

**MOUNTAIN IRON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COMMUNITY CENTER
MOUNTAIN IRON ROOM
MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 2004 - 6:30 P.M.
A G E N D A**

- I. Roll Call
 - II. Consent Agenda
 - A. Minutes of the July 19, 2004 Regular Meeting (#1-11)
 - B. Bills and Payroll
 - C. Receipts
 - D. Communications (#31-39)
 - III. Public Forum
 - IV. Committee and Staff Reports
 - A. Mayor's Report
 - 1. Grass Cutting (#12-13)
 - B. City Administrator's Report
 - 1. Temporary Liquor License (#14-15)
 - 2. Election Judges (#16)
 - C. Director of Public Work's Report
 - 1. Sub Station Equipment Quotes (#17-19)
 - 2. Door Opener Quote (#20-21)
 - D. Director of Parks and Recreation's Report
 - 1. Parkville School (#22-23)
 - 2. West Two Rivers Pavilion (#24)
 - 3. Mesabi Daily News Advertising (#25-26)
 - V. Unfinished Business
 - VI. New Business
 - A. Enterprise Drive North (#27)
 - B. Locomotive Plaque (#28)
 - C. North Court Paving Project (#29)
 - D. Public Library Construction (#30)
 - E. Communications (#31-39)
 - VII. Open Discussion
 - VIII. Announcements
 - IX. Adjourn
- # Denotes page number in packet

MINUTES
MOUNTAIN IRON CITY COUNCIL
JULY 19, 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; Don Kleinschmidt, Director of Public Works; Larry Nanti, Director of Parks and Recreation; Paul Cerkvenik, City Attorney; and Rod Flannigan, City Engineer (entering at 6:33 p.m.).

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

1. Add the following items to the agenda:
 - IV. A. 1. Softball Fee-Girls 14 and under
 2. Festival of Trees
 - B. Land Value Appraisals
 - E. 2. Engineering Studies
 - V. B. Library Tile Roofing Color
 - VI. D. ATV Club and Donation
2. Approve the minutes of the July 19, 2004, City Council meeting as submitted.
3. 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.
4. To acknowledge the receipts for the period July 1-15, 2004, totaling \$760,854.52, (a list is attached and made a part of these minutes).
5. To authorize the payment of the bills and payroll for the period July 1-15, 2004, totaling \$350,247.53, (a list is attached and made a part of these minutes).

The motion carried on the following the following roll call vote: Prebeg, yes; Nelson, yes; Irish, yes; Roskoski, no; and Skalko, yes.

At 6:32 p.m., it was moved by Prebeg and supported by Nelson to recess the regular meeting and open the public hearing on the Community Development Block Grant Application. The motion carried.

Councilor Roskoski expressed concern with the pit being labeled as a pond. The Administrator said that the people that review the grant live in Virginia and are aware of the pit.

There was no further discussion and no communications were received regarding the public hearing.

At 6:34 p.m., it was moved by Prebeg and supported by Nelson to close the public hearing and reconvene the regular meeting. The motion carried.

It was moved by Skalko and supported by Irish to authorize a payment of \$240 for the Girls Softball Program, for girls 14 years and under. And further, to advise Mr. Taus to communicate with the City Staff during budget time so the appropriate funds can be allocated. The motion carried on the following roll call vote: Nelson, no; Irish, yes; Roskoski, yes; Prebeg, yes; and Skalko, yes.

It was moved by Skalko and supported by Prebeg to authorize the Festival of Trees to utilize the Community Center in November, 2004 charging them a total rental amount of \$450. The motion carried on the following roll call vote: Irish, yes; Roskoski, yes; Prebeg, yes; Nelson, no; and Skalko, yes.

The Council review the letter received from Tara and Jeremy LaMourea regarding their concerns on the use of Grant Avenue and the odor from the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

It was moved by Roskoski and supported by Irish to direct the Administrator to contact two different appraisers to obtain two appraisals on the following properties:

- 1) the Messiah Lutheran Church property, 11 acres parcel at the intersection of Mineral Avenue and Highway 169;
- 2) the tailing pond, USX property, 125+ acres, with the valuation of the old dump being there, as is. And also, what the valuation would be if the old garbage dump was removed.

After further discussion, Councilor Roskoski withdrew his motion and Councilor Irish withdrew his support.

Councilor Roskoski asked if the City had heard from the City of Virginia on the joint paving project for 16th Avenue. The Administrator said that the City of Virginia had been contacted, but they have not responded to the request.

It was moved by Prebeg and supported by Nelson to accept the recommendation of City Staff and authorize the purchase of electrical equipment for the substation upgrade to Border States Electric at their low quote of \$10,566.78. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

It was moved by Prebeg and supported by Skalko to authorize the Blight Officer to work with the Sheriff's Department and the City Attorney to determine whether an imminent and serious hazard to human life or safety exists at the Parkville School, to serve notice to the property owner, and to post a notice at the property for the August 2, 2004, City Council meeting. The motion carried.

Councilor Irish questioned the Recreation Director regarding the location of the new bench at Nichols Hall. Councilor Irish also pointed out that the handicapped ramp is in need of maintenance, the basketball nets need replacing, the light shining on the flag is broken out, and

the roof vent on the gabriel end of the roof is broken out and needs to be repaired. Also, the Parkville baseball field fencing is falling down and needs to be repaired.

It was moved by Nelson and supported by Prebeg to accept the recommendation of the City Engineer and award the contract for the Water Treatment Plant backflush tank to the low bidder, Hibbing Excavating, Inc., in the amount of \$35,362.00 with the funds to be expended from the Water Treatment Plant Fund. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

It was moved by Roskoski and supported by Irish to have a study completed by Benchmark Engineering to supply the City Council with maps, charts, and any other necessary materials for the following area: the USX East tailing pond area. With the report to include build able area, various traffic access routes with projected costs, utility accessibility options with projected costs, a map indicating the wetland that are involved, and a topographic map of the specific tailing pond in relation to everything around there between Mineral Drive and the railroad tracks and General Electric and Slate Street. The motion carried on the following roll call vote: Nelson, no; Irish, yes; Roskoski, yes; Prebeg, no; and Skalko, yes.

Councilor Roskoski asked how Benchmark was doing on analyzing the sewer plant noise problem. The City Engineer stated that there were no monitoring reports completed at this time, they just checked on the Wastewater Treatment Plant property.

Councilor Roskoski questioned why the Marion Drive cul-de-sac was not reclaimed and was just overlaid. The City Engineer said that a second coat would be applied soon.

Councilor Roskoski inquired when the North Court overlay was going to be completed. The Engineer stated that it was supposed to be completed already, so it would be done soon.

It was moved by Roskoski and supported by Skalko to direct the Recreation Director to contact Tom Cvar and advise him that the Council would be retaining the land until an alternative site could be found for the sliding hill and skating rink. After further discussion, Councilor Roskoski withdrew his motion and Mayor Skalko withdrew his support.

It was moved by Nelson and supported by Prebeg to set a public hearing for the vacation of a portion of Missabe Avenue between Outlot A and Block 1 of Merritt's First Addition to Mountain Iron for August 16, 2004. The motion carried.

Councilor Roskoski asked the City Attorney whether they have made any progress on information to set up a Mountain Iron Endowment Fund. The City Attorney said that he was not clear as to what the Council wanted regarding the information on the Foundation.

It was moved by Roskoski and supported by Irish to have the City of Mountain Iron work with the Library Architect, Erik Wedge, and Com Con Representatives to work out a change order and exchange the brown roof tiles for the historically correct pale orange color roof tiles with the City paying the difference for the change order. The **motion failed** on the following roll call vote: Irish, no; Roskoski, yes; Prebeg, no; Nelson, yes; and Skalko, no.

