

**MEDINA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 6, 2011**

The City Council of Medina, Minnesota met in regular session on December 6, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Chambers. Mayor Crosby presided.

**I. ROLL CALL**

**Members present:** Crosby, Pederson, Martinson, Siitari, and Weir.

**Members absent:** None.

**Also present:** City Attorney Ron Batty, City Engineer Darren Amundsen, Planner Dusty Finke, Public Works Superintendent Steve Scherer, Finance Director Joe Rigdon, City Administrator Scott Johnson, Chief of Police Ed Belland, and Recording Secretary Amanda Staple.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

*The agenda was accepted as presented.*

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. Approval of the November 14, 2011 Special City Council Meeting Minutes**

*Moved by Pederson, seconded by Martinson, to approve the November 14, 2011 special City Council meeting minutes as presented. **Motion passed unanimously.***

**B. Approval of the November 15, 2011 Special City Council Meeting Minutes**

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Pederson, to approve the November 15, 2011 special City Council meeting minutes as presented. **Motion passed unanimously.***

**C. Approval of the November 15, 2011 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes**

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Siitari, to approve the November 15, 2011 regular City Council meeting minutes as presented. **Motion passed unanimously.***

**D. Approval of the November 16, 2011 Special City Council Meeting Minutes**

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Pederson, to approve the November 16, 2011 special City Council meeting minutes as presented. **Motion passed unanimously.***

**V. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Resolution No. 2011-102 Accepting Donation from Twin Cities International Christian Cycling Club**

**B. Appoint WSB as City Engineering Firm beginning January 1, 2012**

**C. Approve League of Minnesota Cities Liability Coverage Waiver Form**

**D. Approve Recording Secretary Service Agreement with TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.**

**E. Call for Special City Council Meeting on December 15, 2011 at 7 p.m. at St. Peter and Paul Church in Loretto**

**F. Adopt GASB 54-Compliant Fund Balance Policy**

**G. Resolution No. 2011-103 Committing Specific Revenue Sources for Specified Purposes in Special Revenue Funds**

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Siitari, to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.*

**B. Appoint WSB as City Engineering Firm beginning January 1, 2012**

Crosby stated that he did not have any objections to appointing WSB as the City Engineering firm, but merely wanted to provide additional information. He explained that the Engineering firm previously used by the City, Bonestroo, had merged with another firm and the previous representative to the City, Tom Kellogg, had resigned from the newly merged company. He summarized the interviewing process the City undertook, and advised that Kellogg is now associated with WSB. He commended WSB for the depth of skills in their staff pool and hoped to utilize their many associates, rather than simply relying on one person from the firm as the City had previously done. He believed that large projects should be put out to bid to obtain quotes from other engineering firms.

Johnson confirmed that the ability to obtain outside bids on large projects was included in the scope of services.

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Pederson, to approve appoint WSB as City Engineering Firm beginning January 1, 2012. Motion passed unanimously.*

**C. Approve League of Minnesota Cities Liability Coverage Waiver Form**

Crosby explained liability coverage in regard to municipalities. He provided background information regarding the type of coverage Medina has obtained in the past and the reasoning for the decision tonight.

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Martinson, to approve the decision to not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minnesota State Statutes 466.04. Motion passed unanimously.*

**VI. COMMENTS**

**A. Comments from Citizens on Items not on the Agenda**

There were none.

**B. Park Commission**

Park Commissioner Thies provided an update regarding the November meeting. She discussed a request regarding the possible conversion of softball fields, and noted that the Commission deferred that decision until the Master Plan for the parks is complete. She advised that the Park Commission would also like to complete a resident survey, which could be included in an upcoming City newsletter.

**C. Planning Commission**

Finke stated that the Planning Commission would meet the following week and would hold three public hearings; he briefly reviewed those requests.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. 2012 Budget**

Crosby provided background information regarding the budget process the City has followed, including the approval of a preliminary levy which took place in September. He advised that the levy amount would need to be certified tonight, explaining that although the preliminary levy cannot be raised, the rate could be lowered.

