

**City of West St. Paul  
City Council Meeting Minutes  
March 23, 2020**

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Napier called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Present: Mayor Dave Napier  
Councilmembers Wendy Berry, Lisa Eng-Sarne,  
Anthony Fernandez, John Justen, Bob Pace and Dick Vitelli

Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Ryan Schroeder  
City Attorney Kori Land  
Police Chief Brian Sturgeon  
Finance Director Char Stark  
Parks & Public Works Director/City Engineer Ross Beckwith  
Community Development Director Jim Hartshorn  
City Clerk Shirley Buecksler

Mayor Napier stated that tonight's meeting will be conducted virtually and described the process.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Adopt the Agenda**

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Berry to adopt the agenda, as presented.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**5. OCWS Briefing**

Mayor Napier said that an Open Council Work Session was not held tonight and that future work sessions have been temporarily suspended.

**6. Citizen Comments**

- a. Julie Eastman, Ward 1, called in to test the phone line.
- b. Kelly Gibbon said she received no notification that a meeting would be held tonight.
- c. Several citizens called regarding Item 11B, First Reading of an Ordinance Repealing Section 33.03 of the West St. Paul City Code Regarding Prevailing Wage.
  - Mayor Napier said he spoke with many constituents today on the topic of prevailing wage. This item is on the Council's agenda for discussion by the City Council this evening, but public comment will not be taken at this time. If this item moves

forward, a Public Hearing will be scheduled where the Council will take public comment. The best way to contact the Mayor and Council is by calling them or sending your message in an email. Contact information is available on the City's website at <https://wspsmn.gov/494/City-Council>, scroll down and click on each individual for their contact information.

- d. James Gulley, 1045 Gorman Avenue, asked about the process to recall politicians or Councilmembers if constituents are dissatisfied.
- Mayor Napier said the City Clerk will send information to Mr. Gulley on how to contact the City Council.

## 7. Council Comments

Councilmember Eng-Sarne thanked everyone for tuning into tonight's virtual City Council meeting, submitting questions and comments and being patient with us as we carve out this new way to do business, connect with our neighbors and provide the essential services you count on us for. She also thanked Department Heads, all City Staff, as well as Marketing & Communications Manager Dan Nowicki for working tirelessly to help us navigate this difficult time. We are doing our best to ensure that you can access our meetings going forward.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne said the West St. Paul community has stepped up for one another, with donations to Neighbors, Inc., the fundraiser supporting our friends at Oxendale's who kept their shelves stocked with great kindness under pressure, hopeful messages in chalk on sidewalks and driveways, and happy hour toasts in yards at the appropriate distance.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne provided some important information for everyone:

1. Take this seriously. Refrain from group activity, wash your hands, and stay home. The faster we all comply with the guidelines, the more people we can protect.
2. Please do not flush anything down the toilet other than toilet paper, as other items are hard on our infrastructure.
3. Maintain a six to ten foot distance from other people to help slow and stop the spread of Coronavirus.

It is important that leadership at every level take this as seriously as your City officials are.

Councilmember Berry thanked everyone for calling in tonight. We are learning this new process. Councilmember Berry said this is the first time we have had a meeting like this and apologized for the lack of clarity. She thanked everyone who works hard to keep people safe in their homes, and said she can't say enough about the way our community is stepping up to help each other. Keep it up and we'll get through this together.

Mayor Napier commented on the process for tonight's meeting. Leadership is challenging in these times and we need to be creative to pull our meetings together. The process in place for items on the agenda is concrete and the way we have always done it. He explained in many communications earlier today that there wouldn't be public testimony tonight. The public is still able to watch and listen to all of our communication tonight. We will make sure that

everyone is aware of and able to access any Public Hearings. Mayor Napier thanked everyone for their patience and said that leadership is challenging with what is going on right now in our country and our city.

Mayor Napier said Neighbors, Inc. needs donations and food for the food shelf as much as ever before. There are people in need, and Neighbors does a fantastic job caring for our community.