It was moved by Roskoski and supported by Skalko to direct the Librarian to notify any City Council Members that were interested in receiving a Library Board meeting packet, the Library Board City Council Liaison, and have the information sent out in advance of the meeting. The motion carried.

It was moved by Skalko and supported by Irish to adopt Resolution Number 28-04, Community Development Block Grant application, (a copy is attached and made a part of these minutes). The motion carried.

It was moved by Nelson and supported by Irish to adopt Ordinance Number 04-04, amending Chapter 22, (a copy is attached and made a part of these minutes). The motion carried.

It was moved by Irish and supported by Roskoski to authorize a donation of \$300 to the ATV Club with City Staff maintaining the funds and tracking the expenditures. The motion carried on the following roll call vote: Roskoski, yes; Prebeg, yes; Nelson, no; Irish, yes; and Skalko, yes.

At 8:19 p.m., it was moved by Roskoski and supported by Prebeg that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:



Jill M. Forseen, CMC/MMCA
Municipal Services Secretary

www.mtniron.com

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Range Association of Municipalities and Schools, looking for assistance if a Special Session is called.
2. Minnesota Department of Health, forwarding information regarding the drinking water summary of detect monitoring in Mountain Iron.
3. Unique Screen Media, forwarding advertising information.
4. Tara & Jeremy LaMourea, a letter regarding concerns with regard to Grant Drive and the odors from the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Summary By Category And Distribution

Category	Distribution	Amount
UTILITY	UTILITY	90,962.78
PERMITS	BUILDING	391.59
CAMPGROUND RECEIPTS	FEES	3,966.00
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 101	1,228.58
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 102	161.27
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 103	1,847.66
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST601	618.13
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 603	2,439.11
BUILDING RENTALS	BUILDING RENTAL DEPOSITS	550.00
FINES	CRIMINAL	215.03
MISCELLANEOUS	REIMBURSEMENTS	442.44
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 301	1,466.17
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 378	517.58
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 602	285.70
METER DEPOSITS	ELECTRIC	550.00
BUILDING RENTALS	COMMUNITY CENTER	275.00
BUILDING RENTALS	SENIOR CENTER	25.00
MISCELLANEOUS	SPEC. EVENT-FUNDS NOT USED-CR	501.00
MISCELLANEOUS	FILING FEES	8.00
SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	SPECIAL ASSESS.-BOND MONEY	190.73
SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	INTEREST-SP.ASSESS.-BONDS ISSU	9.27
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 376	37.55
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 604	262.96
PERMITS	VARIANCE	150.00
TAXES	TAX LEVY	456,663.23
TAXES	TAXES RECEIVABLE-DELINQUENT	4,185.50
TAXES	MISCELLANEOUS TAXES	16,592.99
TAXES	PENALTIES & INTEREST	441.58
TAXES	PENALTIES & INTEREST-378 FUND	288.37
TAXES	SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS-CURRENT	3,309.98
TAXES	SPEC. ASSMTS-378 FUND-CURRENT	27,507.36
TAXES	SPEC ASSESS-FUND 378-DELINQUEN	1,847.34
TAXES	TIF #1-INCREMENT COLLECTED	33,817.78
TAXES	TIF #2-INCREMENT COLLECTED	9,731.60
TAXES	TIF #3-INCREMENT COLLECTED	1,858.54
TAXES	TIF #6-INCREMENT COLLECTED	2,297.16
TAXES	TIF #7-INCREMENT COLLECTED	14,694.87
TAXES	TIF #8-INCREMENT COLLECTED	8,362.78
TAXES	TIF #9-INCREMENT COLLECTED	3,933.08
TAXES	TIF #10-INCREMENT COLLECTED	126.35
TAXES	TIF #11-INCREMENT COLLECTED	6,105.74
TAXES	TIF #12-INCREMENT COLLECTED	71.20
TAXES	BOND LEVY	52,066.55
MISCELLANEOUS	ASSESSMENT SEARCHES	10.00
PERMITS	CONDITIONAL USE	150.00
MISCELLANEOUS	SEPTIC APPLICATIONS	250.00
MISCELLANEOUS	ELECTRICAL INSPEC FORMS	2.00
TAXES	TRANSFERS FROM MI HRA	9,438.97
Summary Totals:		<u>760,854.52</u>

Check Issue Date(s): 07/13/2004 - 07/26/2004

Per	Date	Check No	Vendor No	Payee	Check GL Acct	Amount
07/04	07/15/2004	30267	130011	MOUNTAIN IRON POSTMASTER	002-20200	281.50
07/04	07/21/2004	30268	10013	A T & T INFORMATION SYSTEMS	002-20200	68.73
07/04	07/21/2004	30269	7017	ALYSSA AUBOL	002-20200	68.37
07/04	07/21/2004	30270	7033	ARROWHEAD SOFTBALL LEAGUE	002-20200	240.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30271	7031	AURORA YOUTH BASEBALL	002-20200	80.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30272	20022	BENCHMARK ENGINEERING INC	002-20200	18,557.96
07/04	07/21/2004	30273	7028	BIWABIK YOUTH BASEBALL	002-20200	80.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30274	7022	CAROL MATTILA	002-20200	50.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30275	30061	CELLULARONE	002-20200	625.92
07/04	07/21/2004	30276	30026	COMO LUBE & SUPPLIES INC	002-20200	46.54
07/04	07/21/2004	30277	30053	CONSOLIDATED TRADING COMPANY	002-20200	1,138.49
07/04	07/21/2004	30278	7020	DEREK AHO	002-20200	98.48
07/04	07/21/2004	30279	40030	DULUTH CLINIC	002-20200	626.50
07/04	07/21/2004	30280	40005	DULUTH MISSABE & IRON RANGE RR	002-20200	109.24
07/04	07/21/2004	30281	40015	DULUTH NEWS TRIBUNE	002-20200	175.24
07/04	07/21/2004	30282	7018	ERIN PIKULA	002-20200	41.51
07/04	07/21/2004	30283	60026	FASTENAL COMPANY	002-20200	200.50
07/04	07/21/2004	30284	60029	FERGUSON ENTERPRISES INC	002-20200	373.86
07/04	07/21/2004	30285	60005	FRYBERGER BUCHANAN SMITH &	002-20200	75.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30286	7029	GILBERT BASEBALL ASSOCIATION	002-20200	60.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30287	70029	GUARDIAN PEST CONTROL INC	002-20200	56.82
07/04	07/21/2004	30288	80002	HILLYARD	002-20200	67.61
07/04	07/21/2004	30289	80010	HOMETOWN ELECTRIC	002-20200	162.50
07/04	07/21/2004	30290	7030	HOYT LAKES RECREATION	002-20200	65.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30291	7014	INTELAGARD INC	002-20200	3,022.20
07/04	07/21/2004	30292	90009	IRON OAKES FENCING	002-20200	8,905.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30293	7016	J HIPPLE & J CHAMBERS	002-20200	76.32
07/04	07/21/2004	30294	100019	JOLA & SOPP EXCAVATING INC	002-20200	100.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30295	7021	JULIE PHANEUF	002-20200	100.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30296		Information Only Check	002-20200	.00 V
07/04	07/21/2004	30297	120006	L & M SUPPLY	002-20200	2,029.01
07/04	07/21/2004	30298	7025	LINDSAY TAKALA	002-20200	100.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30299	120004	LITERARY GUILD	002-20200	40.98
07/04	07/21/2004	30300	130106	MEDIACOM - MIDWEST	002-20200	117.20
07/04	07/21/2004	30301	130096	MICROMARKETING ASSOCIATES	002-20200	62.30
07/04	07/21/2004	30302	130040	MIDWEST SPORTSWEAR	002-20200	55.92
07/04	07/21/2004	30303	130051	MINNESOTA PLANNING	002-20200	55.48
07/04	07/21/2004	30304	7026	MONICA MARKS	002-20200	50.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30305	130031	MT IRON HOUSING & REDEVELOPMEN	002-20200	80,999.10
07/04	07/21/2004	30306		Information Only Check	002-20200	.00 V
07/04	07/21/2004	30307	130015	MT IRON WATER AND LIGHT DEPT	002-20200	13,547.65
07/04	07/21/2004	30308	140047	NARDINI FIRE EQUIPMENT CO INC	002-20200	104.17
07/04	07/21/2004	30309	140007	NICKLASSON ATHLETIC COMPANY	002-20200	64.95
07/04	07/21/2004	30310	140052	NORTHEAST SERVICE COOPERATIVE	002-20200	30,881.91
07/04	07/21/2004	30311	150014	ONE CALL CONCEPTS INC	002-20200	73.60
07/04	07/21/2004	30312	180006	P & H MINEPRO SERVICES	002-20200	346.13
07/04	07/21/2004	30313	7032	PETERSON CANDY AND SUPPLY	002-20200	246.08
07/04	07/21/2004	30314	170001	QWEST	002-20200	371.41
07/04	07/21/2004	30315	180008	RADKO IRON & SUPPLY INC	002-20200	188.12
07/04	07/21/2004	30316	180032	RANGE PORTABLES	002-20200	431.33
07/04	07/21/2004	30317	7027	REBEKAH TWETEN	002-20200	50.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30318	180052	REED BUSINESS INFORMATION	002-20200	210.10
07/04	07/21/2004	30319	190009	SALEM PRESS	002-20200	75.60
07/04	07/21/2004	30320	190001	SEARS COMMERCIAL CREDIT	002-20200	267.92
07/04	07/21/2004	30321	190010	SEPPI BROTHERS	002-20200	922.71
07/04	07/21/2004	30322	7015	SHELLY THORESON	002-20200	11.73
07/04	07/21/2004	30323	7024	SHIRLEY SAVELA	002-20200	50.00

