

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2022, 6:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Independence City Council was called to order by Mayor Johnson at 6:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Johnson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Johnson, Councilors McCoy, Betts, Spencer, and Grotting  
ABSENT: None.  
STAFF: City Administrator Kaltsas, City Admin Assistant Simon, and Bob Vose (City Attorney)  
VISITORS: See Sign-in Sheet.

4. \*\*\*\*Consent Agenda\*\*\*\*

All items listed under Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by Council and will be acted on by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

- a. Approval of City Council Minutes from the August 16, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting.
- b. Approval of Accounts Payable (Batch# 1; Checks Numbered 21422-21424, Batch# 2; Checks Numbered 21425-21431 and Batch# 3; Checks Numbered 21434-21473, Checks Numbered 21432 and 21433 have been voided).
- c. Pay Request# I BY Construction - WHPS/North Memorial Garage.
- d. Approval of a Solicitor Application for Curbside Waste (New Waste Hauler).
- e. Approval of Additional Election Judges for the 2022 General Election.

Motion by Spencer, second by Betts to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes: Johnson, McCoy, Betts, Spencer, and Grotting. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.**

5. SET AGENDA - ANYONE NOT ON THE AGENDA CAN BE PLACED UNDER OPEN/ MISC.

6. REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES BY COUNCIL AND STAFF

**Grotting attended the following meetings:**

- Visiting properties on the agenda
- Planning
- Workshop

**Spencer attended the following meetings:**

- Workshop
- LMC webinar training on property tax
- Hwy 12 Safety Coalition

**McCoy attended the following meetings:**

- none

**Betts attended the following meetings:**

- Workshop
- Night To Unite
- Police Commission

**Johnson attended the following meetings:**

- Planning
- Workshop
- Mayors breakfast with Congressman Phillips at a Minnetonka pancake house
- NW Trails dinner (snowmobilers)
- West Hennepin Pioneer Museum Annual Meeting
- MN Dept of Transportation met w/ Commissioner regarding the future funding for Hwy 12
- Sent a retirement congratulations to Bonnie Waters (Sr Community Services)
- Police ride along with Maple Plain Mayor & Congressman Phillips
- Virtual interview of congressional seat candidates
- County Attorney candidate Martha Dimick
- Lake Minnetonka Veterans Island w/ Senate Committee and several past Orono Mayors & the statewide Vets organizations
- Hwy 12 Corridor Coalition Meeting

**Kaltsas attended the following meetings:**

- Three Rivers Park District (Baker Park long-term master plan)
- Planning
- Workshop

**Simon attended the following meetings:**

- Workshop
- Planning
- LMC webinar training on property tax

Johnson - Does Three Rivers Park District need to have a plan with MetCouncil, too?

Kaltsas- Yes, there is a limited amount of "active" recreation spaces they can have.

7. Russel Gilberg (Applicant) and David Vandeneinde (Owner) requests that the City consider the following action for the property located at 840 Wild Oak Trail, Independence, MN (PID No. 27-1 18-24-33-0003):

- a. RESOLUTION NO. 22-0906-01- Considering approval of a conditional use permit to allow a ground mounted solar array on the subject property.

CUP to allow ground mounted solar system/GMS, AG and guided in AG. 2 properties associated with this split by two separate PIDs, (same owner). GMS are required to have a CUP. Provisions - need to be 2.5 acres, noted setbacks, and limited to 500 sq ft. Within the number of maximum sq ft. side yard and rear yard setbacks are all met. GMS is 11 ft to highest point. Maximum height is 15ft in City ordinance. Zoning ordinance states it does not affect property or surrounding properties, and no public comments were made prior or after the PC. PC recommended approval due to no surround property structures being within 1000ft. Solar array sits at a lower elevation than the street and would not create an impact that could not be mitigated by the applicant. Owner agreed that what Kaltsas stated was correct.

**Motion by McCoy, seconded by Spencer to approve RESOLUTION NO. 22-0906-01 - the of a conditional use permit to allow a ground mounted solar array on the subject property. Ayes: McCoy, Betts, Johnson, Spencer, and Grotting. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain. None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED. 5:0**

8. John Peterson (Applicant) and Jean P & A Sterner Etal (Owner) requests that the City consider the following action for the properties generally located at 8910 US Hwy 12, Independence, MN (PID No's. 07-118-24-41-0003 and 07-1 18-24-42-0004):

- a. RESOLUTION NO. 22-0906-02 - Considering approval of a minor subdivision to allow a lot line rearrangement which would adjust the line that separates the two properties.

