

Medina Message

A Quarterly Newsletter of the City of Medina

www.ci.medina.mn.us

Summer 2005

Upcoming Events and Activities

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| August | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 9th Tues—Planning Commission 7:00 pm ▶ 16th Tues—City Council Meeting 7:00 pm ▶ 17th Wed—Park Commission meeting (cancelled) ▶ 18th Thurs—Recycling Day |
|---------------|--|

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| September | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 1st Thurs—Recycling Day ▶ 5th Mon—Labor Day—City Offices Closed ▶ 6th Tues—City Council 7:00 p.m. ▶ 13th Tues—Planning Commission 7:00 pm ▶ 15th Thurs—Recycling Day ▶ 20th Tues—City Council Meeting 7:00 pm (@ Community Building) ▶ 21st Wed—Park Commission Meeting 7:00 pm (@ Community Building) ▶ 24th Sat—Medina Preservation Day 4:00 pm ▶ 29th Thurs—Recycling Day |
|------------------|---|

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| October | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 4th Tue—City Council Meeting 7:00 pm (@ Community Building) ▶ 10th Mon—Columbus Day—City Offices Closed ▶ 11th Tue—Planning Commission 7:00 pm (@ Community Building) ▶ 13th Thurs—Recycling Day ▶ 18th Tue—City Council Meeting 7:00 pm (@ Community Building) ▶ 19th Wed—Park Commission Meeting 7:00 pm (@ Community Building) ▶ 20th Thurs—Retirement Party/Open House for Planning/Zoning & Public Works Asst. Sandie Larson—3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. (@ Community Building) ▶ 25th Tues—Joint Council, Planning Commission, Park Commission 6:00 p.m. (@ Community Building) ▶ 27th Thurs—Recycling Day |
|----------------|---|

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

Medina Preservation Day Saturday, September 24th, 4:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m. Hamel Community Building

What is Medina Preservation Day?

The City of Medina is sponsoring Medina Preservation Day to involve the residents, businesses, and civic groups of Medina on the history of the area, the unique characteristics that make Medina so great, what is available in Medina and how we can preserve the quality of life in our community.

Businesses, civic organizations, preservation groups and neighborhood associations are encouraged to be involved in the event.

You will not be able to be present at the event, but you would like to participate/contribute?

Businesses and individuals may donate funds for fireworks, which will be held at 8:00 p.m.

What will be at Medina Preservation Day?

- ▶ The event will start in the morning with an open recreational softball tournament. Businesses and residents can sign up at the City of Medina. Teams must consist of at least 50% residents or be employed in Medina. The tournament will be double elimination, and the winner will be awarded the traveling 'Medina Preservation Day' trophy. More information is available on the City's website: www.ci.medina.mn.us.
- ▶ Food and beverages will be available for sale beginning at 4:00 p.m.. Food will be provided by local vendors.
- ▶ The Hamel Legion Park, games, and other attractions will be made available for children, starting at 4:00 p.m.
- ▶ Businesses and organizations will display and demonstrate their role in Medina and/or educate visitors about the City of Medina and area, starting at 4:00 p.m.
- ▶ The city event will conclude with the softball tournament award, and the 'Business of the Year' feature/award.
- ▶ The evening will end with fireworks at 8:00 p.m. provided by donations from the Medina businesses and residents.
- ▶ If you are interested in participating, donating, or have questions, contact the City of Medina at (763) 473-4643.



Inside this issue:

Medina Preservation Day, September 24. Pg. 1
 Meeting Location Change(s) Pg. 1
 Upcoming Events & Activities Pg. 1
 Parks Capital Improvement Plan Pg. 2
 Planning Action Updates Pg. 2
 Water Treatment Plant progress Pg. 3
 Hamel Fire Receives Grant Pg. 3
 National Night Out—Follow-up Pg. 3
 UpTown Hamel Improvements Pg. 3
 Small Things that Benefit Environment Pg. 3
 Rotational Grazing Demonstration Pg. 4
 Highway 55 Corridor Coalition Pg. 4
 Armed Services Recognition Pg. 4
 Medina History Pg. 4
 City Hall Renovation Pg. 5
 Community Building Information Pg. 5
 Fall Hazardous Waste Collection Pg. 5
 UpTown Hamel Design Competition Pg. 5
 City Contact Information Pg. 6

