

Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 21, 2010
City Council Chambers
7:30 p.m.
AGENDA



Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

1. Approval of Minutes
 - Council Minutes –September 7, 2010
2. Consent Agenda
 - Minutes
 - EDA Commission – September 13, 2010
 - Park & Recreation Commission – September 13, 2010
 - Library Board – September 14, 2010
3. Public Comments
 - Samson Meyer – Local Government Reform
4. Department Heads
5. Park & Recreation Commission Recommendation
 - Ice Rates
6. Annual Firefighters Relief Association Report
7. Regular Bills
8. Unfinished Business
9. New Business
10. Council Concerns
11. Adjourn



Council Meeting
Windom City Hall, Council Chamber
September 7, 2010
7:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kruse at 7:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call: Mayor: Kirby Kruse

Council Members: Jean Fast, Corey Maricle, Robert Messer, Bradley Powers and JoAnn Ray

Council Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: Steve Nasby, City Administrator; Bruce Caldwell, Street and Park Superintendent; Al Baloun, Recreation Director; Nestor Palm and Kevin Gotto (Windom Fire Dept) and Jeremy Rolfes, Telecom

Public Present: Sam Meyer

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Powers second by Fast, to approve the City Council minutes from August 17, 2010. Motion carried 5 – 0.

5. Consent Agenda:

Kruse said that minutes were received from the following Boards\Commissions:

- Telecommunications Commission – August 17, 2010
- Utility Commission – August 25, 2010
- Street Committee – August 31, 2010
- Tree Commission – September 1, 2010

Motion by Fast second by Ray, to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed 5 – 0.

6. Licenses:

Kruse said that there was a request for Authorization to Dispense Intoxicating Liquor by the Windom Eagles Club and a request from Hy-Vee to transfer their tobacco license to the new location.

Motion by Ray, seconded by Maricle, to approve the Authorization to Dispense Intoxicating Liquor for the Windom Eagles Club on September 18, 2010 for an event at the Windom Community Center. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Ray said she would be abstaining from the discussion and vote on this item as she is employed by Hy-Vee.

Motion by Maricle, seconded by Powers, to transfer Hy-Vee's tobacco sales license from their current location at 1855 1st Avenue North to the new location at 192 10th Street. Motion carried 4 – 0 – 1 (Ray abstaining).

7. Public Comment:

Kruse said there was a request to address the City Council, but the individual had not completed the public comment form. He asked what the Council's wishes were as to the request.

Messer noted that it was not on the agenda and there is a process in place.

Fast said the individual was unaware of the process and is okay with waiting for the next City Council meeting.

Consensuses of the City Council to have the person complete the public comment form for the next meeting.

8. Department Heads:

None.

9. Street Closure Request – Sept. 12, 2010 at 11th Street between 4th & 5th Avenues:

Bruce Caldwell, Street and Park Superintendent, said that the E-free Church had requested the street closure as part of their annual fall celebration. The closure would also include the adjacent alley. The time for the street closure is 12 noon to 4 pm and there is a mistake in the Street Committee minutes as the time was incorrectly shown as 3:30 – 6 pm. Caldwell said that access to the residential property owners would be accommodated by the church and there had been no complaints in the past.

Motion by Messer, seconded by Fast, to approve the street closure request for September 12, 2010 on 11th Street between 4th and 5th Avenues. Motion carried 5 – 0.

10. Annual Firefighters Relief Association Report:

Kevin Gotto and Nestor Palm, Windom Firefighters Relief Association, said a copy of the state report was included in the Council packet. Gotto said they had received the information just before the City Council packet was due on Friday, September 3rd. Since

then they had noticed an error and requested that the report be deferred to the September 21, 2010 City Council meeting.

Kruse asked what the due date was to have it completed and submitted to the State. Nasby said he was not sure there is a firm deadline, but the State will withhold the fire relief aid until the report is submitted. Kruse agreed to defer the report until the next meeting.

11. Pay Equity Report -- Resubmission:

Kruse asked Nasby to provide an overview. Nasby said the required pay equity report had been completed and submitted to the State, but the City knew the report would fail as staff had done the self-test analysis. The State reviewed the report and confirmed that Windom failed the pay equity standards.

The failure was due to the combination of the City's pay plan and that of the Windom Area Hospital. The City's pay equity plan is required to include both entities. Because the hospital had a 17 step pay plan and the City had a 12 step pay plan there is a discrepancy in the number of years it takes to reach the tops of the respective plans. Since the hospital has female dominated positions and the City has male dominated positions the analysis showed that men reach the top of the pay plan quicker than women since the City has a 12 step plan and the hospital had a 17 step plan. To correct the problem, the hospital altered their pay plan from 17 steps to 16 steps.

Due to the change in the hospital pay plan the City's self-test and analysis now passes the State standards. The amended pay equity report in the City Council packet reflects the adjustment and staff is requesting the approval of the amended report so the City can be in compliance with the State.

Motion by Fast, seconded by Powers, to approve the amended pay equity plan for the City of Windom and direct its submission to the State. Motion carried 5 – 0.

12. Preliminary 2011 Budget Levy:

Nasby said that there is a memorandum in the City Council packet outlining the calculation of the preliminary levy. The calculation includes the maximum levy limit for Windom allowed by the State, the recapturing of State aid lost in 2010 and the City's debt service obligations for bonds. The City Council had directed staff to draft the levy at its maximum to allow for Council discussions during the budget workshops.

Nasby noted that the preliminary levy of \$1.866 million is 19.29% higher than the final 2010 tax levy. This number is the maximum allowable and the City must certify the preliminary levy to the County no later than September 15, 2010.

Fast and Kruse emphasized that this is only the preliminary number and that the final number will very likely be lower and that the Council had taken the same approach last year and ended up with a final levy increase of about 2.5%.

Council member Powers introduced the Resolution No. 2010-32 entitled “A RESOLUTION ADOPTING PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY” and moved its adoption. The resolution was seconded by Ray and on roll call vote: Aye: Fast, Maricle, Powers and Ray. Nay: Messer. Absent: None. Resolution passed 4 – 1.

13. Establish 2011 Budget Hearing Dates:

Nasby said that the City must provide the County Auditor with the dates the 2011 budget will be discussed along with the date of the adoption of the budget and tax levy. This information is then included in the preliminary tax statements that are sent to property owners. When the State adopted the levy limit laws they also removed the Truth In Taxation hearings so this is the substitute to let people know about the budget and levy.

In the past the City Council has held the budget meeting at their first regular meeting in December and voted on the final budget and tax levy at the second regular meeting in December.

Messer suggested holding off on the final adoption of the budget and levy until December 30 or 31 as the State could change LGA at anytime. Nasby confirmed that in 2008 the State unallotted LGA the last week of the calendar year.

After discussion the consensus of the City Council was to leave the meetings on the budget as regularly scheduled meetings of December 7 and December 21. If needed, they could table the final action on the budget and levy or have a special meeting.

Kruse asked about scheduling dates for budget workshops. The dates were set as October 5th and October 19th as these were regular meeting dates and the budget workshops would be started at 6:00 pm with the regular meeting starting at 7:30 pm.

14. Regular Bills:

Motion by Fast, seconded by Powers to approve the regular bills. Motion carried 5–0.

15. Contractor Payment:

Kruse noted the requested payment was for \$1,469.74 to Dallas Smith Construction as the final bill for the Arena entry reconstruction project.

Motion by Maricle, seconded by Powers, to approve the contractor payment to Dallas Smith Construction in the amount of \$1,469.74. Motion carried 5 – 0.

16. Unfinished Business:

None.

Preliminary

17. New Business:

None.

18. Council Concerns:

None.

19. Adjourn:

Kruse adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Kirby Kruse, Mayor

Attest: _____
Steve Nasby, City Administrator

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF WINDOM
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2010**

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Slette at 12:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call & Guest Introductions:

EDAWN Commissioners: Trevor Slette, Juhl Erickson, Sally Larson and Bob Messer.

Absent: Corey Maricle.

Also Present: EDA Staff – Aaron Backman, Executive Director, and Mary Hensen, Adm. Asst.; City Administrator Steve Nasby; Mayor Kirby Kruse; WADC Liaison Lisa Fredin; Warren Etches and Mark Limpert from GroNatural; and Don Olson and Brett Williams from Fortune Transportation.

3. Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Commissioner Erickson, seconded by Commissioner Messer, to approve the Minutes of the EDA Meeting held on August 9, 2010. Motion carried 3-0. (Commissioner Larson arrived after this vote.)

4. Presentation by Warren Etches & Mark Limpert (GroNatural): Warren Etches, President of GroNatural, and Mark Limpert, Executive Vice President of Sales for GroNatural, made a presentation to the Board outlining the products and future plans for their company. The company is considering an additional production facility in 2011.

5. Riverbluff Estates Subdivision

A. Revolving Loan Fund Proposal: There was a discussion concerning the possibility of using funds in the River Bluff Estates Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) to assist eligible individuals and families wishing to construct a home. The proposal is to loan up to \$15,000 to assist in the construction of a new home or installation of a modular home in Riverbluff Estates Subdivision. The terms of the loan would be similar to other loans from this RLF. No interest would accrue on the loan. Repayment of the loan would be deferred for the period of ten (10) years or until such time as the home ceases to be the borrower's principal residence, whichever occurs first. This proposed use will require approval by Greater Minnesota Housing Fund (GMHF). The EDA is currently working with the Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership of Slayton to secure this approval. The GMHF's income guidelines would be applicable for any of these loans.

Motion by Commissioner Erickson, seconded by Commissioner Messer, authorizing the EDA to advertise a loan program, through the River Bluff Estates Revolving Loan Fund, of up to \$15,000 per house to assist eligible individuals/families with the construction of two new homes in Riverbluff Estates Subdivision, subject to approval of this program by the Greater Minnesota Housing Fund, with the maximum loan amount subject to review in six months. Motion carried 4-0.

6. Small Cities Development Program

A. Owner-Occupied Rehab Project Review: Western Community Action submitted a project recap sheet for Windom Project No. 2010-001 in July. The Board received a copy of the recap sheet for this project that outlined the scope of work, the total project costs, owners' match, and proposed loan of SCDP funds. The proposed project is within the funding range and within the designated target area for Windom. Because no regular meeting was scheduled for July, a poll of the EDA Board members was taken on July 8th and 9th with a majority approving the proposed project.

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Proposed Improvements</u>	<u>Project Costs</u>	<u>SCDP Funds (Maximum for Project)</u>
Windom No. 2010-001	Doors, Windows, Siding, Roofing and Electrical	\$19,253	\$11,552

Motion by Commissioner Messer, seconded by Commissioner Erickson, ratifying the approval of the SCDP owner-occupied rehab request for Windom Project No. 2010-001 as submitted by Western Community Action. Motion carried 4-0.

Western Community Action processed and inspected an additional property in Mountain Lake for the housing rehabilitation program. The Board received a recap sheet for this project that outlined the scope of work, the total project costs, owners' match, and proposed loan of SCDP funds. The proposed project is within the funding range and within the designated target area for Mountain Lake.

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Proposed Improvements</u>	<u>Project Costs</u>	<u>SCDP Funds (Maximum for Project)</u>
Mountain Lake No. 004	Windows, Doors, Siding, Furnace and Electrical	\$30,969	\$15,600

Motion by Commissioner Erickson, seconded by Commissioner Larson, approving the SCDP owner-occupied rehab request for Mountain Lake Project No. 004 as submitted by Western Community Action. Motion carried 4-0.

7. New Vision – Phase II Project Update: On August 30, 2010, New Vision Co-op applied for a building permit to construct the second 250,000 bushel grain bin. This second phase of the project is occurring one to two years earlier than originally forecast by New Vision. The term for the abatement remains at five years and the anticipated tax abatement amount will be in the range projected.
8. Big Game Potential Expansion – Update on Preliminary Discussions: Director Backman reviewed with the Board details from the original inquiry by Tod Quiring. On August 31, 2010, Director Backman and Administrator Nasby met with Tod Quiring and Nathan Stieren at Big Game's headquarters regarding their space needs. There was also a preliminary discussion of what a building site in the North Windom Industrial Park might encompass. Director Backman will be providing information to Mr. Stieren concerning potential funding sources.
9. Grocery Store Update: Director Backman has initiated contacts to several grocery store chains. Potential site information has also been provided to one of the contacts.
10. WECC – Open House (Tuesday, September 28, 2010): WECC's Third Open House will be held on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. in WECC Room #105. Raffle tickets are on sale for \$2.00 each for numerous prizes including a Dell laptop and Dell Netbook computer. There will be activity booths available and a wind generator demonstration. Refreshments will also be provided.
11. MIRC Committee – RFP Process: The MIRC Committee has held three meetings and has established criteria for funding broadband projects. A Request for Proposal (RFP) has been prepared for use by community organizations to submit proposed projects for funding. These organizations include, but are not limited to, local units of government, not-for-profit

organizations such as health care and schools, etc. Private for-profit entities can participate in partnership with eligible organizations. The deadline for submission of the RFPs is November 1, 2010.

