



Council and Senior Staff

NEWSBRIEF

October 7, 2016

Turn the page for a list of what's included in this packet.

City of Crystal | 4141 Douglas Dr. N. | Crystal MN 55422
763-531-1000 | www.crystalmn.gov | Monday-Friday | 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

(Items are alphabetized)

1. AMM Metro Cities (Sept. 30, 2016)
2. Channel 12 article:
 - a. Runway changes proposed for Crystal Airport
3. Charter Commission meeting minutes (Sept. 17, 2015)
4. Communication Highlights
5. Crystal Arrest and Crime Activity Reports (Sept. 28 – Oct. 5, 2016)
6. Ewald at the Capitol (Sept. 30, 2016)
7. Heathers Manor Oktoberfest and Fall Festival flyer (Oct. 8, 2016)
8. Joint Water Commission meeting minutes (July 6, 2016)
9. LMC Cities Bulletin (Oct. 3, 2016)
10. LWV Candidate Forum (Oct. 13, 2016)
11. Market Commentary (Sept. 29, 2016)
12. Met Council: METRO Blue Line Extension Determination of Adequacy
13. Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon: October 2016 Open Appointments Vacancy Update
14. Robbinsdale Area Schools Discover (Oct. 5, 2016)
15. SunPost articles:
 - a. Crystal adopts \$8.65 million proposed tax levy for 2017
 - b. Crystal cop named county's Traffic Officer of the Year for 2015


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Metro Cities News

September 30, 2016

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Regional Parks Outreach Plan Approved by Metropolitan Council

The Metropolitan Council voted Wednesday to approve a new spending mandate for Parks and Trails Fund appropriations. The vote followed action taken by the Community Development Committee last week to approve the new plan.

The approved plan establishes a scaled spending minimum of Legacy fund spending over the next three biennia on "connecting people and the outdoors," a goal outlined in the Met Council's most recent Parks Policy Plan. The ten regional parks agencies must now allocate a minimum of their Legacy fund appropriations to this purpose. The approved scale directs a 5% spending minimum in FY 18/19, 7% minimum in FY 20/21 and a 10% minimum in FY 22/23. See the Sept 23 Metro Cities newsletter for additional details.

There were a range of viewpoints expressed during debate. Councilmember Gail Dorfman, the lone no vote, questioned if the minimum percentages were appropriate and would further the goal of increasing parks usage. She advocated support for the Metropolitan Parks and

Links

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Open Space Commission's recommendation which calls for a 5% minimum in FY 18/19 followed by a review and assessment before mandating minimum spending in future budgets.

Several other Councilmembers indicated support for the long term plan, noting it provided clear budgeting expectations for the parks agencies. Councilmember Wulff noted that spending recommendations will be reviewed after the FY 18/19 biennium.

Agreement on Special Session Remains Elusive

Last week House Speaker Kurt Daudt and Governor Mark Dayton exchanged letters highlighting differences on key issues that continue to preclude agreement for a special session.

The Governor and Speaker expressed a desire for a session, but leaders have yet to agree on a scope and content of issues, which the letters again make clear. The Governor and legislative leaders have held meetings intermittently since the regular session ended in May. Whether to fund specific transportation projects in a bonding bill was a key noted area of disagreement noted in the letters exchanged last week, with the Governor stating he will not support a bonding bill that prioritizes specific projects for funding.

Election year dynamics have made prospects for a special session difficult from the start, and post-election, legislators will begin gearing up for the 2017 session that begins in early January. The Governor indicated through his letter that he believes the time for negotiating a special session package has concluded. Stay tuned for further updates.

Mark Your Calendars! Metro Regional Meeting/Metro Cities Policy Adoption Meeting

Please mark your calendars for the metro regional meeting co-hosted by the League of MN Cities and Metro Cities, on Wednesday November 30th, at the Brooklyn Center Embassy Suites. This is a half-day afternoon meeting that includes

the adoption of Metro Cities' legislative policies by the organization's membership at 4:30 p.m. More information on the regional meeting and policy adoption meeting coming soon!

Metro Cities News is emailed periodically to all Metro Cities member mayors, councilmembers, city managers and administrators to keep officials abreast of important metro city issues. This information is also intended to be shared with city staff.

If you'd like to sign up to receive Metro Cities News, please email Laurie@metrocitiesmn.org and provide the following: Name, Title, Employer and Email address. Thank you.

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Channel 12
9-28-16

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Runway changes proposed for Crystal Airport



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Crystal Airport has about 41,000 small planes take off or land each year. Flight instructors say it's ideal for new pilots.

"It gives students the opportunity to learn how to operate on a complex situation, but in a safe environment," said George Felix, a flight instructor and member of Gopher Flying Club, which is based at the Crystal Airport.

But changes could be on the way for pilots who fly in and out of Crystal Airport. That's according to a draft of long range plans by the Metropolitan Airports Commission.

MAC is proposing closing two runways, one a paved runway and another that is grass. According to flight instructors, the change could make it tough for airplanes designed to land on turf.

"The problem is that it becomes difficult to take off and land for those aircraft on hard top if the wind is not exactly perfect," said Felix.

Pilot Aaron Baruch has been flying for 12 years. He says removing the two runways would give pilots fewer choices.

"I think it's vital to the airport to have as many active runways as possible, with different wind directions, different types of links and runways," Baruch said.

The MAC draft leaves one southeast/northwest runway and one northeast/southwest runway at the airport. Removing the two runways clears the way for MAC to get rid of FAA controllers in the tower and replace them with contractors. One of the runways would be converted into a full-length parallel taxiway.

MAC officials say the proposed changes will simplify the airport and make safer. MAC is looking for public input. A hearing will take place, Thursday, Sept. 29, from 5-8 p.m. at Brooklyn Park City Hall.

Sonya Goins, reporting
sgoins@twelve.tv

9/28/2016

Channel 12 proudly serves the northwest suburbs of Minneapolis, Minnesota, including Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Golden Valley, Maple Grove, New Hope, Osseo, Plymouth and Robbinsdale.

News tipline and viewer comments: 763-533-1710
News story ideas and comments: news@twelve.tv

Northwest Community Television - Channel 12
6900 Winnetka Avenue North

**Minutes of the Meeting for the
Home Rule Charter Commission
of the City of Crystal
Thursday, September 17, 2015**

- I. Commission members welcomed new member Nancy LaRoche.
- II. Call to order and roll call

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the meeting of the Crystal Charter Commission was held commencing at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 17, 2015, at Crystal City Hall, 4141 Douglas Drive North, in the City of Crystal. The meeting was called to order by Chair Harley Heigel.

Attendance

The assessing specialist recorded the attendance with the following members present: Joe Selton, Naomi Davidson, Harley Heigel, Joel Franz, Jim Oathout, Jeffrey Munson, Jennifer Sodd and Samantha Erickson. Also present: Commission Attorney Troy Gilchrist, City Manager Anne Norris, City Clerk Chrissy Serres, and Assessing Specialist Gail Petschl.

La Roche,

- III. Consideration of the meeting minutes from January 22, 2015.

Moved by Commissioner Selton and seconded by Commissioner Davidson to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2015 regular meeting.

Motion carried without dissent.

- IV. Election of Officers

Moved by Commissioner Selton and seconded by Commissioner Franz to nominate Commissioner Heigel as Chair.

Motion carried without dissent.

Moved by Commissioner Davidson and seconded by Commissioner Franz to nominate Commissioner Selton as Vice Chair.

Motion carried without dissent.

Moved by Commissioner Oathout and seconded by Commissioner Davidson to nominate Commissioner Sodd as Secretary.

Motion carried without dissent.

V. Review of Election Statistics

The commissioners reviewed and discussed the election statistics provided by staff. The Commission asked staff to share election statistical reports as new information becomes available for discussion at future meetings.

VI. Information regarding ranked-choice voting

Commissioner Heigel provided commission members with a recent Star Tribune editorial article regarding low-turnout primaries in Duluth and mentioned that other cities are discussing ranked-choice voting. Commissioners Oathout and Heigel will check online or contact the various cities for their election statistics.

VII. Other Business

Commissioner Heigel shared that a task force has been established to review the Crystal City Code. He would like the Charter Commission to be kept informed of their progress and developments.

VIII. Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner Oathout and seconded by Commissioner LaRoche to adjourn.

Motion carried.

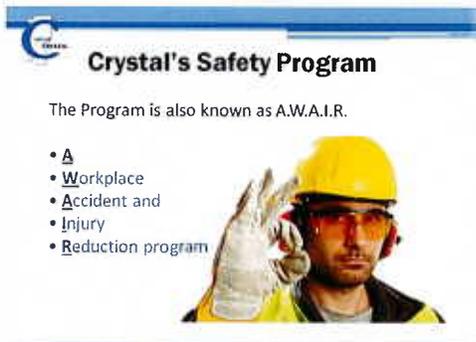
The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.



Communication Highlights

Candidate Forum

The League of Women's Voters hosted the Crystal Mayor and City Council Candidate Forum on Oct. 6 at 7 p.m. at the Crystal City Hall Council Chambers. The forum was broadcast live on Cable Channel 16, and streamed live on Crystal's Granicus page (<http://www.nwsgcc.org/crystal.aspx>). The forum will be rebroadcast on Cable Channel 12 and on-demand on the Channel 12 Candidate Forum Archive page: <http://www.twelve.tv/politicalforums.aspx>.



Crystal Safety

Program Presentations

Communications has been working with the Crystal Safety/Risk Management Committee and the Accident Injury Assessment Committee on the city's annual staff safety training. The presentation incorporates Turning Technology which provides real time assessing. The training includes AWAIR, injury accident reporting, emergency action plans, employee right to know, fire response, technology safety and much more. The trainings are Oct. 25 and 27 in the council chambers.

