

MINUTES OF A JOINT MEETING OF THE
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL AND MAPLE PLAIN CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017 –6:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a joint meeting of the Independence City Council and Maple Plain City Council was called to order by Mayor Johnson at 6:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Officers Ebeling and Geddes led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Independence Mayor Johnson and Maple Plain Mayor Maas-Kusske. Independence Councilors Betts, Grotting, McCoy and Spencer. Maple Plain Councilors Broda, Cahill and Fay. DeLuca arrived late at 6:15 p.m.

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Independence City Administrator and City Planner Kaltsas, Independence City Attorney Vose and Administrative Assistant Horner. Maple Plain City Administrator Schoen and WHPS Director Kroells

VISITORS: Ann Reese, Ellen Finn and Jane Schoen

4. WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR GARY KROELLS INTRODUCTION AND PRESENTATION.

- a. Swearing-in of Officer Ebeling and Officer Geddes.

Johnson said it was a very special with the swearing in of the new officers. Maas-Kusske said it was an honor to be at the meeting on behalf of the residents of Maple Plain and a joy to take part in this swearing in ceremony. Kroells said it is an honor to welcome the two newest members to the police department. He noted staff is the most valuable resource at West Hennepin Public Safety. Kroells stated the department works as a team and supports each other through ongoing training. He noted candidates are selected by staff and City Council after careful consideration. Kroells noted the mission statement of West Hennepin Public Safety is to serve the citizens of Independence and Maple Plain with professionalism and compassion. He said the officers are extraordinary and do have compassion in difficult situations. Kroells noted the core values that serve as a foundation and form the basis of all functions of West Hennepin Public Safety as we fulfill our mission:

Honor *Courage* *Common Sense* *Respect & Dignity* *Loyalty* *Fairness* *Trust*

Kroells discussed the lengthy interview process and background checks candidates are vetted though. He said on the fast track it is a 4-5 month process. Kroells introduced Officer Aaron Geddes and Officer Shawn Ebeling and their family members.

Officer Ebeling is trained as a paramedic as well as having his criminal justice degree and has nine years of experience at Cottage Grove. He has nine years of patrol experience and is a drug recognition expert, fire arms instructor, detective and field expert.

Officer Geddes grew up in Plymouth, MN and joined the Police Explorers program as a teen where he graduated to a Sergeant role. He was a reserve with the Minnetrista police department and has a degree in Criminal Justice. Geddes started his career in North Dakota where he quickly ran up the ranks and became a patrol corporal officer.

Kroells led the oath of office and both Officer Geddes and Officer Ebeling were officially sworn in as West Hennepin Public Safety Officers. Sergeant Dennison presented the Officers with their badges.

Kroells thanked everyone for coming out for this special celebration. Mayor Mass-Kusske on behalf of the City of Independence and Maple Plain thanked the Officers for their service and dedication to the two cities.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mass-Kusske to adjourn the Joint Council Meeting at 6:20 p.m. Ayes: Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Fisher, Grotting, McCoy, Spencer, Broda, Cahill, Fay and DeLuca Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Trish Bemmels, Recording Secretary