12. New Business: Director Backman advised that he met with a fabrication business located north of Windom concerning potential locations for an expanded facility in Windom. Director Backman further advised that he had received a request for information from the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) concerning a corn processing facility (not ethanol) and is in the process of responding to this request that is due by September 15, 2010. DEED sends these requests to EDAs in all of Minnesota.
13. Miscellaneous Information
 - A. Monthly Budget Recap: The Board received copies of the monthly budget report for July, 2010.
 - B. River Bluff Townhomes – Monthly Financial Report: The Board received copies of the financial reports provided by Van Binsbergen & Associates for the period ending July 31, 2010.
14. Adjourn: By consensus, President Slette adjourned the meeting at 1:34 p.m.

Sally Larson, Secretary-Treasurer

Attest: _____
Aaron Backman, Executive Director

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES SEPTEMBER 13, 2010**

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Terry Fredin at 5:28p.m. in the council chambers at city hall.
2. **Roll Call:**

Commission Present:	Sherri Zimmerman, Terry Fredin, & Angie Blanshan
Commission Absent:	Jeff LaCanne & Kay Clark
City Staff Present:	Recreation Director Al Baloun & Park Superintendent Bruce Caldwell
Council Liaisons:	JoAnn Ray & Corey Maricle Absent
Public:	None
3. Approve Agenda
Motion by Blanshan, seconded by Zimmerman to approve agenda
Motion Carried Unanimous
4. Approve Minutes, August 9, 2010
Motion by Blanshan, seconded by Zimmerman
Motion Carried Unanimous
5. **Park Superintendent-Bruce Caldwell**
 - a. **Abby Park** – the playground re-construction maintenance work has been completed with several positive comments from the neighborhood.
 - b. **Witt Park Playground** – staff will be installing the new climbing tower in late September or early October replacing the old jungle jim.
 - c. **Island Park Campground;** the campground has been used heavily this season due to the wind tower construction workers in the area. Revenue is up at least 80% over last season. Caldwell said he has kept 2-3 sites open for short term camping.
 - d. **Winterizing Parks** – in early October staff will be winterizing the bathrooms throughout the park system.
 - e. **WRA** – staff planted three trees along the walking paths west of the shelter by the ball fields.
 - f. **Kastle Kingdom** – in 2011 all the wood chips will need to be replaced and also the complex will get a wood sealer which will run around \$7500.00.
 - g. **Vandalism** – several bathroom facilities have received damage the past couple weeks. Towel dispensers have been destroyed and garbage scattered throughout the parks. The police department has been notified accordingly.
 - h. **August expense reports for 2010** were issued to commission members.
6. **Recreation Director's Report- Al Baloun**
 - a. **Arena Concessions Room/Hockey Association**
The city received a letter from Brown-Nicollet Environmental Health concerning a few items that were submitted in the original plans. Baloun said Mike Pigman has contacted Brown-Nicollet and addressed the items. The renovation of the concession area will not begin until Brown-Nicollet approves the project.
 - b. **Arena; Entry Reconstruction** has been completed and the contractors' bills have been submitted to city hall. Baloun expressed that he was disappointed on how long it took the door contractor to complete his portion.
 - c. **Fall Recreation Programming;** The flag football program has 11-12 kids on 4 teams. Baloun said he had some difficulty getting volunteer coaches early in the season but individuals did come forward to help which is much appreciated. The season is at the halfway mark as of this meeting. The fall soccer program has 22 youth participating.

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Continued Page 2 September 13, 2010 Park and Recreation Commission Meeting

d. 2010-2011 Ice Season – Ice Rates;

1. Ice system mechanical maintenance items;

Baloun stated that the compressor repair company Carlson Stewart is now doing their annual maintenance. There have been some minor repair issues and due to this Baloun is concerned about the extra costs the contractor is charging for their mobility fees each day they have to come back. Baloun said he has talked to them concerning these extra costs.

2. Time Line for Ice; the sand in the main rink will be removed by the street department staff the week of September 27th then the arena staff will begin to install mats. Ice making will begin on or around September 30th. Baloun said if all goes well he is hopeful the ice will be usable the week of October 18th.

3. Ice Rates; the commission discussed setting the ice rates for the next two years to help the user groups set their long term budgets. All seasonal passes for family, individuals, open skating, open hockey and open figure skating will receive no increases for 2011.

Motion by Zimmerman, second by Blanshan, 2010-2011 season hourly ice fees for practices & games-no increases, raise the tournament fee from \$350.00 to \$400.00 per/day. 2011-2012 season hourly ice fees for practices & games increase from \$102.50 to \$105.00, tournament fees no increases.

Motion Carried Unanimous

4. Registration and Skate Sizing Issues; Baloun said he would like to set a fee for individuals that sign up after the registration and skate sizing deadlines. The commission agreed that Baloun needs to charge a \$15.00 late fee which would be the same as other park recreation programs and hopefully this will encourage people not to wait until the last minute.

5. Usage of Up Stairs Archery/storage Room Arena; the Hockey Association has indicated that they would like to rent a portion of this room for storage and workout programs. Currently the 4-H Archery Shooting Sports Program is using the room along with a few adult archers. He felt there would be enough room to accommodate all groups. Baloun said he will contact the Hockey Association and let them know the fee for annual usage will be \$700.00 or \$500.00 for seasonal. Baloun stated anytime the hockey youth are in the room there must be adult supervision. Also if the room would receive any damage due to the Hockey Association usage they would be held accountable.

7. Open Mike; Baloun said he has ordered 40 new chairs for the Arena to be used for special events and meetings only.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:14 P.M.

Next Park & Recreation Meeting October 11, 2010 5:15 p.m. Council Chambers

Windom Library Board Meeting
Windom Library
September 14, 2010
5:05 p.m.

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order by John Duscher at 5:05 p.m.
2. Roll Call:
 - Members Present: Kathy Hiley, Mary Erickson , Beth Fleming and John Duscher
 - Members Absent: Anita Winkel, Charles Reid and Jan Johnson
 - Library Staff Present: Joan Hunter
 - City Council Member Present: None
3. Agenda and Minutes

Motion by Kathy Hiley, seconded by Mary Erickson to approve the Agenda and the Minutes.
4. Financial Report:

Joan corrected the line item of the budget for supplies to state that the library is at 69% of its supply budget for the year. She also informed the board that the library's water heater had to be replaced.

Motion by Beth Fleming and seconded by Kathy Hiley to approve the Financial Report.
5. Librarians Report:

Joan reported that she was gone for 2 weeks to assist with the care of her grandson as he receives medical treatment.

On August 11th she will be attending the annual meeting of the Plum Creek Library association in Westbrook. The director of the Plum Creek system has informed the libraries that Plum Creek is raising fees for delivery and computer system software. This news came after Joan had turned in her budget to the city for 2011.

Dawn and Julie have been busy cleaning. A group of people from Sentenced to Serve carried the boxes of books leftover from the book sale to the basement.

Dawn has gotten rid of old reference books on the children's side and moved the empty shelf to the teen room.

A \$25,000 gift from the Myrtle Stroud estate was given to the Friends of the Library. Joan asked the board for suggestions on how this money might be used. She is thinking of new shelving.

Dawn will be starting storytime soon and the Bridges class form ECFE will start coming to the library this month.

Dawn has 3 weeks of vacation to use and can possibly take it in December when Krista is home from college and can fill in. It has been difficult for Dawn to take vacation with Joan needing to be gone.

Motion by Mary Erickson and seconded by Beth Fleming to approve the librarian's report.

6. Old Business:

None

7. New Business:

None

8. New Book Suggestions:

The board presented their suggestions.

9. Adjourn:

Motion by Kathy Hiley, seconded by Mary Erickson to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hiley, recording secretary

Date/Time received: 9-9-10 (4:30 p.m.)

Agenda Request Form

(This form can be used only once a month by the same individual(s). It is not a venue to bypass policies and procedures of city commissions and committees.)

Name: Samson Meyer w/ ASST Telephone No: 507-822-6264

Address: 620 22nd St

Date of Council Meeting: 9/2/10 (Agenda item must be turned into the city office by Friday noon preceding the Tuesday meeting.)

Subject: local Government Reform
w/ possible future expansion of
border

Have you brought this to the attention of the appropriate department head? yes
Committee? yes

Hand-outs, audio-visual materials (These must be simple and set up directly before you speak and taken down directly afterward): handout

This format gives citizens an opportunity to express concerns to the council without expectation of discussion or action. No more than two (2) people should speak on the same topic at one meeting. Remarks should not exceed five (5) minutes per person. They should be directed to the council as a whole and not to any individual member or department head.

Sam Meyer
Signature

**Time
for
Reform**
*from
Democracy
to Monarchy*

Samson Meyer
507-822-6264

Monarchy 4 the U.S.

For the economy \$5 a month from each taxpayer. In each town the money would go to local government. Each city would pay \$500 to state government, for every thousand people in their city unless it's a small town; \$250 for a city under a thousand people. Legalize marijuana hash, peyote for medical purposes and tax and regulate it.

Economy

Big business will pay more in taxes, small business will get tax breaks. Big businesses would pay \$5000 per employee; medium businesses with 1,000 or more but under 5,000 employees would pay \$1,000 per employee; small business 100 to 1,000 employees would pay \$500 per employee. Mom & Pop business under 100 employees \$100 per employee.

Universal Health Care/Dental Care

Employment

Go to local job service, then state job service, then Federal job service. If all else fails, go to a DAC type of a job.

Minimize government input into personal decisions. (i.e. abortion, helmet laws, sexual activities, no idiot laws).

Education

The earliest age to start school is 3 years old, if they can read (Kindergarten level). Not like today's Kindergarten, but more advanced class because they can read and are starting to write. Classes will be more like middle school, high school.

TRUST

Declassify Project Blue Book area 51, and all info on unexplained phenomenon.

If an individual wants to talk about a law, they must contact

local government, who then relays a message to state government, who then relays a message to the King's advisor to schedule a meeting with the King to discuss the individuals concerns directly with the King.

Combining of states — North and South Carolina, North and South Dakota, West Virginia & Virginia, the original 13 colonial states into one state, New England.

The King would invite scientists to work on cures for illnesses and world problems (global warming, etc.)

Military

The King takes charge of America's defense, every soldier has a choice of his gun and/or sword choice of 1 or 2 each. No more than 4 total. Protection of the King would have two doctors at all times. He would pick two every month.

State like Oregon and make it a prison run by a task force delegated by the federal government.

Universal Age

You can be 18 to smoke cigarettes, drink alcohol, drive a car, go to war and/or get married.

Legalize Gay Marriage

If you're bisexual you can marry a male and/or a female simultaneously and it would not be considered polygamy.

Open borders with both Canada and Mexico with a possibility of one centralized government between the three countries. All three countries must be in agreement to this government. If in agreement all three must act as one country. Other countries may join if they choose, but must agree with our country.



September 16, 2010

Memo: Ice Fees

To: Windom City Council
Cc: Windom Park and Recreation Commission

From: Al Baloun
Recreation Director

The following recommendations were made at the September 13, 2010 Park and Recreation Commission meeting in regards Ice Fees:

1. I recommended keeping 2010-11 game and practice rates at 102.50 per hour, daily fees for tournaments would increase from \$350 per day to \$400 per day. The Windom Youth Hockey Association (WYHA) will be host of a referee's clinic and two additional district tourneys this year. These events will bring in additional revenue. I also recommend setting the ice fees for 2011 at \$105 per hour for practice and games. The Windom Figure Skating Association (WFSA) would pay the same hourly rate for lessons as the WYHA. For the Ice Show the WFSA would pay the tournaments rate for rental. See attached History of Hourly Ice Fees for rates paid in the past. The following motion was made at the meeting:
Motion by Zimmerman, second by Blanshan, 2010-2011 season hourly ice fees for practices & games-no increases, raise the tournament fee from \$350.00 to \$400.00 per/day. 2011-2012 season hourly ice fees for practices & games increase from \$102.50 to \$105.00, tournament fees no increases.
Motion Carried Unanimous
2. The commission also recommended a \$15 late fee for all seasonal skate rentals that are not sized by the weekend before skating lessons starting. This fee is necessary because it is difficult for staff to size skates on the first night of lessons and hand out rental skates on the first night of lessons as well as taking care of the arena operation. There is plenty of time to make appointments for sizing before the start of lessons.



History of Hourly Ice Fees Paid by the Windom Hockey Association

Year	Practice	Games	Tournaments
89-90	\$37.50	\$55.00	Not Available
90-91	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
91-92	\$45.00	\$60.00	\$250.00 per day
92-93	\$45.00	\$60.00	\$250.00 per day
93-94	\$45.00	\$60.00	\$250.00 per day
94-95	\$45.00	\$60.00	\$250.00 per day
95-96	\$50.00	\$65.00	\$250.00 per day
96-97	\$60.00	\$70.00	\$250.00 per day
97-98	\$60.00	\$70.00	\$250.00 per day
98-99	\$65.00	\$75.00	\$300.00 per day
99-00	\$74.00	\$75.00	\$300.00 per day
00-01	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$300.00 per day
01-02	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$300.00 per day
02-03	\$80.00	\$80.00	\$300.00 per day
03-04	\$85.00	\$85.00	\$300.00 per day
04-05	\$88.00	\$88.00	\$325.00 per day
05-06	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$350.00 per day
06-07	\$95.00	\$95.00	\$350.00 per day
07-08	\$97.50	\$97.50	\$350.00 per day
08-09	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$350.00 per day
09-10	\$102.50	\$102.50	\$350.00 per day
10-11*	\$102.50	\$102.50	\$400.00 per day
11-12*	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$400.00 per day

* Recommended by Park and Recreation Commission Sept 2010

Season Pass	Current
Family	\$60.00
Individual	\$35.00

Admission – Open skating, open hockey, open figure

Admission per person	\$3.00
Rental per person	\$2.50

Large Groups over 10 get a group rate of \$.50 off each admission.

