City of
ROSEVILLE
Minnesota, USA

Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
City Hall Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive
Monday, February 10, 2025

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

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Approve Agenda**

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

Roll Call
Ayes: Strahan, Schroeder, Groff, Bauer, 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. **Consider Lake Owasso Safe Boating Association's Request for Permit Renewal of the Water-Ski Slalom Course on Lake Owasso**
Police Chief Scheider briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated February 10, 2025.

Public Comment

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

Schroeder moved, Strahan seconded, approving Lake Owasso Safe Boating Association's request to apply for a permit from the Ramsey County Sheriff for a water ski course on Lake Owasso for the 2025 season.

Roll Call

Ayes: Strahan, Schroeder, Groff, Bauer, and Roe.
Nays: None

b. **Hold a Public Hearing and Consider a Request to Approve a Plat at 571 Roselawn Avenue (PF24-022)**

Senior Planner Lloyd briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated February 10, 2025.

Mr. Lloyd explained that certain existing structures on the property had been demolished, and the proposal involved splitting the parcel into a left and right half. The staff report detailed the stormwater management and tree preservation, with the driveway removed as part of the plan.

Councilmember Strahan asked for clarification on attachment one, which indicates the space between 564 and 558 Ryan and 555 and 571 as they come down from Kent. She guessed these were originally intended to connect directly to Roselawn and then just the ownership or the allotment of how those particular three ways were set up in this arrangement.

Mr. Lloyd showed on the map where the location was, and it had thirty feet on the north side and thirty feet on the south side. He explained half of the Kent Street right-of-way had come down to Roselawn Avenue but was never a complete right-of-way in that area in the City. Staff had determined that neither the right-of-way nor the piece of Kent was needed to build a street or maintain some infrastructure. It was vacated last year to become part of the parcel, which he showed on the map.

Mr. Lloyd explained that Councilmember Strahan had asked whether the City should consider a potential dedication of the right-of-way to complete the Kent Street one. That has already been vacated, so there is no need to consider that for the future.

Councilmember Strahan asked to confirm that it would not potentially be split into half of 571 for the future.

Mr. Lloyd explained the property owners could do that conceptually. Still, as it turns out, the portion of the parcel before the vacation of the right-of-way was owned by the same person who was proposing the subdivision tonight. They have agreed with the neighboring property owner to the east to sell the entire vacated parcel. The parcel is 85 feet wide and conforming and buildable in its own right. He did not believe there were plans to build on it. He noted this was acquired by this neighboring property owner at 555 Roselawn Avenue as something of a buffer that they will control from some new development.

Councilmember Strahan asked, out of curiosity, if there is a space coming down from Kent South or Ryan to provide access to the parcel addressed as 560 at this point.

Mr. Lloyd presumed so. He indicated he was not keeping track of the discussions that were part of the vacation of the Kent Street right-of-way. If it were vacated, it would landlock that 560 parcel. The driveway for the 558 parcel comes through there to some degree. He presumed there was, at least in part, to preserve access to 560, and perhaps there were other bits of infrastructure under there that would rely on that right-of-way, but he was not sure.

Councilmember Groff asked Mr. Lloyd to discuss the water management plans and what he saw for managing runoff.

Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer reviewed the water management plans with the Council.

Mayor Roe reviewed the public hearing protocol and opened and closed the hearing at approximately 6:18 p.m. to receive public input on the above-referenced plat approval, with no one appearing for or against it.

Groff moved, Schroeder seconded, and adopted Resolution No. 12127 (Attachment 5) entitled, "Resolution Approving the Proposed "Sweeney Addition" Plat (PF24-022)."

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

c. **Less Mow May Discussion**
Sustainability Specialist Noelle Bakken briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated February 10, 2025.

Ms. Bakken explained the initiative was initially well received but based on confusion about whether it was okay to mow in May. In 2023, the initiative was rebranded as "Less Mow May" to take a more moderate approach. The latest research suggests that Less Mow May may not be the best option for pollinators in Minnesota, and the city is considering a year-round pollinator support program.

Councilmember Strahan noted that there is no mention of watering in this and wondered if irrigation systems and such strain the grass as well by requiring it to continue to grow, feeding into that cycle.

Ms. Bakken thought the city could promote responsible watering practices. She knew the city did not have any restrictions regarding that. Shoreview, a neighboring community, has some watering restrictions. As the summer progresses and if staff see it continuing to be as dry as it has been, the city might want to look into that.

Councilmember Strahan asked what the watering restriction was in Shoreview.

Ms. Bakken reviewed the restrictions Shoreview had for watering during the summer.

Mayor Roe concurred with the watering discussion because he thought there were a lot of folks who are in the traditional mode of maintaining a lush green lawn all summer long, no matter how much or how little rain they get. He thought that it just lends itself to more water use and mowing, and if a person does not necessarily use an electric mower, the emissions from those small engines are more extreme than those of modern vehicles. He thought it made a difference in the environment for people and all creatures. He noted that users could let the grass go a little longer between waterings and there were some ways, whether it is just looking at irrigation systems that sense rain and compensate and do not sprinkle as often, or just manually adjusting the manual sprinkler system or hose and manual sprinklers not to sprinkle as often. Those are all things that the city should be encouraging.

