

Upcoming Public Hearings/Meetings

Planning Commission Public Hearings at 7 p.m. at City Hall

February 9, 2010 – the following Hearings are tentatively scheduled:

- ▶ Open Systems International (northwest corner of Highway 55 and Arrowhead Drive) – Preliminary Plat, Site Plan Review, Conditional Use Permit, and Zoning Amendment to create a 19-acre parcel and for construction of a 92,000 square foot office building.
- ▶ Enclave of Medina (3212 Hunter Drive) – Concept Plan Review for a potential 195-lot subdivision of single family homes on an approximately 111 acre site.

March 9, 2010 – agenda items are not yet set for this meeting. If interested, please contact City Hall to sign up to receive email updates of Planning Commission and City Council meetings.

Board of Appeal and Equalization on April 14, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall

—This meeting is held annually for the purpose of reviewing and correcting the 2010 assessed property values or property classifications in the City of Medina. All persons considering themselves aggrieved by said assessment or who wish to complain that the property of another is assessed too low, may appear at the meeting and show cause for having such assessment corrected.

The burden of proof is on the resident to justify a decrease in property value. The City is requesting that residents complete a City application prior to attending the meeting. The application will be posted on the City's website in March.

City Calendar

February

- 3rd Wed—City Council 7:00 pm
- 9th Tues—Planning Commission 7:00 pm
- 15th Mon—City Offices Closed (Holiday)
- 16th Tues—City Council 7:00 pm
- 17th Wed—Park Commission 7:00 pm
- 20th Sat—City Council Office Hours 9:00 am

March

- 2nd Tues—City Council 7:00 pm
- 9th Tues—Planning Commission 7:00 pm
- 16th Tues—City Council 7:00 pm
- 17th Wed—Park Commission 7:00 pm
- 20th Sat—City Council Office Hours 9:00 am

All meetings at City Hall unless otherwise noted.
Meeting agendas on web site when available.

City Council Saturday Office Hours

City Council Saturday Office Hours are on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at City Hall. The office hours are an informal setting and serve as an opportunity for residents to bring your thoughts to elected officials for a better Medina.



CITY OFFICE INFO

2052 County Road 24
Medina, MN 55340-9790
p: 763-473-4643
f: 763-473-9359
e: city@ci.medina.mn.us

PUBLIC SAFETY

p: 763-473-9209
f: 763-473-8858

City Hall Office Hours

Mon-Fri 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Mayor

Tom Crosby 612-332-9111

City Council

Carolyn Smith 763-475-1003
Daniel Johnson 763-473-0744
Elizabeth Weir 763-473-3226
Mike Siitari 763-473-2563

City Council Meetings

First & third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Meetings

Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Park Commission Meetings

Third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Newsletter Editor

City Administrator
Chad M. Adams

Other Contributors

Jodi Gallup

The Medina
Message

A bi-monthly publication from the City of Medina

\$100,000 Grant Awarded to Hamel Legion Park Field House

The City of Medina recently was awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Hennepin Youth Sports Program for the Field House project in Hamel Legion Park. The grant funding and program was made available as part of the Minnesota Twins stadium sales tax authorization (Section 473.757, subd. 10 of Minnesota Statutes) which required a portion of the sales tax to create a grant program for youth activities and amateur sports within Hennepin County.

The Field House project in Hamel Legion Park is on schedule to be completed this spring in time for the start of the Hamel Baseball Program. Specifically, the grant will be used to irrigate one ball field, complete fence repair/installation, provide garbage/recycling containers and enclosure, finish landscaping, and, purchase a commercial grade refrigerator for concessions in the facility. The source of the water to irrigate the ball field will come from the building and parking lot storm water run off that will be retained in a City storm water pond and pumped back to the fields.

The Field House itself is being funded through donations and City park dedication funds. To operate the concessions of the building, the City is seeking a group or organization to provide the services in 2010. Any interested group or organization should contact Assistant to City Administrator Jodi Gallup prior to February 19th.



Census 2010: It's In Our Hands

The 2010 Census Count will be beginning soon and residents are encouraged to complete the census. The 2010 Census is important to Minnesota, because: 1. Numbers mean power; 2. Numbers mean money; and, 3. Numbers mean information.

