



Minutes

Royal Oak City Commission Meeting

April 14, 2025, 7:30 p.m.
City Hall Commission Chambers Room 121
203 South Troy Street
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Present: Mayor Fournier
Commissioner Cheezum
Commissioner Douglas
Commissioner Herzog
Mayor Pro Tem Hunt
Commissioner Kolo
Commissioner Macey

1. Call to Order by Mayor Fournier

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Fournier at 7:37 p.m.

2. Invocation by Commissioner Herzog

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Proclamation Designating April 22, 2025 Earth Day in Royal Oak

Mayor Fournier presented the proclamation to Woody Gontina and members of the Environmental Advisory Board.

Whereas, in 1970 the first Earth Day in the United States was held on April 22, chosen because it was between Spring Break and finals, the first Earth Day was designed for college campuses around the country to have “teach-ins” highlighting the importance of clean air and water in response to an 1969 oil spill in Santa Barbara, California the brainchild of U.S. Senator and environmentalist Gaylord Nelson; and

Whereas, an astonishing 20 million people took to the streets for that first Earth Day and lead to the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency and congress signing into law the Clear Air Act in December 1970. Within 20 years, Earth Day became an International Event to spotlight the ecological challenges that face our planet; and

Whereas, Our Power, Our Planet, is the theme for Earth Day 2025. Everyone around the globe should unite behind renewable energy to obtain the goal of tripling the global generation of clean electricity by the year 2030; and

Whereas, rapid deployment of renewable energy will combat climate changes, preserve biodiversity, protect ecosystems, and eliminate our dependence on fossil fuels; and

Whereas, residents and business community members are encouraged to take action by; educating, learning the facts, spreading awareness, and inspiring action; advocating, writing your local, state, and federal legislators to demand action, mobilizing your community through meetings and initiatives, and pledging your Earth Action on social media for Earth Day 2025; and

Whereas, the City of Royal Oak is committed to meeting the goals of Earth Day 2025 by providing education through our community programs, resolving to proclaim our intentions to advocate for change, mobilizing through our Environmental Advisory Board's leadership to employ sustainable and renewable energy initiatives.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, I Mayor Fournier, and members of the Royal Oak City Commission on behalf of the entire Royal Oak Community do hereby proclaim April 22, 2025 Earth Day in Royal Oak and urge all members of the community to do their part to help and heal our planet by living each day more sustainably.

5. Proclamation Designating April 24, 2025 Arbor Day in Royal Oak

Mayor Fournier presented the proclamation to Bob Muller from the Royal Oak Nature Society.

Whereas in 1872, the Nebraska Board of Agriculture established a special day to be set aside for the planting of trees, to be designated as Arbor Day, and was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, *and*

Whereas Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and world, *and*

Whereas trees are important in combating climate change by moderating temperature, generating clean air and life-supporting oxygen, and providing habitat for wildlife, *and*

Whereas trees increase property values, enhance economic vitality, beautify our community, and contribute to the health and wellbeing of its residents, *and*

Whereas Royal Oak's long-running support of urban forestry and ecological stewardship are bolstered by collective actions of community partners including the Royal Oak Nature Society, the Royal Oak Environmental Advisory Board and numerous other schools, churches, businesses, and civic organizations, *and*

Whereas a generous gift by the Erb Family Foundation will greatly enhance the community arboretum and provide opportunities for the community to celebrate, enjoy, and learn about the value of trees, *and*

Whereas the city of Royal Oak recognizes the incalculable value of trees and commits to continue its support of such efforts,

Now, therefore be it resolved, I Mayor Fournier and the Royal Oak City Commission does hereby proclaim Thursday, April 24, 2025 as Arbor Day in the City of Royal Oak, and urges all citizens to celebrate the day with tree plantings and other activities as a persistent reminder of the priceless gifts provided by trees.

6. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Commissioner Macey

Seconded by: Commissioner Herzog

Be it resolved, the city commission hereby approves the agenda for the April 14, 2025 meeting.

