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# The Medina Message

A bi-monthly publication from the City of Medina

## Board of Appeal and Equalization—April 6, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

This meeting is held annually for the purpose of reviewing and correcting the 2016 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 can be found on the City's website at <http://medinamn.us/boa/>.

## Location of Garbage & Recycling Containers

The City's Solid Waste Management Ordinance, City Code 503, requires that all garbage and recycling containers be at the rear of your property, behind a building, or in an enclosed area.

Please visit the City of Medina's website at: <http://medinamn.us/wp-content/uploads/2010/08/503.pdf> to view the entire ordinance. If you have any questions, call the City's recycling coordinator Jodi Gallup at 763-473-8850 or email [jodi.gallup@ci.medina.mn.us](mailto:jodi.gallup@ci.medina.mn.us).



## City Meeting Calendar

### February

- 2nd Tues—City Council 7:00 pm
- 9th Tues—Planning Commission 7:00 pm
- 15th Mon—City Offices Closed (Holiday)
- 16th Tues—City Council Work Session 6:00 pm
- 16th Tues—City Council 7:00 pm
- 17th Wed—Park Commission 7:00 pm

### March

- 2nd Wed—City Council 7:00 pm
- 8th Tues—Planning Commission 7:00 pm
- 15th Tues—City Council Work Session 6:00 pm
- 15th Tues—City Council 7:00 pm
- 16th Wed—Park Commission 7:00 pm

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

## Uptown Hamel Skating/Sledding Social Saturday, February 13th, 1 - 4 p.m.

Community members are invited to attend the Uptown Hamel Skating/Sledding Social on Saturday, February 13th from 1 p.m. until 4 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.

## City Council Agendas and Minutes Email Notifications



Stay informed on what is happening at upcoming City Council meetings. The City emails copies of Council agendas and minutes at no cost to residents. If you would like to be added to the regular email notification list, email [jodi.gallup@ci.medina.mn.us](mailto:jodi.gallup@ci.medina.mn.us) to sign up.

### CITY HALL

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

**City Hall Office Hours**  
 Mon-Fri 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### PUBLIC SAFETY

600 Clydesdale Trail  
 Medina, MN 55340  
 p: 763-473-9209  
 f: 763-473-8858  
 e: [police@ci.medina.mn.us](mailto:police@ci.medina.mn.us)

**Police Department Office Hours**  
 Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Mayor

Bob Mitchell 763-473-1042

### City Council

Jeff Pederson 612-916-6448  
 John Anderson 612-618-5702  
 Kathleen Martin 612-344-1111  
 Lorie Cousineau 612-251-3244

### 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

Jodi Gallup  
 Assistant City Administrator

## Precinct Political Party Caucuses on March 1, 2016 at 7 p.m.

Precinct caucuses are meetings organized by Minnesota's political parties to begin the process of selecting candidates for the 2016 election and policy positions to shape the party platform. Caucuses are a great opportunity to engage directly in the political process at the "grassroots" level. The Major Parties will hold caucuses on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 7 p.m.

Precinct caucuses are open to the public and participation is encouraged by the political parties. In order to vote, offer resolutions or become a delegate at a precinct caucus, attendees must be eligible to vote in the 2016 election, live in the precinct and be in general agreement with the principles of the political party.

Additional information about the upcoming caucuses as well as contact information for each of Minnesota's seven political parties is available online at: <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=886>.

### Caucus Finder: The Online Way to Locate Your Precinct Caucus

Caucus Finder is an online application that assists Minnesotans in locating the major party precinct caucus meeting of their choice. Caucus Finder can be found at: <http://caucusfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>.

# 2040 Comp Plan & Planning

# 2016 Budget Summary Data

## Make Your Voice Heard! City Seeks Feedback on Vision Statement and Community Goals

“If you don't know where you are going, you'll end up someplace else.” — Yogi Berra

The City is currently in the midst of updating its Comprehensive Plan, which guides future growth in the community and also guides economic development and investments in City services such as natural resources/parks/recreation, transportation, and water resources.

Mr. Berra eloquently described the importance of having a good plan. The first step in the process is establishing a vision and to set community wide goals which will guide the process. The City continues to seek feedback on the following draft vision and goals which came about following various public open houses and meetings.