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 Hall763-473-4643
 Fax763-473-9359
 Police emergency911
 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

Bruce Workman..... 763-478-9435

City Council

Carolyn Smith 763-475-1003
 Randy Brinkman ... 763-478-3242
 Elizabeth Weir 763-473-3226
 Joe Cavanaugh.....763-473-3828

City Administrator

Chad M. Adams....763-473-4643
 e-mail:
 chad.adams@ci.medina.mn.us

City Council Meetings

First & third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission

Dick Picard, Chair
 Tom Crosby
 Doug Dickerson
 Marilyn Fortin
 Leonard Leuer
 Tom Supel
 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
 Eric Evanson
 Tom Gregor
 Brad Kvanbek
 Robin Reid

Park Commission Meetings

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

Meeting Location Changes (Temporary)

Please be advised that all City Council, Planning Commission and Park Commission meetings will be held at the Hamel Community Building from September 20—November 15, 2005 due to renovations being made to City Hall.

Parks & Planning

Parks Capital Improvement Plan

The Medina Parks Commission recently submitted a recommended five-year capital improvement plan (CIP) to the City Council in July, of which the Council accepted and is incorporating into the City's master CIP.

The plan entails approximately \$2.6 million dollars of improvements over the five-years, that include trails, land acquisition, restrooms, ball field improvements, playground equipment, parking lots, and a number of other park and recreational facilities.

Funding for the improvements will be supported nearly entirely through park dedication funds (developer fees) and donations. General property taxes will continue to be used for operations of the parks and facilities, and are not presently targeted to support the CIP.



Planning & Zoning Department Update

The following is a list of recent planning action items taken by the Planning Commission and City Council:

- ▶ **Medina Clydesdale Marketplace (Target as main user)** - The City Council approved the preliminary plat and rezoning to commercial planned unit development (PUD) on May 3, 2005. The Council will be considering final plat approval, development agreement, and business subsidy policy at the September 6, 2005 meeting. The proposed final approvals will include the use of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) to fund a portion of the public improvements related to the project.
- ▶ **Leawood Farm subdivision**—The City Council granted final plat and development agreement approval on June 7, 2005. The 9-lot subdivision of 200 plus acres is located at 3000 Hamel Road and has begun site construction.
- ▶ **Fern St. (Independence Beach)** - The City Council granted final plat and a variance for one parcel in the Independence Beach subdivision on June 7, 2005. The Planning Commission recommended approval on May 10, 2005.
- ▶ **Bridgewater at Lake Medina (Charles Cudd Co.)** — The City Council granted final plat approval, final zoning to Urban Residential-PUD, and development agreement approval on June 21, 2005. Site construction and public improvement construction has begun on the 106-lot subdivision located east of Arrowhead Drive/Hackamore Road.
- ▶ **Keller Estates**— The City Council granted final plat and development agreement approval on July 5, 2005. Site construction has begun on the 21-lot subdivision located at 1255 Willow Drive (south of Medina Morningside).
- ▶ **1475 Willow Drive**—The City Council denied an application for preliminary/final plat and variance of a two-lot subdivision at 1475 Willow Drive on July 5, 2005. The Planning Commission recommended denial of the applications.
- ▶ **Uptown Hamel Transportation Plan**—The City Council authorized staff to prepare a Comprehensive Plan Amendment for Uptown Hamel Transportation design. The amendment includes a designation of future road/accesses for the Uptown Hamel area. The Council will consider final approval of the amendment upon receiving approval from the Metropolitan Council. A final resolution will not be considered an earlier than September 6, 2005.
- ▶ **Rural Commercial Holding District**—The City Council authorized staff to prepare a Comprehensive Plan Amendment for the RCH district in the NW area of Medina. The proposed text amendment would redefine the development timeline in relationship to sanitary sewer availability to the area. The Council will consider final approval of the amendment upon receiving approval from the Metropolitan Council. A final resolution will not be considered any earlier than September 6, 2005.
- ▶ **Parkview Drive on School Lake**—The Planning Commission tabled a request for preliminary plat to create three (3) new lots, on August 9, 2005. The Commission will discuss the application again on September 13, 2005.
- ▶ **Commercial Horse Facility Conditional Use Permit**—The Planning Commission recommended approval of a request to amend a CUP at 4650 Maple St. on August 9, 2005. The City Council will consider the application no earlier than September 6, 2005.
- ▶ **2715 Pioneer Trail**—The City Council tabled an application for preliminary plat to create one (1) new lot at 2715 Pioneer Trail on August 2, 2005. The City Council will consider the application again on September 6, 2005. The Planning Commission recommended approval for the plat on July 12, 2005.