**1. Budget and Tax Levy Presentation**

Johnson reviewed the proposed budget changes from the 2011 budget as well as the major budget issues faced in 2012. He reviewed the proposed tax levy information and compared that information with the figures certified in 2011. He advised that the Public Works Facility would not factor into the budget until 2013, as firm decisions had not been made at this point. He presented information regarding the general fund, as well as comparison information from 2011, and also modifications to the budget, including proposed reductions. He summarized the long-term needs of the City and explained how those needs would impact the future budget processes. He provided tax rate comparisons, comparing the proposed rate for Medina to that of the six closest neighboring cities, and noted that Medina was the second lowest.

Carolyn Smith thanked the City Council for reducing the budget, although she did not believe that was hard to do. She believed that the budget could be reduced further, even though she acknowledged that Medina has the second lowest rate in the area. She referenced the Financial Management Plan and believed that the City can do a better job in the future. She believes that government operates differently than most of the world, providing an example that most employers are not giving raises and yet Medina staff has received raises for the past two budget years. She stated that she chose to live in Medina because the tax dollars are low and it is a great place to live. She was concerned that the tax rate would be changing from 19 to 22 percent and believed additional reductions could be made.

Kirby Johnson, 320 Calamus Circle, stated that he is the President of the Wild Meadows Home Association and was present to learn more about the budget process. He agreed that the current economy is a tough business environment and housing values continue to drop. He stated that in a time when salaries, investments and home values are decreasing, taxes should not be increasing. He stated that he appreciates the time and hard work of the Council and was happy to learn additional information.

Bob Kroll, 315 Calamus Circle, echoed the comments of Mr. Johnson and stated that foreclosures and the market continue to impair the values of homes. He questioned how taxes are rising, although decreases continue to occur in this economy.

Crosby stated that this Council is more responsive to these issues than may meet the eye. He stated that the budget proposed for 2012 is comparable to the 2007 budget. He stated that the road needs were discussed at a 2007 public meeting, a Truth in Taxation Hearing, and explained how the road bonding policy had developed from that public input. He explained how funds were reduced from the budget and provided examples, such as the use of a consultant rather than hiring a new Finance Director, and Belland reviewing police vehicles to determine which vehicles could be used an additional year before replacement. He stated that staff and the Council are making sensible cuts to the budget without reducing City services, such as the number of police officers.

Weir stated that there was one year with no pay increase for staff, a small increase in 2011 and a slightly larger increase for 2012. She explained that with the small increase in pay, the City is able to retain good staff members and avoid the additional costs of employee turnover and training new employees. She advised that Medina lost a great Finance Director because of the large amount of money that the employee was able to make at another employer.

Martinson advised that the Council reviewed the staff costs and salaries of surrounding cities and noted that even with the proposed increase for 2012 Medina still has among the lowest per capita fully burdened staffing costs.

Carolyn Smith stated that she had previously suggested that a Committee be formed, composed of successful business leaders of Medina, to review the budget and determine where additional reductions could be made.

Crosby stated that two business forums were held this past year, noting that one forum would most likely be held annually going forward. He reviewed some of the items discussed at those meetings, including budgeting and future needs, such as a Public Works facility. He commented that the Council views these issues with real dollars and real people but also views future needs, such as roads. He noted that public comment would be greatly appreciated and welcomed residents to provide input earlier in the process.

**2. Resolution No. 2011-104 Approving 2012 Final Tax Levy**

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Pederson, to approve the Resolution No. 2011-104 Approving the 2012 Final Tax Levy. **Motion passed unanimously.***

**3. Resolution No. 2011-105 Approving 2012 Final Budget**

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Siitari, to approve the Resolution No. 2011-05 Approving the 2012 Final Budget. **Motion passed unanimously.***

**B. Sewer System Request from City of Independence**

Johnson noted that members from the City of Independence were present to make a request to the Council regarding the sewer system and the possibility to amend the Tri-City Agreement to include Vinland National Center. He provided background information regarding the Tri-City Agreement, and reviewed the concern staff has with allowing Vinland to connect to the sewer system. He stated that many items affect the capacity of the Medina system, including future development.

