

MAPLE PLAIN CITY COUNCIL and INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL
JOINT MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2014 – 7:30PM
INDEPENDENCE CITY HALL

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 7:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Johnson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. ROLL CALL

INDEPENDENCE COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Johnson, Councilors Betts, Spencer, and Fisher

MAPLE PLAIN COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Hackbarth, Councilors Eisinger, McCoy, and
DeLuca

ABSENT: Councilor Wenck and Young and City Planner Kaltsas

STAFF: City Administrator Hirsch, and City Attorney Manderschied

VISITORS: Jerry Hertaus, David Osmek, Katie Rodriguez, and Gary Kroells

5. ADOPT AGENDA

Motion by Eisinger, second by DeLuca to adopt the Agenda. Ayes: Hackbarth, DeLuca, McCoy, and Eisinger. Nays: None. Absent: Young. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

4. LEGISLATIVE/INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

A. Representative David Osmek and Representative Jerry Hertaus

Representative Jerry Hertaus

State Representative Jerry Hertaus thanked the Councilors for having him and welcomed the viewing audience. He discussed the increases in state spending. He further discussed the Business-to-business taxes and how he and Osmek worked on this together. He discussed this change and how the City governments are now tax exempt from state sales tax.

Hertaus discussed Metronic's decision to sell and move their headquarters. He discussed the company's financial savings by not having to pay Minnesota's State taxes. He then discussed the low revenue trend.

Hertaus recommended if you have a request for a bonding bill to start discussing early, as it is a long process. He stated he would be honored to help with any special needs.

Hertaus discussed some transportation accomplishments including the Highway 610 connection to Highway 94 starting this fall. He discussed the Highway 12 issues and coalition meeting. There is also a third transportation lane looking to be added to Highway 494 between Bass Lake Road and Highway 55.

Hertaus commented on the MN Sure Plan, the enrollment, and showed the reported numbers. He commented how the enrollment is short of the state's prediction.

Representative David Osmek

Senator David Osmek passed out his a legislative update handout. He stated there were a lot of missed opportunities in the Legislature this year. Financial opportunities to assist cities including Maple Plain and Independence were presented including money for road repairs and public transportation, but they were unable to get these items passed.

Osmek stated they were unable to get HAWK funding for Maple Plain this year, and now that it is operating it may be too late. He stated they may be able to assist with funding for Maple Plain's downtown project with deed money.

Osmek discussed the topics and items that he has been appointed to represent including taxpayers league and minority whip of the republican caucus. He discussed stopping expediting rule making authority.

Osmek expressed his concern about a deficit going forward with all the state spending.

Osmek discussed bonding projects he is assisting with including for the City of Wayzata. He stated if there is anything the cities are looking for guidance or assistance with, from the state, he would be happy to assist them.

Osmek discussed the light rail Green Line track and how he is asking for proof that this will reduce traffic on Highway 94. He also discussed the length of time it takes to travel from St. Paul to Minneapolis.

Osmek stated he is on the Clean Water Council and discuss the City of Mound's discharging of water into Lake Minnetonka due to the abundance of rain and leaky pipes. He is working with Mound and the Met Council on this issue. He stated ten years ago the sewer systems were supposed to be upgrade and the project continues to be delayed. He stated legacy fund money should be used for projects like this.

McCoy asked about any positive news from the Capitol. Osmek discussed there was a committee for expungement. He stated it was a positive thing that was passed. Hertaus further discussed the criminal justice system, and how they are probation officers are overwhelmed by the amount of non-violent offender cases. He stated one out of four Minnesotan's have a criminal conviction and one in 26 is under direct supervision. Hertaus stated these convictions end up denying them for housing and jobs and thus holding them back from succeeding.

Hertaus stated another positive is that he helped author a bill that allows dentists to issue influenza shots. He stated this gained support by both parties and was passed.

Hackbarth discussed the inflow and infiltration issues, and he was looking for assistance. Hertaus gave examples of Greenfield's issues on Lake Sarah. Osmek suggested to verify you are slip lining the sewer pipes and to make sure Met Council is metering them.

Katie Rodriguez, Metropolitan Council

Katie Rodriguez, Met Council, stated she represents District 1. She feels that communities getting together to discuss issues is very important. She stated her background is in Municipal Finance. She stated she was on the Transportation and Management Committee. She discussed Highway 94 and Hwy 694 is getting a lot of attention. She stated a 30-year regional development plan was passed and is titled Thrive MSP 2040. She stated they predict by 2040 the population of people 65 and older will double and 40% of people will be people of color.

Rodriguez stated starting in December a bus line will now be running from the Maple Plain Park and Ride with two trips in the morning and two trips in the evening. Melvin thanked Rodriguez and the Met Council for bringing the bus line and listening to the residents' requests.

5. WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY MONTHLY REPORT

Kroells thanked the Councils for Ray McCoy's send off and their continued support. He stated he is committed to a very solid work ethic and professionalism. He listed six goals and objectives of the department: 24-hour/ 7-day a week protection for the citizens, traffic and narcotics enforcement, perform the department's own investigations, emergency management director, coordinate with three local fire departments, and community education. He stated he is looking for a 25% increase in traffic enforcement.

Kroells highlighted the report and discussed some of the cases from April and May. He stated the majority of them were traffic. He stated they arrested someone with a felony warrant that was identified by his finger prints.

Kroells mentioned other highlights including Sergeant Denneson mock car crash with staff and students from the Orono High School. The event was recorded by the LMCC and is available on *YouTube.com*. He also mentioned car thefts, felony domestic assaults with a weapon, and suicide recovery search.

