

**REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS  
JULY 16, 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 7:02 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, Greg Urban and Robert Morse.

The following members were absent: None

Also present were: Kevin Watson, City Administrator, Tim Sandvik, Assistant City Administrator, Nolan Wall, Planning/Community Development Director, Ed Leier, Fire Chief, Bob Sundberg, Finance 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 Youker, it was

19-07-211 “RESOLVED that the Amended July 16, 2019 Regular Meeting Agenda be approved as presented.”

Ayes – 5                      Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. June 18, 2019 Regular Workshop Meeting

Upon motion by Morse, seconded by Johnson, it was

19-07-212 “RESOLVED, to approve the June 18, 2019 Regular Workshop Meeting Minutes, as presented.”

Ayes – 4                      Nays – 0                      Abstained – 1 (Urban)

The resolution was adopted.

B. June 18, 2019 Regular Council Meeting

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Youker, it was

19-07-213 “RESOLVED, to approve the June 18, 2019 Regular Council Meeting Minutes, as presented.”

Ayes – 4

Nays – 0

Abstained – 1 (Urban)

The resolution was adopted.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon motion by Morse, seconded by Youker, it was

19-07-214 “RESOLVED, that the Consent Agenda Item #7A-7L for the July 16, 2019 meeting be approved as follows:

- A. Approve Claims #77901 Through #78036 and Electronic Claims #1383 Through #1392 for Payment
  - 1. US Bank Payment in the amount of \$1,460.17
- B. Approve Vadnais Heights Firefighter’s Relief Association’s Request for a Donation Outside the City
- C. Approve Public Outdoor Event Permit for the City’s Music at Vadnais Square Event
- D. Approve a Solicitor Permit Application for Rove Pest Control
- E. Approve Second Amendment to the Joint Powers Agreement with VLAWMO
- F. Accept and Acknowledge F&M Bank Movie in the Park Sponsorship
- G. Accept and Acknowledge 2019 Heritage Days Grants/Donations
- H. Consider Approving Luther East Addition Final Plat
- I. Consider Approving a Development Agreement with The Luther Company, LLLP
- J. Consider Approving a Development Agreement with Bralen Companies, LLC
- K. Consider Approving a Development Agreement Amendment with Willow Ridge East, LP
- L. Consider Approving an Agreement for Temporary Building Inspection and Building Official Services with MNSPECT, LLC.”

Ayes – 5

Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None**

**PRESENTATIONS:**

- A. Proclamation for Night to Unite 2019

City Administrator Watson read the Proclamation for Night to Unite 2019. It read as follows:

**NIGHT TO UNITE 2019  
PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, local law enforcement agencies are sponsoring a statewide program called Night to Unite on August 6, 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, Night to Unite is designated to get to know one another in the City of Vadnais Heights, build neighborhood involvement by bringing police and communities together; and to bring an awareness to crime prevention and local law enforcement efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, Night to Unite supports the idea that crime prevention is an inexpensive, effective tool in strengthening policy and community partnerships; and

**WHEREAS**, Night to Unite provides opportunities to celebrate the ongoing work of law enforcement and neighborhoods in Vadnais Heights by working together to fight crime and victimization and increase public safety for all citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Vadnais Heights play an important role in assisting the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office and the Vadnais Heights Fire Department through joint crime, drug and violence prevention efforts.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Vadnais Heights City Council calls upon all citizens of Vadnais Heights, Ramsey County, to participate in Night to Unite on Tuesday, August 6, 2019; and

**FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Vadnais Heights City Council hereby proclaims Tuesday, August 6, 2019, as Night to Unite in Vadnais Heights.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

- A. Consider Approval of a Minor Subdivision at 3749 Nature View Trail/3753 Centerville Road

Planning/Development Director Wall noted that staff are recommending that the Council open the Public Hearing and continue it for a subsequent meeting since the application is not yet complete, and staff ask that it be brought back for consideration at a future Council meeting. Mayor Gunderson opened the public hearing at 7:10 p.m. and continued it until a future meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Consider Approving an Agreement with VHG for Garbage, Reuse and Recycling Services  
Assistant City Administrator Sandvik noted that in January 1991, the Council implemented an organized solid waste and recycling collection system. Since then, the City has been contracting with VHG, Inc. for the refuse and recycling services. At the February 19, 2019 Workshop, staff presented a variety of considerations regarding organized collection and

the agreement with VHG. At the February 19, April 2 and April 16, 2019 City Council Workshops, staff gave updates on the contract negotiations. Staff finalized negotiations and are recommending that the Council approve a contract with VHG, Inc. for refuse and recycling services effective August 1, 2019 through July 31, 2024.

Upon motion by Urban, seconded by Morse, it was

19-07-215 “RESOLVED that the Council authorizes entering into a contract with VHG, Inc. for refuse and recycling services effective August 1, 2019 through July 31, 2024 contingent upon both parties agreeing to finalized language regarding revenue sharing, fuel surcharge and the ability to reopen the contract in the future if deemed appropriate.”