Calculation of Normal Cost

	2010	2011	
Total Active Member Liabilities	667,832	729,520	
Total Deferred Member Liabilities	102,511	102,511	
Total Unpaid Installments	0	0	
Grand Total Special Fund Liability	A. 770,343	B. 832,031	
Normal Cost (Cell B minus Cell A)			C. 61,688

Projection of Net Assets for Year Ending December 31, 2010

Special Fund Assets at December 31, 2009 (RF-09 ending assets) 1 763,497

Projected Income for 2010

State Fire Aid (2009 aid may be increased by up to 3.5%)	D. 24,000
Municipal / Independent Fire Dept. Contributions	E. 5,000
Interest / Dividends	F. 16,000
Appreciation / (Depreciation)	G. 63,500
Member Dues (If deposited in Special Fund)	H.
Other Revenues	I.

Total Projected Income for 2010 (Add Lines D through I) 2 108,500

Projected Expenses for 2010

Service Pensions	J. 85,828
Member Names:	
JIM JOHNSON	
MARK SCHENK	
KENT KELLY	

Other Benefits	K.
Administrative Expenses	L. 2,700

Total Projected Expenses for 2010 (Add Lines J through L) 3 88,528

Projected Net Assets at December 31, 2010 (Add Lines 1 and 2, subtract Line 3) 4 783,469

Projection of Surplus or (Deficit) as of December 31, 2010

Projected Assets (Line 4)	5 783,469
2010 Accrued Liability (Page 4, cell A)	6 770,343
Surplus or (Deficit) (Line 5 minus Line 6)	7 13,126

Calculation of Required Contribution

Deficit Information - Original			Deficit Information - Adjusted		
Year Incurred	Original Amount	Amount Retired as of 12/31/2009	Original Amount	Amount Retired as of 12/31/2010	Amount Left to Retire 1/1/2011
2001					
2002					
2003					
2004					
2005					
2006					
2007					
2008					
2009					
2010					
Totals					

Normal Cost (Page 4, cell C)		8	61,688
Projected Administrative Expense	Enter 2009 Admin Exp here:	9	2,678
Amortization of Deficit (Total of Original Amount column x 0.10)		10	0
10% of Surplus (Line 7 x 0.10)		11	1,313
State Fire Aid		12	24,000
Member Dues		13	0
5% of Projected Assets at December 31, 2010 (Line 4 x 0.05)		14	39,173
Required Contribution (Add Lines 8, 9 and 10, subtract Lines 11, 12, 13 and 14)		15	(26)
No required contribution due in 2011.			

This Schedule must be fully completed, certified by the relief association officers, forwarded to the municipal clerk/independent secretary on or before August 1, 2010 and submitted to the Office of the State Auditor to be eligible for state fire aid.

Officer Certification

We, the officers of the Windom Fire Relief Association, certify that this Schedule was prepared under Minn. Stat. § 69.772 and that the annual benefit level was established according to the average amount of available financing.

We further certify that based on the financial requirements of the Relief Association's Special Fund for the 2010 calendar year, the required 2011 contribution is \$1,399. If the bylaws of the Relief Association changed in 2010, we have attached a copy of the amendment or updated bylaws. We have also enclosed a copy of the municipal/board ratification of this amendment if required under Minn. Stat. § 69.772, subd. 6.

Signature of President	NESTOR PALM	Date
Signature of Secretary	COREY MARICLE	Date
Signature of Treasurer	MIKE HAUGEN	Date

Municipal Clerk / Independent Secretary Certification

I am the municipal clerk of _____ / secretary of the _____ independent nonprofit firefighting corporation. I received on _____, the completed Schedule from the Windom Fire Relief Association.

I have reviewed Line 15 of the Schedule. If Line 15 shows a required contribution, I certify that I will advise the governing municipal body or the independent nonprofit firefighting corporation of any required contribution at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Signature of Municipal Clerk/Secretary of independent nonprofit firefighting corporation	STEVE NASBY	Date
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(507) 831-6129
Business Telephone

Please provide the telephone numbers for the work location(s) at which you conduct relief association business.
THIS INFORMATION IS PUBLIC; IT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ANYONE ON REQUEST.

Please retain a copy of the Schedule for your records, upload the form to the Office of the State Auditor's website, and submit the signature page to: Office of the State Auditor, Pension Division, 525 Park Street, Suite 500, Saint Paul, MN 55103. Fax: 651-282-5298. Telephone: 651-282-6110.

CITY OF WINDOM
FM Entry - Invoice Payment - Department Report

Department	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
CITY OFFICE	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	137.65
CITY OFFICE	MII LIFE	VEBA	198.40
CITY OFFICE	STEVE NASBY	EXPENSE	31.00
Total for Department 103			367.05*
P & Z / BUILDING OFF	COTTONWOOD COUNTY AS	BEACON SUBSCRIBER	150.00
P & Z / BUILDING OFF	ELECTRIC FUND	MAINTENANCE	13.96
P & Z / BUILDING OFF	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	81.25
P & Z / BUILDING OFF	Verizon Wireless	TELEPHONE	8.56
P & Z / BUILDING OFF	MII LIFE	VEBA	148.80
Total for Department 106			402.57*
CITY HALL	ELECTRIC FUND	MAINTENANCE	78.58
CITY HALL	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	871.12
CITY HALL	SANDRA HERDER	CLEANING	367.35
CITY HALL	MELISSA PENAS	CLEANING	367.35
Total for Department 115			1,684.40*
POLICE	ELECTRIC FUND	MAINTENANCE	12.00
POLICE	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	68.14
POLICE	MII LIFE	VEBA	1,126.80
POLICE	VOYAGER FLEET SERVIC	GAS	25.20
POLICE	DANA WALLACE	EXPENSE	69.05
Total for Department 120			1,301.19*
FIRE DEPARTMENT	CENTER STOP	FUEL SALES	44.77
FIRE DEPARTMENT	ELECTRIC FUND	MAINTENANCE	299.43
FIRE DEPARTMENT	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	26.30
FIRE DEPARTMENT	Verizon Wireless	TELEPHONE	12.37
Total for Department 125			382.87*
STREET	ELECTRIC FUND	MAINTENANCE	791.42
STREET	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	2,765.52
STREET	ERICKSON OIL CO	GAS	254.73
STREET	Verizon Wireless	TELEPHONE	36.73
STREET	MII LIFE	VEBA	841.92
STREET	VOYAGER FLEET SERVIC	GAS	136.90
Total for Department 140			4,827.22*
HEALTH & SANITATION	NEAL GRUNEWALD	COMPOST SITE MANAGER	160.00
Total for Department 145			160.00*
RECREATION	RYAN GILBERTSON	UMPIRE	360.00
Total for Department 150			360.00*
PARKS	ELECTRIC FUND	MAINTENANCE	200.49
PARKS	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	4,084.37
PARKS	ERICKSON OIL CO	GAS	150.16
PARKS	MII LIFE	VEBA	185.68
Total for Department 165			4,620.70*

CITY OF WINDOM
FM Entry - Invoice Payment - Department Report

Department	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
Total for Fund 01			14,106.00*
LIBRARY	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	775.67
LIBRARY	SANDRA HERDER	CLEANING	367.35
LIBRARY	MELISSA PENAS	CLEANING	367.35
Total for Department 171			1,510.37*
Total for Fund 03			1,510.37*
AIRPORT	ELECTRIC FUND	MAINTENANCE	56.55
AIRPORT	RED ROCK RURAL WATER	WATER	25.95
AIRPORT	SO. CENTRAL ELECTRIC POWER COST		262.49
Total for Department 174			344.99*
Total for Fund 11			344.99*
POOL	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	1,086.01
POOL	MN ENERGY RESOURCES	HEATING	916.98
Total for Department 175			2,002.99*
Total for Fund 12			2,002.99*
AMBULANCE	ELECTRIC FUND	MAINTENANCE	263.30
AMBULANCE	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	23.35
AMBULANCE	TIM HACKER	EXPENSE	8.33
AMBULANCE	ALLAN REMPEL	EXPENSE	97.41
Total for Department 176			392.39*
Total for Fund 13			392.39*
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDI	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	2,901.12
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDI	Verizon Wireless	TELEPHONE	33.92
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDI	MII LIFE	VEBA	284.88
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDI	RIVER BEND LIQUOR	MERCHANDISE	352.58
Total for Department 177			3,572.50*
Total for Fund 14			3,572.50*
SCDP	SW MN HOUSING PARTNE	GRANT DRAW 13	25,542.00
Total for Department 163			25,542.00*
Total for Fund 17			25,542.00*
N IND PARK	SO. CENTRAL ELECTRIC POWER COST		28.23
Total for Department 147			28.23*
Total for Fund 18			28.23*
RIVER BLUFF EST REV	CHUCK MAU	IMP DRAW #1	593.58
Total for Department 019			593.58*

CITY OF WINDOM
FM Entry - Invoice Payment - Department Report

Department	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
Total for Fund 19			593.58*
LIQUOR	ARNESON DISTRIBUTING	MERCHANDISE	86.00
LIQUOR	BEVERAGE WHOLESALERS	MERCHANDISE	6,964.20
LIQUOR	COCA-COLA BOTTLING C	MERCHANDISE	433.54
LIQUOR	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	1,812.88
LIQUOR	WIRTZ BEVERAGE MN WI	MERCHANDISE	688.43
LIQUOR	HAGEN DISTRIBUTING	MERCHANDISE	12,953.45
LIQUOR	A H HERMEL CANDY & T	MERCHANDISE	326.99
LIQUOR	JOHNSON BROS.	MERCHANDISE	2,622.67
LIQUOR	MII LIFE	VEBA	371.36
LIQUOR	PHILLIPS WINE & SPIR	MERCHANDISE	2,678.93
LIQUOR	QUALITY WINE SPIRITS	MERCHANDISE	152.17
Total for Department 180			29,090.62*
Total for Fund 60			29,090.62*
WATER	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	4,960.56
WATER	ERICKSON OIL CO	GAS	64.57
WATER	H P SUDS CLUB, LLC.	BILLING CONTRACT SERVICE	155.48
WATER	Verizon Wireless	TELEPHONE	54.97
WATER	MII LIFE	VEBA	374.54
WATER	VOYAGER FLEET SERVIC	GAS	81.32
Total for Department 181			5,691.44*
Total for Fund 61			5,691.44*
ELECTRIC	ELECTRIC FUND	MAINTENANCE	314.22
ELECTRIC	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	266.63
ELECTRIC	ERICKSON OIL CO	GAS	78.14
ELECTRIC	MARV GRUNIG	EXPENSE	105.00
ELECTRIC	H P SUDS CLUB, LLC.	BILLING CONTRACT SERVICE	155.47
ELECTRIC	CHERYL LILLEGAARD	MILEAGE	299.83
ELECTRIC	Verizon Wireless	TELEPHONE	13.90
ELECTRIC	MII LIFE	VEBA	1,049.86
ELECTRIC	BRAD BUSSA	CLEANING	189.60
ELECTRIC	SO. CENTRAL ELECTRIC	FIND FAULT	289.61
ELECTRIC	VOYAGER FLEET SERVIC	GAS	132.60
Total for Department 182			2,894.86*
Total for Fund 62			2,894.86*
SEWER	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	16,434.49
SEWER	ERICKSON OIL CO	GAS	10.68
SEWER	FEDERAL EXPRESS CORP	TRANSPORTATION	193.97
SEWER	H P SUDS CLUB, LLC.	BILLING CONTRACT SERVICE	155.46
SEWER	Verizon Wireless	TELEPHONE	54.96
SEWER	MII LIFE	VEBA	931.58
SEWER	VOYAGER FLEET SERVIC	GAS	234.22
Total for Department 183			18,015.36*

CITY OF WINDOM
FM Entry - Invoice Payment - Department Report

Department	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
Total for Fund 63			18,015.36*
ARENA	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	1,600.21
ARENA	Verizon Wireless	TELEPHONE	17.18
ARENA	MII LIFE	VEBA	371.36
ARENA	VOYAGER FLEET SERVIC GAS		61.44
Total for Department 184			2,050.19*
Total for Fund 64			2,050.19*
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	AARON BACKMAN	EXPENSE	207.00
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	COTTONWOOD COUNTY AS	BEACON SUBSCRIBER	150.00
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	MN DEPT OF EMPLY & E	REGISTRATION	199.00
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	142.11
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Verizon Wireless	TELEPHONE	- .03
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	MII LIFE	VEBA	235.28
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	MN REAL ESTATE JOURN	SUBSCRIPTION	136.00
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	SW MN HOUSING PARTNE	APPLICATION PROCESS	750.00
Total for Department 187			1,819.36*
Total for Fund 67			1,819.36*
RIVERBLUFF ESTATES	BRADY POWERS	MOWING	120.00
Total for Department 166			120.00*
Total for Fund 68			120.00*
	MN 9-1-1 PROGRAM	911 SERVICE	1,103.81
Total for Department			1,103.81*
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	B B C AMERICA	SUBSCRIBER	17.82
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	BIG TEN NETWORK	SUBSCRIBER	1,556.84
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	BLUEHIGHWAYS	SUBSCRIBER	40.51
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	CNN - TURNER NETWORK	SUBSCRIBER	794.42
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	COMCAST MEDIA CENTER	SUBSCRIBER	16.25
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	DHJV COMPANY LLC	SUBSCRIBER	8.05
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	DISCOVERY DIGITAL NE	SUBSCRIBER	49.36
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	ELECTRIC FUND	UTILITY BILLING	2,053.64
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	FOX SPORTS	SUBSCRIBER	5,264.40
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	H P SUDS CLUB, LLC.	BILLING CONTRACT SERVICE	466.40
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	KARE	SUBSCRIBER	448.00
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	LIFETIME	SUBSCRIBER	670.45
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	LIFETIME MOVIE NETWO	SUBSCRIBER	30.00
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	Verizon Wireless	TELEPHONE	37.78
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	MII LIFE	VEBA	665.78
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	NATIONAL CABLE TV CO	SUBSCRIBER	21,198.23
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	QWEST COMMUNICATIONS	DIRECTORY LISTING	194.10
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	JEREMY ROLFBS	SERVICE INTERNET	50.94
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	TBS - TURNER NETWORK	SUBSCRIBER	683.10
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	TCM - TURNER NETWORK	SUBSCRIBER	373.18