M = Manual Check, V = Void Check

7/29/2004

6

CITY COUNCIL

Check Issue Date(s): 07/13/2004 - 07/26/2004

Per	Date	Check No	Vendor No	Payee	Check GL Acct	Amount
07/04	07/21/2004	30324	190024	ST LOUIS CO SHERIFF LITMAN	002-20200	33,334.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30325	1204	STATE OF MINNESOTA	002-20200	2,355.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30326	7023	SUSAN TUOMELA	002-20200	50.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30327	200037	THOMSON HEALTHCARE DMS INC	002-20200	69.90
07/04	07/21/2004	30328	7019	TRACIE WILCOX	002-20200	91.54
07/04	07/21/2004	30329	200038	TWIN PORTS TESTING INC	002-20200	1,844.70
07/04	07/21/2004	30330	210001	UNITED ELECTRIC COMPANY	002-20200	2,051.59
07/04	07/21/2004	30331	220014	VIKING INDUSTRIAL NORTH	002-20200	124.11
07/04	07/21/2004	30332	220004	VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC	002-20200	27,687.28
07/04	07/21/2004	30333	220020	VISA	002-20200	896.86
07/04	07/21/2004	30334	230001	WALKER GIROUX AND HAHNE LTD	002-20200	18,200.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30335	230004	WENCK ASSOCIATES INC	002-20200	480.00
07/04	07/21/2004	30336	240001	XEROX CORPORATION	002-20200	777.83
07/04	07/21/2004	30337	230010	WILBUR & VIOLET BALL	002-20200	1,000.00

Totals:

255,869.50

Payroll-PP Ending 7/16/04

85,144.18

Electronic Transfer-Sales Tax

9,233.85

TOTAL EXPENDITURES

\$350,247.53



CITY OF MOUNTAIN IRON

"TACONITE CAPITAL OF THE WORLD"

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RESOLUTION NUMBER 28-04

AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF CDBG APPLICATION

WHEREAS, St. Louis County is preparing a Consolidated Plan/Action Plan to meet application requirements for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, and other Community Planning and Development (CPD) programs, and

WHEREAS, St. Louis County has requested CDBG-eligible projects from participating communities for inclusion in the Action Plan, and

WHEREAS, the City of Mountain Iron has conducted public hearing on July 19, 2004, in regard to the Mountain Iron ADA project and Mountain Iron's CDBG application for the project, and

WHEREAS, it is found that the project meets the Direct Benefit: Limited Clientele federal objective of the CDBG program and is prioritized by the community as a high priority need.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF MOUNTAIN IRON, MINNESOTA, that the City of Mountain Iron's CDBG application related to the Mountain Iron ADA project is hereby authorized to be submitted to St. Louis County for inclusion in St. Louis County's Consolidated Plan/Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and that the City Administrator is hereby authorized to execute all documents, agreements, or contracts which result from this application to St. Louis County.

DULY ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THIS 21st DAY OF JUNE, 2004.

ATTEST:



City Administrator



Mayor Gary Skalko

ORDINANCE NUMBER 04-04

**AMENDING CHAPTER 22 OF THE MOUNTAIN IRON CITY
CODE**

THE CITY COUNCIL OF MOUNTAIN IRON ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. AMENDING SECTION 22.02. Section 22.02, Definitions, is hereby amended to include the following:

BED AND BREAKFAST — A single family dwelling in which transient guest rooms are rented on a nightly basis for periods of seven (7) days or less and where at least one (1) meal is offered in connection with the provision of sleeping accommodations only.

SECTION 2. AMENDING SECTION 22.05. Section 22.05, Subdivision 3, is hereby amended to include the following as item M.

M. Bed and Breakfast Homes

SECTION 3. AMENDING SECTION 22.06. Section 22.06, Subdivision 3, is hereby amended to include the following as item G.

G. Bed and Breakfast Homes

SECTION 4. AMENDING SECTION 22.07. Section 22.07, Subdivision 3, is hereby amended to include the following as item F.

F. Bed and Breakfast Homes

SECTION 5. ADDING SECTION 22.18. Section 22.18 is hereby added to Chapter 22 of the Mountain Iron City Code and shall be titled Bed and Breakfast Homes and shall include the following:

Subd. 1. Bed and Breakfast homes may be allowed by conditional use, subject to the following standards:

A. The owner shall reside in the Bed and Breakfast Homes and manage the premises.

B. The establishment shall comply with State Health and Building Code requirements.

- C. Meals may be served to guests only
- D. No cooking or cooking facilities shall be allowed or provided in the guest rooms.
- E. The establishment shall be limited to four (4) guest rooms.
- F. Each guest shall be limited to staying not more than seven (7) days within any thirty (30) day period.
- G. The owner shall maintain a guest register showing the name, address, motor vehicle license number, and inclusive dates of visits of all guests.
- H. The owner shall supply a parking plan with the application for a Conditional Use Permit
- I. Signage for each Bed and Breakfast property shall be limited to one non-illuminate sign per property, flaying a maximum sign area of four (4) square feet and a height not exceeding five (5) feet. Signs must run parallel with the Bed and Breakfast.
- J. There shall be no external vending machines.
- K. Sales of souvenirs and items representative of the area shall be accessory to the B&B and shall be restricted to sales to overnight guests only.
- L. Residential Appearance and Character. Each property shall maintain an exterior residential appearance and character, meaning an exterior façade that is compatible with the surrounding single family or duplex houses, and is, of an appearance that would be found in a structure designed for and occupied by a family as detached single or two-family residence.
- M. The initial conditional use permit for a Bed and Breakfast shall be valid from the date of issuance until January 31 of the following year. All conditional use permits for Bed and Breakfast's shall be reviewed by the Planning and Zoning Commission on the date of the first regularly scheduled January Planning and Zoning Commission meeting.
- N. All conditional use permits granted for a Bed and Breakfast are non-transferable.

