

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS
JUNE 18, 2019**

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 7:06 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, Patricia Youker and Robert Morse.

The following members were absent: Council Member Greg Urban.

Also present were: Kevin Watson, City Administrator, Tim Sandvik, Assistant City Administrator, Nolan Wall, Planning/Community Development Director, Ed Leier, Fire Chief, Caroline Bell Beckman, City Attorney, and Peggy Aho, Deputy City Clerk.

City Administrator Watson provided several announcements.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Gunderson noted two changes to the Amended Agenda: 1) remove Item #11A, Consider Approval of an Agreement with VHG; and move Item 12C, Consider Approval of the Fire Relief Association's Request for an Increase to the Pension Amount to Item 12A.

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Morse, it was

19-06-204 "RESOLVED that the June 18, 2019 Regular Meeting Agenda be approved as amended."

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. June 4, 2019 Regular Workshop Meeting

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Youker, it was

19-06-205 "RESOLVED, to approve the June 4, 2019 Regular Workshop Meeting Minutes, as presented."

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

B. June 4, 2019 Regular Council Meeting

Upon motion by Morse, seconded by Johnson, it was

19-06-206 “RESOLVED, to approve the June 4, 2019 Regular Council Meeting Minutes, as presented.”

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Morse, it was

19-06-207 “RESOLVED, that the Consent Agenda Item #7A-7C for the June 4, 2019 meeting be approved as follows:

- A. Approve Claims #77883 Through #77900 and Electronic Claims #1378 Through #1382 for Payment
 - 1. US Bank Payment in the amount of \$3,928.67
- B. Approve a Public Outdoor Event for Jimmy’s Food and Drink to hold the Jimmy’s Car Show on Sunday, July 7, 2019 at 1132 East County Road E
- C. Approve a Solicitor/Peddler Permit for Julia Smatralova, ”

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None

PRESENTATIONS: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. Consider Approval of a Minor Site Plan at 3535 Hoffman Road East for Priority Courier Experts:
Planning/Community Development Director Wall reviewed Planning Case #19-009 which is before the Council for action following a Public Hearing. The applicant is requesting minor site plan approval to construct an addition to an existing building and expand the existing parking lot on the property. Wall noted that City Code, Chapter 38, Article II, Section 38-39(c), allows minor site plan approval for building additions that do not exceed a specific size threshold. Wall reviewed the layout of the site and the proposed improvements/addition. He said that Staff are recommending Council approval of this application as submitted.

Mayor Gunderson opened the Public Hearing at 7:17 pm. There being no one present that wished to speak, Gunderson closed the Public Hearing at 7:17 pm.

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Morse, it was

19-06-208 “RESOLVED that the Council approves the minor site plan request, based on the following findings of fact: 1) the existing/proposed use is permitted within the applicable zoning district and compliant with the Comprehensive Plan; and 2) the proposed building addition and off-street parking lot improvements meet, or are conditioned to meet, all applicable standards; and that the Council adopted a Resolution approving a minor site plan at 3535 Hoffman Road East as recommended.”

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. ~~Consider Approval of an Agreement with VHG~~ [This item was removed from the agenda.]

B. Consider Approval of an Agreement with Ramsey County for Organics Collection Bin
Assistant City Administrator Sandvik gave an overview of the action before the Council for a Memorandum of Agreement with Ramsey County for an ongoing organics collection bin enclosure to be located in the City’s parking lot south of City Hall.

Council Member Youker asked if the City will be providing collection bins and bags to its residents. Sandvik responded that the City does have some collection bins available that have been provided to the City by the County. There will be no cost to the City.

Council Member Morse asked if collection of organics might be added in the future as a collection menu item under the City’s agreement with VHG. Sandvik responded that there may be a potential for this type of pick-up in the future, as technology changes. Mayor Gunderson thanked Morse for bringing the idea of organics collection to the City.

Upon motion by Morse, seconded by Youker, it was

19-06-209 “RESOLVED that the Council authorizes the City to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement for ongoing Organics Collections enclosure with Ramsey County, Public Health – Environmental Health Division as recommended.”