### Vision Statement

*Medina is one community. The City will strive to maintain its unique heritage by promoting and protecting its rural character and its natural environment. Medina will foster well-designed neighborhoods and create retail and other destinations for the community to gather. The City will develop in a deliberate fashion in which the pace of development will be commensurate with the resources available from investments in services and infrastructure and which sustains a high quality of life for residents.*

### Community Goals

- Limit expansion of urban services to the area necessary to accommodate forecasted residential growth and desired business opportunities.
- Develop at a sustainable pace which does not exceed investments in school, transportation, water supply and wastewater infrastructure.
- Promote public and private gathering places and civic events that serve the entire community.
- Provide opportunities for a diversity of housing at a range of prices to support residents at all stages of their life.
- Protect and enhance the environment and natural resources throughout the community.
- Preserve and promote the rural vistas, open spaces and rural character in all areas of the community.



Above: Community members discuss the Comp Plan process with City Planner Dusty Finke at Medina Celebration Day

### Join the Conversation!

Various opportunities exist for you to take part in establishing the vision and goals and, ultimately, creating the plan:

- ▶ Participate electronically anytime at Medina's mySidewalk page: <https://medinacompplan.mysidewalk.com/>.
- ▶ Discuss with your neighbors or with members of the Steering Committee, Planning Commission or City Council.
- ▶ Send comments or speak to City Planner Dusty Finke at [dusty.finke@ci.medina.mn.us](mailto:dusty.finke@ci.medina.mn.us) or (763) 473-8846.

Additional community meetings will be held this spring and summer as the City proceeds with the Comprehensive Plan process. Keep up-to-date on Medina's mySidewalk page and through updates in the City newsletter.

### Land Use Application Under Review

Hamel Brewery – 22 Hamel Road – The applicant requests approval of a Site Plan Review for construction of a building to contain a bar, brewery and food service use. The applicant also requests a Conditional Use Permit for an outside seating area. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on January 12, 2016 and recommended approval. The City Council is tentatively scheduled to review this application at the February 2nd meeting.

For more information on planning projects, or for an update on the review schedule, please visit <http://medinamn.us/citygov/departments/planning-zoning/> or contact the Planning Department at (763) 473-4643, ext. 1.

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of 2016 budget information for the City of Medina residents and property owners. The complete budget may be examined at Medina City Hall, 2052 County Road 24 or on the City's website at [www.medinamn.us](http://www.medinamn.us).

The final General Fund Budget for 2016 was approved on December 1, 2015 in the amount of \$4,253,394, an increase of \$133,887 or 3.3% from the 2015 General Fund Budget. The General Fund total property tax levy for 2016 was authorized for \$3,043,667, an increase of 5.2% or \$151,528 from the 2015 General Fund levy. The overall 2016 property tax levy was approved for \$3,748,649, an increase of 7.0% or \$246,838 over the total 2015 levy. The overall levy increased due to a new bond that was put in place for the Tower Drive Improvement project, increased fire services, and overall increases for health, property, and liability insurances.

