# MOUNTAIN IRON CITY COUNCIL MEETING COMMUNITY CENTER MOUNTAIN IRON ROOM MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2006 - 6:30 P.M. A G E N D A

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II.	Consent	Agenda
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- A. Minutes of the September 18, 2006 Regular Meeting (#1-15)
- B. Communications (#26-29)
- C. Receipts
- D. Bills and Payroll

### III. Public Forum

A. Curl Mesabi – 2007 World Curling Championships

### IV. Committee and Staff Reports

- A. Mayor's Report
- B. City Administrator's Report
- C. Director of Public Works Report
  - 1. Pickup Truck (#16)
- D. Director of Parks and Recreations Report
  - 1. Blight Issues
- E. Sheriff's Department Report
- F. City Engineer's Report
  - 1. Noise Sample (#17-19)
- G. Planning and Zoning Commission
  - 1. Conditional Use Permit Terch (#20-21)
  - 2. Conditional Use Permit Powilat (#22-23)
- H. Liaison Reports

### V. Unfinished Business

- VI. New Business
  - A. AARP Request (#24-25)
  - B. Communications (#26-27)
- VII. Open Discussion
- VIII. Announcements
- IX. Adjourn

# Denotes page number in packet

### MINUTES MOUNTAIN IRON CITY COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 18, 2006

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: Don Kleinschmidt, Director of Public Works; Rod Flannigan, City Engineer; Wade Rasch, Sergeant; and Sam Aluni, City Attorney.

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

- 1. Move the following item on the agenda:
  - VI. A. to III. B. Resolution Approving Joint Powers Agreement
    V. B. 3-4 Way Stop at the Unity Drive/Mud Lake Road Intersection
- 2. Approve the minutes of the September 5, 2006, 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 September 1-15, 2006, totaling \$123,274.71, (a list is attached and made a part of these minutes).
- 5. To authorize the payments of the bills and payroll for the period September 1-15, 2006, totaling \$139,337.46, (a list is attached and made a part of these minutes).

The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

During the public forum, Dick Norvold, Representative from the Iron Range Fiber Network, stated that the project is a joint venture of the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Agency, the Blandin Foundation, and the Northeast Service Cooperative. He stated that so far they are seeking support from 14 communities. So far, they have support for the project through a Joint Powers Agreement from Hibbing, Biwabik, Hoyt Lakes, Nashwauk, Ely, Tower, Gilbert, and Keewatin. He said that they are eventually looking to have all 14 communities on board with the Iron Range Network. So far, there is no financial obligation from the City of Mountain Iron, at this point, to get the final numbers because the funding is available through grant funding. He said that they are looking for bonding for approximately 20-30 years if the project continues.

Also during the public forum, Gary Cerkvenik, Representative from Qwest and the Minnesota Cable Association, said that they are here on behalf of the presentation given by the Iron Range Network. He stated that they are opposed the project. He stated that there are 14 communities in Utah, which is the model for the project, and they have 450,000 residents there and the area here has about 10% of that population. He said that the changes for this being successful with the smaller amount of numbers are minimal and the City would be involved with assisting in

the cash flow. The project would have to be subsidized by the City, the IRRRB, grants, federal funds and other funds to make this project viable. Andy Shriner, Representative from Qwest, gave an update on the work force in this area and what kind of impact this would have on jobs in this area. He stated that he has concerns with public tax dollars used to compete with private section, they questioned whether that is an appropriate use for public money.

It was moved by Nelson that if the study does not cost the City anything to complete, that the City approve the Resolution Approving the Joint Powers Agreement as long as the City can pull out of the agreement once the financial information is received. The **motion died for lack of support**.

The Mayor updated the Council advising them that the Walgreens project is moving along and should be opened by the Spring of 2007.

The Mayor also reported that he had met with Bob Manzoline, Regional Rail Authority, and Mr. Manzoline advised the Mayor that 12 signs had been approved for the Mountain Iron Trail. He thought that there were approximately 30 signs suggestions submitted. Councilor Roskoski said that he and William Buria had worked on some of the historic signs suggestions.

It was moved by Skalko and supported by Prebeg to hire Louis Russo Consulting to work with the Personnel Committee/Council in negotiating contracts with the City management employees. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

It was moved by Skalko and supported by Prebeg to have the City Attorney review and come back with his written findings for the second meeting in October whether it is legal, ethical, or appropriate behavior for any City Councilor acting alone, without Council authorization, to write and distribute through our Community as listed as Exhibit A, (a copy is attached and made a part of these minutes) as listed on Page 16 of the Council packet. The motion carried on the following roll call vote: Irish, no; Roskoski, no; Prebeg, yes; Nelson, yes; and Skalko, yes.

Councilor Roskoski questioned the agreement regarding the 40 acre parcel across from the City Hall, he said that the Iron Range Investment Group has signed a letter of intent and there has been no money that had changed hands. The Mayor stated and confirmed that a Development Agreement had been signed and there were some title problems currently and that is why the title had not been cleared. Once the title is cleared by the City, the agreement will be moving forward. Councilor Prebeg said that the developer was attracted by the improvements that the City had done with the property and the funds that were put into the land were not wasted because the developer is going in there and developing the property.

It was moved by Roskoski and supported by Nelson to direct the City Administrator to seek the costs associated to provide Dial-a-Ride for the entire area of Mountain Iron. The motion carried on the following roll call vote: Roskoski, yes; Prebeg, no; Nelson, no; Irish, yes; and Skalko, yes.

The City Administrator advised the Council that he would be attending the Minnesota Department of Transportation Enhancement workshop on September 20<sup>th</sup> in Virginia.

It was moved by Nelson and supported by Skalko to authorize the purchase of one (1) new tandem axle trailer, 14 foot type, 12, GVW, tension axle from Scharber Equipment for their low quote of \$4,984.59. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

It was moved by Prebeg and supported by Nelson to authorize the following items to be disposed of at the October 7, 2006, Saint Louis County Auction:

- > 1994 Redi Haul Trailer VIN # 47SS142T3R1009001
- ➤ 1984 Chevy Dump Truck with plow and sander VIN #1GBM7D1F8EVB1750
- ➤ Ford Crown Victoria VIN # 1FALP71W9TX145988
- > 1999 Ford Crown Victoria VIN # 2FAFP71WOXX197402
- > Graco Greaser
- > Homelite Cut Off Saw
- ➤ Homelite Generator 5500 watts
- > Hydro Quick Pressure Washer
- > 1985 Bolens Lawn Tractor
- > Bench Grinder

The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Councilor Roskoski asked the Director of Public Works what work had been done specifically for the Walgreen Project. The Director of Public Works stated that the City had not provided any work on the project and the City would not be completing any work on the project.