Mayor Napier thanked our grocery workers, staff at Menards, and all of the stores in our community. They provide an essential service for all of us – thank you to all workers. He thanked everyone in the community who have supported these workers. Bars and restaurants had to close, which is a hardship for their wait staff, cooks and everyone. Mayor Napier said he has seen unbelievable support for our local restaurants and appreciates that. Our small shops are getting creative, as well, with curbside pickup at Amore Coffee, for example. Thank you to our community for helping our businesses to thrive during this difficult time.

Councilmember Justen said he hears the public’s frustration about access for tonight’s meeting. As we move forward, we need to do better about notifying the public ahead of time as to how to access the meeting. This will be a huge priority. A lot of notification will be going out for the next meeting. It’s important that the public knows we are listening to you.

Councilmember Fernandez told everyone to stay healthy and safe during this uncharted territory. This is uncharted territory and, unfortunately, this may lead to one of the biggest economic declines that we have seen in a very long time. Stay healthy.

Councilmember Vitelli said, during these times of COVID-19, we are all going to be a little bit uncomfortable. Things will be different for a while and we will have to learn to deal with that.

## **8. Proclamations, Presentations and Recognitions**

### **A. Confirming a State of Emergency**

Mayor Napier said these are unprecedented times for the city of West St. Paul, and what is important for everyone to realize is that it is real and it is serious, but we can get through this.

On Friday, March 20, 2020, Schroeder said the Mayor declared a State of Emergency, which needs to be ratified by the Council tonight. With Council ratification of that same action, the declaration will remain in effect until City Council rescinds or repeals that emergency action. The main reason to declare a State of Emergency is that it impacts the City’s ability to request funding for expenditures, staff time, and things that relate to our activities in regards to the emergency declaration. Over the past month, our activities at the staff level have been ramping up. We have never gone down a path of hosting virtual meetings, and we were still working on that today. In the future, and as easily as we can provide the opportunity to, we will focus on making sure folks can easily participate in whatever process. We have pretty much cancelled everything except Council and Planning Commission meetings. The April Planning Commission meeting will function more or less this same way as tonight. We are making plans such that we are able to operate for several months in this fashion, if necessary.

City Attorney Land said, by declaring a local State of Emergency, it gives the Mayor and City Manager flexibility to improvise, as necessary. The City Council will still need to ratify, confirm and approve things as they are done, especially if there is an expenditure of funds. In this time when there is not always enough time to get the Council together to get proper notice to everyone, declaring a State of Emergency allows the ability to do this faster, as on the fly decisions need to be made.

Motion was made by Councilmember Pace and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to affirm and adopt Resolution No. 20-033 Declaring a Local Emergency, passed by Mayor Napier on March 20, 2020.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

## **9. Consent Agenda**

Motion was made by Councilmember Eng-Sarne and seconded by Councilmember Justen to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda, as presented:

**A.** List of Claims for March 23, 2020 in the Amount of \$1,001,791.36

**B.** Police Department/City Hall Change Order #2

**C.** City Licensing, including:

- Resolution No. 20-034 Concurring with the Issuance of an Application to Conduct Off-Site Gambling, PGA Reach Minnesota Charity Events; June 12 to 14, 2020 at Southview Country Club, 239 Mendota Road East

**D.** Rental Licensing in the Amount of \$3,096.50 for:

- 124 Stanley Street East (Apartment – Renewal)
- 1033/1035 Winslow Avenue (Duplex – New Owner)
- 1049 Gorman Avenue (Duplex – Renewal)
- 1051 Seminole Avenue (Duplex – Renewal)
- 190/194 Arion Street East (Duplex – Renewal)
- 172/174 Haskell Street East (Duplex – Renewal)
- 401/403 Butler Avenue East (Duplex – Renewal)
- 1053 Sperl Street (Duplex – Renewal)
- 1000 Oakdale Avenue (Duplex – Renewal)
- 81 Orme Street East #5 (Townhome – Renewal)
- 1331 Ohio Street (Single Family – New)
- 949 Allen Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
- 991 Smith Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
- 1166 Smith Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
- 332 Bernard Street West (Single Family – Renewal)
- 482 Annapolis Street West (Single Family – Renewal)
- 1051 Ottawa Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
- 1060 Ottawa Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
- 865 Bidwell Street (Single Family – Renewal)
- 192 Bernard Street East (Single Family – Renewal)

