

Medina Message

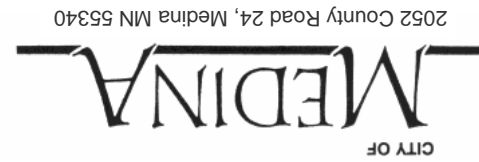
A Quarterly Newsletter of the City of Medina

www.ci.medina.mn.us

Spring 2006

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2052 County Road 24, Medina MN 55340

www.ci.medina.mn.us

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

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

Planning Commission
Tom Crosby, Chair
Doug Dickerson
Marilyn Fortin
Steve Jacobson
Sharon Johnson
Jeff Pederson
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
Madeleine Linck
Robin Reid
Ann Thies

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

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2010-2030 Comprehensive Plan—Open Houses

The City of Medina has scheduled a series of open house beginning on May 23rd and extending through October 24th to provide an opportunity for residents to learn more about vital issues pertaining to the Comprehensive Planning process, as well as encourage public feedback to community leaders.

The meetings have been structured to focus on six general topics, with each topic to have two open houses to accommodate residents' schedules. Each open house will start with a 45 minute presentation (by topic experts), followed by a fifteen minute questions/answer period, and the remaining time set aside for open discussion with community leaders or other residents present.

The schedule for the meetings is as follows:

TOPIC #1— General Information from Metropolitan Council

- ▶ Tuesday, May 23rd, 7:00 pm—9:30 pm; or,
- ▶ Wednesday, May 31st, 7:00 pm—9:30 pm

TOPIC #2—Transportation Planning

- ▶ Wednesday, June 21st, 7:00 pm—9:30 pm; or,
- ▶ Tuesday, June 27th, 7:00 pm—9:30 pm

TOPIC #3—Water and Wetlands

- ▶ Tuesday, June 25th, 7:00 pm—9:30 pm; or,
- ▶ Wednesday, June 26th, 7:00 pm—9:30 pm

TOPIC #4—Metropolitan Urban Service Area (MUSA) & Sewer

- ▶ Wednesday, August 9th, 7:00 pm—9:30 pm; or,
- ▶ Tuesday, August 22nd, 7:00 pm—9:30 pm

TOPIC #5—Forecasting and Population

- ▶ Monday, September 11th, 7:00 pm—9:30 pm; or,
- ▶ Tuesday, September 26th, 7:00 pm—9:30 pm

TOPIC #6—Rural Planning Issues and Natural Resources

- ▶ Wednesday, October 11th, 7:00 pm—9:30 pm; or,
- ▶ Tuesday, October 24th, 7:00 pm—9:30 pm

All meetings will be held at the Community Building, 3200 Mill Drive.

City staff is currently working with the Lake Minnetonka Communications Commission to schedule videotaping of the meeting presentations and Q&A's. The meetings would be aired through Mediacom on one of their public channels. The LMCC would also make the meetings available by streaming on-line at www.lmcc-tv.org.

City staff contact for the meetings is City Planner Rose Lorsung, who may be contacted at 763/473-4643.

City Calendar

- ▶ **16th** Tue—City Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- ▶ **17th** Wed—Joint Meeting of Council, Planning Commission and Park Commission 7:00 pm @ Community Building
- ▶ **23rd** Tues—Comprehensive Plan Open House 7:00 pm @ Community Building
- ▶ **25th** Thurs—Recycling Day
- ▶ **29th** Mon—City Hall Closed (Holiday)
- ▶ **31st** Wed—Comprehensive Plan Open House 7:00 pm @ Community Building

- ▶ **6th** Tues—City Council 7:00 pm
- ▶ **7th** Wed—Park Commission Annual Tour 6:00 pm
- ▶ **8th** Thurs—Recycling Day
- ▶ **13th** Tues—Planning Commission 7:00 pm
- ▶ **20th** Tues—City Council 7:00 p.m.
- ▶ **21st** Wed—Park Commission Open House 6:00 pm
- ▶ **21st** Wed—Park Commission 7:00 pm
- ▶ **21st** Wed—Comprehensive Plan Open House 7:00 pm @ Community Building
- ▶ **22nd** Thurs—Recycling Day
- ▶ **27th** Tues—Comprehensive Plan Open House 7:00 pm @ Community Building