Four-way Stop Signs

Public Works Director Mark Ray and I are putting the finishing touches on a new video that educates residents on stop sign requirements and regulations, and what happens when those requirements are not met. The video also informs viewers that stop signs are regulated on a state and national level and are not designed to regulate speeds on city streets. The next video project will show how the city recycles old asphalt into new basketball courts, trails and alleys.



Body Camera Informational Meeting

Posters, flyers, comment cards and an overall publicity campaign is ongoing for the Police Department's Body Camera Informational Meeting at the Neighborhood Outreach Office. Residents will have the opportunity to ask questions regarding the city's policy and police representatives will gather feedback from citizens. There will be demonstrations of the cameras and information on state statutes.

Crystal Arrest Report

Date Range: 09/28/2016 06:00:00 AM - 10/05/2016 06:00:00 AM

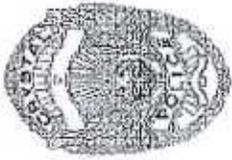
<u>Case Nbr</u>	<u>Juv</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Middle</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Date Arrested</u>
CYAR16-023546	N	CATO	JOSEPH	ARMONE	M	42	09/28/2016 7:19 PM
		Address: 1010 CURRIE AV		MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55403	
		Statute: MISWA MISC OFCR WARRANT ARREST					
CYAR16-023550	N	SMITH	BERNARD		M	50	09/28/2016 9:00 PM
		Address: 3555 FRANCE AV N		309 ROBBINSDALE	MN	55422	
		Statute: 171-24-5 TRAF-DRIVING AFTER CANCELLATION (IPS)					
CYAR16-023560	N	STRASSER	KATELYN	JANE	F	26	09/29/2016 1:45 AM
		Address: 1406 TEAL CT		BUFFALO	MN	55313	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-1 TRAF-DUI 4TH DEGREE					
CYAR16-023560	N	STRASSER	KATELYN	JANE	F	26	09/29/2016 1:45 AM
		Address: 1406 TEAL CT		BUFFALO	MN	55313	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-5 TRAF-DUI 4TH DEG ALCOHOL CONC OVER .08 OR MORE W/ 2 HOURS					
CYAR16-023602	N	JOHNSON	JANET	CAROL	F	51	09/29/2016 1:05 PM
		Address: 4145 YATES AV N		ROBBINSDALE	MN	55422	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-1 TRAF-DUI 2ND DEGREE					
CYAR16-023602	N	JOHNSON	JANET	CAROL	F	51	09/29/2016 1:05 PM
		Address: 4145 YATES AV N		ROBBINSDALE	MN	55422	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-5 TRAF-DUI 2ND DEG ALCOHOL CONC OVER .08 OR MORE W/ 2 HOURS					
CYAR16-023623	N	FONTAINE	BETH	RENEE	F	31	09/29/2016 4:43 PM
		Address: 123 WEST WASHINGTON ST		EUREKA	CA	95501	
		Statute: 609-52-2-1 THEFT-SHOPLIFTING-LESS THAN \$500(609-52-2-1)					
CYAR16-023672	N	PERKINS	GREGORY	ROBERT	M	57	09/30/2016 8:40 AM
		Address: 1213 PINE ST		BRAINERD	MN	56401	
		Statute: 152-025-2-1 CONT SUBST-5TH DEG POSS-METHAMPHETAMINE					
CYAR16-023738	N					21	09/30/2016 11:21 PM
		Address:					
		Statute: 609-53-1 STOLEN PROPERTY-POSSESSING/RECEIVING-FE					
CYAR16-023738	N					21	09/30/2016 11:21 PM
		Address:					
		Statute: 609-52-2-17 THEFT-VEH-UNAUTHORIZED USE OF VEH					
CYAR16-023738	Y					15	09/30/2016 11:21 PM
		Address:					
		Statute: 609-53-1 STOLEN PROPERTY-POSSESSING/RECEIVING-FE					
CYAR16-023738	Y					15	09/30/2016 11:21 PM
		Address:					
		Statute: 609-52-2-17 THEFT-VEH-UNAUTHORIZED USE OF VEH					
CYAR16-023743	N	MARHULA	SIBLEY	BROOKE	F	24	10/01/2016 1:07 AM
		Address: 6616 XYLON AV N		BROOKLYN PARK	MN	55428	
		Statute: 609-50-1-1 GOVT-OBSTRUCT LEGAL PROCESS-MS-LAWFUL EXECUTION LEGAL					
CYAR16-023743	N	MARHULA	SIBLEY	BROOKE	F	24	10/01/2016 1:07 AM
		Address: 6616 XYLON AV N		BROOKLYN PARK	MN	55428	
		Statute: 609-50-1-1 GOVT-OBSTRUCT LEGAL PROCESS-MS-LAWFUL EXECUTION LEGAL					
CYAR16-023758	N	WHITE	ANDRE	MAURICE	M	41	10/01/2016 7:00 AM
		Address: 7104 36 AV N		3 NEW HOPE	MN	55427	
		Statute: 171-24-5 TRAF-DRIVING AFTER CANCELLATION (IPS)					

Arrest Report

Date Range: 09/28/2016 06:00:00 AM - 10/05/2016 06:00:00 AM

<u>Case Nbr</u>	<u>Juv</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Middle</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Date Arrested</u>
CYAR16-023758	N	WHITE	ANDRE	MAURICE	M	41	10/01/2016 7:00 AM
		Address: 7104 36 AV N	3	NEW HOPE	MN	55427	
		Statute: MISWA	MISC OFCR WARRANT ARREST				
CYAR16-023824	N	XAASHI	MAXAMUD		M	19	10/01/2016 10:22 PM
		Address: 12029 ZEA ST NW		COON RAPIDS	MN	55433	
		Statute: 168-35	TRAF-REGISTRATION-INTENT TO ESCAPE MV TAX				
CYAR16-023824	N	XAASHI	MAXAMUD		M	19	10/01/2016 10:22 PM
		Address: 12029 ZEA ST NW		COON RAPIDS	MN	55433	
		Statute: 171-24-2	TRAF-DRIVING AFTER REVOCATION				
CYAR16-023877	N	BECKNER	DERRICK	CHARLES	M	35	10/02/2016 3:03 PM
		Address: 5325 CORVALLIS AV N		CRYSTAL	MN	55429	
		Statute: MISWA	MISC OFCR WARRANT ARREST				
CYAR16-023958	N	FRITZ	RAYMOND		M	70	10/03/2016 1:14 PM
		Address: 8324 39 AV N		NEW HOPE	MN	55427	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-1	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEGREE				
CYAR16-023958	N	FRITZ	RAYMOND		M	70	10/03/2016 1:14 PM
		Address: 8324 39 AV N		NEW HOPE	MN	55427	
		Statute: 169A-20-1-5	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEG ALCOHOL CONC OVER .08 OR MORE W/ 2 HOURS				
CYAR16-023958	N	FRITZ	RAYMOND		M	70	10/03/2016 1:14 PM
		Address: 8324 39 AV N		NEW HOPE	MN	55427	
		Statute: 171-27-A	TRAF-DL-EXPIRED DRIVERS LICENSE-OVER 21				
CYAR16-024001	N	LUNDEEN	CHRISTOPHER	AARON	M	38	10/03/2016 10:57 PM
		Address: 5352 LAKESIDE AV N		CRYSTAL	MN	55429	
		Statute: 2005.01(B)	ORD-DISORDERLY CONDUCT-WILLFULLY DISTURB				
CYAR16-024001	N	LUNDEEN	CHRISTOPHER	AARON	M	38	10/03/2016 10:57 PM
		Address: 5352 LAKESIDE AV N		CRYSTAL	MN	55429	
		Statute: MISWA	MISC OFCR WARRANT ARREST				

End of Report



CRYSTAL POLICE DEPARTMENT MEDIA REPORT

CASE ACTIVITY: Previous 7 Days prior to

October 5, 2016 - 12:00:00 AM

CASE NO	LOCATION	OFFENSE	VALUE	PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	DATE OCCURRED
CY16-023696	56 → WEST BROADWAY	ACC-MOTOR VEH PROPERTY DAMAGE			09/30/2016 09:30
CY16-023816	47 AV N&DOUGLAS DR N	CONT SUBST-POSS OR SELL-SMALL AMT			10/01/2016 20:30
CY16-023743	52 → WEST BROADWAY	GOVT-OBSTRUCT LEGAL			10/01/2016 01:07
CY16-023869	56 AV N&CO RD 81	MISC			10/02/2016 10:46
CY16-023758	36 AV N&HAMPSHIRE AV N	MISC			10/01/2016 06:51
CY16-024001	53 → LAKESIDE AV N	MISC			10/03/2016 22:45
CY16-024001	53 → LAKESIDE AV N	ORD-DISORDERLY CONDUCT-WILLFULLY			10/03/2016 22:45
CY16-023738	HANSON CT N&WEST	STOLEN P ^{ER} SONALTY			09/30/2016 16:00
CY16-023880	35 → PERRY AV N	THEFT-FROM VEHICLE	30	CASH	10/02/2016 03:00
CY16-023880	35 → PERRY AV N	THEFT-FROM VEHICLE	20	TARGET GIFT CARD	10/02/2016 03:00
CY16-023880	35 → PERRY AV N	THEFT-FROM VEHICLE	1	WELLS FARGO DEBIT CARD	10/02/2016 03:00
CY16-023697	38 → ADAIR AV N	THEFT-OTHER PROPERTY	1	FOUR SOCIAL SECURITY CARDS	09/29/2016 20:30
CY16-023623	53 → 36 AV N	THEFT-SHOPLIFTING	317	\$316.73 IN MERCHANDISE	09/29/2016 16:43
CY16-023757	48 → GEORGIA AV N	THEFT-VEH MOTOR VEHICLE			09/30/2016 23:00
CY16-023738	HANSON CT N&WEST	THEFT-VEH-UNAUTHORIZED USE OF VEH			09/30/2016 16:00
CY16-023958	60 → 42 AV N	TRAF-DL-EXPIRED DRIVERS LICENSE			10/03/2016 13:00
CY16-023464	56 AV N&WEST BROADWAY	TRAF-DRIVE WITHOUT INSURANCE			09/28/2016 00:12
CY16-023958	60 → 42 AV N	TRAF-DRIVING AFTER CANCELLATION			10/03/2016 13:00
CY16-023550	53 → 36 AV N	TRAF-DRIVING AFTER CANCELLATION (IPS)			09/28/2016 20:52
CY16-023758	36 AV N&HAMPSHIRE AV N	TRAF-DRIVING AFTER CANCELLATION (IPS)			10/01/2016 06:51
CY16-023824	56 AV N&SHERBURNE AV N	TRAF-DRIVING AFTER REVOCATION			10/01/2016 22:09
CY16-023602	36 AV N&YATES AV N	TRAF-DUI 2ND DEG ALCOHOL CONC			09/29/2016 12:51
CY16-023602	36 AV N&YATES AV N	TRAF-DUI 2ND DEGREE			09/29/2016 12:51
CY16-023560	61 → LAKELAND AV N	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEG ALCOHOL CONC OVER .08			09/29/2016 00:57
CY16-023958	60 → 42 AV N	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEG ALCOHOL CONC OVER .08			10/03/2016 13:00
CY16-023560	61 → LAKELAND AV N	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEGREE			09/29/2016 00:57