Ayes – 5                      Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

**B. Consider Approval of Buerkle Road Rehabilitation Project**

Director of Public Works Farrell gave an overview of the Buerkle Road project. Farrell stated that both the Council and staff have received a lot of complaints about the condition of the road. Staff looked at various ways in which to update the road and they narrowed it down to a targeted small project which will address the interim needs of the road. Staff solicited bids and noted that four bids were received. The bids are very competitive. Farrell noted that the lowest bid came in at \$60,263.54 (Park Construction) and the highest was about \$65,000.

Upon motion by Youker, seconded by Johnson, it was

19-07-216 “RESOLVED that the Council approves the Buerkle Road bituminous replacement project and awarded a contract with Park Construction in the amount of \$60,263.54 and authorized City Administrator Watson to execute the agreement.”

Ayes – 5                      Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Consider Approving a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Little Canada**

Planning/Community Development Director Wall noted that the request before the Council is for approval of the Site Plan for 3354 Rice Street. Staff are recommending approval of the Site Plan with the following three conditions: 1) All drive lanes shall meet the applicable width standards of Section 503.2.1 of the State Fire Code; 2) the City of Little Canada shall provide all copies of permits issued by the City and the Watershed District, as well as inspection reports for the project to the City of Vadnais Heights; and 3) The

property owner shall submit a grading permit for the parking lot improvements to the City of Vadnais Heights for administrative review/approval.

Upon motion by Johnson, seconded by Urban, it was

19-07-2017 “RESOLVED, that the Council approves entering into a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Little Canada for site plan approval of the proposed Caribou Coffee parking lot expansion project at 3354 Rice Street, with the conditions as noted.”

Ayes – 5

Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

B. Consider Setting Wednesday, August 7, 2019 Workshop and Agenda:

City Administrator Watson noted that the next Regular Workshop meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 7, 2019 and the agenda may include: continued discussion of the Public Works Department Budget, an overview of City pavements, and an update on negotiations with Comcast.

## **COUNCIL AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Public Works Director Farrell noted that the 2019 Street Improvements construction project has been proceeding very well. He said that he has had very little complaints or feedback from the public. He said that the final paving should be done in about a month. Farrell noted that it would be the perfect time for staff to replace galvanized bolts on the water main while doing the work on the streets. The bolts are beginning to corrode.

Farrell noted that next week the City will host a community meeting regarding lift station improvements. He noted that he and SEH staff will be meeting with the public to discuss the lift station improvements with the residents.

Farrell also noted that on Saturday, July 27, others are putting together a Highway 96 Clean-up Project from 8 to noon. He also noted that staff were contacted by the Department of Agriculture about a confirmed emerald ash bore case in the City. He said that he will bring to a future Council meeting a game plan to head off the infestation.

Planning/Community Development Director Wall said that he anticipates the grading work to begin at the Aster Meadow Apartment project. The Willow Ridge East Apartment project is proposed to get started in early August and the Luther Cadillac project will begin late summer early fall start.

Wall noted that the Garceau Corner Task Force has met twice and has its third meeting tomorrow evening. So far, presentations have been made by the City’s financial and environmental

consultants. There will be three developers at the third meeting whom will provide a roundtable discussion about commercial, office and reuse opportunities. He noted that all Garceau Corner Task Force meeting materials are posted on the City's website.

Fire Chief Leier reminded the Council that Minnesota Night to Unite activities begin at the Main Fire Station at 5:30 pm on August 6. He noted that last week, the Vadnais Heights Press did an article on the Fire Department's car seat clinic which the City has been holding for the last few years. There were over 40 participants. He said that the Fire Department continues to be busy and that they've had 100 more calls than at this time last year.

Assistant City Administrator Sandvik noted that the Parks and Trails Commission met last week. The Commission began their meeting at Bear Park and the meeting agenda included a discussion of the Koehler Road Alternatives Analysis. Sandvik also gave an update on the VLAWMO project around the Commons for interpretive signage highlighting native species of plantings.

Council Member Morse said that he attended the recent Heritage Days Committee meeting and stated that there has been an uptick in participation from volunteers. He said that Parks and Recreation Supervisor Katie Everett is doing a great job. Morse noted that he also attended the League of Minnesota Cities Conference on June 26 through the 28.

Council Member Youker noted that VLAWMO is offering a cost sharing grant program for individual property owners that will benefit water quality. She also attended the LMC Conference.

Council Member Johnson met with Assistant City Administrator Sandvik to discuss the Commons and to figure out how to address the downturn we've seen with wedding bookings. He also noted that he attended the Garceau Corner Task Force meetings. He said that all members of the Task Force seem to be engaged and there have been a lot of good ideas that have come from the Task Force members.

City Administrator Watson said that the 2020 Budget discussion is coming up at the second workshop in August. He asked that the Council Members begin thinking about that and what they would like to see in the 2020 Budget.

Mayor Gunderson noted that she also attended the LMC Conference.

A motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Johnson at 7:41 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kevin Watson, City Administrator