- ▶ **4th** Tues—City Holiday (Offices Closed)
- ▶ **5th** Wed—City Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- ▶ **7th** Fri—Recycling Day (note day change)
- ▶ **11th** Tue—Planning Commission 7:00 pm
- ▶ **18th** Tue—City Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- ▶ **19th** Wed—Park Commission Meeting 7:00 pm
- ▶ **20th** Thurs—Recycling Day
- ▶ **25th** Tues—Comprehensive Plan Open House 7:00 pm
- ▶ **26th** Wed—Comprehensive Plan Open House 7:00 pm @ Community Building @ Community Building

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

Next Issue: The summer issue of the *Medina Message* Newsletter will be distributed in early August, 2006

May

June

July

General Planning

Rural Residential Moratorium Ends

The moratorium on subdivisions in the rural-residential zoning districts of the City ended on April 24th upon the publication of an amended ordinance. April 24th also signified the six-month expiration date of the moratorium.

Two major changes were made to the related zoning ordinances. The minimum lot width requirement increased from 110' to 300'. The ordinance also defines how minimum lot width is to be measured, depending on whether the lot is a flag lot, cul-de-sac lot, and standard rectangular lot, etc. The other change involved creating a uniform lot-line setback for primary structures at 50'.

In addition to enacted changes to the zoning ordinances, staff was requested to review options for providing discretion for applicants who may be negatively affected by the ordinance, as well as review considerations for applicants who preserve natural areas, provide conservation easements, etc. in-line with City's goals on open space planning.

Staff will be bringing information relating to these requested options to the May 16th and/or subsequent Council meetings. Such future recommended changes would require a public hearing before the Planning Commission.

Open Space Task Force

The City Council recently appointed a seven member task force to oversee the process of encouraging public input, educating the public and ultimately preparing a report on an Open Space Plan for the community. The Task Force's first duty will be to review proposals from consultants to lead the community and Task Force in the process and developing a plan.

A consultant is expected to be recommended to the City Council for appointment on Tuesday, May 16th. The consultant has been asked to attend and be introduced at a joint meeting of the City Council, Planning Commission and Park Commission on Wednesday, May 17th at the Community Building.

All meetings of the Task Force are open to the public. Future public participation meetings will also be scheduled and set by the Task Force and consultant. The expense of hiring a consultant are supported through the City's Environmental Fund, which does not include taxpayer contributions. City Planner Rose Lorsung is the staff contact for the project.

Facilities Master Planning

The City recently posted a Request for Proposal (RFP) to hire a consultant to lead the City in determining future needs of city facilities. A plan is expected to be completed and adopted by May 31, 2007, and will involve a review of needs for city hall, police department and public works facilities.

A consultant is targeted to be appointed at the July 5th Council meeting. The consultant will collect information on the community, incorporating growth and population projections, and will assess existing conditions. Facility objectives and site criteria will be analyzed. The final product will include recommendations and priorities that involve short-term, mid-term and long-term options for facilities, as well as identify costs, budget and funding options.

A citizen's steering committee will also be appointed by the City Council at an upcoming meeting to help select a consultant as well as learn more about needs, educate the public, attend public meetings and advise the appointed consultant as appropriate. Staff contact for the facility planning is City Administrator Chad Adams.