Minnesota currently holds eight congressional seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. The 2010 Census will help determine if Minnesota will retain the eight seats, or possibly lose one. In addition to retaining a congressional seat, some other important uses of the 2010 Census include: Census is used to allocate \$400 billion per year for roads, hospitals, and other community services; Census is used to allocate state dollars such as municipal state aid and local government aid (LGA); Census is also used for planning local operations such as fire, police, and other related needs.

Some key upcoming dates related to the 2010 Census include:

- ▶ March 2010: Census Bureau will mail the forms to all residential addresses.
- ▶ April 1, 2010: Census Day.
- ▶ Late spring 2010: Census Bureau will follow up on forms not returned.
- ▶ December 31, 2010: Apportionment Counts released.
- ▶ Before April 1, 2011: Redistricting Data released.

Source: League of Minnesota Cities

Medina, MN 55340-9790

2052 County Road 24

MEDINA



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Public Works & Environment

Seasonal Spring Weight Limits

The Medina Police want to remind everyone that spring weight restrictions will go into effect in early March. If you are planning a construction project, please ensure that you have your materials delivered prior to the weight restrictions. There will be no exceptions to the postings other than emergency services.

The reason for the restrictions is to protect our roads and keep the cost of road repair down for all taxpayers. We ask all of our residents and business owners to keep an eye out for large trucks using the roads during the restriction period. If you see them using a restricted road, please call 9-1-1 and report it. Help protect your roads! For questions, you can call the Medina Police Department at 763-473-9209.

Snow Plowing Report

The Public Works Department has been working on balancing safety with environmental awareness and is being mindful of amounts of salt and sand used on the roads. The cold weather has hampered the City's attempts to remove all ice from roads. As things start warming up and the ice starts to thaw, the Public Works crew will be scraping the ice from the roads and making them as clean as possible.

The City snow plowing priority schedule is:

- 1) Main collector roads
- 2) Residential streets
- 3) Cul-de-sacs and dead end streets
- 4) Trails and ice rinks

Livestock Owners can Help Protect our Water

By Betsy Wieland, Agriculture Extension Educator for Hennepin County, University of Minnesota

When it comes to the health and quality of our surface waters (like lakes, creeks and wetlands), livestock owners, including horse owners, have at times been seen only in a negative light. However, not much has been said about what we may be doing that is good for water quality. Livestock owners may not know the good they are already achieving for our water. This article lists several Best Management Practices (BMPs) that livestock owners can implement to protect our surface water quality. Are you using any of these BMPs? Are there others you could implement that would help even more?

Clean water diversions keep clean water clean. Redirecting clean rainwater and roof runoff away from bare dirt and manure limits erosion and contamination. Examples of this are rain gutters on the barn or a berm around manure piles.

Manure management includes storing and disposing of manure properly. It prevents nutrients from leaching and washing into water sources. Two examples include storing manure on an impervious surface and spreading manure at rates that don't overload the soil with nutrients. Composting is a form of manure management that can help reduce manure volume, inhibit fly growth, and stabilize nutrients for future use.

Vegetative filter strips are strips of land with vegetation between a potential pollutant (bare soil, manure, chemicals) and surface water. It increases storm water soaking into the ground and filters out sediment, manure nutrients, and chemicals from storm water before the water reaches the surface water. Excluding livestock from these areas is a form of filter strip.

Erosion control keeps valuable soil out of the water and in place. Repairing gullies and establishing prairie grasses is one example of this. Stream crossings or water access points provide a safe crossing point, or access to water that has stabilized banks are two more examples.

Good pasture management increases the amount of food produced for livestock and protects water quality. Having a healthy, actively growing pasture will reduce erosion, reduce nutrient run off, and increase storm water infiltration. This is not one practice, but a combination of many including: rest periods for the plants; managing weeds; appropriate numbers of animals per acre; possibly rotational grazing; proper fertilizing through soil tests; and, judicious manure or fertilizer applications.