Motion Adopted

7. Public Comment

Trish Oliver spoke about the April 8th Planning Commission meeting and the proposed Master Plan.

P.G spoke about comments made about her online

Bee Teens spoke in favor of No Mow May.

Laura Berge, 1116 Ferris, was upset that the play structure was removed from Lockman Park.

Tom Hallock spoke about the proposed Master Plan.

Diane Sybeldon spoke about the proposed Sheetz development and the search function of the Royal Oak website.

Tom Hoermann, 914 Genesee, spoke about the proposed Master Plan.

Greg Pendergrast, 2021 Vermont, spoke about potential wording for zoning notifications.

Katie Scarchilli, 3008 Benjamin, spoke about the proposed Master Plan and the Sheetz development.

Nancy Poprafsky spoke about the Sheetz proposal.

No name given spoke about the proposed Master Plan.

8. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Kolo removed item 8f from the consent agenda. Commissioner Douglas removed item 8i from the consent agenda.

Moved by: Commissioner Cheezum

Seconded by: Mayor Pro Tem Hunt

Be it resolved, the city commission hereby approves the consent agenda as follows:

Motion Adopted

8.a City Commission Closed Session Meeting Minutes March 24, 2025

Be it resolved, the city commission closed session meeting minutes of March 24, 2025 are hereby approved.

8.b City Commission Meeting Minutes March 24, 2025

Be it resolved, the city commission meeting minutes of March 24, 2025 are hereby approved.

8.c Claims

8.c.1 April 01 2025

Be it resolved, the claims of April 01 2025 are hereby approved.

8.c.2 April 15 2025

Be it resolved, the claims of April 15 2025 are hereby approved.

8.d Approval of Purchase Orders

Be it resolved, the city commission approves the following requisition/purchase orders for fiscal year 2024-25:

Requisition # R008856 change order

Vendor: English Gardens

Requesting approval for: \$55,000 additional for a total of \$395,010

Price Source: in a multi-year contract

Budgeted: \$395,010

Department / Fund: DDA/TIFA / DDA development

Description: 2025-2026 holiday season deposit

Requisition # R008867

Vendor: Plante Moran Realpoint

Requesting approval for: \$13,550 additional for a total of \$109,620

Price Source: estimation

Budgeted: \$109,620

Department / Fund: manager & sewer maintenance / general & water & sewer

Description: real estate consulting, restroom consulting, utility rate study & consulting services

Requisition # R008417 change order

Vendor: Canfield Equipment Service, Inc.

Requesting approval for: \$20,150 additional for a total of \$105,290

Price Source: quote

Budgeted: \$105,290

Department / Fund: motor pool / motor pool

Description: equipment & installation for police F-150

Requisition # R008413 change order

Vendor: Core & Main

Requesting approval for: \$17,000 additional for a total of \$85,000

Price Source: estimation

Budgeted: \$85,000

Department / Fund: water maintenance / water & sewer

Description: curb stop/box copper, bricks, block, mortar, pipes

Requisition # R008531 change order

Vendor: John Angott

Requesting approval for: \$20,000 additional for a total of \$60,000

Price Source: estimation / bid by Royal Oak

Budgeted: \$60,000

Department / Fund: district court / indigent defense & general

Description: council coordinator of contracted legal / advisory counsel & sobriety court

Requisition # R008520 change order

Vendor: Joseph L. Shreeman

Requesting approval for: \$5,000 additional for a total of \$40,000

Price Source: estimation / coordinator bid by Royal Oak

Budgeted: \$40,000

Department / Fund: indigent defense

Description: contracted legal / advisory counsel

Requisition # R008503 change order

Vendor: Joseph Phillips

Requesting approval for: \$10,000 additional for a total of \$40,000

Price Source: estimation / coordinator bid by Royal Oak

Budgeted: \$40,000

Department / Fund: indigent defense

Description: contracted legal / advisory counsel

Requisition # R008436 change order

Vendor: Cintas Corporation

Requesting approval for: \$5,000 additional for a total of \$40,000

Price Source: Omnia Partners/contract #222886

Budgeted: \$40,000

Department / Fund: multiple / multiple

Description: cleaning service for floor mats at city hall and other various city buildings

