

**REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS  
MAY 19, 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 7:00 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, Patricia Youker and Greg Urban.

The following members were absent: None.

Also present were: Kevin Watson, City Administrator, Tim Sandvik, Assistant City Administrator, Nolan Wall, Planning/Community Development Director, Jesse Farrell, Public Works Director, Caroline Bell Beckman, City Attorney and Peggy Aho, Deputy City Clerk.

City Administrator Watson provided several announcements.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Morse, it was

20-05-084      “RESOLVED that the May 19, 2020 Amended Regular Meeting Agenda be approved as presented.”

Ayes – 5                      Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A.      May 5, 2020 Regular Workshop Meeting

Upon motion by Youker, seconded by Morse, it was

20-05-085      “RESOLVED that the May 5, 2020 Regular Workshop Meeting minutes be approved with the word “Lakeville” changed to “Lakefield”.”

Ayes – 5                      Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

B. May 5, 2020 Regular Council Meeting

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Urban, it was

20-05-086 “RESOLVED, to approve the May 5, 2020 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as presented.”

Ayes – 5                      Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon motion by Urban, seconded by Johnson, it was

20-05-087 “RESOLVED, that the Consent Agenda Items #7A-7G for the May 19, 2020 meeting be approved as follows:

- A. Consider Approving Claims #79252 Through #79308 and Electronic Claims #1497 Through #1501 for Payment
- B. Consider Approving Request for Public Outdoor Event Permit Application from the Vadnais Heights Farmers’ Market for June 17 through October 14, 2020
- C. Consider Amending the 2020 Regular City Council Meeting Calendar
- D. Consider Approving Staff’s Short-Term Adjustments to Bring the City into Compliance with the State’s Pay Equity, effective June 7, 2020
- E. Consider Approval of an Amendment to the Creekview 2nd Addition Development Agreement
- F. Consider Approval of Dakota REIT Development Agreement
- G. Consider Approval of COVID-19 Preparedness Plan.”

Ayes – 5                      Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Gunderson noted that she is working with staff to harvest technology to try to make it easier for people to speak virtually on items not on our Council agendas if they are not comfortable coming to a meeting in person. Gunderson opened the floor to the public at 7:06 p.m.

Heather Gustafson, 99 Southwood Drive, thanked the Council for allowing her time to speak about the recent Resolution – Open Minnesota which was passed by the Council at its last meeting and thanked them for the opportunity to go over on time. She read a couple statements on behalf of some neighbors that wanted to inform the Council of their disappointment that the Council made the decision to approve a resolution on behalf of the businesses and residents of Vadnais Heights without allowing any time for the people to speak about the resolution before the Council acted on it. She noted that she will be reading some statements from residents who did not feel comfortable attending the meeting. Gustafson said she thought it was appropriate for the Mayor to write a letter, however, she disagrees with some of it, and said that it is not appropriate to pass a public resolution without the public and business community not being aware of it. She asked whose interest the resolution serves and if the business community didn't want this, and the public wasn't aware of it, who were the Council representing?

A letter from a VH residence, Beverly Hall, no notice of this resolution prior to the start of the meeting and no time for the public to weigh in and no survey taken of VH residents. She said that the Council should give the community an opportunity to hear from them before they take action on behalf of their citizens. She read statements from others including: Cindy Colova, Anna Sterk, Jennifer Danielson and Stephanie Stark about the Council's action on the resolution.

Council Member Urban responded and said that she said that the economy is not closed, and asked if she has ran that statement past other businesses. He asked what facts he took out of context. Gustafson said a lot of them were cherry picked. Urban and Gustafson debated the statements in the resolution and other pandemic related issues.

Mayor Gunderson thanked Gustafson for coming in to offer a counterview of what happened and said that she stands behind the vote they took last week. She said there is clearly passionate feelings about this on both opinions. It's disappointing that this turned into a divisive issue in our City.

Council Member Johnson thanked Gustafson for coming into the meeting and said that it took a lot of courage and she stated herself very nicely. He said that Gustafson mentioned his comments about businesses and he said that his comments were from his discussions with local businesses. He said although not scientific he did have a basis for some of his comments. We didn't think it would be as divisive as it has been. He apologized for that.

Gunderson said that a lot of residents think it is very irresponsible for the Council to pass the resolution but others think it was a good thing to do and it illustrates the divide. It is important to understand that when people say you don't listen there is always another voice.