CASE NO	LOCATION	OFFENSE	VALUE	PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	DATE OCCURRED
CY16-023958	60 th 42 AV N	TRAF-DUI 4TH DEGREE			10/03/2016 13:00
CY16-023816	47 AV N&DOUGLAS DR N	TRAF-PROVISIONAL LIC			10/01/2016 20:30
CY16-023869	56 AV N&CO RD 81	TRAF-REGISTRATION-DISPLAY			10/02/2016 10:46
CY16-023464	56 AV N&WEST BROADWAY	TRAF-REGISTRATION-INTENT TO ESCAPE MV			09/28/2016 00:12
CY16-023824	56 AV N&SHERBURNE AV N	TRAF-REGISTRATION-INTENT TO ESCAPE MV			10/01/2016 22:09
CY16-023464	56 AV N&WEST BROADWAY	TRAF-SPEEDING			09/28/2016 00:12
CY16-023560	61 - LAKELAND AV N	TRESPASS-BUILDING OR DWELLING			09/29/2016 00:57

End of Report

September 30, 2016



ewald at the capitol

Special Session Speculation Over for 2016

The 2016 session ended without solutions to two marquee issues for the House and Senate: comprehensive long-term transportation funding and a tax bill. Since adjournment in May there have been on-and-off negotiations between House Republicans, Senate Democrats and Gov. Mark Dayton. While a special session seemed imminent at times, Gov. Dayton has now gone on the record for a second time saying there is no possibility of a special session this year to address those issues. In August, Gov. Dayton worked out a solution to the Southwest Light Rail funding gap and said that he would revive negotiations with Speaker of the House Kurt Daudt (R-Crown) to see if they could compromise on the remaining issues. After three weeks of meetings, there was no breakthrough and Gov. Dayton declared the idea of special session dead for 2016, only 40 days before the General Election. Legislators will now take the issues negotiated over the summer to the campaign trail and leave them to be discussed again when the 2017 session convenes.

National Voter Registration Day

Records were set in Minnesota for National Voter Registration Day on Tuesday, September 27, which was exactly six weeks before the General Election. Over 72,000 Minnesotans registered to vote on that day, which is twice the number who did so two years ago. Additionally, over 47,000 Minnesota voters registered online, setting a new state record.

For the first time, Minnesota is allowing no-excuse absentee balloting, and many people have already cast their ballots. Voting can be done at [local election offices](#) across the state, and can be altered by the voter up to one week before the election. It is also possible to view a [sample ballot](#) before going to the polls.

Additionally, Ewald Consulting has developed a comprehensive [list of all state candidates running in Minnesota](#). If there is concern about who is running or what district in which you reside, view the [Who Represents Me website](#).

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They said it:

"Given the facts that these negotiations have taken place over the past four months without reconciliation, and that only 46 days now remain until the upcoming election, I have reluctantly concluded that the time for agreement on a special session has expired."

– Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton

Ewald  Consulting

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Dayton Declares State of Emergency

Last week, many counties in Minnesota were hit with torrential rain, causing significant flooding and damage to city-owned infrastructure and private property. On Wednesday, September 21, Gov. Dayton issued an [executive order](#) declaring a state of peacetime emergency for 23 counties, including: Anoka, Blue Earth, Cottonwood, Dodge, Faribault, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Hennepin, Houston, Le Sueur, Mower, Nicollet, Olmsted, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Sibley, Steele, Wabasha, Waseca, Washington and Winona. The order will direct the Department of Public Safety and other state agencies to provide assistance and support to the affected communities, and must provide the assistance necessary to help local units of government respond to and recover from the emergency. At the worst parts of the storms, some areas of Minnesota were hit with more than 10 inches of rain in a two-day period.

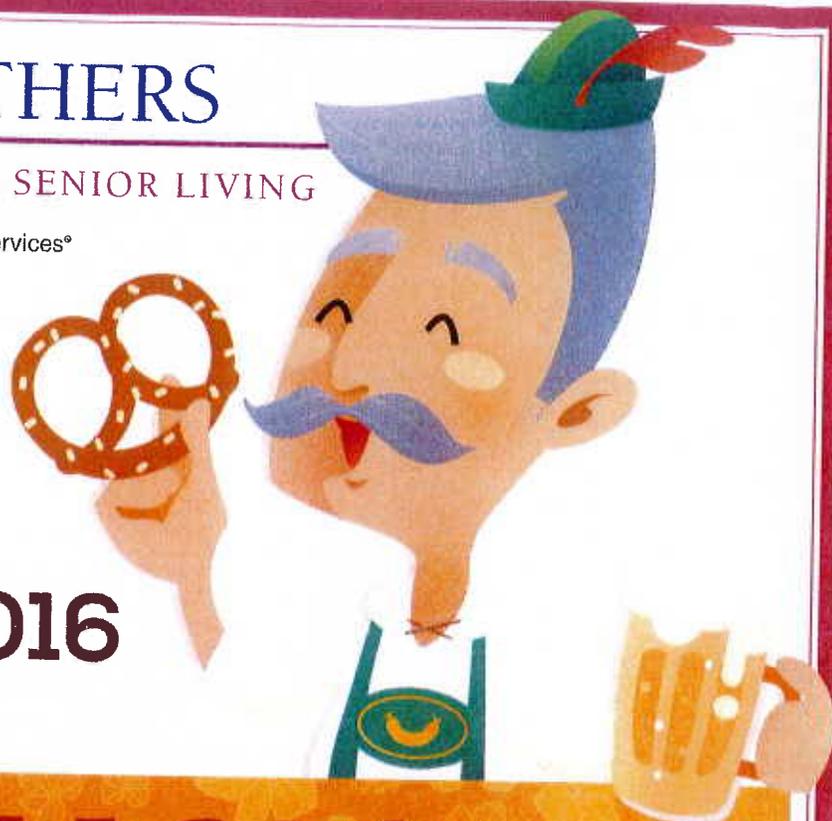
Fall Business at the Capitol

With summer officially over, many meetings will take place at the capitol over the next few months. The Legislative Study Group on Educator Licensure will meet once a month until the beginning of the 2017 session; the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council will hold meetings throughout the fall; the Legislative Health Care Workforce Commission is meeting at the capitol, as well as the MNsure Legislative Oversight Committee. Check the [legislative calendar](#) to keep up on the work being done in St. Paul.

THE HEATHERS

INDEPENDENT & ASSISTED SENIOR LIVING

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**Saturday,
October 8, 2016**

THE HEATHERS MANOR OKTOBERFEST AND FALL FESTIVAL

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

3000 North Douglas Drive | Crystal, MN

Enjoy traditional German food, live music, prize bingo, and a bake sale. Complimentary beer tastings from Haskell's. Plus a caricature artist, pumpkin patch, and a pumpkin decorating contest... **and lots of room to polka!**

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9/16



Save the Date!

Free! Veterans & Family Appreciation Lunch
Thursday, Nov. 10
11 a.m. program
12 p.m. roast beef and mashed potatoes lunch
RSVP by 11/3

Approved 10-5-16

**JOINT WATER COMMISSION MINUTES
Golden Valley - Crystal - New Hope
Meeting of July 6, 2016**

The Golden Valley – Crystal – New Hope Joint Water Commission (JWC) meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm in the City of Golden Valley Council Chambers.

Commissioners Present

Anne Norris, City Manager, Crystal
Kirk McDonald, City Manager, New Hope
Tim Cruikshank, City Manager, Golden Valley

Staff Present

Marc Nevinski, Physical Development Director, Golden Valley
Sue Virnig, Finance Director, Golden Valley
Bernie Weber, Operations Manager, New Hope
Randy Kloepper, Water Superintendent, Crystal
Dave Lemke, Utilities Supervisor, New Hope
R.J. Kakach, Utility Engineer, Golden Valley
Bob Paschke, Director of Public Works, New Hope
Mark Ray, Director of Public Works/City Engineer, Crystal
Joe Hansen, Utilities Supervisor

Approval of Minutes – June 1, 2016

Moved by McDonald seconded by Cruikshank to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2016 Joint Water Commission Meeting. Motion carried.

