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AN OFFICIAL

LEGAL NEWSPAPER FOR

ANOKA COUNTY
CITY OF HAM LAKE
CITY OF OAK GROVE

CITY COUNCIL WORKED INTO A LATHER OVER ARTS COMMISSION

NAWROCKI PUMMELED BY HUSBAND OF CITY COUNCILOR

Over its last three televised meetings, the Columbia Heights City Council has grappled with these considerations: creating an Arts Commission, contract renewal negotiations with Comcast for the cable television franchise, bonding, and the maximum property tax levy for 2014.

The council has also held numerous closed-door meetings regarding a possible purchase of the bank-office building property at 40th and Central. The staff-driven proposal is to build a new library and city hall on the site. The content of the discussions are protected by state statute under attorney-client privilege but comments made at the televised meetings suggest that proposals have been thrown back and forth between the interested parties but no mutual agreement has been reached.

Who would have thought the Arts Commission debate would produce the some of the highest levels of carnage and bloodletting seen this year at Columbia Heights council meetings?

Not only was there a higher level than usual of the "beat up on Nawrocki" routine that the rest of the council and city manager like to promote, but even one of their own, councilor Donna Schmitt received a cool reception when she put forth amendments to the ordinance that would create the Arts Commission.

Councilor Tami Diehm's husband Jeff, who is on the city's Charter Commission, also made one of his regular appearances to partake in the assault against longtime councilor and former mayor Bruce Nawrocki. He explained that he was watching the meeting on television and was compelled to drive down to city hall to spout off his support for the Arts Commission idea and couldn't believe that anyone (Nawrocki) would be asking questions about the process that was being used for its creation.

Let's walk through a recap of highlights from the Sept. 9, Sept. 23 and Oct. 14 meetings:

Next year's budget discussed at Sept. 9 meeting

City Manager Walter Fehst proposed a 3.68% maximum levy increase. The city stands to receive \$1.9 million from other governmental sources, including \$1.4 million in Local Government Aid (LGA), an increase of \$500,000 over the previous year. Fehst told the council they should put \$300,000 of that extra LGA money into the Library Capital Building Fund and the other \$200,000 into the Parks Capital Improvement Fund. In his prepared budget report, Fehst said

"it is estimated that for 2014, at least 28% of the levy will again be paid by the Fiscal Disparities program, and not by Columbia Heights taxpayers." Both LGA and Fiscal Disparities are government programs that redistribute taxpayer dollars based on a set of formulas, to subsidize the budgets of cities.

Columbia Heights will levy \$9.2 million, plus a debt levy of over \$700,000 and the elimination of Homestead Credit will bring the total 2014 levy to \$10,576,762. The budget will be set at \$35,934,703.

The 3.68% maximum levy increase was adopted by the city council but it has the next couple months to deliberate and lower the amount if it so chooses. The maximum increase however is set in stone, it cannot be made higher once the number is approved.

Before taking the 4-1 vote, councilor Bruce Nawrocki made a number of observations. He said the city was now levying twice the amount it did ten years ago. (Each of the past ten years had levy increases, three of which averaged 13%).

He was concerned that the city's debt has skyrocketed to over \$24 million, and that staff only talks of increases and never talks of decreases in expenditures.

Nawrocki said the city's property taxes are in the upper third of Anoka County cities while it has lower than average household incomes. He also noted there have been 1,200 home foreclosures. Nawrocki maintained "the levy increase is not needed."

Nawrocki then made four motions to amend, all of which failed for lack of a second: 1) To eliminate the levy increase; 2) To not put \$300,000 of the extra LGA funds into the library capital fund; 3) To reduce the levy by \$100,000 — the amount the city will save in the coming year by not having to pay sales taxes on purchases. (The sales tax exemption for governments was recently reinstated by the state legislature), and 4) To use the \$500,000 of extra LGA funding to reduce the overall property tax levy, the original intent of the state-run LGA program.

The final levy will be set at the council's Dec. 9 meeting. Nawrocki said the council has a history of simply approving again the same proposed levy increase, without consideration of reducing it. He also complained that he wanted more meeting time spent on budget matters and moved to schedule an extra "work session" meeting, which failed due to a lack of council interest. Peterson said that Schmitt would not be able to attend the proposed meeting and that if Nawrocki couldn't attend any proposed meeting, they wouldn't schedule it; to which Nawrocki retorted, "if I couldn't make it, I would think you'd be happy." Peterson said firmly that a meeting would not be scheduled if a council member couldn't attend — Nawrocki chuckled.

Schmitt asked if the other set of more detailed budget information would be distributed to the council. (What had been provided so far was a summary and narrative analysis). Finance Director Joseph Kloiber said the council would receive it at the traditional off-camera budget meetings that would soon be held. There was no note made of making such information available to the public. Mayor Peterson concluded the discussion with a jab at Nawrocki, asking him if he has ever approved a budget as presented. The jab inferred there ought to be more unanimous votes by the council and fewer questions.

