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**WORKSHOP MEETING  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS  
APRIL 18, 2023**

5 **Open Meeting**

6 The workshop meeting of the Council of the City of Vadnais Heights was held on the above date  
7 and called to order by Acting Mayor Steve Rogers at 5:35 p.m.

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9 The following members were present: Acting Mayor Steve Rogers and Council Members Erik  
10 Goebel, Kelly Jozwowski, and Katherine Doll Kanne. The following member was absent: Mayor  
11 Mike Krachmer.

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13 Also present were: City Administrator Kevin Watson, Assistant City Administrator Kaylin  
14 Clement, Planning/Community Development Director Nolan Wall, City Engineer/Public Works  
15 Director Jesse Farrell, Fire Chief Chris Hearnden, Senior Engineering Technician Nick Ousky and  
16 Deputy Clerk, Phillip Lundquist.

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18 Guests included: Josephine (Joey) Lundquist, Ramsey County; Matt Hansen, engineer with SRF  
19 Consulting Group for the Hodgeson Road Project; Dustin Cesafsky.

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21 **Council Member Staff Items for Consideration**

22 Council Member Doll Kanne put forth the idea of rotation council member committee liaisons  
23 partway through the year. Council Members Goebel and Jozwowski were supportive of  
24 continuing a discussion

25 **Hodgson Road Project**

26 City Engineer Jesse Farrell opened discussion with a history of the project and a presentation on  
27 the upcoming work scope with Joey Lundquist from Ramsey County And Matt Hanson of SRF  
28 Consulting Group providing details as well. Just south of Rice north to Hwy 96. Details of the  
29 project were discussed. Preliminary design is done and right-of-way has been acquired. Bids go  
30 out in 2-3 weeks with construction set to begin in July starting at the north end. Project will go  
31 for a year-and-a-half. 2023 work would include Snail Lake Rd up to 96, remainder in 2024.  
32 Water main and sanitary work along will be redone in Shoreview, the water mains in Vadnais  
33 Heights are in good shape. Council Member Doll Kanne inquired about the winter upkeep of the  
34 emergency path to Martin Way. Acting Mayor Rogers inquired about the detour. Cooperative  
35 agreement is forthcoming, drafts are exchanged between entities. Project site is updated where  
36 residents can sign up to receive updates on the project.

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38 **Koehler Road Trail Update**

39 City Engineer Jesse Farrell discussed the update. A taskforce was formed about 5 years ago.  
40 Received Safe Routes to School grant funding. Cost share would split remaining. Dustin  
41 Cesafsky also present to discuss details. Realigned trail from south side to north side to avoid

42 hydrant impacts. Working on first milestone for federal bidding process, after that is the  
43 permitting and acquisition. 4 properties affected by permanent easement, 10 properties affected  
44 by temporary easement to get grading done. Final design in 2024 after environmental permits.  
45 Bidding would be after that, and construction starting spring of 2024. Council Member Doll  
46 Kanne inquired about the affected properties, impacts on the property owners, and possibly  
47 extending projects. Council Member Jozwowski inquired about communication to homeowners.  
48 Council Member Rogers inquired for best practices to communicate about a project.  
49 Administrator Watson proposed ideas for communications. Further discussion of snow removal  
50 along trail.

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### 52 **VLAWMO Update**

53 VLAWMO Director Phil Belfiori presented with City Engineer Jesse Farrell on past, present and  
54 future VLAWMO/City projects. Preview of Memo of Understanding for watershed resiliency  
55 study. VLAWMO is a joint powers organization that covers 24 square miles. Council Member  
56 Doll Kanne is the Vadnais Heights representative. Bridgewater rain garden is a recent example.  
57 Flood control on Lambert Creek is past/present project, just finished major project in meander  
58 and pond projects. Watershed resiliency study would cover area that starts near commercial area  
59 and city hall and runs to East Vadnais Lake including area of perennial flooding at Centerville  
60 and Edgerton. Importance of addressing water flow from top to bottom of flow to have greatest  
61 impact. Discussion of Memo of Understanding and timeline of agreement once other entities'  
62 boards approve. Public Drainage inspection occurred this year of Lambert Creek and identified  
63 area that needs work. Munch Bunch goats will return to the Wooded Wetland behind City Hall  
64 for that restoration project. Future street and parking lot projects are possible collaboration  
65 opportunities, as is Green Team. Council Goebel inquired about the study near the proposed  
66 brewery to which Director Belfiori responded addressing the water flow at the top to prevent  
67 larger flooding issues near that site.

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### 69 **Public Works Parks Equipment Update**

70 City Engineer Jesse Farrell discussed the equipment concerns with the demand on current  
71 equipment including the hot asphalt box. Farrell went through the benefits of using the state  
72 cooperative deals to get the best price on equipment, and the state of several orders, current and  
73 upcoming. Council Members Doll Kanne and Rogers inquired as to prices and timeline from  
74 order to delivery. Council Member Jozwowski inquired as to input from Finance Director  
75 Sundberg. Progress on catching up to best practice on equipment turnover.

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### 77 **Other Staff Items**

78 Recognition of work by City Engineer Jesse Farrell.

79 Administrator Watson asked if a council member would be willing to look over and possibly  
80 sign on to a piece regarding transit in the Star Tribune. Council Member Goebel volunteered to  
81 look. Recognition of boardwalk at Bear Park.

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83 **Meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.**