldi is doing very good. He also noted that over 60 percent of residents use the home collection program at least once a year. He also reviewed the carbon emission reduction/offset based on the amount of glass collected.

CMBR Faidley said she went to a meeting that was attended by several communities' sustainability committees. She did state that Prairie Village would like to see the program and they have a desire to increase their sustainability program. They also have a successful food composting program. She said Prairie Village is interested in learning more and that Mission has an active sustainability group as well.

CMBR Madigan also noted the tons that the Aldi bin collects. He also noted that the residential trend is going down. He said he will vote against continuing the program if the decrease continues. Mr. Rosario said Ripple is in the glass business and they want to drive that glass collection up. Anything they can do, they will do to try and reverse that trend.

CMBR Madigan said Ripple set very lofty goals with the start of the program and they greatly missed those projections. He is amazed to see how many are using the Aldi bin and acknowledged that the collection is not only from Roeland Park residents. He questioned whether they should continue to subsidize a small group of people to use the program. Mayor Poppa said they need to have those talks.

CMBR Hill said she appreciates everything they are doing and any glass staying out of the landfill is always better. She said they will do what they can to grow the program.

Mayor Poppa asked if there were per capita numbers of the program and Mr. Rosario said he will get those.

CMBR Faidley said because they were able to quantify the weight they are taking out of their waste, they were able to negotiate with GFL as they removed that tonnage from what they have to haul.

Mr. Rosario noted the Aldi bin did not dip in collection with the use of the residential bin, but they do need to work on getting the curbside collection up.

VII. Mayor's Report

Mayor Poppa said the legislature is hearing bills that would take away a city's local governing authority. He also said they want to revisit the timing of elections and for them all to be held on even numbered years in the fall. Also, the House will be hearing a bill to prohibit the use of public assets by any government officer or employee to advocate for or against proposed amendments to the Constitution.

VIII. Reports of City Liaisons and Committees

A. Arts Advisory Committee Update

Tim Ross, Chair of the Arts Committee, said they are doing many different things. They are all embracing the Master Arts Plan, and they have so much momentum. They are bringing projects

forward that were put on hold. The committee is also trying to envision different forms of art and having their own space, whether it is an artist in residence, art wraps on utility boxes to art at the bus shelters. They also have a lot to do with the City's 75th Anniversary celebration. They are commissioning a piece for City Hall. And they want to do something that depicts the old golf course.

CMBR Lero added they have full committee membership and are looking forward to a busy year.

CMBR Madigan said the Historic Committee is putting a sign up at City Hall for the 75th anniversary and this is the first he is hearing that the Arts Committee is also putting something up. Mr. Ross said their art would be inside and it is planned for the stairwell.

CMBR Hage said the 75th Anniversary Committee is trying to make sure there is coordination among the other committees. They are not overseeing but want to make sure everything is coordinated and to communicate well to keep things clear while also looking for opportunities of collaboration.

IX. Unfinished Business

There was no Unfinished Business discussed.

X. New Business

A. Elect Council President

Mayor Poppa said at the last meeting CMBR Hage and CMBR Faidley were nominated for Council President. He gave them both the opportunity to make statements.

CMBR Faidley and CMBR Hage each expressed their qualifications as to why they are uniquely qualified to be Council President for 2026.

MOTION: CMBR LERO MOVED AND CMBR MADIGAN SECONDED TO ELECT EMILY HAGE AS COUNCIL PRESIDENT FOR 2026. (THE MOTION CARRIED 6-2 WITH CMBRS FAIDLEY AND HILL VOTING NO.)

B. Appoint Council Liaison and Ad-Hoc Strategic Planning Committee

Mayor Poppa said that CMBR Faidley has volunteered to serve as an alternate Council liaison for DEI Committee.

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR LERO SECONDED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF MATT LERO AND THE REAPPOINTMENT OF SARAH MARTIN, DEB SETTLE, JEN HILL, TOM MADIGAN, LISA BRUNNER, CARRIE PAULETTE, BRANDON MARTIN, STACY ROTH, MAYOR POPPA, AND JOE SCHRAMP TO THE AD-HOC STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE.

