



**Regular City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**City Hall Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive**  
**Monday, June 8, 2020**

*Pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13.D.021, City Council members, City Staff, and members of the public participated in this meeting electronically due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

**1. Roll Call**

Mayor Roe called the meeting to order at approximately 6:12 p.m. Voting and Seating Order: Laliberte, Etten, Willmus, Groff and Roe. City Manager Patrick Trudgeon and City Attorney Mark Gaughan were also present.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Approve Agenda**

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

**Roll Call**

**Ayes:** Laliberte, Etten, Willmus, Groff and Roe.

**Nays:** None.

**4. Public Comment**

Mayor Roe called for public comment by members of the audience on any non-agenda items. No one indicated a desire to speak.

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

**a. Recognize Human Rights, Inclusion and Engagement Commission Essay Contest Winners**

Assistant City Manager Rebecca Olson made a presentation of the 2020 winners.

Mayor Roe recognized the winners of the HRIEC essay contest.

Mayor Roe explained in reading all of the winning essays, a lot of great things are being said which are also meaningful and should be reflected upon. He thanked everyone for participating in the contest and the teachers as well for running the contest.

Sixth grade 1st place winner Mirabel Pestel was present on Zoom and read her essay.

Mayor Roe thanked Ms. Pestel for reading her essay.

**Regular City Council Meeting**

**Monday, June 8, 2020**

**Page 2**

Seventh grade 1st place winner Archer Holman was also present on Zoom and read his essay in Spanish.

Mayor Roe thanked Mr. Holman for reading his essay.

Eighth grade 1st place winner Naima Sheikh-Mohamed was present on Zoom and read her essay.

Mayor Roe thanked Ms. Sheikh-Mohamed for reading her essay.

Mayor Roe thanked all of the essay contest winners as well as the HRIEC members for their work in organizing the essay contest and determining the winners

**b. LGBTQQIA+ Pride Week Proclamation**

Mayor Roe read the LGBTQQIA+ Pride Week Proclamation.

Groff moved, Willmus seconded, proclaiming June 21-28, 2020 as LGBTQQIA+ Pride Week.

**Roll Call**

**Ayes:** Laliberte, Etten, Willmus, Groff and Roe.

**Nays:** None.

**6. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**

**7. Business Items**

**a. Receive Update on COVID-19 and Impact on City Operations**

Assistant Fire Chief David Brosnahan and City Manager Patrick Trudgeon briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request for Council Action and related attachments dated June 8, 2020.

Mayor Roe indicated he observed at the dashboard of the Ramsey County COVID website that it did seem that the cases in the County are beginning to plateau as well as the death numbers. He thought the current case number in Roseville is 208; which is concerning. He extended wishes to all for a full recovery.

Councilmember Groff explained he had some questions from the community with confusion over budget implications. He asked if there were funds available from the State, County, or Federal that are going to help with this.

Mr. Trudgeon explained Federal CARES Act money has been distributed to the State but that disbursement has not been finalized by the State. At this point, he is unclear on how that will work out. He indicated the money can only be used for direct costs and not lost revenues.

Councilmember Laliberte understood that if the Legislature does not come to an agreement on how those CARES Act dollars should be distributed, at some point in time there is a trigger for the Governor to decide on his own.

Mayor Roe noted that although the city picnic shelters and buildings are not available until July 4<sup>th</sup>, the scattered picnic tables are available on a first-come first-serve basis as long as the group size is kept under the State mandate.

**b. Receive Update on Roseville Police & Fire Department Activities During the Recent Local Emergency Related to the Events Following the Killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis**

Police Chief Mathwig and Deputy Chief Erika Scheider updated the City Council on Police Department activities in Roseville with a PowerPoint presentation.

Mayor Roe noted the city did not have a curfew to stop people's ability to exercise their First Amendment rights to speech and petition their Government to address grievances or anything like that. The city wanted to make sure to help distinguish between those who are looking to do bad things and others in the community, which is the reason for the curfew.

Fire Chief O'Neill and Assistant Fire Chief Brosnahan made a presentation to the Council.

Mayor Roe thanked all of the First Responders for their hard work and hours spent during these trying times. He asked Police Chief Mathwig, in looking at the murder of George Floyd and that incident, seeing some of the responses of departments across the Country to some of the protests, if that has spurred in the Department some conversations about whether the city needed to revisit some of its policies or training or procedures.