Resolution #16-02 Making Annual Elections For the 2016-2017 Insurance Policy

Commissioner McDonald introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION 16-02
RESOLUTION MAKING ANNUAL ELECTIONS FOR THE 2016-2017 INSURANCE POLICY**

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was seconded by Commissioner Cruikshank and upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Norris, McDonald, and Cruikshank; and the following voted against the same; none; whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted; signed by the Chair and their signature attested by the Vice Chair.

Consumption Reports

Virnig responded to questions from the Commission regarding consumption and billing procedures. Staff reported actual water consumption is decreasing and explained other water consumption areas include, watermain brakes, firefighting and hydrant flushing. Virnig explained this is a discussion/information only item and no action needs to be taken.

Resolution 16-03 Adopting the 2017-2021 Capital Projects for the Golden Valley – Crystal – New Hope Joint Water Commission

Commissioner McDonald introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION 16-03
RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2017-2021 CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR THE
GOLDEN VALLEY – CRYSTAL – NEW HOPE JOINT WATER COMMISSION**

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was seconded by Commissioner Cruikshank and upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Norris, McDonald, and Cruikshank; and the following voted against the same: none; whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted, signed by the Chair and their signature attested by the Vice Chair.

Resolution 16-04 of the Joint Water Commission Adopting the 2017 General Fund Budget

Commissioner McDonald introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION 16-04
RESOLUTION OF THE JOINT WATER COMMISSION ADOPTING 2017 GENERAL FUND BUDGET**

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was seconded by Commissioner Cruikshank and upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Norris, McDonald, and Cruikshank; and the following voted against the same: none; whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted, signed by the Chair and their signature attested by the Vice Chair.

2015 Annual Reports

Staff presented the Commission with the 2015 annual report including the independent auditor's report from Malloy, Montague, Karnowski, Radosevich and Company. There were no findings this year. Motion by McDonald seconded by Cruikshank to accept the 2015 Annual Reports as submitted. Motion carried.

Award The Golden Valley Reservoir Security Fence Project

The Golden Valley Reservoir has a fence along the western boundary line to separate the Hidden Lakes neighborhood from the reservoir site. The security fence will provide a safe and secure drinking water system and become compliant with Homeland Security requirements. The fence will be a black chain link fence 8' in height. Also, an additional \$1,000 - \$2,000 to survey the property is required. The TAC committee solicited quotes from two vendors. Moved by McDonald seconded by Cruikshank to award the Golden Valley Reservoir Security Fence Project to Town & Country Fence in the amount of \$29,250. Motion carried.

TAC Update

Punch-list items for the 36" PCCP project have been completed and staff is waiting for the as-builts from BMI. Mark Ray is inquiring the Water Supply requirements for the Water Supply Plan. The Generator Move will be taking place in August. Short Elliot Hendrickson (SEH) will recommend potential solutions to transient pressure issue and will submit draft risk analysis maps for review the week of June 27th. TAC discussed analysis of cost and realize cost will be slightly higher than anticipated. Crystal and New Hope working to test emergency wells over the next several month.

Other Business

Staff will provide up update on the 2016 Capital Improvement Projects.

Tri City Council Update: Each city has agreed to be responsible and move forward for projects in their own boundaries. There will not be a Joint Waters Agreement instead a less formal agreement will be put in place. Each City needs to move forward on funding from the legislature. A Resolution to indicate how the Cities are working together will be drawn up after the elections.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for August 3, 2016 at 1:30 pm in the Golden Valley Council Conference Room.

Adjournment

Moved by McDonald seconded by Norris to adjourn meeting. Motion carried.
Chair Norris adjourned the meeting at 2:15 pm.

Chair Anne Norris

ATTEST:

Sue Schwalbe, Recording Secretary

CITIES BULLETIN



Issue 60

Oct. 3, 2016

Comment on Draft City Policies by Oct. 28 to Help Set the League's 2017 Legislative Agenda

The Policy Committee Highlights document will help you easily see new policies the committees recommended.

In Other News

State Supreme Court Examines Right-of-Way Assessments

The court also examined whether a city was using its police power or taxing power to collect money for city services provided to property owners on a citywide basis.

Video Can Help Your City During Property Tax Discussions with Residents

A League-produced video is available to help your city explain property taxes and the delivery of city services.

MnDOT Offers Grants for Transportation Enhancement Projects

Grants are available to fund pedestrian and bicycle facilities, historic preservation, Scenic Byways, and Safe Routes to School programs in Greater Minnesota.

More Information and Resources

Bemidji, Fergus Falls, and Paynesville: Don't Miss the Regional Meetings in Your Area! Registration Closes Oct. 5

'Mayor for a Day' Essay Contest Entries Due Oct. 17

Police Officers: Don't Miss the 2016 Police Workshops in Your Area

Spotted: 'New Kids' on the Board

Firefighters: Online Registration is Closing Soon for 2016 Fireground Safety Workshops in Your Area

Local Government Innovation Awards: Enter by Oct. 12 for a Chance to Win Your City \$5,000

Power Up Your Data at the GreenStep Cities Workshop & Webinar Oct. 5

Training, Conferences, Events

Upcoming League Events

Online Training/E-Learning

Co-Sponsored Events

Events Sponsored by Other Organizations



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Featured Events

Utilizing a Culture of Safety to Reduce

Safety Incidents

Oct. 5—Waseca

Oct. 13—Morton

Mental Health First Aid for Police

Oct. 4—New Brighton

Oct. 11—Milaca

Oct. 17—Hibbing

2016 Regional Meetings

Various dates and locations

Quick Links

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(Minnesota Municipal Money Market Fund)

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For editorial or other Bulletin questions:

Contact Claudia Hoffacker

Editor

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choffacker@lmc.org

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Comment on Draft City Policies by Oct. 28 to Help Set the League's 2017 Legislative Agenda



The Policy Committee Highlights document will help you easily see new policies the committees recommended.

The League's policy committees recently adopted the *2017 Draft City Policies* during their final meetings. The policies in draft form are now available for members to review.

Please take a moment to download the policies, review them, and send your comments to the League. You can also read the *2016 Policy Committee Highlights* document to find out the changes and new policies the committees are recommending.

- **View the 2017 Draft City Policies (pdf)** (*Link to:*
<http://www.lmc.org/media/document/1/draft2017policies.pdf>)
- **View the 2016 Policy Committee Highlights (pdf)** (*Link to:*
<http://www.lmc.org/media/document/1/summarynewpolicies2017.pdf>)

Members are encouraged to submit comments on the draft policies to **policycomments@lmc.org** (*Link to:* <mailto:policycomments@lmc.org>). The comment period ends **Oct. 28**.

All member comments are shared with the League Board of Directors before the board takes final action on the policies on Nov. 10. The policies will serve as a framework for the League's advocacy efforts during the 2017 legislative session, which begins Jan. 3, 2017.

Read the current issue of the Cities Bulletin (*Link to:* <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp>)

State Supreme Court Examines Right-of-Way Assessments



The court also examined whether a city was using its police power or taxing power to collect money for city services provided to property owners on a citywide basis.
(Published Oct 3, 2016)

The Minnesota Supreme Court recently examined whether one charter city's right-of-way assessments practices were a fee or a tax, and also examined whether that city was using its police power or taxing power to collect money for city services provided to property owners on a citywide basis. The significance of this decision to cities across the state is limited.

The City of St. Paul, a charter city, charged most property owners abutting a public right of way (ROW) an annual assessment for services used to maintain the ROW, such as services for street repairs and snowplowing. Two churches challenged the city's authority to assess these ROW charges in *First Baptist Church of St. Paul vs. City of St. Paul* ([Link to: http://alphanevsmn.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Opinion-Published.pdf](http://alphanevsmn.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Opinion-Published.pdf)).

The Minnesota Supreme Court, examining the St. Paul city charter, found the ROW assessments to be a tax collected by the exercise of taxing power rather than a fee collected by the exercise of police power. Police power is quite broad while taxing authority is more limited.

The court did not find that the city lacked authority to charge for the services, but did send the case back to the district court to determine whether the amount of the charges complied with the constitutional limitations on the exercise of taxing power.

The significance of this decision is limited because the court analyzed specific charter language authorizing what the court described as the city's "unique" program of imposing ROW assessments on a citywide basis. The decision does not impact existing authority for cities to impose franchise fees, to charge for regulating activities through licenses or permits, or to charge fees for the abatement of nuisances on private property.

Best practice suggests cities check with their city attorney as to how this case may or may not affect city fees.

Read the current issue of the Cities Bulletin ([Link to: http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp](http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp))

Your LMC Resource

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Research Manager

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Video Can Help Your City During Property Tax Discussions with Residents



A League-produced video is available to help your city explain property taxes and the delivery of city services.
(Published)

A short video from the League is designed to help city residents better understand the local property tax system. City officials are encouraged to use the video, *Special Delivery: City Services and Your Property Taxes*, in a variety of ways—post it on your city website, share it via social media, and show it at truth-in-taxation meetings and other public gatherings.

Special Delivery is a story about a typical Minnesota family that receives a property tax statement, which inspires conversations about city services and the factors that affect property tax rates. The video is approximately seven minutes in length, but is also available in three stand-alone segments that may be viewed separately.

The complete video can be found by scrolling to the bottom of this page.

If you have only a few minutes available at the upcoming neighborhood meeting, for example, try showing just part 1 of the video.

- **View Special Delivery, part 1** (Link to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I2V20az-UXw>)

The video was produced by Whisker Media, and the League believes that its appealing storytelling format will help to simplify the complex property tax system in a way that genuinely relates to the everyday lives of city residents.