- E. Final Payment for the Forcemain 1 Replacement Project CP 18-6 in the amount of \$85,295.94 to Minger Construction Company, Inc.
- F. Minnesota State Aid Traffic Count Contract awarded to WSB & Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$4,655.00
- G. Resolution No. 20-035 Authorizing the Submission of an Application for a Federal Transportation Alternatives (TAP) Grant
- H. Receipt of Housing Rehab Loan Servicing Documents
- I. Thompson/Oakdale Bike and Pedestrian Feasibility Report Update

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

## **10. Public Hearings**

### **A. Conditional Use Permit, Site Plan, and Rezoning Applications for the Construction of a 54-Unit Apartment Building at 895 Robert Street – Dakota County Community Development Authority (CDA)**

Mayor Napier opened the Public Hearing at 7:43 p.m.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Mayor Napier closed the Public Hearing at 7:44 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Fernandez to:

- 1) Adopt Resolution No. 20-036 Approving a Site Plan for the Construction of a 54-Unit Apartment Building at 895 Robert Street – Dakota County Community Development Authority (CDA)
- 2) Adopt Resolution No. 20-037 Approving a Conditional Use Permit to Allow a R4 Residential Dwelling in the B5 – Gateway North Mixed Use District at 895 Robert Street – Dakota County Community Development Authority (CDA)
- 3) Approve the first reading and call for a second reading of an Ordinance Rezoning 895 Robert Street from B5 – Gateway North Mixed Use, to PRD, Planning Residential Development with B5 – Gateway North Mixed Use Underlying Zoning

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

### **B. Conditional Use Permit, Site Plan, and Preliminary Plat Applications for the Expansion of an Existing Building at 110 Crusader Avenue – Net Ministries**

Mayor Napier opened the Public Hearing at 7:53 p.m.

The following people addressed the Council:

- John Bellows, 1925 Bidwell
- Mark Berchem, President of Net Ministries
- Dennis Batty, Architect for Net Ministries

Mayor Napier closed the Public Hearing at 8:09 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Pace to:

- 1) Adopt Resolution No. 20-038 Approving a Site plan for the Expansion of an Existing Building at 110 Crusader Avenue – Net Ministries
- 2) Adopt Resolution No. 20-039 Approving a Conditional Use Permit to Allow On-Site Housing for an Educational Facility Operating in Conjunction with a Permitted Principal Use in the R4 – Multiple Family Zoning District at 110 Crusader Avenue – Net Ministries
- 3) Adopt Resolution No. 20-040 Approving the Preliminary Plat for 110 Crusader Avenue – Net Ministries

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**C. Final Reading of Ordinance No. 20-003 Vacating Easements Along Robert Street**

Mayor Napier opened the Public Hearing at 8:11 p.m.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Mayor Napier closed the Public Hearing at 8:12 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to approve Ordinance No. 20-003 An Ordinance Vacating Easements Located Within the City of West St. Paul, Minnesota.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**D. Final Reading of Ordinance No. 20-004 Amendment Regarding Body Art**

Mayor Napier opened the Public Hearing at 8:14 p.m.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Mayor Napier closed the Public Hearing at 8:15 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Fernandez and seconded by Councilmember Justen to approve Ordinance No. 20-004 An Ordinance Amending Section 111.06 of the West St. Paul City Code Regarding Exception to Body Art Establishment Ordinance for Cosmetic Tattooing.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**E. Final Reading of Ordinance No. 20-005 Amendment Regarding Pawn Shop and Precious Metal Dealers**

Mayor Napier opened the Public Hearing at 8:18 p.m.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Mayor Napier closed the Public Hearing at 8:19 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Fernandez to approve Ordinance No. 20-005 An Ordinance Amending Section 111.07 of the West St. Paul City Code Regarding an Automated Pawn System for Pawnbrokers and Precious Metal Dealers.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

## **11. New Business**

### **A. Plat Amendment for 150 Thompson Avenue East and 1510 Robert Street – Hy-Vee, Inc.**

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Fernandez to adopt Resolution No. 20-041 Approving the Plat Amendment for the Properties Located at 150 Thompson Avenue East and 1510 Robert Street – Hy-Vee, Inc.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