SECTION 6. AMENDING Section 22.22. Section 22.22 Subdivision 2 of the Mountain Iron City Code is hereby amended to include the following as item H.

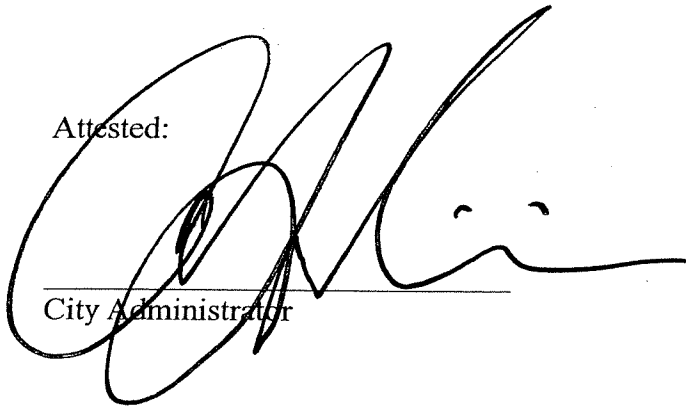
H. Bed and Breakfast Homes

SECTION 7. INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES. All Ordinances or portions thereof inconsistent with this Ordinance shall be repealed and replaced with the provisions of this Ordinance.

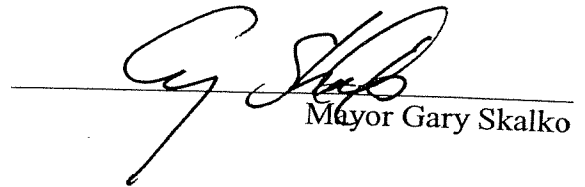
SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall be effective according to State Statute.

DULY ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THIS 19th DAY OF July, 2004.

Attested:



City Administrator



Mayor Gary Skalko

COUNCIL LETTER 080204-IVA1

MAYORS REQUEST

GRASS CUTTING

DATE: July 29, 2004

FROM: Mayor Skalko

Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

A request from Mayor Skalko to have the grass cut and trimmed by the Quad Cities Area sign located on Highway 169 and also by the sign at the corner of Highway 53 and Old Highway 169.

CITY OF MOUNTAIN IRON GUIDELINES FOR CITY MOWING

CITY RESPONSIBILITY

The City of Mountain Iron will only be responsible for mowing grass along City street right-of-ways and City-owned property.

AMOUNT OF MOWING

Roadways will be mowed at least twice a year.

Parks and other City-owned property will be mowed when grass length is between four and six inches (4-6") in length, cut down to a two inch (2") minimum.

Mowing around Community Center will be as follows:

- Mow to the bottom of the east slope on the east side of the Community Center.
- Mow to the bottom of slope or 12 feet, whichever is less on the south of the building and parking lot.
- Mow to 12 feet north of the north curb line on the north side of the Community Center.

Property owners are responsible for lawn mowing up to the curb/paved or gravel roadways in all platted areas of the City.

Property owners are responsible for lawn mowing any boulevard between the sidewalks and curb/paved or gravel roadway.

The City will mow, at least twice, the shoulder areas from the paved/gravel portion down to the bottom of any ditch or if no ditch is present, to the width of no more than one pass of the large mower in all non-platted areas of the City.

It will be at the discretion of the Director of Public Works to decide if specific grass trimming and clean-up are required.

All City ball fields will be mowed and cared for at the discretion of the Director of Parks and Recreation.

BRUSH AND HEDGES

All brushes and hedges on City property, easements or right-of-ways will be cut and trimmed at necessary intervals to maintain a level of neatness and to prevent blockage of sight lines for vehicle drivers.

COUNCIL LETTER 080204-IVB1
ADMINISTRATION
TEMPORARY LIQUOR LICENSE

DATE: July 28, 2004
FROM: Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

The Laurentian Arts and Cultural Alliance is requesting temporary liquor license. The license is for an event to be held at the Community Center. The City Council is required to approve all licenses, which are then sent to the State Liquor Control Board for final approval.

It is recommended that the City Council approve the temporary liquor licenses for the Laurentian Arts and Cultural Alliance.



Minnesota Department of Public Safety
 Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division
 444 Cedar St. - Suite 133
 St. Paul, MN 55101-5133



(651) 215-6209 TTY (651) 282-6555

APPLICATION AND PERMIT FOR A TEMPORARY ON-SALE LIQUOR LICENSE

TYPE OR PRINT INFORMATION

NAME OF ORGANIZATION LAURENTIAN ARTS & CULTURE ALLIANCE		DATE ORGANIZED 3/4/1998	TAX EXEMPT NUMBER DNL 17053116714013	
STREET ADDRESS P.O. Box 416, 510 Chestnut		CITY Virginia	STATE MN	ZIP CODE 55792
NAME OF PERSON MAKING APPLICATION MARY B. McREYNOLDS		BUSINESS PHONE (218) 749-0648		HOME PHONE (218) 780-3690
DATES LIQUOR WILL BE SOLD October 22, 2004		TYPE OF ORGANIZATION <input type="checkbox"/> CLUB <input type="checkbox"/> CHARITABLE <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER NONPROFIT		
ORGANIZATION OFFICER'S NAME MARY B. McREYNOLDS		ADDRESS 724 16th St. N., Virginia, MN		
ORGANIZATION OFFICER'S NAME		ADDRESS		
ORGANIZATION OFFICER'S NAME		ADDRESS		

Location where license will be used. If an outdoor area, describe:

MT. IRON COMMUNITY CENTER

Will the applicant contract for intoxicating liquor services? If so, give the name and address of the liquor licensee providing the service.

No

Will the applicant carry liquor liability insurance? If so, the carrier's name and amount of coverage.

(NOTE: Insurance is not mandatory.) **No**

APPROVAL

APPLICATION MUST BE APPROVED BY CITY OR COUNTY BEFORE SUBMITTING TO ALCOHOL & GAMBLING ENFORCEMENT

CITY/COUNTY _____
 CITY FEE AMOUNT _____
 DATE FEE PAID _____

DATE APPROVED _____
 LICENSE DATES _____

 SIGNATURE CITY CLERK OR COUNTY OFFICIAL

 APPROVED Alcohol & Gambling Enforcement Director

Note: Do not separate these two parts, send both parts to the address above and the original signed by this division will be returned as the license. Submit to the City or County at least 30 days before the event.

PS-09079 6/02

7/29/2004

15

CITY COUNCIL



CITY OF MOUNTAIN IRON

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MEMO

TO: City Administrator
FROM: Municipal Services Secretary *gmt*
DATE: July 23, 2004
RE: Primary & General Elections

The following motion should be adopted at the next regular City Council meeting.

It was moved by Councilor _____ and supported by Councilor _____ that the Council appoint the following to serve as election judges for the September 14, 2004, Primary Election and the November 2, 2004, General Election:

Precinct #1-City Hall, Wacootah Room

Caroline Kujala, Head Judge
Gertrude Buria
Sheri Johnson
June Ross*

Precinct #2-City Hall, Iroquois Room

Marilyn Perpich, Head Judge
Margaret Florip
Linda Strukel
Barb Fivecoate*

Alternate: Debbie Klander

* Denotes new judge, never having served before.

And further, authorize them to be paid \$7.50 per hour for training and election hours and provide a hot meal to the election judges on election days.

