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## Council Approves Wind Turbine

On Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> the City Council approved an ordinance authorizing the construction of a Wind Energy Conversion System (WECS) and civil defense siren at the Hennepin County Public Works Facility at 1600 Prairie Drive.

The ordinance included findings of fact to support the approval as well as twenty-two conditions that must be met by Hennepin County. The approved ordinance may be viewed on the City's website.



## City Calendar

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|----------|---|
| December | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>2nd</b> Tues—City Council 7:00 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>8th</b> Mon— Truth-in-Taxation Hearing 6:30 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>9th</b> Tues—Planning Commission 7:00 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>16th</b> Tues—City Council 7:00 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>17th</b> Wed—Park Commission 7:00 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>20th</b> Sat—City Council Office Hours 9 am to 11 am</li> <li>▶ <b>25th</b> Thurs—City Offices Closed—Holiday</li> <li>▶ <b>26th</b> Fri—City Offices Closed</li> </ul> |
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| January | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>1st</b> Thurs—City Offices Closed—Holiday</li> <li>▶ <b>6th</b> Tues—City Council 7:00 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>13th</b> Tues—Planning Commission 7:00 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>17th</b> Sat—City Council Office Hours 9 am to 11 am</li> <li>▶ <b>19th</b> Mon—City Offices Closed—Holiday</li> <li>▶ <b>20th</b> Tues—City Council 7:00 pm</li> <li>▶ <b>21st</b> Wed—Park Commission 7:00 pm</li> </ul> |
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- ▶ All meetings at City Hall unless otherwise noted.
- ▶ Meeting agendas on web site when available.

## 2009 Planning Commission Vacancies

The Planning Commission has three seats open for appointment/re-appointment beginning January 2009. All three seats will be for a three-year term.

The seven-member Planning Commission is a recommending body to the City Council and will have the following responsibilities in the next few years:

- ▶ City Ordinances—with the comprehensive plan completion nearing, several zoning and land use ordinances will be updated and reviewed by the commission.
- ▶ Development project review—Includes subdivisions, site plan reviews, planned unit developments, variances, conditional use permits, etc.

Interested applicants may pick up an application at City Hall or via the City's website. **Deadline for applications is Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup>.**

## Code Enforcement Actions/Initiatives

The City has increased its code enforcement actions and initiatives in 2008. Code enforcement review has been occurring citywide for junk vehicles and nuisances as well as septic system compliance.

Please Contact Planning Assistant Deb Peterson-Dufresne at City Hall if you have questions or complaints.

## General Election Results

The official results of the 2008 General Election were canvassed by the City of Medina City Council on Wednesday, November 5th.

Tom Crosby was re-elected as the Mayor of Medina, serving a two-year term.

There were two seats open for City Council. Elizabeth (Liz) Weir was re-elected and Mike Sittari was elected to serve four-year terms on the Medina City Council.

Vote totals for all of the Medina candidates can be found on the Hennepin County website, [www.hennepin.us/electionsresults](http://www.hennepin.us/electionsresults).

The newly elected officials will be sworn in at the January 6, 2009 City Council meeting. Medina's voter turnout for the 2008 General Election which includes actual votes compared to registered voters was 90%.

## Highway 55/County Road 116 Intersection Project Update

On Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> City Council approved a revised County Road 116/Highway 55 intersection preliminary layout and authorized staff to submit the revised layout to Hennepin County and Mn/DOT for final review and approval. The City will continue to work with affected property owners to sufficiently address their concerns until final plans are approved. The proposed timeline for the project is as follows:

- ▶ December 2008—February 2009: Work with Hennepin County and Mn/DOT to resolve layout concerns.
- ▶ February 2009: Prepare Feasibility Study (if necessary).
- ▶ March—July 2009: Prepare Mn/DOT Geometric Layout, environmental documentation and determine right-of-way needs.
- ▶ August 2009—July 2010: Assemble comprehensive funding package for construction. Acquire right-of-way. Prepare final plans and specifications for the intersection reconstruction project.
- ▶ Fall 2010: Begin Construction.

## Upcoming Public Hearings/Meetings

**Monday, December 8, 2008, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall—** Truth In Taxation Hearing. Residents will have the opportunity to express your concerns to the City Council on the proposed property taxes for your property for 2009. Please review your "Proposed Property Tax for 2009" Truth in Taxation and City Budget Flyer that were mailed to you a few weeks ago or the City's website for additional budget detail.

**Tuesday, December 9, 2008, 7:00 p.m. at City Hall—** The Planning Commission will be reviewing a request for amended conditional use permit for Woodridge Church at 1500 County Rd. 24 from an existing 28,069 sq. ft. facility to 48,515 sq. ft. facility.

