

MOUNTAIN IRON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COMMUNITY CENTER
MOUNTAIN IRON ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2004 - 6:30 P.M.
A G E N D A

- I. Roll Call
 - II. Consent Agenda
 - A. Minutes of the February 2, 2004, Regular Meeting (#1-11)
 - B. Bills and Payroll
 - C. Receipts
 - D. Communications (#40-48)
 - III. Public Forum
 - A. Commissioner Nelson – RRA Land Proposal (#12-13)
 - IV. Committee and Staff Reports
 - A. Mayor's Report
 - 1. HRA/EDA Proposal (#14-23)
 - B. City Administrator's Report (#24-25)
 - C. Director of Public Work's Report
 - D. Director of Parks and Recreation's Report
 - 1. Council Consideration (#26)
 - E. City Attorney's Report
 - 1. Fire Apparatus Prepayment
 - 2. Administrative Fines
 - F. City Engineer's Report
 - G. Safety Committee (#27)
 - 1. Minnesota Power Training Contract (#28-30)
 - V. Unfinished Business
 - A. Mesabi Trail Alignment (#31)
 - B. Mineland Reclamation Program (#32)
 - C. Wacootah Overlook Progress (#33)
 - D. Sump Pump Reminder Letter (#34)
 - VI. New Business
 - A. Resolution 03-04 Establishing Precincts (#35-37)
 - B. Public Officials Absenteeism (#38)
 - C. Funeral Procession Assistance (#39)
 - D. Communications (#40-48)
 - VII. Open Discussion
 - VIII. Announcements
 - IX. Adjourn
- # Denotes page number in packet

MINUTES
MOUNTAIN IRON CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 2, 2004

Mayor Skalko called the City Council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present: Joe Prebeg, Jr., Allen Nelson, Dale Irish, Ed Roskoski, and Mayor Gary Skalko. Also present were: Craig J. Wainio, City Administrator; Jill M. Forseen, Municipal Services Secretary; and Don Kleinschmidt, Director of Public Works. The following Volunteer Firemen were present: Tom Cvar, Fire Chief; Steve Norvitch, Assistant Fire Chief; Joe Buria; Steve Skogman; Greg Chad; Rory King; and Alan Stanaway.

It was moved by Nelson and supported by Prebeg that the consent agenda be approved as follows:

1. Add the following items to the agenda:
IV. A. 2. Mineland Reclamation Division of IRRRB

Move the following item from IV. A. 1. Great River Energy Bicycle Festival
To: VI. G.
V. A. Payment Request for the Mountain Iron Library
2. Approve the minutes of the January 20, 2004, City Council meeting with the following correction:

Page 1, last paragraph: "It was moved by Roskoski and supported by Irish to appoint Sam Aluni, The Trenti Law Firms, as the City's primary attorney for everyday types of legal work and appoint Larry C. Minton, Ltd. as the secondary firm to handle *personnel and other issues*. ~~issues that the primary firm can not handle.~~ The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote."
3. Approve the minutes of the January 13, 2004, Committee-of-the-Whole meeting as submitted.
4. That the communications be accepted, placed on file, and those requiring further action by the City Council be acted upon during their proper sequence on the agenda
5. To acknowledge the receipts for the period January 16-31, 2004, totaling \$205,586.64, (a list is attached and made a part of these minutes).
6. To authorize the payment of the bills and payroll for the period January 16-31, 2004, totaling \$178,161.69, (a list is attached and made a part of these minutes).

The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

During the public forum, Mrs. Dale Petersen, 5482 Heather Avenue, Mountain Iron, asked if the City Council had received a report from the Zoning Administrator regarding the Tim Anderson Conditional Use Permit or what the Planning and Zoning Commission has done regarding the issue. Councilor Irish stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission did review the situation and Mr. Anderson advised them that his Father and Cousin currently work in the Automotive Shop and he sometimes has students from the Mesabi Range College training in the Automotive Shop. He further advised Mrs. Petersen that the Shop closes at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Peterson also asked about the excavating business being conducted on the Anderson property. The City Council recommended that the Mr. and Mrs. Petersen attend the next regular Planning and Zoning Commission meeting.

It was moved by Skalko and supported by Roskoski to authorize a \$100 contribution to the Mountain Iron-Buhl High School Student Council to attend the 9th Annual Nobel Peace Prize Festival at Augsburg College in Minneapolis on February 19, 2004. After further discussion, Skalko amend his motion to increase the contribution to \$150 with Roskoski supporting the amendment. The amended motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

It was moved by Skalko and supported by Prebeg to authorize reimbursement for a Mountain Iron First Responder that attended the Arrowhead EMS Conference in Duluth in January, 2004. After further discussion, Mayor Skalko withdrew his motion and Councilor Prebeg withdrew his support. The Council requested that a more detailed reimbursement request be submitted for consideration at the next regular City Council meeting.

It was moved by Skalko and supported by Prebeg to approve the Quad Cities Proclamation “Range of the Arts 2004”, (a copy is attached and made a part of these minutes). The motion carried.

During the Mayor’s report, the Mayor requested the Director of Public Works to express his gratitude and thanks to the City of Mountain Iron Employees for the excellent job with the snow removal and the recent water line breaks.

The Mayor requested that the City Council review the HRA/EDA information and be prepared to discuss the issue at the next regular meeting when the City Attorney would be present.

The Mayor discussed the possibility of Cabela’s locating in the area. The Mayor requested that the City Administrator provide Commissioner Nelson with the plats of land available in the Park Ridge Development.

It was moved by Nelson and supported by Prebeg to waive the fees for the Community Center rooms for June 9-10, 2004 and direct City Staff to provide the barricading in areas of Mountain Iron that are being used for the Great River Energy Bicycle Festival. The motion carried.

It was moved by Skalko and supported by Roskoski to allow Joe Buria to attend the Fire Department training class for the Federal Emergency Management Association grant writing workshop in Anoka with the City reimbursing him for mileage. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

It was moved by Roskoski and supported by Irish to authorize one member of the Mountain Iron Volunteer Fire Department to attend the Arson Investigation Training in March in St. Cloud with the City paying the three nights of hotel, meals and registration with the Fire Chief determining who will attend. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

It was moved by Skalko and supported by Prebeg to authorize the Mountain Iron Fire Department to advertise to hire two Volunteer Firemen. The motion carried.

It was moved by Prebeg and supported by Nelson to authorize the final payment request to Mesabi Bituminous, Inc. in the amount of \$8,306.22 for the City Hall parking lot paving. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

The Council reviewed the Mesabi Trail-Mountain Iron Trail Segment. The City Administrator said that another meeting was set with the Trail Authority to discuss trail further.

The Council discussed the “Early Retirement Proposal” submitted by AFSCME Local 453. The Personnel Committee recommended that the “Early Retirement Proposal” be dropped. The Mayor requested that the City Administrator set up a meeting with the AFSCME Local 453 Employee that initially requested the “Early Retirement Proposal”, the Union Representative, and the Personnel Committee.

At 8:35 p.m., Councilor Roskoski left the meeting.

At 8:38 p.m., Councilor Roskoski returned to the meeting.

It was moved by Irish and supported by Skalko to authorize payment request number two to Lenci Enterprises in the amount of \$42,786.10 for the Phase II, Interior Renovations for the Mountain Iron Library. The motion carried on the following roll call vote: Prebeg, yes; Nelson, no; Irish, yes; Roskoski, yes; and Skalko, yes.

It was moved by Irish and supported by Nelson to allow the Municipal Services Secretary to attend the 2004 Minnesota Clerks and Finance Officers Association Annual Conference in Alexandria from March 16-19, 2004, with the City paying the registration fee and mileage. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

It was moved by Roskoski and supported by Irish to direct the City Engineer to:

- 1) Study the Ann’s Acres street light layout and develop a map where the present lights are officially located and where additional street lights may be needed;

- 2) That cost estimates showing the following be compiled:
 - a. the additional streets lights, whether they are steel/aluminum poles with lights installed with an underground conductor, and leave the wood poles as is.
 - b. all new steel/aluminum poles with lights installed with underground conductors throughout the whole Ann's Acres neighborhood.
- 3) The deadline for this project would be March 31, 2004 or sooner.

The motion carried with Councilor Prebeg and Nelson voting no.

It was moved by Skalko and supported by Prebeg to reschedule the February 16, 2004 meeting to Wednesday, February 18, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. because of the President's Day holiday. The motion carried.

It was moved by Irish and supported by Roskoski to direct the City Engineer to contact John Thomas, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, to develop plans and specifications to solve the noise and odor problems at the Mountain Iron Wastewater Treatment Plant. After some discussion, Councilor Irish amended his motion to have the City Engineer look into and study the noise and odor problems at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, provide remedies, and develop cost estimates; and further, to not develop plans and specifications with Councilor Roskoski supporting the amendment. The motion carried.

It was moved by Irish and supported by Prebeg to direct the City Engineer to prepare a cost estimate and general layout of the map for information for the ATV Trail System Grant application. The motion carried.

It was moved by Roskoski and supported by Irish to set the Local Board of Review meeting for Tuesday, April 20, 2004 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. The motion carried.

During the open discussion, Councilor Prebeg asked if anyone attended the Range Association of Municipalities and Schools meeting on January 30, 2004. No one on the Council had attended the meeting.

Also during the open discussion, Councilor Irish commented that there were several items that were not on the agenda, i.e. some of the training requests. Councilor Irish also said that there were several City Staff members that were not present to offer input on items on the agenda. He said that he was going to make a motion at the next regular meeting regarding if a City Staff member would be attending the City Council meeting or not, and items would not be discussed until the next regular City Council meeting.