F:/2004/ADMIN/ELECTIONJUDGES.APT.2004

COUNCIL LETTER 080204-IVC1

PUBLIC UTILITIES

ELECTRIC SUBSTATION SWITCHGEAR

DATE: July 29, 2004

FROM: Don Kleinschmidt
Director of Public Works

Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

The following quote is for switchgear for one electrical substation upgrade.

Staff recommends City Council approval to purchase the equipment from Burmeister Electric in the amount of \$22,154.00. This quote is for specific switches in which the substation was designed around. Burmeister is the only company that can sell the components thus the reason for the single quote.



BURMEISTER ELECTRIC COMPANY □ 3776 WEST BROADWAY □ MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55422 □ PHONE: 763-588-0545 □ FAX: 763-588-8353

ATTN: Don Kleinschmidt
 City of Mountain Iron
 8586 enterprise Drive South
 Mountain Iron, MN 55768

Quote Number: M I-04-0720
 Your Reference:
 Salesman: Chad Cravens
 Date: 07/20/04

The following quotation is in accordance to our interpretation of your requirements and is subject to acceptance within thirty (30) days unless otherwise noted.

ITEM	QTY	CATALOG NO.	DESCRIPTION	LEAD TIME	PRICE
1	1	135332R4-E ED-333R9	S&C Alduti-Rupter® Switch w/ Power Fuse Three-Pole Vertical Break Switch w/SM-5 Fuse 400E Maximum 14.4kV 110kV BIL Vertical Mounting on Single Pole w/Two Phases on Left	8 wks	\$7,745.00 ea
		S1	2 5/8" Fiberglass Insulating Section In Vertical Operating Shaft	Add	\$275.00 ea
2	1	135332R4-E ED-334R9	S&C Alduti-Rupter® Switch w/ Power Fuse Three-Pole Vertical Break Switch w/SM-5 Fuse 400E Maximum 14.4kV 110kV BIL Vertical Mounting on Single Pole w/Two Phases on Right	8 wks	\$7,745.00 ea
		S1	2 5/8" Fiberglass Insulating Section In Vertical Operating Shaft	Add	\$275.00 ea
3	6	86152R2	SM-5 Fuse Holder 14.4kV 400E Maximum	8 wks	\$495.00 ea
4	6	262XXX	SM-5 Fuse Refill 14.4kV Slow TCC 119-4 XXE (Need to specify Amperage)	8 wks	\$120.00 ea



BURMEISTER ELECTRIC COMPANY □ 3776 WEST BROADWAY □ MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55422 □ PHONE: 763-588-0545 □ FAX: 763-588-8353

ITEM	QTY	CATALOG NO.	DESCRIPTION	LEAD TIME	PRICE
5	6	89092R10-P-CM-S	S&C Type XS Fuse Cutout 25kV – 200A Includes: (P) Polymer Insulator (C) Type B Crossarm Bracket (M) Eye-Bolt Connector #8-250MCM (S) Stainless Steel Inserts & Hardware	12 wks	\$258.00 ea
Alternate:					
5A	6	89072R11-CD	S&C Type XS Fuse Cutout 25kV – 200A Porcelain Insulator Includes: (C) Type B Crossarm Bracket (D) Parallel-Grove Connector #6-250MCM	Stock	\$75.00 ea
6	18	348XXX	S&C Fuse Link XXXA KSR Speed TCC 171-6 (Need to specify Amperage 125,150 or 200A)	8 wks	\$25.00 ea
Alternate:					
6A	18	64XXX	S&C Fuse Link XXXA Standard Speed TCC 123-6 (Need to specify Amperage 125,150 or 200A)	Stock	\$18.00 ea
7	1	5300R3	S&C Loadbuster® Loadbreak Tool 14.4kV/25kV 600A Includes 5380R1 Case	6 wks	\$1,200.00 ea

TERMS: NET 30 DAYS

FREIGHT TERMS: PREPAID & ALLOWED

F.O.B. POINT: CHICAGO, IL

Burmeister Electric Terms and Conditions of Sale are a part of this quotation.

Prices do not include federal, state or local taxes unless otherwise noted.

STEVE BODE, Senior Marketing Engineer

COUNCIL LETTER 080204-IVC2

BUILDINGS

**POWER OPERATORS FOR
COMMUNITY CENTER DOORS**

DATE: July 29, 2004

FROM: Don Kleinschmidt
Director of Public Works

Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

Staff is seeking City Council authorization to install power-operating doors, for handicap accessibility, on two doors into the Community Center. The total cost would be \$6,870.00. The City of Mountain Iron has received a grant in the amount of \$2,500.00 from Secretary of State Disability Access Grant for this project.

NORTHERN DOOR & HARDWARE, INC.

2202 WEST FIRST STREET P.O. BOX 16026 DULUTH, MN 55816-0026
PHONE: (218) 722-9531 FAX: (218) 722-9098



DATE: June 21, 2004

SHEET: 1 of 1

TO: CITY of Mt. IRON

ATTN: TERRY NISKA

QUOTE: # 04-0772

RE: POWER OPERATORS - FRONT ENTRY @ COMMUNITY CENTER

WE WISH TO QUOTE YOU THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS:

2ea -- NORTON 6960 POWER OPERATORS W/ 4- WALL ACTUATORS

- INSTALLED ON EXISTING FRONT ENTRY DOOR & VEST. DOOR
- WIRING HOOK-UP BY OTHERS

TOTAL \$ 5,140.00

Note: Above materials will require exterior door to be locked open during business hours from inside on the exit device with the "dogging hex key". The vestibule door is okay as is.

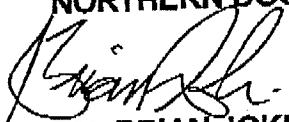
There is an option; we can change the exit device on the outside door to an electric latch retraction so the door will release before the operator kicks-in to open the door.

This would be an add of \$1,730.00 to above quote

NO TAX INCLUDED - F.O.B. JOBSITE

TERMS: NET 30 DAYS - NO RETAINAGE ALLOWED- QUOTE GOOD FOR 30 DAYS

NORTHERN DOOR & HARDWARE, INC.


BY: BRIAN JOKI

COUNCIL LETTER 080204-IVD1

BLIGHT UPDATE

PARKVILLE SCHOOL AREA

DATE: July 29, 2004

FROM: Larry Nanti
Director of Parks & Recreation

Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

Attached is information from the Mountain Iron Sheriff's Department and the Blight Officer concerning the Parkville School.

**RESIDENT
BLIGHT COMPLAINT FORM**

Today's Date: July 20, 2004

Complainant Name: City of Mountain Iron

Address: _____

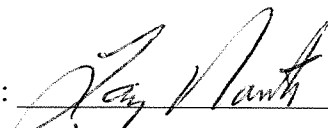
City State & Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Name of Person Causing Blight: Daniels

Address of Blight: Parkville School

Brief Description of Problems: Grass was cut. Opening on the east wall 16' X 16' access/ vent pushed open/ north door closed/ most windows on both floors broken out/ overall very poor condition.*

Signature of Complainant: 

Date of Complaint: July 9 2004

Name & Date of Person Receiving Complaint in the Office

* Would like to have the Fire Chief and Building Inspector inspect and comment on this property.

COUNCIL LETTER 080204-IVD2
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
QUOTES FOR PAVILION

DATE: July 29, 2004

FROM: Parks & Recreation Board

Larry Nanti
Director of Parks & Recreation

Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

The Board is seeking approval to get quotes for the supplies and the labor to construct the pavilion at the West Two Rivers Campground. The slab has been completed by the donated labor from the Local Union.

Quotes will be brought back to the City Council for approval. The monies for this project were carried over from 2003 in the amount of \$35,000.00.

July 19, 2004

Dear Larry,

We are again working on the High School Sports-Our School Section for 2004 -05.

