

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS
APRIL 3, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Vadnais Heights was held on the above date and called to order by Mayor Fletcher at 7:09 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

The following member was absent: Councilmember Terry Nyblom.

Also present were: Kevin Watson, City Administrator, Kathy Keefe, Assistant City Administrator, Mark Graham, City Engineer; Nolan Wall, Planning/Community Development Director; Ed Leier, Fire Chief, Caroline Bell Beckman, City Attorney; Peggy Aho, Deputy City Clerk; and Jeff Melcoch, Cable Producer.

Everyone present stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Administrator Kevin Watson provided several announcements.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Watson said that he is recommending that the April 3, 2018 Council Meeting agenda be revised to remove Item 7H, Approve Contract for Lorah Palmer of Palmer ProVisions as Sales/Marketing/Event Consultant at Vadnais Heights Commons from January 1, 2019 through January 1, 2021.

Upon motion by seconded by Johnson, seconded by Gunderson, it was

18-04-65 “RESOLVED, that the agenda for the April 3, 2018 Council Meeting be approved as amended.”

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. March 20, 2018 Workshop Meeting

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Urban, it was

18-04-66 “RESOLVED, to approve the March 20, 2018 Workshop Meeting Minutes as presented.”

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

B. March 20, 2018 Regular Meeting

Upon motion by Gunderson, seconded by Johnson, it was

18-04-67 “RESOLVED, to approve the March 20, 2018, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.”

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Urban, it was

18-04-68 “RESOLVED, that the Consent Agenda items for the April 3, 2018, meeting be approved as follows:

- A. Approve Claims #75917 Through #75966 and Electronic Claims #1208 Through #1211 for Payment
- B. Approve Donation for the 2018 Mounds View Senior Party
- C. Approve Amendment to the Building Inspection Agreement between the Town of White Bear and the City of Vadnais Heights
- D. Accept Resignation of Janelle Frechette from the Parks, Recreation and Trails Commission, effective March 15, 2018
- E. Consider Approving the Small Cell Wireless Collocation Agreement
- F. Consider Amending Fee Schedule for the Small Cell Wireless Policy
- G. Approve Extract of Minutes authorizing the Request for Hearing on the Recent Amendments to the City’s DNR Water Appropriation Permit No. 1980-6153”
- H. ~~Approve Contract for Lorah Palmer of Palmer ProVisions as Sales/Marketing/Event Consultant at Vadnais Heights Commons from January 1, 2019 through January 1, 2022~~

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Consider Adopting Resolution Approving Conditional Use Permit and Site Plan at 940 East County Road E – Spire Credit Union

Planning/Community Development Director Wall reviewed the Resolution before the Council for approval and presented an overview of the Conditional Use Permit and Site Plan for 940 East County Road E. Mayor Fletcher questioned the directional flow of traffic coming in on the southwest corner towards the traffic leaving the drive-thru. Wall noted that condition #3 in the Resolution deals with alternative options to reduce potential traffic movement conflicts on the site, including additional signage, striping, medians, landscape islands, and one-way designation, which should be explored by the applicant and that any revisions to the applicable plans should be included in the Development Agreement.

Wall then reviewed the signage plan proposed for the site including pylon signage and said that staff are supportive of the signage and requested flexibility under the PUB Overlay District process.

Pat McCann, Facilities Director of Spire, said that Spire is happy to be part of the community. He indicated that most of their other branches have similar traffic patterns in their other lots to what they are proposing for the 940 East County Road E site. He said that they would be willing to add additional Do Not Enter signage on the medians. He noted that this location will have a mortgage loan officer, offer auto loans, checking and savings accounts, etc. He said that this is their 18th location and that they have over 280 employees and 90,000 members.

Upon motion by Johnson, and seconded by Gunderson, it was

18-04-69 “RESOLVED, to approve the Conditional Use Permit and Site Plan at 940 East County Road E, as presented.”