It was moved by Skalko and supported by Irish to approve the Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association contract for training for the year 2006-2007 in the amount of \$7,000.00. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

The Council noted that the Mountain Iron Parks and Recreation Department recommended that the City of Mountain Iron not sell any of the land to Mr. Ed Klimek at 5366 Mineral Avenue. This was informational and required no action.

The Council reviewed the Sheriff's Department monthly activity report for August, 2006.

Sergeant Rasch advised the Council that he had accepted a transfer to the Duluth Sheriff's office and this transfer would occur probably within the next month and he would keep the Council updated with regard to who his replacement would be. The Mayor said that his transfer would be a loss for the City and wished the Sergeant well in his new position.

Councilor Roskoski questioned the City Attorney regarding the blight property in Kinross. The Mayor thought that the property has been sold and the transaction has not been completed yet.

It was moved by Skalko and supported by Prebeg to approve the preliminary concept for Unity Second Addition and authorize the City Engineer to begin the formal plat for Unity Second Addition. The motion carried on the following roll call vote: Roskoski, no; Prebeg, yes; Nelson, yes; Irish, yes; and Skalko, yes.

The Mayor requested the City Engineer bring the sound monitoring report to the next regular meeting for further discussion.

It was moved by Prebeg and supported by Skalko to call for bids for the Unity Drive Project, Unity Drive Sidewalks, and the City Garage paving. The motion carried on the following roll call vote: Prebeg, yes; Nelson, yes; Irish, yes; Roskoski, no; and Skalko, yes.

It was moved by Prebeg and supported by Skalko to approve the Lineman Position Analysis, (a copy is attached and made a part of these minutes) and authorize the hiring process for the lineman position as authorized in the contract. It was moved by Irish and supported by Roskoski to table the Lineman Position issue. The **motion to table failed** on the following roll call vote: Nelson, no; Irish, yes; Roskoski, yes; Prebeg, no; and Skalko, no. The motion carried on the following roll call vote: Irish, no; Roskoski, no; Prebeg, yes; Nelson, yes; and Skalko, yes.

It was moved by Nelson and supported by Skalko to approve the form as the official form the City uses entitled "Employee Time Sheet", modified to include the employee's signature; and, eliminate the forms entitled "Overtime Report" and "Call Out Form". The motion carried on the following roll call vote: Roskoski, no; Prebeg, yes; Nelson, yes; Irish, no; and Skalko, yes.

During the liaison reports, Councilor Roskoski updated the Council regarding the Library Board. He stated that they had reviewed the lighting and computer wiring hook-up presented by a consultant/engineer that the City had hired and they approved the plan. They also picked the type of lighting fixture that emulates what was there in 1916-1917. He stated that there were many concerns regarding the elevator because it is many months behind scheduled. The inspector had come to the library several times and advised the City what additional things need to be completed to have it useable. He also reported that there was a problem with a doorway in the basement being too narrow. He said that there is currently a meeting being scheduled with all of the officials involved to resolve these issues. The Director of Public Works said he spoke with contractor on the elevator and the inspector has been contacted and the electrical deficiencies that were pointed out by the elevator inspector were taken care of and they were scheduling another inspection and should be operational soon.

The Mayor updated the Council that he would be calling a meeting with the Downtown Group within the next month. He said that the T21 grant project rehabilitation project grant funds would not be available until Spring-Summer of 2008. Councilor Roskoski questioned whether he could become a part of the Downtown Committee with there being three Council members present. The City Attorney said that as long as the Council is not taking any official action at the meeting.

It was moved by Roskoski and supported by Irish that the four-way stop at the intersection of Unity Drive and Mud Lake Road (County Road 103) remains for the present; also, the City Sergeant would research City records going back 40 years and compile a list of bodily injury and property damage accidents at that intersection; and further, that the City Sergeant also compile the County Road records for a list of bodily injury and property damage accidents at that intersection. Such request would be forwarded to the City Council as soon as possible. The **motion failed** on the following roll call vote: Prebeg, no; Nelson, no; Irish, no; Roskoski, yes; and Skalko, no.

It was moved by Skalko and supported by Irish to approve payment request number ten to Lenci Enterprises Incorporated for the Library Reconstruction Project in the amount of \$11,785.00. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

It was moved by Skalko and supported by Nelson to adopt the contract with the Mesabi Humane Society, (a copy is attached and made a part of these minutes), at a cost of \$1,000 per month. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

During the open discussion, Councilor Irish asked the City Administrator if there was a comprehensive plan for the T21 Grant. The City Administrator stated that the City does have a comprehensive plan for the grant.

Also during the open discussion, Councilor Irish asked the Director of Public Works whether the four-way stop sign at the intersection of Unity Drive and Mud Lake Road. The Director stated that he thought the sign on the west side was permanent and the one on the east side was temporary with a sign and flags and reflectors to indicate that there was a change made.

Also during the open discussion, Councilor Roskoski questioned the waterline loop being put in on Heather Avenue. The Mayor thought that was approved by the City Council. Councilor Roskoski questioned whether there were going to be assessments to the residents for the waterline loop.

Also during the open discussion, Councilor Nelson stated that he was concerned regarding the Iron Range Network presentation. He stated that he felt that the Council made a mistake turning down the grant money for the study.

It was moved by Roskoski and supported by Nelson to adopt Resolution Number 29-06, approving a joint powers agreement for the Iron Range Network, (a copy is attached and made a part of these minutes). The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

It was moved by Nelson and supported by Skalko to recess the regular meeting and open the closed session to discuss contract negotiations strategies concerning the contracts with management personnel. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

The Council recessed until 9:15 p.m.

At 9:55 p.m., it was moved by Roskoski and supported by Skalko to adjourn the closed meeting and the regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted:

Que M. Forseen

Jill M. Forseen, CMC/MMCA Municipal Services Secretary

www.mtniron.com

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Ultimate Body and Frame, a fax recommending that the locomotive be fenced off due to the deteriorating condition.