### **B. First Reading of an Ordinance Repealing Section 33.03 of the West St. Paul City Code Regarding Prevailing Wage**

At the their March 9, 2020 OCWS, Council discussed the prevailing wage ordinance. Schroeder said the net result of the discussion was that Staff was directed to bring forward to this meeting a repeal of the existing ordinance, which relates to prevailing wages on private development projects and to include in its stead a policy or ordinance or provision that provides for prevailing wage on publicly owned projects. Part of the discussion that went into that was that, within Dakota County, there are only two prevailing wage policies of which we are aware. One is that of Dakota County and the other is the City of Hastings. Both of those policies address only publicly owned projects and, as far as we know, there aren't any other prevailing wage policies that exist in the county or that relate to private development projects.

Schroeder said he tried to figure out how many people this current ordinance actually affects. We don't have data specific enough to make statements as to how big the impact is with absolute certainty. However, looking at publicly available data, which includes Metropolitan Council data and data from our comprehensive plan, Staff suggested in the Council's packet that the prevailing wage provision of the current ordinance could be relatively slight, as it relates to wage impact for people that might be in the construction industry and also reside in the community. The reason we made that statement is because, according to Metropolitan Council data, there is information on where West St. Paul residents work. According to their data, there are about 700 people in their data set that live in West St. Paul and also work in West St. Paul. Looking at commuting data, what was found from various sources was that the typical commuting distance for a West St. Paul resident was beyond 20 minutes. The average was 21-23 minutes. 90% of West St. Paul residents commute 10 minutes or greater to their work location, which suggests that most West St. Paul residents work elsewhere within the metro area. Also, information provided in the Council's packet is some data from the comprehensive plan that related to where people work and in what occupations. There are two tables in the comprehensive plan. The first talks about the industries in which the civilian population in West St. Paul works. In total, there are 9,177 positions, of which 333 are in the construction industry. The table below that (Table 3-5) suggests that, for jobs actually located in West St. Paul but perhaps filled by persons outside of West St. Paul, there are 7,927 within the community, with 180 of those are in the construction industry. In trying to ascertain whether the current ordinance had a significant impact or something less than that, this is the data we had available to us.

The second piece worth speaking to is what the cost impacts might be, relative to the development project that brought this issue forward. That project is the Dominion affordable housing project that has been proposed on the Signal Hills development site where the Kmart facility currently is. That project has been discussed as a \$100M development project but a lot of that is soft cost (i.e., legal, financing costs, etc.), and so the actual construction portion of that cost has been represented in the pro forma at about \$56M in construction costs. That is relevant because the developer, Dominion (who has proposed the project), had represented at a prior Council meeting that, if they had to comply with the current prevailing wage ordinance, there would be a 25% cost increase to the project. That statement, at face value, would be fairly significant in project costs.

For the City, it's an issue of subsidy and that the developer mentioned that, if the requirement continued, there would be a larger subsidy request than Council had already suggested would be reasonable. Right now, Council had directed Staff to work towards a development with 13 ½ years of tax increment assistance, and the developer had proposed about 25 years.

Councilmember Justen said he feels the argument that casts affordable housing in opposition to prevailing wage is invalid. The numeric argument in the Council report stating the objection that this would impact less than a dozen residents is deeply flawed and incorrect. For specifics on that, he suggested Council look at the email received from the Laborers International Union of North America that spells out those very problematic, mathematic acrobatics in very plain terms. The contacts he has received from the public have been many universally opposed to this ordinance being repealed. Repeating what he said at a previous OCWS, Councilmember Justen said his opinion is that we are changing an ordinance mid-stream to make a project work by subsidizing a landowner charging over-market rate, which is what we stated the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is for, is the land differential. By allowing them to not pay a prevailing wage and a fair wage to workers is an unacceptable move by the Council. Since it is hard to do business as usual via web, Councilmember Justen said his inclination is to move to deny the repealing of this ordinance. However, he wanted everyone to have a chance to speak on this first, but said his intention is to move forward with a motion to not repeal this ordinance at this point.

