

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS
FEBRUARY 18, 2020**

The meeting of the Council of the City of Vadnais Heights was held on the above date and called to order by Mayor Gunderson at 7:05 p.m.

Everyone present stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following members were present: Mayor Heidi Gunderson, Council Members: Craig Johnson, Bob Morse and Greg Urban.

The following members were absent: Council Member Patricia Youker.

Also present were: Kevin Watson, City Administrator, Tim Sandvik, Assistant City Administrator, Nolan Wall, Planning/Community Development Director, Ed Leier, Fire Chief, Jesse Farrell, Public Works Director, Erich Hartmann, City Attorney and Peggy Aho, Deputy City Clerk.

City Administrator Watson provided several announcements.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Urban, it was

20-02-029 “RESOLVED that the February 18, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda be approved with one amendment, moving Item 7B, Consider Authorizing the Purchase of a JetVac Truck, to Item #12B.”

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. February 4, 2020 Regular Workshop Meeting

Upon motion by Morse, seconded by Johnson, it was

20-02-030 “RESOLVED, to approve the February 4, 2020 Regular Workshop Meeting Minutes as presented.”

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

B. February 4, 2020 Regular Council Meeting

Upon motion by Morse, seconded by Johnson, it was

20-02-031 “RESOLVED, to approve the February 4, 2020 Regular Council Meeting Minutes with a correction on page 5, second paragraph, last sentence, amended to read “We would be saving \$671,000 over 14 6 years or about \$48,000 a year.””

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Morse, it was

20-02-032 “RESOLVED, that the Consent Agenda Items #7A-7H for the February 18, 2020 meeting be approved as follows:

- A. Consider Approving Claims #78900 Through #78960 and Electronic Claims #1462 Through #1470 for Payment
 - 1. U.S. Bank payment in the amount of \$5,404.43
- ~~B. Consider Authorizing the Purchase of a JetVac Truck~~
- C. Consider Accepting Resignation of Firefighter Paul Yang Effective February 3, 2020
- D. Consider Accepting Donation of 2019 Gambling Funds from the Vadnais Heights Fire Relief Association
- E. Consider Authorizing Staff to Apply for a Federal Grant to Purchase SCBAs
- F. Consider Approving Final Payment for Portable Radios for Fire Department with Payment from the CIP
- G. Consider Approving an Application for an Exempt Gambling Permit for Great Lakes Shipwreck Preservation Society for a Raffle to be held at Jimmy’s on April 4, 2020
- H. Consider Accepting the Retirement of Fire Chief – Ed Leier, effective February 28, 2020.”

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Gunderson opened the floor to the public at 7:12 p.m. There being no one that wished to speak, Gunderson closed the floor at 7:12 p.m.

PRESENTATION(S): Jerry Hromatka, President and CEO of Northeast Youth & Family Services, gave a presentation on the NYFS programs, budget and a summary of their 2018-2019 services. Mayor Gunderson thanked Jerry for his years of service and dedication.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. 2020 Street Improvement Project and Consider Ordering the Project

Public Works Director/City Engineer Farrell gave an overview of the proposed 2020 Street Improvement Project. He noted that on October 15, 2019, the Council ordered the Feasibility Study for Improvement 2020-1. Scott Haupt reviewed the six street improvements being studied and the proposed improvements which include reclaiming bituminous surface, minor utility repairs, minor storm sewer improvements, minor curb repair, pedestrian ramp reconstruction and place new bituminous surface and restoration. He reviewed the estimated project costs for each street and the funding sources. He noted that the cost of the improvements is estimated at \$2,295,400 which includes construction costs, 10 percent for contingencies, 25 percent for legal, fiscal, administrative, and engineering costs and capitalized interest of 5.75 percent for 5 months.