They run 6 times during the school year.

The first one will be in Fall Sports – running the end of August

The remaining 5 are:

Girls Basketball

Winter Sports

Boys Basketball

Spring Sports

Our Schools

The cost is \$18.50 and you get billed after they run.

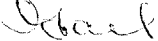
The City of Mountain Iron was not a part of this last year, but was included in 2002.

I have enclosed a copy of what that sponsorship looked like. (Actual size)

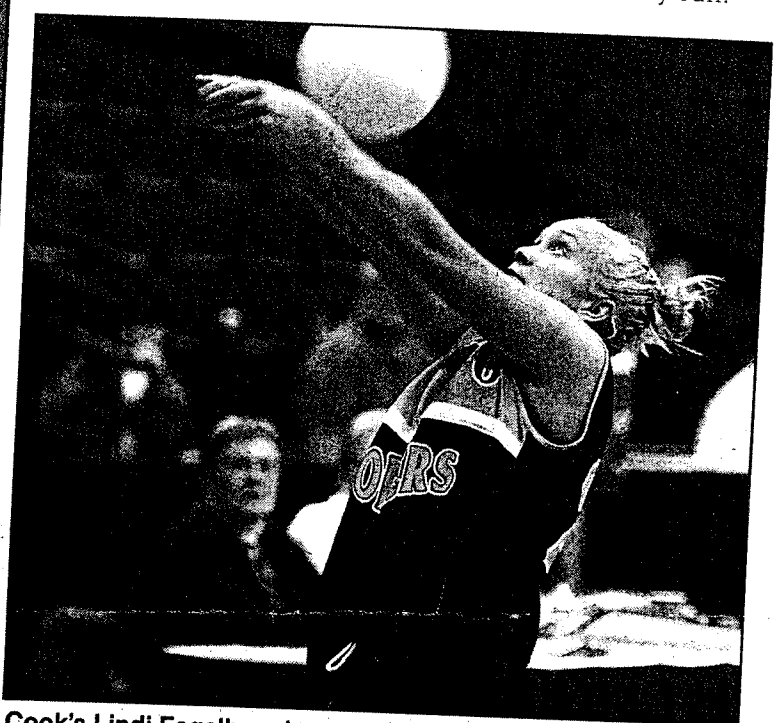
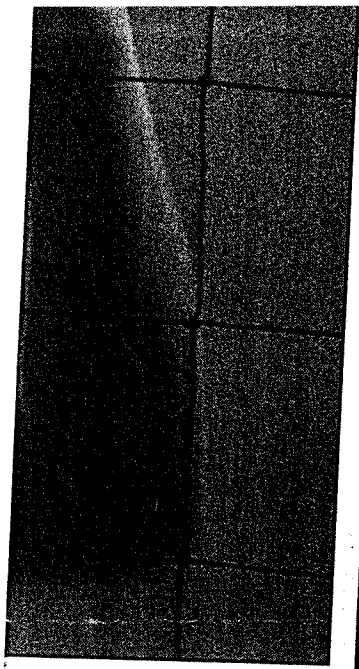
We are also putting all participants in a drawing and giving away 2 - 3x5 ads.

Please bring this up at a counsel meeting and let me know as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Gail Johnston 

Mesabi Daily News



Photos by Mark Sauer
is the lone returning starter

Cook's Lindi Fogelberg bumps the ball during last year's state
tournament in St. Paul.

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MESABI DAILY NEWS



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www.mtniron.com

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 901 8th St. S. • Suite 400
 Virginia, MN • 741-4284

**WELLS
 FARGO**
 Ely
 Eveleth
 Hibbing
 Hoyt Lakes
 Virginia

 **Virginia Regional
 MEDICAL CENTER**
 Virginia • 741-3340


Cron-Sheehy
 General Home & Cremation Service
 502 Adams Avenue, Eveleth

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 Caring
 Respect
 Responsibility
 Honesty
Mesabi Family YMCA
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 Virginia, MN 55792
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- Roofing
- Treated Lumber
- Doors
- Flooring
- Windows

COUNCIL LETTER 080204-VIA

COUNCILOR NELSON

ENTERPRISE DRIVE NORTH

DATE: July 29, 2004

FROM: Councilor Nelson

Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

Councilor Nelson requested this item be placed on the agenda with the following background information:

Due to the condition and the amount of traffic that utilizes Enterprise Drive North, the City should schedule Enterprise Drive North for an overlay.

COUNCIL LETTER 080204-VIB

COUNCILOR NELSON

LOCOMOTIVE PLAQUE

DATE: July 29, 2004

FROM: Councilor Nelson

Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

Councilor Nelson requested this item be placed on the agenda with the following background information:

For an enhancement to Locomotive Park and for maximum visibility, the locomotive plaque currently located in the Mountain Iron Room should be placed in an enclosed stand adjacent to the locomotive in Locomotive Park.

COUNCIL LETTER 080204-VIC

COUNCILOR ROSKOSKI

MOTION OF CONCERN

DATE: July 29, 2004
FROM: Councilor Roskoski
Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

Councilor Roskoski requested this item be placed on the agenda with the following background information:

There is a concern from the residents on the cul-de-sac of North Court that key paving steps were not done properly.

COUNCIL LETTER 080204-VID

COUNCILOR PREBEG

LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION

DATE: July 29, 2004

FROM: Councilor Prebeg

Craig J. Wainio
City Administrator

Councilor Prebeg requested this item be placed on the agenda with the following background information:

There should be a City staff member appointed to oversee all the construction work at the library. The Director of Public Works should be appointed to manage the construction.

COMMUNICATIONS
AUGUST 2, 2004

1. MIB Girls Varsity Softball Team, a thank you for the contribution to the team.
2. Tara & Jeremy LaMourea, a letter concerning the use of Grant Drive and odors coming from the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
3. Mary Durward, St. Louis County Assessor, a letter advising the City of State Board of Equalization assessment changes.
4. Minnesota Association of Small Cities, forwarding the small cities update.
5. Bruce Pomerantz, Library Development Specialist, MN Department of Education, advising the City that the Library Accessibility grant application suspension has been removed and they will proceed processing the grant agreement.
6. League of Minnesota Cities, forwarding the July 23, 2004, Friday Fax.
7. Ron Dicklich, Executive Director, Range Association of Municipalities and Schools, forwarding information regarding the interpretation of the Local Government Aid Distribution Law.

June 21, 2004

Dear City of Mtn. Iron

Thank you very much for your contribution to our softball team. Your generous monetary donation helped reduce our expenses to participate in the Minnesota State High School Class A Softball Tournament. We truly appreciate your support of athletics at Mountain Iron-Buhl High School.

Sincerely,

MIB Girls Varsity Softball Team

Ashley Spicer

Ashley

Kristina Keller

Kristina

Courtney Briski

Courtney

Mayme Wittala

Mayme

Becky Cerkvencik

Becky

Mary Stukel

Mary

Stephanie Morrisette

Stephanie

Lisa Thielen

Lisa

Megan Downs

Megan

Jennifer Galobich

Jennifer

Laura Engman

Laura

Morgan Faus

Morgan

Sammie Derickson

Sammie

McKenzie Overbye

McKENZIE

Mari Johnson, Mgr.

Mari

Dave Faus, Coach

Coach Dave

July 14, 2004

Dear Craig Wanio & Mt. Iron City Council Members:

We have a few concerns that we would appreciate you taking the time to look into.

We live at 8804 Grant Drive and our road was just paved about a month ago. We have noticed that the large City trucks have been hauling different items (concrete, asphalt, ect) and dumping them down by the sewage plant. We are concerned that our newly paved road is going to be ruined with the amount of hauling and weight of these trucks. We are questioning if there is another place where these items can be hauled to.