At 9:16 p.m., it was moved by Nelson and supported by Irish that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:



Jill M. Forseen, CMC/MMCA
Municipal Services Secretary

www.mtniron.com

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Lana Anderson, County Assessor's Office, a letter tentatively scheduling the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization for 2004.
2. Minnesota Association of Small Cities Small Cities Update of January 25, 2004.
3. Kathy Sibbel, Minnesota Secretary of State, an email confirming the receipt of a grant application.
4. Minnesota Rural Partners, Inc. and True North, announcement of the 7th Annual Minnesota Rural Summit to be held on August 18-20, 2004 at the Hibbing Community College.
5. Lolita M. Schnitzius, Northeastern MN LMC Ambassador, a letter concerning topics the League will be working, legislatively, on for the City.

Summary By Category And Distribution

Category	Distribution	Amount
MISCELLANEOUS	FAX CHARGES	-
COPIES	COPIES	37.00
UTILITY	UTILITY	101,486.63
LICENSES	ANIMAL	20.00
METER DEPOSITS	ELECTRIC	1,200.00
BUILDING RENTALS	BUILDING RENTAL DEPOSITS	600.00
FINES	CRIMINAL	487.82
MISCELLANEOUS	REIMBURSEMENTS	56,353.83
BUILDING RENTALS	COMMUNITY CENTER	375.00
MISCELLANEOUS	ASSESSMENT SEARCHES	30.00
SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	INTEREST-SP.ASSESS.-BONDS ISSU	4.89
SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	SPECIAL ASSESS.-BOND MONEY	95.11
CHARGE FOR SERVICES	SEWER-CHARGE FOR SERVICES	1,409.95
MISCELLANEOUS	CHARITABLE GAMBLING PROCEEDS	1,194.55
CHARGE FOR SERVICES	ELECTRIC-CHG FOR SERVICES	100.00
CAMPGROUND RECEIPTS	FEES	99.00
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 101	822.71
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 301	846.90
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 376	96.79
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 378	314.57
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 602	169.38
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 603	169.38
MISCELLANEOUS	COCA-COLA RECEIPTS-CITY HALL	87.20
MISCELLANEOUS	MOSES RESTITUTION	100.00
TAXES	BOND LEVY	3,186.05
TAXES	TAXES RECEIVABLE-DELINQUENT	26,065.16
TAXES	SPEC ASSESS-FUND 378-DELINQUEN	1,647.32
TAXES	PENALTIES & INTEREST-378 FUND	303.64
TAXES	TIF #8-INCREMENT COLLECTED	8,098.76
MISCELLANEOUS	REFUNDS/ REIMBURSEMENTS	185.00
Summary Totals:		<u>205,586.64</u>

Check Issue Date(s): 01/24/2004 - 02/06/2004

Per	Date	Check No	Vendor No	Payee	Check GL Acct	Amount
02/04	02/05/2004	29470	10001	ARROWHEAD ECONOMIC OPPORTUNI	002-20200	100.00
02/04	02/05/2004	29471	10021	ARROWHEAD LIBRARY SYSTEM	002-20200	510.00
02/04	02/05/2004	29472	10014	ARROWHEAD REG FIREFIGHTERS'	002-20200	60.00
02/04	02/05/2004	29473	30026	COMO LUBE & SUPPLIES INC	002-20200	83.07
02/04	02/05/2004	29474	40034	DAMBERG SCOTT GERZINA WAGNER	002-20200	300.00
02/04	02/05/2004	29475	40032	DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION	002-20200	306.91
02/04	02/05/2004	29476	40036	DMR ELECTRONICS INC.	002-20200	57.45
02/04	02/05/2004	29477	40011	DVS RENEWAL	002-20200	101.50
02/04	02/05/2004	29478	50016	EDUCATORS PROGRESS SERVICE INC	002-20200	268.40
02/04	02/05/2004	29479	60029	FERGUSON ENTERPRISES INC	002-20200	23.75
02/04	02/05/2004	29480	60028	FIREHOUSE MAGAZINE	002-20200	29.95
02/04	02/05/2004	29481	5007	FORTIS BENEFITS	002-20200	510.40
02/04	02/05/2004	29482	70007	GOVERNMENT TRAINING SERVICE	002-20200	200.00
02/04	02/05/2004	29483	230009	H W WILSON COMPANY	002-20200	153.00
02/04	02/05/2004	29484	80002	HILLYARD	002-20200	488.65
02/04	02/05/2004	29485	2005	KEITH MARSHALL	002-20200	100.00
02/04	02/05/2004	29486	120032	LAKE COUNTRY POWER	002-20200	134.31
02/04	02/05/2004	29487	120039	LEEF SERVICES	002-20200	24.65
02/04	02/05/2004	29488	120035	LENCI ENTERPRISES INC	002-20200	42,786.10
02/04	02/05/2004	29489	120012	LIBRARY STORE	002-20200	139.97
02/04	02/05/2004	29490	120004	LITERARY GUILD	002-20200	12.49
02/04	02/05/2004	29491	130106	MEDIACOM - MIDWEST	002-20200	55.95
02/04	02/05/2004	29492	130041	MESABI BITUMINOUS	002-20200	8,306.22
02/04	02/05/2004	29493	130006	MESABI HUMANE SOCIETY	002-20200	854.87
02/04	02/05/2004	29494	130093	MESABI RANGE COLLEGE	002-20200	1,314.00
02/04	02/05/2004	29495	130115	MIB STUDENT COUNCIL	002-20200	150.00
02/04	02/05/2004	29496	130096	MICROMARKETING ASSOCIATES	002-20200	33.29
02/04	02/05/2004	29497	130009	MINNESOTA POWER	002-20200	60,774.87
02/04	02/05/2004	29498	1012	NORTEMP HEATING & COOLING	002-20200	361.73
02/04	02/05/2004	29499	140011	NORTHEAST TECHNICAL SERVICE	002-20200	486.20
02/04	02/05/2004	29500	140008	NORTRAX EQUIPMENT/POWERPLAN	002-20200	621.35
02/04	02/05/2004	29501	150003	OVERHEAD DOOR	002-20200	66.00
02/04	02/05/2004	29502	170005	QUALITY FLOW SYSTEMS INC	002-20200	72.87
02/04	02/05/2004	29503	170007	QUILL CORPORATION	002-20200	399.65
02/04	02/05/2004	29504	180051	RANGE CORNICE & ROOFING COMPAN	002-20200	605.22
02/04	02/05/2004	29505	180001	RANGE PAPER	002-20200	37.22
02/04	02/05/2004	29506	180045	RESERVE ACCOUNT	002-20200	500.00
02/04	02/05/2004	29507	190049	SCHOLASTIC LIBRARY PUBLISHING	002-20200	368.94
02/04	02/05/2004	29508	190045	SERVICE SOLUTIONS	002-20200	211.94
02/04	02/05/2004	29509	190039	ST LOUIS COUNTY RECORDERS OFFC	002-20200	40.00
02/04	02/05/2004	29510	2004	SUSAN FOUCAULT	002-20200	100.00
02/04	02/05/2004	29511	200003	TACONITE TIRE SERVICE	002-20200	927.27
02/04	02/05/2004	29512	200031	TASTE OF HOME BOOKS	002-20200	47.88
02/04	02/05/2004	29513	200027	TRUE VALUE HOME CENTER	002-20200	48.51
02/04	02/05/2004	29514	210028	U S BANK CORP TRUST SERVICES	002-20200	3,642.50
02/04	02/05/2004	29515	220025	VERIZON WIRELESS, BELLEVUE	002-20200	63.80
02/04	02/05/2004	29516	220014	VIKING INDUSTRIAL NORTH	002-20200	141.02
02/04	02/05/2004	29517	220018	VIKING OFFICE PRODUCTS	002-20200	115.42
02/04	02/05/2004	29518	230022	WELLS FARGO REMITTANCE CENTER	002-20200	456.85
02/04	02/05/2004	29519	230028	WISCONSIN ENERGY CONSERVATION	002-20200	71.17
02/04	02/05/2004	29520	260003	ZEE SERVICE COMPANY	002-20200	37.40
02/04	02/05/2004	29521	260005	ZEP MANUFACTURING COMPANY	002-20200	165.22

Totals:

127,467.96

Payroll-PP Ending 1/30/04
TOTAL EXPENDITURES

50,693.73
\$178,161.69

QUAD CITIES PROCLAMATION "RANGE OF THE ARTS 2004"

WHEREAS, the Laurentian Arts and Culture Alliance (LACA) and the Lyric Center for the Arts, is working in partnership with the Minnesota Ballet to present a series of educational and cultural programs and events showcasing the arts in early spring during "Range of the Arts 2004", March 8-13;

WHEREAS, this signature event will highlight the performing arts and involve all of the arts in concert with related cultural activities throughout the Quad Cities Area and beyond as a regional rural arts initiative;

WHEREAS, the vision for the Lyric Center for the Arts is to serve as a regional home for the arts, we as the respective Mayors of the Quad Cities Area Communities, of Eveleth, Gilbert, Mountain Iron and Virginia do hereby support this collaboration and;

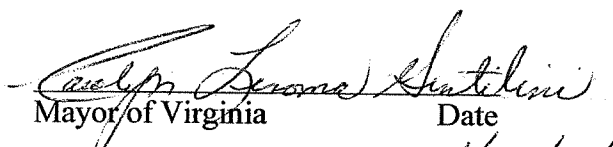
THEREFORE, officially proclaim the week of March 8-13 as "Range of the Arts 2004" encouraging all citizens to participate in this educational, cultural and economic initiative for our area communities.

