

# Medina Message

A Quarterly Newsletter of the City of Medina

www.ci.medina.mn.us

Spring 2004

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2052 County Road 24, Medina MN 55340



www.ci.medina.mn.us

### City Hall Office Hours

Mon-Fri 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### Telephone Numbers

City Hall.....763-473-4643  
 Fax.....763-473-9359  
 Police emergency.....911  
 non-emergency .... 763-473-9209

### Official Newspaper

South Crow River News  
 33 2nd Street NE , Box 280  
 Osseo, MN 55369  
 Telephone Number: 763-425-3323

### Mayor

Phil Zietlow.....763-473-5263

### City Council

Jim Lane.....763-473-3302  
 Carolyn Smith.....612-558-1556  
 Randy Brinkman...763-478-3242  
 Bruce Workman ...763-478-8806

### City Administrator

Chad M. Adams....763-473-4643

### City Council Meetings

First & third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

### Planning Commission

Elizabeth Weir, Chair  
 Marilyn Fortin  
 Ron Johnson  
 Leonard Leuer  
 William Loe  
 Dick Picard  
 Mary A. Verbick

### Planning Commission Meetings

Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

### Park Commission

Randy Hughes, Chair  
 Galen Bruer  
 Gerald Dykoff  
 Tom Gregor  
 Brad Kvanbek  
 Robin Reid  
 Theresa Richey

### Park Commission Meetings

Third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

## City of Medina Requests Your Participation

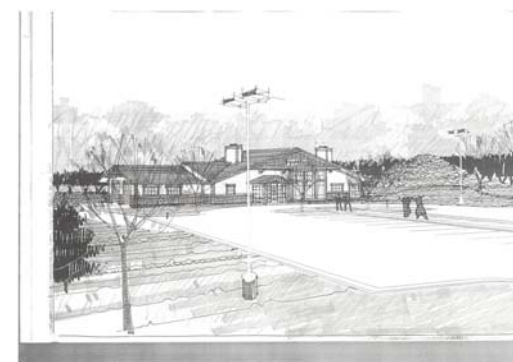
The City of Medina is seeking your involvement in an upcoming Open House, on Saturday, April 17th, regarding the urban commercial development in Uptown Hamel and along the Highway 55 corridor, north and west of the Hwy. 55/County 101 intersection. More details are provided in the special insert inside this newsletter.

Two public informational meetings are also scheduled for Thursday, April 29th (evening) and Tuesday, May 4th (noon) to discuss water treatment improvements and options with users of the Hamel Water System. Additional details may be found on page 3 of this newsletter.

## Hamel Community Building

The City Council recently authorized the advertisement of bids for the Hamel Community Building project, proposed to be located in Hamel Legion Park. Bid openings occurred on Tuesday, March 30th. The City Council will discuss the bids and project budget at their regular Council meeting on April 6th, and possibly future meetings.

The proposed building includes an assembly area, service area, indoor and outdoor restrooms, a warming house, storage space and office space. If the project is approved in coming weeks, construction would begin this spring with a targeted completion date in the fall 2004.



Architect's rendering of the building and site

An outdoor shelter and patio are also included in the project plans, as are additional paved parking, which will serve the building and Hamel Legion Park.

Progress on the Hamel Community Building will be updated on the City's website.

## \$7000 Grant Received for "Best Management Practices for Horses" Project

The City and Medina Horse Association have been awarded a \$7000 grant through the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Cynthia Krieg Memorial Stewardship Fund to inform and educate horse owners, community leaders, and the general public about best management practices for rearing and maintaining horses.

The City partnered with the Medina Horse Association for the grant funds and will be coordinating educational events and opportunities throughout the next year. In addition to the \$7000 grant, the City matched \$3000 for the project. Future information on upcoming meetings and materials will be available on the City's website.