Farrell reviewed the City's Assessment Policy which was adopted in 1993. Residential properties will be assessed per unit on all streets other than Arcade Street. Arcade Street properties will be assessed on frontal footage. Farrell proposes that the Council adjust the interest rate to 6% for this project. He then reviewed the schedule which included ordering the Feasibility Study in October 2019, meeting with the property owners in December 2019 and again this month. The Council accepted the Feasibility Study in January and ordered tonight's public hearing and now the Council is being asked to order the project.

Mayor Gunderson opened the Public Hearing at 7:42 pm. There being no one that wished to speak, Gunderson closed the Public Hearing at 7:42 pm.

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Morse, it was

20-02-033 "RESOLVED, that the Council: 1) orders the 2020-1 Street Improvements project for Arcade Street from Belland Avenue to County Road E, Primrose Court from Primrose Path to west cul-de-sac, Wildflower County from Primrose Path to east cul-de-sac, Tessier Trail 300' north of Tessier Circle to 350' south of cul-de-sac, Lambert Creek Lane from Bear Avenue South to east cul-de-sac, and Thomas Court from Lambert Creek Lane to south cul-de-sac; 2) directs that the Order is valid for a period of eighteen (18) months; 3) says that the improvements shall hereafter be known and referred to as the 2020-1 Street Improvement Project; and 4) that the interest rate for assessments is established as 6.0%."

Ayes – 4

Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

B. 2020-3 County Road D Improvements Project

Public Works Director/City Engineer Farrell gave an overview of the proposed 2020-3 County Road D Improvements Project. He noted that on December 17, 2019, the Council ordered the Feasibility Study for the Project. Farrell reviewed the Project which will be on County Road D from Edgerton Street to approximately 200' east of Greenbriar Street. Christina Mlejnek, Bolton Menk, reviewed the proposed improvements including street reconstruction and storm sewer extension. She reviewed the construction process which will include pavement removal and underground sewer work. She said that estimated cost of the project is about \$1,496,600 which includes estimated construction costs, 10 percent for contingencies, and 25 percent for legal, fiscal, administrative, and engineering. The City's share is \$127,300.

Farrell noted that preliminary assessments for the project were calculated based on front footage, since zoning classification and lot sizes vary throughout the corridor.

Mayor Gunderson opened the Public Hearing at 7:50 pm. There being no one that wished to speak, Gunderson closed the Public Hearing at 7:50 pm.

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Morse, it was

20-02-034 "RESOLVED, that the Council: 1) orders the 2020-3 County Road D Improvement Project on County Road D from Edgerton Street to approximately 200' east of Greenbriar Street; 2) directs that the Order is valid for a period of eighteen (18) months; 3) says that the area to be assessed to pay the cost of said improvement shall include the property described, 4) says that the improvements shall hereafter be known and referred to as the 2020-3 County Road D Improvements Project, and 4) that the interest rate for assessments is established as 6.0%."

Ayes – 4

Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted

C. Case 19-23: Lee Homes – Creekview 2nd Addition Preliminary/Final Plat and Easement/Street Vacation

Planning/Community Development Director Wall noted that the applicant/property owner is requesting to replat the Creekview Addition into Creekview 2nd Addition and to vacate all existing drainage and utility/street easements. Wall noted that the applicant previously platted for five single-family lots, including dedication of the Creekview Circle right-of-way and several easements. Two pre-existing dwellings have been demolished, but no additional improvements have been made on the properties. The applicant no longer intends to construct the public improvements and is instead proposing to replat the five lots into three lots accessing Edgerton Street between Bear Avenue

South and Koehler Road. He noted that as part of the replatting process, the existing drainage and utility/street easements need to be vacated and re-established appropriately on the new plat. Wall noted that the Planning Commission recommended unanimously that the City Council approve the applicant's requests.

Council Member Urban said that there will be a sidewalk installed as part of this site plan, but it will not be connected to anything, why then would we want the sidewalk constructed. Wall said this was a condition in the approval by the Council in 2015. City Administrator Watson said that this is an extension of a future trail that would go through Kohler Road to Edgerton up to County Road F. Urban said that this should be removed from the plan. Council Member Johnson said he is also concerned about this and asked if the City will get money from the State for this trail. Wall replied not necessarily. Johnson said it could be 10 years before the trail is put in and then that section would need to be replaced and that he too is in favor of removing that requirement.