Planning Department Land Use Review Update

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

- ▶ **Grading Ordinance**—The City Council approved changes to the Land Filling and Land Excavation/Grading Operations ordinance on March 21, 2006 and repealed appropriate sections of the prior ordinance as well.
- ▶ **2495 Willow Drive**—The City Council approved a lot division and rearrangement on April 4, 2006.
- ▶ **Lawn and Landscape Irrigation Ordinance**—The City Council approved a Lawn and Landscape Irrigation ordinance on April 4, 2006 that will require most new development projects to utilize their storm water ponds to supply water for irrigation of lawns and landscaping.
- ▶ **Rural Residential Moratorium**—The City Council approved changes to sections of the zoning ordinance that will increase the minimum lot width from 110' to 300' and creates a uniform setback for primary structures at 50' on April 18, 2006.
- ▶ **Pool Ordinance**—The City Council will be reviewing changes to the pool ordinance, to allow an alternative for pool covers instead of the current fence requirement on May 16, 2006. The fence height requirement of 5' is proposed to be reduced to 4'. The Council has also discussed this item at the March 21 and April 18 meetings.

Other Upcoming Application Review or Items:

- ▶ **Adam's Pest Control (TH 55, west of Co. Rd. 116)**—The Planning Commission will be reviewing a request for preliminary plat, CUP, and site plan review on May 9, 2006. The City Council will review the plan on May 16, 2006.
- ▶ **Sign Ordinance**—The Planning Commission is reviewing a proposed sign ordinance on May 9, 2006.

Please contact City Hall at (763)473.4643, or via e-mail at rose.lorsung@ci.medina.mn.us for more information.

General Information

Medina Preservation Day Saturday, September 23, 2006

The City is seeking residents or local business representatives to serve on a committee to organize and promote this year's Medina Preservation Day. The event will again be held at the Community Building site in Hamel Legion Park.

City staff will be available to provide support to the committee as needed. If you are available and interested, please contact Dusty Finke at City Hall by phone or e-mail dusty.finke@ci.medina.mn.us

National Night Out Tuesday, August 1, 2006

The 2006 National Night Out event will again be held in Uptown Hamel at the Hamel Volunteer Fire Department.

The event is intended to increase awareness to crime/drug prevention, generate support and participation in local anticrime programs, as well as strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships.

The event will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will end at dusk. Event participants are Medina Police, Hamel VFD, and Loretto VFD.

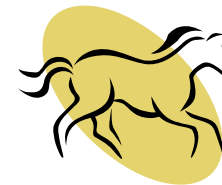
Neighborhoods desiring to hold their own event should contact Medina Police at 473-9209. The department is available to participate in your event.

Rotational Grazing Demonstration Workshop, June 6 & September 19

The University of Minnesota will be hosting a demonstration again this year to illustrate the process of a rotational grazing system for horses, setting up the system, and monitoring the progress of the plan.

There is a \$10 fee for each session. The fees will go towards educational materials and future education events in Hennepin County

The events will both start at 6:30 p.m. at a site in Greenfield and will end by 9:00. Please visit the site www.extension.umn.edu/horse to view a full brochure, or contact Betsy Gilkerson via phone 612-596-1175 or e-mail eliza003@umn.edu



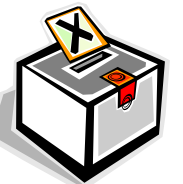
City Seeking Election Judges for Primary & General Elections Tuesday, September 12, 2006 and Tuesday, November 7, 2006

The City is seeking election judges for the 2006 State Primary on Tuesday, September 12 and for the 2006 General Election on Tuesday, November 7. Election judges supervise and help with elections at the polls. Judges will be paid \$10.00/hr. for training and for hours served on the election days.

You must be an eligible voter in Minnesota to serve as an Election Judge, and you must be able to read, write and speak English. Here are some general duties of an election judge:

- ▶ Open and close the polls (judges work from 6:00 a.m. to about 10:00 p.m.); half-day shifts are available.
- ▶ Ensure that only qualified voters are permitted to vote and that each qualified voter is permitted to vote only once.
- ▶ Maintain order and ensure a nonpartisan atmosphere in the voting place.
- ▶ Be responsible for the security of all election materials.
- ▶ Distribute ballots.
- ▶ Ensure that all votes are cast in secret.
- ▶ Tally the results after the polls are closed.
- ▶ Certify the precinct election results.