Council Member Morse noted that he is a liaison with White Bear Lake Chamber and he works with business owners and he is very worried about businesses. He also thanked Gustafson for coming in.

Gunderson read a statement from someone who couldn't be at the meeting because they were uncomfortable coming in. Resident Erik Goebel, 925 Heritage Court East, expressed disappointment in the words and action taken by the Council at their meeting on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Urban read a couple things from Next Door posts about opening up businesses and making small businesses thrive again.

Morse stated he has been working with the Chamber and they have very specific detailed plans they have put in place to help businesses with putting best practices in place.

There being no one else that wished to speak, Gunderson closed Open to the Public at 7:36 p.m.

### **PRESENTATION(S):**

#### **A. Rush Line BRT Project**

Community/Development Director Wall introduced Andy Gitzlaff, Ramsey County. Gitzlaff gave a PowerPoint presentation on the history and status of the Rush Line BRT Project. His presentation included an updated project timeline. Gitzlaff noted that the project has reached another milestone. The project is now about 2 years into the environmental analysis phase and as part will be looking for clearance from the Federal Government to begin advanced engineering to do the Environmental Assessment and will also be working on preliminary engineering and having ongoing public engagement. He previewed the two station site in the City: Buerkle Road and County Road E Stations and the Park and Ride lot at the County Road E Station.

Gitzlaff noted that at this milestone, Ramsey County, is requesting support from the municipalities along the BRT line, and are asking that the agencies provide a resolution of support for the 15 percent plans. Gitzlaff noted that the City Council will have additional opportunities to provide comments during the EA public comment period which is anticipated to begin December 2020 and then on the subsequent 30, 60 and 90 percent phase of the project.

Council Member Urban asked how the City's decision either way affect the project as a whole, as far as the resolution in front of them. Gitzlaff responded that the resolution in front of the Council at this meeting is being brought to the City Council by the County as an acknowledgement of the project to date. Gitzlaff noted that it does have meaning and that it is very important to have the partners support. Urban asked if the action being taken by the Council at this meeting binding to the City moving forwards.

Urban asked for clarification on the intersection of County Road E and Highway 61 and what will be happening to the right turn lanes. Gitzlaff noted that at this time traffic makes the turn and moves into Highway 61 and often at higher speeds. Urban asked if this is a finished project. Gitzlaff responded that it is not a finished project, and that it will continue to evolve as planning is completed. Urban noted that there had been meetings in the past

about how much parking is available at that location. He said that at one point the County was going to look at ways to provide additional parking at that site. He said he has very significant concerns about losing another 70 spots when there was already a problem at that site. Gitzlaff noted that that is why they did a parking study. He noted that work is going to be done as part of the Sports Center will provide an additional 50 spots. He said that they will continue to look at parking as option at this site. Urban said he doesn't think he can support making 50 new spots but taking 70 away.

Urban then asked about public safety. He said he doesn't think they take public safety seriously and that there is not enough done to ensure safety on the buses.

Council Member Johnson thanked Gitzlaff for coming. Johnson noted that the Council had looked at restriping the parking in a way to create additional spaces. Gitzlaff said that there is some balancing out, but he doesn't have a net number, but they are showing that they will gain some additional spots, just not sure it's a net 70. He said that most of the parking usage by transit will occur during the day. Johnson asked for clarification at some point in time. Johnson also suggested moving the stations stop further south from the intersection to allow cars to slow down. Johnson said that he would support the design at 15%.

Council Member Youker asked when the parking study was done and if the dome was in operation at that time. Gitzlaff replied no it wasn't and that they had to make some assumptions and look at a previous parking study. He said one thing they will want to do, once the TCO sports garden is put in place, take another look at the parking at that time and whether any adjustments need to be made. Youker asked how the County can assure that the sports complex won't be using the spots during high business hours. Gitzlaff said that the County will monitor the usage and that would be ongoing activity in an operations plan. Youker also asked if the project would consider putting the north bound transit station on the other side of County Road E thereby opening up the right turn lane. Gitzlaff responded that they did look at that option but that they are trying to minimize the amount of times people would have to cross the road.

Council Member Morse said to keep in mind parking since people won't be able to park in White Bear Lake and those riders may park in Vadnais Heights.

