



**Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
City Hall Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive
Monday, March 8, 2021**

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 7:27 p.m. Voting and Seating Order: Groff, Willmus, Strahan, Etten, and Roe. City Manager Patrick Trudgeon and City Attorney Mark Gaughan were also present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approve Agenda

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

Roll Call

Ayes: Groff, Willmus, Strahan, Etten, 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. Receive Rice Larpenteur Alliance Report

Ms. Kim O'Brien, St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce presented the Rice Larpenteur Alliance report to the City Council.

Mayor Roe noted a few things that stood out for him this last year with the Alliance, which is made up of community and business people. Two of the key outcomes were the Way-finding & Signage initiative and also the work of one resident member that helped with developing a survey evaluation tool that will be used to help plan moving forward and to guide where the Alliance has been. Both of those things were done by people who were not City representatives but were actually community representatives.

Councilmember Strahan indicated she was at City Hall on Saturday and there was a Keystone drive. Because there was a pre-existing relationship, the officers that were on duty stepped up and brought three vehicle loads of food to the Brittany and Marion St. Apartment buildings. She really appreciate the relationship there.

Councilmember Groff thanked Ms. O'Brien for sticking with it during a difficult year. He noted he participated in several of the events and all were terrific.

Councilmember Etten indicated there are a lot of people in the area asking to do more. People are taking ownership of things and he thought that was a great thing.

Mayor Roe thanked Ms. O'Brien for the update.

6. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

7. Business Items

a. Discuss Community Aspirations, Organizational Priorities, and the Policy Priority Plan

City Manager Trudgeon briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request for Council Action and related attachments dated March 8, 2021.

Mayor Roe provided some context for the council and public about the timing and process of the Imagine Roseville 2025 visioning process in 2006, and thanked staff for including the report in the packet for this discussion. He noted the amount of things accomplished by the City toward the vision since 2006, and how much of the vision remained relevant today, despite its age. He suggested, however, that it is probably time to consider planning another community visioning process to update our vision, once such a process can take place without pandemic limitations.

Councilmember Strahan indicated she has had people reach out to her to indicate the need for closed caption on the meeting videos and no way for deaf or hard of hearing residents to be able to be active in the meetings. There are some things that it seemed like the City did not move forward as much as it should have. She thought the City needed to be aware of identifying big holes. She appreciated there were aspirations, but she wished people were more at the forefront. She loved the idea of a desirable place to work but if people are placed in the item, it is a lot more actionable. She thought it would be great if this had more specific environmental goals, noting they are kind of lofty platitudes but without specifics on what the City is going to do.

Councilmember Willmus indicated he was on one of the subgroups of Imagine Roseville 2025 and there may be some remaining value in what was done. He thought the model used in regard to the visioning effort was a good one and the City is going to be entering 2022 without having looked at or commenced with a visioning process. He thought this was something the Council should look into. He thought as they hopefully see the end of some of the things that are limiting their ability to gather, moving forward, they can look at ways to rekindle that process and tie some of these things together. He would like the City to focus on the process to help start the kickoff and would be curious to see staff's perspective with what they have

today and thoughts on how to incorporate some of these things moving forward in the various processes.

Councilmember Groff stated the big picture for him is that the three things make sense. The aspirations make sense and are good down the line, but he did see what Mr. Trudgeon was saying how there seems to be some disconnect going on and he thought there might need for fine tuning. He agreed with Councilmember Strahan to make it more about the people. As far as the Imagine Roseville 2025 and going through that process again, he was not against that but knew that it was a big process and if the City is going to do that, it takes a lot of planning. He suggested making a plan over the next year and then the City needs to involve wide sectors of the community.

Councilmember Etten agreed with the comments about timing. He thought looking at 2022 made a lot of sense as planning this out will take some time. He liked the concept of engaging new people and thought the City would be doing more with the DEI consultant and the Equity Manager as well as the GARE process. He appreciated the slight change in flow proposed by Mr. Trudgeon, but as the Council looks at those policy priorities, one of the things the Council talks about is engagement, community, communicating with the community, and getting information back from them. He would want that to be more part of this in some way.

