

1 **REGULAR MEETING**
2 **OF THE COUNCIL OF THE**
3 **CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS**
4 **AUGUST 2, 2023**

5 **OPEN MEETING**

6 The meeting of the Council of the City of Vadnais Heights was held on the above date and called to order
7 by Mayor Krachmer at 7:00 p.m.

8 **ROLL CALL**

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

11 The following Council members were absent: Kelly Jozwowski.

12 Also present were: Kevin Watson, City Administrator; Kaylin Clement, Assistant City Administrator;
13 Nolan Wall, Planning/Community Development Director; Chris Hearnden, Fire Chief; Bob Sundberg,
14 Finance Director; Jim Hauth, Public Works Director; Phillip Lundquist, Deputy Clerk; and Caroline
15 Beckman, City Attorney.

16 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

17 Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

18 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

19 City Administrator Watson provided several announcements.

20 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

21 Upon motion by Goebel, seconded by Rogers, it was

22 #23-08-118 “RESOLVED that the August 2, 2023 Regular Meeting Agenda be approved as
23 presented.”

24 Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

25 The resolution was adopted.

26 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

27 A. Minutes of the Regular Workshop Meeting of July 18, 2023

28 Upon motion by Rogers, seconded by Goebel, it was

29 #23-08-119 “RESOLVED that the Regular Workshop Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2023, be
30 approved”

31 Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

32 Resolution was accepted.

33 B. Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of July 18, 2023

34 Upon motion by Goebel, seconded by Rogers, it was

35 #23-08-120 “RESOLVED that the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2023, be
36 approved”

37 Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

38 Resolution was accepted.

40 APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

41 Upon motion by Doll Kanne, seconded by Goebel, it was
42 #23-08-121 “Resolved that the Council approves Consent Agenda Items #7A through #7C for
43 the August 2, 2023, meeting as follows:
44 A. Consider Approving Claims #83891 Through #83943 and Electronic Claims #1898 Through
45 #1901 for Payment
46 A. US Bank Payment of \$6,756.03
47 B. Acknowledge and Accept Donations for Heritage Days 2023
48 C. Approve Interagency Agreement with Ramsey County Sheriff
49 Ayes – 4 Nays – 0
50 The resolution was adopted.

51 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

52 Mayor Krachmer opened the meeting to the public at 7:06 p.m. Mayor Krachmer clarified that this period
53 is for the public to speak on topics not on the agenda, and there would be a time for the public to provide
54 input on the ordinances in the Public Hearings part of the agenda.

55 Art Peterson, of 4320 Greenhaven Court, spoke, asking how the City calculates the water and sewer billing
56 and the averages the bill is based on. Questioning the changes made to how the sewer bill is calculated
57 and why is it based on the water usage now rather than being static. Administrator Watson explained the
58 new way of water/sewer billing.

59 There being no one else that wished to speak the Mayor closed the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

60 PRESENTATIONS

61 No presentations

62 PUBLIC HEARINGS

63 No public hearings.

64 OLD BUSINESS

65 No old business.

66 NEW BUSINESS

67 A. Planning Case 23-005: Charles and Rachel Pelzer – Variance at 429 Collova Drive
68 Wall presented the details of the case. Permit was applied for, but deck was constructed before
69 review was completed. Deck was built into the set-back area. Reasonableness threshold
70 discussed. Practical difficulties discussed. Essential character of neighborhood discussed.

71 Upon motion by Rogers, seconded by Goebel, it was:

72 #23-08-122 “RESOLVED, that the Council approves a variance at 429 Collova Drive.
73 Ayes – 4 Nays – 0
74 Resolution was adopted.

75 B. Planning Case 23-006: Jason Schwieger – Conditional Use Permit at 3945 Stockdale Drive
76 Wall presented information about the case. Conditional use permit for unattached shed in rear yard.
77 Planning Commission recommended approval.

78 Upon motion by Rogers, seconded by Goebel, it was:

79 #23-08-123 “RESOLVED, that the Council approves conditional use permit and variance for
80 3945 Stockdale Drive.”

81 Ayes – 4 Nays – 0
82 Resolution was adopted.

83 C. Fire Station Facility Study

84 Chief Hearden presented the case to move forward with signing a contract up to \$25,000 for a
85 needs-study to meet time frame for state bonding. Administrator Watson provided more details on
86 the timeline.

87 Upon motion by Rogers, seconded by Doll Kanne, it was:

88 #23-08-124 “RESOLVED, that the Council approves facility study of Vadnais Heights Fire
89 Station not to exceed \$25,000.”

90 Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

91 Resolution was adopted.

92 **CITY COUNCIL AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

93 Mayor Krachmer welcomed Public Works Director Jim Hauth.

94 Wall: nothing to report

95 Bell Beckman: will introduce newest attorney at the firm.

96 Lundquist: nothing to report

97 Hearden: provided Night to Unite recap including the Fire Department attending 26 different events in the
98 City and thanked residents for their hospitality.

99 Clement: Welcomed Hauth

100 Goebel: provided Night to Unite recap and thanked residents for their hospitality and noted residents are
101 eager to discuss items. Attended VHEDC meeting and discussed the cannabis moratorium.

102 Doll Kanne: provided Night to Unite recap and thanked the Fire Department for the rigs Council rode in.
103 Noted the popularity of Fire within the City. Noted solicitors have been receiving complaints by residents
104 and they need to procure a city license and residents can call the Sheriff’s Office to report unlicensed
105 solicitors.

106 Rogers: Welcomed Hauth. Reported back from Health and Public Safety where Ramsey County provided
107 an update on the homeless encampment. Chief and Social Services are looking for a winter alternative.

108 Asked for dignity and respect for a homeless person on County Road E. Provided a Night to Unite Recap.

109 Watson: Welcomed Hauth and gave a Night to Unite recap.

110 Mayor Krachmer welcomed Hauth. Noted the VLAWMO Bioswale event at Westfield. Mayor is in
111 communication with County regarding the homeless encampment. The Green Team is meeting but
112 residents can still participate. Thanked the City for the impromptu storm debris drop-off site at Community
113 Park that was necessary after the recent storms knocked down trees and limbs.

114 **ADJOURN MEETING**

115 Upon motion by Rogers, seconded by Doll Kanne the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Watson, City Administrator