Little information has been gathered about what BMPs livestock owners implement, and which are not widely adopted. To clarify this, in February I will mail surveys to livestock owners in Medina regarding what BMPs are already being implemented. The anonymous survey will also hopefully give insight into which are not widely used, and why. This is a chance to describe all the great things we are already doing and why. It is a pilot that will be expanded to the rest of the county to gain a better understanding of the scope of BMPs among livestock owners. For more information, contact me at eliza003@umn.edu or (612)596-1175.



Clean water diversions like rain gutters help reduce mud and keep clean water clean.

General Government

Why Can't I Recycle All My Plastics?

If you are confused about plastic recycling, you are not alone and we want to help! Almost all plastic products are imprinted with a resin code — a small number enclosed by the “chasing arrows” symbol. Most disposable plastics are imprinted with #1 or #2 on the bottom. This code is misleading because it does not indicate whether or not something is recyclable; it indicates the type of chemical compound, or plastic resin, used to manufacture that product. For example, plastic bottles, butter tubs, and food/deli trays, are all made with plastic #1 or #2; however, the process used to create the plastics are different:

- Plastic bottles are “blow-molded”
- Plastic butter tubs are “injection-molded”
- Food/Deli trays are “stamp-molded”



The different additives used in each process mean that these types of material cannot be mixed during recycling, even though they started with the same #1 or #2 resin code.

Currently, there is not a widespread and stable market for all plastics, except for plastic bottles with a #1 or #2. So until a widespread and stable market exists for all plastics, Randy's Environmental Services will only collect plastics that can currently be recycled (plastic bottles with a #1 or #2 on the bottom).

2010 Precinct Caucuses February 2, 2010

The Minnesota Precinct Caucuses for the Constitution Party, Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DFL) Party, Green Party, Independence Party, and Republican Party will be held on Tuesday, February 2, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

The City of Medina does not organize the precinct caucuses. Precinct caucuses are meetings organized by Minnesota's political parties through which each party begins its process of selecting candidates for the 2010 election and policy positions to shape its party platform.

Medina voters can go to the following known locations to be involved in their party's precinct caucus:

- DFL: Precincts 1A & 1B: Orono Middle School
- Independence: Precincts 1A & 1B: Maple Plain City Hall
- Republican: Precinct 1A: Orono High School Cafeteria
- Republican: Precinct 1B: Hamel Community Building

Check your political party's website for updated information or visit the Minnesota Secretary of State's online Caucus Finder at caucusfinder.sos.state.mn.us.

Rural Commercial Holding and Rural Business Holding Districts Ordinance

The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing and recommended approval of the draft Rural Commercial Holding and Rural Business Holding Districts Ordinance at their January 12, 2010 meeting and the City Council will review the ordinance at their meetings in February. These regulations are intended to apply to property which has been identified for commercial development at some time in the future, but which cannot develop at this time. When municipal utilities are available, these properties would be rezoned to a commercial or business district in order to develop.

The City will discuss a variety of additional topics in the months to follow including: a “Point System” to regulate the timing of future development; Stormwater and Low Impact Development Regulations; Conservation/Open Space Development ordinance; and, Parking and Signage regulations. If you wish to be involved in the process or desire additional information, please contact City Planner Dusty Finke at (763) 473-8846 or dusty.finke@ci.medina.mn.us.

Uptown Hamel Skating/Sledding Social Saturday, February 13th, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Community members are invited to attend the Uptown Hamel Skating/Sledding Social on Saturday, February 13th from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. at Hamel Legion Park. The festivities will be centralized around the Hamel Community Building, ice skating rink, sledding hill, and fire pit. The Uptown Hamel Business Group is sponsoring the event and will be serving hot apple cider and making s'mores.

For more information visit the Uptown Hamel Business Group website at <https://uptownhamel.com> or call Fortin Health and Wellness Clinic at 763-478-3978.



4th Annual Pioneer Winter - 1862 Reenactment March 20th & 21st at the Wolsfeld Cabin Saturday-Sunday 9AM to 5PM

Come and visit with a pioneer family and their friends as they reenact the pioneer lifestyle circa 1862 at the Wolsfeld Cabin on the grounds in front of Medina City Hall. See how late winter was for the pioneers of Minnesota. A Sunday morning church service will be held at 10 a.m. on March 21st.

The event is free, so stop by and don't forget to bring your children and grandchildren! Non-perishable food items will also be collected at the event and given to a local food shelf.

