City of
ROSEVILLE
Minnesota, USA

Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
City Hall Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive
Monday, October 7, 2024

1. **Roll Call**
Mayor Roe called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. Voting and Seating Order: Strahan, Etten, Schroeder, Groff, and Roe. City Manager Patrick Trudgeon and City Attorney Rachel Tierney were also present.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Approve Agenda**

Strahan moved, Schroeder seconded, approval of the agenda as presented.

Roll Call
Ayes: Strahan, Etten, Schroeder, Groff, and Roe.
Nays: None.

4. **Public Comment**
Mayor Roe called for public comment by audience members on non-agenda items. No one came forward to speak.

5. **Recognitions, Donations, and Communications**

6. **Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

7. **Business Items**
   a. **Receive Utility Rate Study Presentation and Discussion**
   Finance Director Michelle Pietrick briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated October 7, 2024.

   Ms. Stacie Kvilvang and Ms. Jeanne Vogt from Ehlers presented the utility rate study to the City Council.

   Councilmember Strahan referenced the comparable communities chart in the presentation and asked if Ms. Kvilvang could explain the mix of water and sewer costs between South St. Paul, Brooklyn Center, and Roseville. She noted that those cities seem much higher on the sewage than the water.

   Ms. Kvilvang reviewed the differences between the communities and noted that they all amounted to each community's needs.

Councilmember Strahan asked if the increases listed in the information were monthly or quarterly.

Ms. Kvilvang indicated the increases are quarterly.

Councilmember Etten indicated that the storm drainage fund is healthy and will be healthy in five years. He wondered if the City should lower its intake or move some of that money to the water fund.

Ms. Pietrick explained that the city had delayed several capital projects. She described the history of the funds and projects and noted that staff would realign the Capital Improvement Plan "CIP" to bring projects in if they were a high priority.

Mr. Trudgeon indicated in November that staff will bring all the project information to the City Council and put the projects back for discussion before the Council decides at the December 2nd meeting.

Councilmember Groff appreciated the explanations. He also understood that as a first-ring suburb, Roseville's infrastructure is older, and it is time for many improvements and replacements. He noted that the city has a program for low-income single-family homeowners with a water and sewer link.

Mayor Roe indicated that the program is just for the sewer fund.

Ms. Pietrick concurred with Mayor Roe and noted that the website says water and sewer.

Councilmember Schroeder thanked staff for pointing out that the CIP needed to be updated for the sewer fund. She wondered if all the funds required to be updated with projects added to them or if it was just one fund.

Ms. Kvilvang noted it will be just this fund. The other ones were aligned with what Ehlers saw before.

Councilmember Schroeder explained she did not like using these funds as a bank from which the City borrows to do other projects.

Ms. Pietrick reviewed the sewer fund projects from 2021 to 2035, indicating that the funds have not been used for other projects. The projects were deferred to future years, and because the fund is healthy, the projects can be reallocated to current years.

Councilmember Strahan reminded the public that there is a water efficiency rebate program for items purchased after May 12, 2024, that can help offset the price of the water bill. She noted that this is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Public Comment

Mayor Roe offered an opportunity for public comment, but no one came forward.

Mayor Roe thanked Ehlers for the work and informative presentation.

b. Public Hearing and Approve Resolutions Approving the Vacation of Multiple Streets Easements and Rights-of-Way

Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated October 7, 2024.

Mayor Roe reviewed the public hearing protocol and opened the public hearing at approximately 6:38 p.m.

Public Comment

Mr. Guillaume, 511 Ryan

Mr. Guilleume indicated he was confused about the street location relative to his property and asked for clarification.

Ms. Kim Rice, 1876 Shady Beach Avenue

Ms. Rice asked if the City would vacate the alley and if the property would return to the owners. She indicated that her lawyer thought the property may get sold, so she would like to know what will happen with it and the process.

Mr. Phil Norcross, 1892 Wagener

Mr. Norcross asked for clarification on what can and cannot happen on a piece of land at the edge of his yard, whether it is an alley or a right-of-way. He wondered what the difference was.

Ms. Julie Ann Schweitz, Shady Beach Association

Ms. Schweitz indicated she had a question about a tree that fell. She wondered if it was initially an alley tree or on her property. She asked if the vacation went through, what would happen to the tree and would it be their responsibility or the City's to remove it.

Ms. Catherine Lecy, 1144 Rose Place

Ms. Lecy explained that the piece of property by her residence has been a problem. It is overgrown with deadfall and has been abandoned by the City. She indicated that the property is impassable and she would like to see a walking path from Dunlap to Rose Place. She also wondered if that property would be the residents' responsibility to maintain once vacated.