**Tuesday, December 16, 2008, 7:00 p.m. at City Hall—** The City is proposing planning and zoning fee revisions that have been scheduled for a public hearing before the City Council as required by State law.

*Please review the City's website to remain updated on any changes in scheduled public hearing times, dates, and locations.*

## General City Information

e-mail: [city@ci.medina.mn.us](mailto:city@ci.medina.mn.us)  
 Website: [www.ci.medina.mn.us](http://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

### Mayor

Tom Crosby.....612-766-8605

### City Council

Carolyn Smith.....763-475-1003  
 Daniel Johnson.....763-473-0744  
 Elizabeth Weir.....763-473-3226  
 Joe Cavanaugh.....763-473-5123

### City Council Meetings

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

### Planning Commission Meetings

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

### Park Commission Meetings

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

### Newsletter Editor

City Administrator  
 Chad M. Adams

### Other Contributors

Jodi Gallup

# Parks & Public Works

## 2009 Park Commission Vacancies

The City is seeking residents to serve on the Medina Park Commission. Three seats on the seven member commission are currently up for appointment/re-appointment effective January 2009. All three seats will be for a three-year term.

The Park Commission is a recommending body to the City Council and will be involved with the following projects in the next few years:

- ▶ Open Space Preservation of Medina's natural features & resources
- ▶ Long-term Capital Improvement Plan of trails, park equipment, and acquiring new parks, trail easements and open spaces.
- ▶ Development projects—Review of subdivisions to determine proper location of trails, dedication of parks, and utilization of park dedication fees.

Interested applicants may pickup an application at City Hall or via City's website. **Deadline for applications is Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup>.**

## Lake Sarah TMDL

The City is presently working collaboratively with Three Rivers Park District and area communities to address Lake Sarah's designation as an "impaired" body of water. Due to high levels of phosphorous loading in the lake, the area jurisdictions are preparing a TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) that will outline implementation measures to reduce the loading of phosphorous into the lake.

The Medina City Council will be hearing a presentation on the TMDL implementation recommendations at the December 2, 2008 City Council meeting. Residents are welcome to attend to learn and ask questions.

## Street Assessment Policy Under Review

City Staff and Council members have been working the past several months on drafting a street assessment policy for all City road construction, reconstructions, as well as mill and overlay maintenance projects. The purpose to create a written policy is to provide a consistent policy on all road types when the City's 56 miles of roads need improvements.

Street assessments and road improvement bonds are being approached by the City to help fund future road improvement needs instead of relying entirely on annual property tax levies. The Medina City Council will be discussing a draft policy at the December 2, 2008 City Council meeting.

## Snowplowing Tips for the Upcoming Winter Weather Season

**Starting of Snowplowing Season:** As a general rule, snow removal operations may start as soon as two inches of snow has accumulated. If a heavy snow fall is predicted, snow removal will be based on the existing conditions, snow forecast, wind conditions and time of day. Ideally the crew works to keep the roads passable during the morning and evening hours. During a normal snow fall, all roads are plowed. During a snow storm, lesser traveled residential roads and cul-de-sacs may have the plowing delayed while the crew concentrates on main thru-roads.

**City Methods for Ice Control:** The City uses a salt/sand mixture for ice removal. During extremely cold conditions salt will not melt ice, so the use of sand will be used for traction. The City is concerned about the environmental impact of salt and sand, as well as the fiscal impact of materials. Therefore, the City does not have a bare pavement policy, which may cause City roads to be slippery and drivers should be cautious. *Also, be cautious of what you use and the amount you apply for your own personal ice control, as it will eventually end up in the storm sewer and out to our lakes and rivers.*

**Damage to Property:** During any plowing operation, there is always potential for damage to mailboxes, sod, or other structures that are on the public right-of-way. The City assumes no responsibility for damage to property caused by snow plows, including mailboxes. If a mailbox is damaged, the City may provide a temporary mailbox. Before the snow season begins, mailboxes should be checked for sturdiness and repaired as needed. To limit sod damage, it is advised to place a marker along curb lines. Wood and fiberglass markers are permitted. Metal poles are strictly prohibited within the City right-of way.

**Location of Receptacles on Garbage/Recycling Days:** On garbage and recycling days, please place garbage receptacles out of the way where the plow drivers will drive. Plow drivers do not want to get out and move containers, but at the same time, we do not want garbage or recyclables spread all over.

**Street Parking Details:** The City has an ordinance that prohibits parking on any public street from November 1 through March 31 during the hours of 1:00AM – 6:00AM. This parking policy is enforced by the Medina Police Department. If at all possible, the City plow crew would appreciate having no vehicles parked on City streets when snowfall occurs during the daytime also. By doing so, the plowing will be more efficient and will result in a quicker snow removal.

