

Medina Message

A Quarterly Newsletter of the City of Medina

www.ci.medina.mn.us

Winter 2005

Upcoming Events and Activities

- | | | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|---|
| February | ▶ 1st | Tues—City Council Meeting 7:00 pm |
| | ▶ 3rd | Thurs—Recycling Day |
| | ▶ 8th | Tues—Planning Commission 7:00 pm |
| | ▶ 12th | Sat—City Council Goal Setting Session, Hamel Community Building, 11 am—5 pm |
| | ▶ 15th | Tues—City Council Meeting 7:00 pm |
| | ▶ 16th | Wed—Park Commission Meeting 7:00 pm |
| March | ▶ 17th | Thurs—Recycling Day |
| | ▶ 21st | Holiday, City Offices Closed |
| | ▶ 22nd | Tues—Planning Commission (Special Meeting) 7:00 pm |
| | ▶ 1st | Tues—City Council meeting 7:00 pm |
| | ▶ 3rd | Thurs—Recycling Day |
| April | ▶ 8th | Tues—Planning Commission 7:00 pm |
| | ▶ 15th | Tues—City Council Meeting 7:00 pm |
| | ▶ 16th | Wed—Park Commission Meeting 7:00 pm |
| | ▶ 17th | Thurs—Recycling Day |
| | ▶ 31st | Thurs—Recycling Day |
| | ▶ 5th | Tue—City Council Meeting 7:00 pm |
| ▶ 6th | Wed—Board of Equalization 6:30 pm | |
| ▶ 12th | Tue—Planning Commission 7:00 pm | |
| ▶ 14th | Thurs—Recycling Day | |
| ▶ 19th | Tue—City Council Meeting 7:00 pm | |
| ▶ 20th | Wed—Park Commission Meeting 7:00 pm | |
| ▶ 28th | Thurs—Recycling Day | |
| ▶ 30th | Sat—City Clean Up Day 8 am—2 pm | |

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

Council Approves 2005 Budget

The City Council approved the 2005 Budget and Taxes Payable on December 21, 2004. The approved budget for the general fund is an 11.58% increase over 2004 and a 13.10% increase in taxes levied for the budget. However, the City's tax rate continues to decline for the third straight year at a rate of 16.35% for 2005 compared to 17.16% for 2004.

Additional details of the budget are included in the budget summary on page 5, or by reviewing the complete budget on the City's website (available in a few weeks).

Hamel Community Building Grand Opening Saturday, January 29th, 1 p.m.—6:30 p.m.

The Grand Opening for the Hamel Community Building, sponsored by the City of Medina, Hamel Lions Club, and Uptown Hamel Business Organization, will be held in conjunction with the Annual Uptown Hamel Skating Party on Saturday, January 29th in Hamel Legion Park, 3200 Mill Drive.

Events & Activities for the Grand Opening include:

- ▶ *Skating and sledding beginning at 1:00 p.m.*
- ▶ *Free food & drinks throughout the afternoon*
- ▶ *Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 4:30 p.m.*
- ▶ *Door prizes (sponsored by Uptown Hamel Businesses) following the ribbon cutting ceremony*
- ▶ *Fireworks at 6:00 p.m. (south of building on ball fields)*



* More details on Hamel Community Building use on page 2

Medina Police Department Accepting Applications for Reserve Unit Positions

The Medina Police Department is accepting applications for positions with the Reserve Unit. The purpose of the Reserve Unit is to provide a corps of trained volunteers available to support the patrol officers in fulfilling their goal of serving the citizens of Medina.

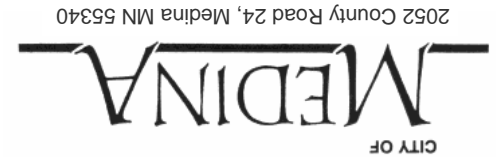
Reserves will be utilized to assist the officers during emergency situations, promoting public safety and aiding the protection of life and property. The Police Department asks for a commitment of 12 hours a month, which includes training and membership meetings.