Mr. Gary Gustafson, 1134 Rose Place
Mr. Gustafson asked once the property is vacated, what will the City do to make sure that the homeowners are not suddenly tasked to keep up the property and not just deal with weeds, but also problems in that zone and particularly with the pathway Mr. Freihammer indicated the path is currently impassable and the weeds are terrible. He wondered what the City would do to improve it enough for the residents to keep it up.

Mr. Matthew Hartmann, 2334 Western Avenue
Mr. Hartman explained that he is the residence with the driveway in the portion of the property that is to be vacated. He asked for clarification on what is going on in terms of vacation for the residents.

With no one else coming forward to speak, Mayor Roe closed the public hearing at approximately 6:50 p.m.

Mayor Roe commented on the vacation of easements and what usually happens to the property.

Mr. Freihammer answered resident questions.

Councilmember Schroeder asked if Mr. Freihammer could discuss the potential for a walking path through the one vacation of Rose Place and whether the City would maintain it any differently than the easements for sewer and water pipes.

Mr. Freihammer indicated that it will remain the same until it is improved. However, if the City did install a pathway in the future, it would maintain a minimal adjacent mowing strip so the trail remains usable. Until the City built such a pathway, nothing would be done, and the right-of-way would be kept like it is today. Potentially, such a pathway could be a project that could be done in the future.

Councilmember Strahan wondered if the City needed to make any different distinctions in vacation area L because it goes along the mobile home park on one side.

Mayor Roe indicated that the City would keep the twenty-feet in the middle, and the other parts would go to each property owner.

Etten moved, Groff seconded, adoption of Resolution No. 12093 (Attachment 1) entitled, "Resolution Approving the Vacation of the Alley That is Dedicated in Shady Beach Plat."

Roll Call
Ayes: Strahan, Etten, Schroeder, Groff, and Roe.
Nays: None

Schroeder moved, Etten seconded, adoption of Resolution No. 12094 (Attachment 2) entitled, "Resolution Approving the Vacation of a Portion of a Town Road Easement/Rose Place in the T.M. Connor Plat."

Roll Call
Ayes: Strahan, Etten, Schroeder, Groff, and Roe.
Nays: None

Etten moved, Schroeder seconded, adoption of Resolution No. 12095 (Attachment 3) entitled, "Resolution Approving the Vacation of a Portion of Lovell Avenue that Lies Adjacent to the Properties Located at 2334 Western Avenue North and 2339 Hand Avenue."

Roll Call
Ayes: Strahan, Etten, Schroeder, Groff, and Roe.
Nays: None

Groff moved, Etten seconded, adoption of Resolution No. 12096 (Attachment 4) entitled, "Resolution Approving the Vacation of a Portion of Mackubin Street that Lies Adjacent to the Properties Located at 511 and 510 Ryan Avenue."

Roll Call
Ayes: Strahan, Etten, Schroeder, Groff, and Roe.
Nays: None

c. Receive 2024 Recycling Service Proposals

Environmental Manager Ryan Johnson briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated October 7, 2024.

Mayor Roe thanked the staff for the presentation.

Councilmember Etten asked why the contract would be for only three years and not five years when the City can get to 2030 and only have sixty thousand dollars more than what is currently being paid. He wondered why the City would not lock in that amount for five years.

Mr. Johnson explained that the City staff was considering a new hauler. The staff did not know how well that hauler would do on all the things that had been done previously. He indicated that the new hauler has not done zero waste staffing before and has not done some of these other things.

Mayor Roe wondered if the City could have an option for another two-year term added onto the three-year term already predetermined as a part of the contract.

City Attorney Tierney explained the City can do that, but generally, if there is a three-year term with a two-year renewal option, it is a mutual option to renew, which means locking in the price is a little less confident.

Mr. Freihammer noted that this company's three-year and five-year terms did have different pricing, so it would be something City staff would need to work on if the City were to do something like that.

Councilmember Groff asked if staff had any concerns since there was a big difference in the price of the bids if the City would have problems with the vendor, what is the City's ability to cancel the contract.

Mr. Johnson explained that all of the proposed companies can collect curbside recycling. They can all do curbside and park recycling; City staff has no concerns about those things. It comes down to the other items, such as the zero waste events and an outreach education program.

Public Comment

Mayor Roe offered an opportunity for public comment.

