

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF VADNAIS HEIGHTS
MAY 18, 2021**

The meeting of the Council of the City of Vadnais Heights was held on the above date and called to order by Mayor Gunderson at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following members were present: Mayor Heidi Gunderson, and Council Members Greg Urban, Patricia Youker, Steve Rogers and Erik Goebel.

The following members were absent: None.

Also present were: Kevin Watson, City Administrator; Tim Sandvik, Assistant City Administrator; Nolan Wall, Planning/Community Development Director; Jesse Farrell, City Engineer/Public Works Director; Caroline Beckman, City Attorney; and Peggy Aho, Deputy Clerk.

Everyone present stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Administrator Watson provided several announcements.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Goebel, seconded by Urban, it was

21-05-081 “RESOLVED that the May 18, 2021 Regular Meeting Agenda be approved as presented.”

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. May 4, 2021 Regular Workshop Meeting

Upon motion by Rogers, seconded by Urban, it was

21-05-082 “RESOLVED that the Council approves the May 4, 2021 Regular Workshop Meeting minutes as presented.”

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

B. May 4, 2021 Regular Council Meeting

Upon motion by Goebel, seconded by Urban, it was

21-05-083 “RESOLVED, that the Council approves the May 4, 2021 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.”

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion by Youker, seconded by Urban, it was

21-05-084 “RESOLVED, that the Council approves the Consent Agenda Items #7A through #7D for the May 18, 2021 meeting be approved as follows:

- A. Consider Approving Claims #80608 Through #80662
 - 1. US Bank Payment in the amount of \$4,225.66
- B. Consider Approving a Contractor Agreement for Adult Softball League Umpire Services with Willie McCray
- C. Consider Approving an Amendment to the Development Agreement with Radiance Med Spa
- D. Consider Accepting and Acknowledging 2021 Heritage Days Grants/Donations.”

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Gunderson opened the meeting to the public at 7:05 p.m. There being no one that wished to speak, Gunderson closed the meeting to the public at 7:05 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS:

- A. Resolution Supporting All Forms of Military and the Minnesota National Guard

Mayor Gunderson noted that this Resolution Supporting All Forms of Military and the Minnesota National Guard has been brought forward by Council Member Urban. Urban said that there are a lot of military members in our City. He read the following resolution in support of them.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE MINNESOTA NATIONAL GUARD AND ALL BRANCHES OF THE MILITARY

WHEREAS, in 1999, the U.S. Senate passed a resolution designating May as National Military Appreciation Month (NMAM). NMAM began as a simple idea - to honor, remember, recognize, and appreciate those who serve and have served our great nation; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota National Guard was founded in 1850 and is made up of more than 13,000 men and woman who generally serve on a part-time or as-needed basis; and

WHEREAS, the members of the National Guard are our neighbors, community members, friends, coworkers, and colleagues; and

WHEREAS, the members of the National Guard are involved in careers of all types when not performing their National Guard duties, including many proud union members; and

WHEREAS, when members of the National Guard are called upon, sometimes at a moment's notice, it is at great sacrifice to themselves and their families; and

WHEREAS, typical missions of the National Guard involve responses to tornadoes, floods, fires, and even COVID-19.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Vadnais Heights, Minnesota that:

- 1) The City Council thanks all of those who serve or have served our great nation for the sacrifices and hardships they have borne on behalf of a grateful nation. Without the patriotic individuals who have served our country over the years, the freedoms, liberties, and way of life we as Americans hold so dear would be impossible to maintain.
- 2) The City Council recognizes and appreciates the service and sacrifice of the National Guard and its members.
- 3) The City Council welcomes the National Guard in our City should the need ever arise.

This Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted and was signed by the Mayor and attested to by the City Administrator this 18th day of May, 2021.