## Upcoming Events and Activities

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>1st</b> Thurs—Recycling Day</li> <li>▶ <b>6th</b> Tues—City Council Meeting 7:30 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>7th</b> Wed—City Council, Local Board of Appeals 6:30 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>13th</b> Tues—Planning Commission 7:00 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>15th</b> Thurs—Recycling Day</li> <li>▶ <b>17th</b> Sat—Development Open House 10:00 am (at Medina Entertainment Center)</li> <li>▶ <b>20th</b> Tues—City Council Meeting 7:30 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>21st</b> Wed—Park Commission Meeting 7:00 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>24th</b> Sat—Cleanup Day 8:00 am—2:00 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>29th</b> Thurs—Hamel Water Treatment System, Neighborhood Meeting, 7:00 p.m. at Rolling Green Country Club</li> <li>▶ <b>29th</b> Thurs—Recycling Day</li> </ul> | April |
|---|-------|

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>4th</b> Tues—Hamel Water Treatment System, Neighborhood Meeting, Noon at Rolling Green Country Club</li> <li>▶ <b>4th</b> Tues—City Council meeting 7:30 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>11th</b> Tues—Planning Commission 7:00 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>13th</b> Thurs—Recycling Day</li> <li>▶ <b>18th</b> Tues—City Council Meeting 7:30 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>19th</b> Wed—Park Commission Meeting 7:00 pm</li> </ul> | May |
|---|-----|

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>1st</b> Tue—City Council Meeting 7:30 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>8th</b> Tue—Planning Commission 7:00 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>10th</b> Thurs—Recycling Day</li> <li>▶ <b>15th</b> Tue—City Council Meeting 7:30 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>16th</b> Wed—Park Commission Meeting 7:00 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>17th</b> Thurs—Annual Cabin Social 6:30 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>24th</b> Thurs—Recycling Day</li> </ul> | June |
|---|------|

- ▶ All meetings at City Hall unless otherwise noted.
- ▶ Meeting agendas on web site when available.

# Parks and Planning News

## 2004 Cabin Social

The Annual 2004 Cabin Social is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, June 17th at the City Hall complex, beginning at 6:30 p.m. City staff is currently making arrangements for educational displays and entertainment for the event.

One main attraction of the event, the fireworks, will presently be absent during this year's Cabin Social due to an unavailability of funds. The City has relied on donations in the past to fund the fireworks display. The cost of the fireworks typically cost about \$4000 each year.

If anyone is interested in leading a volunteer effort to raise funds for this year's fireworks (or future), please contact City Administrator Chad Adams, 473-4643, at City Hall.



## City Applies for DNR Local Trail Connections Grant

In February, the City applied for a DNR Trail grant for Sioux Drive, which would connect the partially completed trail on Sioux Drive to Hamel Road and Hamel Legion Park.

The total cost of the trail connection is about \$137,000. The amount of grant funds requested was \$68,500. The City intends to match the \$68,500 through accrued park dedication fee funds.

Uses to be directly benefited from the proposed project include walking/hiking, bicycling, in-line skating, and running. The trail will also connect to the recently constructed trail along County Highway 101, which was completed in summer 2003.

Notification of grant recipients will likely occur this summer. Trail construction would occur in 2005.

## Planning Commission Update

**Membership**—The City Council recently decided to re-appoint Marilyn Fortin and Mary Verbick to three-year Planning Commission terms. The two appointments brings the total number of members to seven. Other Planning Commission members include Elizabeth Weir (chair), Dick Picard, Bill Loe, Lenny Leuer and Ron Johnson. A special thanks to Sharon Johnson and Jerry Brost for their years of service to the Planning Commission!

**April 13th Meeting**—The recent agenda for the upcoming meeting includes:

- ▶ A front-yard variance request for garage addition at 3055 Lakeshore Avenue.
- ▶ Re-zoning from Rural Residential to Suburban Residential and Subdivision at 1255 Willow Drive.
- ▶ Uptown Hamel Zoning Ordinance Amendments
- ▶ Review of CSAH 29/Hwy. 12 Intersection Concept Plan

All Planning Commission meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at City Hall. Meetings start at 7:00 p.m.

## City Appoints New City Planner

The City of Medina is pleased to announce the appointment of Joshua Doty to the position of full-time City Planner. Josh started his duties at City Office on Monday, March 22nd. He previously worked for the City of Plymouth for nearly four years as an Associate Planner.

Josh's primary responsibilities will include review of all planning and development plans, implementation of City zoning and subdivision regulations as well as the Comprehensive Plan, managing the city-wide Geographic Information System (GIS) and code enforcement. He will also provide staff support to the Planning Commission and Park Commission.

