

SPECIAL MEDINA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 23, 2015

The City Council of Medina, Minnesota met in special session on April 23, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. to conduct the annual business forum.

I. ROLL CALL

Members present: Anderson, Cousineau, Martin, Mitchell, and Pederson

Members absent: None

Also present: City Administrator Scott Johnson, Assistant to City Administrator Jodi Gallup, Finance Director Erin Barnhart, Public Works Director Steve Scherer, City Planner Dusty Finke, and Public Safety Director Ed Belland.

II. ANNUAL BUSINESS FORUM

Staff provided an update on recent and upcoming projects in Medina. Businesses held breakout sessions to discuss how the city can better help Medina businesses expand and flourish and what the city can do to attract new businesses. After the breakout sessions, each group reported back to the large group on their discussions. Below is a summary of findings:

- City needs to be aware of large financial costs to start a business
- City code issues with remodels
- Time it takes to get through the approval process is too long
- Look into administrative approval for smaller projects
- Create a marketing campaign on why the city is more open to business to show what the city is doing
- Give more planning guidance
- Fire code and sprinkling issues
- Survey residents on what types of businesses they would like to see in Medina and Uptown Hamel
- Expensive water hookup fees
- Better brand the city of Medina
- Promote business networking events
- Help the businesses and residents know what businesses are in Medina
- Attract businesses, employees and residents from the west

Mayor Mitchell reminded the businesses that Medina is still a small town and he invites and encourages businesses to contact him and the City Council members to discuss their issues and ideas.

III. ADJOURN

Adjourned the Business Forum at 9:00 a.m.

Bob Mitchell, Mayor

Attest:

Scott Johnson, City Administrator-Clerk