Properties at and adjacent to 8910 US Hwy 12 and essentially allowing lot line adjustment to straighten off or square off a lot line that was adjusted years ago. The railroad bisects both properties. Also the North and South lot line jogs from the North side and South side of 12. On the North side of the property, there is a small piece to be included in their lot. It is an unclaimed piece of land there and the property to the north does not claim it either. The PC reviewed and discussed the unclaimed piece. Al Sterner owns the Western unclaimed piece but was uninterested in fixing that lot line, so that's why we are only talking about the unclaimed piece North of 8910 US Hwy 12. PC found it routine and recommended approval.

Peterson agreed that what Kaltsas stated was correct. Johnson asked why the railroad expanded further to the West. Kaltsas said they have 25ft more of ROW.

John Peterson- When my sister and husband bought the E piece of property, we were under the impression that the fence lines N-S and E-W were the property boundaries. When Jean and Al bought the property and found out it was in the E parcel 60ft, he had it changed and moved it West where the fence was, and my sister and husband had agreed to that. I use aria! survey maps and found that my father never changed the North side. It makes an 80 ft difference when it gets back to the house. We wanted to change it to the historic fence line. That's what happened when they changed the boundaries. Kaltsas said the RR won't give you it.

Spencer- Do these boundaries happen a lot in the community? Johnson - I don't think we've had that many requests. One surveyor can differ from the next one.

Kaltsas -This is different since it doesn't follow a straight line. It could have been surveyed by two different surveyors from either side. Often missing a small piece.

**Motion by Grotting, seconded by Betts to approve RESOLUTION NO. 22-0906-02- granting approval of a minor subdivision to allow a lot line rearrangement for the properties generally located at and adjacent 8910 US Hwy 12, Independence, MN (PID No's. 07-118-24-41-0003 and 07-118-24-42-0004). Ayes: McCoy, Betts, Johnson, Spencer, and Grotting. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain. None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED. 5:0**

Vose-The City's approval of approving the blue/unclaimed part is great, but it doesn't clear up title of that property. Let's just understand that and that the owner is working on that. The applicant will need to exchange with owners to the North and the South a quit claim deeds to clear that up to describe the property as the fence line.

9. Steve Bohl (Applicant) and Clifford L Otten Trust (Owner) request that the City consider the following actions for the properties generally located at 2236 South Lake Shore Drive, Independence, MN (PID No's. 24-118-24-14-0005, 24-118-24-11-0009 and 24-118-24-11- 0012):

- a. **RESOLUTION NO. 22-0906-03-** Considering approval of a comprehensive plan

amendment to allow the subject property to be re-guided to the RR-Rural Residential zoning district.

- b. **ORDINANCE 2022-05:** Considering rezoning of the subject property from AG-Agriculture to RR-Rural Residential.
- c. **RESOLUTION NO. 22-0906-04** - Considering approval of a preliminary plat for the proposed subdivision of the property into 28 single-family lots with a minimum lot size of 1 acre.

This is bring brought to you after being tabled at last meeting and needing more clarification. There has been quite a bit of correspondence relating to the process. This started in 2018 when we sent out notice for a concept plan that came forward to the City. There were 6 different meetings, public hearings, council meeting, and neighborhood meetings of previous proposed developer. On the CompPlan, we had about 8 meetings for the development of CompPlan. About 15 public meetings have been held since 2018 since the first public meeting.