### Receipt Register By Date Receipt Date(s): 09/01/2006 - 09/15/2006

Page: 23 Sep 18, 2006 11:53am

Summary By Category And Distribution

Category	Distribution	Amount
PERMITS	BUILDING	614.65
UTILITY	UTILITY	115,230.35
CAMPGROUND RECEIPTS	FEES	2,039.00
BUILDING RENTALS	BUILDING RENTAL DEPOSITS	400.00
MISCELLANEOUS	CHECK RETURN FEE	20.00
MISCELLANEOUS	REIMBURSEMENTS	301.92
METER DEPOSITS	ELECTRIC	700.00
FINES	ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENSE	50.00
BUILDING RENTALS	SENIOR CENTER	40.00
MISCELLANEOUS	ASSESSMENT SEARCHES	70.00
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 101	265.69
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 103	1,355.52
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 301	382.90
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 376	30.03
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 378	292.81
CD INTEREST	CD INTEREST 602	37.56
BUILDING RENTALS	NICHOLS HALL	160.00
PERMITS	CONDITIONAL USE	150.00
CHARGE FOR SERVICES	REFUSE REMOVAL-CHG FOR SERVICE	293.40
CHARGE FOR SERVICES	SEWER-CHARGE FOR SERVICES	713.88
MISCELLANEOUS	ELECTRICAL INSPEC FORMS	2.00
BUILDING RENTALS	COMMUNITY CENTER	125.00
Summary Totals:		123,274.71

Check Issue Date(s): 09/09/2006 - 09/28/2006

			····	Officer 13300 Date(3). 03103/2000			
Per	Date	Check No	Vendor No	Payee	Check GL Acct	Amount	
09/06	09/19/2006	33709	160046	S VOID - TEEN PEOPLE	002-20200	15.00 -M	
09/06	09/14/2006	33808		MOUNTAIN IRON POSTMASTER	002-20200		
09/06	09/27/2006	33809		2 AEOA	002-20200	100.00	
09/06	09/27/2006	33810		B ALERT-ALL CORPORATION	002-20200	385.92	
09/06	09/27/2006	33811		ALL YOU	002-20200	21.24	
09/06	09/27/2006	33812		AMERICAN LIBRARY PREVIEW	002-20200	122.50	
09/06	09/27/2006	33813		APRIL JEFFERY	002-20200	61.78	
09/06	09/27/2006	33814		ARROWAUTO			
09/06	09/27/2006	33815		ARROWHEAD ECONOMIC OPPORTUNI	002-20200	21.58	
09/06	09/27/2006	33816		ARROWHEAD LIBRARY SYSTEM	002-20200	47.50	
09/06	09/27/2006	33817		BRANDI KASTER	002-20200	1,041.25	
09/06	09/27/2006	33818	20021		002-20200	226.63	
					002-20200	200.41	
09/06	09/27/2006	33819		CARQUEST (MOUNTAIN IRON)	002-20200	347.44	
09/06	09/27/2006	33820		CELLULARONE	002-20200	574.85	
09/06	09/27/2006	33821		CHRISTINA LANARI	002-20200	117.76	
09/06	09/27/2006	33822		CITY OF VIRGINIA	002-20200	420.21	
09/06	09/27/2006	33823		CLAREY'S SAFETY EQUIPMENT INC	002-20200	1,741.09	
09/06	09/27/2006	33824		CONSOLIDATED TRADING COMPANY	002-20200	1,463.10	
09/06	09/27/2006	33825		COOKING LIGHT	002-20200	9.00	
09/06	09/27/2006	33826		COPY MAGIC INC	002-20200	92.81	
09/06	09/27/2006	33827		COSMOPOLITAN	002-20200	6,66	
09/06	09/27/2006	33828	30064		002-20200	10.00	
09/06	09/27/2006	33829			002-20200	43.85	
09/06	09/27/2006	33830	40027	DULUTH/SUPERIOR COMMUNICATION:	002-20200	71.89	
09/06	09/27/2006	33831	500012	ERA LABORATORIES INC	002-20200	769.40	
09/06	09/27/2006	33832	60026	FASTENAL COMPANY	002-20200	437.61	
09/06	09/27/2006	33833	60029	FERGUSON ENTERPRISES INC	002-20200	1,357.13	
09/06	09/27/2006	33834	60006	FISHER PRINTING	002-20200	764.67	
09/06	09/27/2006	33835	60003	FIVE SEASONS SPORTS CENTER	002-20200	78.79	
09/06	09/27/2006	33836	70017	GOOD HOUSEKEEPING	002-20200	19.97	
09/06	09/27/2006	33837	70004	GRANDE ACE HARDWARE	002-20200	42.48	
09/06	09/27/2006	33838	70028	GREATER MINNESOTA AGENCY INC	002-20200	186.00	
09/06	09/27/2006	33839	80022	HAWKINS INC	002-20200	663.22	
09/06	09/27/2006	33840	90009	IRON OAKES FENCING	002-20200	4,112.00	
09/06	09/27/2006	33841	9049	JAMES FISHER	002-20200	100.00	
09/06	09/27/2006	33842	100011	JANWAY COMPANY USA INC	002-20200	148.15	
09/06	09/27/2006	33843	9022	JUDITH NORRI	002-20200	298.87	
09/06	09/27/2006	33844	1110	KRISTINE BUTORAC	002-20200	50.00	
09/06	09/27/2006	33845	9048	LAUREN AHO	002-20200	100.00	
09/06	09/27/2006	33846	120002	LAWSON PRODUCTS INC	002-20200	857.22	
09/06	09/27/2006	33847	120039	LEEF SERVICES	002-20200	58.58	
09/06	09/27/2006	33848	120035	LENCI ENTERPRISES INC	002-20200	11,785.00	
09/06	09/27/2006	33849	120026	LES HARKONEN BAND	002-20200	250.00	
09/06	09/27/2006	33850	120023	LOCATORS & SUPPLIES INC	002-20200	97.74	
09/06	09/27/2006	33851	9046	LORS LEPPALA	002-20200	105.44	
9/06	09/27/2006	33852		MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT	002-20200	56.80	
29/06	09/27/2006	33853		MANNEYS SHOPPER INC	002-20200	365.70	
	09/27/2006	33854		MESABI DAILY NEWS	002-20200	756.47	
	09/27/2006	33855		MESABI RANGE COLLEGE	002-20200	3,980.00	
	09/27/2006	33856		MINNESOTA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	002-20200	279.00	
	09/27/2006	33857		MORE MAGAZINE			
	09/27/2006	33858		MOUNTAIN IRON PUBLIC UTILITIES	002-20200	20.00	
	09/27/2006	33859		MOUTAIN IRON-BUHL ACE CLUB		13,145.36	
	09/27/2006				002-20200	50.00	
		33860		VINA KOLQUURST	002-20200	100.00	
	09/27/2006	33861		NORTHERN DOOR & HARDWARE INC	002-20200	437.20	
	09/27/2006 20/27/2008	33862		ORTHERN ENGINE & SUPPLY INC	002-20200	82.72	
9/06 (	39/27/2006	33863	140054 h	ORTHLAND CHEMICAL CORP	002-20200	74.54	