Josh's appointment replaces the part-time position of Loren Kohlen, who served as the City's Planning and Zoning Administrator since 1989. You may contact Josh in his office located in City Hall at 763-473-4643, or by e-mail: [josh.doty@ci.medina.mn.us](mailto:josh.doty@ci.medina.mn.us)

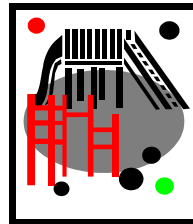
## Park Commission Progress

The Medina Park Commission has been reviewing park usage and is currently proposing a policy to the Medina City Council regarding reservations of Medina's park facilities. Fees are being proposed for reserving ball fields and picnic shelters.

In other business, the Commission will be considering options for new playground equipment in Lakeshore Park, located in Independence Beach. A new boat ramp adjacent to Lakeshore Park, which provides access to Lake Independence, is also being reviewed. Both improvements are in the City's 2004 Capital Improvement Budget.

The Commission will also be taking it's annual tour of the parks on Wednesday, May 19th and will create an inventory of all equipment, along with creating a list of needed improvements for a long-term capital improvement plan.

At their January meeting, the Commission also appointed Randy Hughes to serve as the chair of the Commission. Galen Bruer will serve as vice-chair and Robin Reid as secretary. Other members of the Park Commission include Theresa Richey, Gerald Dykhoff, Brad Kvanbek and Tom Gregor.



# General Information

## Recycling—General Information

**General Information** on Recycling in the City of Medina is available at City Hall, or by linking to [www.ci.medina.mn.us](http://www.ci.medina.mn.us) or through E-Z Recycling at [www.e-zrecycling.com](http://www.e-zrecycling.com). The phone number for E-Z Recycling is 651-644-6577.

## Household Battery Recycling Update

A depleted battery that is ready to be discarded may still contain a residual charge. Certain precautions must be taken to prevent batteries from short-circuiting. Please package batteries using the following guidelines:

- ▶ Place each battery into an individual plastic bag. This will prevent contact between terminals or other metal surfaces during storage and transport.
- ▶ Or, place non-conductive electrical tape over the battery terminals.

Medina City Hall collects household batteries, as well as most Hennepin County Libraries.



## Long Lake Firefighters Hosting “All You Can Eat” Breakfast at New Fire Station

**Sunday, April 18, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

The general public is invited to visit the new Long Lake Fire Station located at 340 Willow Drive during the annual breakfast feast!

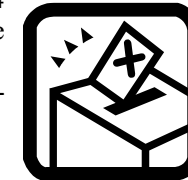
Join the firefighters for an “All You Can Eat” Pancake and French Toast Breakfast on Sunday, April 18, 2004 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children ages 3 to 13, and free to children age 2 and under. For more information, call the Fire Station at (952) 473-9701.



## Interested in Serving as an Election Judge?

The City is seeking election judges for the 2004 State Primary on Tuesday, September 14 and for the 2004 General Election on Tuesday, November 2. Election judges help guarantee that the rights of voters are protected on election day. Judges will be paid for training and for hours served on election day. Contact Sandie Larson, 763-473-4643 at City Hall if you are interested.



## City Cleanup Day—Saturday, April 24th

The City's Annual Cleanup Day will be held on Saturday, April 24th from 8 am—2 pm behind the City Hall Complex.

More details and information will be mailed to all residents in coming weeks, and will be available on the City's website.

## Free Compost, Dirt Cheap Spring Compost Bin Events

Hennepin County and the Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board will be sponsoring two compost bin distribution events in April.

Approximately 15,000 Green Guardian Home Composting Kits will be distributed throughout the Twin Cities metro area on a first-come, first-serve basis. The cost of the kit, which includes a bin, a food scrap bucket, and an instruction book, is only \$30. This kit has a retail value of more than \$80! These events will be the only time this year residents can get a bin at this low price.



Backyard composting is an easy way for residents to turn much of the waste from their yards and kitchens into a rich material that can be used to improve the soil. Using finished compost on lawns and gardens will provide an organic fertilizer, suppress weeds, and hold moisture in the soil.

The compost bin features a 13-cubic-foot capacity, a sturdy, easy-to-open lid, two harvesting doors, and is made with recycled plastic. The kitchen scrap bucket holds two gallons.

There is a limit of one kit per household. Residents must reserve a kit, and then pick up and pay for it at one of the following Hennepin County events:

- ▶ Minnetonka—Minnetonka City Hall parking lot, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd., Saturday, April 10, 10 a.m.—2 p.m.
- ▶ Minneapolis—Anne Sullivan Communication center parking lot, 3100 East 28th St., Saturday, April 24, 10 a.m. -2 p.m.
- ▶ Or, residents can choose from nine other locations in other metro counties.