Chief Mathwig indicated the Department continually looks at its use of force policy and that is a living document based on a lot of circumstances, a lot of case law, and a lot of incidences that have happened across the Country. He noted that his team has already started to look at that to make sure it is what they think it is, what they want it to be, and what it should be. He also mentioned the city's GARE program that has Council and community support and is one way that Roseville can help make the world a better place.

Mayor Roe offered an opportunity for public comment.

**Mr. Eric Schwartz**

Mr. Schwartz thanked Chief Mathwig for responding to him personally when he called. He indicated in the report there was no mention of use of force by officers and he wondered if tear gas was used at all in support of St. Paul by Roseville Police, was riot gear used, and were rubber bullets used by the Roseville Police

Department in support of these other Police Departments that were requesting support. He explained that was something he was interested in. He commented that the "8 Can't Wait" is really cool right now but he found it hard when he sees the surrounding towns using such force and violence and the City of Roseville is continuing to go in to support and to help them rather than working with and saying that those departments can't be doing that. One of those is stopping it and one of those is number six, the duty to intervene. He stated if we are not intervening with our neighbors by telling them they cannot do that, and the city is not going to support that we might as well be doing it. He would like to hear if any of things were used and will those things be reported on at a later date because there was no mention of use of force in the report. As well, he would like to hear what the Council has to say about that because we are trying and are exemplary at this point and that is just because the city has not hit the news yet.

Chief Mathwig addressed Mr. Schwartz's questions about tear gas, protective riot gear by officers, and rubber bullets, and stated Roseville officers did not engage in any of those activities. In the presentation, there was talk about mobile field force and in Ramsey County that is the unit that is responsible for managing crowds, especially violent activities and that unit was in Roseville. Roseville does not have anyone assigned to the mobile field force, so no officers of Roseville were engaged in activities of the mobile field force in Minneapolis or St. Paul.

Chief Mathwig indicated Roseville does have officers that are assigned to Ramsey County SWAT and that is mobilized as an over watch in some areas, but force was not used in those situations.

Mayor Roe did not think Roseville had some of the capabilities that some of the larger departments have in terms of dealing with crowds. As he understood, Roseville is assisting neighboring communities primarily to answer typical 911 calls in place of their officers who are addressing the imminent issues in their communities.

Chief Mathwig indicated that was correct.

Mayor Roe thanked the Police and Fire Departments for the updates.

Councilmember Laliberte thanked the community, stating she had several long conversations with some business owners that had concerns and she felt very supported by the City Manager as she called in and conveyed those concerns. She did know a lot of time was put in by staff and was proud of how things were handled by city staff in the community. She thanked City Manager Trudgeon for keeping the city Council informed.

**c. Approve Resolution Approving the Vacation of Herschel Street Easement**

City Engineer/Assistant Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request for Council Action and related attachments dated June 8, 2020.

Mayor Roe reviewed public hearing protocol and opened and closed the public hearing at approximately 7:48 p.m. for the purpose of receiving public input on the above-referenced vacation of Herschel Street Easement; with no one indicating a desire to speak for or against.

Willmus moved, Etten seconded, adoption of Resolution No. 11711 entitled, “Resolution Approving the Vacation of Easement for Public Road, Highway and Utility Purposes, Also Known as Herschel Street, Located North of County Road C.”

### **Council Discussion**

Councilmember Willmus thought this was integral to the redevelopment of this parcel and he supports it.

#### **Roll Call**

**Ayes:** Laliberte, Etten, Willmus, Groff and Roe.

**Nays:** None

**d. Public Hearing to Adopt a Resolution Approving a Minor Plat for The Davis Group, Consolidating Three Lots of the Veritas Campus into Two, 2815 Cleveland Avenue (PF20-005)**

City Planner Thomas Paschke briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request for Council Action and related attachments dated June 8, 2020.

Mayor Roe reviewed public hearing protocol and opened and closed the public hearing at approximately 7:54 p.m. for the purpose of receiving public input on the above-referenced minor plat for the Davis Group; with no one indicating a desire to speak for or against.

Etten moved, Willmus seconded, adoption of Resolution 11712 entitled “Resolution Approving the Centre Pointe Minor Plat – A Recombination of Three Existing Lots into Two Lots (PF20-005)”.

#### **Roll Call**

**Ayes:** Laliberte, Etten, Willmus, Groff and Roe.

**Nays:** None.

**e. Discuss Expanding the Utility Discount to Individuals Receiving Unemployment Benefits**

Finance Director Michelle Pietrick briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request for Council Action and related attachments dated June 8, 2020.