Check Issue Date(s): 09/09/2006 - 09/28/2006

Per	Date	Check No	Vendor No	Payee	Check GL Acct	Amount
09/06	09/27/2006	33864	150014	ONE CALL CONCEPTS INC	002-20200	80 40
09/06	09/27/2006	338 <b>65</b>	150015	OPRAH MAGAZINE	002-20200	18.00
09/06	09/27/2006	338 <b>66</b>	160003	PERPICH TV & MUSIC INC	002-20200	2.76
09/06	09/27/2006	33867	160005	PLAZA HARDWARE	002-20200	33,39
09/06	09/27/2006	33868	170007	QUILL CORPORATION	002-20200	429.48
09/06	09/27/2006	33869	170001	QWEST	002-20200	522.58
09/06	09/27/2006	33870	180008	RADKO IRON & SUPPLY INC	002-20200	60.65
09/06	09/27/2006	33871	180018	RANGE LANDSCAPE	002-20200	5,383,86
09/06	09/27/2006	33872	180003	RANGE OFFICE SUPPLY	G02-20200	11.68
09/06	09/27/2006	33873	180001	RANGE PAPER	002-20200	97.34
09/06	09/27/2006	33874	180017	RELIABLE OFFICE SUPPLIES	002-20200	73.33
09/06	09/27/2006	33875	190040	SEVENTEEN MAGAZINE	002-20200	15.00
09/06	09/27/2006	33876	190014	SHERWIN WILLIAMS	002-20200	86.21
09/06	09/27/2006	33877	190004	SKUBIC BROS INC	002-20200	123.88
09/06	09/27/2006	33878	190022	ST LOUIS COUNTY AUDITOR	002-20200	1.65
09/06	09/27/2006	33879	190039	ST LOUIS COUNTY RECORDERS OFFC	002-20200	46.00
09/06	09/27/2006	33880	1244	ST LOUIS COUNTY SOCIAL SRV	002-20200	280.13
09/06	09/27/2006	33881	200003	TACONITE TIRE SERVICE	002-20200	292.10
09/06	09/27/2006	33882	200031	TASTE OF HOME BOOKS	002-20200	4.99
09/06	09/27/2006	33883	200040	TAUS, DAVID	002-20200	315.00
09/06	09/27/2006	33884	160046	TEEN PEOPLE	002-20200	15.00
09/06	09/27/2006	33885	9009	TERESA KOCHAR	002-20200	50.00
09/06	09/27/2006	33886	200026	TERRA FERMA DEVELOPMENT	002-20200	400.00
09/06	09/27/2006	33887	200006	TRIMARK INDUSTRIAL	002-20200	31.36
09/06	09/27/2006	33888	200009	TROPHY SHOP	002-20200	427.66
09/06	09/27/2006	33889	210001	UNITED ELECTRIC COMPANY	002-20200	2,490.96
09/06	09/27/2006	33890	220014	VIKING INDUSTRIAL NORTH	002-20200	1,396.19
09/06	09/27/2006	33891	220026	VIRGINIA HOME CENTER	002-20200	255.65
09/06	09/27/2006	33892	220020	VISA OR AMERICAN BANK CC PMT	002-20200	5,295.40
09/06	09/27/2006	33893	230017	WAYNE TRANSPORTS INC	002-20200	423.00
09/06	09/27/2006	33894	230027	WELLS FARGO BANK	002-20200	15.00
09/06	09/27/2006	33895	230004	WENCK ASSOCIATES INC	002-20200	21,749.92
09/06	09/27/2006	33896	230028	WISCONSIN ENERGY CONSERVATION	002-20200	98.30
09/06	09/27/2006	33897	260001	ZIEGLER INC	002-20200	877.73
09/06	09/28/2006	33898	130011	MOUNTAIN IRON POSTMASTER	002-20200	383.08
To	otals:				_	90,841.05
				Payroll-PP Ending 9/8/06	48	,496.41
				TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$139	,337.46

### CITY OF MOUNTAIN IRON POSITION ANALYSIS

POSITION TITLE: Lineman

**SUPERVISOR:** Director of Public Works

### PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF POSITION:

The primary objective of this position is to perform skilled work in connection with the operation, maintenance and construction of the electric system.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Install, repair and maintain the electrical distribution system including building services, utility poles and related hardware.
- Adjusts, repairs, replaces electrical and related mechanical equipment and parts.
- Locates trouble sources in the electrical system or equipment and inspects installations for compliance with codes and ordinances.
- Installs, repairs and maintains sewer and water lines and system equipment.
- Operates loader, bucket truck, other City equipment and vehicles as required
- Must be available for on call and callout duty as outlined in City policy.
- Other duties as apparent or as delegated.

### KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Ability to read and interpret electrical diagrams
- Ability to use and maintain required tools and equipment.
- Ability to climb poles, work at heights.
- Ability to perform strenuous physical activity.
- ♦ Knowledge of techniques, methods and practices of the electrical trade with an emphasis on line work.
- Knowledge of electrical codes, ordinances and safety requirements.
- Knowledge of the basic operation and maintenance of the various City equipment.

### TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:

- ♦ High School Education or equivalent, with advanced education/training in electrical distribution systems and related subjects preferred.
- Journeyman Lineman's license.
- ♦ Class B Commercial Drivers License with ability to attain a Class A Commercial Drivers License prior to the expiration of the probationary period.
- Minimum of five years experience in the installation, maintenance and repair of electrical transmission and/or distribution lines up to 23KV.

### CONTRACT FOR SERVICE

This contract, made and entered into this first day of January, 2007 by and between the Mesabi Humane Society, owner of the Range Animal Center, 2305 Southern Drive, Virginia, Minnesota 55792, referred to as the Mesabi Humane Society and the City of Mt. Iron hereinafter referred to as the Municipality.

WHEREAS,	This contract will use the term 'animals' from herein to mean domesticated dogs and cats only. All other animals are not considered within this document.
WHEREAS,	The Municipality is in need of shelter and care of animals found within
WHEREAS,	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 January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007 to be reviewed for revisions by both parties on yearly 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:

- Shelter and care for animals that are picked up in the limits of the Municipality by the Humane Society Animal Control Officer.
- Shelter and care for stray/free-roaming animals that are brought to the shelter by residents of the Municipality on a volunteer basis.
- Pick up and transport animals from the Municipality to the shelter during business hours, upon request of the appropriate Municipality officials and citizens within the Municipalities City Limits.
- 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 free-roaming animals within the limits of the Municipality. The ACO will work with the Municipalities Police Department to help uphold all City ordinances governing animals within their limits.
- Animal examinations and veterinary care at a licensed facility, whenever staff deems it necessary.
- Boarding up to Seven working days in a holding facility, to find rightful owners then place the animal up for adoption.
- 7. Euthanasia and disposal if required.

- 8. Issue ID tags to all animals leaving our facility and send notification to the proper Department within the Municipality of adoption.
- 9. Keep accurate records of all transactions concerning animals from the Municipality.

### III. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MUNICIPALITY

- It is up to all Municipalities to help the Mesabi Humane Society uphold quarantine (confine & observe) guidelines. The Mesabi Humane Society reserves the right to make decisions regarding bites and human exposure.
- The Municipality shall call the Mesabi Humane Society for pick-up of animal(s) during normal business hours:

\*\*If agreed upon, a Municipality appointed personnel may bring animal(s) to the shelter and place animals in our outdoor kennels after regular business hours. The animal(s) will then be brought into the shelter the following morning.

Mesabi Humane Society Representative

Municipality Representative

1. 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.

### IV. COMPENSATION

The Municipality shall pay the Mesabi Humane Society the following fee: \$1,000.00 per month.

Payments shall be made at the beginning of each month for the ensuing period of service. (i.e.

January 1 payment for January services, etc.)

### V: COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

In providing all services pursuant to this contract, the Mesabi Humane Society shall abide by all statutes, ordinances, rules, and regulations pertaining to or regulating the provision of such services, including those now in effect and hereinafter adopted, as provided by each and all Municipalities. It will be the sole responsibility of each Municipality to give the Mesabi Humane Society its statutes, ordinances and rules and keep the Mesabi Humane Society up to date on any and all changes in a timely manner.

#### 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 Minneenta
- 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 Shelter

City of Mt. Iron

2305 Southern Drive

8586 Enterprise Drive

Virginia, MN 55792

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** 

Mountain Iron MUNICIPALITY OF BREITHING



### 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 29-06**

# APPROVING A JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT FOR THE IRON RANGE NETWORK

WHEREAS, the Joint Powers Act provides that two or more governmental units may jointly or cooperatively exercise any power common to them or any similar powers; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mountain Iron wants to enter into this Agreement for the purpose of (i) creating the "Iron Range Network JPA" as a separate legal entity; and (ii) studying the feasibility of constructing and operating a telecommunications system that would provide high-speed broadband voice, video and data access for internal use by the Members and on a wholesale basis, to residential, commercial and other entities within the boundaries of the Members; and

WHEREAS, this joint effort in creating a wholesale telecommunications utility is anticipated to make the most efficient use of the Members' powers in a mutually advantageous way, including the benefit of economy of scale, which will facilitate superior services to residences and businesses; enhance government administration; provide more functional buildings and grounds; support better educational opportunities, health care, and police and fire protection; and spur economic development.

### NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN IRON, MINNESOTA:

- 1. The City of Mountain Iron hereby approves the Joint Powers Agreement for the Iron Range Network in substantially the form attached hereto.
- 2. The Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer are hereby designated and authorized to act on behalf of the City of Mountain Iron to sign the Joint Powers Agreement for the Iron Range Network referred to above.

3. The approval hereby given to the Joint Powers Agreement for the Iron Range Network referred to above includes approval of such additional details therein as may be necessary and appropriate and such modifications thereof, deletions therefrom and additions thereto as may be necessary and appropriate and approved by the City Attorney and the City officials authorized herein to execute said document. Said City officials are hereby authorized to approve said changes on behalf of the City of Mountain Iron. The execution of any instrument by the appropriate officer or officers of the City herein authorized shall be conclusive evidence of the approval of such documents in accordance with the terms hereof.

DULY ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THIS 18th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2006.

	Mayor Gary Skalko	
ATTEST:		

### **COUNCIL LETTER 100206-IVC1**

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

## WATER & WASTEWATER PICKUP TRUCK

DATE:

September 27, 2006

FROM:

Don Kleinschmidt

Director of Public Works

Craig J. Wainio City Administrator

Staff is requesting City Council authorization to seek quotes for a pickup truck for use in the Water and Wastewater systems.

This truck is budgeted in the 2006 Water and Wastewater Enterprise Funds. The quote will be returned to the City Council for purchase authorization.



CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING • PLANNING MINING • LAND SURVEYING • LAND DATA BASE MAPPING

8878 Main Street • P.O. Box 261 Mt. Iron, MN 55768-0261 tel: 218-735-8914 • fax: 218-735-8923 email: info@bm-eng.com

September 25, 2006

Mayor, Council and Staff 8586 Enterprise Drive South City Hall Mountain Iron, MN 55768

Re: Sound Monitoring for P and H Site

Dear Mayor, Council and Staff:

Enclosed is the sound monitoring report and map showing the location of the sound monitoring equipment. The sound monitoring equipment was mounted on a telephone pedestal that is located 130 feet east of the intersection of Bluebill Avenue on the unimproved portion of Gardenia Street.