Other Upcoming Application Review:

- ▶ **2455 County Rd. 24**—The Planning Commission will be reviewing a request for a setback variance for a horse shelter at 2455 County Rd. 24 no earlier than September 13, 2005. The City Council would review the request no earlier than September 20, 2005.
- ▶ **Park Commons**—The Planning Commission will be reviewing a request for a site plan at 1400 Baker Park Rd. (formerly Dairy Queen) no earlier than September 13, 2005. The proposed project involves an estimated 6,600 sq. ft. retail center. The City Council will consider the application no earlier than September 20, 2005.
- ▶ **Medina Retail Center Phase II**—The Planning Commission will be reviewing a request for preliminary plat, PUD rezoning, etc. at the CSAH 101/Clydesdale Trail intersection (formerly 5065 Co. Rd. 101) no earlier than September 13, 2005. The proposed project involves an estimated 10,000 sq. ft. retail center. The City Council will consider the application no earlier than September 20, 2005.

Please contact City Hall at 763.473.4643, or via e-mail at rose.lorsung@ci.medina.mn.us for more information.

General Information

Uptown Hamel Sign Design Submittals Requested

The City of Medina is asking for your participation in designing a new sign for the Uptown Hamel area to be placed near the intersection of Sioux Drive and State Hwy 55. The sign is not be used for commercial advertising, but for attention to and direction toward the vibrant and historic downtown area of Uptown Hamel.

All interested parties are welcome to stop by City Hall and pick up the design criteria. The deadline for submittals will be October 1, 2005, with the winning design selected at a following City Council meeting.

South Crow River News On-line

The City's official legal newspaper *South Crow River News* may now be found at a new on-line web address at <http://pressnews.townnews.com>

The *South Crow River News* covers City Council meeting action, as well as Medina/Hamel community news, events and activities.



City Hall Renovations

The Medina City Hall will be undergoing renovations this fall. The renovations are targeted to provide more efficient and additional work space for existing and future staff support over the next three to five years, to upgrade deteriorating infrastructure such as the lighting, and to provide a more modern design to the exterior façade and Council Chambers.

Timeline for the renovations will occur between September and November, with minimal service disruption to the general public. Costs of the improvements are expected to be about \$200,000 and are being funded through an existing capital improvement fund.

Upon completing the renovation, the City will begin to plan for the long-term future facility needs for all departments including public safety, public works, administration, and planning/zoning.

Open Space Planning & Preservation Tuesday, October 25th, 6:00 p.m.

Julie Westerlund, Communications and Education Coordination with the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, will be attending a joint session of the City Council, Planning Commission and Park Commission on Tuesday, October 25th at 6:00 p.m. in the Hamel Community Building to discuss open space planning and preservation.

The presentation/discussion will last about one hour. Interested members of the public are welcomed to attend.

Fall Household Hazardous Wastes Collection

Thursday, October 13— Saturday 15, 2005

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Hennepin County Public Works Shop

3880 Shoreline Drive, Orono, MN

For additional information on what is acceptable, please visit: <http://hennepin.us> Search under "Fall Community Collection Events", or call Hennepin County at 612-348-3777.



Public Service Message Reminders



▶ The City requests voluntary action by property owners to remove diseased trees from properties as soon as possible to minimize spreading of the disease to other trees.

▶ Don't litter! Keep our streets and roadways clean!

▶ Please also be reminded to monitor your curbside recyclables on windy days to avoid littering.

Hamel Community Building Information Available on City Website

The City has recently updated the webpage for the Hamel Community Building at www.ci.medina.mn.us to provide more user-friendly accessibility to Medina residents, businesses and the general public.

The Community Building is available to the general public for private rentals and is becoming more utilized for various community events.

The City is also looking into the capability of more on-line services, such as scheduling, to provide more information to the public, as well as generate a more efficient service.

A brochure involving information on facility rental, rates etc. is also available at the facility, 3200 Mill Dr., as well as at City Hall.