B. Proclamation: National Public Works Week: (May 16-23)

Mayor Gunderson acknowledged the City's excellent Public Works staff and Public Works Director Farrell and read the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

WHEREAS, public works services are important to the health, safety, and well-being of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, these services can only be provided through dedicated public works professionals – including government and private sector employees who oversee water distribution, water treatment, wastewater treatment, sewer systems, equipment services, public properties, solid waste systems, city streets, and water utilities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vadnais Heights has 12 full-time Public Works staff with a combined 168 years of experience working with the City; and

WHEREAS, our Public Works Department collects recycling and garbage across 14 City parks, maintains over 174 acres of parkland, 38 miles of City streets including 108 cul-de-sacs, 12 parking lots, and 13 miles of trails.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Heidi Gunderson, Mayor of Vadnais Heights, do hereby proclaim May 16 through May 23, 2021 as this year’s Public Works Week in Vadnais Heights, Minnesota, in recognition of the contributions of public works employees and the services they provide.

C. Proclamation: National EMS Week (May 16-23)

Mayor Gunderson thanked the EMS staff, police officers the Fire Chief and firefighters that work in the City and read the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

WHEREAS, providing emergency medical services (EMS) is a critical public service; and

WHEREAS, EMS teams in Minnesota include emergency physicians, physician assistants, emergency nurses, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, emergency medical responders, firefighters, law enforcement personnel, emergency medical dispatchers, educators, and administrators; and

WHEREAS, the Vadnais Heights Fire Department provides EMS services in the City and EMS ambulance service is provided by Allina Health Emergency Medical Service (EMS) and members of their teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in the City 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Vadnais Heights City Council formally designates May 16-23, 2021 as Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week in the City of Vadnais Heights.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Planning Case 21-007: MSP Vadnais, LLC – Rezoning, Final Planned Unit Development Plan, Site Plan Review and Development Agreement at 3580 Arcade Street

Planning/Community Development Director Wall reviewed the applicants request for rezoning from City Center to PUD, a final planned unit development plan, site plan review and Development Agreement for 3580 Arcade Street. Wall reviewed the process the project has followed including an open house, concept plan review, final PUD and site plan review and the action of approving a PUD is actually a rezoning which is part of the final PUD and then finally the Council is asked to consider approval of the Development Agreement.

Wall reviewed the subject property and noted that the proposed use is permitted and does meet the PUD thresholds. The tenant will be MMGI whom has several clinics in the metropolitan area.

Wall reviewed the site plan which includes a 22,000 square foot, one-story medical office building. Staff expect no impacts to existing traffic patterns. Wall talked about flexibility for reduced setbacks that the developer is requesting approval to allow for the maximum sized building on the site. He reviewed the parking stall layouts and size. Wall reviewed the proposed and existing access sites. They are compliant with existing standards.

Wall reviewed the utility plan and noted that this plan will be reviewed and approved by the building department. The proposed development includes an underground storage chamber. He noted that VLAWMO and SEH did review the stormwater management plan and reports and recommended approval.

Wall reviewed the proposed landscape plan and said that they would be close to meeting the minimum quantity and size standards.

Wall noted that the proposed development contains approximately 20.3% pervious standards. They are under the requirement. The City Code contains public open space standards but the decreasing amount of land available makes that difficult to implement. They are proposing an outdoor patio for their employees.

Wall reviewed the elevation plans for the building and the signage which exceeds the allowable amount. He reviewed the proposed monument sign on Arcade Street near the new entrance. Wall noted that flexibility is required as far as the PUD. They are also proposing a new free standing sign on the northwest corner of the site, which does also require flexibility for distance from 35W but it will be shared by both tenants, MMGI and Summit.

Wall reviewed the Planning Commission's recommendation that the Council grant the all proposed flexibility with the addition of a bicycle rack. Wall noted that before the

Council for approval is an Ordinance for the rezoning and resolutions of findings of fact and conditions, as well as the Development Agreement.

Mayor Gunderson asked in regards to the signage along Arcade, she is okay with the flexibility in the number of signs, but just wants to know that people's views/sight lines aren't blocked at the driveway to the north. Wall said what they are showing does not reflect an actual sign permit and will be fully vetted as part of the sign permit and it cannot be placed in an area that would create a public safety issue.

Council Member Youker said looking at VLAWMO and SEH reports she asked if there were recommendations or questions about the hydro output and would those be complied with if action is taken tonight to approve this. Wall yes they will have to.