TO APPROVE 2026 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MATTHEW LERO (PRIMARY) AND JAN FAIDLEY (ALTERNATE)

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION - MICHAEL POPPA, BENJAMIN DICKENS

PARKS AND TREES - TOM MADIGAN (PRIMARY) AND MATTHEW LERO (ALTERNATE)

SUSTAINABILITY - JAN FAIDLEY AND DEBBI SCHRAEDER (ALTERNATE)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION - HOWARD MORALES AND JAN FAIDLEY (ALTERNATE)
AQUATICS - EMILY HAGE (PRIMARY) AND TOM MADIGAN (ALTERNATE)
AD HOC HISTORICAL - TOM MADIGAN AND JEN HILL
MARC - FIRST TIER SUBURBS - JAN FAIDLEY
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL - DONNIE SCHARFF AND KEITH MOODY.
(THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

C. Approve Purchase of Pool Vacuum Replacement

Brungardt said the current pool vacuum has exceeded its life expectancy, has been in use since 2019, and has had one rebuild. It is expected that a vacuum for their aquatic's facility should last three to four years, and going forward the request is to put it in the CIP.

CMBR Faidley said she noted the model from Commercial Aquatic Services was discontinued but also Landmark does not include any set-up or training. Mr. Brungardt said the vacuum they would like to purchase is the same setup as their current model. He will, however, review the owner's manual to ensure its proper use.

Mr. Brungardt stated they will be using leftover 2025 Aquatics budget funds for this purchase.

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR DICKENS SECONDED TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A COMMERCIAL POOL VACUUM FROM LANDMARK AQUATICS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,000, UTILIZING AVAILABLE FUNDS FROM THE 2025 AQUATICS BUDGET (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

D. Request Rollover of Remaining 2025 Public Art Purchase Funds to the Community Foundation

CMBR Lero said the Arts Committee has a lot planned for this year. As they go through the Public Art Master Plan, there are a lot of the larger planned expenses that will exceed their yearly funds. The plan is to roll those funds over in the hopes of extending what they can do in the following year.

Mayor Poppa noted this has been done in the past for specific projects. It is a waste of the committee's funds if they are not rolled over to help pay for the committee's larger expenses.

MOTION: CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR MADIGAN SECONDED TO APPROVE ROLLOVER OF THE REMAINING BALANCE IN THE 2025 PUBLIC ART PURCHASE FUNDS ACCOUNT TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE ROELAND PARK COMMUNITY FOUADANTION FOR FUTURE USE. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

E. Consider Approval to Purchase New Audio-Visual Equipment for the Council Chambers

City Manager Moody said their long-time contractor, Mission Electronics, would replace components that are past their prime to help with issues of audio/video not recording or starting. They have identified unused reserves in the Equipment and Building Replacement Fund, so this would not be coming from the General Fund. Ms. Jones-Lacy has worked with Mission Electronics to determine what components need to be replaced. They will also do some research on another camera for the back of the room.

CMBR Hage asked if this will enhance the conversation they are having. City Manager Moody said he does not contemplate this to be an Owl-type camera.

Mayor Poppa asked about a higher resolution camera. City Manager Moody said they can also research other camera options.

Regarding the microphones, they will be shared amongst two Councilmembers and will need to be muted if they are having an off-record conversation.

MOTION: CMBR MADIGAN MOVED AND CMBR SCHRAEDER SECONDED TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF NEW AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT FOR THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$32,630. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

F. Approve CARS Agreement for 51st Street Project

Public Works Director Scharff said this is a standard agreement required when the City applies for CARS funding.