The sound levels collected in that 25-hour period fall below the accepted noise level regulations as administered by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

This sound monitoring was taken on a random basis and it is not known what activity was taking place on site during this time.

If you have any questions or need additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Benchmark Engineering, Inc.

Rodney Flannigan, P.L.S.

RF: cm

Enclosures



Wenck Associates, Inc. 1800 Pioneer Creek Ctr. P.O. Box 249 Maple Plain, MN 55359-0249

(763) 479-4200 Fax (763) 479-4242 E-mail: wenckmp@wenck.com

### **TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM**

To:

Rodney Flannigan

Benchmark

From:

Scott Sell

Wenck Associates, Inc.

Re:

Noise Sample

Mt. Iron, MN

Date:

June 12, 2006

### **SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS**

The sample was started on 6/6/06 at 0704 and commenced at 6/7/06 at 0756.

The relevant regulatory limits are the  $L_{10}$  and  $L_{50}$  levels.

### Receptor – Daytime

Location	Results		Results Site Conditions & Co			
Location	L <sub>max</sub> L <sub>m</sub>	in L <sub>10</sub>	$L_{50}$	Site Conditions & Comments		
1	NA N	A 52.6	47.7	Not obtained for this sampling event.		

### Receptor - Nighttime

Location		Res	ults		Site Conditions & Comments
Location	Lmax	$L_{min}$	$L_{10}$	$L_{50}$	Site Conditions & Comments
1	NA	NA	51.1	47.7	Not obtained for this sampling event.

### **MINNESOTA NOISE RULES**

### Description of the Noise Rules

These results are compared with the requirements of the Minnesota Rules pertaining to community noise. The regulations are contained in Minnesota Rules, Chapter 7030 and are administered by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. The noise rules are summarized below:

- Noise area classifications (NAC's) are defined for various types of land uses in the state. The NAC's are numerically labeled from 1 through 4 and are described in Chapter 7030.0050.
- The noise emanating from an NAC and impacting a neighboring NAC is limited by the rules. Different levels are specified for daytime (0700-2200) and nighttime (2200-0700) periods. The noise is (usually) evaluated at the property line of the receiving NAC.
- NAC 1 generally includes land uses such as household units & other residential (including farmhouses), medical services, transient lodging (e.g., hotels) and other cultural, entertainment and recreational activities.
- For NAC 2, transportation facilities, retail trade, service establishments and some outdoor activities are included.
- NAC 3 covers manufacturing, utilities, agricultural and "all other activities not otherwise listed".
- NAC 4 covers undeveloped and unused land and water areas.
- The noise limits are listed below for NAC's 1, 2, & 3:

Receiver Noise Area Classification	Daytime	Nighttime
	$L_{50}$ $L_{10}$	$L_{50}$ $L_{10}$
1	60 65	50 55
2	65 70	65 70
3	75 80	75 80

The noise limits are in decibels, abbreviated dB, on the A scale, further abbreviated dBA. The  $L_{10}$  is the level exceeded for 10% of the time; the  $L_{50}$  is the level exceeded for 50% of the time and is considered the "average" sound level.

### **MEASUREMENT METHODOLOGY**

The noise measurements were made using an automated data logging sound level meter. This type of meter accumulates average noise level readings every second in its memory. The stored data is used to calculate the  $L_{10}$ ,  $L_{50}$  and other statistical data for the measurement period.

The sound level meter was a Qwest Technologies Q300, serial number QCA060187. The meter was calibrated with a Qwest Technologies QC10 Calibrator, serial number QE6070209, at the beginning of the noise measurements to 114dB.

# CITY OF MOUNTAIN IRON CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION \*

Name of Applicant Paul Terri	Signature of Applicant		ate of
S414 Mineral Avenue, M Legal Description:	ountain Iran	A A	oplications 9/12/0
Sec Lot 3 Twp Block	4 Rge/Subd So. Grove Addition	Parcel Cod	le # <u>175-0055-0078</u>
Description of Proposed Use Proposed Use	torage		
	property lines.  I my Lots.	Unbuildo	ble bots
Statement as to how my exproposed use is to be designed, arranged and operated in order to I'ld // permit development and use of neighboring for a property. 960 sq.ff.	ke to add 8'; sold itional 192 ding with a ga	to the he	ick of anomal
* Applicant is required to subm of the Zoning Ordinance along Applicant is also required to applicant's and adjoining proor uses. Use reverse side of	it documentation require with this application submit a Vicinity Map, perty including existing	red in Section for a Condition	22.24, Subd 4 onal Use Permit.
Pd \$ (50.00 8/30/06 Rec. \$ 2.019576	OFFICE USE ONL	¥	
ITEM	ACTION	DATE	INITIAL
Zoning Administrator Review	Recid Application Sent to JAK	9/12/06	Om7
Public Hearing Set	Hearing set for 9/25/06 7:05	9/11/06	Om7
Hearing Notice Published	Mesabi Dily Nevs	9/15/06	Om#
Planning & Zoning Recommendation	<u> </u>		
Council Action	*	***************************************	
iled with County Recorder		***************************************	
onditions Attached			
	20		entern materiale de l'est article de la principa de l'administra de l'administ

VICINITY MAP TO SCALE - SHOW DIMENSIONS OF LOT AND ALL EXISTING AND PROPOSED STRUCUTRES OR USE DISTANCES FROM FRONT, SIDE AND REAK LOT LINE SETBACKS TO ALL EXISTING AND PROPOSED STRUCTURES SHOW ALLEY AND STREET NAMES ABUTTING LOT.