Requisition # R008608 change order
 Vendor: Community Publishing
 Requesting approval for: \$10,000 additional for a total of \$40,000
 Price Source: sole source
 Budgeted: \$40,000
 Department / Fund: multiple / multiple
 Description: ads for Royal Oak Today

Requisition # R008462 change order
 Vendor: Grand Blanc Printing Co. Inc.
 Requesting approval for: \$13,900 additional for a total of \$39,900
 Price Source: estimation
 Budgeted: \$39,900
 Department / Fund: community promotion / publicity tax
 Description: printing for 4 issues of Insight magazine/fall, winter, spring, summer

Requisition # R008726 change order
 Vendor: White Pine Bldg. & Development
 Requesting approval for: \$10,700 additional for a total of \$38,370
 Price Source: bid by Royal Oak
 Budgeted: \$38,370
 Department / Fund: housing assistance program / community develop
 block grant
 Description: housing rehab

Requisition # R008524 change order
 Vendor: Elizabeth Chiappelli
 Requesting approval for: \$5,000 additional for a total of \$35,000
 Price Source: estimation / coordinator bid by Royal Oak
 Budgeted: \$35,000
 Department / Fund: indigent defense
 Description: contracted legal / advisory counsel

Requisition # R008492 change order
 Vendor: Jo Anne Bigler
 Requesting approval for: \$5,000 additional for a total of \$35,000
 Price Source: estimation / coordinator bid by Royal Oak
 Budgeted: \$35,000
 Department / Fund: indigent defense
 Description: contracted legal / advisory counsel

Requisition # R009026
 Vendor: NV5 Geospatial
 Requesting approval for: \$35,000
 Price Source: quote
 Budgeted: \$35,000
 Department / Fund: information systems / information systems
 Description: GIS support & development

Requisition # R007588
Vendor: CivicPlus
Requesting approval for: \$32,000
Price Source: in a multi-year contract
Budgeted: \$32,000
Department / Fund: information systems / information systems
Description: website annual subscription, support, & maintenance

Requisition # R008748
Vendor: ABR Alpine Design
Requesting approval for: \$31,750
Price Source: bid by Royal Oak
Budgeted: \$31,750
Department / Fund: housing assistance program / community develop
block grant
Description: housing rehab

Requisition # R008508
Vendor: Manoogian Law
Requesting approval for: \$30,000
Price Source: estimation / coordinator bid by Royal Oak
Budgeted: \$30,000
Department / Fund: indigent defense
Description: contracted legal / advisory counsel

Requisition # R008501
Vendor: Susan Chrzanowski Cole
Requesting approval for: \$30,000
Price Source: estimation / coordinator bid by Royal Oak
Budgeted: \$30,000
Department / Fund: indigent defense
Description: contracted legal / advisory counsel

Requisition # R008515
Vendor: La Grasso, Abdo & Silveri
Requesting approval for: \$30,000
Price Source: estimation / coordinator bid by Royal Oak
Budgeted: \$30,000
Department / Fund: indigent defense
Description: contracted legal / advisory counsel

Requisition # R008519
Vendor: Edith Blakney Law Firm
Requesting approval for: \$30,000
Price Source: estimation / coordinator bid by Royal Oak
Budgeted: \$30,000
Department / Fund: indigent defense
Description: contracted legal / advisory counsel

Requisition # R008449
Vendor: Imperial Dade
Requesting approval for: \$30,000
Price Source: estimation
Budgeted: \$30,000
Department / Fund: multiple / multiple
Description: cleaning & janitorial supplies

Requisition # R008604
Vendor: Fire Defense Equipment
Requesting approval for: \$30,000
Price Source: estimation (all individual purchases are less than \$5,000)
Budgeted: \$30,000
Department / Fund: multiple / multiple
Description: building repair & maintenance services as needed