All uniforms and equipment are provided after successfully completing the approved training program. Additional qualifications and application information is available on the City's website at www.ci.medina.mn.us or by contacting the Police Department at 763/473-9209.



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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 612-558-1556
 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
 Marilyn Fortin
 Ron Johnson
 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.

Parks & Planning

City Welcomes Rose Lorsung as City Planner

The City of Medina is pleased to welcome Rose Lorsung as the City Planner. Lorsung began her duties in the position in mid-November.

Lorsung previously worked in the Planning Department for the City of Maplewood before joining Medina's staff. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Urban Studies from Augsburg College.

As the Department Head for Medina's Planning Department, Lorsung will oversee planning and zoning projects for the City and will work closely with existing City staff as well as appointed planning, engineering and legal consultants.

Lorsung may be contacted at City Hall or via e-mail at rose.lorsung@ci.medina.mn.us

Hamel Community Building—Use Information

Facility Rental Hours: Monday-Thursday and Sundays: 8 am—10 pm;
Fridays & Saturdays: 8 am to 12 am (midnight)

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday: Noon to 1 pm; Thursday: 7—9 pm

Contact Information: Hamel Lions (Operating Agent), 763/478-2701

Rental Usage Rates:

- ▶ Monday thru Friday (or any group over 25 people), all day time period: \$50 for non-resident, \$40 for Medina resident or business
- ▶ Monday thru Friday (under 25 people), under four-hour time period: \$25 for non-resident, \$20 for Medina resident or business
- ▶ Sat. & Sun., all day, \$125 non-resident, \$100 Medina res./business
- ▶ Sat. & Sun. under 4 hrs., \$50 non-res., \$40 Medina res./business
- ▶ Alcohol Usage (in addition to base fee), all day, \$50 for everyone
- ▶ Service Area and Outdoor Shelter use included in all fees

Damage/Security Deposits: Range from \$150 to \$500, see City Website
Additional information and use details available on City Website

Planning & Zoning Department Update

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

- ▶ **Gramercy Club at Elm Creek**—Re-approved final plat approval, as well as landscaping and grading plans
- ▶ **Park Ridge Acres**—Approved a final plat for a 23-lot subdivision located in the southwest corner of Medina, south of Hwy. 12
- ▶ **Dairy Queen**—Granted a conditional use permit and site plan approval at 752 Highway 55.
- ▶ **Bridgewater at Lake Medina (Charles Cudd Co.)**—Granted final approval of a Comprehensive Plan Amendment with conditions, located east of Arrowhead Drive/Hackamore Road. The Planning Commission approved a preliminary plat, rezoning to Residential PUD, and PUD General Plan on January 11th. The City Council is scheduled to discuss the application on Tuesday, February 1st.
- ▶ **Argent Parc (Darrel Farr Development)** - The Planning Commission granted site plan approval for a 18-unit senior condominium project at 185 Hamel Road on January 11th. The City Council may review the application as soon as Tuesday, February 1st (please review upcoming agendas).
- ▶ **Rond Point (Darrel Farr Development)** - The Planning Commission extended the public hearing on December 14th on the application for a 28-unit condominium project that includes 2500 sq. ft. of retail space at 36/42 Hamel Road. The application involving a lot combination/preliminary plat/final plat and site plan review is pending and will not be heard by the Planning Commission any earlier than their March 8, 2005 meeting.
- ▶ **Keller Estates**—Approved a preliminary plat for a 21-lot subdivision at 1255 Willow Drive and adjacent property to the west. Application for final plat approval and rezoning to suburban residential is pending City Council review and action.
- ▶ **Leewood Farm subdivision**—The City Council authorized staff to prepare a resolution for preliminary plat for subdivision of 200 plus acres into nine lots at 3000 Hamel Road. The Council will consider the resolution granting preliminary plat on Tuesday, February 1st.