Councilmember Berry agreed with Councilmember Justen. We have heard an overwhelming amount of support denying the repeal. No one has said to get rid of it for this project. We have had some discussion about what projects in the past where we had forgotten to apply the prevailing wage ordinance to and, on Friday, she said we received new data that showed there was only one that was just a few thousand above that amount. It doesn't matter if it impacts just one resident or every resident of West St. Paul, it's the right thing to do to keep this in place.

Councilmember Vitelli said, as much as he wants to see Signal Hills get redone, he concurred that the prevailing wage ordinance is there and we shouldn't come to a snap conclusion to remove it to put their project in. Councilmember Vitelli said he believes that Dominion has done jobs with prevailing wage in the past in the metropolitan area, so he knows they are capable. He saw today in the City Manager's memo that The Winslow paid prevailing wage. It can be done and it is not 25% in labor cost. He said we can go forward with this vote tonight or we can have more discussion on it. At this point, he said he will support continuation of the prevailing wage.



Councilmember Fernandez said he knows that he deeply wants something to happen at Signal Hills. We are serving a great purpose by doing this, and those units are already in high demand. He stated that Councilmember Vitelli is an expert in the area, so he would lean on what he said and not support removing the prevailing wage. Councilmember Fernandez said his fear is to have this project come to a halt, and said there shouldn't be a fight between fair wages and affordable housing. Given what we are facing and what potentially the owners of Signal Hills are going to be facing, perhaps they can shift gears. They may be taking a pretty deep discount on things, as well, he said.

Councilmember Pace asked the City Manager for his opinion, since it's pretty obvious this isn't going to be repealed. Councilmember Pace said he has a serious issue with any government telling a private developer what they can and cannot do. Is there a way we can somehow save this project with this prevailing wage in place? It's tough right now but it would really be a hit if this went away. Not only for Dominion but for the purchase agreements signed by Signal Hills.

Schroeder said he talked with an individual from the building trades today and it was his observation that, with some additional discussion with the developer, there could be a meeting of the minds on the topic. Secondly, some time ago, we had suggested to the developer that the land cost for that project was beyond what we thought they should be paying and we asked them to discuss with the property owner and give that some thought. The seller and the buyer both came back and stated that they were comfortable that the land price was at a fair level. But if this ordinance is, in fact, a cost impact to the developer, then perhaps this is something they could take another look at.

Schroeder said he had intended to reference, just for the record, that we have received three formal communications. One from the Executive Director of Fair Contracting Foundation of Minnesota, the second from the Director of Government Affairs for the Carpenter's Union, and the third from the Marketing Manager of the Laborer's International Union of North America. Council received each of those, as well.

In response to Councilmember Pace's question, Schroeder said we would go back to Dominion and look for ways to keep the project in play.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne said she is so glad to hear Schroeder's comments that Dominion is still interested and want to talk about this, which means to her that we have no business repealing an ordinance if they are still willing to sit at the table to talk about this. If there is something else we can do to make it work, she said she appreciates that. The overwhelming response from her constituents was to please do not repeal this ordinance in order to make this development work. Additionally, for those labor unions mentioned, she said she received a lot of conflicting information from previous memos. To her, it does not seem like the time to repeal this ordinance.

Councilmember Vitelli said he has lived his whole life in this community and that he cannot drive more than three blocks in West St. Paul without pointing to a house that is the home of a building trades person who has made the prevailing wage over the years. Typically, it is a union contractor or union house. Reflecting on his 40 year career as an electrician and on his great benefits, pension, health care and the ability for him to retire, Councilmember Vitelli said it is necessary for us to keep this going. In order to do that, we need to be in

support of our prevailing wage ordinance. He said he has a good feeling that Dominion will still do the project after some discussion.