Gunderson said she will support the resolution. She asked how frequent the buses would be running through. Gitzlaff replied every 10 minutes during rush hour and then every 15 minutes throughout the day and at night every ½ hour.

B. Proclamation of National EMS Week - May 17-23, 2020

Mayor Gunderson read the following proclamation:

**PROCLAMATION**  
**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK**

**WHEREAS**, providing emergency medical services (EMS) is a critical public service; and

**WHEREAS**, EMS teams in Minnesota include emergency physicians, physician assistants, emergency nurses, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, emergency medical responders, firefighters, law enforcement personnel, emergency medical dispatchers, educators, and administrators; and

**WHEREAS**, the lead agency for EMS in Minnesota is the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board; and

**WHEREAS**, members of EMS teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

**WHEREAS**, the city of Vadnais Heights recognizes the dedication and service of EMS providers.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Vadnais Heights City Council formally designates May 17-23, 2020 as Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week in the City of Vadnais Heights.

C. Proclamation of National Public Works Week - May 17-23, 2020

Council Member Johnson read the following proclamation:

**PROCLAMATION**

**NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK**

**WHEREAS**, public works services are important to the health, safety, and well-being of Vadnais Heights citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, these services can only be provided through dedicated public works professionals – including government and private sector employees who oversee water distribution, water treatment, wastewater treatment, sewer systems, equipment services, public properties, solid waste systems, city streets, and water utilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the support and understanding of an informed citizenry is vital to the efficient operation of public works systems; and

**WHEREAS**, the year 2020 marks the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual National Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Heidi Gunderson, Mayor of Vadnais Heights, do hereby proclaim May 17 through May 23, 2020 as this year's Public Works Week in Vadnais Heights, Minnesota, in recognition of the contributions of public works employees and the services they provide.

D. Proclamation of June 1, 2020 as High School Senior Recognition Day

Mayor Gunderson read the following proclamation:

**PROCLAMATION**

**JUNE 1, 2020 AS HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR RECOGNITION DAY**

WHEREAS, June marks the month of graduation for high school seniors across the country; and

WHEREAS, more than 950 students will graduate virtually from four schools in Mounds View Public Schools: The Area Learning Center, Irondale High School, Mounds View High School and Reach Transition Program on May 28 and June 1; and

WHEREAS, the White Bear Lake School IDS 916 has 564 graduating on June 5, 2020 (South Campus, Area Learning Center, Transition Ed Center) and all students who attend 916 are eligible to participate in their home districts commencement ceremony; and

WHEREAS, Graduation is typically a time to gather and celebrate this important milestone together; and

WHEREAS, it is important to acknowledge the challenging situations being presented to graduating seniors and honor their hard work; and

WHEREAS, we encourage families, friends and neighbors to take some time to safely congratulate those graduates in their communities, recognize their achievements and honor them and their journey of education.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Heidi Gunderson, Mayor of the City of Vadnais Heights, on behalf of the residents and businesses of Vadnais Heights, do hereby proclaim June 1, 2020, as ‘High School Senior Recognition Day’ within the City of Vadnais Heights.

E. Proclamation National Police Week, May 10-16, 2020

Morse read a proclamation proclaiming the week of May 10-16, 2020 as National Police Week.

**PROCLAMATION**

**NATIONAL POLICE WEEK**

To recognize National Police Week 2020 and to honor the service and sacrifice of those law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty while protecting our communities and safeguarding our democracy.

WHEREAS, there are more than 800,000 law enforcement officers serving in communities across the United States, including the dedicated members of the Ramsey County Sheriff’s Office; and

WHEREAS, there have been 58,866 assaults against law enforcement officers in 2018, resulting in approximately 18,005 injuries; and

WHEREAS, since the first recorded death in 1786, more than 22,000 law enforcement officers in the United States have made the ultimate sacrifice and been killed in the line of duty, and

WHEREAS, the names of these dedicated public servants are engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC; and

WHEREAS, 307 new names of fallen heroes are being added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial this spring, including 135 officers killed in 2019 and 172 officers killed in previous years; and

WHEREAS, the service and sacrifice of all officers killed in the line of duty were honored during the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund's 32<sup>nd</sup> virtual Annual Candlelight Vigil, on the evening of May 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Candlelight Vigil is part of National Police Week, which took place this year on May 10-16; and

WHEREAS, May 15 is designated as Peace Officers Memorial Day, in honor of all fallen officers and their families and U.S. flags should be flown at half-staff.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Mayor Heidi Gunderson, on behalf of the City of Vadnais Heights formally designates May 10-16, 2020, as Police Week in, and publicly salutes the service of law enforcement officers in our community and in communities across the nation.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

A. Planning Case 20-008: Minor Variance at 3464 Rice Street

Planning/Community Development Director Wall noted that the applicant has withdrawn its request for the minor variance at 3464 Rice Street.