CMBR Madigan said this will be a change to a major artery and noted there was no traffic study. Public Works Director Scharff said the street went through Complete Streets. CMBR Madigan said he understands that, but there was supposed to be a traffic study done on 51st Street. City Manager Moody said there was no study done. CMBR Madigan said he has been a dissenter of this project since the beginning as they are changing the width of the street and it will cause even more problems. Public Works Director Scharff said that narrowing the street creates a traffic calming effect like what they did on Mission Road. CMBR Madigan said that people are repeatedly running the stop sign at both ends of that street and he is concerned that cyclists will be using the road and not the sidewalk.

CMBR Madigan also asked how this would affect his budget proposal. City Manager Moody expanded that the proposal includes the use of high visibility traffic signs along Rosewood, Nall and 55th Street. City Manager Moody said they looked at the intersections of this project, and the plan gives them the ability to improve the visibility at the intersections. This project will not delay his budget objective.

Mayor Poppa said they have already approved the project and its scope, and the item before them is the contract. CMBR Madigan said the idea was that the project would be approved noting that a traffic study was needed.

CMBR Madigan also asked who would be responsible for snow removal on the 8-foot sidewalks. Mayor Poppa said that it will be an issue to discuss later.

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR SCHRAEDER SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE CARS AGREEMENT FOR THE 51ST STREET PROJECT. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-1 WITH CMBR MADIGAN VOTING NO.)

XI. Ordinances and Resolutions

A. Ordinance - Eminent Domain for 55th Street Temporary Construction Easements

City Manager Moody said they have not received temporary construction easements for the properties listed in the ordinance. If they do receive them, they will not be incorporated into the formal filing

with the court. Even if they receive them after the formal filing, they can be removed from the court action. The improvements are mostly for sidewalk, which is good for the property owners as it will allow for a gradual transition and more driveway area for the resident.

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR FAIDLEY SECONDED TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE FOR EMINENT DOMAIN FOR THE 55TH STREET TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENTS. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0. CMBR MADIGAN WAS NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE.)

B. Ordinance - Eminent Domain for Granada/Rosewood Street Project Temporary Construction Easements

MOTION: CMBR FAIDLEY MOVED AND CMBR HAGE SECONDED TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE FOR EMINENT DOMAIN FOR THE GRANADA/ROSEWOOD STREET PROJECT TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENTS. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0. CMBR MADIGAN WAS NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE.)

C. Ordinance - Making Changes to Short-Term Rental Licensing Regulations

This item was discussed at the last Workshop meeting.

MOTION: CMBR HILL MOVED AND CMBR LERO SECONDED TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE MAKING THE PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY CHANGES TO THE SHORT-TERM RENTAL REGULATIONS IN ADVANCE OF THE WORLD CUP. (THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0. CMBR MADIGAN WAS NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE)

D. Ordinance - Amending Chapter 15 of the City Code - Solid Waste and Stormwater Utility

Mayor Poppa said the Governing Body discussed this item at their last Workshop meeting.

CMBR Faidley said the City has only one major construction site, which is at the Rocks. She asked who was responsible for inspection of the stormwater retention at the Rocks. And whether the storm detention put in by the City requires maintenance. City Manager Moody said the Rocks is under construction and they are using best management practices and preventing silt from leaving the site and entering the stormwater system. Their storm pipes will tie into the storm sewer along Roe Parkway.

CMBR Morales asked if there have been studies that involve best practices for mosquito control in standing water. City Manager Moody said he is not sure if that is part of the current APWA or not, but they are making updates to APWA 5600. Mr. Morales recommended consultation with a specialist.

Mayor Poppa said they could make that recommendation to discuss it as a budget objective to have a standalone survey.

MOTION: CMBR LERO MOVED AND CMBR SCHRAEDER SECONDED TO APPROVE AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 15 OF THE CITY CODE - SOLID WASTE AND STORMWATER UTILITY. (THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.)

XII. Reports of City Officials

A. 4th Quarter and Year-End Parks and Recreation Report

Parks and Rec Superintendent Brungardt said they had over 20,000 visitors to the Community Center since mid-May. They do want to expand those numbers now that renovations are complete. He also reviewed the numbers for special events held at the City. Of note was that there were more shelter rentals at R Park than at the Community Center. Mr. Brungardt also reviewed the continuing education his staff receives.