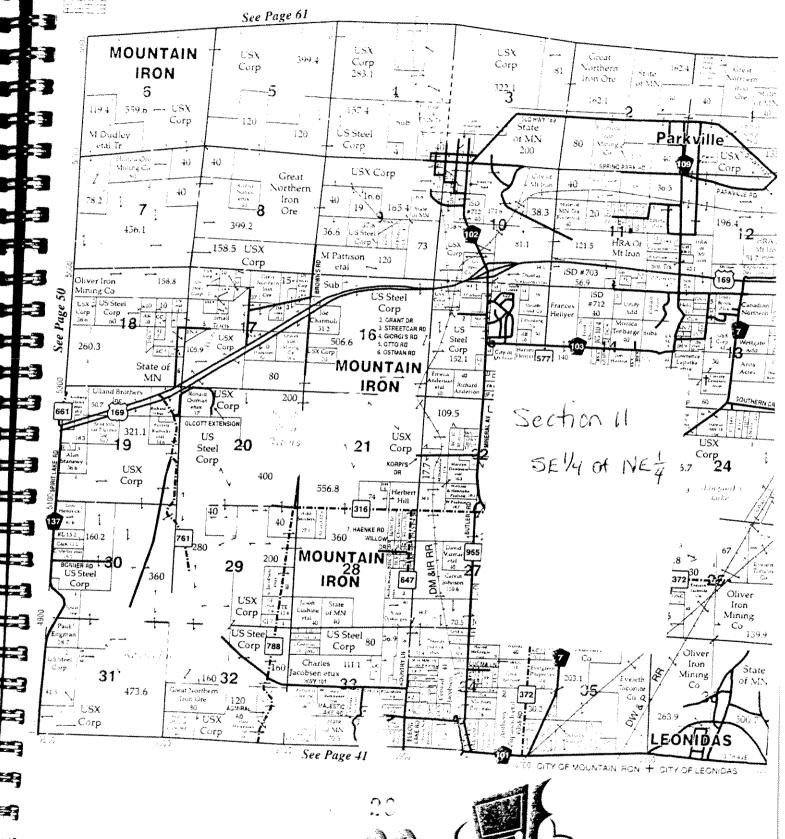
1/We certify that the proposed construction will conform to the dimensions and uses shown and that no changes will be made without first obtaining approval. Date 9/12/06 Signature INDICATE NORTH IN CIRCLE AUTINA MINERAL S S Percosed addition

Side of Prop. Line

POWILAT. 3334 ARDEN BROCKFIELD 16 60513 708-485-1710

# CITY OF MOUNTAIN IRON CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION \*

w		0 0 1	
Name of POWILAT ARUGO	Signature of	P / T Da	te of 9-8-06
Applicant 1/10/CA, AROY	Applicant Oral	App	plications /-8-06
2490 Mud Lake Roud, Mour Legal Description:	VITAIN TAUN		
Sec Lot /3 Twp Block 5	B Ranksubd 18	Parcel Code	+ 175-0071-012
Nly 212 \$1. 0+ Sly 31+ ft. of U	ula que fet ent 5 416		
		4	Acres: 0.98
Description of 2,000	S.F. POLG BUL	G FOR	***************************************
Proposed Use 578 RAGE	OF PERSON	AL PAC	PERTY
CARS BOAT LAUN	EOPNT.		
Statement as to why			
proposed use will not		Δ	
cause injury to value LAR-6	E LOT U/Au	PLE RO	O M
of adjoining property.			
Chahanahaa ka kar			
Statement as to how			
proposed use is to be designed, arranged and			and That
designed, arranged and SET	TAKEKS WIL	C DE A	HORE TARD
oberaced In Order co		,	
permit development and	E MINIMAN	O EX	6 - 1
	e niniman	reau	FED
property.			
* Applicant is required to subm	it documentation requir	ed in Section	22 24 Subd 4
of the Zoning Ordinance along	with this application	for a Condition	22.24, Subd 4
Applicant is also required to	submit a Vicinity Man	drawn to coal	o showing
applicant's and adjoining proj	nerty including existing	arawn to scar	e, showing
or uses. Use reverse side of		ig and proposed	Duridings
	to a decision of the decision of		
	***************************************		
Pa \$ 150.00	OFFICE USE ONL	Y	
9/8/06 Rec. 1.023948			
ITEM	ACTION	DATE	INITIAL
Zoning Administrator Review	Mailed to JOK	9/8/06	Qm ∓
Public Hearing Set	HECKING SOL 9/25/06 7:10 AM	9/14/06	don+
Hearing Notice Published	Mesabi Daily News	9/15/06	Com 7
Planning & Zoning Recommendation			
Council Action			
'iled with County Recorder			
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onditions Attached			
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We're into





September 26, 2006

AARP TAX AIDE
Marian D. Chase,
District Coordinator for North St. Louis County
503 North Van Buren Avenue
Eveleth, MN 55734-2253
Phone & Fax: 218-744-5635

Honorable Gary Skalko, Mayor Mt. Iron City Hall 8586 Enterprise Drive South Mt. Iron, MN 55768

Dear Mayor Skalko:

I respectfully request the use of the Iroquois room in the Mt. Iron Community Center for training AARP Tax Aide Volunteer Counselors the week of January 8-12, 2007 from 8:00-4:30, daily.

We need a room which can seat about 36 counselors at tables arranged in a classroom style. Our instructors use an overhead projector and/or other electronic equipment in their presentations. The room needs to be a secure, locked facility in order to leave desktop computers and overhead projectors in the classroom the entire week of training.

We can seat up to three counselors per table. This allows room for a laptop or a desktop computer plus their manuals and other training materials.

AARP Tax Aide is a nationwide program which serves low and moderate income taxpayers of all ages. During the tax season, we have sites set up in Hibbing, Chisholm, Virginia and Ely which are open one or more days per week. For example, in Virginia, a site at the Thunderbird Mall is open Tuesday. Thursday and Saturday, including evening hours on Tuesdays. In addition, we have many one-day sites located at hi-rises in many communities, including Mt. Iron. We provide service to shut-ins, as well. Last year, we assisted over 3,400 taxpayers, free of charge. Federal and state refunds totaled over \$3 million which contributes to the local economy. (The taxpayers we assist spend their refunds locally on merchandise and services.)

We have no funds to pay for a training facility or for our tax preparation sites. AARP, IRS, and Minnesota Revenue provide us with materials for training and some instructors, depending on their availability but no funds are provided for facility rental.



2.

We instructors provide refreshments such as fruit, cookies, and coffee for morning and afternoon breaks. Students either carry a bag lunch or go out to the closest restaurant for their lunch. We request permission to bring in coffee and hot water pots for beverages and the above mentioned refreshments. We do not need a kitchen if we are allowed to serve the coffee, etc in the training room.

Although I am not a Mt. Iron resident, Bonnie Ebnet, Director of RSVP and the Northland Volunteer Center at AEOA, our local umbrella agency, is a Mt. Iron resident. I would be happy to speak to the Mt. Iron City Council to provide further information about our program and answer questions.

Please advise me if I may speak to the Council on Monday, October 2 or October 16 during the public forum.

Sincerely,

Marian D. Chase,

District Coordinator AARP Tax, North St. Louis County

arian D Chase

### COMMUNICATIONS OCTOBER 2, 2006

- 1. Nancy Larson, Manager, Community Development Division, Saint Louis County, forwarding the recommendations regarding the 2007 CDBG projects.
- 2. Minnesota Association of Small Cities, a letter from Nancy Larson stating that she will resigning as Executive Director.



# Saint Louis County

Planning Department - Community Development • 117 Northland Center 307 South First Street • Virginia, MN 55792 • Phone: (218) 749-9741 • Fax: (218) 749-7194

September 19, 2005

Dear Community Development Block Grant Applicant:

The CDBG Citizen's Advisory Committee has formulated its recommendations regarding funding for FY 2007 CDBG projects. Enclosed is a summary of those recommendations.

The CDBG Advisory Committee will hold a public hearing on Thursday, September 28, at 11:00 to receive public input on their recommendations at the Mountain Iron Community Center.

Please plan to arrive early if you wish to comment on these recommendations.

Sincerely,

Nancy Larson, Manager

Community Development Division

Enclosure: CDBG Advisory Committee Recommendations

Project #         Project Title         Request         Total Cost           1         AEOA Homeownership Assistance Program         64,800         105,100           14         AEOA - Foreclosure Prevention Assistance Program         17,555         115,755           15         AEOA - Raising Our Children's Kids (ROCK)         12,755         57,621           17         Legal Aid Service of NE MN - Housing Counseling & Information         47,475         155,012           18         Life House - Proctor House for Youth         20,000         101,684           20         Range Transitional Housing - Housing Programs         35,000         155,093           21         Salvation Army - Hibbing Melting Pot Meals         15,000         42,650           22         Salvation Army - Virginia Supper Club         15,000         63,710           23         Salvation Army - Virginia Supper Club         15,000         42,000           24         Sexual Assault Program - Youth Outreach Services         23,000         424,000           25         SOAR Career Solutions - Career & Business Development Services         20,000         424,000           25         SOAR Career Solutions - Career & Business Development Services         20,000         424,000	Advisory Committee	4		5,000	2		000,14	10,000	2 45.000		20,002	35,000		000,22	13,000			15,000	0 23 000		000,01	260,000	
Project Title  Iomeownership Assistance Program Foreclosure Prevention Assistance Program Homeless Shelter Raising Our Children's Kids (ROCK) d Service of NE MN - Housing Counseling & Information Se - Proctor House for Youth Transitional Housing - Housing Programs Nomen's Advocates - Children's Program NArmy - Hibbing Melting Pot Meals Army - Virginia Supper Club Assault Program - Youth Outreach Services areer Solutions - Career & Business Development Services Target Figure: 260,000	Total Post																						
Project Title  Project Title  Foreclosure Prevention Assistance Pro Homeless Shelter Raising Our Children's Kids (ROCK) d Service of NE MN - Housing Counselse - Proctor House for Youth Transitional Housing - Housing Program Vomen's Advocates - Children's Program Army - Hibbing Melting Pot Meals n Army - NSLC Money Management Pro Army - Virginia Supper Club Nssault Program - Youth Outreach Serv streer Solutions - Career & Business D	Repliest			64,800	17,555	58.010	77.6.0.4	12,735	47,475	20,000	1000	30,00	22,000	4 000	19,000	15,000	45.000	10,000	23,000	20,000			
		SERVICE	AEOA Homeownership Assistance Program	AFOA Formalism Date of the second of the sec	AEOA THE CONTRACT TO A STATE OF THE PROGRAM	AEOA - nomeless Shelter	AEOA - Raising Our Children's Kids (ROCK)	Legal Aid Service of NE MN Housing Committees	I fe House Description	The roade - riocior house for Youth	Range Transitional Housing - Housing Programs	Range Women's Advocates Children's A	Something of the second of the	Salvation Army - Hibbing Melting Pot Meals	Salvation Army - NSI C Money Manager	The state of the s	Salvation Army - Virginia Supper Club	Sexual Assault Program - Youth Outrooch Society	SOAR Cares of the	, 1	Target Figure: 350 000	on indiana.	



September 15, 2006

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

Dear Mr. Wainio,

This is no ordinary letter from me. After serving 18 years as executive director and lobbyist for the Minnesota Association of Small Cities, I have left to take a related, but part-time, job. I am working for the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities and lobbying on many of the same concerns I worked on in your behalf.

The fact that I will continue to serve as an advocate for many of the issues affecting small cities makes my decision to leave less difficult. The Small City Association and the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities have a long history of working together on many of our core issues, including those dealing with local government aid, wastewater, land use, economic development and environment, and I hope those bonds will be enhanced over the coming months.

I am also excited about the possibility of mentoring and guiding my replacement and making sure that he or she becomes the "go-to, small city person." Small cities are affected differently than larger cities on a multitude of issues, and it is critical that they have someone representing them before the legislature and state agencies, in particular. Since most small city officials don't have the time to prowl the Capitol halls or even have the time to write or call their elected officials, it is also easy for their needs to be forgotten or ignored – unless there is a small city advocate to call them to task.

I know that change is difficult, but it can also bring new life to people and organizations, and I expect that to happen with MAOSC. However, the board will need your help to accomplish this feat. You've already begun that process by enrolling as a member city this year, and I hope you're willing to roll up your sleeves and take that extra effort to respond to requests for letters and calls from home. Your contacts with your legislators will ensure that my replacement will get the respect he or she needs to forcefully advocate for small cities, and that is critical.

In the meantime, the MAOSC Board of Directors is still in the process of determining which direction it will take in staffing the organization, but you can be sure that I will be there to assist them throughout the process and into the future. Even though I am leaving, I know how critical it is for the small cities in the state to have an active, viable organization working and lobbying on their behalf.

I encourage you to support the Minnesota Association of Small Cities as it goes through this period of transition and continue to support it into the future. I know that I will.

Sincerely,

\* \* \*

Nancy Lason