Mayor of Eveleth Date

Mayor of Gilbert Date



Mayor of Mountain Iron Date
2-2-04



Mayor of Virginia Date
1/12/04

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Great River Energy Bike Festival hosted the Iron Range Road Race and the Mesabi Trail Time Trials for professional bicycle racers in 2003; and,

WHEREAS, these Iron Range events successfully promoted our region and communities to statewide and national audiences; and,

WHEREAS, thousands of spectators from around the state enjoyed exciting professional bicycle racing in on the Iron Range; and,

WHEREAS, the Iron Range Road Race will travel extensively through our community of Mountain Iron, including the historic downtown area and off great spectator viewing for the citizens of Mountain Iron.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Iron City Council hereby welcomes and supports the 2004 Great River Energy Bike Festival and its racers and encourages its citizens and other spectators to attend and enjoy the excitement and glamour of professional bike racing on the Iron Range and in Mountain Iron on June 9-10, 2004.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Mountain Iron assist where appropriate the Minnesota Bike Festival, Inc., and the local organizing committee in operating the race in the City of Mountain Iron.

I, Gary Skalko, Mayor of Mountain Iron, hereby issue this proclamation on behalf of the Mountain Iron City Council and the Citizens of this Community.

Mayor Gary Skalko

Date

Contract for Service

This contract, made and entered into this 2nd day of February, 2004 by and between the Mesabi Humane Society, owner of the Range Animal Center, 2305 Southern Drive, Virginia, Minnesota 55792, hereinafter referred to as the Mesabi Humane Society and the City of Mt. Iron Minnesota.. Hereinafter referred to as the Municipality.

WHEREAS, the Municipality is in need of shelter and care of animals found within the city limits and in need of an animal control program and service; and
WHEREAS, The Humane Society has a facility and is qualified and licensed to provide such care and shelter and animal control services; and
WHEREAS, the Municipality wishes to purchase these services from the Mesabi Humane Society in accordance with this contract;
THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, it is agreed and understood as follows:

I. Term

The term of this contract shall be from February 1, 2004 through January 31, 2005.
to be reviewed for revisions by both parties at three month intervals in order for this animal control service and program to best serve both the Municipality and the Mesabi Humane Society.

II. Basic Services

The Mesabi Humane Society agrees to provide the following services:

1. Shelter and care for animals that are picked up in the limits of the Municipality by the Humane Society Animal Control Officer.
2. Shelter and care for stray/free-roaming animals that are brought to the shelter by residents of the Municipality on a volunteer basis.
3. Pick up and transport animals from the Municipality to the shelter during normal business hours, being 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. upon request of the appropriate Municipality officials.
4. The Animal Control Officer will patrol the Municipality in the Animal Control Officer's identified vehicle at random times during the week to check for and pick up any free-roaming animals within the limits of the Municipality.
5. Animal examinations and veterinary care as required whenever necessary and staff is available.
6. Boarding up to five working days in a holding facility.
7. Euthanasia and disposal if required.
8. Issue license and collect license fees from owners who retrieve animals not previously licensed.
9. Issue license to any animal being adopted by a person living in the Municipality.
10. Keep accurate records of any and all transactions concerning animals from the Municipality.

III. Responsibilities of the Municipality

1. The Municipality shall call the Mesabi Humane Society for pick-up of animal(s) during normal business hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

** If agreed upon, Municipality appointed personnel may bring animal(s) to the shelter after calling to verify that attendants are at the shelter, or after regular business hours if room is available.

YES NO

Signature Mary Pelosa
(Mesabi Humane Society Representative)

Signature Cory Shabo
(Municipality Representative)

2. After normal business hours, the Municipality shall obtain treatment for injured animals that are in life-threatening condition. The Mesabi Humane Society will pick up the animal as soon as possible after being notified.
3. The Municipality shall provide license tags from the city for the shelter to issue. License fees will be the property of the city from which it is issued.

IV. Compensation

The Municipality shall pay the Mesabi Humane Society the follow fee: \$854.87 per month.

V. Compliance with Laws

In providing all services pursuant to this contract, the Mesabi Humane Society shall abide by all statues, ordinances, rules, and regulations pertaining to or regulating the provision of such services, including those now in effect and hereinafter adopted.

VI. Insurance

The Mesabi Humane Society shall purchase, maintain in full force and effect during the term of this contract and provide proof of the following insurance coverage:

- A. WORKERS COMPENSATION: Coverage at statutory limits as provided by the State of Minnesota.
- B. COMPREHENSIVE GENERAL LIABILITY: Coverage shall have minimum limits to \$600,000 per occurrence, combined single limit for Bodily Injury Liability and Property Damage Liability.

VII. Early Termination of Contract

Either party upon thirty (30) days written notice, delivered by mail or in person, to the other party may terminate this contract. For purposes of such notice and the addresses of the Mesabi Humane Society and the Municipality are as follows:

Mesabi Humane Society/Range Animal Center
2305 Southern Drive
Virginia, Minnesota 55792

City of Mt. Iron
8586 Enterprise Drive South
Mt. Iron, MN 55768

VIII. Modifications

Any material alterations, modifications, or variations of the terms of this contract shall be valid and enforceable only when they have been reduced to writing as an amendment and signed by both or all parties involved.

IX. Entire Agreement

It is understood and agreed by the parties that the entire agreement of the parties is contained herein and that the contract supersedes all oral agreements and negotiations between the parties relating to the subject matter hereof as well as any previous agreements presently in effect between the Mesabi Humane Society and the Municipality. The parties hereto revoke any prior oral or written agreements between themselves and agree that this contract is the only and complete agreement regarding the subject thereof.

MESABI HUMANE SOCIETY

By: Mary Releida
(signature)

Title: Executive Director

MUNICIPALITY OF: Mountain Iron

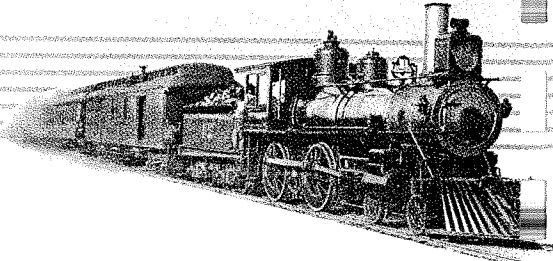
By: Coy Shultz
(signature)

Title: Mayor

By: [Signature]
(signature)

Title: City Administrator

St. Louis & Lake Counties
REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY



February 11, 2004

Mr. Craig Wainio
City Administrator
City of Mt. Iron
8586 Enterprise Drive
Mt. Iron, MN 55768-8260

Dear Craig:

The St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority (RRA) approved sale of abandon railroad corridor within Section 12 to the City of Mt. Iron.

RRA would like to sell all lands within Section 12 and includes the abandon rail corridor within the SW-NW, SE-NW and SW-NE as seen on attached map. Total length is approximately 4,400 feet containing 10 acres.

As suggested in your letter of December 31, 2003, RRA approved an amount of \$500 per acre or \$5,000 for the entire corridor with the city paying associated legal and recording fees.

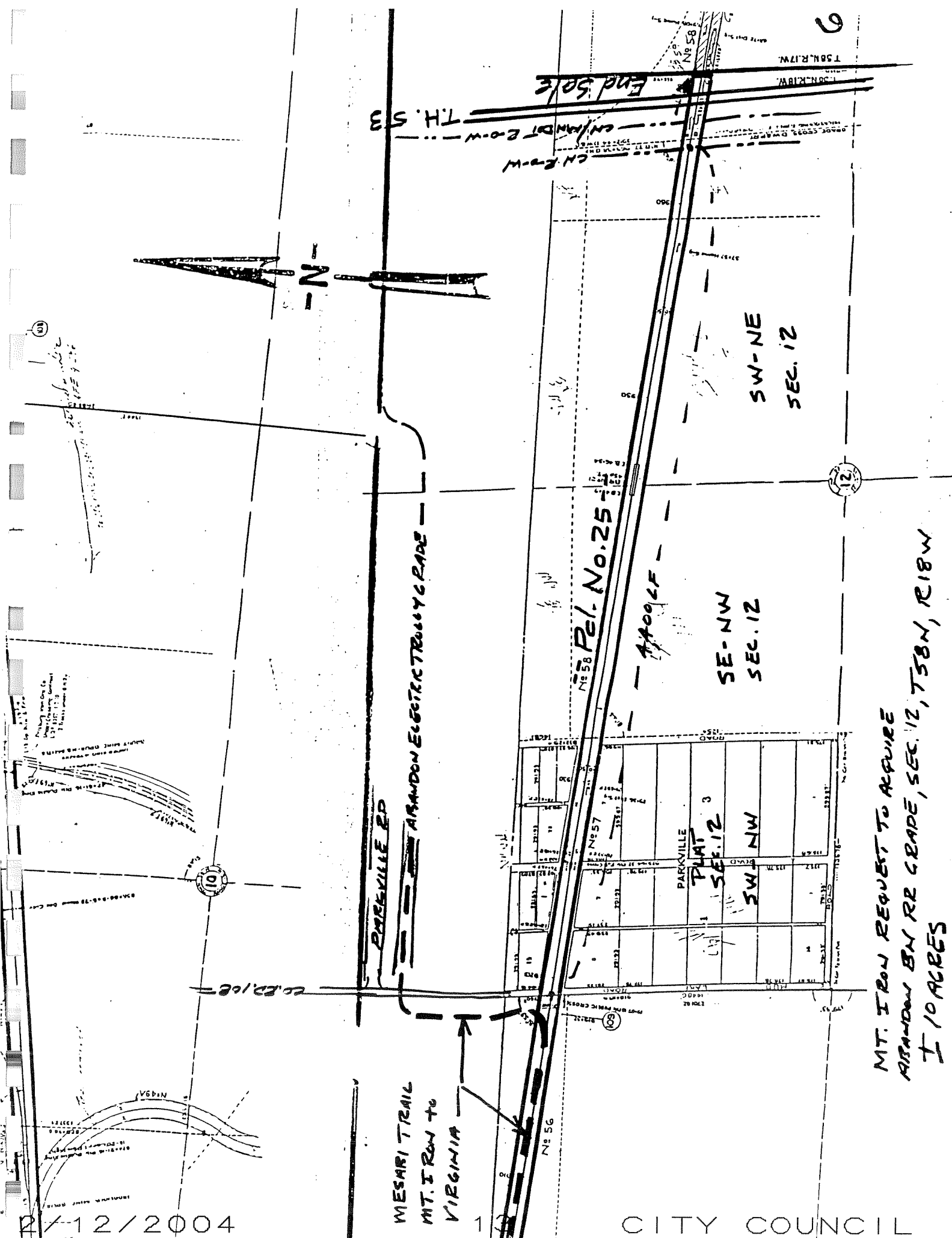
St. Louis County Commissioner Keith Nelson would like to attend the February 18, 2004 City Council meeting to further discuss this sale. I would appreciate your placing Mr. Nelson and myself on the council's agenda for that evening, thank you.