We also have another concern regarding the sewage plant. We notice that on more than one time during the week there is a very strong, distinctive odor from the plant. We realize that there is going to be some smell associated with the plant, but we don't believe that it should be this bad. Usually we notice the strong odor in the afternoons, and it lasts for hours (6 or more). We also notice it when the truck comes to pump out the tanks at the plant. We are questioning if there are things that are not working properly in the plant, or if there is some other explanation for the odor. We have lived next to the plant for 6 years, and up until recently, we have not had an issue with the odor. There must be an explanation why all of a sudden we are getting this strong odor. The odor is so strong, that we are unable to open our windows on these days and don't care to be outside in our yard. We are assuming that the MPCA has regulations and standards that need to be complied with.

We would appreciate feedback on these issues as soon as possible. I have talked to Mayor Skalko on these issues as well.

Thanks for your time and consideration with these issues.

Sincerely,



Tara & Jeremy LaMourea
8804 Grant Drive
Mt. Iron MN 55768
218-735-1179

cc: Gary Skalko



Saint Louis County

Assessor's Department • 100 North Fifth Avenue West, Room 212, Duluth, Minnesota 55802-1291
(218) 726-2304 • Long Distance in St. Louis County (800) 450-9777
Web Site <http://www.co.st-louis.mn.us/AssessorOfficeNew>

Mary B. Durward
County Assessor

July 20, 2004

RE: State Board of Equalization Assessment Changes
(2004 Assessment Taxes Payable 2005)

Dear Clerk:

The Minnesota Commissioner of Revenue, aided by his staff, sits as the State Board of Equalization. They may issue orders for changes in the assessment roll in three different situations:

1. Valuations of state assessed properties (Public Utilities and Railroads).
2. Apportionment of school district levies where a district is in two counties and the "level of assessment" is significantly different in the two counties.
3. Percentage changes (increases or decreases) to equalize the "level of assessment" of jurisdictions and classes of property within the county.

The County Assessor's Department has reviewed the list of sales in your jurisdiction included in the state sales study. Sales must meet the criteria for an "arms-length transaction" as set by the Minnesota Department of Revenue to be included in the study.

The following state-ordered changes were ordered by the Minnesota Department of Revenue to equalize the level of assessment in your jurisdiction. State-ordered changes cannot be appealed to the Minnesota Tax Court.

Agricultural Land	+ 25 %
Timber Land	+ 25 %
Seasonal Rec Land over 34.5 acres	+ 25 %

Please feel free to call if you have any questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

Mary Durward
County Assessor

100 North 5th Avenue West
Courthouse-Room 212
Duluth, Minnesota 55802-1291
(218) 726-2304

118 South 4th Avenue East,
Government Services Center-Room 4
Ely, Minnesota 55731-1402
(218) 365-8206

102 US Bank Place
230 1st Street South,
Virginia, Minnesota 55792-2666
(218) 749-7147

7/29/2004

34
An equal opportunity employer

CITY COUNCIL

SMALL CITIES UPDATE

July 21, 2004

Despite need, prospects dim for special session

The LGA glitch, which has left many city officials scratching their heads, is contributing to the growing clamor over the need for a special session. Due to a drafting error in the LGA provisions in the 2003 special session tax bill, over 600 cities will be in the position of either trying to scrape by with less state aid than anticipated or wondering whether or not they can actually spend the “bonus” they will receive.

Last session, both the House and Senate recognized the problem. Unfortunately, the tax committees never met jointly in conference committee, so the problem will remain unresolved unless one of two things happens. First, the Governor could institute a short-term fix by following “legislative intent” rather than the letter of the law. Second, the Governor could call a limited special session to correct the problem. However, neither seems likely. The Governor instituted the short-term fix last session, but is unwilling to do so again. Likewise, he is reluctant to call a special session unless there is prior agreement over the agenda.

Please contact your legislators, the House and Senate leadership and the Governor, asking them all to agree to meet in special session over at least this issue. House candidates are out on the campaign trail right now, but tell incumbents they should be beating a path to the Capitol, instead. There’s still work to be done, including a much-needed bonding bill.

Policy positions on the docket at LMC Regional Meetings

The League of Minnesota’s Regional Meetings started this week – the first ones to be held in the middle of summer. This change was made in order to get more people involved in their policy adoption process, so we hope many of you can take part in the meetings. As you know, there was some controversy last year over the League’s position on cuts in state aid to cities, so we expect a lot of discussion on that topic. Some points to remember when discussion focuses on this area are:

- **No more LGA cuts in 2005** – The State is facing another budget deficit, but LGA was already cut excessively and unfairly in 2003. It received the only permanent aid cuts even though LGA is not the only property tax relief program affecting cities. However, it is the only program based on need.
- **Restore \$60 million of LGA funding in 2005** – The excessive and unfair LGA cuts in 2003 resulted in major service cuts and property tax increases in the poorest and neediest cities in the state, but restoring \$60 million of LGA in 2005 would help fix the problem.
- **Priority funding for LGA** – LGA funding should be given priority over the funding for the Market Value Credit and transit property tax relief, which are not based on a city’s need or tax base.

MAOSC Annual Conference a success

In June, MAOSC joined forces with the University of Minnesota Morris and its *Center for Small Towns* in showcasing the successes of small cities. By combining our conference and the University’s annual symposium, we also brought attention to the needs of small cities. The Legislative forum, which was sponsored by MAOSC, was a real eye-opener for those not used to seeing legislators in action. The

questions asked – and the audience’s frustration over last session’s lack of progress and the gamesmanship demonstrated on the panel – should have sent the legislators scurrying back to St. Paul to finish up their work. Unfortunately, that has not happened.

During the forum, questions flew in fast and furious. Unfortunately, the hour and a half allotted to the forum went by just as quickly, so most questions were left unanswered. Since audience members were anxious to hear more, we collected and sent the questions to the panel members, asking them to send in their responses. So far, we have only had one person follow through, and that was Senate Majority Leader Dean Johnson (D-Willmar). His responses, and any subsequent ones that we receive, will be placed on the MAOSC web site, www.maosc.org.

Rural Summit focused on the Innovation Economy

Rural members of MAOSC who attend this year’s Rural Summit will find out how to gear up to lead in the innovation economy. Greater Minnesota is waiting to be rediscovered as a great place in which to live, work, play and grow, which is the focus of the Summit. Some pluses of rural Minnesota are the smaller scale, the decentralization, the amenities and community spirit, the nimbleness with tools of the age, the inventiveness and flexibility and the highly-trained and high-quality workforce found in our small communities. If you’re interested in rediscovering the richness and potential of 21st Century rural America, attend the Rural Summit from Wednesday, August 18, through Friday, August 20. For more information or to register, go to the web site at www.minnesotaruralpartners.org/2004_summit/. You can also send a fax request to 507-637-4082 or write to Minnesota Rural Partners – RS04, PO Box 243, Redwood Falls MN 56283-0243.

Cities, towns continue to meet over annexation

The process is slow, but by agreeing to take part in joint meetings over the interim, city and township lobbyists are hoping to make some progress in finding a solution to our long simmering battles over annexation and related land use issues. This is a tough issue for cities, since we are generally pleased with the annexation process now in place. However, the townships are looking for at least some changes that benefit their members, and they are flexing their muscles. They have been denied meaningful legislative hearings for years, and they’ve got a strong cadre of legislators waving the flag for them and calling for action. With that as an impetus, we are hoping that by the start of the next legislative session we have proposals that include some give and take on both sides. We also plan on developing a handbook that can be used to initiate meaningful dialogue between city and township officials – hopefully prior to annexation disputes.

