

**CITY OF ROELAND PARK, KANSAS
GOVERNING BODY WORKSHOP MINUTES
ROELAND PARK CITY HALL
4600 WEST 51ST STREET, ROELAND PARK, KS 66205
April 21, 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 7:00 p.m.)

I. MINUTES

A. Governing Body Workshop Minutes April 7, 2025

The minutes were approved as presented.

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Review and Preliminary Approval of CIP

City Manager Moody stated the CIP reflects projects over the next ten years and is listed by department and their funding source. The project scoring system now looks at equity criteria.

The Nall Park improvements have been consolidated since they now have a master plan. Some funds from The Rocks have been earmarked as a source of funding for Nall Park improvements along with \$800,000 in STP funding. They have applied for \$1.4 million in Kansas water conservation grants, which Mr. Moody says looks promising. The project budget for Nall Park is \$3.2 million and they hope to have \$2.2 million covered from other sources, which he attributed to great leveraging of local resources on this project.

CMBR Faidley stated that the work at Nall Park is scheduled to be completed two years prior to the completion of the wastewater plan. City Manager Moody said they anticipate starting park work in 2026 and extending into 2027. They have been told the wastewater plant will be completed in 2029. The City has not scheduled the Phase 2 road improvements for Nall Road and that timeline is to be determined later. They did receive grants to support bike improvements on the road leading to Nall Park.

CMBR Faidley said in looking at the stormwater fund, it looks to be close to \$300,000 that they will have, but it only reflects \$275,000. City Manager Moody said that many of their street work includes stormwater elements, and they will use the utility fee for those. Not all stormwater work is a major project. Staff intends to use the funds accumulated every year.

CMBR Faidley also asked about the use of the fertilizer spray trailer as that type of work is contracted out. Public Works Director Scharff said it was purchased in 2017, and it will be used to get the Grasshopper into the parks.

CMBR Hage said she did not see the additional seeding and shade at the pool in Aquatics for proposed 2026. City Manager Moody said that should be reflected in the Aquatics section and will make sure that is added.

CMBR Faidley also stated she did not see the butterfly refuge. City Manager Moody said it has been added as a line item in the budget for 2025 but will also add that to the CIP.

There was Governing Body consensus for the staff to continue working on the CIP.

2. Discuss E-bike Program and Determine Direction

Ms. Jones-Lacy said the CRPG grant (Carbon Reduction Program Grant) was something they applied for in partnership with the City of Mission back in 2023. Roeland Park was to be able to purchase 20 e-bikes. The state has informed them that the grant does not cover operation and maintenance costs, which is where the bulk of the costs are and is a change from their understanding when they applied for the grant. Annual costs are estimated to be \$1,600 per bike per year. The capital expenditures are funded through the grant and include the costs of the bikes, bike racks, signage, and the like. They have also been working with BikeWalkKC on this project. Mission is leaning towards not proceeding with the program and to use the funds allocated for other bike infrastructure projects.

Staff's recommendation to the Council is that if Mission is not proceeding forward and the uncertainty with the grant in general, they would not proceed at this point and rescind their grant application.

Mayor Poppa stated he likes Mission's approach. If they are not moving forward with an e-bike program, then it does not make sense for Roeland Park to move forward. He does like the opportunity to reallocate the funds for their bike infrastructure.

CMBR Hage asked about the type of application it is. Ms. Jones-Lacy said that Mission applied for the grant, and they would administer the grant funding. With them not pursuing the funding, it would be a substantial change for Roeland Park, and it would need to go back to MARC for Roeland Park to be the primary administrator.

CMBR Faidley said there are a lot of unknowns and the next funding cycle for this grant is 2030. She also hates to leave \$40,000-plus on the table but does have a concern about staff time. And with Mission possibly not participating it is unfortunate as they were a connection to other areas, and this creates a patchwork of connectivity. She said the network does include KCK, KCMO, and Westwood has a private e-bike club not a part of the system.

Mayor Poppa said they could go for it and get the funding, but there is no guarantee it will be supported ongoing. Ms. Jones-Lacy stated the funding is only for the capital investment. The maintenance and operations are not funded and would be the responsibility of the City. Mayor Poppa said he would be concerned about staff time to run this operation and, therefore, would support staff's recommendation.

CMBR Madigan said initially he thought it was a great idea, but they should go with the staff recommendation. He does not want them to close their minds entirely, and maybe in the future there will be a better time.

CMBR Raglow agreed with the others. She said there are too many unknowns, and it is not worth the extra work for staff. They already have a lot going on in the way of projects that takes a lot of time and attention from their staff.

CMBR Faidley asked if they could wait until April 30th when they have a definitive decision from the City of Mission.

CMBR Hage said that even if Mission proceeds, the grant and the terms of the grant are still aligned with an original expectation and puts the City in the spot of unfunded, unplanned expenses.

Mayor Poppe said he would like to see them keep those funds earmarked for alternative transportation.

There was consensus to make a final decision at the May 5th Council meeting and also to keep the earmarked funds for alternative transportation.

3. Discuss Modifications to the Dais

City Manager Moody presented drawings stating that they want to make some changes to the dais area and to make the staff area consistent. There are also some items to be addressed at other City buildings and the Police Department. Universal has made a cost estimate of \$25,000.

Mayor Poppe said he would like some storage on the dais.

There were Governing Body comments of having a hook for bags, a drawer and a keyboard tray.

Mayor Poppe asked about a camera at the lectern. City Manager Moody said they are looking at an Owl camera but are concerned whether the speakers they have will confuse the Owl.

CMBR Faidley asked if there would be room for all the department heads with the new configuration and whether it would be ADA compliant. She said that the staff definitely needs new chairs.

CMBR Lero said the improvements would be appreciated. He suggested individual cameras for each person versus an individual laptop. Improving the technology would increase professionalism and the look of their Council meetings. He agreed that getting rid of the pits on the dais would be a significant improvement.

CMBR Madigan said the updates will make everything look more professional. He said this is a great idea that is long past due. He would like to have the ability to be able to plug in his laptop.

CMBR Hage supported a way to streamline the technology and said the schematics look great.

CMBR Stocks asked about the audio visual equipment that would be replaced and could it be repurposed elsewhere in the City. City Manager Moody said they could repurpose the monitors.

CMBR Raglow expressed her support for modifications of the dais.

City Manager Moody said he will have Universal present a change order detailing the work they would do and bring that back to the Council.

CMBR Dickens asked if what Universal works on will come back to the Council. CMBR Raglow said they will come back when the designs are complete. City Manager Moody said he may have SFS draw something up and present it at a Workshop and then a final change order would be presented.

City Manager Moody asked how detailed the plans need to be to get approval from the Governing Body. CMBR Raglow said they are an incredibly detailed group when it comes to their work area. CMBR Raglow said what she is hearing from the Council is a request for better technology and more storage.

CMBR Hill said she would like them to be able to have their own input on that and not only CMBR Raglow telling them what they want. CMBR Raglow said that was not her intent but was just summarizing what she heard from the group.

CMBR Lero asked if the technology required a consultant's work. Ms. Jones-Lacy has reached out to Johnson County DTI and a representative will come out to City Hall to do an assessment and provide guidance to make recommendations for upgrades.

III. COMMITTEE MINUTES

1. Ad-Hoc Historical Committee Meeting Minutes March 27, 2025
2. Aquatics Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes April 8, 2025
3. Arts Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes March 24, 2025
4. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Meeting Minutes March 18, 2025

IV. ADJOURN

CMBR Raglow adjourned the meeting.

(Roeland Park Workshop Adjourned at 7:48 p.m.)