

**City of Westwood Hills  
City Council Meeting Minutes  
March 11, 2024  
Meeting #894**

The Westwood Hills City Council meeting was held on March 11, 2024, in the Community Room at Westwood City Hall.

A regular session of the city council was called to order in due form by Mayor Rosemary Podrebarac at 7:04 p.m.

Present: Mayor Podrebarac, Ed Gogol, Dave Schmitz, and Karen Sexton. City Attorney Jim Orr, City Treasurer John Martin, and Police Chief Curtis Mansell were also present.

Citizen Mike Coffman was also in attendance.

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**Motion by Sexton to approve the agenda, with the modification to remove the Landscape Report listed under the Consent Agenda. Second by Schmitz. All aye. Motion approved.**

**Motion by Gogol to approve the Consent Agenda, as previously modified. Second by Schmitz. All aye. Motion approved.**

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**No Old Business**

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**New Business:**

State of the County Address

The State of the County Address is scheduled for April 9, 2024. Sexton and Schmitz wish to attend the luncheon meeting. **Motion by Sexton, seconded by Gogol, to encumber \$150 to cover the cost of the luncheon for attendance by Sexton, Schmitz, and possibly City Clerk Beth O'Bryan. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Contain the Rain Agreement

Mayor Podrebarac advised that Johnson County has provided the 2024 version of the Contain the Rain agreement for Westwood Hills. The agreement provides funds for reimbursing a portion of the costs for residents installing stormwater BMPs such as native plantings and rain gardens on their properties. **Motion by Sexton to approve the 2024 Contain the Rain agreement with Johnson County. Second by Gogol. All in favor. Motion passed.**

The Green – Pathway

Mike Coffman, President of The Westwood Hills Historic Foundation, presented a plan and bid options for the construction of a new pathway on The Green. Council members reviewed the information and had a detailed discussion about the proposed project. Funding for the project will be donated by The Westwood Hills Historic Foundation, up to a maximum amount of \$77,500, the amount of the current bid from Rosehill Nursery.

**Motion by Sexton to approve the plan submitted by Rosehill, using natural stone rather than pavers, subject to the approval of the plan by the Building Official, Planning Commission, and SHPO. Second by Gogol. Sexton and Gogol in favor. Schmitz opposed, solely due to safety concerns about the proposed location of the pathway entrance on West 50<sup>th</sup> Street.** The City will enter into a contract with Rosehill for the construction of the pathway, and the City and the Foundation will also enter into an agreement for funding the project.

Monument Repair and 49<sup>th</sup> Street Sidewalk Wall/Barrier

The council also reviewed the bids for the repair of the entryway monument located on the north side of West 49<sup>th</sup> Street and State Line Road and for the construction of a barrier wall along the public sidewalk near the creek on 49<sup>th</sup> Street. After discussion, the Council agreed to obtain additional bids for these projects. **Motion by Schmitz to contact additional contractors for bids on both the monument repair and the barrier wall and to discuss the matter at the April council meeting. Second by Gogol. All in favor. Motion passed.**

City's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The City will celebrate its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. The council discussed some ideas to mark the occasion. Council and the Mayor agreed to appoint an ad hoc committee consisting of Councilmembers Schmitz and Weedman and City Clerk Beth O'Bryan to investigate ideas for celebrating the milestone and to report back to Council at a future meeting.

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**Informational items – no action to be taken**

- Mike Coffman mentioned that the entryway on the south side of Rainbow Boulevard and West 50<sup>th</sup> Street is often driven over by vehicles, likely trucks not making the turn correctly. He advised that the larger boulder has visible scrapes and requested the Council to investigate additional options for protecting that entryway, such as a larger boulder or perhaps metal barricade polls.
- Mr. Coffman thanked whoever cleaned up and cut the areas between the residents' fences and the public sidewalk along Rainbow Boulevard.
- Chief Mansell advised that he recently received the renewal of the crossing guard contract (for 2024-2025) and will review and share that contract with the City.

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Tree Board Meeting

**Motion by Schmitz to suspend the Council meeting and enter into the 2024 Tree Board meeting. Second by Gogol. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Returning to the regular Council session after the Tree Board meeting, the Council considered the Arbor Day Proclamation recommended by the Tree Board. **Motion by Sexton to approve the Arbor Day Proclamation to be presented at the City's Arbor Day celebration on March 30, 2024. Second by Gogol. All in favor. Motion passed.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.**