CITY OF WINDOM
FM Entry - Invoice Payment - Department Report

Department	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	TNT - TURNER NETWORK SUBSCRIBER		1,584.41
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	TOWER DISTRIBUTION C SUBSCRIBER		216.06
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	U S BANK TRUST NATIO ADMINISTRATION FEE-GO BO		402.50
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	VOYAGER FLEET SERVIC GAS		65.08
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	WOODSTOCK TELEPHONE SERVICE		186.67
	Total for Department 199		37,073.97*
	Total for Fund 69		38,177.78*
	COLONIAL LIFE INSURA INSURANCE		8.82
	Total for Department		8.82*
	Total for Fund 70		8.82*
	Grand Total		145,961.48*

CITY OF WINDOM
FM Entry - Invoice Payment - Department Report

Department	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
MAYOR & COUNCIL	CITIZEN PUBLISHING C	ADVERTISING	571.40
MAYOR & COUNCIL	MCDONALD & SCHRAMEL	LEGAL FEES/WARRANTY DEED	52.50
	Total for Department 101		623.90*
CITY OFFICE	A & B BUSINESS EQUIP	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	39.88
CITY OFFICE	COTTONWOOD COUNTY AS	ASSESSING	30,373.71
CITY OFFICE	INDOFF, INC	SUPPLIES	74.91
CITY OFFICE	DAVIS TYPEWRITER	SUPPLIES	179.96
CITY OFFICE	MANKATO MOBIL RADIO	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	6.50
CITY OFFICE	MN MUNICIPAL UTILITI	SAFETY COMP	1,431.68
CITY OFFICE	QUILL CORP	SUPPLIES	84.50
CITY OFFICE	SUBWAY	EXPENSE	33.93
CITY OFFICE	WINDOM QUICK PRINT	SUPPLIES/ENVELOPES	12.57
	Total for Department 103		32,237.64*
P & Z / BUILDING OFF	INDOFF, INC	SUPPLIES	17.83
P & Z / BUILDING OFF	DAVIS TYPEWRITER	SUPPLIES	1.73
P & Z / BUILDING OFF	MANKATO MOBIL RADIO	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	6.50
P & Z / BUILDING OFF	MN MUNICIPAL UTILITI	SAFETY COMP	536.88
P & Z / BUILDING OFF	VET'S WHOA N'GO	GAS	99.55
P & Z / BUILDING OFF	WINDOM QUICK PRINT	SUPPLIES/ENVELOPES	12.57
	Total for Department 106		675.06*
LEGAL	MCDONALD & SCHRAMEL	CONFERENCE	270.80
	Total for Department 110		270.80*
CITY HALL	AMERIGAS - WORTHINGT	WATER TREATMENT	23.46
CITY HALL	COTTONWOOD COUNTY SO	RECYCLING PICK UP	12.00
CITY HALL	CULLIGAN	SERVICE	12.50
CITY HALL	HEARTLAND PAPER COMP	SUPPLIES	70.87
CITY HALL	HOMETOWN SANITATION	HAUL GARBAGE	85.04
CITY HALL	PAMIDA	SUPPLIES	35.21
CITY HALL	RUNNING'S SUPPLY	MAINTENANCE	4.69
	Total for Department 115		243.77*
POLICE	COTTONWOOD CO TREASU	DISPATCHING	275.00
POLICE	COTTONWOOD CO TREASU	RENT	1,500.00
POLICE	INDOFF, INC	SUPPLIES	31.51
POLICE	KEMSKE	BOOKS	29.05
POLICE	MCDONALD & SCHRAMEL	LEGAL FEES/WARRANTY DEED	3,108.00
POLICE	MANKATO MOBIL RADIO	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	22.50
POLICE	PAMIDA	SUPPLIES	18.39
POLICE	WINDOM AREA HOSPITAL	TESTING	37.00
POLICE	COUNTRY PRIDE SERVIC	MAINTENANCE	370.83
POLICE	WINDOM QUICK PRINT	SUPPLIES/ENVELOPES	12.57
POLICE	WINDOM TOWING CO	TIRES	609.18
	Total for Department 120		6,014.03*
FIRE DEPARTMENT	COTTONWOOD CO TREASU	DISPATCHING	212.50
FIRE DEPARTMENT	SUNSHINE FOODS	SUPPLIES	25.14
FIRE DEPARTMENT	MANKATO MOBIL RADIO	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	2,011.48

CITY OF WINDOM
FM Entry - Invoice Payment - Department Report

Department	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
FIRE DEPARTMENT	MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY	SERVICE	800.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT	QUEST	TELEPHONE	58.86
FIRE DEPARTMENT	RUNNING'S SUPPLY	MAINTENANCE	22.10
FIRE DEPARTMENT	VET'S WHOA N'GO	GAS	107.03
	Total for Department 125		3,237.11*
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	COTTONWOOD CO TREASU	DISPATCHING	12.50
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	MANKATO MOBIL RADIO	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	200.00
	Total for Department 130		212.50*
ANIMALS	COTTONWOOD-SLAYTON V	VETERINARY SERVICE	120.78
	Total for Department 135		120.78*
STREET	CHEMSEARCH	SUPPLIES	341.28
STREET	COTTONWOOD CO TREASU	DISPATCHING	125.00
STREET	DICKS WELDING	MAINTENANCE	17.47
STREET	FERRELLGAS	GAS	25.65
STREET	GDF ENTERPRISES, INC	MAINTENANCE	186.50
STREET	GCC ALLIANCE CONCRET	MAINTENANCE	-430.98
STREET	HOMETOWN SANITATION	HAUL GARBAGE	130.85
STREET	LAMPERTS YARDS, INC.	MAINTENANCE	47.22
STREET	LEAGUE OF MN. CITIES	PUBLIC WORKS POLICIES	15.00
STREET	MANKATO MOBIL RADIO	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	6.50
STREET	MN MUNICIPAL UTILITI	SAFETY COMP	2,147.52
STREET	QUEST	TELEPHONE	58.86
STREET	PRAXAIR DISTRIBUTION	SERVICE	23.54
STREET	RIVERSIDE TIRE	MAINTENANCE	2,427.85
STREET	RUNNING'S SUPPLY	MAINTENANCE	99.98
STREET	SANFORD LABORATORIES	TESTING	108.34
STREET	VET'S WHOA N'GO	GAS	34.83
STREET	COUNTRY PRIDE SERVIC	DISCOUNT FOR FUEL PER CO	-63.22
STREET	COUNTRY PRIDE SERVIC	MAINTENANCE	3,497.35
STREET	WINDOM QUICK PRINT	SUPPLIES/ENVELOPES	12.57
	Total for Department 140		8,812.11*
RECREATION	A & B BUSINESS EQUIP	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	39.85
RECREATION	CENTER SPORTS	EQUIPMENT	80.00
RECREATION	GRAPHIC EDGE	T-SHIRTS	790.69
RECREATION	SW AWARDS	AWARDS	111.15
RECREATION	WINDOM AREA SCHOOLS	SERVICE	200.00
	Total for Department 150		1,221.69*
PARKS	COTTONWOOD CO TREASU	DISPATCHING	37.50
PARKS	GDF ENTERPRISES, INC	MAINTENANCE	186.50
PARKS	GCC ALLIANCE CONCRET	MAINTENANCE	394.18
PARKS	HOMETOWN SANITATION	HAUL GARBAGE	111.00
PARKS	LAMPERTS YARDS, INC.	MAINTENANCE	34.01
PARKS	MESSER MACHINE & MFG	MAINTENANCE	151.01
PARKS	MN MUNICIPAL UTILITI	SAFETY COMP	715.84
PARKS	MTI DISTRIBUTING, IN	MAINTENANCE	65.28

CITY OF WINDOM
FM Entry - Invoice Payment - Department Report

Department	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
PARKS	RUNNING'S SUPPLY	MAINTENANCE	67.28
		Total for Department 165	1,762.60*
		Total for Fund 01	55,431.99*
LIBRARY	WINDOM QUICK PRINT	SUPPLIES/ENVELOPES	12.57
		Total for Department 171	12.57*
		Total for Fund 03	12.57*
POOL	A & B BUSINESS EQUIP	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	39.85
POOL	CITIZEN PUBLISHING C	ADVERTISING	149.40
POOL	HAWKINS, INC	CHMICALS	409.28
		Total for Department 175	598.53*
		Total for Fund 12	598.53*
AMBULANCE	ARROW MANUFACTURING	SUPPLIES	201.78
AMBULANCE	BOUND TREE MEDICAL,	EQUIPMENT	46.25
AMBULANCE	COTTONWOOD CO TREASU	DISPATCHING	200.00
AMBULANCE	EMERGENCY MEDICAL PR	SUPPLIES	53.65
AMBULANCE	LEWIS FAMILY DRUG #5	SUPPLIES	284.28
AMBULANCE	KDOM RADIO	ADVERTISING	175.50
AMBULANCE	MANKATO MOBIL RADIO	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	2,916.71
AMBULANCE	MANKATO MOBIL RADIO	SUPPLIES	476.51
AMBULANCE	QUEST	TELEPHONE	58.87
AMBULANCE	PRAXAIR DISTRIBUTION	SERVICE	297.49
AMBULANCE	VET'S WHOA N'GO	GAS	1,012.39
AMBULANCE	WINDOM FARM SERVICE	MAINTENANCE	246.04
AMBULANCE	WINDOM QUICK PRINT	SUPPLIES/ENVELOPES	12.57
AMBULANCE	ZOLL MEDICAL CORPORA	SUPPLIES	389.88
		Total for Department 176	6,371.92*
		Total for Fund 13	6,371.92*
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDI	A & B BUSINESS EQUIP	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	159.26
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDI	COCA-COLA BOTTLING C	MERCHANDISE	72.12
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDI	COLE PAPER INC.	SUPPLIES	120.77
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDI	SUNSHINE FOODS	SUPPLIES	152.99
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDI	HEARTLAND PAPER COMP	SUPPLIES	296.06
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDI	HOMETOWN SANITATION	HAUL GARBAGE	103.03
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDI	KDOM RADIO	ADVERTISING	158.00
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDI	MN MUNICIPAL UTILITI	SAFETY COMP	894.80
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDI	STONER INDUSTRIAL, I	SERVICE	126.33
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDI	TOWN 'N COUNTRY	MAINTENANCE	75.00
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDI	WINDOM QUICK PRINT	SUPPLIES/ENVELOPES	12.57
		Total for Department 177	2,170.93*
		Total for Fund 14	2,170.93*

CITY OF WINDOM
FM Entry - Invoice Payment - Department Report

Department	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
RIVER BLUFF EST REV	STEVE MAU	MATERIAL FOR LOAN	495.11
		Total for Department 019	495.11*
		Total for Fund 19	495.11*
LIQUOR	A & B BUSINESS EQUIP	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	39.85
LIQUOR	ADRIAN'S PLUMBING	MAINTENANCE	426.30
LIQUOR	ADVERTISING PRODUCTS	SUPPLIES	823.93
LIQUOR	ENVIROMASTER, INC.	SERVICE	39.54
LIQUOR	BEVERAGE WHOLESALERS	MERCHANDISE	3,885.15
LIQUOR	CITIZEN PUBLISHING C	ADVERTISING	185.70
LIQUOR	CULLIGAN	SERVICE	8.35
LIQUOR	INDOFF, INC	SUPPLIES	61.94
LIQUOR	HAGEN DISTRIBUTING	MERCHANDISE	9,483.10
LIQUOR	HOMETOWN SANITATION	HAUL GARBAGE	48.06
LIQUOR	JOHNSON BROS.	MERCHANDISE	1,360.43
LIQUOR	MN MUNICIPAL UTILITI	SAFETY COMP	1,431.68
LIQUOR	QUALITY WINE SPIRITS	MERCHANDISE	2,479.93
LIQUOR	S&K LINES	FREIGHT	697.50
LIQUOR	WINDOM QUICK PRINT	SUPPLIES/ENVELOPES	12.57
LIQUOR	WINE MERCHANTS	MERCHANDISE	694.50
		Total for Department 180	21,678.53*
		Total for Fund 60	21,678.53*
		AUTOMATIC SYSTEMS CO SERVICE	1,496.30
		HD SUPPLY WATERWORKD MAINTENANCE	1,060.42
		Total for Department	2,556.72*
WATER	A & B BUSINESS EQUIP	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	39.85
WATER	CHEMSEARCH	SUPPLIES	88.48
WATER	COTTONWOOD CO TREASU	DISPATCHING	100.00
WATER	HAWKINS, INC	CHEMICALS	2,573.82
WATER	GCC ALLIANCE CONCRET	MAINTENANCE	98.24
WATER	GLOBAL GOV'T/EDUCATI	BACK UP BILLING SYSTEM	201.98
WATER	GOPHER STATE ONE CAL	LOCATES	10.64
WATER	HACH COMPANY	SUPPLIES	125.72
WATER	HYDRO TECH SERVICE	MAINTENANCE	1,902.00
WATER	KEMNA-ASA AUTO PLAZA	MAINTENANCE	262.27
WATER	MANKATO MOBIL RADIO	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	6.50
WATER	STELLAR BILLING LLC	POSTAGE	140.00
WATER	STELLAR BILLING LLC	UTILITY BILL SERVICES	723.41
WATER	MIDWEST TESTING	TESTING / SERVICE	485.00
WATER	MN MUNICIPAL UTILITI	SAFETY COMP	894.80
WATER	MN VALLEY TESTING	TESTING	107.50
WATER	QUEST	TELEPHONE	58.87
WATER	RON'S ELECTRIC INC	MAINTENANCE	87.48
WATER	RUNNING'S SUPPLY	MAINTENANCE	69.84
WATER	SANFORD LABORATORIES	TESTING	71.94
WATER	SHARE CORP.	SUPPLIES	101.12