Kroells mentioned the ICR numbers are still down this year compared to last year, but he anticipates those numbers will go up. He stated one of their officers is out due to a broken ankle, but they should be fully staffed again in early July. However, that officer is still in training and should be on his own starting in September.

Kroells stated the department has been very busy these last several months. He stated he is now starting to work on the budget for next year.

Johnson asked about a new program starting. Kroells stated an online record management systems has been in practice since 2008. Initially there were only four cities using it and now Hennepin County Sheriff's Office will begin using it. That will now be the 11th department using this system.

6. MAPLE PLAIN FIRE DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY REPORT

Dave Eisinger gave the quarterly report. He stated through the end of May they have had about 130 runs so far this year. He stated the budget is about 32% spent; however, there is some mechanical work is scheduled to be done on some of the trucks.

Eisinger pointed out some line items in the report and some of the spending. He stated the training was going quite well. He explained a few training sessions he and some of the crew attended. Eisinger stated they currently have 27 fire fighters, of which two are new to the department within the last few months.

Eisinger discussed recent fire events. The department attended a large house fire in Minnetrista and they used their ladder truck. He stated they also attended a large barn fire in Corcoran where they used the ladder truck. At this fire, 14 departments attended, and the Maple Plain Fire Department was there for six hours.

Eisinger stated there was a regional meeting at the department, last week, with 31 departments that attended including a Helicopter from North Air Care. He stated the department is very lucky to have such good fire fighters.

Eisinger discussed the purchase of SOG's and this would be shared by four other cities, Long Lake, Orono, Hamel, and Lorretto. Volunteer administrator, Ray McCoy, would be in charge of this, which would take six to twelve months to integrate into all the fire departments.

Motion by Betts, second by Spencer to permit the Maple Plain Fire Department to purchase SOG's upon the approval by Long Lake, Orono, Hamel, and Loretto. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, and Fisher. Nays: None. Absent: Wenck. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Motion by DeLuca, second by McCoy to permit the Maple Plain Fire Department to purchase SOG's upon the approval by Long Lake, Orono, Hamel, and Loretto. Ayes: Hackbarth, DeLuca, McCoy, and Eisinger. Nays: None. Absent: Young. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

7. SHARED SERVICES UPDATE

- A. Maple Plain Days
- B. Joint City Newsletter
- C. Next Steps

Melvin recapped four goals the Councils had requested last December in a report. The two big items included: Maple Plain Days the Independence Heritage Fest merger in 2015 and a joint quarterly newsletter. These things will help to build the community as a whole and will be a big cost saves for both cities. Melvin asked the Council for further direction. Hirsch stated the joint effort has been going well, and enjoys working with Maple Plain on this. Johnson mentioned that the Clean-up Day is another event that serves the communities jointly.

DeLuca stated he thinks they are moving in the right direction. He recommended the administrators continue to work together and feels they are moving in the right direction. He suggested getting the committee together again in December to discuss and review some of these changes. Hackbarth also feels this is a good thing.

The Councils asked to be kept in the loop on residents reactions. Johnson and Hackbarth suggested distributing the newsletters in other local businesses.

8. COUNCIL UPDATE

Each Council will provide an update on upcoming projects and events.

McCoy stated in working their redevelopment of downtown Maple Plain, they signed on with real estate agent, Tom Palmquist, to market their downtown property. He stated that City Hall has decided to move into the Discovery Center by this fall. The current city hall building would then be demolished and prepared for developers. Johnson asked about layout details. McCoy explained that the Discovery Center will also have some renovations creating a separate area for City Hall and a share Community Room with a 49 person capacity.

McCoy stated Budd Street would be closed starting June 30 to replace the sewer line under Highway 12. Hackbarth discussed the complete repair of Main Street in Maple Plain including sewer pipes, water pipes, and utility lines. It was scheduled to be completed in September or October, but the rain may delay this. This project is the biggest project Maple Plain has ever done. Melvin stated the City's website, hotline 763-479-2266, and emails are sent to help update residents on the progress. She thanked the public safety departments for all their hard work and assistance with this.

Eisinger update the Councils with the progress on the Townhome development behind the bank. He stated ground work should begin in July and five of the 18 units are already sold. He stated with the high interest in these homes, the company is already looking at expanding to other areas in Maple Plain.

DeLuca updated the Councils with Maple Plain's recent install of all new water meters for businesses and residents. Melvin described how this works and the time and money savings it will create.

DeLuca also mentioned that the Maple Plain Public Works department hired another person.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

Johnson informed the Council that Gail Sinkel, Director of the Senior Center in Delano, is retiring after 30 years. He also invited everyone to her Open House on the 26th starting at 3 p.m. He stated she has done a tremendous job over the years.

Spencer stated the County will be doing road work on County Road 11 starting the last week in July. This includes paving the shoulders on County Road 11.

Hackbarth and Johnson discussed transportation issues for the seniors in Western Hennepin County and Wright County.

10. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion by Betts second by Fisher to adjourn the Joint City Council Meeting at 9:10 p.m.
Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, and Fisher. Nays: None. Absent: Wenck. MOTION DECLARED
CARRIED.**

**Motion by McCoy second by DeLuca to adjourn the Joint City Council Meeting at 9:10 p.m.
Ayes: Hackbarth, DeLuca, McCoy, and Eisinger. Nays: None. Absent: Young. MOTION
DECLARED CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jolene Nelson, Recording Secretary