

**CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS
GOVERNING BODY WORKSHOP MINUTES
ROELAND PARK CITY HALL
4600 WEST 51ST STREET, ROELAND PARK, KS 66205
May 19, 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
- Jeffrey Stocks, 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

(Roeland Park Governing Body Workshop Meeting Called to Order at 8:03 p.m.)

I. MINUTES

A. Governing Body Workshop Minutes May 5, 2025

The minutes were approved as presented.

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Legislative Report from LGR

Mallory Lutz from Little Government Relations provided a 2025 Session Recap that she said was fast and furious with the new legislative schedule. She reviewed the various bills that were brought before the legislature. Many of the bills brought forward were vetoed by the governor and overridden by the legislature.

Mayor Poppa said he wanted everyone to see how the current state legislature is attacking local government and hamstringing their ability to make decisions for their own community, by their community, and that fit their community. He asked everyone to keep watching what is being done in Topeka.

CMBR Hage asked if the livestream bill applied to committee work. Ms. Lutz said as she understands and reads the bill that when a subcommittee is created by the Governing Body it would be subject to the act.

Mayor Poppa read the bill differently. And after a brief discussion, the Governing Body asked for input from their City Attorney on whether committee meetings and even Council meetings need to be livestreamed.

CMBR Faidley expressed kudos to Representative Rui Xu and Senator Ethan Corson saying she appreciates all the work they are doing for them in Topeka noting that this was probably not an enjoyable session for them.

2. Review Primary Revenues, Fund Balances, Outstanding Debt & Pay Assumptions

City Manager Moody reviewed the 2026 Preliminary Budget Estimate Assumptions. He said there was a 0.3 mill reduction planned in 2026 due to the glass recycling cost being included in the solid waste assessment fee and the planned mill reduction in the storm water fee. One mill equals roughly \$145,000 to the City.

Next, Mr. Moody reviewed all sources of revenue for the City noting that the major source of income is from sales taxes. He also reviewed the trends of those revenues and those generated from property taxes.

Mr. Moody then reviewed the history of the debt service noting that it will drop off in 2027.

The average appraised value of a single-family home in Roeland Park is \$336,000. At a 25.2 mill rate this relates to \$975 received for Roeland Park who does have the fourth highest mill rate in Johnson County. This is largely attributed to the fact that a majority of their property taxes are attributed to homes as they have a small business community.

Ms. Jones-Lacy reviewed all the fund balances. She said that all but 0.8 of the mill they receive goes to the General Fund. Ms. Jones-Lacy also provided past numbers, current figures, and projections on the major funds the City supports.

City Manager Moody then reviewed the personnel cost indexes. He put in a 4.5 percent merit increase for 2026, adding that the additional 0.5 percent pay increase is due to inflation remaining high. He said they will not be seeking a mid-year pay adjustment for 2026.

The Governing Body provided consensus that they were comfortable with that extra increase.

City Manager Moody also reviewed where Roeland Park compares in salaries to other surrounding cities noting that they need to remain market competitive. He said that he appreciated the approval of the pay increases from the Governing Body.

City Manager Moody reviewed the upcoming timeline for the next budget steps noting that there will be a community forum on June 23rd to present the 2026 budget.

3. Budget Presentation - Review all CIP, Debt Service and Economic Development Funds Reflecting Preliminarily Approved Objectives and CIP

Ms. Jones-Lacy highlighted the Special Street Highway Fund that will see a couple of street reconstruction projects throughout the City. The scope of those projects explains why the balance drops but she said it rebounds in 2028.

CMBR Faidley asked if The Rocks' project numbers have been updated to reflect their increased costs, which she heard has gone up to \$80 million when \$74.6 million was used in the budget.

City Manager Moody said the numbers presented in the budget are based upon the numbers the City approved when the plans were submitted. Even though their costs are going up, the property will be appraised on what income it generates.

CMBR Hage asked why all the Redevelopment Costs in the Economic Development Fund are in 2025.

City Manager Moody said it is a judgment call and that it will more than likely extend over a couple of years. They budget more conservatively and so they show it all at once.

III. COMMITTEE MINUTES

1. **Ad-Hoc Historical Committee Meeting Minutes April 24, 2025**
2. **Aquatics Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes April 8, 2025**
3. **Special Called Arts Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes April 26, 2025**
4. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Meeting Minutes April 29, 2025**
5. **Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes April 3, 2025**

There committee minutes are attached to the agenda packet.

IV. ADJOURN

CMBR Raglow adjourned the meeting.

(Roeland Park Workshop Adjourned at 9:15 p.m.)