CITY OF WINDOM
FM Entry - Invoice Payment - Department Report

Department	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
WATER	SUPERIOR LAMP & SUPP	MAINTENANCE	254.14
WATER	WINDOM QUICK PRINT	SUPPLIES/ENVELOPES	12.57
WATER	TIGHT ROPE	MAINTENANCE	8,442.72
	Total for Department 181		16,858.89*
	Total for Fund 61		19,415.61*
	BORDER STATES ELECTR	INVENTORY	388.71
	J. H. LARSON	SUPPLIES/MAINTENANCE	339.69
	ODDSON UNDERGROUND	MAINTENANCE	4,564.50
	RESCO	INVENTORY	271.25
	WERNER ELECTRIC	MAINTENANCE	934.44
	WESCO DISTRIBUTION,	MAINTENANCE	451.01
	ZIESKE LAND SURVEYIN	SERVICE	2,105.00
	STUART C IRBY CO	MAINTENANCE	2,251.55
	Total for Department		11,306.15*
ELECTRIC	A & B BUSINESS EQUIP	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	39.85
ELECTRIC	AMUNDSON DIG	MAINTENANCE	637.49
ELECTRIC	COTTONWOOD CO TREASU	DISPATCHING	187.50
ELECTRIC	GOPHER STATE ONE CAL	LOCATES	10.64
ELECTRIC	SUNSHINE FOODS	SUPPLIES	4.20
ELECTRIC	HOMETOWN SANITATION	HAUL GARBAGE	84.75
ELECTRIC	KDOM RADIO	ADVERTISING	244.20
ELECTRIC	MCDONALD & SCHRAMEL	LEGAL FEES/WARRANTY DEED	21.00
ELECTRIC	MANKATO MOBIL RADIO	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	6.50
ELECTRIC	STELLAR BILLING LLC	POSTAGE	140.00
ELECTRIC	STELLAR BILLING LLC	UTILITY BILL SERVICES	1,492.04
ELECTRIC	MN DEPT OF COMMERCE	ASSESSMENT	947.09
ELECTRIC	MN MUNICIPAL UTILITI	SAFETY COMP	1,789.88
ELECTRIC	QUEST	TELEPHONE	55.41
ELECTRIC	RETROFIT RECYCLING,	RECYCLING	298.70
ELECTRIC	RUNNING'S SUPPLY	MAINTENANCE	113.33
ELECTRIC	SANFORD LABORATORIES	TESTING	35.54
ELECTRIC	STONER INDUSTRIAL, I	SERVICE	102.30
ELECTRIC	VET'S WHOA N'GO	GAS	197.96
ELECTRIC	WINDOM AREA DEVELOPM	INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT	1,200.00
ELECTRIC	WINDOM QUICK PRINT	SUPPLIES/ENVELOPES	12.57
	Total for Department 182		7,620.95*
	Total for Fund 62		18,927.10*
SEWER	A & B BUSINESS EQUIP	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	79.70
SEWER	CHEMSEARCH	SUPPLIES	88.49
SEWER	COTTONWOOD CO TREASU	DISPATCHING	100.00
SEWER	ENVIRONMENTAL TOXICI	TESTING	650.00
SEWER	HAWKINS, INC	CHEMICALS	918.97
SEWER	GOPHER STATE ONE CAL	LOCATES	10.63
SEWER	HOMETOWN SANITATION	HAUL GARBAGE	85.04
SEWER	MANKATO MOBIL RADIO	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	6.50

CITY OF WINDOM
FM Entry - Invoice Payment - Department Report

Department	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
SEWER	STELLAR BILLING LLC	POSTAGE	140.00
SEWER	STELLAR BILLING LLC	UTILITY BILL SERVICES	723.41
SEWER	MN MUNICIPAL UTILITI	SAFETY COMP	1,610.64
SEWER	MN VALLEY TESTING	TESTING	2,076.20
SEWER	QUEST	TELEPHONE	260.61
SEWER	RUNNING'S SUPPLY	MAINTENANCE	66.63
SEWER	SHARE CORP.	SUPPLIES	101.12
SEWER	SUPERIOR LAMP & SUPP	MAINTENANCE	254.15
SEWER	VET'S WHOA N'GO	GAS	83.58
SEWER	WINDOM QUICK PRINT	SUPPLIES/ENVELOPES	12.57
		Total for Department 183	7,268.24*
		Total for Fund 63	7,268.24*
ARENA	A & B BUSINESS EQUIP	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	39.85
ARENA	AMERIPRIDE LINEN CO	SERVICE	80.72
ARENA	ASCAP	LICENSE FEE	305.00
ARENA	CENTER STOP	FUEL SALES	23.50
ARENA	COCA-COLA BOTTLING C	MERCHANDISE	258.96
ARENA	COTTONWOOD-SLAYTON V	VETERINARY SERVICE	180.00
ARENA	COTTONWOOD COUNTY AG	BUILDING RENTAL	4,150.00
ARENA	DICKS WELDING	ARENA ENTRY	43.39
ARENA	SUNSHINE FOODS	SUPPLIES	93.32
ARENA	HOMETOWN SANITATION	HAUL GARBAGE	130.88
ARENA	HY-VEE FOOD STORE	MERCHANDISE	85.39
ARENA	KDOM RADIO	ADVERTISING	74.00
ARENA	LAMPERTS YARDS, INC.	ARENA ENTRY	378.66
ARENA	LAMPERTS YARDS, INC.	MAINTENANCE	60.00
ARENA	MILLER SELLNER EQUIP	MAINTENANCE	45.95
ARENA	MN MUNICIPAL UTILITI	SAFETY COMP	1,252.72
ARENA	QUALITY GLASS	ARENA FRONT ENTRY	1,363.48
ARENA	RUNNING'S SUPPLY	MAINTENANCE	178.70
ARENA	SNICKS SIGNS	ARENA ENTRY PROJECT-SIGN	180.00
ARENA	STONER INDUSTRIAL, I	SERVICE	9.55
ARENA	VET'S WHOA N'GO	GAS	64.12
ARENA	WINDOM QUICK PRINT	SUPPLIES/ENVELOPES	12.57
ARENA	WINDOM PAINTING	MAINTENANCE	41.68
ARENA	GREAT AMERICAN LUMBE	WOOD SHAVINGS	4,972.50
		Total for Department 184	14,024.94*
		Total for Fund 64	14,024.94*
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	CITIZEN PUBLISHING C	ADVERTISING	140.00
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	INDOFF, INC	SUPPLIES	17.83
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	DAVIS TYPEWRITER	SUPPLIES	1.74
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	SUNSHINE FOODS	SUPPLIES	84.36
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	MCDONALD & SCHRAMEL	LEGAL FEES/WARRANTY DEED	21.00
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	MN MUNICIPAL UTILITI	SAFETY COMP	536.88
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	WINDOM QUICK PRINT	SUPPLIES/ENVELOPES	60.67
		Total for Department 187	862.48*

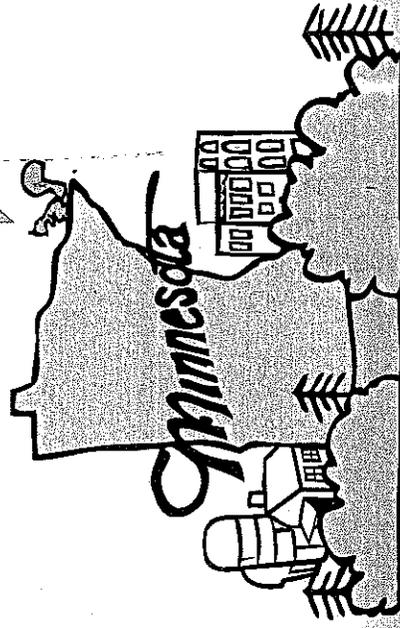
CITY OF WINDOM
FM Entry - Invoice Payment - Department Report

Department	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
Total for Fund 67			862.48*
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	A & B BUSINESS EQUIP	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	119.55
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	ADARA TECHNOLOGIES I	SERVICE	10,500.00
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	INDOFF, INC	SUPPLIES	119.47
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	E-911	MONTHLY 911 SERVICE	43.95
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	FIBER INSTRUMENT SAL	FIBER	32.85
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	GOPHER STATE ONE CAL	LOCATES	31.89
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	SUNSHINE FOODS	BLANDIN EXPENSE	6.58
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	SUNSHINE FOODS	SUPPLIES	9.49
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	HEARTLAND PAPER COMP	SUPPLIES	71.31
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	HOMETOWN SANITATION	HAUL GARBAGE	73.92
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	IMC NETWORKS CORP	SERVICE	788.00
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	KDOM RADIO	ADVERTISING	272.00
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	MCDONALD & SCHRAMEL	LEGAL FEES/WARRANTY DEED	21.00
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	STELLAR BILLING LLC	UTILITY BILL SERVICES	1,582.49
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	MN DEPT OF COMMERCE	ASSESSMENT	144.18
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	MN MUNICIPAL UTILITI	SAFETY COMP	1,431.68
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	NATIONAL CABLE TV CO	MAINTENANCE	1,542.50
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	NEW STAR SALES & SER	COPIER MAINTENANCE	35.00
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	OLSEN THIELEN & CO.,	SERVICE	1,334.00
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	ONVOY, INC	DEDICATED FACILITIES	1,360.45
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	ONVOY, INC	SS7 SERVICE	1,665.39
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	SHOWTIME NETWORKS IN	SUBSCRIBER	299.20
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	SOUTHWEST/WEST CENTR	SERVICE	1,666.66
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	SUBWAY	EXPENSE	42.25
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	STONER INDUSTRIAL, I	SERVICE	57.39
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	WINDOM QUICK PRINT	SUPPLIES/ENVELOPES	37.71
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	ZAYO BANDWIDTH	BANDWIDTH BILLING	5,767.26
Total for Department 199			29,056.17*
Total for Fund 69			29,056.17*
Grand Total			176,314.12*

2010
League of Minnesota Cities
**REGIONAL
MEETINGS**

Join together with area city colleagues to help shape the future of Minnesota cities!

Hear from area state legislative candidates in the Candidate Forum. Get tips on Successful Service Consolidation. The LMC Legislative Update will give you the scoop on 2010, and what's likely ahead for 2011. Network. Learn about options for Controlling Employee Costs. Discuss how to engage the public on the future of Cities, Services & Funding.



- September 22
Crookston
- September 23
Dalton
- September 29
Mountain Iron
- September 30
Walker
- October 6
Eyota
- October 7
Montgomery
- October 13
Walnut Grove
- October 14
Grove City
- November 17
Brooklyn Park
(Metro meeting)



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Steve Nasby Administrator
City Of Windom
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Windom MN 56101-0038

League of Minnesota Cities
145 University Ave. West
St. Paul, MN 55103-2044

Register now!
www.lmc.org/RMS



2010 LMC REGIONAL MEETINGS

Worried about how your city will continue to provide the services that the people in your community rely on? Join the League at the 2010 Regional Meeting nearest you to learn about strategies, tools, and resources that will help you effectively manage your city in this new economic climate.

1 p.m. Registration Open

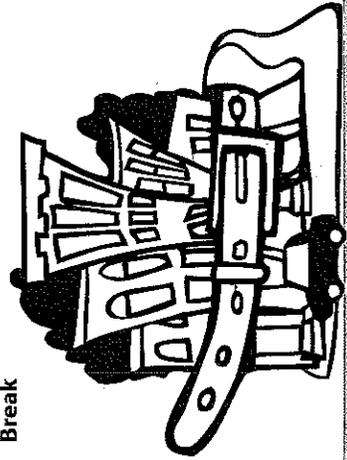
1:30 p.m. Consolidation of Services

The times are prompting many cities to take a hard look at consolidating service delivery with neighboring communities, the county, the school district, or even the private and non-profit sectors. But it can be easier said than done! Get some advice from LMC legal staff and work through an exercise with other city officials about addressing barriers.