Photo by Katrina Kobes

Hamel Legion Park Improvements



City public works staff has been active making additions to the trails and ice skating rink in Hamel Legion Park this summer. The city has contracted to pave a new trail link, as well as the parking lot off of Brockton Lane. The Hamel Athletic Association has also made improvements to the ball fields.

General Information

Rotational Grazing Demonstration Workshop Series Continues in Medina

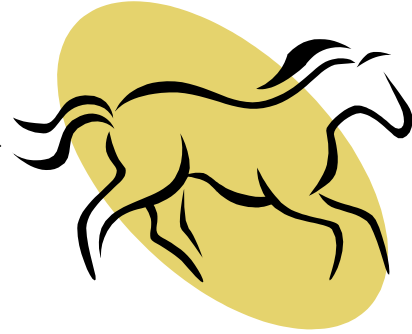
The first Rotational Grazing Demonstration Workshop was recently held on August 4th. Betsy Gilkerson, Agriculture Extension Educator for Hennepin County Extension Service is teaching a rotational grazing seminar series for horse owners in August and September. The series is a hands-on learning experience where people are meeting on a volunteer Medina horse owner's property and learn together how to plan and set up a rotational grazing system for horses. The group is going through the process of planning a rotational grazing system for a horse owner, setting up the system and monitoring the progress of the plan. More people are encouraged to attend the second progress check session on Thursday, September 22nd.

The purpose of the September meeting is to monitor the progress of the system and discuss problems and benefits. The first session focused on how to design a grazing system and how to install fencing for the system. Both sessions are a hands-on learning experiences. The first session group also helped design the grazing plan and helped install needed fencing. The second session will discuss progress of the grazing plan, identify plants in the pasture, manure management, and soil sampling.

Session 2 -Thursday September 22nd 6:30-8:30 PM: Progress Check, Plant and Soil Management

Due to a grant that the City of Medina received from Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, *there is no charge for the program*. This is the perfect opportunity to get answers to pasture management questions. Please contact Betsy Gilkerson to sign up or ask questions at 612-596-1175 or eliza003@umn.edu. There is still space available for those who are interested.

Also, stop by Hennepin Co Op in Maple Plain Saturday October 8th. Betsy will have an information booth on that Saturday from 10 am to noon. It is a great time to get many horse questions answered, have weeds and grass identified, and learn what's happening at the University of Minnesota for horses. For more information contact Betsy Gilkerson at 612-596-1175 or eliza003@umn.edu. More information on the Extension Service's Horse Team can be found at www.extension.umn.edu/horse.



Armed Services Recognition

The City of Medina is pleased to recognize Senior Master Sergeant Scott E. Maunu, son of Ed and Donna Maunu of Medina, as a member of the United States Air Force.

Senior Master Sergeant Maunu is the First Sergeant, 18 Security Forces Squadron, Kadana Air Base, Okinawa. Sergeant Maunu is responsible for the health, morale and welfare of 350 military members and their families.

Sergeant Maunu was born in Minneapolis, MN and graduated from Park Center Sr. High School in 1984. He enlisted in the United States Air Force Delayed Enlistment Program in September 1983 and entered active duty on July 3, 1984. Following completion of basic training, he attended Airlift/Bombardment Aircraft Maintenance Specialist technical training at Sheppard AFB, Texas.

He has served in various positions in the aircraft maintenance career field to include: Dedicated Crew Chief, En-Route Maintenance Craftsman, Weapon Systems Coordinator, Maintenance Instructor and Flight Chief. He has worked on C-130, C-141, and KC-135 aircraft. Sergeant Maunu assumed his current duties as First Sergeant in July 1998.

Medina History: Did You Know?

- ▶ The township of Hamburg-Medina (town 118 range 23) was designated in 1858, originally a full 36 square miles (6x6 miles), Medina actually took in all of what is today Long Lake, also most of Gleason Lake on the east, and right where Watertown Road runs through western Orono today.
- ▶ Originally named Hamburg by the county commissioners following government surveys, the name did not appeal to the residents. So, at the first town meeting, held May 11th, 1858, the thirty-seven voters agreed to Medina. George Reiser, Sr. (see picture below) offered the name. Medina, a city in Arabia, the second holy city of Islam, and where Mohammed lived the last ten years of his life, was prominent in the world news at the time.
- ▶ Cities and villages in eight states, and counties in Ohio and Texas have also adopted this name.
- ▶ Stephen Bean, a native of Maine, is usually accorded the honor of being the first settler in Medina. He took up claim north of Stubbs Bay in 1852, but didn't stay long.