The League has also made available a written document in FAQ format that cities may find useful:

- **View the resource: Why Your Property Taxes Change from Year to Year (pdf)** (Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/media/document/1/propertytaxfaq.pdf>)

Watch the complete *Special Delivery* video

Note: Click the outward arrow button in the bottom right corner of the movie player to expand the screen. Use the “esc” key on your keyboard to return to this page.

video test (Link to: [https://www.youtube.com/embed/cOAxwqh41iA?frameborder="0" allowfullscreen](https://www.youtube.com/embed/cOAxwqh41iA?frameborder=))

Read the current issue of the Cities Bulletin *(Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp>)*

Your LMC Resource

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MnDOT Offers Grants for Transportation Enhancement Projects



Grants are available to fund pedestrian and bicycle facilities, historic preservation, Scenic Byways, and Safe Routes to School programs in Greater Minnesota.

(Published Oct 3, 2016)

Greater Minnesota cities, schools, and their partners are invited to apply for funding through the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for local projects that enhance transportation goals.

A total of \$7.5 million is available through the Transportation Alternatives solicitation.

The funding is for Greater Minnesota communities, schools and regional agencies to fund pedestrian and bicycle facilities, historic preservation, Scenic Byways, and Safe Routes to School programs.

To apply, applicants must submit a letter of intent describing the key components of their project by **Oct. 31**. A regional representative will contact applicants to help review the project proposal, determine eligibility and outline the steps necessary for delivering a federally funded project. The full application is due **Jan. 13, 2017**.

Grant recipients will be announced April 17, 2017.

Last year, 21 local communities received Transportation Alternatives grants totaling more than \$7.6 million. An application cycle for Metro cities closed in July.

- For grant details see the **Transportation Alternatives website** (*Link to: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/ta/>*).

Read the current issue of the Cities Bulletin (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp>*)

Your LMC Resource

Contact Anne Finn

Assistant IGR Director
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afinn@lmc.org *(Link to: <mailto:afinn@lmc.org>)*

2016 Mayor For a Day Essay Contest

What would our cities look like if kids were in charge?

Find out by having students you know take part in the 2016 Mayor for a Day Essay Contest!

Download and print the entry form (pdf) ([Link to: http://www.lmc.org/media/document/1/mfad16_essayform.pdf?inline=true](http://www.lmc.org/media/document/1/mfad16_essayform.pdf?inline=true))

Minnesota cities build and take care of streets, roads, and sidewalks to help people get from place to place. Some cities also have buses and bike trails.

This year, we're asking students: If you were mayor for a day, what would you do to make it easier for residents to get from place to place in your city?

Open to Minnesotans who will be in the 4th, 5th, or 6th grades this school year, entries must be handwritten and postmarked no later than **Oct. 17**.

Three winners will be chosen and awarded \$100, as well as have their essays published in *Minnesota Cities* magazine. Winners only will be notified no later than Dec. 2, 2016.

Read the current issue of the Cities Bulletin ([Link to: http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp](http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp))

Meet our city vendors!



([Link to: http://www.lmc.org/ads/105612](http://www.lmc.org/ads/105612))

Submit Your City's Entry for a Local Government Innovation Award

The Humphrey School of Public Affairs is now accepting entries for its 10th annual Local Government Innovation Awards (LGIA) to recognize the creative and innovative ways that cities, counties, townships, and schools are serving Minnesotans.

Access the entry form on the LGIA website (*Link to: <http://lgia.umn.edu>*)

Submissions are accepted in four categories: counties, cities, townships and schools. They are evaluated on how they create greater accountability; use incentives, targeting, and funding to meet those in need; orchestrate competitive contracting; manage collaboration or consolidation; and deploy prevention strategies that eliminate the need for a service or divest current services to the community.

Up to 20 local government entities will be recognized with 2016 awards: The winner in each of the main categories (counties, cities, townships, and schools) will receive a professional video highlighting their work and a \$5,000 grant from the Bush Foundation to continue local government innovation and redesign.

This year's competition also includes a new award to recognize projects that demonstrate a long-lasting impact. To be eligible, entrants must be previous LGIA winners and submit a progress report that conveys the long-term impact.

Award judges include faculty and staff from the Humphrey School's Public and Nonprofit Leadership Center, the League of Minnesota Cities, the Minnesota Association of Townships, the Association of Minnesota Counties, and the Minnesota School Boards Association.

The deadline to submit entries is **Oct. 12**. Winners will be recognized at a public celebration on Dec. 8.

Read the current issue of the Cities Bulletin (*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/cities-bulletin-newsletter.jsp>*)

Reach Minnesota Cities!



(*Link to: <http://www.lmc.org/ads/102700>*)



League of Women Voters
Crystal, New Hope, E. Plymouth

PLEASE
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SHARE

Thursday, October 13, 2016, 7 p.m.

**New Hope Mayor & City Council
Candidate Statements**

Mayor: Kathi Hemken,

Council: Andy Hoffe, Eric Lammle

City candidates are unopposed and according to forum rules
will only give a statement supporting their candidacy.

**District 45 A & B State Representatives
Candidate Forum 7:15 p.m.**

District 45A: Rep. Lyndon Carlson, DFL

Richard Lieberman, R

District 45B: Rep Mike Freiberg, DFL

Alma Wetzker, R

**New Hope City Hall Council Chambers
4401 Xylon Ave. N., New Hope**

Along with opening and closing statements from each candidate, members of the audience will have an opportunity to ask questions and each candidate will be able to respond. There is time afterward to meet with candidates. The forum will be cablecast. Direct questions in advance by email to lwvcnhepmn@gmail.com.

IMPORTANT CANDIDATE MEETING

Tuesday, October 18, 7 p.m., #281 **Legislative Action Coalition**, ESC, focusing on Education issues with legislative districts all or partly within District 281

NOTICE: Early Voting began on September 23! Vote at your City Hall.

September 29, 2016

Global Central Banks Call for “More Cowbell”

In April of 2000, a sketch aired on Saturday Night Live that established a new installment in the lexicon of American pop-culture...

The sketch included guest host Christopher Walken as a music producer in studio with the band Blue Oyster Cult, recording the classic hit “(Don’t Fear) the Reaper”. Many readers will recall the prominence of the cowbell in that song. After what appears to be a number of takes, Walken’s character seems to feel the song is lacking something and informs the band (and specifically, Will Ferrell, as the “banger” of the cowbell): “I’ve got a fever, and the only prescription is more cowbell!” Will Ferrell’s cowbell-playing character takes the direction to its hysterical conclusion, but Walken continues to call for “more cowbell” after each subsequent cut of the track, again and again.

“More cowbell” has become the phrase of our era when individuals, organizations and institutions seek to effect outcomes by amplifying existing policy prescriptions. Transitioning from comedy sketches to global financial markets, and bond markets in particular, central banks and monetary authorities among the world’s largest economies are clearly calling for more cowbell.

Across the globe, central banks have doubled-down on monetary policy experimentation through implementation of negative short-term rates and directed efforts to control longer-term interest rates and credit markets through outright purchases of sovereign and private bonds. Having generally achieved what could be argued as full employment, especially in a sluggish economic environment, the goal of these more recent collective efforts has been to do what central banks throughout history have generally tried to squelch, which is to stoke the seeds of inflation.

In the last two months three of the most prominent central banks announced non-traditional policy measures or reiterated a stance of standing ready to do whatever is perceived necessary (while also being allowed under law) to accomplish stated policy objectives. Albeit on the heels of the Brexit vote, the Bank of England announced a cut to its overnight rate by 0.25% to 0.25%, as well as a purchase program for corporate bonds and a continuation of its UK government bond purchases. The European Central Bank (ECB) met in early September. Although an anticipated announcement of an extension to the ECB’s own asset purchase program was absent, it continues to purchase \$90 billion of government and corporate bonds every month, recently surpassing \$1 trillion in total purchases. All this while the ECB maintains a negative policy rate for its

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Market Commentary

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member banks, with no sign of a change in course on the horizon. Just last week, the Bank of Japan (BOJ) emerged from its policy meeting with an announcement, which likely reaffirmed its position as the most adventurous central bank on the planet. The BOJ has long been a direct purchaser of bonds in the open market to manage interest rates and was one of the first (if not the first) to adopt a negative policy rate. Beyond that, *Bloomberg* has reported that the BOJ is a 10% equity owner of more than 200 companies in the Nikkei's index of 225 companies through its purchases of Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs). The announcement from last week's meeting stated the BOJ would be undertaking activities to "steepen" the yield curve, as it is nearly impossible for banks, pension funds and insurance companies to make money given the very tight spreads between short and long term yields. The BOJ's goal will be to maintain a ten-year yield on Japanese government bonds of around 0.00% (was as low as -0.30% over the summer). Yes, you're reading that right - - the overnight rate is currently -0.10%. This could generally be construed as the opposite of the US Federal Reserve's previous "Operation Twist". Beyond that, the BOJ intends to expand the supply of yen by 20% the size of the Japanese economy over the next year.

Adventurism has not been lost on the US Federal Reserve the last eight years. That being said, the Fed's current policy stance stands in contrast to the central banks previously referenced. The Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) increased the fed funds rate by 0.25% in December of last year. During the months of July and August of this year a multitude of Fed officials, including Fed Chair Janet Yellen at the conclusion of the Jackson Hole symposium (late August), gave comments that financial market participants perceived as indicating the FOMC may embark on additional rate increases throughout the rest of this calendar year. These perceptions manifested themselves in increase across the yield curve, with benchmark US Treasuries increasing in yield by ten (10) to twenty (20) basis points through the early part of September. In fact, August witnessed one of the worst periods for long-term bond performance in years in reaction to these "hawkish" comments with negative returns in the mid-teens.