In addition, Hennepin County Extension Service Master Gardners will be on hand during the distribution events to answer questions from residents about composting.

County residents should reserve their kits online at [www.GreenGuardian.com](http://www.GreenGuardian.com) or call 651-292-3933. General questions about the distribution events or seminars can be directed to Environmental Services at 612-348-9266.

Source: Hennepin County Environmental Services

## Salvation Army Collection

**Saturday, May 1st, 9 am—1 pm ONLY**  
**Orono Intermediate School Parking Lot**

Contact the Salvation Army collection notice phone number at (952) 476-0012 if you have any questions.

# 2004 Budget/Public Safety

## 2004 Budget

The purpose of the following report is to provide a summary of 2004 budget information for the City of Medina citizens. This budget is not complete. The complete budget may be examined at the Medina City Hall, 2052 County Road 24. The City Council approved this budget on December 16, 2003.

<b>Governmental Funds 2003 and 2004</b>		
	<b>2003 Budget</b>	<b>2004 Budget</b>
<b>Revenues</b>		
Property Taxes	\$1,450,647	\$1,472,054
Tax Increments	\$ 68,000	-
Special Assessments	\$ 348,500	\$ 369,450
Licenses & Permits	\$ 302,450	\$ 256,350
<b>Intergovernmental Revenues</b>		
Federal	-	-
State	\$ 64,724	\$ 65,500
County	\$ 21,200	\$ 19,410
Charges for Services	\$ 387,750	\$ 365,400
Fines and Forfeits	\$ 103,000	\$ 100,500
Interest on Investments	\$ 123,250	\$ 96,820
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$ 86,000	\$ 45,102
Transfers from Other Funds	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$2,955,521</b>	<b>\$2,790,586</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
General Government	\$ 665,500	\$ 660,510
Public Safety	\$1,179,607	\$1,212,600
Streets & Highways	\$ 441,065	\$ 451,177
Sanitation	\$ 37,500	\$ 41,660
Culture & Recreation	\$ 97,755	\$ 84,519
Miscellaneous Expenditures	\$ 113,875	\$ 60,500
Debt Service Principal	\$ 185,000	\$ 165,000
Interest & Fiscal Charges	\$ 32,835	\$ 24,016
Capital Outlay	\$ 548,960	\$2,366,300
Transfers to Other Funds	\$ 4,000	-
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$3,306,097</b>	<b>\$5,066,282</b>
<b>Increase (decrease) in fund balance</b>	<b>\$ (350,576)</b>	<b>\$(2,275,696)</b>

## I Promise Program

### Teen Safe Driving Initiative

The "I Promise Program" - a teen safe driving initiative, is pleased to announce a significant change. Whereas there was a cost of \$49.00 to participate, the program is now available at no cost.

Parents and youth can now go to the website [www.ipromiseprogram.com](http://www.ipromiseprogram.com) and download the Parent-Youth Safe Driving Contract and Rear Window Sign after filling in a few fields for statistical purposes. Further, parents and youth can choose to use both or either of the program components.

The goal with respect to teen driver safety is to reduce the risk of teen driver car crashes, injuries and deaths.

## New Officer Joins Police Department

The City is pleased to welcome the newest addition, Officer Keith Converse, to the Medina Police Department. Officer Converse joined the Medina Police Department in December 2003 and came to the City from the Sherburne County Sheriff's Office where he had been working as a licensed transport deputy.

Officer Converse is also a local resident living within the City and has worked with the Loretto Towing Company for several years before pursuing his law enforcement career. He recently passed the field training program and was sworn in at the March 2, 2003 Medina City Council Meeting. Keith is a great addition to our staff!



## Long Lake Fire Department Hosts Family Community Education May 8th, 10 am-Noon

The Long Lake Fire Department is hosting a Family Community Education event on Saturday, May 8th, from 10:00 a.m. to Noon at the Fire Station, 340 Willow Drive, in Long Lake.

State Fire Marshal Bill Meyers will discuss fire escape plans, hazardous materials in the home, fire safety tips, fire extinguishers, smoke detectors and fire sprinklers. Citizens will also learn how to use fire extinguishers and crawl through a partial house with artificial smoke.