The proposal in front of the City is for a 28-unit subdivision (BridgeVine). Planning Commission asked for more clarification and for applicant to look at (1) stormwater and other key items. Stormwater running off of this property heading to lake, the ravine to East, and the drainage to the West. Applicant agreed to strengthen the proposed stormwater system in several key locations by adding a rain garden filtration system to a low point as the water not collected running off of the rear Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4 and then ultimately swales towards Lake Independence and would go into the rain garden in the backside of Lot 3. This is additional measure would not be required by the City or Pioneer-Sarah Creek. Similarly, there was discussion relating to stormwater running off to the West under South Lake Shore Dr and ultimately further West along Perkinsville, under Budd and into the larger wetland complex. Applicant is proposing rain garden at the low point at outlot A to collect and filter to the W. Additionally, the Applicant provided pre and post peak runoff numbers - rate of run off at key points is reduced by proposed development in after conditions vs now. (2) Common dock area - Applicant was proposing to dedicate an outlot with common dock at the bottom of the Maple St ROW. The Applicant revised the proposed common dock area to not have an outlot associated with it, so it would just be a trail access point and still include a singular dock that the HOA maintained and having a pontoon boat. The trail easement would come off the shared common access lot- Outlot D with the firepit structure. Now proposing to follow property lines between Lots 5 & 8 down to the lake with a trail easement down to the dock. Applicant is proposing to restrict through HOA and covenant documents to regulate the use of that easement and outlot, number of docks, how it can be used, and who can use it. It was discussed with the City Attorney to figure out provisions for restricting or regulating through the Plan Use Development or development agreement. Bob will address that. The Applicant is ready to add additional provisions in the HOA docs. With the removal of the outlot, there would not be a piece of land that the HOA would own, it would just be an easement access point. The dock would come off that, differently than common access Lake Sarah or owners have.

Johnson - How wide of an easement will it be?

Kaltsas - Each property line already has 10 ft drainage and utility easements, but the Trail could be 8.5 or 10 ft and we could define this further- narrow and more restrictive.

(3) Outlot E- the little finger towards the lake in between 2 lots off Maple, Applicant proposed to deed this outlot to the City. We do own an infrastructure/ lift station there, have an easement now for a structure, and have no other public purpose other than the lift station. We could accept it or not and need feedback from Council on that. (4) Trail/Sidewalk -The City talked with Three Rivers Park District regarding a master plan and the connection from Independence into Baker Park. Three Rivers will talk about this to see if they would allow it. It could connect via the campground, the closest point. Applicant would not like to see a connection into the campground from the public. It would not be desirable either way. They thought it would be good to connect a trail along Co Rd 19 and wrap in at pedestrian/bike underpass trail system without going into the campground area.

Johnson - Did they know about the past resolution or connection?

Kaltsas-They were not familiar with past approval. Their point is valid, and we don't want that access to bring campers into the City and vice versa. We would need to involve Hennepin County to utilize the ROW for the Co Rd 19 option noting there is a vegetative buffer, tree line and ditch, however there is a relatively flat grade there. Providing a trail along Perkinsville to Budd and back towards Maple Plain would be desirable for the City. It would be a major funding item in trying to get that solved with 3 different entities would be difficult. We could work with the developer to secure a trail easement on Perkinsville since we have a proposed Outlot and perhaps collect cash in lieu of until we have a better plan to get it all come together. It wouldn't be desirable to build a trail that doesn't go anywhere. The discussion would involve multiple entities, and Three Rivers will talk internally.

Johnson - Who did you discuss this with at Three Rivers.

Kaltsas - Initially, Maple Plain resident Stephen who is the landscape architect who does some of their master planning and trail planning.

Steve Bohl is virtual tonight as well as the engineer. If it were to move forward regarding accessory structure size, he has questions about accessory structure size language and standards associated with it. Some of the garages are getting in the 1000 sqft range and would limit the language for attached/detached. We're not looking to adopt that draft PUD language tonight.

Johnson- Not directly related, but we approved the CompPlan to go forward to MetCouncil. They're supposed to approve or make or recommend changes. Don't we have to make a final approval when they send it back to us?

Kaltsas- Yes, we approve it subject to their approval, and then they approve it subject to our approval of their approval. I am hopeful they will approve it with some recommendations and some required changes. We've met a couple of times in the last few weeks, and we have a robust submittal.

Spencer- On Lot 8 (adjacent to new proposed trail position), is that existing boat house a nonconforming structure?

Kaltsas - It is a nonconforming structure. Spencer- Is that to be left?

Kaltsas - It'd have to look at the setback. It's bigger than the allowed 120sqft.

Spencer - Intention is that would remain and be part of parcel 8.

McCoy - So it will not be for the general use of the association?

Kaltsas - That's correct. The association would have an easement for Lot 8 between 5 & 8. But that structure would be associated with Lot 8 and we would talk to that applicant about. I don't know that we'd want that structure to be maintained on a separate parcel.

Spencer - It looks like it would exceed what we would allow.

Kaltsas - 20x15' - bigger than what we'd allow. We could talk to the applicant.