Sincerely,

Robert Manzoline
Director

cc: Commissioner Keith Nelson

2/12/2004



MESARI TRAIL
 MT. IRON TO
 VIRGINIA

PARKVILLE RD
 ARANDON ELECTRIC TRUSSY GRADE

Plat No. 25

SE-NW
 SEC. 12

SW-NE
 SEC. 12

PARKVILLE
 PLAT
 SEC. 12
 SW NW

MT. IRON REQUEST TO ACQUIRE
 ARANDON BN RR GRADE, SEC. 12, T58N, R18W
 10 ACRES

CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL LETTER 021804-IVA1

MAYOR SKALKO

EDA/HRA PROPOSAL

DATE: February 11, 2004

FROM: Mayor Skalko

Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

Background Information: Resolutions as drafted by the City Attorney are enclosed in your packet.

Staff Note: The HRA started reviewing the proposal at their February 10th meeting. They have requested some additional information from Staff and will be further considering the proposal at their next meeting.

THE TRENTI LAW FIRM

ATTORNEYS

Sam A. Aluni
Paul D. Cerkvenik
Joseph Lyons-Leoni*+
Scott C. Neff ++
J. Carver Richards
Patrick J. Roche*
Robert H. Stephenson

225 First Street North
Suite 1000
P.O. Box 958
Virginia, MN 55792
(218) 749-1962
FAX (218) 749-4308
E-mail trenti@trentilaw.com

RETIRED

Vernon D. Saxhaug
John A. Trenti

LEGAL ASSISTANTS

Helen Marsh
Barbara Shosten
Donna M. Leritz
Kristen M. Hennis
Sharon K. Fredrickson

December 11, 2003

HAND DELIVERED

Mountain Iron City Council
8586 Enterprise Drive South
Mountain Iron, MN 55768

RE: Mountain Iron Economic Development Authority
Our File No. 55,345-1

Dear Members of the Council:

Enclosed herewith pursuant to your direction please find the following items:

1. Proposed Resolution Enabling the Creation of an Economic Development Authority in the City of Mountain Iron.
2. Proposed Resolution Dissolving the Mountain Iron Housing and Redevelopment Authority.

These documents are to be reviewed for council input and with a view toward ultimate implementation of these Resolutions.

A third document which will need to be adopted is a set of Bylaws for the new Mountain Iron Economic Development Authority. These Bylaws will be prepared by our office in due course as part of the operative documents for the new authority.

It would be our recommendation that in addition to the above documents that the HRA Executive Director prepare a summary of the assets, liabilities, existing projects and obligations of the current Mountain Iron HRA in order that the transfer of assets, rights, obligations and debts of the existing entity are specifically identified and understood by all interested parties.

+Civil Trial Specialist Certified by the National Board Trial Advocacy

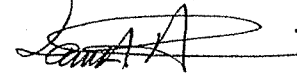
++Real Property Law Specialist Certified by Minnesota State Bar Association

*Civil Trial Specialist Certified by the Minnesota State Bar Association

THE TRENTI LAW FIRM
Mountain Iron City Council
Page 2
December 11, 2003

We look forward to further discussion regarding this important matter at the December 15, 2003 council meeting.

Very truly yours,



SAM A. ALUNI

SAA:skf
Encs.

CITY OF MOUNTAIN IRON
ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MINNESOTA

COPY

RESOLUTION ENABLING THE CREATION OF
AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
IN THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN IRON

RESOLUTION NO. _____

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Mountain Iron, Minnesota as follows:

Section 1. Findings.

1.01 The City of Mountain Iron (the "City") is authorized generally by Minnesota Statutes Chapter 469 ("the Act") and specifically by Minnesota Statutes §469.091 to establish an Economic Development Authority pursuant to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes §469.090 to §469.108.

1.02 The City desires to encourage, attract, promote and develop economically sound industry and commerce within the City for the prevention and reduction of unemployment of its citizens.

1.03 The encouragement and financial support of economic development and redevelopment within the City is vital to the orderly development and financial health of the city, and is in the best interests of the health, safety, prosperity and welfare of the citizens of the city.

1.04 The City Council finds the accomplishment of the foregoing purposes and ends which are in the best interests of and vital to the citizens of the City can be best accomplished by the creation of an Economic Development Authority ("EDA") pursuant to the Act.

1.05 The City Council has, in accordance with Minn. Stat. §469.093, provided public notice and conducted a public hearing on _____, 2004 concerning the establishment of an EDA for the City, at which hearing all persons wishing to express their views were given an opportunity to be heard on the proposal to establish an EDA.

Section 2. Enabling Resolution.

2.01 Creation. The Economic Development Authority of the City of Mt. Iron ("the Authority") is hereby created and established, and hereafter it shall be known as the "Mt. Iron Economic Development Authority."

2.02 Members; Appointment; Terms. The Authority shall consist of five members who shall be appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council. Those persons initially appointed shall be appointed for terms of one, two, three, four, and five years, respectively. Thereafter, all members shall be appointed for six-year terms. At all times, two members of the Authority shall be members of the City Council. One of the members of the Authority shall also be a member of the City Planning and Zoning Board. The term of any member of the Authority who is a City Councilor shall not extend beyond that member's term of office as a member of the City Council, and a vacancy in the membership of the Authority shall automatically arise and exist when the elected term of office of a City Council member of the Authority ends, or when such person dies, resigns, or is removed from the office of City Councilor.

2.03 Powers and Duties of the Authority. Except as specifically limited by this Resolution, the Authority shall have all of the powers, authority, responsibilities, and duties set forth in the Act, as it may be amended from time to time, and all other applicable laws, including but not limited to the following powers, authority, responsibilities, and duties:

- (a) The powers and duties of a Housing and Redevelopment Authority pursuant to §469.001 to §469.047 of the Act;
- (b) The powers and duties of a City Council under §469.124 to §469.134, subject to the limitation set forth in Section 1.04(g);
- (c) The authority may contract for services of consultants, agents, public accountants, and other persons needed to perform its duties and exercise its powers.
- (d) The Authority may use the services of the City Attorney for its legal needs.
- (e) The Authority may purchase the supplies and materials it needs to carry out its duties.
- (f) The Authority may create and define the boundaries of economic development districts as authorized by the Act.
- (g) The Authority may be a limited partner in a partnership whose purpose is consistent with the Authority's purpose.
- (h) The Authority may issue general obligation bonds and revenue bonds when authorized by the City Council and pledge as security for the bonds the full faith, credit, and resources of the City or such revenues as may be generated by projects undertaken by the Authority.

- (i) The Authority may cooperate with or act as agent for the federal or state government or a state public body, or an agency or instrumentality of a government or other public body to carry out the powers granted it by the Act of any other related federal, state or local law in the area of economic development district improvement.
- (j) The Authority may study and analyze community development needs in the City and ways to meet those needs.
- (k) The Authority may join an official, industrial, commercial, or trade association, or other organization concerned with such purposes, hold receptions of officials who may contribute to advancing the City and its community development, and carry out other appropriate public relations activities to promote the City and its community development.
- (l) The Authority may carry out the law on economic development districts to develop and improve the lands in an economic development district to make it suitable and available for community development uses and purposes. In general, with respect to an economic development district, the Authority may use all of the powers given an economic development authority by law. (By means of example and not to limit the powers given to the Authority by law, see those powers listed at MSA 469.101).