Donuts, coffee and juice will be available. Please RSVP your attendance to Greg VanBuren at 952/473-9701. Please come and make our community more safe!

# Public Works News

## Hamel Water System Treatment

The City of Medina encourages Hamel Water System user participation in one of two public informational meetings regarding improvements to the quality of water for the Hamel Water System. The first meeting will be held on **Thursday, April 29th, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Rolling Green Country Club, 400 Evergreen Road, in Medina. The second meeting is on **Tuesday, May 4th, at Noon** at the Rolling Green Country Club. Both meetings will cover the same information and are open for the general public to attend.



### Q: Why does the existing water quality in the Hamel Water System need to be improved?

A: Two of the three wells that serve the Hamel Water System exceed the maximum contaminant level for Gross Alpha and Radium 226 and 228. The Minnesota Department of Health routinely samples the water for any contaminants or health risks, and has determined the exceeded levels of Gross Alpha and Radium. These contaminants are naturally occurring and are found in groundwater throughout central & southern Minnesota.

### Q: Why should I attend the meetings?

A: The City needs your public input in deciding how to treat the Gross Alpha and Radium 226 and 228. Different treatment options, as well as related costs to water users, will be discussed at the meetings.

### Q: Am I able to remove the contaminants from my water?

A: Yes, a home water softener can remove these contaminants, but under the federal Safe Water Drinking Act, the supplier (City of Medina) must deliver water to a resident contaminant free.

### Q: When do the improvements in water need to occur?

A: By federal requirement, the City must reduce the levels of Gross Alpha and Radium 226 and 228 below required standards by June 2006.

### Q: Are there any other problems with the water?

A: There are not other health risk contaminants in the water, however, as most people are aware, there is a high iron content that causes staining of fixtures and red water.

### Q: Has the City tested or considered solutions for water treatment?

A: Last summer 2003, the City ran a test on radium removal through pressure filters. The filters removed the radium, but iron was not removed and plugged the filters. To also remove the iron, a water treatment plant could be constructed to remove the gross alpha, radium and iron.

### Q: Will more information become available on the treatment options?

A: Handouts will be made available at the public meetings. Additional information, along with the handouts, will be posted on the City's website following the public meetings. The City Council will also be discussing the treatment options in coming months, following public feedback from the meetings.

### Q: Who should I contact at City Hall for more information?

A: Jim Dillman, Public Works Director, 763-473-4643.

## Elm Creek Interceptor Project Portion of Hamel Road To Be Closed

In coming weeks, construction will resume on the Elm Creek Interceptor project in the Hamel area. The interceptor being constructed is essentially a large pipe that will carry the waste water from the Hamel area to a Metropolitan Council waste water treatment plant.

The interceptor will also replace an existing waste water pump station and force main, and is designed to provide waste water capacity to Medina beyond the year 2020.

This summer, the pipe will be extended along the south side of Highway 55, west of Sioux Drive for about 2000 feet, and will then cross Hamel Road. The pipe will actually be placed down the center-line of Hamel Road from Hunter Drive to Tower Drive.

During the Hamel Road construction, the road will be closed to through traffic. The road closing could begin as early as May 1 and may extend through late summer. At the present time, the Hunter Dr./Hamel Rd. intersection is planned to remain open.

The interceptor project is being constructed by Met Council contract. The cost of the project is funded through charges collected from residential and commercial properties across the entire metro area.

More information on the Metropolitan Council and project may be found on their website at [www.metrocouncil.org/environment/Interceptors](http://www.metrocouncil.org/environment/Interceptors)

## Wetland Creation Program

The City of Medina is pleased to promote a program to assist property owners in creating a new wetland or improving existing wetlands. Private land owners may have an opportunity to create a new wetland and then sell the wetland credit to a developer.

An important targeted best management practice of the City's storm water treatment is wetlands. While there are many high quality wetlands in the City, many wetlands are degraded due to erosion of soils and previous draining. Often times, wetlands can be improved or new ones created.

Three separate watersheds incur the City's storm water drainage, and very little water actually enters into Medina from surrounding cities. The City encourages land owners to take responsibility to make certain that the storm water leaving Medina is as clean as possible.

Please contact Jim Dillman, Public Works Director, 763-473-4643, to learn more about this program. Staff resources may need to be limited due to the possible level of interest in the program.