Mayor Gunderson opened the Public Hearing at 7:58 pm.

Lloyd Mikel, 3760 Edgerton Street, noted his concern about water run-off and asked how long the driveways will be and asked if there will be sewer drains on that side of the street.

There being no one else that wished to speak about the project, Gunderson closed the Public Hearing at 8:00 pm.

Wall said that right now the applicant is just requesting replatting. He said until the building permit process begins, they won't know about the size of the driveways and said that will ultimately be up to the developer and whomever buys the lots, and be reviewed by city staff

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Urban, it was

20-02-035 "RESOLVED, that the Council approves the proposed preliminary and final plat request, removing a condition that an eight-foot trail with a five-foot boulevard shall be constructed along Edgerton Street across Lots 1-3 based on staffs findings of fact with 10 conditions."

Ayes – 4

Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Urban, it was

20-02-036 "RESOLVED, that the Council determined that: 1) the City vacate the Creek View Circle roadway easement and all of the drainage and utility easements dedicated on the Creekview plat, 2) the petitioned vacation has no adverse relationship to the City's Comprehensive Plan, 3) the notice requirements have been met, the vacation applies only to the easements

dedicated on the Creekview plat and not to any other adjoining easements, or any other easements running to or benefitting the City, and 5) this is contingent upon the establishment of new easements on the Property via dedication to the City in the replat of the property, the City Administrator is directed to execute and record a Notice of Completion of this vacation proceeding pursuant to MN Statutes Section 412.851.”

Ayes – 4

Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted

D. Case 19-021: Frattalone’s Mondello Shores Preliminary Plat, Site Plan, Variances, and Street Vacation

Planning/Community Development Director Wall noted that the applicant/property owner is requesting the following actions to develop a 42-lot residential subdivision on the subject properties: 1) Preliminary Plat (Frattalone’s Mondello Shores); 2) Site Plan review (Water Management Overlay District); 3) three variances; and 4) a street easement vacation which includes a portion of Centerville Road.

Council Member Urban said that Wall indicated that streetlights are required and said that some people don’t like streetlights and should that be something that a city can mandate. Wall said that he believes this is a requirement under City Code. He said it could be brought back later if they decide they don’t want street lights in the development. Wall said that the number of lights is not set in stone and can be negotiated with the developer or contractor in the future.

Frank Frattalone, 3205 Centerville Road, gave a history of the property. He said that he has lived on the farm for 40 years and drainage has always been a big issue in that area.

Mayor Gunderson opened the Public Hearing at 8:34 pm.

Cheryl LeClair Summer, 285 Twin Lake Trail, asked that the Council take into consideration the water flowage in the area before they make a decision. She said that historically water runs north to south and she is concerned that this development might increase the level of drainage into the pond. She suggested sending the proposal back before the Planning Commission and also to perhaps downsize the homes and driveways, anything the City can do to increase pervious surfaces. She asked that the Council deny the variance request and send it back to the Planning Commission.

Matt Woodruff of Larson Engineering, Civil Engineer, spoke about storm water and pointed out there is going to be storm sewer installed. He said that the filtration basin will collect the water, clean it and then discharge to the north onto the portion of Mr. Frattalone’s property in Little Canada.

Council Member Johnson asked if there will be a means to access the water filtration system to do maintenance in the future. Matt Woodruff replied yes, but it hasn’t been

fully discussed yet, but access should be provided and that maintenance agreements are a condition of approval with the watershed district.

There being no one else that wished to speak, Gunderson closed the Public Hearing at 8:42 pm.