2.04 Limitations of Power. The power and actions of the Authority shall be limited as follows:

- (a) Except when previously pledged by the Authority, the city council may by resolution require the authority to transfer any portion of the reserves generated by activities of the Authority that the city council determines is not necessary for the successful operation of the Authority to the debt service fund of the city, to be used solely to reduce tax levies for bonded indebtedness of the city;
- (b) The sale of all bonds or obligations issued by the Authority must be approved by the city council before issuance;
- (c) The authority must follow the budget process for city departments as provided by the city and as implemented by the city council and mayor;
- (d) All official actions of the authority must be consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan of the city, and any official controls implementing the comprehensive plan;
- (e) The Authority must submit all planned activities for influencing the action of any other governmental agency, subdivision, or body to the city council for approval;

- (f) The authority must submit its administrative structure and management practices to the city council for approval;
- (g) The Authority may not exercise any specific powers contained in §469.124 to §469.134 without the prior express approval of the City Council;
- (h) The Authority may not, formally or informally, offer or promise any incentives, package of incentives, funding, infrastructure, land (whether by sale or gift), or other development assistance to any person, business, developer, or entity without the prior express approval of such action by the City Council;
- (i) The Authority must develop annual goals and plans for development and redevelopment within the City and shall submit those plans to the City Council for its review and approval, and any substantial additions or variations from the annual development plans approved by the Council must be timely submitted to the Council for review and approval;
- (j) The Authority shall propose and adopt bylaws to govern its procedures, which bylaws and any amendments thereto which might be adopted from time to time by the Authority, must be approved by the City Council before they shall be effective.
- (k) Except as expressly otherwise approved by the City Council, the City's administrative, managerial, and personnel practices, rules, and policies shall apply to the Authority and its employees.

2.05 No Impairment of Existing Obligations. As provided for in §469.092, nothing herein nor any activities of the Authority shall be construed to impair the existing obligations of the City or its Housing and Redevelopment Authority under any of their contracts or to affect in any detrimental manner the rights and privileges of a holder of a bond or other obligation heretofore issued by the City or its Housing and Redevelopment Authority.

2.06 Obligations. The Authority must fulfill all of the obligations set forth at §469.100 of the Act.

Section 3. Implementation.

- 3.01 Officers Authorized to Act. The Mayor, City Council, City Administrator, and other appropriate City officials are authorized and directed to take the actions and execute and deliver the documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution.
- 3.02 Reservation of Authority to Amend. The City Council reserves the authority to adopt such ordinances and further resolutions as are required or may permitted by the Act to give full effect to this resolution, and to modify this resolution (and the authority granted and limitations set forth herein) as it may from time to time deem appropriate or necessary. Nothing herein is intended or shall be construed to prevent the City Council from modifying this enabling resolution to impose new or different limitations upon the Authority as authorized by the Act or to grant additional powers to the Authority as authorized by the Act.
- 3.03 Severability. If any section, subsection, or part of this Resolution shall be held unconstitutional or void, the remaining provisions shall nonetheless remain in full force and effect.
- 3.04 Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Mt. Iron, Minnesota, this _____ day of _____, 2004.

CITY OF MT. IRON

Gary Skalko, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
City Clerk/City Administrator

CITY OF MOUNTAIN IRON
ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MINNESOTA

COPY

RESOLUTION DISSOLVING THE MT. IRON
HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION NO. _____

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Mountain Iron, Minnesota as follows:

Section 1. Findings.

1.01 The City of Mountain Iron (the "City") is authorized generally by Minnesota Statutes Chapter 469 ("the Act") and specifically by Minnesota Statutes §469.091 to establish an Economic Development Authority pursuant to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes §469.090 to §469.108.

1.02 The powers and authority of an Economic Development Authority under the Act may include all of the powers and authority of Housing and Redevelopment Agency.

1.03 The City finds that economic development and redevelopment within the City can be best promoted by a single unified development authority that has all of the powers and authority of an Economic Development Authority.

1.04 The City Council did, on the _____ day of _____, 2004, establish the Mt. Iron Economic Development Authority pursuant to the Act, and did grant the Mt. Iron Economic Development Authority all of the powers, authority, and duties of a Housing and Redevelopment Authority.

1.05 The City Council finds that with the establishment of the Mt. Iron Economic Development Authority, the purpose and need for a separate Housing and Redevelopment Authority of the city of Mt. Iron (the "Mt. Iron HRA") no longer exists.

1.06 The City Council has, in accordance with Minn. Stat. §469.093, provide public notice and conducted a public hearing on _____, 2004 concerning the establishment of and Economic Development Authority for the City, at which hearing all persons wishing to express their views were given an opportunity to be heard on the proposal to establish an Economic Development Authority, and on this proposed resolution to dissolve the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of Mt. Iron.

Section 2. Transfer and Dissolution.

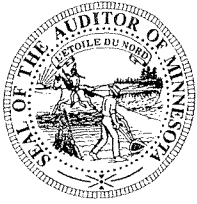
2.01 Transfer of Authority. Pursuant to §469.094 of the Act, City does hereby transfer to the Mt. Iron Economic Development Authority all activities, programs, operations, and authority of the Mt. Iron HRA, including the transfer of control, authority, and operation of any project or development of the Mt. Iron HRA within the City. The Mt. Iron Economic Development Authority shall accept the control, authority, and operation of all projects, programs, or activities of the Mt. Iron HRA.

2.02 Transfer of Assets and Employees. All property, records, assets, cash or other funds held or used by the Mt. Iron HRA shall be transferred to and become the property of the Mt. Iron Economic Development Authority. All employees of the Mt. Iron HRA shall be transferred to the authority, supervision, and control of the Mt. Iron Economic Development Authority.

2.03 Transfer of Rights, Obligations and Debts. All rights of the Mt. Iron HRA, whether contractual or of any other kind or character, against any person, firm, or corporation shall accrue to and be enforced by the Mt. Iron Economic Development Authority. Upon dissolution, any and all obligations, debts, or liabilities of the Mt. Iron HRA shall be the obligation, debt, or liability of the Mt. Iron Economic Development Authority.

2.04 Covenant of Mt. Iron Economic Development Authority. The Mt. Iron Economic Development Authority shall and does hereby covenant and pledge to perform the terms, conditions, and covenants of any bond indentures or other agreements executed for the security of bonds issues by the Mt. Iron HRA. Notwithstanding any other provision of this resolution or any other resolution or ordinance of the City, the Mt. Iron Economic Development Authority exercise all of the powers necessary to perform the terms, conditions, and covenants of any indenture or other agreement executed for the security of bonds and shall become obligated on any such bonds by reason of the transfers provided in Section 2.01 of this resolution.

2.05 Dissolution. Pursuant to the authority granted to the city in §469.03, subd. 7, the Mt. Iron Housing and Redevelopment Authority is hereby dissolved.



PATRICIA ANDERSON
STATE AUDITOR

STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

SUITE 500
525 PARK STREET
SAINT PAUL, MN 55103-2139

(651) 296-2551 (Voice)
(651) 296-4755 (Fax)
state.auditor@state.mn.us (E-mail)
1-800-627-3529 (Relay Service)

**For Immediate Release:
Friday, February 6, 2004**

**Contact: Jonathan Papik
(651) 296-5891**

State Auditor Patricia Anderson Commends 53 Minnesota Cities on Fund Balances *Auditor Praises Sound Fiscal Management*

(Saint Paul) –State Auditor Patricia Anderson commended the fiscal management of 53 Minnesota cities last week in letters sent to the cities’ mayors. The commendation is in light of a recent report completed by the Auditor’s office on the revenues, expenditures and debt of all Minnesota cities.

“It is my job as State Auditor to hold local governments accountable as a fiscal watchdog for the taxpayers of Minnesota,” said Anderson. **“Occasionally this means drawing attention to questionable fiscal policies at the local level. Another part of the job is applauding cities that are doing things right. Fortunately, it appears several cities are doing things right.”**

An important measure of fiscal health is the percentage of funds a city maintains in its unreserved fund balance. Unreserved fund balances are essentially savings accounts held by cities in order to cover expenditures incurred in the first part of the year before revenue is received. The Auditor’s Office considers acceptable fund balances to be those between 35 and 50 percent of a city’s yearly expenditures.

“The Mayor, Council and staff of these 53 cities should be praised for keeping an appropriate fund balance,” said Anderson. **“An appropriate fund balance will provide the resources the city must have to meet potential fiscal needs while not amassing unnecessary taxpayer funds.”**

The following 53 Minnesota cities received letters of commendation for having fund balances that met the Auditor’s standard.

- | | | | | |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Alexandria | Deer River | Kasota | Mountain Iron | Richfield |
| Austin | Eagle Lake | Kerkhoven | Nevis | Rochester |
| Backus | Eden Valley | La Crescent | New Ulm | Sartell |
| Benson | Ely | Lanesboro | North Branch | Savage |
| Biwabik | Farmington | Luverne | North Mankato | Shoreview |
| Brewster | Gilbert | Maple Grove | Ortonville | Stillwater |
| Burnsville | Hanover | Maplewood | Parkers Prairie | Tracy |
| Columbia | Hayfield | Minnetonka | Pillager | Victoria |
| Heights | Hibbing | Montevideo | Plymouth | White Bear Lake |
| Crookston | Houston | Moorhead | Proctor | Worthington |
| Dayton | Hutchinson | Morris | Redwood Falls | |

(MORE)

The Rochester Post-Bulletin editorial page recently praised the recognized cities in their coverage area. **“These area communities are examples of how, in this specific but important category, public money should be managed,”** the Post-Bulletin commented. **“Rochester, Austin and the other area cities that made Anderson's list are to be congratulated for their efforts. This small example indicates that city government in those communities is well run.”**

Statewide, 193 cities in Minnesota had fund balances that amounted to over 100 percent of their yearly expenditures, while 39 Minnesota cities had fund balances under 20 percent of their yearly expenditures. Holding too much money in a fund balance is unnecessary; holding too little money limits the city's ability to weather difficult fiscal times.