Governmental Funds 2015-2016 Adopted Budgets			Enterprise Funds 2015-2016 Adopted Budgets					
	2015 Budget	2016 Budget	Water Fund		Sewer Fund		Storm Water Fund	
	2015 Budget	2016 Budget	2015 Budget	2016 Budget	2015 Budget	2016 Budget	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
<b>Revenues</b>			<b>Operating (OP) Revenues</b>					
Property Tax Levy	\$ 3,501,811	\$ 3,748,649	Charges for Services		\$ 822,186		\$ 838,106	
Other Taxes	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	Total OP Revenues		\$ 822,186		\$ 838,106	
Tax Increments	\$ 395,877	\$ 395,877	Operating Expenses					
Special Assessments	\$ 84,596	\$ 169,333	Personnel Services		\$ 150,392		\$ 164,427	
Licenses & Permits	\$ 371,800	\$ 371,800	Supplies		\$ 99,100		\$ 83,863	
Intergovernmental	\$ 207,618	\$ 220,618	Other Services & Charges		\$ 164,675		\$ 169,617	
Charges for Services	\$ 961,330	\$ 808,750	Depreciation		\$ 325,000		\$ 334,750	
Fines and Forfeits	\$ 203,000	\$ 155,000	Total Operating Expenses		\$ 739,167		\$ 752,657	
Miscellaneous	\$ 183,105	\$ 187,914	Operating Income (Loss)		\$ 83,019		\$ 85,449	
Sale of Assets	\$ -	\$ 300	Non-Operating Revenues					
Proceeds from Bond Sales	\$ -	\$ -	Water Connection Fees		\$ 17,000		\$ 13,400	
Transfers from Other Funds	\$ 467,495	\$ 565,311	Interest Earnings		\$ 5,000		\$ 5,000	
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 6,456,632</b>	<b>\$ 6,703,552</b>	Miscellaneous		\$ -		\$ -	
<b>Expenditures</b>			Non-Operating Expenses					
General Government	\$ 1,055,888	\$ 1,100,762	Interest Expense		\$ (77,305)		\$ (53,263)	
Public Safety	\$ 2,220,552	\$ 2,278,931	Transfers from Other Funds		\$ 358,425		\$ 361,578	
Public Works	\$ 661,856	\$ 696,584	Transfers to Other Funds		\$ (114,101)		\$ (116,222)	
Parks & Recreation	\$ 226,911	\$ 224,867	Net Income (Loss)		\$ 272,038		\$ 295,942	
Debt Service	\$ 1,039,729	\$ 941,154	Capital Outlay		\$ -		\$ -	
Bond Refunding	\$ 1,160,000	\$ -	Debt Service Principal		\$ 510,000		\$ 540,000	
Capital Outlay	\$ 2,942,852	\$ 1,705,896						
Transfers to Other Funds	\$ 540,801	\$ 636,109						
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 9,848,589</b>	<b>\$ 7,584,303</b>						
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Governmental Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ (3,391,957)</b>	<b>\$ (880,751)</b>						

# Business & Government

# Public Works & Public Safety

## The Medina Club Business Networking

The Medina Club is a free, open networking opportunity for all businesses in Medina, Hamel, Corcoran, and Loretto which meets at 9:00 a.m. on the second Wednesday of each month.

The Medina Club's next meeting will be held on February 10th at 9:00 a.m. at Rock Elm Tavern, 16605 County Road 24, Plymouth, MN. If you'd like to join this group or be put on the email list for upcoming events, contact DJ Hartley at the I-94 West Chamber at [djhartley@i94westchamber.org](mailto:djhartley@i94westchamber.org) or call 763-291-8427.

## City Business Profile: ALDI

The new Medina ALDI store, located at 100 Westfalen Trail, opened on Thursday, December 17th. The public was invited to celebrate the opening of the new ALDI store with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Following the ceremony, the first 100 shoppers received a golden ticket, each containing an ALDI gift certificate of various amounts. Customers could also tour the store, sample ALDI exclusive brand products and enter an on-site sweepstakes for a chance to win a year's supply of ALDI produce.

ALDI is a small-format food market that saves you money on the groceries you buy most. They carry all your must-haves – fresh produce, dairy, meat and bakery items, as well as exclusive brands, which make up 90 percent of the products you'll find at ALDI. People have always known ALDI for its great quality at low prices and simple, efficient approach to shopping. In addition to high-quality products, the simple approach to retailing— from the quarter cart rental system to open carton displays – is what helps keep the quality high, the prices low and customers coming back. ALDI is rapidly growing here in the US as shoppers are discovering that they can save time and money at ALDI without sacrificing quality. ALDI is in the midst of a five-year expansion, with plans to open 650 new stores across the country, bringing its total number of US stores to nearly 2,000 by the end of 2018.



## Recycling to be Required in Commercial Buildings Starting in 2016

In 2014, the Minnesota Legislature expanded recycling requirements to include commercial buildings. Owners with commercial buildings in the seven-county metro area – that also generate four cubic yards or more of trash per week – must be recycling at least three materials by January 1, 2016.

**Who must collect recycling?** Property owners with commercial buildings (including multi-family buildings) located in Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott or Washington counties.

**What must be collected?** A minimum of three broad materials must be collected for recycling. Possible material types include paper, cans, glass, plastic, metal, cardboard or organics. Single-sort recycling collection with 3+ materials included meet the requirement.

Businesses can get funds, recycling bins and advice from Hennepin County Environment and Energy. Their staff is available to help make business recycling efforts a success. Businesses can get funds, bins, signs and onsite assistance here: [www.hennepin.us/businessrecycling](http://www.hennepin.us/businessrecycling).