B. Consider Setting Assessment Rates for the 2020 Street Improvements Project

Public Works Director/City Engineer Farrell reviewed the requirements of a special assessment and the process. Scott Haupt, SEH, reviewed the various components of the project and the proposed improvements which will include reclaiming bituminous surfaces, minor utility reports, minor storm sewer improve, minor curb repair, pedestrian ramp reconstruction, placing new bituminous surface and restoration.

Farrell reviewed the assessment policy which was adopted by the Council in 1993. He said that staff are recommending that the City Council adopt a lower interest rate of 6%. He noted that less than 50% of the costs will be assessed to properties. Farrell noted that they

have reached out to do an independent benefits analysis, have made contact, but have not done that, but if the City does do one there would be additional expenses incurred. Farrell said that to date nobody has contacted his office about the offer of delaying the assessment due to COVID-19 pandemic or for a senior deferral. Farrell said that at this time, no one has contacted him about an appeal. Farrell reviewed staff's recommendation that the Council hold and close the public hearing, accept any written appeals, and adoption of the prepared assessment roll as presented and award the project to Bituminous Roadways and approve entering into a contract with SEH for construction services for Improvement 2020-01 at an estimated hourly cost not to exceed \$153,200.

Mayor Gunderson opened the public hearing at 8:35 p.m.

Teresa Lendway, 3343 Vadnais Court, noted that they have a fire hydrant in their cul-de-sac and there is always a puddle and her driveway is crumbling because of the standing water. She noted that she has called a few times because of fire hydrant leaks. Farrell noted that often time's cul-de-sacs are just too flat. He said that staff have observed the damage in the cul-de-sac and will do additional curb and cutter in that area to encourage better drainage.

There being not one else that wished to speak, Gunderson closed the Public Hearing at 8:37 p.m.

Upon motion by Urban, seconded by Johnson, it was

20-05-088      “RESOLVED, that the Council adopts the Assessment Roll for the 2020-1 Street Improvement Project as presented including: Arcade Street – Belland Avenue to County Road E, Primrose Court – Primrose Path to west cul-de-sac, Wildflower Court – Primrose Path to east cul-de-sac, Tessier Trail – 300’ north of Tessier Circle to 350’ south of cul-de-sac, Lambert Creek Lane – Bear Avenue South to east cul-de-sac, and Thomas Court – Lambert Creek Lane to south cul-de-sac.”

Ayes – 5

Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Morse, it was

20-05-089      “RESOLVED that the Council accepts the bid tabulation for the 2020-01 Street Improvement Project as presented and awards a contract to Bituminous Roadways, Inc. in the amount of \$540,261.58 and that the Mayor and the City Administrator are hereby authorized and directed to enter into a contract with Bituminous Roadways, Inc.; and that the City awards a Field Construction Services contract to S.E.H. at an hourly not-to-exceed cost of \$153,200.”

Ayes – 5

Nays - 0

The resolution was adopted.

C. Assessment Hearing and Bid Award for 2020-03 County Road D Project

Public Works Director/City Engineer Farrell reviewed the 2020-03 County Road D Project which is a cooperative project being led by the City of Little Canada and is a partnership with Ramsey County, Little Canada and Vadnais Heights. Cristina Mlejnek, Bolton & Menk project manager, noted that the north half of the project is in the City of Vadnais Heights and the proposed improvements go from a rural section to an urban section and will include a bituminous trail. She said that there will be a storm sewer extension to Greenbrier which is fully funded by the County and the City of Little Canada. She said that the Vadnais Heights share of the project costs will be \$158,200 including the contingency fees and soft costs. She noted that assessments to the adjacent properties will be in the amount of \$79,100 and state aid funds in the amount of \$129,700. Farrell noted that he has received one phone call from someone who wanted to say that they are in support of the project and passed on some ideas on concrete versus tar and on street lighting.