As the Mayor of a city of 20,000 people, Mayor Napier said it's called doing due diligence to look into this deep and research it. He has talked to union representatives and responded to 30 emails today, with many before that, and has talked to a lot of passionate people. He said he is a little taken aback by some of the accusations with the very first correspondence, which was extremely disturbing. People are obviously very passionate about this. He said he believes in unions and the prevailing wage. As he dug into it, what the intent was when it started in 1931, and the purpose to keep wages where they should be and take care of employees, I think it's a great thing. I do want to talk about what goes into this decision today. We are fools if we don't look at the complete picture, which is property value right now at Signal Hills that is worth \$3.6M and generates about \$19K in tax revenue to the City and residents of West St. Paul. The proposed project is \$46M in property value which will ultimately bring in \$285K annually in tax revenue to the taxpayers of our city. For us not to look at that and include it in this process, would be shortsighted. My role was to look at everything and what is best for the City of West St. Paul. To go back and clarify that this Council and previous Councils have not moved forward and have not upheld this ordinance on any projects, previously we identified nine projects but there were zero. We have not ignored this ordinance. I received some nasty emails regarding that. I, too, will support this with the prevailing wage. It is important. I have heard enough testimony from people in the unions and dealing with prevailing wage, and what some contractors have done out there to shortcut quality work to the detriment of union labor that work hard. One person was passionate about their stance on this. I will say that this ordinance was developed in 2007. We are pulling it out and looking at it in depth right now. It's okay for a Council to pull out an ordinance and look it over for two weeks. That's what local government is supposed to do and we will come out of this stronger. The next project that comes up, we will be talking about this ordinance that we did not pay attention to. For someone out there asking why we are talking about this at this meeting, I think that's short sided. We owe it to the community to pull these out, have these meetings and talk about them. Some of the emails I received were passionate. I'm passionate about this, about this process and our Council sitting around the table talking about these ordinances. I think we're doing our job, he said.

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Fernandez to deny the repeal of Section 33.03 of the West St. Paul City Code Regarding Prevailing Wage.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

## **12. Old Business**

There was no old business to discuss.

## **13. Adjourn**

Mayor Napier thanked everyone for their patience tonight. We have a crisis in our city, he said. Please take it serious. Residents have asked why kids are playing in the park. Mayor Napier said this is the parents' responsibility to tell their children to play outside, play with

some spacing, take a bike ride, go for a walk, but we don't need to see large groups hanging out in the city. This is not what this is about. This is serious and the parents need to take it serious. I'm not going to have our Police force out there policing social distancing. It is up to the parents to take it serious and act now. The quicker we act, the less time this whole thing will take. We owe it as community members, our parents, and our seniors who are vulnerable. It doesn't take much for a young grandchild playing in the field to get the virus and bring it to their grandparents. Let's take it serious. I get emails asking why we are allowing kids to play in the park. It's the responsibility of the whole city, not the responsibility of law enforcement. They will go out and say something but that's not what we want our Police Officers doing. Please take it serious and know that we're going to get through this. We need to unite as a community, as a Council, and know that we are doing the best we can to keep our residents safe. While we can, please support our local businesses. I don't like to eat out five days a week but I have been because I think it's important to support our businesses so that they can support their employees and not lay them off. The federal government and the state is going to help those businesses but we can come together as a community and support them now. I ask everyone to do that while we can. I really want you to pay attention to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Minnesota Health Department. Please call if you have any questions or concerns, follow us on Twitter and Facebook. We rely on our Marketing & Communications Manager to get information out to the community. Call City Hall if you have a question and we will steer you in the right direction. We want to get our questions answered so you can be safe.

To end on a positive note, Councilmember Eng-Sarne shared that a highlight of her week. From her new workspace in her dining room, she can see outside and watch people walking their dogs. She recently saw a Public Works truck pull up to the corner to clean out the storm drains with a hockey stick. If you want to give the kids something to do, send them out with a hockey stick to clear storm drains. She said she plans to clean those in front of her house, as well as move the leaves. This will help our infrastructure run more smoothly. Continue to go for walks, please stay off the playground equipment, distance from each other, and stay home and watch your neighbors walk by.

Councilmember Vitelli said many of you know Steve Lufkin. His wife, Stacy, put a wonderful thing on Facebook this week. We all think we're going to be inconvenienced by not going out for dinner. Steve suffers from ALS and is in a wheelchair with a breathing machine. If you start feeling bad about yourself, think about Steve. Things will get better.

Mayor Napier thanked Staff for being here tonight, for our IT Department, Marketing & Communications Manager Dan Nowicki, and Town Square Television for making tonight's meeting happen. This is the new norm for a short time here. Let's pull together as a community because there is nothing like West St. Paul. We can do this.

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Berry to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 p.m.

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Napier". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "N".

David J. Napier  
Mayor  
City of West St. Paul