Contact Janet Olson, janet.olson@ci.medina.mn.us at City Hall if you are interested.



Utility Direct Payment Plan & Authorization Now Available

City of Medina water, sewer and recycling customers can now pay utility bills directly from checking or savings accounts automatically. There will be no additional costs to utilize this service.

Q. How do you sign up?

A. Simply complete and return an authorization form and include a voided check (for checking accounts) or a deposit slip (for savings accounts) to City Hall. The authorization form may be mailed to you, picked up, or downloaded on the City's website.

More information pertaining to the Direct Payment Plan is available on the authorization form. If you have any questions, please contact Laura Sulander or Jeanne Day at City Hall, (763) 473-4643.

Community Survey of Medina Residents

As part of the Comprehensive Planning process, and a desire to learn more from the public on current level of public services, the City has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) to hire a consultant to conduct a survey of Medina residents. The survey is expected to be conducted in July 2006 with results expected to be reported to the City Council by August 31st.

Survey questions will generally relate to current public services, as well as other issues facing the community such as growth, land-use, open spaces, high-speed internet, etc.

A detailed statistical analysis of the survey results are included in the scope of services that include various demographics and geographic boundaries, which will help the community understand which vital issues are important to neighborhoods, etc.

A public presentation of the survey findings will likely occur in August. Survey results will also be made public and will be posted on the City's website. The staff contact for the survey is City Administrator Chad Adams.

Parks & General Information

Open House on County Road 19 Trail Tuesday, June 21st—6:00 p.m.

The Medina Park Commission has scheduled an Open House at Medina City Hall to invite residents to view options for a regional bike trail along County Road 19 extending from Highway 55 to County Road 24. The Open House will last about one hour.

Representatives from Hennepin County and Three Rivers Park District will join Park Commissioners at the meeting to discuss layouts of the trail. The options include a trail on either the east or west side of CR19.

Later this year, the Park Commission and Council will be requested to select the preferred location of the trail through Medina, to keep the project on schedule. Funding for the trail is coordinated through Hennepin County. If trail costs escalate based on preferred design, local jurisdictions may be requested to contribute toward the project.

Playground Unit in Hunter Lions Park

A new play structure will be coming soon to Hunter Lions Park. The Park Commission and Council approved the bid to place a new structure in the Park this past winter.

The value of the structure is just short of \$50,000 and will replace the existing structure in the park.

City Welcomes New Staff Members

The City of Medina welcomes Jeanne Day, Joe Paumen and Dusty Finke (seated) as full-time members to the staff.



Joe Paumen began his service as the new public works superintendent on April 24th. He will oversee the city's water, sewer, parks and roads services. Joe's past experience includes the City of Golden Valley and Sathre-Bergquist.

Jeanne Day was hired on March 8th as the City's first Finance Director. She will oversee the day-to-day financial operations of the City. Jeanne's past work experience include the Three Rivers Park District and City of Chaska.

Dusty Finke was recently promoted to full-time Office Assistant after serving as the City's intern since September 2005. Dusty assumed daily phone operations, counter service, and general administrative assistant duties on May 1st.

Pedestrian/Bike Trail Progress Sioux Drive and Hunter Drive

As part of the Uptown Hamel public improvement projects, Sioux Drive will have a new pedestrian access/trail on the west side of the road, which will connect with the existing sidewalk/trail north of the rail tracks. The project is expected to be completed in June.

City staff and consultants are also working on final location and design of a trail along Hunter Drive. Some base work has already been completed in previous years. The 2006 capital improvement plan calls for the project to be completed this year. When complete, the trail would extend from Medina Road to Hamel Road.