Ms. Katie Drews, Co-President and CEO of Eureka Recycling
Ms. Drews explained that since 2005, Eureka has been the proud recycling provider for Roseville, handling hauling and processing and offering zero-waste services. She reviewed the partnership's history and achievements and noted that Eureka is a non-profit organization. She explained to the Council why ensuring the costs of running an effective recycling program is essential and should be reflected in the upcoming contract. She explained that if the City underprices recycling services today, it could drastically impact the amount of funding the City would receive in the future from EPR.

Ms. Cynthia White, Churchill Street
Ms. White agreed with Ms. Drews. One concern she has about this proposal is that it did not consider any residents' preferences. She did not think that Roseville needed a new vendor as she was pleased with the contractor she had for recyclable goods. If that changes, it will impact her with the pickup time and electronic payments. She wished that when the City did things like this, the residents could provide input and be included in the decision-making process.

Mayor Roe explained that this is for the City's recycling services, and the City collects that fee from utility bills. The resident pays this fee with the quarterly utility bill, and it will not affect the garbage collection or who the residents use for that collection.

Strahan moved, Groff seconded, authorizing staff to negotiate a three-year contract with Proposer 4 using City-owned carts.

Council Discussion

Councilmember Strahan indicated she would like to know if staff had any information about the community members' comments.

Mr. Johnson updated the Council on the EPR regulations and law.

Councilmember Strahan failed to see how paying more for the services would give the City more money. She thought the City may be entitled to a more significant rebate but assumed it was not a one-for-one exchange.

Councilmember Groff thought it was good information, but he did not think it mattered to the decision tonight. He stated he would support the three-year term because the City would know more about the EPR information by then, and in the meantime, it would be less money than what is being paid now.

Councilmember Etten explained that the service questions relate to the zero-waste events and are not about collecting recyclables. He thought the City could change or cancel if the provider could not perform what was in the contract.

Councilmember Schroeder explained she was going back and forth between the five and three years. She did not feel strongly about going with the five-year term and could support the three-year timeframe. She explained the only hesitation she has with the three-year contract is that the City will own the carts for the first time, and if the City only does the three years and switches vendors, the City will have to deal with the whole cart situation.

Councilmember Etten indicated there would be a big difference in savings if the City agreed to a five-year rather than a three-year term. He would like to amend the motion to move the contract to five years.

Etten moved, Schroeder, seconded, and amended the previous motion authorizing staff to negotiate a five-year contract with Prosper 4 for City-owned carts.

Mayor Roe asked the first motion maker and seconder if they were willing to approve the amended motion without going through a motion to amend.

Councilmember Strahan indicated she was not opposed, but her reservation is that it would raise the annual costs by $40,000 per year.

Mayor Roe asked for clarification on the motion to amend.

Councilmember Strahan indicated that she is looking at the annual average cost to the City for a three-year contract, which is $817,188 and going to the five-year contract raises the City's annual cost by $40,000.

Councilmember Etten reviewed the staff information on the vendor's total yearly costs versus the average annual cost.

Based on the data presented, Councilmember Strahan indicated she would be willing to accept a motion to amend.

Councilmember Groff accepted the amendment as the seconder of the original motion.

Mayor Roe clarified that the original motion maker and seconder accepted the amendment as a friendly amendment. The original motion is now a five-year contract.

Mayor Roe explained that the only thing he is concerned about with a five-year term is getting satisfaction on some things that Proposer 4 has assured the City that they will do in terms of some of the things the City does uniquely. He indicated he was willing to be optimistic about the contract terms.

Roll Call
Ayes: Strahan, Etten, Schroeder, Groff, and Roe.
Nays: None

d. Receive Recycling Cart Request for Quote Responses
Environmental Manager Ryan Johnson briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated October 7, 2024.

Councilmember Etten asked for clarification on the added value of the Toter EVRII cart warranty.

Mr. Johnson reviewed the point review for cart providers on the warranty.

Public Comment

Mayor Roe offered an opportunity for public comment, but no one came forward.

Groff moved, Schroeder seconded, to approve the quotes and authorize staff to negotiate a final contract with Toter LLC to purchase their Toter EVRII carts.

Council Discussion

Councilmember Groff appreciated all of the staff's work in making this possible.

Councilmember Schroeder concurred and appreciated the opportunity to discuss this item multiple times.

Roll Call
Ayes: Strahan, Etten, Schroeder, Groff, and Roe.
Nays: None

Strahan suggested implementing option two as the in-mold label.

Mayor Roe asked if the City also needed option three to indicate that the City owned the carts.

The Council concurred with a combination of options 2 and 3 for the in-mold label.