A PDF copy of the report on the revenues, expenditures and debt of all Minnesota cities is available at <http://www.auditor.state.mn.us>.

###

COUNCIL LETTER 021804-IVD1
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

DATE: February 11, 2004

FROM: Parks and Recreation Board

Larry Nanti
Director of Parks & Recreation

Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

The Mountain Iron Parks and Recreation Board would like to request the following:

- 1) In the matter of the inner South Grove Park – that any future discussions concerning this park at the Council level be first brought to the Parks & Recreation Board.
- 2) The Downtown Park – the Parks & Recreation Board would like the City Council to pursue written permission from the MIB School District before any work is started, as they own this property.
- 3) The Board voted to support the proposed ATV Trail system in the Parkville area.

MINUTES
SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m. with the following members present: Larry Nanti, Director of Parks and Recreation, Jill Forseen, Municipal Services Secretary, Gerald Claesson, Foreman and Judy Seurer, Accounting Technician.

It was moved by Forseen and supported by Claesson to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2003 meeting. The motion carried.

The MSDS management services proposal from Damarco Solutions, LLC was discussed.

It was moved by Nanti and supported by Seurer to have Damarco Solutions, LLC send a proposed contract for their services to the city for the City Council to review. The motion carried.

The Committee reviewed the safety training schedules submitted by the MMUA representative and Minnesota Power. It was the consensus of the Committee to have Claesson and Nanti contact the two representatives and have them come to the next meeting to finalize the 2004 training schedules. It was also noted that the MMUA representative did no training on February 2nd or 3rd and also has not done any training for the fire department as was expected.

The MED Compass annual hearing tests were discussed. Nanti will call for the company's 2004 schedule and costs for the tests.

It was moved by Seurer and supported by Forseen to recommend approval of the 2004 safety training contract with Minnesota Power to the City Council. The motion carried.

At 2:02 p.m., it was moved by Forseen and supported by Claesson to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.

AGREEMENT FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

This Agreement is made this 2nd day of January, 2004, by and between Minnesota Power & Light Company, a Minnesota corporation (hereinafter called the "Provider"), and Mountain Iron Public Works, (hereinafter called the "Customer"), such parties hereinafter referred to individually as "Party" or collectively as "Parties."

Witnesseth:

WHEREAS, Provider, through its designated employees, have agreed to provide assistance to its customers in various areas in which Provider is familiar, and

WHEREAS, Customer desires to partake of Provider's assistance in those areas,

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the promises and covenants contained herein, the Parties agree as follows:

1. Provider will provide assistance to Customer relating to those areas and limited to those services more particularly described in Exhibit A attached hereto.
2. Services will be rendered for a period of twelve months commencing as of January 30, 2005, and continuing until the service has been fully delivered to Customer.
3. Customer shall be responsible for supplying the location as well as any necessary tools or equipment requested by Provider for the purpose of delivering these services.
4. Provider shall be paid pursuant to the payment schedule attached hereto as Exhibit B. Payment shall be due upon commencement of the services, with any adjustment, in the event services are more expensive or of longer duration than first anticipated, due within 10 days of the completion of the services.
5. It is acknowledged and agreed by Customer that Provider and its employees are only providing a service to Customer and that Provider accepts no responsibility for a Customer's compliance or non-compliance to any law or regulation.
6. It is acknowledged by Customer that laws change periodically and can be interpreted differently by various law enforcement agencies. The information presented to the Customer by Provider will be as accurate and timely as possible; however, it is expressly agreed that Provider makes no affirmative representation as to the applicability of any information to any particular situation nor is Provider to be seen as rendering legal advice.

7. The Customer shall defend, indemnify and hold Provider harmless from any and all claims due to the provision of these services. Further, Customer shall hold Provider and its employees harmless for any omissions and errors committed in the representation of the law or in the representation of any other items or information provided pursuant to this Agreement.
8. Customer recognizes and agrees that participants in the services provided under this Agreement shall be employees of the Customer or other related entities, and that Customer will not engage in any commercial activity in relation to the provision of these services.

In witness thereof, the Parties have caused this Agreement to be duly executed by their authorized representatives as of the day and year first written above.

MINNESOTA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

By: Shag Rindal

Its: Manager, Safety and Industrial Hygiene

CUSTOMER

By: _____

Its: _____

Annual Cost of Services

One Safety Specialist	30 hours @ \$82.95 / hour
Safety Services and Training Total (12 months)	\$2,488.50

(total includes personal expenses, vehicle mileage, training materials, employee safety training documentation, and Bucket Truck Boom Voltage Testing)

COUNCIL LETTER 021804-VA

PUBLIC WORKS

MESABI TRAIL UPDATE

DATE: February 11, 2004

FROM: Don Kleinschmidt
Director of Public Works

Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

On February 10th, 2004, at 4:00 p.m., a meeting was held to discuss some changes on the proposed plan for the Mesabi Trail. Those in attendance were Councilor Roskoski, Councilor Irish along with Don Kleinschmidt, Eric Falstrom and Bob Manzoline.

Mr. Falstrom and Mr. Manzoline addressed questions and concerns raised by Councilor Roskoski and Councilor Irish. These Mesabi Trail plans, with the possible changes, are finalized and ready for the City Council approval.

COUNCIL LETTER 021804-VB

CITY COUNCIL

MINELAND RECLAMATION

DATE: February 11, 2004

FROM: City Council

Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

At the previous meeting the City Council requested possible projects to apply for mineland reclamation funding. Based upon Council and Staff input, here is a list of potential projects:

- ATV Trail
- Dump Site Investigation and Clean-up
- Locomotive Park improvements
- Sliding Hill
- Campground Improvements

COUNCIL LETTER 021804-VC

COUNCILOR ROSKOSKI

WACOOTAH OVERLOOK PROGRESS

DATE: February 11, 2004

FROM: Councilor Roskoski

Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

Councilor Roskoski requested this item be placed on the agenda. No further background information was provided.

COUNCIL LETTER 021804-VD

COUNCILOR ROSKOSKI

SUMP PUMP LETTER

DATE: February 11, 2004

FROM: Councilor Roskoski

Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

Councilor Roskoski requested this item be placed on the agenda. No further background information was provided.

COUNCIL LETTER 021804-VIA

ADMINISTRATION

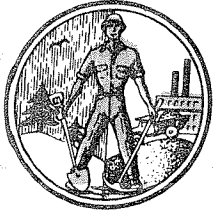
RESOLUTION 03-04

DATE: February 11, 2004

FROM: Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

Resolution Number 03-04 approves the new precinct boundaries for the election precinct for the City of Mountain Iron. The precinct boundaries needed to be updated in order to incorporate the area to the north that was recently annexed. There are no changes to the boundaries within the former City limits, only the area annexed.

It is recommended that the City Council adopt Resolution Number 03-04 Establishing Voting Precincts.



CITY OF MOUNTAIN IRON

"TACONITE CAPITAL OF THE WORLD"

PHONE: 218-748-7570 • FAX: 218-748-7573 • www.mtniron.com
8586 ENTERPRISE DRIVE SOUTH • MOUNTAIN IRON, MN • 55768-8260

RESOLUTION NUMBER 03-04

ESTABLISHING VOTING PRECINCTS

WHEREAS, the City of Mountain Iron, Minnesota (the "City"), is divided into two election precincts; and,

WHEREAS, the City has annexed the north half of Township 59 Range 18 West that shall be incorporated into the City's current precinct system; and,

WHEREAS, the City has caused new precinct boundaries to be developed which includes the north half of Township 59 Range 18 West; and,

WHEREAS, a new precinct boundary map is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated into this Resolution as if fully set forth herein.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MOUNTAIN IRON CITY COUNCIL, that the City of Mountain Iron fully adopts the attached Exhibit A Precinct Boundary Map and designates the precincts identified in that map as the official precincts in and for the City of Mountain Iron.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE MOUNTAIN IRON CITY COUNCIL, that the City shall forward this Resolution and the official precinct boundary map to the Minnesota Secretary of State and the St. Louis County Auditor.