Mayor Gunderson opened the Public Hearing at 8:51 pm. There being no one that wished to speak, Gunderson closed the Public Hearing at 8:52 pm. Gunderson noted that there were no written appeals.

Upon motion by Youker, seconded by Johnson, it was

20-05-090 “RESOLVED, that the Council adopts the Resolution Adopting the Assessment Roll for the 2020-03 County Road D Project as presented.”

Ayes – 5

Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

**OLD BUSINESS**

A. Extending the Mayor Declared Local Emergency

City Administrator Watson reviewed staff’s request that the Council extend the local emergency until the Governor declares the emergency over. Watson noted that this will allow the City Administrator the authority to spend when needed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and for the Council or committees to meet virtually. Watson noted that he hasn’t needed to spend a whole lot but the City has taken advantage of the virtual meetings. He would like to maintain the City’s ability to ensure that we would be eligible funding from the feds and the state. Council Member Urban said that he supports extending the emergency but he would like a sunset date on it. Mayor Gunderson said that the City can

always revisit it but if the Council wants it to sunset, she would prefer the sunset date being set for after Labor Day. Urban said he would rather it sunset in 60 days.

Upon motion by Urban, seconded by Morse, it was

20-05-091 “RESOLVED that the Council adopts a Resolution Extending the Mayor-Declared Local Emergency until July 22, 2020.”

Ayes – 5                      Nays – 0

The resolution was approved.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Consider Approval of a Resolution Granting Flexibility to Local Businesses**

City Administrator Watson noted that they have seen a few cities grant flexibility to local businesses (restaurants and bars) to extend patios into parking lots or sidewalks with permission of the property owners, this could allow them to expand operation and maintain social distancing. Watson noted that the establishments would need to apply and there would be no cost. Wall said that the application and approval process can be done administratively and there would be no need for Council action. Urban and Gunderson both stated that this is a good thing to do. Watson added that this would also allow flexibility for drive-ups and drive thrus.

Upon motion by Youker, seconded by Morse, it was

20-05-092 “RESOLVED that the Council adopts a Resolution Granting Flexibility for Local Businesses during Declared Local Emergency for COVID – 19.”

Ayes – 5                      Nays – 0

The resolution was approved.

### **B. Consider Awarding a Contract for the 2020 Street Improvements Project**

See Item #10B above.

### **C. Consider Awarding a Contract for the County Road D Improvement Project**

See Item #10C above.

### **D. 2020 Street Crack Sealing Program**

Public Works Director/City Engineer Farrell noted that the City solicited from five contractor’s quotes for 2020 Crack Sealing work. Three quotes were received, Allied Blacktop Company, Astech Corp, and Fahrner Asphalt Sealers LLC. Farrell noted that the 2020 Adopted Budget for various street maintenance activities is \$110,000 so the City should have sufficient budget to complete this work.

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Morse, it was

20-05-093      “RESOVED that the Council award a contract to Astech Corp in the amount of \$62,500 (\$1.25 per pound).”

Ayes – 5

Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

E. Consider Parks and Recreation – Programming and Events, Summer 2020

Assistant City Administrator Sandvik gave an update on the summer Parks and Rec programming and upcoming events. He reviewed registration over the last few years. He noted that the City is at the point where it needs to postpone or cancel some of its events. He said that staff are recommending that the City postpone or cancel the Ice Cream Social and allow staff to administratively make decisions regarding cancelling some events/activities to allow greater flexibility. Sandvik noted that staff are also recommending that the Council establish June 17<sup>th</sup> as the date that a decision would need to be made regarding Heritage Days which is scheduled for mid-August. A final decision would be brought before the Council at its June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Council Member Youker asked if there is a way to do the Music in the Park in a way that would allow social distancing. Sandvik replied in principal, perhaps, but for now we could only have groups of 10 and under. Sandvik said that if the Governor’s order says a gathering must be 50 people and under the City must consider the liability it would take on.

Mayor Gunderson said the City will have to postpone the Ice Cream Social, and perhaps hold it later in the summer because it is so well attended. She said she supports making a decision at the June 16<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. Council Member Urban encouraged getting stuff back on line as soon as we can especially outdoor programs and events which should be a safe place to be.

