

**WORKSHOP MEETING  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS  
JULY 18, 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 5:30 p.m.

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; Engineering Technician, Nick Ousky; Fire Chief, Chris Hearden; Recreation & Facilities Manager, Katie Everett.

**Other Staff Items**

No new items were added by staff.

**DNR Grant Next Steps -Parks Master Plan Tie-in (Asst. Administrator Clement)**

City did not get the grant that would be used to replace a park pavillion. ARPA funding has very specific requirements – other uses are outlined in the memo. Three of five proposals have come back from potential bidders. Future of the pavilion area may be determined by the Master Plan. Future resolution likely to be forthcoming to plan where the funds will be reallocated.

**Green Team Update (Asst. Administrator Clement)**

Gold Leaf program was pursued, so far 6 people have signed up for the Green Team. Initial event with VLAWMO and maintaining native plantings was the direction to be pursued. August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5pm is the event. The Westfield Bio-swale event will follow up and Master Gardeners will be present. A future event hosted by Mayor Krachmer to have a meet-and-greet type event for them to meet and set expectations for their work going forward.

**Heritage Days (Administrator Watson)**

Interest in Council having a formal role in participating in Heritage Days, ideas were given. Parade participation and walking the route as well as tabling near bounce houses with a suggestion box, two hour shifts.

**Ladder Truck (Chief Hearden)**

Process was underway for spec-ing and taking initial step to determine ladder truck possibilities. There is a 2%-3% price increase after July 31. Chosen item \$1.85 million for truck. Manufacturing will be a few months after selection, time frame is 20-36 months once it starts. Early payment option available. The truck type planned is an appropriate height for the buildings in the area. A new truck would allow for rearranging the deployment plan. Mini-engine may be a future plan to reduce road wear-and-tear..

**White Bear Lake Work Group (Administrator Watson)**

Administrator Watson described the workgroup and one item that is part of court order is for cities within 5 miles to meet and come up with a water plan. MetCouncil is aiding the process. Some cities

are choosing staff, one chose a city council member. Possibly 4 meetings this year, 16 in total and report to be done in 2027. Administrator Watson will take point, Council Member Doll Kanne as secondary.

### **Future Council Requests**

Council Member Goebel would like to see an ordinance to make it a petty misdemeanor for using cannabis on public property and in parks.

Mayor Krachmer statement on council meetings for feedback from Council Members. Also would like to work on plan to stay grounded in goals, and would like folks to share passion areas to be point people on certain topics.

Many Faces discussion between Council Member Jozwowski and Mayor Krachmer.

Council Member Doll Kanne requested a point person for concerns with Kohler Road trail. Engineering Technician Ousky volunteered to be that person.

Council Member Rogers brought up goal setting document and assessing progress. New Brighton was cited as a good example for tracking information about the goals and priorities. Council Member Rogers also asked about a debrief from the League of Minnesota Cities conference.

### **Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



Kevin Watson, City Administrator