2:15 p.m. HR Responses to the Fiscal Crisis -- What Cities Are Doing

Employee pay and benefits make up the largest part of your city budget. What options do cities have to control those costs while still delivering the services citizens want and need? Hear from both LMC staff and your surrounding cities about novel approaches and methods of handling obstacles.

3 p.m. Break



3:15 p.m. LMC City Services and Funding Project

No matter what type or size of city you're in, the future looks daunting. LMC has launched "Outside the Ox," a two-year effort to get local officials, state policy makers, and the public all talking creatively about what we want from our cities and how we want to pay for it. Here's another chance for you to have your input!

4:15 p.m. Legislative Update

Cities ended the 2010 session losing another \$180 billion in local government aids. And with a \$5+ billion deficit looming for the next biennium, it doesn't look like things will be any better in the foreseeable future. Several positive things, like pension reform, were achieved this year. The LMC IGR team will fill you in on what happened in 2010 and what to expect in 2011 and future years.

5 p.m. Social Time and Dinner

Welcome from Host Mayor
Comments from LMC Executive Director Jim Miller

Remarks from LMC President Dick Brainerd

Legislative Candidates Panel

All 201 legislative seats will be on the ballot this fall. In this moderated panel format declared candidates from your part of the state will share their views on key issues facing cities.

Adjourn

7:30 p.m.

Register now!
www.lmc.org/RM5

Registration Fee:
\$40 per person

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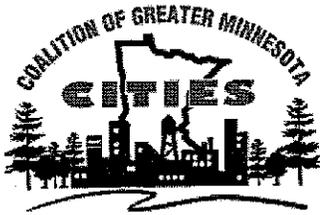
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Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities

CGMC in Brief

September 16, 2010

Contact: Tim Flaherty
651-225-8840

Gubernatorial candidates release more details for budget plans

This week, all three candidates for governor released new details of their budget plans. On Tuesday, Mark Dayton's campaign held a press conference to announce that his original goal of raising \$4 billion in taxes fell short after the Department of Revenue determined his increase in the income tax would only raise \$1.9 billion. In combination with other revenue estimates on Dayton's website, this leaves his total tax plan \$875 million short. Dayton's campaign said that it would go back to the drawing board for new sources of revenue and additional spending cuts.

Later on Tuesday, Rep. Emmer unveiled a budget outline that set targets for spending in major state budget categories. In addition to delaying the repayment of the \$1.4 billion school shift until the 2014-2015 biennium, Emmer's plan would reduce spending in education, health and human services, and property tax aids and credits—among other programs—when compared to what these programs are scheduled to receive under current law. The entire category of property tax aids and credits would be cut \$1.1 billion, or 33%. Since Emmer's plan only sets the spending target for this broader category, it is unknown what the exact impact to LGA would be, other than Emmer's press conference statement that he wanted to "reform Local Government Aid to focus solely on public safety and critical infrastructure needs."

And early today, Tom Horner added further detail to his job creation plan. Horner's plan would reduce the corporate tax rate by 20% starting in 2013, eliminate the sales tax on capital equipment, and increase the state's research and development tax credit. Horner also expressed support for a \$400 million bonding bill.

To learn more about each candidate's budget plan, see the links below.

Dayton: <http://bit.ly/at9vqQ>

Emmer: <http://bit.ly/ddb7pZ>

Horner: <http://bit.ly/9kc4lp>

FMAP money helps state's bottom line

Approximately \$263 million in federal Medicaid assistance money is headed to Minnesota as part of Minnesota's share of extended stimulus funding. Both the governor and legislature budgeted for the "FMAP" money last session, but the actual appropriation was delayed by Congress until this summer. Receipt of the actual payment was contingent on the state formally requesting the money, which Governor Pawlenty officially did last Tuesday. The FMAP money will go to the state's bottom line, since the budget passed last May did not account for the federal money.



Despite this cushion, the state's cash flow situation remains volatile. Minnesota Management and Budget Commissioner Tom Hanson told an advisory commission of DFLers and Republicans last Tuesday that the state needs to borrow \$700 million from other state funds and delay \$500 million in payments to K-12 schools in order to maintain the state's cash flow. Despite these administrative actions, the state is already preparing a \$600 million line of credit in case it is needed next year. Without the administrative actions, the state could be in the red as early as December.

Grants available to cities for lead-based paint removal

On September 2, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced the availability of funding for cities, and other local units of government, to identify and control the prevalence of lead-based paint hazards in lower income homes, and help protect children from lead poisoning. According to the HUD, "[p]rospective grantees will be able to apply for supplementary funding to promote and develop a local Healthy Housing initiative, building on their lead hazard control program, to address multiple housing-related health hazards in accordance with best practices HUD has identified." Approximately \$110 million in grants is available. For more information, please visit www.grants.gov or email attorney/lobbyist J.D. Burton at jdburton@flaherty-hood.com.



Headlines

Volunteers key to 2011 Wayzata budget strategy

[Print Page](#)

BY JARED HUIZENGA • SUN NEWSPAPERS

Published: Sunday, September 12, 2010 10:30 PM CDT

Financially speaking, it's been a rough couple of years for Wayzata.

Mid-2009 saw the city council forced to make \$300,000 in budget cuts, including several key staff member being layoffs. Last year, in an effort to keep tax increases as low as possible, some services that residents had become accustomed to were axed.

To help minimize the effects of those cuts on residents, the city reached out to the community to ask volunteers to help in some key areas. In that time, nearly 200 community volunteers have logged more than 2,000 volunteer hours in a variety of roles - answering phones, planting and maintaining gardens and helping with senior programming, to name a few.

"The response has been phenomenal," Councilmember Mary Bader said.

One of those volunteers is Deeby Kadrie, who twice a week spends a couple of hours at the Wayzata Public Works facility, helping answer phones, accept deliveries and greet people when they come into the facility.

"I retired from the university and saw in The Portal [the city's newsletter] that they were looking for volunteers," Kadrie said. "I worked for a number of years in city government in Minnetonka and in California, so I applied and they accepted me."

Kadrie volunteers at Public Works for two hours in the middle of the day on Mondays and Thursdays. Another volunteer, Janet Bowman, comes in every other Friday. The duo typically mans the front desk while Public Works secretary Rebecca Jones takes her lunch break or runs to pick up or drop items off at city hall.

"I feel very fortunate to have gotten the help I have," Jones said. "Both Deeby and Janet have been very good fits here."

Not only has the volunteer program been beneficial to city staff by giving them extra help to get their increased workload completed, but Kadrie said it's been beneficial to her as well.

"I think it's great for someone who's retired," she said. "It gets you out of the house and doing something to help the community."

As city officials start to wrap up business for 2010 and move on to 2011 considerations, Bader said that soon the city will look at the volunteer program, evaluate its impact on the city and, hopefully, she said, figure out how to expand it going forward.

For now, however, the council has begun looking at figures for 2011.

During its Sept. 7 meeting, the council approved its preliminary tax levy for 2011, which increased from \$3,379,574 in 2010 to \$3,648,857 for 2011 - an increase of \$269,283.

"It's definitely not a situation like last year," Bader said. "Our inclination is to not increase taxes if at all possible."

The council set the levy intentionally high so that it has flexibility when it comes time for budget

approval and approval of the final levy.

Among the major increases for 2011 is \$104,625 in general obligation bonds for the Wayzata Bay Center project - an expense that was not in 2010's budget - and an additional \$82,747 for police wages and benefits. Bader noted that with Wayzata receiving the police services contract for Long Lake, expenses will certainly increase, but that there will also be additional revenues coming in because of it.

The exact numbers of the budget aren't yet finalized, but the council was required to have its preliminary tax levy submitted to Hennepin County by Sept. 15. State laws allow cities to set their final levies below the preliminary number, but it cannot go above that level.

Overall, Bader said she doesn't anticipate the 2011 budget process being nearly as difficult as 2010.

"Last year was a bitter pill to swallow," she said. "The economy caught up to us last year and we're living through it this year ... none of that this year."

What kind of impact the volunteer program has had on the city's money - and whether it will continue to grow - is something that's hard to measure, but Bader thinks it's an asset that goes far beyond dollars and cents.

"Not only does it help [with services and budget concerns] but it also helps build a sense of community."

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Published September 09 2010

Benson City Council approves 2011 general fund, levy

BENSON — The Benson City Council approved the 2011 general fund budget and tax levy at the regular meeting Tuesday.

By: **Gretchen Schlosser**, West Central Tribune

BENSON — The Benson City Council approved the 2011 general fund budget and tax levy at the regular meeting Tuesday.

As approved, the 2011 general fund budget includes revenues of \$3,307,561 and expenditures of \$3,107,535, with a reserve of \$200,026, according to City Manager Rob Wolfington. In 2010, the city budgeted for general fund expenditures of \$3,080,202.

The council approved increasing the levy at the maximum rate of 8.1 percent, Wolfington said.

The actual increase may be reduced when the final levy is set, giving the city time to determine what it will receive in state aid, he added.

The council set an open house from noon to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 5 p.m. Sept. 20 for citizens to visit the city's water treatment plant clubhouse to find out more about rehabilitation or replacement plans.

In addition, the council set aside time for a question-and-answer period at 5:30 p.m. at the City Council meeting that evening.

The council has been considering four options for rehabilitation or replacement of the city's two water treatment facilities, the city's power plant and the 1968-vintage plant at the golf course. Both plants were last refurbished in the 1980s.

The options include rehabilitating the golf course facility and reusing the existing filter systems, at an estimated cost of \$1.11 million; rehabilitating the power plant and replacing the filter systems, at an estimated cost of \$3.44 million; rehabilitating and adding on to the golf course filters, at an estimated cost of \$3.99 million; and building a new plant at the golf course, for an estimated cost of \$5.88 million.

The council expects to make a decision at the Oct. 4 meeting, Wolfington said.

Then work would begin on planning and specifications, along with financing.

The physical work would start in the late summer or fall of 2011 and finish in the spring of 2012.

Tags: news, region, benson, city, council, budget, levy, fccnetwork



PAGE: LOCAL NEWS

Pipestone sets preliminary 2011 levy

By Kyle Kuphal (September 08, 2010)

The Pipestone City Council during their Tuesday, Sept. 7 meeting approved by a vote of four to one a preliminary levy of \$1.77 million, which constitutes a 20.4 percent increase over last year's levy.

"I'm going to vote opposed only because I think it should be lower," said Mayor Laurie Ness.

A 20.4 percent increase is the maximum amount the city could raise the levy for 2011. It includes a \$340,425 special unallotment levy to recoup lost Local Government Aid (LGA) funds from 2010, a \$703,308 general levy, and a \$727,322 debt service levy.

The levy would allow the city to cover budget \$197,714 in budget shortfalls in 2010 and 2011 and put \$142,711 in reserves, something the entire council agreed was important.

"We know the auditors have spanked us twice now for having so little money in our reserves," Ness said during a work session prior to the regular meeting.

Lenae Scholten, city treasurer, said the state auditor's office recommends a general fund balance of 50 percent of a city's budgeted expenses for the year, which would be about \$700,000 for Pipestone. The city has a fund balance of little more than \$20,000 right now, Scholten said.

City department heads submitted budgets totaling \$5.7 million in expenditures for 2011, down three percent compared to \$5.9 million last year, and the proposed budget includes no raises for city employees.

The council can decrease the levy before setting the final levy on Dec. 20, but cannot increase it. All councilors seemed in agreement that further cuts should be made to the city's budget to bring the final levy down, except Harry Hansen.

"We don't need to make cuts," Hansen said when the mayor asked if he wanted to set the preliminary levy at 20.4 percent and make cuts to bring it down before December. Hansen said he believes residents are aware of the LGA cuts in 2010 and prepared for the 20.4 percent levy increase.

Nonetheless, Jeff Jones, city administrator, said he will continue to work with department heads to look for ways to cut the budget before the final levy is certified on Dec. 20.

In other action, the city unanimously approved up to \$40,000 in infrastructure work along Third Ave. NW.

Joel Adelman, water/wastewater supervisor, told the board the new storm sewer installed as part of the Second St. NW reconstruction project is 18 inches to two feet lower than the existing storm sewer running north along Third Ave. NW.

"Basically, what I'm telling you is that Third Ave. is going to sit full — the catch basins will sit full of water," Adelman said.

During the winter, he said, that sitting water could freeze and damage the new storm sewer lines put in under Second St. NW.

The project is expected to cost around \$50,000, for which the council approved using up to \$40,000 from the liquor store fund to pay for installation. Adelman said he plans to purchase materials for the project with funds from the water/wastewater budget.

The project will include 260 feet of water main and 670 feet of storm sewer. No street work is involved in the project, but a portion of the street will need to be taken out to get to the lines. The new lines will be installed beneath the right-of-way rather than under the street.

Third Ave. NW was one of six additional street projects the city had initially discussed in conjunction with the Second St. NW project before paring the project back due to cost.

Local News

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Truman eyes 40 percent levy hike

Kylie Saari — Staff Writer

POSTED: September 9, 2010

TRUMAN - Truman City Council has set the maximum property tax levy increase for 2011 at \$330,328, a 40 percent surge over last year.

The increase reflects several changes to the budget, some approved by voters, others unavoidable and some a reflection of the state's budget deficit.

