

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS
MARCH 21, 2023**

The meeting of the Council of the City of Vadnais Heights was held on the above date and called to order by Mayor Krachmer at 7:08 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following members were present: Mayor Mike Krachmer and Council Members Steve Rogers, Erik Goebel, Kelly Jozwowski, and Katherine Doll Kanne.

The following Council members were absent: None.

Also present were: Kevin Watson, City Administrator; Kaylin Clement, Assistant City Administrator; Jesse Farrell, City Engineer/Public Works Director; Nolan Wall, Planning/Community Development Director; Chris Hearden, Fire Chief; Bob Sundberg, Finance Director; and Caroline Beckman, City Attorney.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Administrator Watson provided several announcements.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Council Member Goebel, seconded by Council Member Rogers, it was

#23-03-046 “RESOLVED that the March 21, 2023 Regular Meeting Agenda be approved as presented.”

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. March 7, 2023 Regular Workshop Meeting

Upon motion by Council Member Goebel, seconded by Council Member Jozwowski, it was

#23-03-047 “RESOLVED, that the Council approves the March 7, 2023 Regular Workshop Meeting minutes as presented.”

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

32 B. March 7, 2023 Regular Council Meeting

33 Upon motion by Council Member Goebel, seconded by Council Member Jozwowski, it
34 was

35 #23-03-048 “RESOLVED, that the Council approves the March 7, 2023 Regular
36 Council Meeting minutes as presented.”

37 Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

38 The resolution was adopted.

39 **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

40 Upon motion by Council Member Goebel, seconded by Council Member Rogers, it was

41 #23-03-049 “RESOLVED, that the Council approves Consent Agenda Items #7A
42 through #7H for the March 21, 2023 meeting as presented as follows:

43 A. Consider Approving Claims #83323 Through #83389 and Electronic
44 Claims #1863 Through #1866 for Payment

45 1. US Bank Payment in the Amount of \$7,975.30

46 B. Consider Adopting City Hall Summer Hours

47 C. Consider Approving Solicitor’s License for Legacy Restoration LLC
48 – Trevor Devens

49 D. Consider Accepting Resignation of Fire Fighters – Chris Scholen,
50 Jacob Ryks and Evan Young

51 E. Consider Accepting and Acknowledging 2023 Heritage Days
52 Donations

53 F. Consider Authorizing Staff to Apply for Berwood Park Signage Cost
54 Sharing Grant

55 G. Consider Accepting and Acknowledging Document Shredding
56 Donation for Spring Clean-Up Event

57 H. Consider Adoption of Grant Agreement Between the City and
58 Metropolitan Council Environmental Services for Sanitary Sewer
59 Improvements.”

60
61 Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

62 The resolution was adopted.

63 **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

64 Mayor Krachmer opened the meeting to the public at 7:10 p.m.

65 There being no one who wished to speak, Mayor Krachmer closed the meeting to the public at
66 7:10 p.m.

67 **PRESENTATIONS**

68 A. VHEDC Update

69 Liz Moscatelli, Executive Director of the Vadnais Heights Economic Development
70 Corporation (VHEDC), provided an update including information on the organization,
71 the top focus areas for the year, and VHEDC communications. She provided additional
72 details on investor fees, partner investors and explained how the organization supports
73 business growth. She provided information on the VHEDC committees, highlighted
74 events scheduled throughout this year, and noted the relationships and collaborations with
75 other community groups. She stated that they look forward to the year ahead and thanked
76 the City for its continued support.

77 Council Member Rogers stated that Vadnais Heights and the surrounding communities
78 have a robust commercial and industrial sector and asked for input on workforce
79 challenges. Ms. Moscatelli replied that continues to be a challenge noting that some
80 companies have to turn away orders because of the lack of manpower. She stated that
81 they are working on training programs and encouraging student participation in technical
82 programs to prepare for the workforce. She noted that if students graduate from some of
83 these programs, they are connected with these companies to transition to employment
84 upon completion. She said that some sectors are starting to come back so things are
85 getting better.

86 Council Member Goebel thanked Ms. Moscatelli for the presentation and acknowledged
87 the great work VHEDC does for the community.