Mayor Marvin Johnson, Independence, provided background information regarding sewer development in Independence. He stated that the City would like to do anything possible to clean-up Lake Independence, including additional hook-ups to the sewer system. He stated that when Vinland applied to expand their facility, staff suggested the possibility of connecting to the sewer system.

Mark Kaltsus, Planning Consultant for Independence, explained that the original request from Vinland was to expand their existing septic system. He explained that staff reviewed the request as an opportunity to further clean-up Lake Independence through connection to the sewer system. He advised that the expansion of Vinland is broken down into three phases, with only the first phase taking place at this time. He advised that this would be a 20 bed expansion to the facility, bringing the total from 40 to 60, and

equated that connection to the system to 18 residential connections. He estimated the possible residential connections for that area which could be proposed in the future.

Crosby confirmed that this request would place the entire facility on the sewer system. He stated that if the City were to provide sewer connections to the facility he believed that would put pressure on Medina to accept future expansions, as a practical manner, as it would be rare for the facility to use a separate septic system for a future expansion. Crosby explained that Independence would like the facility to connect to the sewer system now to avoid the possibility of failure of the septic system in the future. He commented that he would like to stay under capacity, not only to allow for future development in Medina, but also to solve system failures. He explained the calculations which are used to determine maximum capacity of the Medina system. He stated that Medina, Corcoran, Loretto, and Independence all have significant development in their 20 year Comprehensive Plans which will require additional capacity; more than is even provided through the current system.

Weir stated that the best thing for Lake Independence would be to allow the connection to the sewer system but acknowledged the capacity levels of the Medina system.

Scherer explained the capacity limits of the Medina system. He stated that the City has not had a problem with Vinland connecting to the system, but with the expansion proposed. He stated that Medina has historically paid a larger portion of the system costs and has more of an investment in the sewer system. He explained that when additional connections to the system are made there is additional stress put on the system. He stated that the system will cycle more dependent on the number of connections, and believed that a study would need to occur before this type of connection could be made to determine the effects of the connections. He stated that connections should be used for clean-up rather than expansion.

Crosby questioned the timing for the project.

Kaltsus stated that the expansion has been approved by the City of Independence and estimated the project would begin in the spring.

Brian Miller, City Engineer for Independence, stated that he reviewed the possible capacity issues for the Medina system and provided information he obtained from the Comprehensive Plans for Medina and the surrounding communities, such as Loretto and Maple Plain. He stated that the Tri-City Agreement also specifies that costs for expansion of the sewer system would be shared between the cities and would not solely be the responsibility of Medina.

Crosby suggested that Medina and Independence work together to discuss the issue further. He stated that he would like to know additional information including the probable capacity once the already approved problem areas are connected, potential other problem areas in Independence and Greenfield, the possibility of an end date for Loretto, and the probable future growth for that area of Medina. He clarified that the issue is not simply to save the connections for future Medina development but to determine the impact of the existing and proposed Vinland connections, while still dealing with the potential problems in the future. He directed staff to research these items and develop a proposal and potential costs.

Norm Wenck, Independence Councilmember, stated that the last time he was in front of the Council he was directed to persuade connections to the sewer system and now he is asking for those connections.

Mike McLaughlin, Lake Independence Lake Association, stated that the organization he represents supports this proposed connection to the sewer system. He stated that the City of Loretto has no future plans to connect to the sewer system. He explained that a large facility located on the Lake is interested in connecting to the system and believed that should be allowed, rather than waiting for Loretto, which may not choose to join the system at all. He questioned if the pump would need to be replaced.

