

**WORKSHOP MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS
JANUARY 2, 2018**

The workshop meeting of the Council of the City of Vadnais Heights was held on the above date and called to order by Mayor Fletcher at 5:32 p.m. The following members were present: Mayor Bob Fletcher, Councilmembers: Terry Nyblom, Craig Johnson, and Heidi Gunderson. The following members were absent: Councilmember Greg Urban.

Also present were: City Administrator Kevin Watson, Assistant City Administrator Kathy Keefe, City Engineer Mark Graham, Planning/Community Development Director Nolan Wall, Finance Director Bob Sundberg, Fire Chief Ed Leier, and City Attorney Caroline Bell Beckman.

1. Cable Commission and Comcast Renewal Update

- Jim Dustin gave status update of discussions with Comcast.
- Metro Inet is the number one priority for cable commission and the City.
- Current cable system is becoming antiquated way to provide information to the public. Technology is changing how public receives information.
- Dustin to continue participating and looking out for the City.

2. Gem Lake Water and Sanitary Sewer Request

- Graham provided background memo and sought direction from Council as to whether to enter negotiations for a joint power agreement.
- City current average water use is 80% of allotment permit from DNR. Current lawsuit could impact that permit.
- Gem Lake Attorney Pat Kelly provided background of proposed 30 unit +/- development. Development will be presented to Gem Lake Planning Commission in February 2018.
- Former City Administrator Gerald Urban gave background on past negotiations with Gem Lake. He believes access from development should be made at International Drive. He believes all appropriate costs should be included in any joint powers agreement.
- Council direction to staff is to work with Gem Lake to create JPA.

3. Zoning Administration Discussion

- Wall stated this item is related to the city's current procedures regarding public hearings. City is not required to hold two public hearings. Holding one public hearing would streamline the city's process.
- Staff is proposing that the public hearings only be held by the Planning Commission. Public comment would still be encouraged at City Council meetings.
- City Council to consider and vote at regular meeting tonight.
- Staff recommended the City Council consider adopting a separate Code of Conduct or Rules of Procedure by resolution, rather than codify language concerning public comment at meetings.
- City Council to consider and vote at regular meeting tonight.
- Mayor Fletcher suggested a sunset clause in January 2019.

4. Super Bowl Promotion Idea

- Mayor believes it is too difficult now and is not moving forward.

5. Other Staff Items

- Discussion about Rice Street bridge and municipal consent.
- Past layout renditions to be reviewed at upcoming January 16 workshop.
- Challenges with City loss of tax revenue/gambling proceeds remain.

Adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Prepared for and approved by:

Attest:

Kevin Watson, City Administrator

Bob Fletcher, Mayor