Remember to copy and share this Update

Thanks in advance for copying and sharing this Update with your entire council and staff. We make it short so it is easy to read and easy to reproduce. If you have any questions, make sure to call either Executive Director Nancy Larson, who also serves as MAOSC’s lobbyist, at 320-275-3130 or on her cell at 612-961-5408, or Associate Director Kathy Fenrich at 320-693-1283.

MN Assn’ of Small Cities, Nancy Larson Executive Director, 21950 CSAH 4, Dassel MN 55325 (O) 320-275-3130 (C) 612-961-5408
nanlars@LL.net

Kathy Fenrich Assoc Dir, 25770 CSAH 1, Litchfield MN 55355 (O) 320-693-1283 (F) 320-693-1284 maosc@mchsi.com

Craig J. Wainio

From: Pomerantz, Bruce [Bruce.Pomerantz@state.mn.us]
Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2004 3:20 PM
To: Craig Wainio (E-mail)
Cc: Karen Luoma (E-mail); Jim Weikum (E-mail)
Subject: Mountain Iron Accessibility Grant



Grant
ent-2003 Bond
July 22, 2004

Mr. Craig Wainio, City Administrator
City of Mountain Iron
Mountain Iron, MN

Dear Mr. Wainio:

I am happy to inform you that the Mountain Iron Public Library Accessibility grant application suspension has been removed. I will immediately proceed processing the grant agreement.

Estimate the number of weeks or months to complete the project. Additionally, please provide the names and addresses of the state senator(s) and representative(s) whose districts will benefit from this project. Please provide me with this information within five working days.

You will not hear from me for several weeks while the Department of Education processes the grant application. To expedite the process, I have attached a grant agreement template that the City of Mountain Iron will enter into with the State of Minnesota. The City of Mountain Iron will receive an identical document for official signature. Although the document is referred to as a grant agreement, think of it as a contract. Therefore, I recommend that the Mountain Iron city attorney review this template on behalf of the City of Mountain Iron and City officials understand its requirements.

For the official copy, please provide me with the name and position that will appear on page 18. The City of Mountain Iron will complete pages 21, 22, and 23. I will insert a copy of the City Council resolution for page 24, unless your policies require an additional vote. In any case, an original certification for the accepting resolution is required on page 25 for each of four copies you will receive. Amendment D (indicated on page 26) will be the grant proposal.

This letter is only advisory and not an official commitment. The City of Mountain Iron must not expend money related to the accessibility project until it receives a completed grant agreement with the Commissioner's signature.

<<Grant Agreement-2003 Bonding-altered.doc>>

Sincerely,
Bruce Pomerantz, Library Development Specialist State Library Services & School Technology
Minnesota Department of Education - F28 1500 Highway 36 West Roseville, MN 55114-4266
Phone: 651-582-8890
Fax: 651-582-8752
Email: bruce.pomerantz@state.mn.us

C: Karen Luoma, Director, Mountain Iron Public Library
Jim Weikum, Director, Arrowhead Library System



-FridayFax-

A weekly legislative update from the League of Minnesota Cities

July 23, 2004

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Governor reverses LGA interpretation

At a press conference on Thursday, Governor Tim Pawlenty announced that he would end the confusion surrounding a 2003 LGA drafting error by agreeing to certify the 2005 Local Government Aid (LGA) distribution based on legislative intent. The governor's decision, which came only days before the Department of Revenue is required by law to certify the 2005 LGA distribution to each city, followed an intense effort by the League and cities across the state to convince the governor and legislative leaders to ignore the drafting error and follow legislative intent or correct the error in a special session.

The governor's decision will make the administration of the LGA formula consistent with the intent of the legislature and consistent with the 2004 LGA distribution. For the 2004 LGA distribution, the governor accepted letters from the chairs of the House and Senate Tax committees highlighting the error and urging the governor to follow the legislature's intended outcome. After the legislature failed to correct the error during the 2004 session, the governor reversed course citing a legal interpretation that failure of the legislature to correct the mistake had effectively changed legislative intent.

Over the past two months, the LGA error has evolved into a major issue as cities across the state have been developing their budgets for 2005. Some legislators indicated that if the problem was not corrected before the LGA certifications were distributed to cities in August, they would correct the error early in the 2005 session. Delaying the resolution until next year would not have allowed cities to make necessary adjustments to their property tax levies and as a result, some cities might have budgeted for higher than necessary property taxes or other revenue sources while other cities might have planned for more LGA than they would have received with a delayed fix to the error.

In his Thursday announcement, the governor stipulated that his decision would be based on agreement from the League of Minnesota Cities and other groups that represent cities before the legislature to urge each organization's members to support the decision and not take legal action against the state to dispute this legislative intent interpretation of the law.

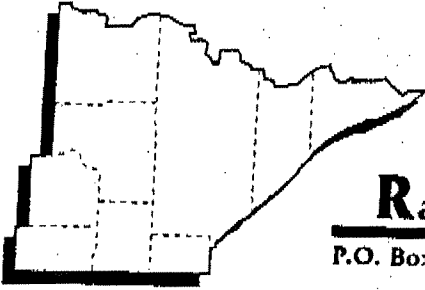
Thursday afternoon, the LMC Executive Committee acted on behalf of the LMC Board of Directors and responded affirmatively to the governor's request. The League cannot make commitments on behalf of member cities, but the Executive Committee members hoped that for the common good of the city community, all cities would support legislative intent. The League will also be pressing legislators to correct the statutory error early in the 2005 session.

The Executive Committee took this action in keeping with the LMC Board's unanimous decision in June to urge the governor to distribute the 2005 LGA dollars based on legislative intent or call a special session to correct the error. The Board took this position understanding that a letter-of-the-law interpretation would have redistributed LGA dollars to the advantage of some municipalities and to the disadvantage of others.

The Board weighed this difference in impact within the League membership very carefully. They determined that many statements and actions by legislators made it clear that the law as it stands does not represent what was intended – a technical error was made. The Board also felt that while some cities would have potentially received an unexpected, likely one-time, windfall from a letter-of-the-law interpretation, there was a slim chance that this extra aid would ever materialize. On the other hand, those cities that stood to lose a great deal of aid under a letter-of-the-law interpretation would have a harder time budgeting and setting levies based on legislators' promises to fix the issue next session. The Board believed that there was a need for both advantaged and disadvantaged cities to have greater certainty during their budget process in regard to the 2005 LGA distribution.

We believe the governor's decision will clarify the LGA distribution for 2005 and make the budgeting process more predictable. Although a legal challenge could yet occur, given the ambiguities of the law it is uncertain whether such a suit would be successful.

If you have any questions, please contact Jim Miller (jmiller@lmnc.org or 651.281.1205) or Gary Carlson (gcarlson@lmnc.org or 651.281.1255).



One Range...One Voice

Range Association of Municipalities and Schools

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Dear Members:

Since we wrote a letter to Governor Pawlenty urging him to do something to ease the pressure on cities, it is only right to share the response. In the RAMS letter, we asked him to interpret the Local Government Aid Distribution Law as he did last year, or call a Special Session to pass the bill that all parties had agreed to during the regular session.

He did not respond by letter, but he did agree to use the interpretation he used last year. Our area would have lost about \$3 million had he not done that. He does however continue to cater to a single interest group by not calling a Special Session until they get their way.

While we are grateful for the decision he made in regard to the L.G.A., there are still issues that a Special Session could address that would benefit the Taconite Relief Area. Among those are a Bonding Bill that could benefit our area by \$10 million, the Taconite Aid offset, and Revenue Recognition for school districts, which was also agreed to for passage at the end of session.

As events develop and materialize I will update you.

Sincerely,

Ron Dicklich
Executive Director