Johnson stated that there is not any problem with the pump and explained that the concern was with the capacity of the system. He stated the recommendation from staff would be that Independence pay for the study requested by the Council.

After discussion the Council directed Johnson to conduct studies with the city of Independence, and other involved parties, at no cost to the city of Medina in order to provide more facts upon which a decision could be made. The details of such study could be worked out between staff.

**C. Conservation Design Subdivision PUD Concept Plan: 2500 – 2900 Parkview Drive**

Finke presented a request for a conservation design subdivision PUD for the property located at 2500 to 2900 Parkview Drive. He explained the conservation design process, noting that this is the first request under this new policy, and provided specific information regarding the property and proposed design. He explains that the PUD process contains three steps: the concept plan, the general plan/preliminary plat, and the final plan/final plat. He stated that the applicant has modified the proposal following the review of the Planning Commission, and asked that the Council review the plans. He suggested that the Planning Commission have another opportunity to review the concept plan, following Council input, as the Commission had not been able to review the modified plan. He summarized the conservation priorities relevant to this property and stated that staff would like input from the Council specific to three items: density, the amount of conservation, and timing. He stated that allowing additional lots, increased density, is the highest incentive for conservation design, and further explained the calculations used by the City. He reported that there is a timing issue because of the Agricultural Preserve Covenant on the property which expires in 2016, and explained that the applicant would like to move forward in this process, so that development could begin in 2016. He reviewed the comments from the Planning Commission which recommended denial of the request, noting that a number of the concerns from the Commission had been addressed in the modified version of the plan.

Batty explained the timing of plat approval and the ability to grant extensions. He stated that Ordinances and policies change over time and the City would want an applicant to be liable to the Ordinances and policies which exist when the project occurs. He stated that neither the City, nor the applicant, can remove the Agricultural Preserve Covenant, which expires in 2016. He confirmed that many of the negotiation abilities occur in the concept plan review process and the future Council in 2016 may feel obligated to approve the final plat when that time comes. He stated that another option could be to complete this process slowly and to condition approval upon certain items.

Crosby briefly recessed the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Crosby reconvened the meeting at 9:09 p.m.

Crosby stated that he has known the applicant for many years and helped Wally Marx purchase the property and place that property into the Agricultural Preserve Covenant. He stated that he no longer, and has not for some time, had a lawyer client relationship with Mr. Marx. He commended Mr. Marx for his clean-up of the site and commented that he has done everything correct for the property and has been a great landowner.

Wally Marx thanked the Council and staff for their cooperation in this matter. He stated that he has worked with Finke for more than a year to develop this concept plan and identified the hurdles he had to overcome in regard to the terrain of the property. He stated that he has owned the property for more than 12 years and explained the process which was followed for placing the land into an Agricultural Preserve Covenant. He reviewed the conservation design process that he has been a part of since the inception of the policy. He displayed an aerial picture of the property and provided background information on the property and the clean-up efforts. He displayed his concept plan overlay on the natural resources evaluation that was completed for that area. He described the proposed density and referenced the language from the policy regarding flexibility and density. He stated that good input was received from both the Planning and Park Commissions and advised that the plan had been modified based on that input. He provided information regarding the walk through of the property completed by himself, Finke and a representative from Stantec.

Jim Lane, neighbor and attorney of the applicant, addressed the Council and stated that he is a resident of Medina and is also acting as an attorney for Mr. Marx. He suggested that the work and report of the Open Space Task Force be reviewed, as that helped drive this process and identifies natural resources specific to the property. He stated that this is an application for a concept plan approval and is not a request for preliminary plan or development plan approval. He stated that feedback is simply requested at this time and noted that the proposed plan is less dense than the plan presented to the Planning Commission. He confirmed that part of the property is under an Agricultural Preserve Covenant until 2016 and noted that the applicant would be in agreement with a slower process for approval, with development beginning in 2016. He stated that on a personal note he and his wife have lived across from Mr. Marx and commend him as a neighbor and for his clean-up efforts. He explained that he believes that the southerly parcel, identified as the guesthouse parcel, contains the most valuable natural resources and if placed into conservation permanently, additional density should be gained. He stated that if that parcel is not placed into permanent conservation, the parcel could be split into several lots and developed once sewer reaches that area. He stated that although a large portion of the property is undevelopable under today's regulations, that could change in the future and the area could be highly developed.