Other Upcoming Application Review:

- ▶ **Ryan Companies (Target as main user)** - The Planning Commission will be reviewing an application for site plan review, rezoning to commercial planned unit development (PUD) and preliminary plat, adjacent to TH55 and west of CSAH 101 on Tuesday, February 8th.
- ▶ **Creekview Town Homes**—The Planning Commission will be reviewing an application for rezoning to residential PUD, preliminary plat, PUD Concept and General Plan, and comprehensive plan amendment for a 23 Town Home Unit project at 500 Hamel Road on Tuesday, February 8th.
- ▶ **Water Treatment Plant**—The Planning Commission will be reviewing an application for site plan review for a water treatment plant (City of Medina) at 780 Tower Drive on Tuesday, February 8th.
- ▶ **Ace Properties**—The Planning Commission will be reviewing an application for preliminary/final plat, conditional use permit and site plan review for a retail-commercial development (10,301 gross sq. ft.) at northwest corner of CSAH 101 and Clydesdale Trail at a special meeting on Tuesday, February 22nd.
- ▶ **1475 Willow Drive**—The Planning Commission will be reviewing an application for preliminary/final plat and variance of a two-lot subdivision at 1475 Willow Drive at a special meeting on Tuesday, February 22nd.

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

General Information

2005 Budget Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of 2005 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 or on the City's website at www.ci.medina.mn.us. The City Council approved this budget on December 21, 2004.

Governmental Funds 2004-2005

	2004 Budget	2005 Budget
Revenues		
Property Taxes	\$ 1,472,054	\$1,654,260
Tax Increments	\$ -	\$ -
Special Assessments	\$ 369,450	\$ 239,050
Licenses & Permits	\$ 256,350	\$ 259,750
Intergovernmental Revenues		
Federal	-	\$ 5,000
State	\$ 65,500	\$ 75,900
County	\$ 19,410	\$ 26,500
Charges for Services	\$ 365,400	\$ 466,650
Fines and Forfeits	\$ 100,500	\$ 100,500
Interest—Investments	\$ 96,820	\$ 78,820
Misc. Revenues	\$ 45,102	\$ 67,500
Transfers-Other Funds	\$ -	\$ -
Total Revenues	\$ 2,790,586	\$2,973,930
Expenditures		
General Government	\$ 660,510	\$ 773,091
Public Safety	\$ 1,212,600	\$1,283,295
Streets & Highways	\$ 451,177	\$ 477,675
Sanitation	\$ 41,660	\$ 41,500
Culture & Recreation	\$ 84,519	\$ 92,382
Misc Expenditures	\$ 60,500	\$ 63,000
Debt Service Principal	\$ 165,000	\$ 50,000
Interest,Fiscal Charges	\$ 24,016	\$ 7,750
Capital Outlay	\$ 2,366,300	\$1,060,250
Transfers-Other Funds	\$ -	\$ 25,417
Total Expenditures	\$ 5,066,282	\$3,874,360
Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance (including special revenue funds)		
	\$(2,077,696)	\$ (397,930)

Northwest Suburban Chamber Hosting "State of City" Meeting

Tuesday, February 15, 2005
Radisson Hotel, Plymouth
7:30 am to 9:00 am

Mayors and city representatives will update the Chamber community on the latest news on new developments, water treatment, public safety initiatives and other issues in each city.

Please RSVP to the Chamber by February 7, 2005 by calling 763-420-3242

Meet Your Mayor and City Council



Mayor Bruce D. Workman



Councilor Carolyn Smith



Councilor Randy Brinkman



Councilor Joe Cavanaugh



Councilor Elizabeth (Liz) Weir

Council Changes Meeting Time to 7:00 p.m.

The City Council has changed by ordinance their regular meetings on the first and third Tuesday of each month to 7:00 p.m. (formerly 7:30 p.m.). Mark your calendars!