All of this led up to the FOMC's September policy meeting, which concluded Wednesday of last week. Chair Yellen emerged from that meeting to present the announcement and voting results to an eager audience. The FOMC left the fed funds rate unchanged; however, of the ten voting members, three dissented. The number of dissenting votes was the most since December of 2014 and included two more than the previous meeting. Most observers focused on a key element of the FOMC statement that read: "The Committee judges that the case for an increase in the federal funds rate has strengthened but decided, for the time being, to wait for further evidence of continued progress towards its objectives." One must infer that the FOMC is speaking to progress towards achieving its inflation target of 2.0%, as most employment measures are well

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within its stated policy range. In prepared remarks after the meeting Chair Yellen further added: "...near term risks to the economic outlook appear roughly balanced," and that members of the FOMC expect to see a rate hike this year "if we continue on the current course of labor market improvement and there are no major new risks that develop, and we simply stay on the same course." Benchmark treasury yields fell after the meeting/announcement and have settled into the low end of the recent range with the US 10-year now trading around 1.60% (from recent highs around 1.75%). The next two FOMC meetings will be in November and December. It is believed the FOMC will stand pat in November, as the meeting roughly coincides with the US presidential election. The fed futures market is currently pricing in a roughly 50% probability of a rate hike for the December meeting. Investors will have to gauge the likelihood of FOMC action against the backdrop of what appears to be lackluster economic and earnings data. The Institute for Supply Management's (ISM) reading for non-manufacturing businesses in August reached its lowest level since 2010 and the manufacturing index signaled contraction after its biggest drop in two years. Non-farm payrolls were lackluster the previous month, although the unemployment rate was steady at 4.90%. Additionally, the U.S. Census Bureau reported a decline in state taxes in the second quarter, with personal and corporate incomes taxes down and sales taxes flat. The most pronounced declines were understandably in states with strong energy production (oil and gas).

Beyond what appears to be some general weakness recently in the U.S. economy, the divergences in central bank policies will likely be the determining factor as to whether or not any "major new risks" develop as we finish calendar year 2016.

Domestic Financial Markets

Clearly central bank policy is the major influencing factor on US financial markets, both equities and fixed income. Market reaction to the aforementioned statements of Fed officials caused volatility in stocks and bonds. As investors perceived a more hawkish Fed stance, both stocks and bonds suffered losses during the month of August and then reversed course in the last few weeks as the world's central banks gave comfort they would remain accommodative for the foreseeable future. Fundamentals seemed to have diminished in importance during this time. US and global investors will also be keeping a close eye on the presidential election. In fact, Bankrate.com released results of a survey of users that indicated 61% of Americans believe the election's outcome is the single biggest threat to the economy.

Recent interest rate volatility can be seen in the chart below, which shows weekly closing yields of the US 10-year Treasury Note and benchmark 10-year AAA MMD. The 10-year US Treasury has traded in a range of about 1.50% - 1.75% the last few months, most

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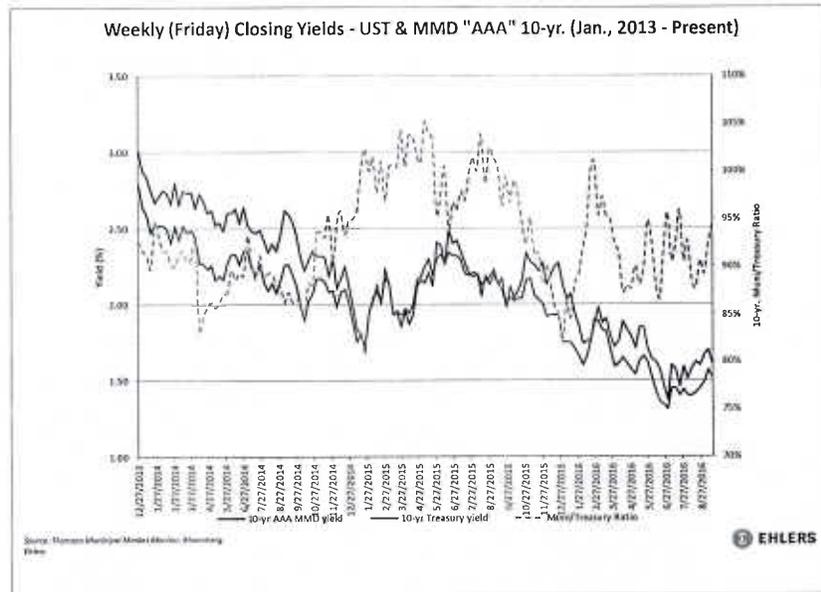
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recently revisiting the lower end of that range. Yields still remain at multi-year lows across the maturity spectrum.



Municipals have not been as volatile as Treasuries, as munis are not globally traded. Additionally, fund flows continue to be positive with Lipper LMI reporting 52 consecutive weeks of net inflows into municipal bond funds through last week.

Volume in the municipal market has somewhat ebbed and flowed with moves in interest rates. The previous three weeks have seen new issuance range from \$5.5 billion to \$11.4 billion. Future weeks are anticipated to be in the area of \$8 billion, which is roughly in line with the average weekly issuance for the year. Should interest rates remain in the aforementioned established ranges, we anticipate refunding activity to remain healthy into the end of the calendar year. There seems to be a healthy balance between supply and demand as we finish out the calendar year, although there has been selling activity on the short-end of the maturity spectrum due to implementation of money market reform regulation, which shall be effective mid-October. Money and prime funds have skewed towards US Treasury and agency securities in an effort to comply with various requirements, with corporates and municipals suffering as a result.

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Summary

Issuers with borrowing plans in this last quarter of the year will find a hospitable environment, even with the cacophony of “cowbell” that will continue these next weeks and months (perhaps years). As always, careful planning should be taking place well in advance of a bond sale, so as to make interest rates only a minor factor in a successful outcome. Timing the market is generally a fool’s errand, and we generally don’t recommend that approach unless there are clearly spots on the calendar an issuer may wish to avoid. Careful consultation with your municipal advisor should bring the desired outcome you are looking for. We stand ready to assist.

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Investment Trends – Ehlers Investment Partners

Shares Selloff Abroad and Uncertainty Domestically

The yield on the U.S. 10-year note sank to its lowest level since early September on Monday, closing at 1.582%. Yields fall as prices rise. Demand for bonds increased Monday as a number of events added uncertainty to the global market. One of the world's largest banks, Deutsche Bank, is facing nearly \$14 Billion in regulatory fines, and may not receive the assistance they anticipated from the German Government. This caused a 7.5% selloff in Deutsche Bank shares. As the U.S. presidential election draws closer, and uncertainty over who will come out on top grows, investors are dialing back exposure to stocks. During volatile times, portfolio construction is vital to your community's financial success. To ensure that your portfolio is well-positioned for future market events, reach out to an investment advisor at Ehlers Investment Partners.

Trends in Investment Returns

September 26, 2016

	1 Year Ago	1 Month Ago	Today
1 Yr Certificate of Deposit	0.5250%	0.6750%	0.8000%
3 Yr Certificate of Deposit	1.5500%	1.1500%	1.2500%
5 Yr US Agency Note	1.8000%	1.5000%	1.5000%
Money Market Funds	0.10%-.20%	0.10%-.40%	0.10%-.45%

Source :Bloomberg

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METRO Blue Line Extension Determination of Adequacy

Metropolitan Council sent this bulletin at 09/29/2016 12:54 PM CDT

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STATE OF MINNESOTA

METROPOLITAIN COUNCIL

DETERMINATION OF ADEQUACY

METRO BLUE LINE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT (BLRT) EXTENSION PROJECT

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the lead federal agency, and the Metropolitan Council (Council), the Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU), published a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the METRO Blue Line Light Rail Transit (BLRT) Extension Project in July 2016. Notification of availability of the BLRT Extension Project Final EIS for public and agency review was published in the Federal Register on July 15, 2016, and in the Minnesota EQB Monitor on July 18, 2016. The Final EIS was also available for public review at the Blue Line Extension (Bottineau LRT) Project Office in Crystal and at city halls and libraries in Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Robbinsdale, Golden Valley, and Minneapolis, and the Metropolitan Council Library. The FTA's Record of Decision (ROD) was issued September 19, 2016. The Final EIS and ROD are incorporated herein as part of this Determination of Adequacy.

The BLRT Extension project is approximately 13 miles of a new light rail transit line proposed as an extension of the METRO Blue Line (Hiawatha LRT). It will operate from downtown Minneapolis through the communities of Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, Crystal, and Brooklyn Park. The BLRT Extension project will operate primarily at-grade, with structures providing grade separation of LRT crossings, roadways, and water bodies at specified locations. The alignment will have 11 new stations in addition to Target Field Station where it will continue as the METRO Blue Line, and a light rail operations and maintenance facility in the City of Brooklyn Park. The BLRT Extension project is described in Section 2.5.1 of the ROD, and in Chapter 2 and Appendix E of the Final EIS.

DETERMINATION OF ADEQUACY

Chapter 4410 of the Minnesota Rules requires the Council, as RGU, to determine the adequacy of the Final EIS for the BLRT Extension project. The Council has determined that the Final EIS is adequate under Minnesota Rule 4410.2800, subd. 4. Rule 4410.2800 sets the following standard for determining if a Final EIS is adequate:

Subp. 4. Conditions. The Final EIS shall be determined adequate if it:

- A. addresses the potentially significant issues and alternatives raised in scoping so that all significant issues for which information can be reasonably obtained have been analyzed in conformance with part 4410.2300, items G and H;
- B. provides responses to the substantive comments received during the Draft EIS review concerning issues raised in scoping; and
- C. was prepared in compliance with the procedures of the act and parts 4410.0200 to 4410.6500.