Marx commented that a conservation easement is forever and would prevent a large number of row homes being developed in the future. He presented pictures of natural resources and wildlife which are found on his property, as well as the private garden which has been built on his property and is nationally known.

Michael Pressman addressed the Council on behalf of the applicant. He stated that he was drawn to this property while working on the Minnehaha Creek Conservation District

and commented that this process is a method to permanently conserve a portion of this land. He provided additional information regarding valuable natural resources found on the property. He referenced the Open Space Report and Natural Resource Inventory of Medina, which both mention this property and the resources found on the property. He stated that the blend of resources found on this property is what makes portions of the property unbuildable is also what makes the property valuable for conservation. He stated that 50 years ago no one would have believed that St. Louis Park would develop in the manner it has, and urged the Council to conserve natural resources in Medina while they can. He stated that once sewer extends to this area there will be development and urged the Council to preserve these resources before that time comes. He provided an evaluation of the Conservation Design Subdivision PUD for the property completed by Jean Coleman, President of CR Planning.

Mark Gronberg, land planner representing the applicant, briefly summarized the modifications which were made to the original proposal to include the input of the Park and Planning Commissions. He confirmed that each lot would have its own septic site. He stated that if the conservation design was not approved, and sewer eventually reached the site, outlot C alone could be divided into nine homes and compared that number to the proposed eight lots. He explained that the homes have been placed in the least valuable resource areas.

Cindy Piper, resident of School Lake, drafted a history of the School Lake Trail and disbursed that information for the Council to review. She stated that the Trail has been in existence for some time and commended Mr. Marx for his efforts with the trail, as she and other residents enjoy the trail.

Weir stated that she was concerned with the issue of timing; explaining that as improved as the proposed modified plan appeared to be, future Councils may have issues. She stated that she would be in agreement with the rolling approval discussed, if that is legally possible; and noted that it is hard to review the modified plan, as the Council was only given the original plan reviewed by the Park and Planning Commissions. She stated that she could see six lots on this site, could be open to seven and would consider the proposed eight lots, and would require all shoreline and wetland setbacks to be met. She also commented on septic placements, and preferred shared driveways.

Pederson agreed that it is hard to judge a plan which is not in front of the Council. He commented that the timeline is challenging, as there is some time between now and 2016. He stated that he would be more comfortable with seven lots, but again noted that he has not seen the plan displaying eight lots. He stated that he would also like to see shared driveways.

Martinson stated that this is a beautiful piece of property and was glad to see that the owner is interested in conservation. She stated that she is in favor of seven lots and welcomed the new plan in order to see the configuration of eight lots.

Siitari stated that the modified plan is significantly better than the original plan and questioned if the project needs to move forward this early. He did not estimate development for 15 to 40 years and questioned if this Council was the best body to make a decision for development which will not occur for many years.

Crosby stated that when the Conservation Design Ordinance was developed he was thinking more towards a clustered housing design, and explained that is very different from this proposal. He questioned if waiting would be more beneficial for the applicant, as being the first applicant under a policy is not often the best position. He stated that he would be in favor of a rolling renewal issue but explained that the applicant would be subject to the then current Council. He stated that the issue of timing is not a City issue but is a self-imposed applicant issue, and explained that this is not a situation where the City needs to take possession of the land to prevent unfavorable development. He could be in favor of six lots, possibly increased to seven.

Lane stated that the applicant understands the risk of the rolling approval and is willing to take that risk.