Ms. Bakken indicated that the city does have a rebate program from the Met Council with different water-saving rebates for things like shower heads, toilets, dishwashers, and smart sprinkler systems. The smart sprinkler system rebate does not get used as often as the other rebates, but the city has been encouraging that as well.

Councilmember Strahan noted that Xcel Energy has electric rebates for residential for lawnmowers, snow blowers, trimmers, leaf blowers, chainsaws, and other items. She thought if there were any way that the city could encourage these rebates by sharing that information, people would always be appreciative.

Councilmember Schroeder thanked Ms. Bakken for the presentation. She has been bringing this up numerous times based on the information they learn as they move forward. She liked promoting pollinators more than just for a month, not cutting the grass. She indicated she supported this and thanked Ms. Bakken for working on this and doing the research to present to the Council.

Councilmember Bauer wondered if there were any plans to work with parks or other programs to build pollinator houses for wild pollinators. These are very easy to make, and he thought it would be fun to do with kids.

Ms. Bakken explained that a couple of years back, on Earth Day, the city led a bee house activity for kids, which was tedious but really fun. She thought City staff would continue working on that.

Councilmember Groff echoed Councilmember Schroeder's statement. He thought it was nice to go on this journey together, but they can make changes as they learn. He thought it was good that Ms. Bakken brought this back to the Council early in the metro-wide conversation.

Mayor Roe asked the Council if there was any objection to proceeding with this based on what was presented at the meeting.

The City Council did not have any objections.

Councilmember Bauer indicated in the resolution on line 20 that he would like the wording to state "Whereas, insect, especially Bumblebees..." instead of "bee" because bees are not always the best pollinators and, in some cases, are destructive.

Groff moved, Schroeder seconded, and adopted Resolution No. 12128 (Attachment 1) entitled, "Resolution Revoking Resolution 11694, Removing a Temporary Exception to Section 407 of City Code, Nuisance."

Council Discussion

Councilmember Groff noted this was discussed quite a bit, and he was very pleased with Ms. Bakken's work on the environmental issues and bringing them forward to the Council to tweak.

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

d. Draft Request for Proposals for Architectural Services

Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated February 10, 2025.

Mr. Freihammer explained the RFP includes updating the cost estimate for the proposed license passport and dance studio, updating the maintenance operations center, and exploring options for reusing portions of the existing maintenance facility.

Mr. Trudgeon reviewed additional language that was added to the RFP.

Councilmember Strahan wondered if the city had any proposed pricing ballpark and where these proposals might come from.

Mr. Freihammer indicated that the staff did not have any pricing ideas. He thought some original tasks were relatively cheap if broken down by each little bullet point.

Indeed, as they start investigating reusing the buildings, walk-throughs, and designs will be provided, but he would guess it will cost around $50,000.

Councilmember Bauer wondered if there was parking in the RFP.

Mr. Freihammer indicated that parking is included in the RFP because one cannot have the other. If the city is going to reuse the building, he assumed the architect would design the plans utilizing the existing yard as a parking lot. Certainly, parking is part of the license, passport center, and whatever features are being put on the campus.

Councilmember Schroeder asked if phase two would happen after phase one was done and presented or if the city would be getting into phase one and realize they needed to expand it. She wondered if phase two could happen even before phase one was done or if it would only happen once it was completed.

Mr. Freihammer explained that staff would get Council feedback if the Council wanted to explore those other options. If costs come back lower than expected, staff might want to have the Council discuss possibly adding some things to the current plan. He thought all that could be addressed once the RFPs came back.

Public Comment

Mayor Roe offered an opportunity for public comment.

Mr. Roger Hess, Jr., Wagener Place
Mr. Hess indicated where it talks about the feasibility options, office space, restaurant, and event venue, if possible, he would like to include recreational uses to see if any possible recreational uses could happen in the current public works building. He explained he did not want the public works facility to be built in phases because the city has been waiting for this forever. He indicated he wanted to get it started and done right away, but to do that, the city needs to get the license center out of the way. He would like to have a third option and have someone call around to see what it would cost to rent space for the license center, and once it is out of the way, that will give the city two to three years to work on what to do with the future of the license center. He thought renting space rather than building a new facility for the license center might make more sense, depending on the cost and income brought into the city.

Mayor Roe thanked Mr. Hess for his comments and he did appreciate the request to consider recreational uses. He thought the problem was that such uses have not been through a community process like the rest of this was, so he would be a little uncomfortable to add a laundry list of potential recreational uses to a facility that the City does not know how that fits in with what the community is looking for and or what the city can even run on this site when it comes to parking and other matters.

He thought the city needed to keep the scope focused on the project or projects at hand right now. He felt the town needed community discussions about other uses or activities and how they might be facilitated or put into facilities in due course. He did not want to say the city should not have those conversations and he did not know how the city would fit that into this process.