For more information contact Chaplain John B. Palmer at 952-476-0462, Todd Hein at 612-819-4215, or Margaret Gilbert at 651-208-5289.



2010 Budget

City of Medina Summary Budget Data

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of 2010 budget information for the City of Medina citizens. The complete budget may be examined at the Medina City Hall, 2052 County Road 24 or on the City's website at www.ci.medina.mn.us. The City Council approved the 2010 tax levy and this budget on December 1, 2009.

The City's 2010 final tax levy was approved at \$2,756,158, which included a 1% (or \$25,811) increase from 2009. Because of the increasing tax base in Medina for 2010, approximately 54% of residential single-family lots in the City realized a decrease in their City tax payments.

Governmental Funds 2009-2010			Enterprise Funds 2009-2010 Adopted Budgets					
	2009	2010	Water Fund		Sewer Fund		Storm Water Fund	
	Budget	Budget	2009 Budget	2010 Budget	2009 Budget	2010 Budget	2009 Budget	2010 Budget
Revenues			Operating (OP) Revenues					
Property Taxes	\$ 2,706,219	\$ 2,756,158	Charges for Services \$ 787,775 \$ 709,225 \$ 470,800 \$ 487,250 \$ 169,475 \$ 594,670					
Tax Increments	\$ 533,015	\$ 441,385	Total OP Revenues \$ 787,775 \$ 709,225 \$ 470,800 \$ 487,250 \$ 169,475 \$ 594,670					
Special Assessments	\$ 384,367	\$ 567,807	Operating Expenditures					
Licenses & Permits	\$ 267,100	\$ 229,850	Personnel Services \$ 146,422 \$ 129,901 \$ 104,748 \$ 96,105 \$ 17,500 \$ 42,495					
Intergovernmental Revenues			Contractual Services \$ 73,700 \$ 89,050 \$ 254,657 \$ 252,300 \$ 32,125 \$ 26,125					
Federal	\$ 7,000	\$ 9,000	Supplies & Materials \$ 93,700 \$ 100,275 \$ 9,050 \$ 10,875 \$ 13,000 \$ 2,700					
State (General Aid, etc.)	\$ 195,250	\$ 247,275	Utilities \$ 91,000 \$ 78,100 \$ 13,950 \$ 9,500 \$ - \$ -					
County/Other Local	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	Miscellaneous \$ 24,975 \$ 38,375 \$ 6,700 \$ 9,775 \$ 30,750 \$ 20,000					
Charges for Services	\$ 674,300	\$ 344,755	Depreciation \$ 291,000 \$ 270,000 \$ 86,500 \$ 89,500 \$ - \$ -					
Fines and Forfeits	\$ 221,000	\$ 221,000	Total OP Expenditures \$ 720,797 \$ 705,701 \$ 475,605 \$ 468,055 \$ 93,375 \$ 91,320					
Interest on Investments	\$ 264,200	\$ 248,790	Operating Income (Loss) \$ 66,978 \$ 3,524 \$ (4,805) \$ 19,195 \$ 76,100 \$ 503,350					
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$ 536,022	\$ 122,485	Non-Operating Revenues					
Proceeds from Bond Sales	\$ 8,000,000	\$ 6,900,000	Meter Sales \$ 25,000 \$ 15,000 \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ -					
Transfers from Other Funds	\$ 410,254	\$ 353,549	Water Connection Fees \$ 6,000 \$ 2,500 \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ -					
Total Revenues	\$ 14,223,727	\$ 12,467,054	Interest Earnings \$ 61,000 \$ 90,000 \$ 57,000 \$ 40,000					
Expenditures			Capital Outlay \$(2,729,000) \$(2,685,000) \$ (6,000) \$ - \$ (29,100) \$(453,000)					
General Government	\$ 1,142,538	\$ 1,016,775	Debt Service & Fees \$ (777,300) \$(794,925) - - - -					
Public Safety	\$ 2,087,598	\$ 2,048,615	Transfers from Other Funds \$ 527,500 \$ 545,625 - - - -					
Streets & Highways	\$ 603,794	\$ 543,500	Transfers to Other Funds \$ (136,318) \$(137,550) \$(85,350) \$(82,800) \$(47,000) \$(50,350)					
Sanitation	\$ 19,200	\$ 12,000	Net Income (Loss) \$(2,956,140) \$(2,960,826) \$(39,155) \$(23,605) \$ - \$ -					
Culture & Recreation	\$ 149,299	\$ 179,695						
Miscellaneous Expenditures								
Debt Service Principal	\$ 470,000	\$ 600,000						
Interest & Fiscal Charges	\$ 178,261	\$ 379,428						
Capital Outlay	\$ 9,942,977	\$ 8,173,698						
Transfers to Other Funds	\$ 776,948	\$ 628,474						
Total Expenditures	\$ 15,370,615	\$ 13,582,185						
Increase (Decrease) in Governmental Fund Balance	\$ (1,146,888)	\$ (1,115,131)						