Batty stated tonight the Council has provided comments on the concept plan, which will then go back before the Planning Commission for review. He stated that this plan would come back before the Council after that review and at that time the Council would be required to make a decision.

Carolyn Smith commented that timing has been a discussion tonight and mentioned that something could happen to the property owner before 2016. She provided an example in the past when the Council had pushed approval and something happened to the landowner, which then caused the City to lose that opportunity. She believed that the City should begin working on this now, as there would be an overall benefit to the City, to prevent the loss of this opportunity.

Weir commended the applicant for coming forward as the first applicant under this process.

Crosby briefly recessed the meeting at 10:23 p.m.

Crosby reconvened the meeting at 10:27 p.m.

**D. Private Kennel License Application: 1822 Morgan Road**

Finke presented a request for a private kennel license at 1822 Morgan Road, on behalf of Hannah Buckley, and provided background information. He stated that in 2011 approximately 25 dogs were being kept on the property, as the property owner was not aware of the limitations, and was involved in animal rescue organizations. He stated that the property owner is now requesting eight dogs, six of which are pets and two which would be allowed as foster dogs. He briefly summarized the Ordinance which governs private kennel licensing and stated that the request could be granted if public health and safety are not imposed and it is not found to be a nuisance. He stated that the police do not oppose the request for eight dogs, so long as measures were implemented to limit potential impacts of barking.

Hannah Buckley, 1822 Morgan Road, stated that she believed she had provided the City with as much information as she could. She stated that her children wanted to be present tonight, as they were concerned with losing their pets. She presented three years of Christmas cards which feature her children and the dogs to serve as proof that the dogs are pets and part of their family. She explained that the previous circumstance where children were visiting their home to interact with the dogs has been moved to a pet store, to avoid problems. She stated that it had been brought to her attention that

some of her neighbors had voiced complaint but explained that she had asked the neighbors to bring any concerns to her and she heard nothing from them. She noted that a neighbor had asked that she put her dogs inside for a graduation party they were throwing, which she did. She commented that one neighbor stated that barking occurs when they use their pool but explained that her dogs are not on her property during the summer months, as she travels to Sweden and her dogs are taken care of in Hugo while she is away. She commented that the same neighbors that voiced complaint have also dropped off dogs at her property that they have found running loose; providing an example of a neighbor who dropped off a dog that did not belong to her while she was not home and placing that dog in her kitchen, which caused damage. She thanked Weir for visiting her property and making her aware of the comments made by neighbors.

Weir commented that she did hear barking when visiting the property, but the barking resulted from the dog belonging to a neighboring property owner.

Buckley stated that dog, who belongs to a neighbor, has bitten a person and that is why that neighbor had to fence her yard in.

Martinson confirmed that the dogs are not at the property during June, July or August, and therefore would not have bothered the neighbors using their pool as commented.

Crosby referenced fostering of dogs and was unsure if the Pet Ordinance would be the best place for fostering, as he viewed that to be a commercial aspect. He stated that he would be in favor of allowing six dogs, with no fostering. He explained that he would like to stay away from commercial elements in a residential area.

Buckley stated that a foster child is being looked after and cared for, same as a foster dog. She did not believe that was a commercial aspect as there is no money being generated. She stated that previously she assisted in puppy mill situations, where large numbers of dogs were being housed outside of her home. She noted that function has stopped because of the concern expressed by the City. She stated that she has six dogs which are pets and would like the ability to foster up to two additional dogs. She confirmed that those two dogs would be cared for in the home.

Weir stated that her visit to the home presented a well run family situation. She suggested that the eight dogs be allowed for one year, with a check completed after one year to determine if complaints had been made. She stated that Buckley completes great, necessary, work that functions in the home and is completely different than boarding.

Buckley confirmed that she is the only person to enter and exit her property in regard to foster animals.

Martinson stated that she is in agreement with Weir and asked that some type of visual boundary be placed between the property and the neighbors with the pool.