There have been some issues with the Mighty Bike installation, and he will bring a full report back in February. Also, some tree signs need to be replaced as some have disappeared. Also, the Nall Park Master Plan has passed the 30 percent mark. That will come before the Governing Body later in the year for final designs noting it will be a “cool” concept.

A few punch list items are remaining at the Community Center. The outside restrooms will be open towards the end of March. They are openly hiring for the pool season. There will also be irrigation installed at the R Park soccer field. Plans are underway for the Egg Hunt, and more information will be forthcoming.

CMBR Hage asked about the timing of the irrigation and whether that would impact spring soccer field use. Mr. Brungardt said they need to get the numbers back from the contractors, but they will take the timing into account for those who have reserved the space.

CMBR Faidley asked about the R Park rain garden, whether that would be in the area they call the grass walk. Mr. Brungardt said there is an area around the fireplace with plans to create a pit where the water sits and then it will be allowed to drain.

B. 4th Quarter Year-End Public Works Report

Public Works Director Scharff reported they are down one skilled/equipment operator and are actively interviewing for that position. He showed the comparison of where his department spent their work hours between 2024 and 2025. Last year the emphasis was on parks and green space maintenance.

Mr. Scharff reviewed the completed projects which included the El Monte sidewalk, the Mission Road CARS project, 47th Place street reconstruction, and Nall Avenue. The street sweeper also collected 146 cubic yards of debris. The sweeper is getting old and they will look to replace it in the next few years, but until then, they will continue with the monthly City sweep.

City Manager Moody also wanted to state that the Nall Avenue project was a replacement of what was currently there and they did not need any easements for that project. The El Monte sidewalk needed four easements, and they had to go through condemnation to secure them. The 47th Place project added sidewalks and they also went through the condemnation to secure easements. Some trees conflicted with the storm sewer that were removed.

CMBR Faidley said that is an awesome list of completed projects. Public Works Director Scharff agreed that for a small city, they do a lot.

CMBR Hage said she knew that Roeland Park Facebook's favorite is the Grim Leafer and noted its need for repair. She noted the mechanical challenges and asked how cost prohibitive it would be to outsource when they cannot complete their work with their own truck. Public Works Director Scharff said it is important to have something in place. He said that sometimes it's an easy fix, but it does make sense to have a backup plan. City Manager Moody said the Governing Body could discuss a backup system or the cost to contracting out city-wide. This could be an additional discussion at a Workshop but certainly before their solid waste assessment discussion for 2027.

CMBR Faidley said they all love the leaf truck when it works. Public Works Director Scharff said nothing pains or stresses him more than when it's not working.

C. 4th Quarter and Year-End Police Report

Police Chief Honas provided his safety report and year-end report. He said they had 238 total incidents in the 4th quarter and that crime also decreased during that same period. For year's end, they had 1,043 incidents, which are reports that officers took throughout the year. His officers made sure that they were visible throughout the day and evening in the business district. He noted that reports were down but wasn't completely sure if that was due to his officers' presence or whether the businesses just did not make a report.

He said the 2025 CAD events show the whole picture of what the officers did throughout the quarter. There are also a comparison of 2024 and 2025 CAD events, but the system was not in complete use during 2024. The system paints a picture of what the officers do on a day-to-day basis in the City and when they document everything, they become more transparent.

Chief Honas reviewed the arrest data and traffic violations. He said they are down three officers and are actively recruiting. He said they have hired one part-time officer which will be a help. Animal control is up and running and Chief Honas said they are doing a good job. Also, the county has hired a second co-responder. And finally, one of his officers has expressed a desire to be on the Motorcycle unit and will work to get their certification.

CMBR Faidley noted there was a traffic fatality this past year. Police Chief Honas said this was the first time in his 25 years that there has been a traffic fatality and is rare.

XIII. Adjournment

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

(Roeland Park City Council Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.)

Kelley Nielsen, City Clerk

Michael Poppa, Mayor