Grotting - Regarding the level of traffic that we are going to see. There were a lot of letters written appreciative of your input. They say the average household makes 9 trips a day, so 250 some trips. The intersection at Co Rd 19 and Perkinsville. Is there a commitment to do some work there to upgrade that corner?

Kaltsas - It is a definite issue, but when we studied it with the 96-unit impact with the previous developer, they looked at that intersection noting there is a lot of intersection that already funnels through that area. There wasn't a significant impact with 28 units as it is a lot less. (56) We know that that intersection needs to be looked at and studied and hopefully improved. It has to be something the City looks at, but to fix it, we need Hennepin County and Medina and more money than the City of Independence has to fund this. A possible roundabout will cost about \$2- 2.5 million. It is on our radar to get a solution. This development isn't causing it to fail more than it is. We have had conversations with Hennepin County to get this on their radar to find a solution. Once Hwy 12 is finished, this is our next intersection that needs to be addressed. Grotting- Because we did some things on Hwy. 12 that brought down deaths with cars, motorcyclists, maybe there is some interim way to increase visibility and safety.

Kaltsas - When the City redid sewer, we helped with visibility by taking some trees down. Johnson - The lakeshore ordinance allows up to 24 homes within 1000 ft of the lake without going through a PUD, correct?

Kaltsas - The City did not approve a specific number of lots. When looking at a property, we look at spacial standards that the ordinance has in place for allowable lot size, shoreline, street width, frontage, lot depth ratios, so you have to draw a plan to identify what yield you can get on a property. We have a provision saying properties within 1000 lineal ft of high-water level/HWL, our shoreline ordinance allows a minimum lot size of 1 acre if having sewer connection. We don't have an allocation of sewer that supports 24 lots/homes, so we have to ask approval from the Quad City agreement to increase the sewer capacity which is not easily done. We have to ask Medina and Met Council to service this property, then you can go down to 1 acre lots. The layout done by the previous developer had a layout & concept plan that was never approved by the City and was a good baseline showing 24 lots within that 1000 linear ft. This plan shows the 3 lots could be septic with 2.5 min lot size.

Grotting - Of the letters you received, was anyone advocating for septic or sewer lots?

Kaltsas - I don't know anyone broke it down that way. This property has sewer on three sides: Lake Shore Drive, South Lake Shore Drive, and Perkinsville. This has always showed on CompPlan as sewer lot, just not 1 acre lots. Independence Rd has city sewer and in that there are lakeshore lots. We had negotiated for 12 additional sewer connections available. When Serenity Hills came in for development, that was 14 lots. We asked MetCouncil to sewer that and that was outside the 1000 lineal ft. because there's a major stormwater management contributor that goes into Lake Independence, and we didn't want to see systems potentially leaching into that drainage area and we were denied. But we got 1.

McCoy - The CompPlan amendment to allow additional sewer units, not density zoning?

Kaltsas - Yes. No change in zoning of that. We're proposing a change that would allow to make the sewer connections, and in that through a tool called Planned Unit Development/PU0. Our RR/Rural Residential has cluster development as a Conditional Use Permit/CUP and we would add PUD as a conditional use to ask MetCouncil to allow for additional sewer lots.

Johnson - We haven't talked about the access to the lake. They would dedicate the property that was originally for the public back to the City and now is just a trail down between 2 properties to the lake. It'd only be I dock for a pontoon.

Kaltsas -That's what is being proposed, and a concern is what happens as far as regulations.

Vose - The Planned Unit Development/PUD zoning tool allows you to make modifications to the zoning district. If you proceeded, it would allow you to make modifications to the Rural Residential/RR set of standards. One of the special provisions you might build in is very specific allowances and restrictions on the dock and boat for community use. You could use the CUP's PUD which is stronger than the typical CUP because it is an ordinance violation. No hearing is needed whether a permit is being complied with or not, and you can ultimately change the permit or revoke it. The process is not that cumbersome if a PUD set of rules gets violated. It's treated as a code enforcement issue where you can issue citations and be in court very quickly. You would want to have some controls on this dock and shared boat arrangement and easily enforceable, strict rules, so everyone knows what's expected around this property.