Pederson stated that while he admires the applicant for her rescue work, he agreed with the comments made by Crosby in regard to the link to commercial operations. He believed that the housing for the animals should be more than 150 feet from property lines.

Crosby stated that he was most concerned with non-animal issues including the level of foster dogs, and the possible amount of traffic. He stated that he would be okay with longer term fostering of animals and explained that he was concerned with the perception that an animal rescue shelter were being run.

Finke stated that a condition could be added which would state, no visiting the property for fostering.

Crosby stated that he would be willing to agree with Weir, ensuring that the review occur after one year.

Belland confirmed that the department could complete a one year review.

Crosby suggested that Buckley also provide feedback to the comments made by neighbors which she believed to be untrue.

Siitari stated that the Council spent quite some time determining the limit of dogs and questioned why that number was decided on if the Council continues to override that limit. He questioned why eight dogs would need to be kept on the property, especially if some of the dogs are not pets.

Finke confirmed that he would need the number of dogs allowed and staff would then prepare the Resolution with the specified conditions.

*Moved by Martinson, seconded by Weir, to direct staff to prepare a Resolution granting a private kennel license, allowing up to eight dogs, with a review to occur at one year or sooner if additional complaints, a visual barrier at the north property line to provide screening, and to regulate commercial activities regarding the fostering of dogs. **Motion passed unanimously.***

## **VIII. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

### **A. Hollydale Advisory Task Force Report**

Johnson provided an update on the Hollydale Advisory Task Force and noted that the Plymouth City Council did approve a Resolution in support of the alternative routes. He stated that there is not an alternate route proposed for Medina in the November 2011 report.

Crosby stated that he would be hesitant for the City to take a position at this time as the property owners have provided utility easements and there is no alternate route proposed at this time.

Weir suggested a strong recommendation be made that the line be buried where impacts to existing homes may occur.

Johnson stated that the cost is three to five times higher to bury the line. He advised of the findings of the November 2011 Task Force Report, and confirmed that the Council could state agreement with those findings.

*Moved by Martinson, seconded by Weir, to accept the Task Force Report and support the recommendations. **Motion passed unanimously.***

**B. Other**

Johnson referenced a letter in regard to drug use in the Delano School District.

Belland further explained the letter and noted that Medina is already moving forward through the Task Force, and has identified marijuana as an ongoing problem.

**IX. MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Crosby advised of a request for an advance in the rate for the City Criminal Attorney, which will be brought forward at a future meeting. He discussed a communication which he received regarding the possibility of building the Public Works facility on the Hennepin County site and confirmed that the City will follow the agreement for sewer charges for that site.

Batty confirmed that the County would have to pay approximately \$41,000 for the sewer connection charges, should the City build on that site. He advised that if the City were not to build on that site, the County would not have to pay those fees. Crosby stated that input had been received regarding the Highway 55 and CR 116 intersection, as well as the funding for Watersheds. He advised of a meeting that occurred between City staff and the Foxberry Farms developers regarding a traffic light.

Belland noted that he received notice of an upcoming meeting between the Foxberry Farms developers and a County representative, which will take place on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

Weir discussed the German Liberal Cemetery and the possibility of offering a lower rate to residents.

Batty confirmed that he did review that item and noted that the modified fee would be presented with the annual review of the fee schedule.

**X. APPROVAL TO PAY THE BILLS**

*Moved by Pederson, seconded by Weir, to approve the bills, EFT 001406E – 001426E for \$79,747.10 and order check numbers 037643 – 037716 for \$83,956.99 and payroll EFT 503905 – 503930 for \$44,965.11. **Motion passed unanimously.***

**XI. ADJOURN**

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Pederson, to adjourn the meeting at 11:23 p.m. **Motion passed unanimously.***

---

T.M. Crosby, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

---

Scott Johnson, City Administrator

**This Page Intentionally Left Blank**