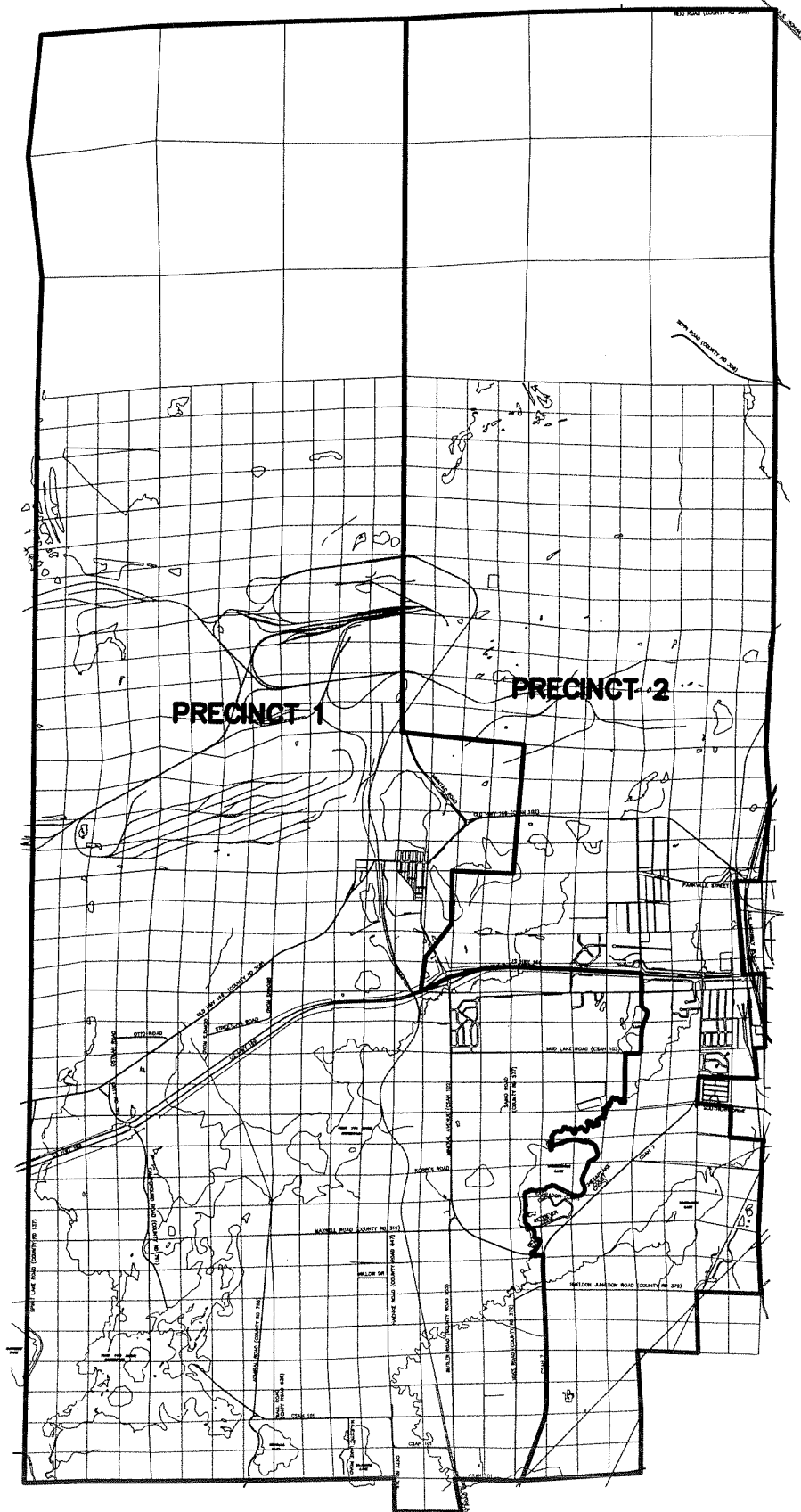
DULY ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THIS 18TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2004.

Mayor Gary Skalko

ATTEST:

City Administrator

**CITY OF MOUNTAIN IRON, MINNESOTA
PRECINCT MAP**



SHEET NO.
1
OF
1

PRECINCT MAP
CITY OF MOUNTAIN IRON, MINNESOTA

GENERAL LOCATION

DATE REVISIONS DESCRIPTION

DATE	REVISIONS	DESCRIPTION

Benchmark
ENGINEERING, INC.
CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING • LAND SURVEYING
SURVEYING • CAD • DIGITAL SCANNING
8578 Main Street • Post Office Box 201
Mountain Iron, Minnesota 55761
Phone: 820-23-5414
Fax: 820-23-5415
http://www.benchmarkinc.com

2 / 12 / 2004

37

CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL LETTER 021804-VIB

COUNCILOR IRISH

PUBLIC OFFICIALS ABSENTEEISM

DATE: February 11, 2004

FROM: Dale Irish
City Councilor

Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

If any of the following public officials are going to be absent from scheduled City Council meetings, they will notify the City Administrator and the Council will be informed in the City Council Agenda Packet prior to that meeting unless it is an emergency.

- 1) City Administrator
- 2) Director of Public Works
- 3) Director of Parks & Recreation
- 4) City Engineer
- 5) St. Louis County Sheriff – Sergeant
- 6) City Attorney

Further, at the request of any Council member to the City Administrator, a suitable substitute will be available and attend the meeting in their place when participation is needed for related items that are on the agenda.

COUNCIL LETTER 021804-VIC

COUNCILOR IRISH

FUNERAL PROCESSION ASSISTANCE

DATE: February 11, 2004

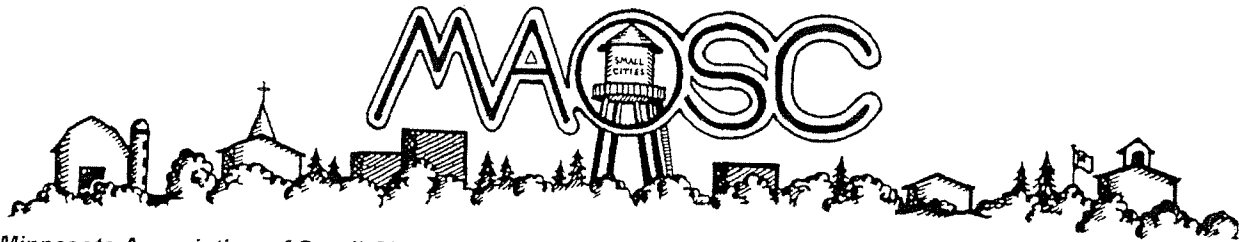
FROM: Dale Irish
City Councilor

Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

During funeral processions, from the Mountain Iron churches to the Virginia Cemetery, our Sheriff's Department will assist in traffic control especially at the crossing of State Highway 53 and 169/#7 intersection.

COMMUNICATIONS
FEBRUARY 18, 2004

1. Minnesota Association of Small Cities, forwarding a copy of a letter that was sent to the Senators and Representatives.
2. League of Minnesota Cities, forwarding the Friday Fax.
3. Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Agency, forwarding the updated Financial Resources Guide book to the City.
4. James McConnell, General Manager of U. S. Steel Corporation, a copy of a letter sent to Commissioner Nelson regarding future mining in the Parkville area.
5. Bruce Pomerantz, an e-mail forwarding information on agencies that could act as honest brokers on the library issues.



Minnesota Association of Small Cities
Katherine Fenrich, Associate Director
25770 CSAH #1
Litchfield, MN 55355

320-693-1283 (phone)
320-693-1284 (fax)
maosc@mchsi.com
www.maosc.org

February 5, 2004

City of Mountain Iron
8586 S. Enterprise Dr.
Mountain Iron, MN 55768

Dear City Official:

Another legislative session has begun, and it promises to be a challenging year for those of us with a vested interest in the small cities across Minnesota.

In order to make an impact on our Senators and Representatives, the Presidents of the *Minnesota Association of Small Cities*, (MAOSC), and the *Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities*, (CGMC), have sent the enclosed letter to each and every Legislator asking for their support. Please familiarize yourself with the issues outlined in the letter, and speak to your Legislators regarding the importance of sponsoring and/or supporting Bills that would offer fairness to the budget cuts across our State.

Your Senator is David Tomassoni, 651-296-8017, and your Representative is, Tom Rukavina, 651-296-0170. Call them and stress the importance of these issues and what they mean for your residents. Hopefully, together we can make a significant impact on the results of this legislative session.

Thanks to the Council, Staff and residents of Mountain Iron for your continued support.

Sincerely,

MAOSC Staff and Board of Directors

Dear Senator & Representative:

As presidents of the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities (CGMC) and the Minnesota Association of Small Cities (MAOSC), we would like to welcome you back to the Capitol and provide you with a preview of our combined goals for the 2004 legislative session.

Last year, the 72 member cities of CGMC and the 368 member cities of MAOSC shouldered more than their share of the burden of helping to balance the state's budget. With your help and the help of other legislators representing these cities, we hope to add fairness to the budget cuts imposed last year and to pass additional legislation that will assist our cities in sustaining and enhancing their viability in these difficult financial times.

We have attached a list of the major pieces of legislation we would like to see passed this session. We understand that some rural legislators will not be able to back all of our positions, but we hope you will support and possibly co-author many of these bills. We are looking forward to working with you to move our agenda forward.

Our top priority is to pass the "LGA Fairness Bill." As you know, we believe the Local Government Aid (LGA) cuts were excessive, unbalanced and unfair. After seeing the results of the 2003 tax bill, we hope you will agree that adjustments must be made to bring more equity to the property tax system. Our bill is a step in that direction. It restores \$60 million of the \$150 million in 2004 LGA cuts. This continues and improves reform of the LGA system by moving closer to fully funding the new, needs-based formula without requiring a new state tax.

Another concern involves economic development. We appreciate the fact that the JOBZ bill passed last session, but we believe that there is more to economic development than tax incentives. Our cities will not be able to attract jobs without the infrastructure needed to accommodate business expansion and growth, which is why we hope you will support our bonding bill providing \$25 million for business development infrastructure grants. We are also seeking \$10 million in the bonding bill for redevelopments grants. The Business Development Infrastructure program is a proven success, since the \$7.5 million passed in last year's bonding bill has already been used, and used wisely, to help stimulate growth in some of our communities.

A third component of our economic development package would provide a 25 percent tax credit to investors in regional angel investment network funds located in Greater Minnesota. This legislation was introduced last session and passed in both the House and the Senate. However, it got lost in the last minute flurry of the special session and was not included in the global agreement cobbled together by House and Senate leadership and the Administration.

Clean water issues are near the top of the Governor's agenda, and the same is true for our organizations. New federal and state mandates will require cities to take part in the costly process of cleaning polluted waters. We want to make sure that these mandates are based on good science and that the cost is shared between state and local governments so that cities aren't left alone to do the heavy lifting. This is critical, because point sources, including city wastewater plants, contribute to only 14 percent of the cause of endangered waterways. We believe that all residents of the state, not just those who live in cities, should help foot the tab for cleaning our lakes and rivers. In addition, we will be seeking legislation that requires a public notice and approval process that gives our communities the opportunity to challenge mandates that are not based on good science.