A fire hall addition approved by voters earlier this year accounts for a \$39,000 per year increase in the budget, while a larger building also means increased utility costs. Council members increased the utility budget for the municipal building 52 percent, from \$10,000 to \$16,000, to accommodate the project.

Council members also budgeted for the cost of bringing back a full-time police officer who has been on active military duty, an increase of \$31,260.

The state's \$5.9 billion deficit virtually guarantees no new aid to local governments, despite increased costs for everything from health insurance for city employees, to fuel to run equipment.

Council members are required to set an upper limit for the property tax levy hike. They can lower it between now and final budget approval in December, something Mayor John Sherman is keeping in mind.

"We can always go down," he told council members. "I don't think we want to (increase the levy 40 percent)."

A truth-in-taxation hearing is set for 7:30 p.m. Dec. 6 for the public to ask questions about the proposed tax increase and city budget.

In addition to budget increases, Truman residents face renovation costs to the storm sewer system, a project that will ease flooding problems faced by homeowners, but could cost nearly \$39,000 per year to finance.

The city is looking to extend the judicial ditch project completed last year up to Second Avenue, replacing the current 18-inch pipe with 60-inch pipe. Council members approved looking into bids for the project.

Bill Fahey of Northland Securities told council members paying for the project could be completed in one of three ways - assessing properties, bonding for the money or creating a storm sewer utility fee.

A third financial issue was brought before the council regarding an option for the city to purchase a building across the street from City Hall. Members of the Truman Community Baptist Church presented council members with a notice of acceptance of the council's offer to purchase their building at 102 East Ciro St. for \$50,000.

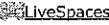
City offices currently share a building with the fire hall and library. The council made the offer in May, before residents approved a referendum allowing the fire hall addition project to move forward. A decision by the city is expected by Oct. 4.

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GROUND LEVEL: CITIES IN CRISIS

The basics of local government aid in Minnesota

September 9, 2010

St. Paul, Minn. — After three difficult budget years, Minnesota cities are struggling with what more can be cut from already tight budgets and looking for politically acceptable ways to raise money.

Is a "new normal" emerging for them? Bumpier roads, city halls open four days a week instead of five, police departments sharing or deferring duties to the sheriffs' departments?

At a deeper level, many residents and leaders are asking whether a city is responsible for maintaining an ideal quality of life or simply basic services? In the "new normal," how can cities lure new residents or keep the ones they have?

FALL 2010

To delve into how the slumping economy and state budget woes have forced cities to tighten their belts, it helps to have a basic understanding of the process of local government finance.

This fall, city councils and mayors and staffs are determining what they will spend money on next year and how they will find that money. The immediate problem is that they really don't know how big their budget gaps will be.

The Minnesota Department of Revenue has given each city notice of how much it can expect in 2011 in Local Government Aid, the larger of two main kinds of state aid.

It's important to note here that a little over 10 percent of Minnesota cities do not receive LGA money. For the cities that do, it can be anywhere from a small amount to two thirds of their budgets. For most cities, state aid makes up less than 50 percent of all that they spend on police, streets, parks, animal control and other services.

But almost no one expects that the Minnesota Legislature will be able to get rid of a nearly \$6 billion biennial budget deficit without touching aid to cities and townships. This means that as cities decide what to spend money on in 2011 and whether or how much to raise property taxes, they are working with a moving target.

In addition, factors beyond state aid, like the economy and political mood, are contributing to the financial strain on local officials.

While these forces are combining to make life difficult for city officials, some argue that reducing state help for cities makes residents feel the true cost of their local services and forces them to make better decisions about what they truly can afford.

CITY BUDGET 101

Where it comes from:

Glance over any city budget and you'll see the money comes in from many places.

- The traditional source and usually the largest is property taxes. Overall, this accounted for 35 percent of city revenues in 2008, and budgets submitted to the state auditor show that figure has almost certainly risen since then.
- Aid from the state (collected largely from sales and income taxes) is often the second largest source; in some cities it is the largest.
- A variety of other sources, from water and sewer fees to liquor store profits to speeding tickets, make up the rest.

GROUND LEVEL: CITIES IN CRISIS

As part of its coverage of communities taking action to prepare for the future, Ground Level is focusing on what Minnesota residents are deciding their cities should do.

More in Ground Level: Cities in Crisis

Go

Here's the long-term squeeze for residents: Over the past decade or so, the portion coming from property taxes has risen 37 percent and the portion coming from the state and other governments has fallen 25 percent.

These two trends have combined to result, after adjusting for inflation, in a 7-percent decline in Minnesota cities' revenue between 1999 and 2008, according to the state auditor, even as property taxes were rising.

Another way to see the trend is to look just at the past year. For all cities with more than 1,000 residents, property tax levies increased by \$69 million. At the same time, the amount cities received from the state dropped by \$259 million, according to the Minnesota Department of Revenue.

Cities going to the property tax well for relief already know that revenue source is strained. Now even commercial property values are declining, which means the burden will shift to homeowners to pay more of the total tax.

Homeowners already are noticing bills on which assessments are declining but taxes are rising. Even though home property values appear to be stabilizing, cities are still worried.

"Clearly they are concerned about going to the property taxpayers for huge increases. But I think there are also long-term concerns about the viability of the property tax as the major revenue source for funding local services," says Rachel Walker, manager of policy analysis at the League of Minnesota Cities.

More detail on property tax trends by the League of Minnesota Cities.

Cities also raise money through a variety of fees and other service charges -- everything from selling maps at city hall to golf course fees -- and overall these represent from 10 to 15 percent of cities' revenue.

The big three of these other revenue sources -- general government fees like rental of city property, public safety contracts and park and recreation fees like golf and pool admission fees -- all have been rising in recent years as cities jack up charges.

One source isn't as big as some might think: speeding tickets and related fines and forfeitures add up to only about 1 percent of all cities' revenue in Minnesota.

Where it goes:

Just as revenue declined 7 percent in 10 years, so did spending, when adjusted for inflation. So where were the sacrifices communities made in terms of the service residents received?

Of all the services that cities provide, public safety is the big cost, some 25 percent of all city spending in Minnesota. From 1999 to 2008, spending on public safety actually rose, even after adjusting for inflation.

But next in line are a foursome of expense categories -- streets and highways, culture and recreation (parks, libraries, ballfields) general government (administrative costs, salaries, maintenance) and housing and economic development.

Spending in all four of these areas has declined over 10 years, according to the state auditor.

Also telling is another way to look at the spending, that is, in terms of when residents might see a payoff. Money spent on so-called "current operations" rose 14 percent over the 10 years after adjusting for inflation. But spending on capital projects -- typically longer range investments for the future -- fell 33 percent and spending on debt dropped 13 percent.

STATE AID

The biggest driver in the angst cities are feeling is the recent history of reductions in state help for cities and the expectation that more cuts are on the way.

State aid to cities comes in two forms: local government aid, the larger of the two, and market value homestead credit reimbursement.

Local government aid, sometimes called LGA, was designed to help cities that have greater needs than what they could reasonably cover in property taxes. The cities that came to depend on LGA also tended to serve as regional hubs, providing services for people not paying into property tax coffers. The vision was that no matter where you happened to live in Minnesota, the quality of services would remain basically constant.

As mentioned, not all cities receive local government aid, and some manage to do without the aid they once received. The city of Hanover, for example, places any aid it receives into a fund to pay for capital improvements. That way if the state-sourced revenue falls short, projects can be delayed or paid for with debt, but current operations are unaffected. How much a city receives in local government aid depends on a complicated set of formulas. It basically builds on a per capita base, for example, \$8.50 for smaller cities, those under 2,500 population. Larger cities might

receive an aid base that depends on jobs per capita. Since LGA amounts are supposed to bridge a gap between needs and ability to pay, a city's needs are determined by taking into account things like older housing stock, population declines and household size. There are lots of other factors than those three.

You can find a fuller explanation called LGA 101 at the League of Minnesota Cities website.

Above all, cities that receive LGA have to consider that the aid amount may change between the time they receive an estimate at the end of July and when they actually receive the money in July the following year.

In between those dates, cities set levy amounts in September and pass final budgets in December. Added to the difficulty is that cities operate on a calendar year, the state on a fiscal year.

In July, the Minnesota Department of Revenue certified a total LGA amount of \$527,100,646. But many, if not all, city managers expect that amount will be cut when the Legislature returns in January and has to close an expected \$6 billion budget gap.

The second form of state aid, market value homestead credit, is not actually an aid per se. The credit is given to the people who pay taxes on homestead properties and appears as such on their property tax bills. The cities receive a reimbursement from the state to bring them up to the amount they anticipated raising with the levies they set. The state nevertheless viewed the MVHC reimbursement as a fund to cut to help balance the budget. The legislature cut \$25 million from the original \$82 million for 2011.

HISTORY (THE MINNESOTA MIRACLE)

Historically in Minnesota, local governments relied heavily on local property taxes to pay for the services they provided. In the 1960s, however, as some communities grew rapidly and demand for services rose, concern grew that such vehicles as local income taxes and local sales taxes would result in great disparity among haves and have-nots.

As a result, the nationally remarked-upon "Minnesota Miracle" was instituted in the 1970s. The state restricted cities from levying local sales and income taxes and, on the other hand, started supplying substantial amounts of state money for cities to meet increasing demand for services.

Stated simply, Minnesota's system aims to keep a lid on property taxes but nonetheless allow cities to provide residents with the services they need. It has done that by spreading money the state gets from income and sales taxes. It is that nearly 40-year-old arrangement that seems to be evolving.

You can find a brief history of the Minnesota Miracle compiled by Strong Towns blog.

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GROUND LEVEL: CITIES IN CRISIS

Cities scrape for dollars, even in police budgets

by Nancy Lebens, Minnesota Public Radio

September 3, 2010

St. Paul, Minn. — Dawn Cierelli felt safer when a police officer came by at night to rattle the door of her bake shop in Mora, Minn., just to make sure it was locked.

It provided a sense of security she says she lost once Mora joined a growing list of Minnesota cities eliminating their police forces and contracting out or consolidating with other law enforcement agencies.

"I'm very disappointed," Cierelli said. "I believe that as a town we lost our identity when we lost our police department."

Across outstate Minnesota this fall, city officials are wrestling with budget problems that the economy and political pressures are making increasingly difficult. As they try to reach agreement on how much money to spend, how much to tax and how much to guess they will receive from the state, a lot of attention focuses on police and public safety.

It's a core city service few want to jeopardize, and budget woes often are solved first by cutting library or swimming pool hours, delaying street maintenance or even raising property taxes. But public safety is the biggest single budget item for almost every city and can make a big target for budget cutters.

Over the past 10 years, 63 police departments have folded or were merged into other departments. Others have eliminated officer jobs, and many are no longer able to provide residents with round-the-clock coverage.

In Mora, a city of about 3,600 lying 70 miles north of the Twin Cities, the city council took the plunge earlier this year and folded its police department, opting to save thousands of dollars by contracting with the Kanabec County sheriff's office.

The biggest change you can see in Mora's law enforcement is that newly painted cars carry the words "City of Mora," right below the word "Sheriff."

Since February the city has contracted with the sheriff's department, also based in Mora. The cut meant seven Mora officers lost their jobs but saved about \$150,000 this year. Kanabec Sheriff Steve Schulz says he hired five new, full-time deputies to form a Mora unit within his department to try to make the transition as smooth as possible for residents in Mora.

"That's a very hard choice for a city council person to determine," Schulz acknowledged. "Do we go away from something we've had forever to try something new, just based on pure economics?" For its half a million dollar a year contract with the county, Mora gets round the clock policing. Two deputies are scheduled both day and night to patrol Mora alone.

Out on the main highway into Mora at Coborn's Superstore, Dean Randt, manager, says the move to eliminate the police department was controversial at the time, but he's OK with the change.

"We really haven't seen a lot of difference," Randt said. "It was pretty seamless from police into the sheriff's department, very similar service. They've been very active with making sure that we are carding folks -- we do sell 3.2 beer and cigarettes. Very similar to Mora police department."

Mora's budget was hit hard by cuts in state local government aid. In 2009, the city had to absorb a \$44,900 cut. In 2010, the state aid cut will amount to \$103,600. And like many cities, Mora's single largest budget item was its police department.

AUDIO

Cities scrape for dollars, even in police budgets (feature audio)

GROUND LEVEL: CITIES IN CRISIS

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Mora Public Library

Public safety takes about a third of the roughly \$2.3 million in annual current expenditures. If the city has to cut its police spending again, it would negotiate with the Kanabec sheriff's department, possibly hurting what kind of coverage they could expect.

Sheriff's departments in Minnesota are obligated to provide service anywhere there is no other law enforcement agency, but by paying the county, Mora is getting more than it would without such a contract.

"You have to understand what the city is paying for is patrol time and ordinance protection," Schulz said. "There are certain crimes that we have to investigate no matter what. What they're paying for is above and beyond that."

The Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association represents most of the unionized police in the state. Executive director Dennis Flaherty says budget pressures on public safety are intensifying. His organization favors a different way of responding to that pressure.

"We have a number of consolidated departments and to the best to my knowledge, they're all working well," Flaherty said. "That's the future in our state, particularly because of the rural nature of our state. It's not limited to greater Minnesota. You're seeing it in suburban areas as well. I think you will see more and more of it."