Staff thought that would be acceptable.

e. **Consider Adoption of Ordinance to Increase Mayor and City Council Member Compensation by $100 per Month**
City Manager Patrick Trudgeon briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated October 7, 2024.

Public Comment

Mayor Roe offered an opportunity for public comment, but no one came forward.

Etten moved, Groff seconded, to approve the ordinance raising the compensation of the Mayor and Council members by $100.00 per month.

Council Discussion

Councilmember Etten indicated that these salaries have been in place for twenty-two years and he thought this was a very reasonable increase for all of the work the Council does.

Mayor Roe noted that he had analyzed his hours spent on various duties as mayor over the course of a typical year, and estimated that the current equivalent hourly pay rate worked out to between $35 and $39 per hour, while according to information provided to him by the City Manager, the median City employee hourly rate was about $42 per hour. To him, that was a helpful indication that the proposed increase for councilmembers was not out of line with typical City employee pay as one frame of reference.

Roll Call
Ayes: Strahan, Etten, Schroeder, Groff, and Roe.
Nays: None

8. **Council Direction on Councilmember Initiated Agenda Items**

9. **Approve Minutes**
Comments and corrections to draft minutes had been submitted by the City Council prior to tonight's meeting, and those revisions were incorporated into the draft presented in the Council packet.

a. **Approve September 16, 2024, EDA and City Council Meeting Minutes**
Groff moved, Etten seconded, approval of the September 16, 2024, EDA Meeting Minutes as presented.

Roll Call
Ayes: Strahan, Etten, Schroeder, Groff, and Roe.
Nays: None.

b. **Approve September 16, 2024, City Council Meeting Minutes**
Etten moved, Schroeder seconded, to approve the September 16, 2024, City Council Meeting Minutes as amended.

Corrections:

- Page 3, Line 96, Councilmember Etten noted this was a discussion with a Commission Member mentioning a specific tract of land around and to the east of HarMar Mall. He explained he did not want the sentence to be stated as it was and his proposed change is: "In the area referenced by the Commission."

Roll Call
Ayes: Strahan, Etten, Schroeder, Groff, and Roe.
Nays: None.

c. **Approve September 23, 2024, City Council Meeting Minutes**
Etten moved, Strahan seconded, to approve the September 23, 2024, City Council Meeting Minutes as amended.

Corrections:

- Page 6, Line 242, Councilmember Etten indicated several things he wanted to ensure are accurate. The section that says: "Councilmember Etten recapped the meeting he and City staff had with NYFS," but since only staff met with NYFS, so he would like to strike "he and" in that line. The following line says: "regarding Tubman funding." However, that meeting was not about Tubman funding but rather the services provided by NYFS. He would like to strike

"Tubman funding" and replace it with "had with NYFS staff regarding the services provided by them." He indicated line 244 says: "he recommended providing $20,000 in donations," but it would be a contract and must be corrected to state "$20,000 and acknowledge there will be a transition here." He noted on line 246, the police chief's last name is misspelled.

Roll Call
Ayes: Strahan, Etten, Schroeder, Groff, and Roe.
Nays: None.

10. Approve Consent Agenda

At Mayor Roe's request, City Manager Trudgeon briefly reviewed the items considered under the Consent Agenda, as detailed in specific Requests for Council Action dated October 7, 2024, and related attachments.

Groff moved, Strahan seconded, approval of the Consent Agenda, including claims and payments as presented and detailed.

Roll Call
Ayes: Strahan, Etten, Schroeder, Groff, and Roe.
Nays: None.

a. **Approve Payments**

ACH Payments	$582,463.43
110720-110853	1,129,914.30
TOTAL	**$1,712,377.73**

b. **Approve 1 Temporary Liquor License**
c. **Adopt Ordinance Amending the 2024 City Fee Schedule to Include Fees Related to Hotel Licenses**
d. **Consider Not Waiving Statutory Liability Limits for 2025**

11. Future Agenda Review, Communications, Reports, and Announcements – Council and City Manager

City Manager Patrick Trudgeon reviewed the October 11, 2024, City Council Strategic Planning meeting, the October 14, 2024, EDA and City Council Workshop meetings, the October 21, 2024, City Council meeting, and the October 24, 2024, City Council Strategic Planning meeting.

12. Adjourn

Strahan moved, Schroeder seconded, adjournment of the meeting at approximately 8:42 p.m.

Roll Call
Ayes: Strahan, Etten, Schroeder, Groff, and Roe.
Nays: None.

Daniel J. Roe, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patrick J. Trudgeon, City Manager