88 City Administrator Watson commented that VHEDC is an arm of the economic
89 development efforts of the City and appreciated the value that organization provides to
90 the City and the community at large.

91 **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

92 None.

93 **OLD BUSINESS**

94 A. 2023-01 Street Improvements – Approve Plans and Specifications and Authorize
95 Advertisement of Bids

96 Director of Public Works/City Engineer Farrell said the Council is being asked to
97 consider adopting a resolution approving plans and specifications for 2023-1 Street
98 Improvements and authorizing advertisement of bids with an April 20, 2023 bid due date.
99 He explained the streets included in the project are Elmwood Street from Stockdale Road
100 to Clover Avenue; Alpine Avenue from County Road F to the south limits; and, Horizon
101 Street from Alpine Avenue to Centerville Road.

102 Mr. Farrell noted that following the public hearing, plans and specifications were ordered
 103 to be prepared at the February 21, 2023 Council meeting. S.E.H. was designated as the
 104 project engineer for the 2023-1 Street Improvement Project and all costs associated with
 105 the design and inspection services are included in the estimated project costs as detailed
 106 at the public hearing.

107 Mr. Farrell stated staff has reviewed the plans and specifications for the project and
 108 recommends approval, noting a resolution has been prepared for the Council's
 109 consideration. If approved, the resolution approves the plans and specifications and
 110 authorizes advertisement for public bids.

111 Upon motion by Council Member Goebel, seconded by Council Member Jozowski, it
 112 was

113 #23-03-050 "RESOLVED that the Council hereby adopts the Resolution Approving the
 114 Plans and Specifications and Authorizing Advertisement of Bids with April
 115 20 2023, Bid Date for the 2023-1 Street Improvements Project Including
 116 Elmwood Street from Stockdale Road to Clover Avenue; Alpine Avenue
 117 from County Road F to South Limits; and, Horizon Street from Alpine
 118 Avenue to Centerville Road, as presented."

119 Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

120 The resolution was adopted.

121 **NEW BUSINESS**

122 None.

123 **COUNCIL AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

124 Chief Hearnden noted the Health and Public Safety Committee will be meeting tomorrow
 125 night. He also stated that the upcoming Lions Club waffle breakfast and Fire Department
 126 open house scheduled for Sunday, April 2, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Commons.

127 Assistant City Administrator Kaylin Clement stated that the City is looking for summer help
 128 and encouraged interested individuals to learn more on the City website.

129 Finance Director Bob Sundberg had nothing to report.

130 Director of Public Works/City Engineer Farrell commented on tree removal scheduled to
 131 begin next week to prepare for the Twin Lake Boulevard and Elmwood Street projects. He
 132 provided details on restoration projects that are using native seed mixes. He recognized the
 133 public feedback received related to potholes and noted that they are gearing up for a busy
 134 season once the weather allows. He reported that the first load of hot mix was received the
 135 previous day to begin those efforts. He stated that staff is looking to purchase two small

136 pieces of equipment that will allow for more efficiency and will also potentially rent two
137 additional pieces of equipment and contract out for additional assistance.

138 Planner/Community Development Director Wall welcomed the Council to attend any of the
139 BR&E meetings noting that the Council is also welcome to attend the business tours.

140 City Attorney Beckman stated that the Council is also welcome to attend court if interested.

141 Council Member Doll Kanne commented that she found it interesting that the City chose a
142 private contractor to work on Buerkle Road when that's likely the road that the public will
143 criticize. She noted that decision will probably be appreciated by City staff.

144 Council Member Rogers appreciated the efforts of Mr. Farrell and the Public Works team as
145 it seems that staff is constantly busy no matter the time of year.

146 Council Member Jozwowski thanked everyone for their patience and answering her
147 questions as she learns her role.

148 Council Member Goebel thanked Ms. Moscatelli for her report.

149 Mayor Krachmer commented that he is grateful for City staff and the wonderful work they
150 do. He appreciated the presentations from the prosecutor tonight and was moved by the work
151 Tubman does with domestic issues. He invited residents to attend the upcoming coffee with
152 the Mayor on Monday, March 27, at 7 a.m.

153 City Administrator Watson had nothing further to report.

154 **ADJOURN MEETING**

155 There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Kevin Watson, City Administrator

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