Besides dealing with new mandates, many of our communities continue to struggle with the cost of dealing with existing wastewater requirements. For that reason, we support and are seeking funding in the bonding bill for the Wastewater Infrastructure Fund (WIF) grant program and the State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan program.

These clean water issues have a direct tie-in to the last issue on our combined legislative agenda: annexation. Most of the explosive growth outside our cities has taken place on large lots with individual septic systems that are costly to retrofit and are one of the causes of impaired waters in the state. This growth has strained relationships between townships and cities. Legislation is proposed on an annual basis to either tighten or ease restrictions on annexation.

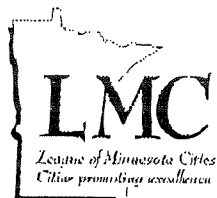
The same is true this session. Although city and township organizations are working together to find points of agreement, we expect a big push on the part of the townships to pass legislation that will greatly hinder the ability of cities to expand their borders. We, in turn, will be seeking support for bills that allow cities to develop and grow, providing for better economic development, more efficient delivery of services and better preservation of farm land and the environment. We know this is a difficult issue for rural legislators, but we hope that you will give our proposals serious consideration. We ask that you make your decisions only after you hear all sides of the issue and consider the economic and ecological impacts the various proposals will have on the state.

We, along with our lobbyists and other city officials belonging to our organizations, look forward to working with you this session. We hope to meet with you to explain our agenda in detail. Again, we hope that you can support most, if not all, of our legislation and will agree to author or co-author many of our bills.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Reitz,
Mayor of Austin and President
Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities

Dave Bovee,
Dawson City Manager and President
Minnesota Association of Small Cities



-FridayFax-

A weekly legislative update from the League of Minnesota Cities

February 6, 2004

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They're back – we're back.

Beginning with this edition, the League will be updating you each Friday with recent developments on the 2004 session.

Procurement bill up in House committee

Next week the House Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs Committee will hear HF 1717 (Lanning)/SF 1790 (Dibble), a procurement reform bill supported by the League and other local government groups.

HF 1717 updates municipal contracting laws to give local units of government more flexibility, allow greater use of technology, and minimize burdensome requirements. The bill authorizes municipalities to use reverse auctions to purchase supplies, materials, and equipment and clarifies that local governments may accept bids and quotes electronically. The proposal also increases the competitive bidding threshold for small municipalities and gives managers in plan B cities greater flexibility to make purchases and negotiate contracts. These changes will provide additional tools to help local governments operate more efficiently and reduce their purchasing costs.

The bill will be heard in committee on Tuesday, February 10th at 2:30 p.m. in room 200, State Office Building.

First of four land use bills introduced

A coalition of various business groups recently formed to challenge municipal land

use regulation. Known as the Alliance for Reasonable Municipal Regulation (ARMR), this group is pursuing legislation this session to:

1. Further change eminent domain laws to protect property owners;
2. Allow non-conforming uses to continue even if damaged;
3. Limit moratoriums to one year; and
4. Ensure that fees are directly related to a need created by a proposed project.

The first of these four proposals, HF 1901 (Paulsen), was introduced this week. The bill would allow a court to award attorney fees to a landowner if the damage award exceeds either the condemning authority's original offer or the amount deposited with the court by 20 percent or more. It would also require primary necessity before property may be taken for public purpose.

HF 1901 is scheduled for a hearing in the House Civil Law Committee on Wednesday, February 11th at 2:30 p.m. in room 10, State Office Building.

TEL bill pulled from Senate tax agenda

Late this week, the tax and expenditure limits (TEL) bill authored by Senator Michelle Bachmann was pulled from the Senate Tax Committee agenda apparently because a delete-all amendment was not ready.

As introduced, Senator Bachmann's proposal would amend the state's



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constitution to limit tax and spending increases of the state and local units of government to the rate of inflation plus population or tax base growth. If taxes increased faster than the formula limit, the law would require that the excess be automatically rebated to taxpayers. The League has raised concerns with legislators about the potential unintended consequences of the Bachmann proposal such as replacing council discretion with an inflexible formula.

The expected delete-all amendment may attempt to limit the scope of the proposal to the state while exempting local units of government. However, given the fact that more than half of the state budget is distributed to schools and another significant proportion is shared with cities and counties to help fund their services, limits to the state could have a severe and immediate financial impact every other level of government in the state. Alternatively, severe state limits could result in a flood of unfunded state mandates to local units of government.

Hearings on local sales tax study announced

The recently released Department of Revenue study of local sales taxes will be heard in the Senate on Tuesday morning and in the House on Thursday morning. The report reviews the history of local sales taxes in Minnesota and makes a number of recommendations related to the appropriate role of local sales taxes, the process of

enacting a local sales tax and criteria for evaluating local proposals.

The report recommends a number of significant additions to the current approval process including a proposed change that would allow residents in surrounding communities that will pay a large share of the sales tax to participate in the referendum. The report suggests that this broader referendum would help establish the regional nature of proposed projects.

Legislation reflecting the Department's recommendations has not been introduced and therefore, the hearings are largely informational. We will report on the hearings in an upcoming Cities Bulletin.

House to take up bonding for local roads and bridges

The House Transportation Finance Committee plans to begin discussing bonding provisions pertaining to local roads and bridges. On Tuesday, February 10, at 8:15 am in room 200 of the State Office Building, the committee will hear HF1850 (Swenson), which authorizes \$125 million in local road improvement program bonds, abolishes authority to use program money for loans and establishes a rural road safety program in the local road improvement fund as well as HF1849 (Ruth), which authorizes \$83.5 million in state transportation bonds for local bridge replacement, rehabilitation, and repair.



February 2, 2004

Dear IREA Member:

Enclosed is the newly updated Financial Resource Guide book. This *one-of-a-kind* book provides information on over 385 development programs.

The Business Development section includes over 85 financial programs for business development. New business development financial programs include:

- **Tax –Free Zones**
- Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Business Development Infrastructure Program and Redevelopment Program (reinstated in bonding)
- Iron Range Resources – Intermediary Relending Program
- Minnesota Venture Capital
- Community Reinvestment Fund – New Market Tax Credits

New technical assistance programs include:

- Arrowhead Business Connection (ABC) – regional Web site
- DEED – MnPro (updated)
- BIZ Pathways Program.

The book provides a resource for locating the appropriate financial partners in development projects. Please keep in mind the Iron Range Resources Application Fund Program when applying to any of the technical programs. We are planning to conduct a financial resource seminar in the fall of 2004.

Please review the book and contact Richard Walsh for any changes or comments at dick.walsh@irra.org or by phone at (800) 765-5043.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian Hanson".

Brian Hanson
Director, Development Strategies

**Iron Range Resources
& Rehabilitation Agency**
4261 Highway 53 South
P.O. Box 441
Eveleth, MN 55734-0441
(218) 744-7400



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James D. McConnell
General Manager

February 9, 2004

Mr. Keith Nelson
Commissioner, 6th District
Virginia Courthouse
300 South 5th Avenue
Virginia, MN 55792

Dear Keith:

It was a pleasure meeting with you a few weeks ago. We have reviewed our future mining plans for the reserves south of Route 102 in the Parkville area. At this time, we do not anticipate performing any active mining in that area in the next 8-10 years.

If you need any additional information from us relative to your evaluation of the proposed work on Route 102, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James D. McConnell".

James D. McConnell
General Manager

JDM/jcs

cc: ✓ Craig Wainio
Bruce Kniivila

Craig J. Wainio

From: Pomerantz, Bruce [Bruce.Pomerantz@state.mn.us]
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2004 9:57 AM
To: Craig J. Wainio
Subject: Building Study

Perhaps the below agencies can act as honest brokers on the library issue. I assume they charge fees, which could be a sticking point.

I copied Jim Weikum on this. Yours bounced because I had a typo.

Bruce Pomerantz, Library Development Specialist Library Development and Services Minnesota
Department of Education F28 1500 Highway 36 W Roseville, MN 55113-4266
Phone: 651-582-8890
Fax: 651-582-8874 (Please advise about transmission)
Email: bruce.pomerantz@state.mn.us

SMALL TOWN & RURAL DESIGN ASSISTANCE

Two University of Minnesota centers serve as points-of-entry to the University resources for working with people to preserve, improve, and protect rural and small town landscapes, cultures and communities. The Center for Small Towns is a community outreach program housed at the University's Morris campus. The Center for Rural Design, located on the University's St. Paul campus, is a collaboration between the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (CALA) and the College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences (COAFES).

The Center for Small Towns

(<http://www.mrs.umn.edu/services/cst/index.htm>
<<http://www.mrs.umn.edu/services/cst/index.htm>> ; 320/589-6451) serves local units of government, K-12 schools, non-profit organizations, and other University units. Services include data collection and analysis, planning assistance and evaluation, student help, information technology assistance and connection to other resources. On the Center's web site are almost 100 links to allied organizations in MN and beyond, useful to small towns.

The Center for Rural Design

(<http://www.ruraldesign.umn.edu> <<http://www.ruraldesign.umn.edu>> ; 612/624-9273) focuses on the diverse physical, social, and economic problems facing rural Minnesota. It brings design as an integrative, problem-solving process to rural land issues. The Center seeks opportunities to study areas of public concern such as: integrating housing, recreation, and industry at the urban/rural edge, and making room for new agricultural production and processing technologies. Free products include "A Land Planning Primer for Lake Superior Basin Communities" and descriptions of current and past projects on their web site.