Mayor Roe explained the type of approach he was looking to suggest, is if this discount is extended to people who receive unemployment benefits but strictly looking at it on a quarter by quarter basis rather than on an annual certification. He would like to provide assistance to those in the temporary situation of receiving unemployment benefits to help out with their finances.

Councilmember Willmus asked for clarification if someone qualifies for benefits, maybe with a reduced wage or salary, would that individual qualify for this program.

Mayor Roe indicated under his criteria of simply receiving benefits as unemployment insurance benefits, the individual would qualify for that being the strict, only criteria. If the city wanted to look at some sort of income basis, staff could do that but it may be more complex. He suggested the city not do income verification for the unemployment benefit and keep it simple for the city.

Councilmember Etten stated he had discussed this with the Mayor and staff today and thought it was good to be thinking about these things, but he was quite concerned about the budget hole the city has already. There is not a lot of fat in their reserve accounts right now. He might be inclined on how the city puts out information in the next quarters series of bills such as the utility program the city has in place. He was supportive of continuing staff's suggestion of waiving late fees for three more months.

Councilmember Groff echoed Councilmember Etten's comments that the city has a lot of budget issues which people are asking about already. He noted people that are on unemployment, from his understanding, are actually making more money right now than while at their jobs so he was not sure unemployment was a good guide to use. He agreed with extending the current program the city has for another quarter.

Councilmember Laliberte agreed with much that was said and was supportive of waiving the late payment fees for the next quarter. She was grateful that staff brought forward requests and the volume does not seem to indicate that this is a big need or demand right now. She indicated she would not be supportive of this particular action at this time.

Mayor Roe explained in regard to the budget hole, there are different pies that are being talked about and base utility fees go toward the utility infrastructure replacement costs and those are very well financed over the foreseeable future as compared to some other areas in the budget.

Laliberte moved, Etten seconded, to waive the late payment fees on utility bills for June through August.

**Roll Call**

**Ayes:** Laliberte, Etten, Willmus, Groff and Roe.

**Nays:** None

**8. 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 REDA and City Council Meeting Minutes**

Willmus moved, Etten seconded, approval of the May 11, 2020 city Council Meeting Minutes, May 11, 2020 REDA meeting minutes, May 18, 2020 city Council meeting minutes, May 26, 2020 Special city Council meeting minutes and June 1, 2020 Emergency Special city Council meeting minutes as presented.

**Roll Call**

**Ayes:** Laliberte, Etten, Willmus, Groff and Roe.

**Nays:** None.

**9. Approve Consent Agenda**

At the request of Mayor Roe, City Manager Trudgeon briefly reviewed those items being considered under the Consent Agenda; and as detailed in specific Requests for Council Action dated June 8, 2020 and related attachments.

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

**Roll Call**

**Ayes:** Laliberte, Etten, Willmus, Groff and Roe.

**Nays:** None.

**a. Approve Payments**

ACH Payments	\$808,277.51
96538-96710	1,005,510.83
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,813,788.34</b>

**b. Approve General Purchases or Sale of Surplus Items Exceeding \$5,000**

**c. Approve Service Agreement with Medsurety for Administration of Various Cafeteria Plan Benefits**

**d. Adopt Resolution No. 11713 Approving the Special Law Passed by the Minnesota Legislature Allowing the City of Roseville to Issue a Liquor License to the Cedarholm Community Building**

**e. Approve Resolution No. 11714 Awarding Contract for the Galtier Sanitary Sewer Lift Station Project**

**Regular City Council Meeting**

**Monday, June 8, 2020**

**Page 8**

Mayor Roe noted the lift station project came in below budget.

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

City Manager Patrick Trudgeon reviewed the agendas for the June 22, 2020 REDA and City Council and the July 13th City Council meetings.

Councilmember Laliberte explained the RCLLG program that was originally planned for this Friday has been postponed and a new date has not been set yet. She noted she went to the fairgrounds and looked at the Roseville in Bloom projects as being painted by artists and encouraged the residents to go see them.

**11. Adjourn**

Laliberte moved, Etten seconded, adjournment of the meeting at approximately 8:17 p.m.

**Roll Call**

**Ayes:** Laliberte, Etten, Willmus, Groff and Roe.

**Nays:** None.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel J. Roe, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Patrick J. Trudgeon, City Manager