George Reiser Sr., seated, third from the left, rose up and offered the name "Medina" at that townships first meeting in 1858. Andrew Scherer was Moderator.

Medina History: Courtesy of Western Hennepin Pioneer Museum in Long Lake.

Public Works & Public Safety

Hamel Volunteer Fire Department Awarded \$27,000 Grant

The Hamel Volunteer Fire Department (HVFD) has been awarded a \$27,000 grant from Fireman's Fund Insurance Company (Fireman's Fund) for the purchase of hydraulic extrication equipment.

Firefighters and emergency personnel use the equipment, commonly referred to as "jaws of life," to quickly rescue victims trapped in confined spaces including wrecked vehicles.



The new equipment will replace an old tool that has become outdated and difficult to find replacement parts.

National Night Out Fighting Crime as a Community

On August 2nd the citizens of Medina, Loretto and the Police and Fire Departments came together to take a stand against crime. National Night Out parties were held at the Hamel and Loretto Fire Departments along with other neighborhoods throughout the City. Hundreds of people came out for the event.

National Night Out is an opportunity for residents to meet their neighbors and take a stand against crime. The police can not be everywhere at once, but with the help of the residents and everyone watching out for their neighbors, a difference can be made.



Serving both the communities of Loretto and Medina, the Police Department was thrilled with the turnout for this event. It demonstrates that Medina citizens support the community.

The City of Medina and Police Department commend all those who participated in the National Night Out block parties. A special thanks to both Hamel and Loretto Volunteer Fire Departments for working the event, as well as special recognition to the Police staff, fire department command staffs, along with Darrel A. Farr Development, Inc. for organizing this year's events.

We want to start promoting the 2006 National Night Out event now! If you are interested in being a block leader please call the Medina Police Department at 763-473-9209.

KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE!!!!

Uptown Hamel Public Improvements: Planned for Fall 2005 Construction

The much desired public improvements to Mill Drive, Sioux Drive and storm water/drainage for Uptown Hamel are scheduled to begin in coming weeks. The bids/final award of the project are to be reviewed by the Council at the August 16th meeting. If project estimates and financing fall into place, the majority, if not all of the improvements may be completed this fall. The Sioux Drive improvement will include a whistle less rail crossing. Funding for the improvements may include a combination of special assessments/Tax Increment Financing (TIF).

Water Treatment Plant Construction

Construction on the City's first conventional water treatment facility began recently at 780 Tower Drive. The City Council awarded the contract in June to Rice Lake Construction.

Completion of the project is expected to occur in summer 2006. The facility needs to be operational by a mandated December 2006 deadline, to meet MN Department of Health and Federal Environmental Protection Agency requirements.

Even though the award of the project came in significantly higher than initially expected, the City has decided to move forward with the project due to sufficient operating and capital project funds.



User rates and water connection fees will continue to provide revenue to support the debt service for the project. Rates were already planned to increase annually over the next several years; however, the City will continue to monitor the fee/rate revenue for the facility and water system before deciding to raise rates any further.

Small Things that Benefit Environment

Rain Gardens—are a great way to soak up storm water and beautify your property at the same time.

Hot Water Holds Less Oxygen—A growing concern among environmental scientists is the temperature of water that enters lakes and rivers. More urban pavement and parking lots contribute to the problem, because as rain falls on hot concrete or asphalt, it warms. Warm water drains into surface water, where the heat acts as "a catalyst, a depressant, an activator, a restrictor, a stimulator, a controller, a killer." The warmer the water, the less dissolved oxygen available to fish and aquatic species. Shallow, slow-moving water bodies are most affected. Preserving and creating green spaces in communities and properties help absorb and clean water.

Get Your Mind in Gutter—and Your Wastes Out—Rake yard waste out of the gutters and explain to neighbors that it matters. After heavy rains, clear storm drains to prevent water pollution and street flooding. Storm water drains do not go to wastewater treatment plants, and goes to surface water without treatment.

Source: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency