

Bryan Moyers, Council Member  
David Brundage, Council Member  
Holly Gray-Moore, Mayor Pro-Tem



Carl E. Gierisch, Jr., Mayor

Brian Darby, Council Member  
Hogan Page, Council Member  
David Thompson, Council Member

**MINUTES  
ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 8, 2022  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
500 S. OAK STREET  
7:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Carl E. "Scooter" Gierisch, Jr.; Mayor Pro Tem Holly Gray-Moore; Council Members: Brian Darby, David Thompson, David Brundage, and Bryan Moyers; City Manager Scott Campbell, City Secretary April S. Hill, and City Attorney Jeff Moore.

**DEPT. STAFF:** Assistant City Manager Cody Petree, Fire Chief Chris Addington, Chief of Police Jeriahme Miller, Director of Fiscal and Administrative Services Vicki Rodriguez, Public Works Director Shawn Wilkinson, and Parks and Recreation Director Ronnie Angel.

**ABSENT:** Councilmember Hogan Page.

**A. CALL CITY COUNCIL TO ORDER**

City Council called to order at 7:00 p.m.  
Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance given by Mayor Gierisch.

**B. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**C. PUBLIC INPUT**

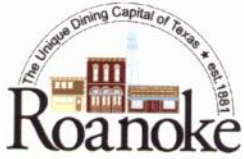
No one wished to speak.

**D. PRESENTATION**

1. Lauren Berry, Senior Manager from BKD, LLP provided an overview of the annual audit.
2. Dr. Ryder Warren gave an update on Northwest ISD.

**E. CONSENT AGENDA**

All items listed below are considered routine and will be enacted with one motion. There



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will be no separate discussion of items unless a Councilmember or citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed and considered separately.

1. Consider approval of the minutes from the regular City Council meeting held on February 22, 2022.

Motion made by Holly Gray-Moore second by David Thompson to approve Consent Item 1.

Motion carried unanimously.

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Motion made by Holly Gray-Moore second by David Thompson to accept the FY 2020-2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion made by Holly Gray-Moore second by David Thompson to approve Ordinance No. 2022-108 amending the FY2021-2022 budget for Fire Department personnel, concerning the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Hiring Grant.

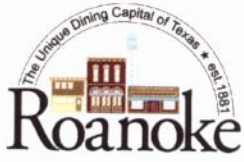
Motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion of current ordinances regulating open container/alcohol consumption in public areas.

City Manager Scott Campbell stated there had been a couple of City Council members inquire about this topic, and it was determined to place on the agenda for discussion. Mr. Campbell gave an overview of the current restrictions regarding alcoholic consumption in public areas and in city parks. Mr. Campbell further explained possible options.

Mayor Gierisch stated he has received feedback from a number of residents over the years, citing their gratitude for city events remaining family-friendly events. Mayor Gierisch further expressed his concerns regarding open containers going from business to business; you lose the ability to limit the amount of alcohol someone consumes.

Mayor Pro Tem Holly Gray-Moore stated she disagrees and feels this is something to research, as it is not any different than someone going from establishment to establishment. Mayor Pro Tem Gray-Moore further stated that cities such as Fredericksburg, allows open containers, so you can take a glass of wine and go into the different shops. In the City of Celina, they have specific parameters that allow open containers in town square, which includes a nice police presence. Mayor Pro Tem Gray-Moore stated business and residents in the downtown area have expressed interest in allowing open containers, and the city should research it more and come back with some recommendations.



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Mayor Gierisch stated it should not go without studying. Mayor Gierisch further stated, in his opinion, it is not good for the city and sends us in a different direction with potential over serving, making it dangerous. Careful consideration should be taken, before moving forward with this.

Councilmember David Thompson stated although he agrees research needs to be done, consideration needs to be taken into other options, other than staying where we are. Councilmember Thompson further stated the parks are rented out, which is a private event and is no different from renting space at one of the establishments, which allows alcoholic beverages. If we were to move forward with addressing the parks, it would be under a set of strict guidelines. Councilmember Thompson explained that the city could go beyond the parks and look at various options to keep it controlled, minimizing the impact of any incidents. Councilmember Thompson stated that at some point he would like to have input from the police department.

Councilmember Bryan Moyers asked if there is any data, from other municipalities, showing an increase in crime due to open containers, versus the current restrictions Roanoke has at this time.