Phil Zietlow Receives Appreciation Plaque

At an Open House on Tuesday, January 21st, Phil Zietlow was presented an appreciation plaque for his 26 plus years of service to the Medina Planning Commission, City Council, most recently as Mayor, and various other Task Forces and committees.

Mayor Workman presents the plaque to Zietlow.

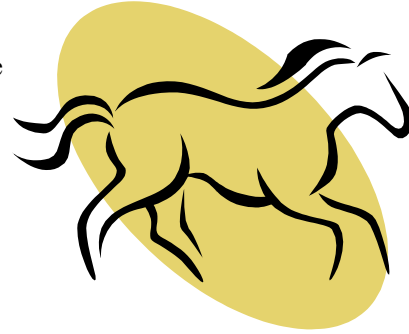


General Information

Horse Pasture Management Tips—Spring Pasture To Do List

The following article was provided courtesy of Betsy Gilkerson, city consultant on Horse Management Practices. Gilkerson's services are co-funded by the City of Medina and through a Minnehaha Creek Watershed District's Cynthia Krieg Memorial Fund grant.

As we are in the darkest part of the year, we all daydream about warm summer days and think about weaning ourselves off holiday feasts. One thing that may not be on your mind yet is your Spring To Do list for the barn and pastures. Now is a good time to think about it with home and garden shows and horse fairs on the horizon. It's nice to reflect on what you did during the last year, what worked, what didn't and what you would like to try next year. Here are a few things to think about, jot down and hold on to for a little while.



- **Reflect**—Think about and write down what management practices you tried, what worked, what didn't? Was the grass a minimum of 4 inches at the end of the fall? How weedy was the pasture?
- **Develop plan for reseeding pastures, if necessary**—type of vegetation to use, what you'll use for seeding, when you'll seed, how you will keep horses off pasture till new grass is ready
- **Plan rotational grazing system**—change from last year if necessary. Try to give each area 28 days of rest after grazing. Get as close as you can. It works better than 2 days on, 2 days off, 2 days on again.
- **Go to Medina Horse Fair**—on February 16th at The Medina Entertainment Center and say hi to Betsy at the University of Minnesota Extension Service booth. Contact Hennepin Co-Op in Maple Plain with questions
- **Pull horses off pasture before the big thaw**—leave off till ground firms up
- **Check your fences**—when the snow melts, deer can be hard on them.
- **Pull soil samples**—when the ground firms up in April/May, call me for sample bags and/or help
- **Develop plan for fertilizing pasture**—base on results of soil sample tests.
- **Put up fences**—for rotating when ground is firm.
- **Go to the Minnesota Horse Expo**—at the State Fair Grounds on April 22-24th
- **Call Betsy with questions and educational needs**—let her know what information you would like for seminars or site visits.

For comments and questions contact Betsy Gilkerson at 612-596-1175 or Betsy.Gilkerson@co.hennepin.mn.us.

Residential Curbside Recycling



- ▶ **Medina recycles every other Thursday except on holiday weeks. Set recycling bins out by 7:00 a.m. on days noted on the calendar (see City website).**
- ▶ **City Hall has free stickers for your calendar to help you remember—stop by and pick them up.**
- ▶ **For a recycling bin, stop by City Hall. The cost is \$3.00. Wheel kits are available for \$5.00.**

Open House Planned for Uptown Hamel Transportation Plan

The City of Medina is targeting a February Open House to gain comments or answer questions from affected residents and/or business owners pertaining to traffic and a transportation plan for the Uptown Hamel area, as it continues to develop.

The City Council will be scheduling the Open House at their February 1st meeting, likely to be held later in the month at the Hamel Community Building, 3200 Mill Drive.

The City's website www.ci.medina.mn.us, legal newspaper *South Crow River News*, and flyers will promote the Open House's date and time.

Public input is encouraged at the Open House. City staff, engineering consultants and Council representation will be present at the meeting.