Councilmember Strahan wondered if Mr. Trudgeon saw it valuable, given the date and antiquity of some of the items within the document, that it could be a guiding focus or should the City start over with the process and recreate everything.

Mr. Trudgeon thought the City was stuck in the in-between, noting everyone recognizes the fact of having a greater community conversation with input into the vision. This takes a lot of planning and effort and right now, that is challenging to do. The question is what the City does in the interim, if anything. He thought the City could continue to use the aspirations in the short-term basis. As he thought about how this can play out from this conversation and assuming the City Council wanted to have something in the short term to be focusing on, such as a quick check in with the Council on aspirations, staff can start with organizational priorities and bring it back to the Council. Then the Council can have that conversation to make sure everyone is on the same page, then start on the workplan. The challenge is what the City should do in the interim. He thought there needed to be some conversations as there was some urgency to this.

Mayor Roe suggested the Council take a minimalist approach between now and the development of the new updated vision for 2022 because of the time it can take to rework what is there. He was not one hundred percent sure that the hierarchy is exactly right as laid out as it seemed like the policy priority documents are definitely shorter term, the organizational priorities sound more like strategic priorities that may take a longer time to put into place, and those may be a little broader and

aspirational. He did not think that one needed to lead to the other. He did not want to spend too much time on this discussion because the City needed to have its priorities for the next two years, one of which seems to be to develop a plan for a vision effort. He thought the Council needed something more in terms of immediate work on the City's connection with people who are not connected to what the government does either by language, or visual, or hearing issues. He noted the people at Nine North are looking at things like closed captioning and there is a significant cost or has been a significant cost barrier to doing that. But there may be some new technology coming out to deal with cost. He thought the best discussion is to start the process of planning a big visioning effort in 2022 and then some adjustments to the policy priority document by pulling things that do not need to be on there any longer and add new items. He suggested an exercise to link those back to some of the aspirations. He thought staff could, in the draft, develop a suggestion and the Council could agree with or against it and try to streamline that process. This would also minimize the effort to reword the current documents because there will be something new in 2022.

Councilmember Strahan thought there was an opportunity to finesse some of the details, rather than feel like they do not have anything to guide them. She made some suggestions and thought maybe these are not the big picture goals but there are still items within these guiding principles that are possible to finesse. She thought a lot of these are going to require relationships and it is going to take some time to build those relationships. She would like to see them moving toward a bigger visioning so City staff know the Council sees it as a priority as much as they do and are working toward something.

Councilmember Etten suggested the Policy Priority Plan (PPP) and Staff Organizational Priorities are operated in separate spheres and are not connected. When he reads the organizational priorities, he does not know how these connect to a lot of what the City Council does, noting there are headings and titles that are not connected to anything else upstream from it. He might get rid of that title and have Community Aspirations, PPP, and a workplan that comes from the PPP. He knew it was kind of in the plan but what is currently listed as Organizational Priorities in the RCA on page 2 and 3, he would move and update the PPP because there are some things in it that are old and some that have been accomplished. Or, some things need that next step and have staff look at that with Council comments made or in a joint group or separate emails and bring that back to the Council for further discussion.

Mayor Roe indicated he tended to agree with Councilmember Etten's observation, particularly about the Organizational Priorities. It is a lot about things that the organization needs to do to do its job well and not necessarily specific to achieving various aspirations. He indicated Councilmember Strahan's comments pertained to the Imagine Roseville 2025 document, the original vision document about goals and strategies, and he was all for it if the Council saw a strategy that made sense to

be implementing as a part of the City's priorities right now. In that case, he thought it made sense to bring them up. He thought the strategies listed are probably those type of things that fall into that policy priority document type place. He noted everyone was on a similar page of thought.