## Open to Business Program Provides Free Technical Assistance

Are you thinking about starting your own business or are you currently operating a small business and interested in FREE technical assistance?

Medina has partnered with the Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD) to offer the "Open to Business" program. This program provides FREE one-on-one assistance from MCCD's expert staff, customized to meet the specific needs of each entrepreneur. This can include creating a business plan, suggestions on financial management and bookkeeping practices, assisting with marketing, and referrals for financing. MCCD also administers a small business loan fund which provides capital to expand local businesses.

For more information or to schedule a session, please contact Rob Smolund from MCCD at [rsmolund@mccdmn.org](mailto:rsmolund@mccdmn.org) or (612) 789-7337 ext. 260. More information is available on the City's website: <http://medinamn.us/opentobusiness>.

## Reminder Winter Parking Regulations are in Effect

There is no parking on the streets of Medina between 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. The regulations are in effect until March 31st. The police enforce this ordinance to keep the streets clear for snowplowing. If you have any questions in reference to the parking ordinance, please call the police department at 763-473-9209.

## Spring Road Weight Restrictions

The Medina Police want to remind everyone that spring weight restrictions on the roads 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.

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.

## Snowmobile Regulations

Winter has finally arrived with new fallen snow. With snow, comes snowmobiling. With snowmobiling, comes snowmobile complaints. The majority of these complaints are from property owners reporting the operation of snowmobiles on their property without permission.

The City of Medina regulates snowmobile operations through City Ordinance 350. This ordinance follows State law in regulating travel along State highways and county roads. Snowmobile operations are allowed within the City under certain circumstances. We would like to remind snowmobilers that the ordinance requires that you have permission from private property owners prior to entering onto someone else's property. The ordinance also prohibits any operation of snowmobiles on sidewalks and trails used for pedestrian traffic. The City of Medina has marked trails that are groomed for snowmobilers. We ask that snowmobile operators respect other people's property and stay on these designated trails. Please operate safely and stay on the trails.

Please review Medina City Ordinance 350 which can be found on the City's website at <http://medinamn.us/regulations-fees/city-code-book/>. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Medina Police Department at 763-473-9209.



## Tips for Weathering the Winter Montage of Snow Scenes around Your Home

Article courtesy of: US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

- ▶ Consider using non-toxic de-icing substances such as clean clay cat litter, sand, or fireplace/stove ash to prevent hazardous waste from chemicals. Chemical de-icers can be hazardous to your pets, your trees and shrubs, and the environment. Antifreeze that leak from car engines and chemical snow melters on driveways, roads, and runways can pollute surface waters and groundwater through the soil.
- ▶ Winterize your vehicle by checking your air filter and fluid levels, checking tires for tread wear and proper inflation, and checking the condition of your windshield wipers. Ensuring your vehicle is ready for weather changes will reduce damage, which prevents waste from broken parts, and will keep you safe on the road.
- ▶ If you have a wood-burning fireplace, save your ashes in a tin instead of throwing them away. Cold wood ashes can be mixed in your compost heap to create a valuable soil amendment that provides nutrients to your garden.
- ▶ If you have a manual thermostat or no thermostat at all, one way to save energy and money this winter is to install a programmable thermostat. When installed and used with the four pre-programmed temperature settings for weekend and weekdays, you can save about \$100 each year while staying comfortable. Before leaving for vacation, turn down your thermostat (or use a programmable one) so that you don't waste natural resources by generating unneeded heat. You can also buy outdoor and indoor lights with timers so that lights don't stay on all night.
- ▶ Close the recycling loop. Many articles of clothing, such as jackets, scarves, gloves, and boots, are now made from recycled materials. Most fleece products are made from recycled plastic soda bottles, and certain clothing and shoe manufacturers use recycled cotton scraps and rubber tires to make their products.
- ▶ To make sure your heating system (boiler, furnace or heat pump) is operating at its most efficient, it is a good idea to have a contractor perform a routine check-up and any necessary maintenance on the equipment before freezing weather drives up your energy bill. If your heating equipment is more than ten years old, it may be time for a replacement to a more energy-efficient unit. While initially an expensive investment, replacing old equipment with ENERGY STAR qualified equipment saves more energy and money in the long run.