Public Safety & Community

Winter Safety Tips

The Medina Police Department wants to remind everyone that winter can be a fun time of the year, but remember that it can also be a very dangerous season. Each year, hundreds of people are injured and some are killed during the season. An unprepared person who is exposed to the elements can suffer frostbite and hypothermia within minutes. Be prepared. Dress for the weather; keep your eyes on your children, ensure they are dressed for the weather when out in the elements. Hypothermia and frostbite can quickly become life threatening.

Every year people fall through the thin ice. It is not recommended to walk on frozen ponds, lakes, rivers, or streams unless the ice is at least four inches thick. To drive a snowmobile on ice, the ice must be five inches thick and to drive a vehicle on the ice, the ice must be at least eight inches thick. If you have question about the ice conditions, call Hennepin County Water Patrol at 612 596-9880. If you have an emergency, call 9-1-1.

It is recommended you keep the following items in your car should you become stranded:

- ▶ A three-pound coffee can with candle stubs, a metal cup, and matches. This can be used to melt snow for drinking water.
- ▶ A red bandanna and a plastic whistle to alert rescuers to your location.
- ▶ Bottled water and candy bars for energy food.
- ▶ Extra set of dry clothes, snowmobile suit, gloves, winter boots, and sleeping bags.
- ▶ A toolbox containing jumper cables, a shovel, a bag of sand, tow cable, plastic flashlight, extra batteries, pencil and paper, road flares and reflectors.
- ▶ Keep your cell phone and charger with you when you travel.



If you become stranded, stay with your vehicle. Enjoy the winter and stay prepared!

City Business Profile: Rockler Woodworking and Hardware

By: Ann Rockler Jackson, CEO

In 1954 my father, Nordy Rockler, started a mail order woodworking supply company in Minneapolis. It was then known as Minnesota Woodworkers Supply Company, and among the products featured in the first catalog were specialty wood veneers and hardware items such as knobs, pulls and table slides. Woodworkers responded positively to having a place where they could always get what they needed.

When I joined the company in 1969, our business was still a small one. We opened our first retail store in Minneapolis in 1978, which was then known as "The Woodworker's Store."

Today, our retail chain stretches across the United States and includes over 30 Rockler stores and over 60 partner store locations. Our catalog has also grown and is now mailed to millions of woodworkers nationwide. Our magazine, Woodworker's Journal, is the leading publication dedicated to offering plans and tips to woodworkers.

Our steady growth – including going from 6 employees in 1969 to over 400 today; the introduction of a number of "exclusive" products; and our dedication to reaching out to both long-time woodworkers and those new to the craft – was a personal goal for me and among the proudest accomplishments of the company as a whole.

In 1998, we decided to reflect our commitment to offering hard-to-find hardware (in addition to kits, tools, lumber and our exclusive shop table line) by changing the name of both our retail and catalog operations to Rockler Woodworking and Hardware. Customers are constantly telling us how happy they are that they know they'll be able to get the full-extension slides, restoration knobs, elbow catch or other specialized hardware they need to complete their project.

We have been on the web since 1996, and are reaching more woodworkers than ever before! Whether you're a seasoned pro, a home-improvement enthusiast or a craftsperson, we believe you will enjoy browsing our online catalog, getting interesting tips through our email newsletter, and being the first to find out about some exciting new products! We are constantly on the lookout for new ways to make all your projects as fulfilling as they can be.