Councilmember Willmus agreed with everything he has heard, which puts them on several different paths. He thought Councilmember Strahan brought up a good observation that when they go back and look at Imagine Roseville 2025, there is a very concise framework of the goals, noting if there are things are glaringly missing and absent within those goals, the City can, in the short-term, step in and alter or amend some of those things going forward and provide some guidance for staff. He also would agree with Councilmember Etten and Mayor Roe with regard to organization priorities. He thought there was a benefit to taking time to go through and review Imagine Roseville 2025. He wondered if there were some slight modifications that could be made to that document in the short term to make it more relevant for today as suggested by Councilmember Strahan. Big picture, the Council has to start looking and planning for the next vision process. He did believe that Imagine Roseville 2025 was a good model and it still could be a good framework tool to work with but as Councilmember Groff has noted, the City is a very different community than what it was in 2006 and they need to look at that engagement communication piece to bring those folks in or outreach to them, so they are a part of the process going forward. He thought if the City can do something quick and concise with Imagine Roseville 2025 goals, that would be great. But for him, the emphasis is to find what needs to be put in place to properly vision out the next ten to fifteen years.

Mayor Roe stated a couple things were discussed that seemed to be a high priority for the immediate next several months and through the year, which should get onto the Council's priority list. Certainly, developing a vision plan for doing a vision effort in 2022. He thought the notion to enhance some specific areas of connecting with people who are not connecting right now, such as the vision or hearing impaired or language issues, the City can do that in the near term. He stated it seems the Council needs to look at the existing Policy Priority Document to determine whether there are things in that document that do not need to stay and should be discussed. He also thought additional items should be added and the City should go through the Imagine Roseville 2025 strategies, specifically under those goals and see what things are missing to bring into the current priority document for the next twelve months to two years. He thought those two things could give the Council a lot of material to start zeroing in on a priority plan for the next two years. He was going to advocate for not spending time to rewrite the goals of Imagine Roseville 2025 because that document was generated by that process and should stand as is.

Mr. Trudgeon suggested staff work on the same homework assignment and bring it back for discussion and changes. He hoped to get this done by early summer.

Mayor Roe thought that made sense as a parallel path and suggested the document that comes back still include things that were on it but also a notation whether the item has been accomplished and can be removed, rather than it already being removed.

b. Receive Update on COVID-19 and Impact on City Operations

City Manager Trudgeon briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request for Council Action and related attachments dated March 8, 2021.

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 February 8, 2021 and February 22, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes and February 22, 2021 EDA Meeting Minutes

Strahan moved, Willmus seconded, approval of the February 8, 2021 and February 22, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes and the February 22, 2021 EDA Meeting Minutes as presented.

Roll Call

Ayes: Groff, Willmus, Strahan, Etten, 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 March 8, 2021 and related attachments.

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

Roll Call

Ayes: Groff, Willmus, Strahan, Etten, and Roe.

Nays: None.

a. Approve Payments

ACH Payments	\$521,253.62
99285-99379	787,221.70
TOTAL	\$1,308,475.32

b. Approval of 1 Business Licenses

c. Receive 2020 Police Forfeiture Accounts Summary

d. Adopt Resolution No. 11793 Approving "The Woods of Roseville" Final Plat

- e. **Authorize City Manager to Apply For a Minnesota GreenCorps Member for 2021-2022 (Resolution No. 11794)**
- f. **Declare Vacancy on the Police Civil Service Commission**

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

City Manager Trudgeon reviewed the March 15, 2021, City Council, March 22, 2021, EDA, and City Council meeting agendas with the City Council.

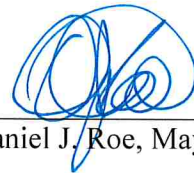
11. Adjourn

Willmus moved, Etten seconded, adjournment of the meeting at approximately 8:50 p.m.

Roll Call

Ayes: Groff, Willmus, Strahan, Etten, and Roe.

Nays: None.



Daniel J. Roe, Mayor

ATTEST:



Patrick J. Trudgeon, City Manager