Councilmember Strahan noted the city just went through the Envision Roseville process, and there was a very high interest in having some community entertainment spaces. She was not intimating that this needed to be because this has never been part of what the Council discussed in this plan. Still, she also did not want to take it out as something the public has not explicitly called out as something they are interested in doing. She did not think this had ever been part of this plan to add recreational on the civic campus. Still, she did think the interest has been there repeatedly, and she felt the Envision Roseville stuff shows that people are interested in that. She did not know that would be without some background to say there is interest.

Mayor Roe noted that public comment was closed when a member of the audience came forward but offered him a chance to speak.

Mr. Ed Sweeney stated he was at the meeting for 571 Roselawn.

Mayor Roe indicated the Council approved that item and he was sorry that Mr. Sweeney could not comment on it, but the Council completed it sooner than expected. He also offered public comments on the pollinator discussion if anyone wanted to comment.

No one else wished to comment at this time.

Groff moved, and Bauer seconded, approving the request for proposals for architectural services.

Council Discussion

Councilmember Groff thought this would be helpful information for the city to move forward and make further decisions. He indicated he was eager to see what the new costs might be and what the potential for the building would be. He realized that remodeling existing buildings was not always more cost-effective, but he would like to see what those numbers look like.

Roll Call

Ayes: Strahan, Schroeder, Groff, Bauer, and Roe.
Nays: None

e. Receive an Update on the Commissioner Application Process

City Manager Patrick Trudgeon briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated February 10, 2025.

Mr. Trudgeon reported that 28 applicants have applied for various commission vacancies. The interviews for the applicants are scheduled for February 19 and 20.

Councilmember Strahan thanked Ms. Olson for putting this on LinkedIn, which does get a more professional person, and it is easy to share and reach out to others.

Ms. Olson was also at the meeting and thanked the city's community relations team because they did do a few things differently this year with the advertising. She explained what the staff had done to get applicants.

8. Council Direction on Councilmember Initiated Agenda Items

9. Approve Minutes

The City Council submitted comments and corrections to the draft minutes prior to tonight's meeting, and those revisions were incorporated into the draft presented in the Council packet.

a. Approve January 13, 2025, EDA and City Council Meeting Minutes

Strahan moved, Groff seconded, approval of the January 13, 2025, EDA and City Council Meeting Minutes as amended.

Mayor Roe indicated Councilmember Strahan passed along some additional changes to what was presented to the Council. He asked her to review the revisions for approval.

Councilmember Strahan indicated that line 135 and 136 in the EDA minutes were a bit confusing because she asked a question without a question mark.

Mayor Roe indicated it was not uncommon in these minutes.

Councilmember Strahan thought it was not very clear. She noted many words strung together, so, in her intent, "Member Strahan asked how many units the city saw built between the Edison, Oasis, and the Harbor. Those will all be people not reflected in the Stantec numbers." She wanted to ensure better clarity and that the intention was there. She also wanted to ensure that the word "not" was added.

Roll Call

Ayes: Strahan, Schroeder, Groff, Bauer, and Roe.
Nays: None.

10. Approve Consent Agenda

At Mayor Roe's request, City Manager Trudgeon briefly reviewed the items being considered under the Consent Agenda, as detailed in specific Requests for Council Action dated February 10, 2025, and related attachments.

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

Roll Call

Ayes: Strahan, Schroeder, Groff, Bauer, and Roe.
Nays: None.

a. **Approve Payments**

ACH Payments	$405,430.44
111821-111934	1,155,143.10
TOTAL	**$1,560,573.54**

b. **Approve General Purchases or Sale of Surplus Items Exceeding $10,000**

c. **Approve the Renewal of a Short-Term Rental License for 1901 Ryan Avenue**

d. **Approve Professional Services Agreement with Tubman**

e. **Authorize the Mayor and City Manager to Execute a Professional Services Agreement with the Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce and a Cooperative Funding Agreement with the cities of Maplewood and St. Paul Regarding Continued Funding of the Rice and Larpenteur Alliance**

f. **Approve Acceptance of Additional Funding Through the State of Minnesota Intensive Comprehensive Peace Officer Education and Training (ICPOET) Grant Award**

g. **Approve Acceptance of Crisis Response Grant Funds Through the Minnesota Office of Justice**

h. **Approve Agreement for a Professional Service Agreement Template for Police Contracted Overtime**

i. **Accept 2024 Body-Worn Camera Audit Report**

j. **Declare Vacancy for Additional Opening on Parks and Recreation Commission**

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

City Manager Patrick Trudgeon reviewed the February 19 and 20, 2025, City Council meetings; February 24, 2025, City Council meeting; March 3, 2025, City Council meetings; March 17, 2025, and March 24, 2025, EDA and City Council meetings.

12. Adjourn

Strahan moved, Schroeder seconded, adjournment of the meeting at approximately 7:20 p.m.

Roll Call

Ayes: Strahan, Schroeder, Groff, Bauer, and Roe.
Nays: None.

Daniel J. Roe, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patrick J. Trudgeon, City Manager