Hundreds of small police departments remain throughout rural Minnesota. Only about half of the smaller departments are able to cover 24 hours a day seven days a week, according to the Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training.

"Cities that can't do it, they need to give serious consideration to looking to their neighbors and finding a model that provides that quality service for their neighbors and they're going to be forced to go in that direction," Flaherty said.

One example is provided by the cities of Chisago City and Lindstrom, about 40 miles north of the Twin Cities. Both cities have between 4,000 and 5,000 residents, and they lie about three miles apart along U.S. 8 in the midst of a popular lake region in Chisago County.

Six years ago, police assistant Terri Taylor would have answered the phone, "Lindstrom Police Department." Now it's "Lakes Area Police Department," which is named after one thing the two cities it serves have in common. The Lakes Area Police Department divides service half and half between the two cities.

By combining the two police outfits, the department became a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week operation. Chisago City administrator John Pechman describes it as getting a million-dollar police department for \$500,000.

When Lakes Area police Chief Kevin Stenson is contacted by cities considering a police merger to save money, Stenson tells them: "Personnel. If you're truly looking to save money you're going to have to get rid of personnel. That's not what we did at Lakes Area. Officers were behind this because they knew their jobs were safe. Handle that first, once you're done with that figure out what services you need to give taxpayers more bang for the buck."

To make sure they're visible and available to people in both communities, officers are assigned to patrol either Lindstrom or Chisago City for four days then switch after their days off. That way officers based in one community are seen working in the other.

One stumbling block for many departments seeking a merger is the ego factor. Deputy chief Bill Schlumbohm was happy to take an apparent demotion from chief of Chisago City.

"The police departments more than anywhere else are the jack of all trades," Schlumbohm said. "They are the face of government...they are the first call for help literally. You lose that when you lose your department. Even when you go to contract with a larger agency you lose that to a certain extent. You will never have that control that you have with a smaller agency."

Underscoring Mora bake shop owner Cierelli's lament that losing an independent police department represents a lost of identity, Schlumbohm said coming up with a new identity, name and logo for the Lakes Area Police Department took more time than anything else the merger involved. But he thinks the two-city solution has worked and has been accepted in both Chisago City and Lindstrom.

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Emmer's budget plan released

By Rachel E. Stassen-Berger

September 14, 2010

Republican candidate for governor Tom Emmer released his long-awaited budget balancing fix Tuesday. The plan doesn't raise taxes but spends less on education, health and human services and aids to local governments than currently slated.

"Minnesotans are living within their means, they are spending less money overall, and they are focusing their spending on essentials. That is exactly the way state government must behave." Emmer said in a news release.

According to a chart his campaign released, Minnesota would spend slightly more in his budget than it is currently spending on health and human services -- but far less than it is projected to need in the next two years. His campaign said the state is currently spending \$9.08 billion and is projected to spend \$12 billion in the next two years. He would have the state spend \$9.75 billion.

The tale is similar in the second largest budget area -- K-12 schools. He would have the state spend \$13.8 billion in the next two years for classrooms -- that is more than the \$13.3 billion state is currently spending. But the state is slated to spend \$14.4 billion for schools in the next two years.

Higher education, local aids and credits and state agencies would actually see less money in the Emmer proposal than they are currently getting and far less than they are scheduled to get.

Emmer has received significant flak for months over the lack of detail in his budget proposals, while his rivals DFLer Mark Dayton and Independence Party Tom Horner have released far more information about the budget they'd like to see pass.

But Tuesday, when Emmer released the final piece of his budget proposal, his campaign claimed that he has now released a more complete budget than have his opponents.

Here's the chart he released:

[Emmer - Budget - Chart](#)

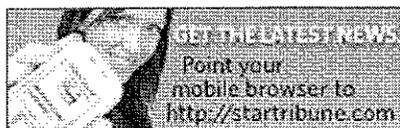


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Tom Emmer's Budget Plan:
The only honest budget plan from the only straight-talking candidate
*A comparison with the current biennium, the projected autopilot budget
 for the next biennium, and the Dayton and Horner plans*

	Actual FY 2010-11 General Fund	Projected FY 2012-13 (autopilot increase)	Dayton Proposed FY 2012-13	Horner Proposed FY 2012-13	Emmer Proposed FY 2012-13
REVENUES					
Revenues Collected/Projected	\$30.537 billion	\$32.907 billion	\$32.907 billion	\$32.907 billion	\$32.907 billion
Job-Creating Tax Relief			NONE	Delayed until FY 2014-15	-0.626 billion
Tax Increases			4.4 billion	2.15 billion	No Tax Increases
Gaming Revenue			0.3 billion	0.25 billion	None for balancing the budget
Total Revenues	\$30.537 billion	\$32.907 billion	\$37.607 billion (?)	\$35.307 billion (?)	\$32.281 billion
Other Tax Increases			Property tax increase	Calls for 1/2% county sales tax increase	
SPENDING					
K-12 Education	\$13.336 billion	\$14.361 billion	\$14.36 billion	\$14.72 billion	\$13.836 billion
K-12 Shift	-1.947 billion	1.261 billion	NOT STATED	Begin repayment in FY 2014-15	Begin repayment in FY 2014-15
Higher Education	2.812 billion	2.917 billion	NOT STATED	3.28 billion	2.5 billion
Health and Human Services	9.083 billion	12.0 billion	NOT STATED	12.14 billion	9.75 billion
Aids and Credits	2.976 billion	3.455 billion	NOT STATED	NOT STATED	2.295 billion
Agencies and Other State Spending	4.453 billion	4.685 billion	NOT STATED	NOT STATED	3.9 billion
Uncategorized Increases			NOT STATED	0.145 billion	
Uncategorized Decreases			0.672 billion	2.45 billion	
Total Spending	30.713 billion	38.679 billion	?	35.1 billion	32.281 billion
Result	Balanced with one-time federal money	Only a deficit if autopilot increases are assumed	INCOMPLETE WORK	INCOMPLETE WORK	BALANCES
Bonding Bill			For 2011 "Jobs Plan"	\$0.400 billion	Critical Needs Only (e.g. flooding, infrastructure)

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Twin Cities are banking on getting full state aid

When Mayor R.T. Rybak crafted his 2011 Minneapolis budget, he built it on the proposition that the city will get its full dose of state aid, which hasn't happened in the past three years. So did St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman.

Is that a prudent strategy when the state faces a \$6 billion budget gap?

Some suburban city managers are building none or only a fraction of their allotted state aid into their budgets. In Minnetonka, City Manager John Gunyou says he's counting on none of about \$500,000 in a homestead-credit aid that the state has paid his city in the past.

"We assume we're not going to get it," Gunyou said. "We kind of treat it as a windfall -- if any of it comes, then we're using it for onetime things, not planning on it."

Ditto for Brooklyn Park, which is due \$400,000. "We are simply assuming that it won't be there, which I think is the safe assumption," said City Manager Jamie Verbrugge.

So why are two big-city mayors budgeting the full amount of local government aid (LGA) and the homestead credit?

Political strategy may play a role. The mayors appear to be putting heat on the Legislature not to balance state books on the backs of cities.

The Minnesota Department of Revenue certified in July that Minneapolis is due \$87.5 million under the LGA formula, and in his budget address last month, Rybak said: "Let me be clear: We fully expect the state to fulfill its promise."

But if the Legislature cuts aid to the \$64.4 million that Minneapolis received this year, Rybak's proposed budget will have a gap of \$23 million. And given the size of the state's deficit, getting even the same amount next year could be difficult.

"If the state again breaks its promise to Minneapolis and the other cities, we have multiple scenarios," Rybak said in an interview last week.

So far, Rybak has outlined only one area where he would scale back if the aid doesn't come through. That's in street paving, where he would need to scrap a proposed \$9

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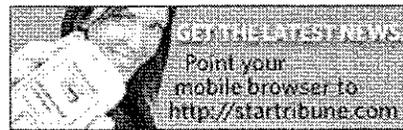
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million expansion. The mayor had cited street paving as a priority because roadwork had taken a back seat in recent years to beefing up public safety ranks that had taken a hit from cuts earlier in the decade.

Debate in St. Paul

St. Paul's state aid allocation for 2011 is \$62.2 million, up \$10 million from this year. Coleman counts on the full amount as he proposes his first budget without a tax increase, after previous budget plans that raised the levy by 6 to 15 percent.

Coleman said he's showing that cities can take it easy on property taxpayers if the state keeps its commitment. But some on the City Council consider that risky.

"I'm not sure what makes us think we're magically going to get it all this year," said Council President Kathy Lantry. "I get where the mayor's coming from, but in the end I have a disagreement with it."

Lantry said a 2 percent levy increase, about \$1.9 million, had been discussed among council members, with strict conditions on how the money would be used if the LGA was or was not cut. The way the budget is proposed now, she said, there's no savings

or wiggle room if any LGA is cut.

Still, it's likely Coleman will get his no-tax-increase approach when the council votes Wednesday on the maximum 2011 levy because there aren't enough council members to override a veto on an increase. In Minneapolis, the Board of Estimate and Taxation votes this week on Rybak's proposed 7.5 percent levy hike.

Political capital

One political benefit in building a budget based on a full allotment of aid is that mayors can make the state the heavy if cuts are needed, rather than taking the impetus for layoffs and other budget fallout by themselves.

Another problem with budgeting with less than full aid, according to Minneapolis Budget Director Heather Johnston, is that the state's budget situation means there's no certain number for aid to insert in a budget.

A city's ability to withstand LGA cuts depends on how much it relies on the aid. Twenty-five cities, most of them small enough that most Minnesotans haven't heard of them, got more than half their total revenues from such aid in 2008, according to

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League of Minnesota Cities calculations.

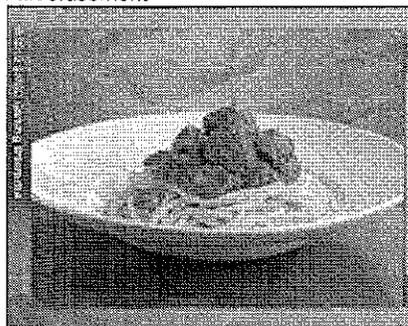
Another 336 cities got at least one-quarter of their budgets from that aid. In contrast, Minneapolis received less than 9 percent of its budget from that aid in 2008, while St. Paul got more than 11 percent.

Cities less reliant than that on state aid will likely defer capital spending such as road resurfacing or a sewer project if the aid doesn't arrive, according to Gary Carlson, a league lobbyist.

He said cities are in a bind because they must set levies for 2011 before knowing how much aid they'll get, and those theoretically slated for aid increases under the law get offsetting cuts in their levy limits, even if the full aid never arrives.

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Carol Becker: LGA is evaporating

The Board of Estimate and Taxation is one of two independent boards in Minneapolis, the other being the Park and Recreation Board. The Board of Estimate is composed of the mayor; the City Council president; the chair of the Ways and Means Committee; a representative of the Park Board, and two citizens. It sets the maximum property tax and issues bonds for the city and Park Board. This "council of governments" structure is very common where multiple jurisdictions need to coordinate.

There was a proposal last year to eliminate the two independent boards. The arguments were that it would be cheaper to have fewer boards and that we would have a better democracy with simpler lines of accountability. Star Tribune editorial writer Jill Burcum calls the Minneapolis governance structure "Byzantine" and a "more expensive, layer-filled and tradition-bound form of government." She then argues the financial problems facing our city could be resolved with a change in governance.

As a member of the board, I am paid \$35 a month, as is the other citizen on the board. Having people involved in critical decisions like tax and debt policy is not expensive, as

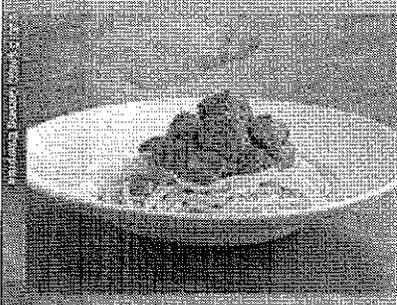
Burcum argues.

But the real question is: What makes better government? Having more power in fewer hands or many hands? I am a strong advocate for more hands, because I believe it creates better outcomes. Democracy should be gloriously messy as we argue and debate to find the best alternatives for our community. This isn't just my idea. James Madison, who designed our government, wrote: "We must use the different branches of the government to keep each other in place; setting faction against faction, ambition against ambition ..." This, at its essence, makes better government. The residents of Minneapolis agree, having defeated the proposal to eliminate my board 2 to 1.

Burcum argues that the results of the vote sent a message "to any official weighing serious structural changes to enhance efficiency." Again, this is simply not true. We have been working hard at change. In 2003, the city of Minneapolis had 6,000 employees. In 2010, it has 5,000.

The real issue facing Minneapolis is not whether there is too much citizen input but that the partnership between Minneapolis and the state is evaporating. The city is asked

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to be the economic engine of the state; to house the majority of the region's poor; to be an entertainment and recreation center, and to carry the impacts of being the core of the region for 150 years. All of these things cost money, which Minneapolis taxpayers provide.

Carrying these burdens previously did not bother me, because the state was a financial partner through local government aid. But now, LGA is evaporating. The real question is not about governance but about how we, as a city, survive with this new financial reality. This will take all the citizen input, all the discussion and debate, and all the best thinking of our diverse communities that we can muster. It is a time for more voices, not fewer.

Carol Becker is a member of the Board of Estimate and Taxation in Minneapolis.

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