Upon motion by Urban, seconded by Johnson, it was

20-02-037 “RESOLVED, that the Council approves the preliminary site plan, and variance requests as requested based on staff’s findings of fact with 14 conditions. ”

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

Upon motion by Urban, seconded by Johnson, it was

20-02-038 “RESOLVED, that the Council determined that: 1) the City vacates the portion of Centerville Road as described; 2) the petitioned vacation has no adverse relationship to the City’s Comprehensive Plan; 3) the notice requirements have been met; the vacation applies only to the portion of Centerville Road legally described in Exhibit B and not to the rights of existing utilities, if any, or any other easements running to or benefitting the City; and 4) the City Administrator is directed to execute and record a Notice of Completion of this vacation proceeding pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 412.851 and that the roadway vacation authorized by this Resolution shall be effective following the recording of a Notice of Completion in the Office of the Ramsey County Record.”

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Setting March 4, 2020 Workshop and Agenda
City Administrator Watson noted that the March 4, 2020 Workshop and Agenda may include an update on refuse year end numbers and a discussion of a Joint Powers Agreement with Metro Inet.

- B. Consider Authorizing the Purchase of a JetVac Truck
Public Works Director/City Engineer Farrell noted that the City owns and operates a sanitary and storm sewer system. The system fills-up over time and there are sometimes the need to vacuum it out. He said that having a JetVac is important and allows the City to perform preventative maintenance and to be ready to

respond to sewer backups. The City has had the current JetVac for 25 years. Council Member Johnson noted that he requested this item be removed from the Consent Agenda because it is a very important and expensive purchase and he wants the residents to know how important it is.

Upon motion by Urban, seconded by Johnson, it was

20-02-039 “RESOLVED, that the Council authorizes the purchase of the Vactor 2100i from MacQueen Equipment and a 12 yard debris tank and a 1,500 gallon tandem axle truck chassis at the cost of \$421,363.42.”

Ayes – 4

Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

COUNCIL AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Public Works Director/City Engineer Farrell thanked the Council for authorizing the JetVac Purchase.

Planning/Community Development Director Wall congratulated Chief Leier on his years of work with the City and thanked him for his guidance and support over the years.

City Attorney Hartmann also congratulated Chief Leier on his retirement. He also noted that he had spent most of the day interviewing CEO candidates for NYFS.

Assistant City Administrator Sandvik noted that last week the City hosted its second Senior Luncheon of the year. He thanked Donatelli's, Christ the Servant Church and the Lions for their support of the luncheon. He noted that the Parks Commission meets on March 23 and stated that they are working on a few different activities this summer. He said that caucuses are being held on February 25 and the Presidential Primary on March 3. He also thanked Chief Leier.

Council Member Morse noted that he met with some Boy Scouts to discuss ideas they have for projects in the City. He said that the Heritage Days Committee met recently and that their next meeting is April 14. They are still looking for volunteers. He congratulated the Chief on his retirement.

Council Member Urban congratulated Chief Leier.

City Administrator Watson said that he has been invited by VHEDC to a discussion about being an Age Friendly City. He also said that the labor negotiations with the Union are progressing and that he is waiting for feedback from the Council on what he had previously sent them. He asked if the Council is comfortable with what has been reached with the Union and if so, he will bring it back to the next Council meeting for approval. All indicated they were okay with the proposal. He also noted that he will be meeting with Ramsey County Commissioner about stormwater. He said that Chris Hearnden, with the Fire Department, will be Acting Fire Chief. He also thanked Leier for his service and advice over the years.

Council Member Johnson congratulated Chief Leier on his retirement and thanked him for his organization of the department.

Mayor Gunderson thanked the Chief who she said has been wonderfully welcoming and she appreciates his work with the community as a whole.

Fire Chief Leier noted that in the Consent Agenda included resignation of one of the City's firefighters who has left. He also noted that it's amazing that the Fire Relief Association gave the City \$40,000 from its gambling revenue. He also noted that the writing of the grants for \$140,000 was for equipment that has tripled in price. He said that if in 2023, the City is not able get a grant to help pay for upgrades to fire equipment it will have a \$600,000 price tag that it will need to pay.

There being no further business, Council Member Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Watson, City Administrator