3 action items are before you tonight. After the CompPlan amendment and the rezoning is the approving of the preliminary plat. Question and comment for staff and council, you can see if you move forward, there are a lot of things that need to happen in order for this to occur the way it is proposed even if everything is approved tonight. As is typical, the resolution approving preliminary plat tracks your City Code stating, "A final plat would have to be submitted within 90 days." There are too many things needing to happen within that timeframe. Please consider if you want to be more flexible on that timeframe. For the benefit of the Applicant, the City's code requires that we get updated title work and that we have the party identified correctly. Although the resolution doesn't expressly say that, it is a requirement. So having both of these well in advance before considering the final plat is needed, as I'll need to take a little time to review the title work and issue a plat opinion to you. So just some timing issues to be aware of, we need to get an updated title commitment on the property well in advance.

Spencer - Back to the dock thing to add some clarifications. So we use the PUD to put restrictions on the dock, and I'm the new homeowner and think "I don't think so" and I put a lift and my wake board on the end of the dock and wait for you to come get me. What would be the process? Would we issue them a citation or fine for it, could we compel a change in action, or we couldn't revoke the PUD on the entire subdivision obviously or would we revoke the access point or what is that process?

Vose - These restrictions abstractly now would be embodied in development agreement, which is recorded against the property, so everyone who owns the property is subject to that. It would be in the CUP granting the PUD. Adding PUDs to your zoning code creates an ordinance making it the most efficient way to have law enforcement go out and issue a citation. Or is it the developer or the owner who's violating by putting 2 boats rather than 1? You'll have multiple ways to enforce these, mainly the law enforcement writing a citation and pursue it that way.

Spencer - The challenge for me is that we have some subdivisions with covenants in place and who's to enforce this with some teeth? There should be a way to deal with this without the City absorbing the cost. Along the same lines, stormwater ponds. So if a homeowner decides to test that, we can put the cost of defending that on them?



Vose - We have used covenants and they are useful. It is a good tool, however after covenants are put in place, the City doesn't have any say over enforcing it. PUDs are not like that at all. The City would be the prime enforcer of the CUP PUD tools, development agreement, and the ordinance PUD requirements.

McCoy - Where is the line between the City and the PUD regulations and the standard enforcers on the water and DNR? Who supersedes who?

Vose - Dock regulation is something that a lake is within City's boundaries. The City do have regulation over docks. State agencies are in that too, and there are surface use issues. The City can regulate in regard to the dock/boat issues.

Grotting- We have open files with the meter running regarding violations, and I see this as the same thing. The City is spending money chasing residents that are not following City rules.

Vose- Dealing with landowner rights are very difficult for cities. It is hard to enforce those things. It is intentionally difficult for the government to regulate landowner use. People are always going to test the City's willingness to enforce. We have to make it as efficient as we can, which is why making it an ordinance violation. Can people ignore that anyway? Sure. Some will test that.

Spencer- Moving this path away from the old road and outlot and in between 2 multimillion-dollar property owners is helpful since it will upset the two owners. The hope is that they will want to keep it legit. You can't prevent all nuisances in advance, but I'd like to see more detailed language and the tools on this in advance.

Vose- You are not deciding restrictions tonight. You are not being asked to approve the trail, dock, and boat and prelim plat. You will have another chance to make that decision and rules.

Spencer - Would you recommend 180 days or a year between preliminary plan to final plat?

Vose-This comes from the code, but it isn't feasible here. There is too much to apply for and get approved. You can leave in the 90 days since it's your code, but make it clear the City can extend that.

Johnson- We've previously approved extensions. The comments from watershed district have been sifted through from the beginning, but I'm wondering where we have these retention basins, do they have an outlet tile at a certain height from the top of the pond so if they should get full that there not washing it out?

Kaltsas - Dry basins with an overflow that will drain at a certain elevation are what's being proposed. As it relates to stormwater, the City approves prelim plat in the Pioneer Lake Sarah and they do their approval after we do our approval. Any proposed changes will come back with the final plat. Nothing stood out of the ordinary.

Johnson - If these need to be cleaned out, who is responsible?

Kaltsas -We would have a maintenance agreement with the owner to the HOA. Assess back costs with a stormwater blanket on top of the HOA. Ultimately, it's on the homeowners, but back on the City if they don't perform if they don't manage it.

Johnson- What is the life expectancy of a pond? It likely depends on the elevations around it.

Kaltsas -There's maintenance down the road. These are dry basin, with a filtration area and a sand medium and infrastructure. We don't have long enough experience on these. Wet basins have a 20-30 yrs. Some is how well are they protected during construction or managed during its life.