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

B. Consider Adopting Resolution Approving Conditional Use Permit Amendment, Variances, and Site Plan at 3501 Vадnais Center Drive – Vanguard Construction – 6,000 Square Foot Office Building

Planning/Community Development Director Wall reviewed the Resolution before the Council for approval and presented an overview of the Conditional Use Permit Amendment, Variances and Site Plan for 3501 Vадnais Center Drive. He noted that the original site plans previously approved have not changed other than the addition of a pylon sign on the southwest corner of the property but that it has expired, and this is why they are applying for an Amendment. Wall said that staff are recommending approval of the Resolution approving the Conditional Use Permit Amendment, variances and site plan for 3501 Vадnais Center Drive, as presented. He noted that the Resolution does include the variance for the proposed pylon sign due to its distance from the freeway off-ramp. Jeff Benedict, Vanguard Property, discussed the layout and design of the pylon sign. He said that they could amend the design to include a nice base or perhaps a planter, but that the sign needs to be the proposed height so that it can be seen from I-

35E. Johnson said that he understands the need for the pylon sign and that he would approve it.

Upon motion by Johnson, and seconded by Urban, it was

18-04-70 “RESOLVED, to approve the Conditional Use Permit Amendment, Variances and Site Plan at 3501 Vadnais Center Drive, as presented.”

Ayes – 4

Nays – 0

C. Consider Setting Tuesday, April 17, 2018 Workshop and Agenda

City Administrator Watson, reviewed a list of potential April 17, 2018 Workshop agenda items to include: public works equipment, continued discussion of the potential residential irrigation ban, and the Lorah Palmer contract if it is ready for action. Councilmembers Gunderson and Johnson asked that the Palmer contract be moved to the first meeting in May as Johnson will be absent.

Councilmember Johnson asked on behalf of Councilmember Nyblom if a discussion on the definition the City’s gambling code, what is the City’s trade area, and also a review of current State Statutes to be sure that the City’s codes are in line with the Statutes. City Attorney Bell Beckman noted that she has been working on the City gambling ordinance. She said that she would propose that the City repeal Ordinance #127 and Chapter 111. She thinks the City should repeal them and adopt the model code that the League is recommending with some question marks. She noted that she will have a draft ready for the next meeting.

COUNCIL AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

City Engineer Graham stated that the City had received the asphalt patching trailer which the Council approved purchasing a couple meetings ago.

Planning/Community Development Director Wall said that he had nothing to report.

City Attorney Bell Beckmann said that she had nothing to report.

Fire Chief Leier, said that he had nothing to report. Mayor Fletcher noted that at the last meeting, Ms. Auge thanked Fire Chief Leier for his leadership and vision to make changes in the Fire Department in an effort to obtain the Level 2 ISO Rating. Leier replied that he works with a bunch of great firefighters and they are the ones doing a great job.

Assistant City Administrator Keefe said that she had nothing to report.

Councilmember Urban said that he had nothing to report, but did have a question. He said that staff had indicated that they were going to get quotes for new water meters. He asked how this will proceed. City Engineer Graham said he and staff are working on getting quotes to change to different meters. Staff have met with someone to help get the bids and refine the costs. Staff

will bring back the item to the Council along with alternatives to purchasing new meters, for example, the City could hire a person to read meters or look at purchasing different types of meters. Graham said that another thing is the water issues with the DNR and White Bear Lake, we will need more info about water and water use, rather than less. Having radio reads and better meters should help get accurate data. He said that bids are probably still at least a month out.

Councilmember Johnson noted that he attended the first meeting of the Rush Line Policy Advisory Committee. He has had a discussion with Mayor Norah Slawik, City of Maplewood, chair of the Committee, regarding the City of Vadnais Heights concerns for traffic flow at Hwy. 61 and Buerkle Road, and the parking issues in the area if the station is adjacent to the Vadnais Heights Sports Center and the possibility of looking at improvements to the left and right turn lanes and the light fixtures there.

Councilmember Gunderson noted that she had nothing to report.

City Administrator Watson noted that he and City Engineer Graham and Finance Director Sundberg will be meeting to look at the residential water use per capita figure that was discussed at the last meeting to get a better understanding of the City's current number and past numbers of what our per capita usage is. Watson also mentioned that the Community Expo is April 29th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Vadnais Sports Center. He said that the VHEDC did a tremendously good job hosting the job fair at Jimmy's and the Business Appreciation Event at the Commons for local businesses. He also noted that he had sent out an email about a training with the Ramsey County Sheriff next Tuesday evening to talk about response to emergencies and what the Council's role is.

Mayor Fletcher notified the Council that he is not intending to seek the office of Mayor this fall. He said that he believes it is important to have a good transition in leadership. Filings open on July 31st and go through August 14th.

Motion to adjourn made by Johnson at 8:16 p.m.

Upon motion by Johnson, the meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin Watson, City Administrator

ATTEST:



Bob Fletcher, Mayor