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Consider Approval of the Fire Relief Association’s Request for an Increase to the Pension Amount:

Fire Chief Leier gave an overview of the Fire Relief Association's pension fund and their request for an increase to their pension benefit level. The increase the Fire Relief Association is requesting is for an additional \$200 per year of service beginning January 1, 2020.

Upon motion by Morse, seconded by Johnson, it was

19-06-210 "RESOLVED, that the Council approves the increase in the Vadnais Heights Firefighters pension benefit level, to \$4,600 per year effective January 1, 2020, as requested."

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

- B. Consider Aster Meadow Apartment Final Plat
- C. Consider Approval of a Development Agreement/Revised Site Plan with Tyr Development, LLC for the Aster Meadow Apartment Project:
Planning/Community Development Director Wall recommended that the Council combine Agenda Items #12A and 12 B. The Council agreed.

Wall gave an overview of the Final Plat and the Development Agreement for the project. He noted that work should begin on the project within the next couple of weeks.

Wall reviewed the Project's Revised Site Plan which has been amended to meet the conditions set forth by the Council when it approved the PUD. Wall reviewed conditions the Developer is proposing be removed from the Development Agreement. He noted that the earlier approval had 34 conditions. Wall said that the Developer is proposing to: 1) remove the nature trail on the west/north side of the property and instead add a trail on the south end of the property; 2) remove the fire lane on the north side of the property because the applicant is going to install additional fire equipment on the interior of the building, which also reduces the need for a curb cut on Centerville Road and allows more space to create a buffer between the properties on the north side; 3) extend the completion date to two years; 4) add a tot lot area; 5) revise the landscaping plan to address screening of lights from the parking lot onto neighborhood properties; and 6) remove the required fenced off-leash dog area; and 7) change the exterior design and landscaping. Wall said that all of the proposed revisions can either be accepted or denied by the Council, as part of the approval process.

Council Member Johnson asked if a Certificate of Occupancy would be given to one building if the other was not yet complete. Wall responded yes.

Mayor Gunderson invited the developer up for questions from the Council and thanked him for addressing the conditions of the Development Agreement. She asked if the contractor has a construction schedule. Peter Stalland said that the construction should take about 14 to 16 months and there will be about a two month lag between the two buildings. He said that weather of course is the driving issue.

Stalland said that the problem with the dog park is people come in and have their pets use it and then they people don't pick up their mess. He said that often times there are dog fights, it smells and looks bad. He said that it is better to have dog waste stations and require management of dog waste. He said they also have a size and breed standards that must be met. Gunderson asked if they will have a designated pet area or if they will do DNA testing. Stalland replied that they have had designated pet areas before and may do that. He's not sure about the DNA testing.

Council Member Johnson said he is not thrilled with some of the changes, so doesn't mind the year extension to the contract period and he also doesn't mind the trail removal, and the removal of the fire access road because this removal helps the neighbors to the north and allows more privacy screening.

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Morse, it was

19-06-210 “RESOLVED that the Council approve the Final Plat for the Aster Meadow Apartments and the amendment to the Development Agreement with Tyr Development, LLC, including the revised site plan to be reviewed by the City Attorney.”

Ayes – 4

Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

D. Consider Setting Tuesday, July 16, 2019 Workshop and Agenda:

City Administrator Watson noted that the next Regular Workshop meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2019 and the agenda may include: continued discussion of the 2018 Budget Review including Police Public Safety; and County Vadnais Lake Loop Trail.

COUNCIL AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Assistant City Administrator Sandvik noted that he had attended the Ramsey County Active Living VHC quarterly meeting. He also noted that the Parks & Rec Programs have begun and summer events kick off tomorrow. The Parks & Rec Committee meeting meets outdoors at Bear Park on the 8th of July at 6 pm.

Council Member Morse attended Heritage Days Committee meeting. He said that the Committee has some great things planned for the Heritage Days event and more people have volunteered and more are welcome to participate.

City Administrator Watson said that the pavement ratings have been completed and the report should be ready soon. He also noted that the 2019 street improvements project work has begun and will be starting on Krey Avenue.

Mayor Gunderson noted that Hot Dog with a Deputy is being held on the 19th at Berwood Park.

June 18, 2019

A motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Johnson at 8:03 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Watson, City Administrator

APPROVED