Public Works & Public Safety

Protect Medina's Precious Natural Resources

Most Medina residents have one thing in commonthe enjoyment of our natural resources! Within the City's boundaries are the headwaters of three different watersheds: Pioneer/Sarah, Elm Creek, and Minnehaha Creek. These three watersheds all get a start in Medina.

Medina is also unique because there are only a few small areas from surrounding cities that have land where there is drainage into Medina. The resulting topography leaves Medina with an abundant amount of wetlands. These wetlands not only provide a filtering mechanism for storm water, but also provide excellent wildlife habitats.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources website www.dnr.state.mn.us has a resourceful amount of information about the function, use, and enjoyment of wetlands.

The City of Medina also has a program available for residents to create new wetlands. In some cases, these newly created wetlands will have a financial benefit to the property owner. If you have an interest in this City program, please contact City Hall at 763/473-4643.



Project ChildSafe: Putting a Lock on Safety in Your Home

The Medina Police Department, in conjunction with Farmers State Bank of Hamel, will be handing out free gun locks as part of the Project ChildSafe Program. Project ChildSafe is a nationwide program whose purpose is to promote safe firearms handling and storage practices among all firearms owners through the distribution of key safety education messages and free gun locking devices.

Project ChildSafe is an expansion of the Project HomeSafe program developed by the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF). It is supported by a U.S. Department of Justice grant and is a component of Project Safe Neighborhoods, the nationwide commitment to reduce gun crime to create safer neighborhoods.

Project ChildSafe partners with community leaders and law enforcement to distribute free safety kits to gun owners in all states in order to promote safe storage of firearms in the home.

Starting February 1, 2005, you may stop by the Farmers State Bank of Hamel or the Medina Police Department to pick up your free gun locks and firearms safety material.

LET'S KEEP OUR KIDS SAFE, PROMOTE SAFE HANDLING OF ALL FIREARMS

Hamel Water System—Treatment Plant & Rates

Progress on the Water Treatment Plant for the Hamel Water System continues as plans and specifications are being prepared and site plan approval is scheduled for the Planning Commission on February 8th, and possible City Council approval on February 15th. The City is also condemning a parcel at 780 Tower Drive for location of the facility.

Construction of the plant is targeted for spring 2005, with completion date in summer 2006, prior to the Minnesota Department of Health required date to meet radium and gross alpha reduction levels by December 2006.

The City Council has also enacted new connection fees and water user fees to finance the treatment facility and accommodating infrastructure (water main lines, etc.). The water connection fees (for new hookups to the system) increased 100% from \$1790/unit to \$3580/unit for Hamel Water users. These connection fees do not apply to Medina Morningside and Independence Beach connections.

Hamel Water System users will experience an increase in water rates for the first quarter in 2005 to assist in financing the facility. The rates will increase 19% and will likely continue to increase by an estimated 13% in 2006, 11% in 2007 and 8%, unless other variables change. Again, Medina Morningside and Independence Beach users will not experience these rate increases to fund the treatment plant for Hamel Water System users.

More information on the fees, rates or plans for the treatment plant may be addressed to Public Works Director Jim Dillman or City Administrator Chad M. Adams.

Public Improvements Ordered for Uptown Hamel

Whistle-less Stop Planned for Sioux Drive Railroad Crossing

The City Council ordered the plans and specifications for the Uptown Hamel area as part of a public hearing on November 16, 2004. The plans and specs are targeted to be brought back for Council approval in spring 2005, with construction starting in spring/summer 2005.

The Council has discussed using special assessments and/or Tax Increment revenues to fund the public improvements, which are estimated to be \$111,123 for Mill Drive improvements, \$278,800 for Sioux Drive improvements, and \$487,998 for Storm Water and Drainage improvements to the Uptown Hamel district.

A Whistle-less railroad crossing has also been recently incorporated into the Sioux Drive crossing public improvement, and may likely increase the cost estimate of that improvement, if the design is approved by the railroad.

Contact City Administrator Chad M. Adams for additional information or comment.