Chief of Police Jeriahme Miller stated they would need to do research to obtain the data.

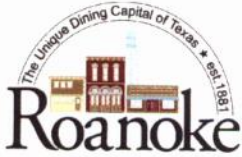
Mr. Campbell stated if staff were to conduct research, the City Council would need to clarify specifically what they are interest in, such as open container from establishment to establishment. Mr. Campbell explained the issue is the different ways the city could allow open containers. Currently the city allows open containers during special events in designated areas. Mr. Campbell further explained we would be studying what is currently available, concerning open containers year round, as the permit an establishment holds is a determining factor.

Mayor Pro Tem Gray-Moore stated she would like data on comparable cities.

City Attorney Jeff Moore gave an overview of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code, which also states, "The Alcoholic Beverage Code governs the manufacture, sale, distribution, transportation, and possession of alcoholic beverages," so everything you do in regard to alcoholic beverages has to be consistent with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code.

Councilmember Brian Darby stated that it seems some want this, while others do not. Councilmember Darby asked what the majority of the City Council would like to do, as this is a large undertaking for staff, and is this the best use of their time and therefore worth pursuing.

Mayor Pro Tem Gray-Moore stated although Councilmember Hogan Page was not present, he is interested in finding out more information on this. Mayor Pro Tem Gray-Moore further stated he has not indicated yes or no on this; however, he is



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interested in getting more information.

Councilmember Bryan Moyers stated that he had asked some residents in his area if this is something they would be interested in, and their response was yes.

Councilmember Thompson stated it was important to do our due diligence with this.

Councilmember David Brundage asked what advantage to the city, do we expect to get from this.

Mayor Pro Tem Gray-Moore stated it might open up more lease time for our parks, so events could be held there.

Councilmember Moyers stated, as we continue to grow, it would bring in a younger responsible crowd and more pedestrians to visit our city.

Mayor Gierisch stated it would be nice if it was just pedestrians, but how many light-poles have been taken out already due to alcohol. Mayor Gierisch further stated he does not like the idea and alcohol has been extended in the city, by what the citizens have chosen to do by the referendums that have passed. Mayor Gierisch stated it can set a dangerous precedence, and he will continue to champion opposition on this matter.

Councilmember Darby stated using the best time and efforts of city staff, what are the thoughts, would it be designated areas, hours, wine and beer only. How would it effect the businesses, and their opinions on this, would they like this or consider it a disadvantage?

Mayor Pro Tem Gray-Moore stated she has spoken to several establishments on Oak Street and they are in favor of it, particularly during events. They can purchase their alcohol and take it into the street. Mayor Pro Tem Gray-Moore further stated that the benefit to the city is that it will benefit our restaurants.

Mayor Gierisch stated this would give them the option to do this more often, other than during events. This would allow people to take alcohol up and down the street 7 days a week.

Councilmember David Brundage stated there is a larger police presents during events, as opposed to any other day.

Mayor Pro Tem Gray-Moore stated that she would like to look into only Oak Street and city parks, with specific criteria in place for containers.

Councilmember Darby asked if this would be a 24-hour occurrence.

Mayor Pro Tem Gray-Moore stated that it would have to be.



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Councilmember Darby asked if anyone else had additional thoughts.

Councilmember Thompson stated the analysis would need to include whether there was an increase in participants and how it would affect city staff, from a police standpoint.

Mayor Gierisch stated this would be straining to our police department.

Mayor Pro Tem Gray-Moore stated this would not change the way things are now, concerning a police presence.

**G. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The City Council will hold a closed Executive Session meeting pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in:

**CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 7:54 P.M.**

**Section 551.087**

To deliberate commercial or financial information the City has received from a business prospect, and to deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect.

**RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION**

The City Council will reconvene into Regular Session, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, to take any action necessary regarding:

**CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED INTO REGULAR SESSION AT 8:15 P.M.**

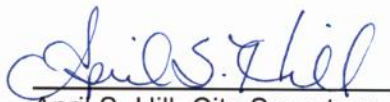
1. **Sections 551.087 of the TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE** To deliberate commercial or financial information the City has received from a business prospect, and to deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect.

No action taken.

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Holly Gray-Moore second by Brian Darby to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

  
April S. Hill, City Secretary

  
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Carl E. "Scooter" Gierisch, Jr., Mayor