Gunderson said that staff have done a great job and have been very creative. She asked if staff are looking for direction on how to handle events moving forward and that other than the big stuff, she thinks handling it administratively seems to be the way to do it. Sandvik questioned what would become the City’s liability if it did rent out a soccer field for someone that says there will only be 9 people, does it become our job to police them. He said that the City is not staffed to monitor all the CDC guidelines. Sandvik noted that staff are looking to be able to make some decisions administratively 30 days out but that larger items such as Heritage Days would be brought before the Council for a decision.

Sandvik thanked Katie Everett, Parks and Rec Supervisor, and Jessica Currier, Parks & Rec Administrative Assistant, on the amount of time they’ve been working on this.

Gunderson said they have done a good job being creative and keeping the community engaged.

Approved

F. Rush Line Bus Rapid Transit: support of 15 Percent Plans

Planning/Community Development Director Wall noted that there is a resolution before the Council supporting the 15% Plans for the proposed bus rapid transit line within Vadnais Heights.

Council Member Urban said he would like to add a couple bullet points to the Resolution. He said he would like to encourage a no net loss of parking and encourage a safety and security plan by the next time they come before the Council and encourage all right turn lanes be unobstructed. Mayor Gunderson said the language regarding right hand turns fundamentally changes their plans and it's not fair to hinge the resolution on that at this time. Urban said his proposed language is just guidance.

Upon motion by Urban,

20-05-094      “RESOLVED that the Council approve the Resolution with the following bullet points being added: that there be no net loss of parking; that a safety and security plan developed by the next time the project comes before the Council; and that the right turn lanes not be obstructed.”

Andy Gitzlaff, Ramsey County, asked that the Council build some flexibility into the action perhaps by saying the project should explore no net loss of parking at the rec center and consider changing the right turn lanes. He said they need more coordination with tenants on any of the parking changes and would rather bring it back at a later time during the design process. Urban said in order for any consideration of the resolution it should be noted that the action taken by the Council at this time is not binding. He also said he feels it's a bit of a safety issue to have an obstruction on the turn lanes on Highway 61. Council Member Johnson asked if Urban would consider using the word consider.

Council Member Morse asked at what point the Rush Line project would be transitioning over to the Metropolitan Council. Gitzlaff replied probably April of 2021. Gunderson asked if Gitzlaff is comfortable with Urban's proposed language changes. Gitzlaff noted that he is still a little concerned about a no net loss of parking and what that entails. He would suggest that that not be a strict condition.

Upon motion by Urban to amend his previous motion, seconded by Johnson, it was

20-05-094      “RESOLVED that the Council approves the Resolution of Support for the Rush Line Bus Rapid Transit Project 15 Percent Plans within the City of Vadnais Heights with the following points added: that the City encourages the County to explore ways to find a no net loss of parking at the Sports

Center sight; encourage the Ramsey County to bring to a future Council meeting a safety and security plan; and that the Council encourages the County to explore the opportunity of having no right turn lane obstructions on Highway 61.”

Ayes – 5

Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

## **COUNCIL AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Assistant City Administrator Sandvik mentioned that the Council will hear consideration of Commons at the next workshop.

Public Works Director/City Engineering Farrell noted that the work on the Oak Creek box culvert and Branch 5 cost about \$200,000. Made some good demonstrable progress. He thanked the Council for moving forward all the construction projects and this year they are doing triple the amount of road work as last year.

Council Member Youker thanked those residents that reached out via email concerning the resolution. A majority of them have been in support and she appreciates that she had a chance to address them personally.

Council Member Urban said that he ran into the mayor of Mendota Heights where At Home apartments has a development. The Mayor spoke very highly of their company and the development. He said that he had a lot of people reach out to him about the resolution, and there was a lot of support from government and residents.

Council Member Johnson thanked Ms. Gustafson for her comments on the resolution.

Mayor Gunderson noted that she too received a lot of communication about the resolution that was passed and has read a lot of online comments. There are opinions both for and against. She said it should never be our goal to cause discord to our community. She encouraged Council Members to get any proposed resolutions to staff by Thursday, the week before a meeting, so there is interest in transparency moving forward. She encouraged people to be kind and understanding and respectful.

A motion was made by Johnson that the meeting be adjourned at 9:53 p.m. Seconded by Youker. Meeting adjourned.