Requisition # R008572 change order
Vendor: DSS Corporation
Requesting approval for: \$2,000 additional for a total of \$27,520
Price Source: in multi-year contract
Budgeted: \$27,520
Department / Fund: information systems / information systems
Description: document imaging management services & 911 recording support

8.e Declaration and Disposal of Surplus Property

BE IT RESOLVED, the city commission declares the above property surplus and authorizes the disposal of the items by auction. Any net proceeds from the sale of items listed under “library” will be deposited into the library fund miscellaneous revenue account 271.000.67100 and any net proceeds from the sale of items listed under “motor pool” will be deposited into the motor pool fund miscellaneous revenue account 661.000.67100 or gain on sale of fixed assets 661-000-69301.

8.f Approval of Bid for Memorial Park Backstop Netting

This item was removed from the consent agenda.

Director of Public Service Kevin Yee and City Manager Gacioch spoke about the project

Moved by: Commissioner Kolo
Seconded by: Commissioner Herzog

Be it resolved, the Royal Oak City Commission hereby approves the bid between the city and Midwest Field Solutions and authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City upon City Attorney’s review.

Motion Adopted

8.g Request to Utilize Unit Prices from the Water Resource Commission Bid to Perform Hydro Vac Verification of Water Service Lines

Be it resolved, the Royal Oak City Commission hereby approves the request to utilize the Oakland County Water Resource Commission bid unit prices to perform for hydro vac verifications of water service lines.

8.h Request to Fill a Vacancy for the Automotive Mechanics Position

Be it resolved, the Royal Oak City Commission hereby approves the filling of Automotive Mechanic Position.

8.i License Agreement for Sidewalk Café at 500 E. Fourth Street

This item was pulled from the consent agenda. The original agenda title incorrectly listed the agreement for 400 E. Fourth Street but the license agreement is for 500 E. Fourth Street.

Moved by: Commissioner Douglas

Seconded by: Commissioner Macey

Be it resolved, the Royal Oak City Commission hereby approves the attached license agreement with Sokol Ndrejaj of 500 E. Fourth Street permitting an encroachment into the public sidewalk of E. Fourth Street for the purposes of an outdoor dining sidewalk café; and

Be it further resolved, the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to execute said license agreement.

Motion Adopted

8.j Contact Modification to Contract CAP2242 for 2022 Traffic Signal Improvements Contract

Be it resolved, the Royal Oak City Commission hereby approves contract modification 2 under the Royal Oak 2022 Traffic Signal Improvements Contract CAP2242 with Motor City Electric Co. of Detroit, Michigan for the additional amount of \$67,147.80 and directs staff to issue a purchase order in the amount of the contract modification.

8.k Approval of Appointment to the Intergovernmental Cable Communications Authority

Be it resolved, the Royal Oak city commission hereby appoints Kara Sokol, Director of Communications, to the Intergovernmental Cable Communications Authority.

8.l Receive and File

8.I.1 First Quarter Fiscal Year 2024-25 Training Evaluation Forms

9. Approval and Acceptance of Environmental Advisory Board Annual Report

Woody Gontina, from the Environmental Advisory Board, discussed the annual report. There will be an Earth Day event held at the Farmer's Market on April 26th from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Moved by: Commissioner Herzog
Seconded by: Commissioner Kolo

Be it resolved, the Royal Oak City Commission hereby approves and accepts the 2023-2024 Environmental Advisory Board Annual Report.

Motion Adopted

10. Resolution Supporting No Mow May

Moved by: Commissioner Macey
Seconded by: Commissioner Herzog

Be it resolved, the City Commission hereby declares May 2025 to be No Mow May; and

Be if further resolved, the City Commission hereby declares a temporary moratorium on the enforcement of the City's property maintenance code for lawn mowing on residential property during the month of May 2025.

Motion Adopted

11. Adjournment

Moved by: Commissioner Herzog
Seconded by: Commissioner Douglas

Motion to adjourn at 8:47 p.m.

Motion Adopted

Melanie Halas, City Clerk

Michael C. Fournier, Mayor