

**WORKSHOP MEETING  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS  
JANUARY 17, 2023**

**OPEN MEETING**

The workshop meeting of the Council of the City of Vadnais Heights was held on the above date and called to order by Mayor Krachmer at 6:00 p.m. following interviews with several candidates that have applied for openings on various Commissions.

The following members were present: Mayor Mike Krachmer and Council Members Erik Goebel, Steve Rogers, Kelly Jozwowski, and Katherine Doll Kanne. The following member was absent: None.

Also present were: City Administrator, Kevin Watson; Assistant City Administrator, Kaylin Clement; Planning/Community Development Director, Nolan Wall; City Engineer/Public Works Director, Jesse Farrell; Fire Chief, Chris Hearden; and Deputy Clerk, Peggy Aho.

**FUTURE CITY COUNCIL REQUESTS**

Council Member Goebel asked if the Parks Commission is looking at trail connections, and if so, he would be interested in knowing what they may be recommending. City Administrator Watson noted that the City did an exercise a number of years ago where trail connections were recommended and it the result of that is City's Comp Plan. Watson said he will get the Council Members the comp plan map.

Council Member Doll Kanne said that she would like the Council to discuss the idea of doing a Parks Master Plan. Watson said that this would be good to discuss at the Goal Session.

Mayor Krachmer said he would like to look at doing a housing study which could be valuable for long-term planning.

**PARK DEDICATION FEES**

Assistant City Administrator Clement reviewed the information that was included in the packet looking at what neighboring communities are doing/charging. She said that Vadnais Heights is currently sit at \$2,000.

Planning/Community Development Director Wall said that the City has a number of fees that are development related. Some may be high some, may be low. The fees are impactful to the development and to the communities. It's a line item in a Performa that absolutely impacts a project.

Council Member Jozwowski said she would like the City to raise the Park Dedication Fees rate. Mayor Krachmer said that perhaps the City needs to look at a different source of funding for Parks and Rec.

Council Member Doll Kanne said she was going to suggest an increase, but after the discussion she would not be comfortable with that but that she could probably support a light increase.

Doll Kanne said perhaps we do a slight increase this year and then revisit and see what other fees are built in.

Krachmer said at this time he couldn't support anything radical. Council Member Goebel said he would support a modest increase.

City Administrator Watson suggested that Wall reach out to other neighboring communities and the Council continue this discussion at a later date. Doll Kanne asked to revisit in three months and have more information available.

Watson said that once staff has gathered the information it will be brought back for discussion.

#### **HOUSING INITIATIVES**

Planning/Community Development Director Wall said that over the past year the City has moved towards implementing a housing funding program. He said that the City has also identified and confirmed a funding source. He said that the Council had a series of discussion last year with a partner that would provide the loan services that would be used to implement a program. Wall said that at the next Workshop, a rep from the Neighborhood Home partners will discuss a loan format, what type of loans would be funded and the interest rates.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kevin Watson, City Administrator