Grotting- Is it curb and gutter? (Yes.) Do we have any say on that?

Kaltsas -This developer prefers it to minimize the ditch size in the front of the homes. The amount of room you lose from a drainage system and swale, we find it objectionable. When you have paved portion and shoulder portion, people want to get rid of the shoulder portion of the road and which plows could damage. Curb and gutter protect that.

Johnson - For storm sewers, having curb and gutter is better.

Spencer- We appreciate the 2 additional rain gardens that came from the last meeting in the suggested areas which came from the sub watershed study with Anoka County for Lake Independence 's water quality. It'll run by the Pioneer-Sarah Creek, the document holder and they'll likely be pleased with the editions.

**Motion by Betts, second by Grotting to approve RESOLUTION 22-0906-03 – approval of a comprehensive plan amendment to allow the subject property to be re-guided to the RR-Rural Residential zoning district. Ayes: McCoy, Betts, Johnson, Spencer, and Grotting. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain. None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED. 5:0**

**Motion by Spencer, second by McCoy to approve ORDINANCE 2022-05 – rezoning the property from AG to RR/Rural Residential. Ayes: McCoy, Betts, Johnson, Spencer, and Grotting. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain. None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED. 5:0**

**Motion by Spencer, second by Betts to approve RESOLUTION 22-0906-04 for a preliminary plat for the proposed subdivision into 28 single family lots with a minimum lot size of 1 acre. Applicant shall submit the final plat to the City withing ninety (90) days of the City Council approval of the Preliminary Plat, or such longer as may be approved by City Council. Ayes: McCoy, Betts, Johnson, Spencer, and Grotting. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain. None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED. 5:0**

10. Open/Misc.

Johnson – We should continue working on creating a Fire District as there have been issues mentioned publicly in the papers. Medina Mayor asked how we were feeling about it.

McCoy – I want to make sure with the City Council on board with it being discussed.

Betts - I am very much on board with it going forward as we need to look to the future. Volunteer fire departments are hard to maintain. We'd all benefit by having something more comprehensive.

Johnson - A gentleman who worked with state of Washington is speaking into it and is for it as a resident. Interestingly, both Loretto and Hamel are private depts and in negotiations. It would end up like a watershed district, taxing authority, etc. We don't need to decide tonight on details, but I want to know how we are feeling about it.

Spencer – Which version is this? There have been a few or is it just in general if we're in support of a Fire District?

McCoy – I don't think there's been any one version settled on.

Kaltsas - There is a group that meets Maple Plain, Loretto, Hamel, and now Independence. District includes Loretto and Maple Plain potentially as a smaller option. We did quite a bit of analysis on that district, but Loretto and Hamel decided to join. Then Loretto stepped back a little to get all the kinks worked out of the deal. It would benefit the City to continue to explore the smaller deal. The bigger one got complicated with too many cooks in the kitchen. I like a pragmatic view asking how can we best provide the best service for our residents and maintain or increase our level of service with a more efficient fire cost. We do need Medina to join with Loretto and Maple Plain. How do we do it best for Independence? We have very little say in purchasing, etc. with Delano, Maple Plain, Loretto.

Johnson – I would cause us to look at Delano's coverage in our City and explore the position.

Kaltsas - We have no say or control. We are subjected to the number they give us. There is a lot of overlap in the services. I do hope we can get back to have Loretto on track as they were a driver and wanting to further it. We had great discussions but not the next step. I wasn't attending the Medina, Orono, and Long Lake as we don't have a dog in the hunt and we were staying back a bit.

McCoy- The Fire District with Loretto, Maple Plain, and Independence is a natural fit since we do so much together as it is and have similar philosophies.

Betts – And we'd save money as it's more efficient. We've had seminars 10 years ago and still haven't done anything.

Spencer – The concept is definitely fitting for the City.

Johnson – We'll let them know we are definitely interested in a District, but which one, we don't know yet.

McCoy - Most districts start out small with 2-3 departments and naturally grow over time. Most begin with a Joint Powers (dating) and then move into a District which is very difficult to break up. It could be done fairly quick.

Johnson – We have a meeting in the morning. Rick Denneson's Dad's funeral is tomorrow also at Silver Lake. The former City Planner also passed away.

11. Adjourn.

Motion carried by Spencer, second by McCoy to adjourn the meeting at 8:18pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda Johnson/ Recording Secretary