2006 Park Improvement Projects

The City's 2006 Capital Improvement Plan involves numerous projects in the City's parks. Here's a sample of the projects:

- ▶ Roof on shelter of Medina Morningside park
- ▶ Landscape buffer at Maple Park
- ▶ Improvements to new Rainwater Park

Plans for Hamel Legion Park include:

- ▶ Basketball court
- ▶ New entrance signs/plaza
- ▶ Fire pit/garden (if donations are sufficient)
- ▶ Benches (two were recently donated in memory of Desen Dorweiler)
- ▶ Parking Improvements

Medina Clean Up Day Statistics—Historically in Tons Collected

Item & Vendor	2000 Tons	2001 Tons	2002 Tons	2003 Tons	2004 Tons	2005 Tons	2006 Tons
Appliances	7.20	6.88	5.59	4.66	4.67	6.32	7.83
Tires	2.10	3.00	2.28	1.49	2.13	1.47	0.98
Scrap Metals	15.51	19.00	11.00	17.50	22.00	16.00	15.00
Auto Batteries	1.45	1.00	0.50	1.50	1.50	2.00	1.50
Electronics	0.52	0.00	0.36	0.50	0.69	0.69	1.82
Total Recyclables	26.78	29.88	19.73	25.65	30.99	26.48	27.13
Debris	30.78	44.29	32.06	49.07	61.25	45.63	53.82
Total Collected	57.56	74.17	51.79	74.72	92.24	72.11	80.95

Transportation & Public Works

Trunk Highway 55 Improvements and Funding

The City of Medina was recently allocated \$1.24 million in federal funding to improve the Highway 55 intersection of CSAH 116. The \$1.24 million will be used for Right-Of-Way, construction and studies. The Highway 55 Corridor Coalition recently designated the funds for the Medina intersection. Other projects along the Highway 55 Corridor, reaching from Plymouth to Annandale, also received funding as part of \$4.0 million that the Coalition secured this past year.

The City's total request for the CSAH 116 intersection is \$2,980,000, which is being requested federally as part of an additional transportation bill. The City is also requesting funding for County Road 19 intersection improvements, which are in addition to the already scheduled improvements to the intersection this year. Additionally, the City has requested funding for a pedestrian bridge across Highway 55 at the County Road 101 intersection. Separate Hennepin County and MnDOT funds are expected to support the projects, as well as possible local funds.

In order to maintain the funding and schedule of possible improvements, the City approved a Scope of Services for Project Development and Funding at the April 18, 2006 Council meeting. The City's engineering firm Bonestroo, Rosene, Anderlik & Associates will be providing the services for data collection, environmental assessment coordination, draft geometric layouts, and funding allocations. Future open house meetings will be scheduled to encourage public input.

To learn more about the Highway 55 Corridor Coalition and its vision, please visit their website www.highway55.org.



Water Treatment Plant Summer Completion

The City's first conventional water treatment plant will begin service this summer. A final date has not been established, but residents will begin to see some changes in the water. The City will be sending out more information as the treatment plant nears completion.

The treatment plant will reduce levels of radium and gross alpha per federal standards as well as remove iron and manganese from the distributed water supply.

Lawn & Landscape Irrigation Ordinance

The City Council approved a new ordinance on April 4th that will require most new developments to utilize their storm water ponds for lawn and landscape irrigation desires. The purpose of this ordinance is to promote efficient use of water for lawn and landscape irrigation without placing an undue burden on the city's public water supply.

The requirement will also reduce the amount of new municipal wells needed to supply treated water to the residents. Contact City Hall for details on the ordinance and its affects on development.

Plaque Presented to Jim Dillman



Mayor Workman provides retiring Public Works Director Jim Dillman with a plaque naming him as an honorary resident of the community. The City thanks Jim for his 27 years of commitment and service to Medina!

2006 Medina Clean Up Day



Thank You to all the Volunteers who helped in this year's Clean Up Day! See additional Clean Up Day statistics on page 4 of the newsletter.