Gunderson called the Public Hearing to order at 7:34 p.m. seeing no one that wished to speak, Gunderson closed the Public Hearing at 7:34 p.m.

Gunderson thanked the developer for their investment in the City.

Upon motion by Urban, seconded by Goebel, it was

#21-05-086 “RESOLVED that the Council approves the Ordinance amending the official zoning map for the property located at 3580 Arcade Street from City Center to PUD Development District, and approve a resolution for final PUD and site plan for 3580 Arcade Street, and approve a Development Agreement .”

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Consider Request for Approval to Purchase Additional Drager Brand SCBA Equipment Utilizing the Balance of the FEMA Assistance to Firefighter Grant

City Administrator Watson said that the request before the Council is for the Fire Department to spend remaining FEMA grant dollars (\$13,653.10) on additional items for the Self Contained Breathing Apparatus equipment. Watson noted that the City will need to make a 5% match to use the remainder of the grant, about \$718.58.

Upon motion by Youker, seconded by Goebel, it was

#21-05-87 “RESOLVED that the Council authorizes staff to purchase additional Drager SCBA equipment utilizing the balance of FEMA Assistance Grant and approves the City of Vадnais Heights required contribution of 5% match funding.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

The resolution was adopted.

NEW BUSINESS

COUNCIL AND STAFF REPORTS

Assistant City Administrator Sandvik noted that work is being done on the City's website as well transitioning the new rec software. Staff are working on making the website more efficient. He thanked the Girl Scouts Troup that sent a thank you card and flowers to the City. The Girl Scouts and a number of other groups have been doing some clean-up around town. He noted that the Heritage Days Committee met last Thursday and that Parks and Rec stuff is getting started, registrations are open. He also said that the Public Works Department is still looking for summer seasonal help.

City Engineer/Public Works Director Farrell noted that the water tower project is getting closer, and that most of the telecommunications equipment has been taken off and new equipment will be installed. Staff is trying to think of contingencies because the City will be operating with only one water tower during the reconstruction. They are getting advice from S.E.H. to be prepared. He said that the City will be more active on social media to ask people to conserve water because the system will be taxed and there may be pressure reductions. Farrell noted that they have two preconstruction meetings this week on the 2021 Street Improvements and Lift Station projects. He said that a lot of sanitary sewer repairs have been done and most of that has been kicked off by the generous subsidies from the Council for residents in the project area.

Planning/Community Development Director Wall noted that the May Planning Commission meeting has been cancelled because there have been no applications received. He noted that the At Home project (Reserve) is holding its groundbreaking ceremony on Thursday at 2 pm and the Council is invited.

Council Member Youker noted that some river otters, a fox and a bear have been sighted in town.

Urban noted the pandemic is wrapping up/coming to an end which historically will come down as a major event. He gave a timeline of what has happened during the pandemic.

Council Member Rogers noted that Heritage Days is a go and the Committee will try to get it as normal as possible, and that limitations on outdoor activities have been listed. He noted that they are running behind and it is coming up quickly and that June 1 is the deadline for food vendors to apply. He said that an average number of parade entries is 57 and they are doing their best to make this happen. He said that they are in need of volunteers and donations are down. So if anyone wants to volunteer or donate, please contact the City.

Mayor Gunderson said that she thinks she can see the light at the end of the tunnel and that we'll be back to our old format soon, with more staff up front and the Workshop will be held in the conference room. She thanked staff and Council Members for their flexibility during the pandemic.

City Administrator Watson noted that there will be a presentation on the American Recovery dollars, so the City will probably have to make some decisions on them. He also noted that

Metro INET has hired a search firm to search for someone to run their operations. Watson also noted that the Council will probably have a closed session at the next Workshop for a purchase agreement for the Garceau property. He noted that the Council has not officially approved cancelled the first meeting in July, he will bring that forward on the Consent Agenda at the next meeting.

City Attorney Beckman noted that they have a no order from the MN Law Judge that the DNR appeals for the water appropriation permit is possibility coming back so there is a pretrial on Thursday. Will have something on the next agenda.

Motion to adjourn by Council Member Youker at 7:57 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Approved