**Plowing of Sidewalks and Trails:** It is the responsibility of property owners to remove snow on their sidewalks. The City will begin plowing trails this winter season, but only after all other surfaces are plowed.

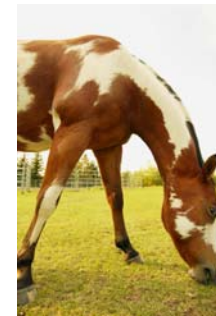
*The Medina Public Works Department strives to maintain safe, clean and passable roads all winter long. Roads are maintained using City equipment and personnel. In some areas, the City contracts out plowing services.*



# Administration & Planning

## New Rural Residential Animal Unit Density Standards

As of October 10, 2008, the City of Medina has adopted regulations regarding the number and keeping of animals on properties inside the City's Rural Residential zoning areas. Please note that the number of animals is now subject to a certain amount of "grazable acreage" a property contains. The new standards reflect the animal unit (A/U) number assigned to various or typical live-stock, plus the maximum amount of animals you may raise as a ratio to grazable acres. Section 826.25 of the Medina City Code contains a table which reflects these animal unit numbers. The number of animal units is calculated based on one A/U for the first two grazable acres and one additional A/U for each grazable acre thereafter. See the examples below.



### Example 1:

If you had 10 grazable acres (as determined by the new definition), and you chose to raise just horses, this would allow you to keep or stable up to 9 horses. One mature horse = 1 A/U  
10 acres (grazable): 1 A/U for the first 2 acres + 1 A/U for the remaining 8 acres = 9 A/U total. This would allow up to 9 horses.

### Example 2:

If you had 5 grazable acres, and you chose to raise 4 horses, 5 goats and 20 chickens, this would calculate as follows:  
5 acres (grazable): 1 A/U for the first 2 acres + 1 A/U for the remaining 3 acres = 4 A/U total. This would allow only 4 horses, but the goats at .1 A/U would equal .5 and the 20 chickens at .20, or 4 + 0.50 + .20 = 4.70 A/U. Therefore, the goats and chickens would not be allowed, unless you chose to remove one horse.

## Medina Celebration Day 2008 Recap

Medina Celebration Day was held on Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at the Hamel Community Building. The City was excited to once again see a wonderful turn-out from the community. There were a lot of great activities at this year's event for the whole family to enjoy, including a business expo, farmer's market, a display of Medina's historic past, bingo, wandering musicians, pumpkin painting contest and games, kiddie parade, hair braiding, face painter, clown doing balloon art, petting zoo, Hennepin County K-9 demonstration, s'mores around the campfire, local food and beverage vendors, as well as a spectacular fireworks display, sponsored by area businesses.

**The City of Medina would like to thank all the contributors, exhibitors, and volunteers who were involved in Medina Celebration Day. This event could not have happened without their support.**

Medina Celebration Day Committee	Gramercy Club	Medina Entertainment Center
Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts	Gregor Farms and Greenhouse	Medina Golf & Country Club
Brownies & Girl Scouts	Hamel Athletic Association	Medina Just for Kix
4-H Clover Patch Club	Hamel Electric, Inc.	Rockler Inc.
Adam's Pest Control, Inc.	Hamel Fire Department	Rotary Club
Anytime Fitness	Hamel Library	Scherer Pumpkin Patch
Applebee's	Hamel Lions	Shamrock Golf
Argent Parc	Hedtke Marketing	Starbucks/Plymouth Station
Boy Scouts Troop 570	Hennepin County Sheriff's K-9	State Farm Insurance
Buffalo Wild Wings	Hollywood Video/Plymouth	Sticks & Bricks
Cold Stone	Howie's Barber Shop	T Nails
Complete Eye Care of Medina	In the Spotlight, Inc.	Target
Countryside Café	Intercomp	Temroc Metals/Signature Aluminum
Cub Foods	Jackson Hewitt	The Cellars Wine & Spirits
Culver's	Jazzercise	Tolomatic
Ditter Heating & Cooling	Jimmy's Pizza	Uptown Hamel Business Assoc.
EcoSolutions of Minnesota	Joe Senser's	West Financial Credit Union
Elm Creek Golf Course	Lakes Area Realty	West Hennepin Pioneers Assoc.
Fantastic Sam's	Loram Inc.	West Metro Tax Services, Inc.
Farmers State Bank of Hamel	Lunds/Byerly's	Westland Dental
Fortin Health & Wellness Clinic	Martha Burns Swimming School	Willows Home Accents
Friends of Wolsfeld Woods	Mayer Mobil Gas Station	Wine Styles
	McDonalds	Wright Hennepin Electric

**You won't want to miss next year's celebration, which will be held on Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>.**



Children's Activities



Farmer's Market



Traveling Musicians