In making this Determination of Adequacy, the Council applied the criteria found in part 4410.2800, subp. 4, and finds that:

1. The Final EIS addresses all potentially significant issues and alternatives identified during scoping. All significant issues for which information could reasonably be obtained have been analyzed in conformance with Minnesota Rules, part 4410.2300, items G and H. The analysis in the Final EIS addresses long-term and short-term (construction) direct and indirect impacts, as well as cumulative impacts related to the BLRT Extension project. The ROD provides FTA's decision for the BLRT Extension project and the Council concurs with the ROD. Table 3.1 of the ROD summarizes the long-term and short-term impacts to environmental and transportation-related resources that will result from the BLRT Extension project. Specific mitigation measures for impacts from the BLRT Extension project are in Attachment A of the ROD.
2. The Final EIS provides responses to all substantive comments received during the Draft EIS public comment period. Appendix G of the Final EIS contains all comments received during the public comment period on the Draft, and responses to these comments.
3. The Final EIS was prepared in compliance with procedures of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 116D, and with Minnesota Rules parts 4410.0200 to 4410.6500.

Additionally, during the public comment on the Final EIS, the Council received seven letters or other communications with comments. The letters addressed topics including BLRT Extension project cost, alignment selection, safety of co-locating LRT and freight rail, adequacy of the Final EIS, continued coordination with stakeholders, permitting coordination, coordination with BNSF, concurrence on the completion of the Section 4(f) evaluation process, wetlands and stormwater management, wildlife crossings, tree mitigation, and measures to decrease exposure to air toxics during construction. Although Minnesota Rule 4410.2800 does not require an RGU to respond to comments on the Final EIS, the Council did review and consider the comments received on the adequacy of the Final EIS as part of this Determination of Adequacy. The comments received are included in Attachment E of the ROD and responses to comments received are found in Attachment F.

As a result of these findings, and based on the BLRT Extension project's ROD and administrative record, the Council has determined the Final EIS for the BLRT Extension project is adequate under the State of Minnesota's environmental review process. This Determination of Adequacy concludes the Minnesota environmental review process.

Document available at <http://Metrocouncil.org/blrt/rod>

About the project

The planned METRO Blue Line Extension (Bottineau) light rail transit project will operate about 13 miles northwest from downtown Minneapolis through north Minneapolis, Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, Crystal and Brooklyn Park, drawing riders northwest of Brooklyn Park. The proposed alignment will have 11 new stations in addition to Target Field Station where it will continue as the METRO Blue Line, providing one-seat rides to Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport and the Mall of America. It will connect Minneapolis and the region's northwest communities with existing LRT on the METRO Green Line, future LRT on the METRO Green Line Extension (Southwest LRT), bus rapid transit on the METRO Red Line, the Northstar commuter rail line and local and express bus routes.

The Metropolitan Council will be the grantee of federal funds and is charged with building the line in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Transportation. The Blue Line Extension Corridor Management Committee, which includes local officials from Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, Crystal, Brooklyn Park and Minneapolis, provides advice and oversight. Funding is provided by the Federal Transit Administration, Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB), Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRRA), and the state of Minnesota.

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**OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA
SECRETARY OF STATE STEVE SIMON**

October 2016 Open Appointments Vacancy Update

Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State sent this bulletin at 10/03/2016 08:40 AM CDT



**OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA
SECRETARY OF STATE STEVE SIMON**

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

You are subscribed to Open Appointments for monthly vacancy notification. This information has recently been updated, and is now available.

**OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE
Steve Simon
Notice of Vacancies in State Boards, Councils and Committees**

October 3, 2016 — The Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State today released the October 2016 notice of vacancies for various state boards, councils and committees that are accepting applications, due October 24, 2016. Minnesotans are encouraged to apply and serve in demonstration of public service. The [full list of vacancies](#) is listed below and online.

Additionally, Minnesotans will now be able to find information and updates on new vacancies on Secretary of State Steve Simon's official Facebook and Twitter pages. You can find those here:

- [Facebook.com/MNSteveSimon](https://www.facebook.com/MNSteveSimon)
- [Twitter.com/MNSteveSimon](https://twitter.com/MNSteveSimon)

Application forms are available [online](#) and must be submitted by October 24, 2016, to be assured of full consideration by the appointing authority. Appointing authorities may choose to review applications received by the Secretary of State after October 24.

See **HOW TO APPLY** at the end of the message.

CURRENT VACANCIES

Below is a list of agencies with vacancies.
Please visit our website for complete descriptions.

Advisory Committee: Blind and Visually Impaired

Vacancies:

Non-profit Agency Member (1 Seat)

Board of Psychology

Vacancies:

Doctoral Level Licensed Psychologist (1 Seat)

- M.S. 148.90 - One licensed psychologist.

Board of Teaching

Vacancies:

Administrator (1 Seat)

Classroom Teacher (3 Seats)

Public Member (School Board) (1 Seat)

Board of The Perpich Center for Arts Education

Vacancies:

Member (1 Seat) Member appointed by Governor

Environmental Health Specialist/Sanitarian Advisory Council

Vacancies:

Public Member (2 Seats)

Formulary Committee

Vacancies:

Member - Physician (1 Seat)

Hearing Instrument Dispenser Advisory Council

Vacancies:

Public Member (1 Seat)

Home Care and Assisted Living Program Advisory Council

Vacancies:

Public Member (1 Seat)

Human Services Performance Council

Vacancies:

Member (2 Seats)

One Seat - Tribal Representative or Communities of Color Representative

One Seat - Service Providers or Advocates Representative

MN Zoological Board

Vacancies:

Member - Zoo Board Appt (2 Seats)

Noxious Weed Advisory Committee

Vacancies:

Environmental Organization Representative (1 Seat)
MN Association of County Land Commissioners (1 Seat)
MN Board of Water and Soil Resources (1 Seat)
MN County Agricultural Inspectors (1 Seat)
MN Dept of Agriculture (1 Seat)
MN Dept of Natural Resources (1 Seat)
MN Dept of Transportation (1 Seat)
MN Nursery and Landscape Industry (1 Seat)

The committee member applying for any of these appointments will work with a multi-disciplinary committee to advise the commissioner of Agriculture concerning responsibilities under the Noxious Weed Control Program and will evaluate plant species of concern for placement on the noxious weed list.

Ombudsperson for American Indian Families

Vacancies:
Member (3 Seats)

Regent Candidate Advisory Council

Vacancies:
Member - House Appt (2 Seats)

Rural Health Advisory Committee

Vacancies:
Mid-Level Practitioner Member (1 Seat)
In making appointments, the governor shall ensure that appointments provide geographic balance among those areas of the state outside the seven-county metropolitan area. Meetings are held approximately five times per year at various locations in St. Paul, or by/with teleconferencing/video conference.

Special Education Advisory Panel

Vacancies:
School Personnel (1 Seat)

State of Minnesota Board of Public Defense

Vacancies:
Attorney (1 Seat)
Public Member (1 Seat)

State Quality Council

Vacancies:
Advocacy Group Rep (1 Seat)

State Rehabilitation Council for The Blind

Vacancies:
Dept of Education Rep (1 Seat)
- A representative from the MN Department of Education.
Member (1 Seat)
- A representative who is a recipient of vocational rehabilitation services.
Pacer Representative (1 Seat)
- A representative from the PACER Center.
Rep Advocacy Org. (1 Seat)
- A member representing United Blind of MN (advocacy organization).

HOW TO APPLY

Submit an Application

Complete the application form.

Applicants should include the following documents:

- Open Appointments Application Form (completed, signed and dated)
- Letter of Interest
- Resume or Biography

Applications may be submitted online, by email to Open.Appointments@state.mn.us, or by mail or in person to:

Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State
180 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
St Paul, MN 55155-1299

The monthly Notice of Vacancies is posted on the first Monday of every month and is provided by email to those who subscribe for the notice.

In accordance with the Minnesota Open Appointments Law, the Secretary of State acts as an administrator in publishing vacancies, receiving applications and recording appointments. Applications will be reviewed and appointments made by the appointing authorities; questions about specific vacancies and appointments should be directed to the appointing authority. Applications are kept on file for a one-year period.

The 2015 Open Appointments Annual Report is available online and includes a complete listing of state boards and councils that follow the Open Appointments process, descriptions of these agencies and membership, and statistical information about appointments and vacancies during the 2014 fiscal year. A print version of the report is available at the Minnesota Bookstore, (651) 297-3000 or 1-800-657-3757.

OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE

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Anne Norris

From: Robbinsdale Area Schools <robbinsdaleareaschools@rdale.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 05, 2016 5:49 PM
To: Anne Norris
Subject: Discover: The Latest News Updates from Robbinsdale Area Schools



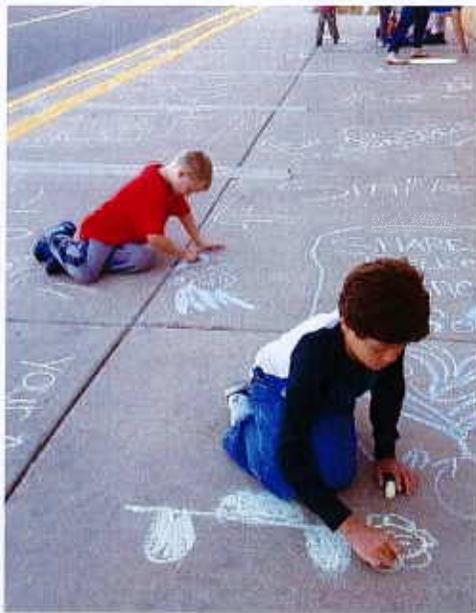
DISCOVER

ROBBINSDALE AREA SCHOOLS

COMMUNITY E-NEWSLETTER

Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016

IN PICTURES: Kindness in Chalk Day



Students spent part of Monday, Oct. 3, spreading kindness by covering sidewalks and blacktops with positive words, phrases or images of love, peace, hope and acceptance during "Kindness in Chalk Day." Check [our Facebook page](#) for more photo sets!

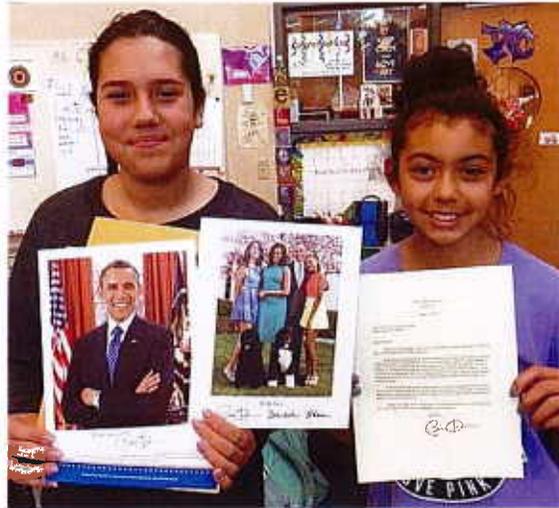
FAIR students' letter gets a presidential reply

A letter to President Barack Obama from FAIR School Crystal eighth-graders Gloria Teigland and Ariel Silvan garnered a reply this summer.

The assignment for Terri Colomatteo's Face to Face Advisory was "Know the value and characteristics of effective acknowledgments."

"They created a beautiful card and found the address and addressed it," Colomatteo said. "I mailed it for them. The response came over the summer. What a pleasant surprise!"

"America is depending on students like you to build a brighter tomorrow, and I know there are no limits to what you can achieve," part of the letter reads.



IN PICTURES: Armstrong coronation

Brogan Hayden and Jacqueline Nguyen were crowned homecoming king and queen during the Sept. 20, 2016 homecoming pepfest.

Click [here](#) to see more photos from the event!



School Board news

The School Board will meet **Wednesday, Oct. 5**, for a 5:30 p.m. business meeting followed by a 6:15 p.m. work session. Follow us on Twitter and Facebook to get important votes and other news live during the regular and business meetings.

School Board Resources:

- [Agenda](#)
- [Webpage](#)

Sun Post
9-29-16

Community & People • Government

Crystal adopts \$8.65 million proposed tax levy for 2017

Published September 26, 2016 at 2:51 pm

By Sue Webber

The Crystal City Council on Sept. 20 adopted a \$8.65 million proposed general tax levy for 2017, an 8 percent, or \$641,060, increase over last year.

The vote on the levy was 4-2, with Councilmembers Casey Peak and Elizabeth Dahl casting the dissenting votes. Councilmember Laura Libby was absent from the meeting.

“The budget is pretty tight,” Peak said. “Realistically, any time we increase the levy, it makes people tighten up their budgets. I think we should tighten up our budget more as well.”

The proposed levy must be certified to Hennepin County by Sept. 30. The levy can be decreased but not increased prior to its final adoption at the Dec. 6 meeting.

The council also accepted the feasibility report and set a public improvement hearing for next year’s street reconstruction project, Phase 16 in the Skyway neighborhood.

Council didn’t reach budget consensus earlier

Regarding the budget, Finance Director Charles Hansen noted in a memo to the council that “consensus on a property tax levy was not reached at the work sessions.”

City Manager Anne Norris reminded the council that the levy predominantly represents the general fund, and is based on the council’s stated priorities: a thriving business climate, fiscally sound and stable polices and practices, and strong neighborhoods. 

“The budget should match your priorities,” Norris said.

She noted that the council earlier made the decision to no longer assess residents for mill and overlay of streets, but to take those expenses from taxes and street maintenance funds.

To balance the budget in 2016, she said, the council delayed employee promotions and increases in staffing.

In 2017, the city will continue to work on long-term efficiencies, continued park improvements and recreation programs, and maintaining appropriate responses to a high volume of calls for police and fire assistance. The city also will continue to maintain grants, loans and educational programs for home improvement assistance, and will continue to maintain code enforcement on a complaint basis.

With the city proposing to maintain the current service levels, Councilmember Jeff Kolb questioned why an additional \$741,000 is required to keep things constant. "We're not adding any services," he said. "The work level is the same, though we're always looking for improvements and changes in how we do things."

Answering his own question, he said as he concluded, "Things just increase in price. I wish they didn't. I wish health insurance was not out of control. But that's the bottom line."

But, he added, "There need to be actual cuts made somewhere to something. What is it you're willing to give up?"

Kolb pointed out that the city council has 43 hours of recorded work sessions on the budget.

"I was a bit naïve when I came into this job," Kolb said. "The job would be very easy if there was a lot of fluff out there."

Councilmember Olga Parsons said, "This is as trim of a budget as we can have at this service level. There is no fluff. There's nothing to cut." However, Parsons said she is hoping a council discussion on long-term budget strategies and ways to be more financially trim will be scheduled soon.

Councilmember Julie Deshler agreed. "I don't really see any fat," she said. She added that the city might be able to realize cost-saving measures in the future, for example, by combining with another police department "down the road three or four years."

Kolb noted that future changes will involve "talking about large-scale changes to how we do business."

"We can always do better and get smarter," he said. "Up against a deadline isn't the right way to do it. A knee-jerk change doesn't make sense. It needs to be methodical, talked out, planned out."



Mayor Jim Adams said he believes the budget is “very honest.”

“We could have instituted franchise fees,” he said. “We could have started special assessments for street maintenance. What we’re doing is very honest. There isn’t a soul up here who doesn’t wish the number was lower.”

Franchise fees are used in some cities as an alternative to special assessments/bonding for maintenance/reconstruction of existing paved roadways, involves charging utility franchise fees on gas and electric companies operating in the city. The fees then are passed on by the utility companies to all gas and electric users within the city.

Crystal’s Economic Development Authority levy was approved Sept. 6.

Street reconstruction

Aaron Ditzler, an engineer with Short Elliot and Hendrickson, outlined the parameters for next year’s Skyway Park Neighborhood street reconstruction.

“The streets have outlived their useful life and reconstruction is necessary,” he said. “Drain improvements are also necessary, including curb. Some storm sewer, water main and sanitary sewer improvements are needed.”

The 5.8 miles of proposed for reconstruction streets include 508 properties. The area is bounded on the south by Bass Lake Road, on the east by Twin Lake Terrace and the city limits with Brooklyn Center, on the north by the city limits with Brooklyn Park and 62nd Avenue, and on the west by County Road 81.

According to Ditzler, 85 percent of the streets have no curb and gutter now and will receive them as part of the project. The remaining 15 percent of the curbs and gutters will be reconstructed.

Thirty of the residents indicated an interest in rain gardens, which Ditzler said will be installed “where reasonable and feasible.”



Twenty-three residents said they have storm water runoff problems, 92 are interested in replacement driveways and 88 are interested in repairs for their sewer systems.

Ditzler said a neighborhood meeting is scheduled for Oct. 6 and a public improvement hearing is slated for Oct. 18. Another neighborhood meeting will be in January 2017. The contract for the project is slated to be awarded in April 2017.

Construction is expected to occur between May and November 2017.

Funding for the \$6.938 million project will come from the following sources:

- \$6,735 from per-lot assessments for single-family duplexes

- \$120.79 per front foot will be assessed to commercial and non-profit properties
- \$25.86 per front foot will be assessed where there is no existing curb
- \$12.93 will be assessed for reconstruction curbs
- \$890,914 from Minnesota State Aid construction funds
- \$856,000 from the city's storm water utility fund
- \$542,517 from the city's street reconstruction fund
- \$92,103 from the City of Brooklyn Park for their portion of the project

Filed Under: [budget](#), [City Council](#), [Crystal](#)



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Sun Post
9-29-16

Community & People • Public Safety

Crystal cop named county's Traffic Officer of the Year for 2015

Published September 27, 2016 at 10:53 am

By Sue Webber

Barland honored at Sept. 20 council meeting

Crystal Police Officer Mason Barland has been named Traffic Officer of the Year for 2015 for Hennepin County.

He received a plaque from Police Chief Stephanie Revering at the Sept. 20 Crystal City Council meeting.



Crystal Police Officer Mason Barland has been named Traffic Officer of the Year for 2015 in Hennepin County. (Submitted photo)



One officer is chosen each year countywide, Revering said, noting that Barland was a runner-up for the award last year.

Barland's award was based on outstanding efforts in traffic code enforcement, innovative traffic safety programs and overall dedication to traffic enforcement and public safety in Hennepin County.

"We are very proud of Officer Barland's work on a daily basis that earned him this prestigious award," Revering said. "In addition to his responsibilities as our department's traffic officer, Officer Barland is always willing to assist with other projects when needed. He has been a leader in implementation and training for the updated records management system, he coordinates the department's fleet management, and he spends time training new officers.

"Due to Officer Barland's demeanor and friendly disposition, coupled with his passion for educating others about the importance of responsible driving behavior, he has the ability to turn even a traffic stop into a positive encounter. The Crystal Police Department is very fortunate to have such a great asset serving our community," Revering said.

Mayor Jim Adams said he had an opportunity to ride along with Barland during the first year Adams served as mayor.

"I was just amazed at the number of multi-tasking things you can do at one time," Adams said. "I'm proud of the work you do on the road. (The award) is not a huge surprise to me because I have seen you work."

Barland became a Crystal Police officer in January 2008. Prior to that he was a volunteer reserve officer in the city.

Filed Under: [Crystal](#)



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