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS MEETINGS *continued on page 3*

North Metro Television Series Wins Regional Emmy Award

WWII VETERANS' STORIES TOLD IN AWARD-WINNING LOCAL VIDEO PRODUCTION

by Bryan Olson — Special to the *Anoka County Record*

Everyone knows about the Emmy Awards that are given to television productions we see every day. They are on a par with the Academy Awards (Oscars) that are given to feature films.

What you may not know is that the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences also presents awards to television productions on a regional basis, and the State Theatre in Minneapolis served as the location for the Upper Midwest Annual Emmy Awards ceremony last month.

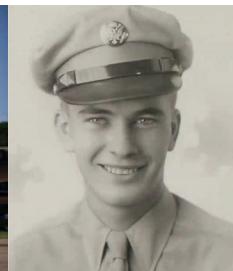
Documentaries and reports for television newscasts are among the frequent nominees.

The first entry in an ambitious series planned by producer-director Damian Kussian won a regional Emmy award in the Historic-Cultural-Nostalgic Program category.

Titled "The Tail Gunner and the Navigator", the half-hour documentary has Minnesota-born World War II veterans Bob Clemens and Vince Parker telling their stories in their own words. The title refers to the assignments they had in the Army Air Force in 1944, flying bombing missions over Europe in a B-17 "Flying Fortress."

Kussian is a staff producer and outreach coordinator at North Metro TV in Blaine, the public access

television facility that operates by a joint powers agreement between seven city governments which include Blaine and Ham Lake. The facility is able to televise government meetings and local events



Vince Parker
B-17 Tail Gunner 15th Airforce



Bob Clemens
B-17 Navigator 15th Air Force



shown on North Metro cable channel 15, seen in Blaine, Ham Lake, Lexington, Circle Pines, Lino Lakes, Center

ville and Spring Lake Park. It can also be seen on the NorthMetroTV.com website, and on YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qI3roXOnbQs>).

Producer Damian Kussian can be reached at 763-231-2811 and the main line for the North Metro TV facility is 763-780-8241. More information about the Upper Midwest Emmy Awards can be found at midwestemmys.org.

on cable television due to the cities' franchise contracts with Comcast. North Metro TV also offers to the public free use of its equipment to make their own television programs.

Kussian plans more episodes of the "Aviation Storytellers" series, which will focus on veterans who flew the B-24 Liberator, collectors of vintage military planes, as well as Betty Strohous, the last living Minnesota WASP (Women Air Force Service Pilots). The WASPs were civilian female pilots that were given training and assignments of a non-combat na-

Democrats drove it into the ditch

It took Democrats precisely no time to take two years of economic growth and drive it right into the ditch.

That's right. The two-year Republican budget, which ended June 30, generated more-than-anticipated revenue each and every report over the last biennium. It added up to more than \$3 billion in revenue above projections through June — without raising taxes.

The Democrats? They took over the Legislature last January, raised taxes and fees by nearly \$2.5 billion and jacked up spending at an unprecedented rate. Minnesota Management & Budget announced a couple weeks ago that state revenue intake was below projections for the first quarter Democrats had control of the budget.

You could see this coming from a mile away. Democrats are spending faster than our economy is growing. We were just getting to the point of full economic recovery following the Great Recession, then Gov. Dayton and fellow Democrats proved to be complete failures in setting a budget.

How bad is it? They even botched our tax code, causing headaches for Minnesota tax filers and costing us money. Here are some ways we'll pay more:

- Foreclosure Tax

Federally, you are not taxed on the principle sale amount of a home in foreclosure, but any taxpayer who had this type of debt forgiven in the past now must pay the full amount in Minnesota.

- Homeowner Tax

Minnesota families are allowed to deduct the cost of home mortgage insurance premiums on their federal return but must pay the full amount on their state tax return.

- Marriage Penalty

Marriage penalties occur when a family filing jointly enters a higher tax income bracket than if they had filed separately. An estimated 650,000 Minnesota families will pay on average \$120 more per year in taxes because Democrats rejected an amendment to lift this burden.

- Child Care Tax

On a federal tax return, families can deduct \$3,000 for the first child and \$6,000 for two or more children for child care expenses. However in Minnesota those amounts are \$2,400 for one and \$4,800 for two or more children.

- Food Shelf Tax

When a family donates canned goods or other food items to a food shelf they are allowed to take a deduction on their federal taxes that is not included in Minnesota taxes.

- Commuter Tax

Workers may exclude up to \$240 a month in employer-provided transit or parking benefits on their federal taxes. That amount at the state level is only \$125, leaving a gap of more than \$1,300 per employee.

Students and educators also face the loss of deductions, including:

- Tuition Taxes

Those of us who claim an above-the-line deduction for tuition and fees on federal forms will need to add that amount back onto your income on state filings. Furthermore, Minnesota did not fully adopt the federal exclusion for employer-provided education assistance. Many Minnesotans will now have to report this income on their state filings.

- Teacher Expense Tax

Teachers often use their own money to make sure their classrooms have all of the necessary class supplies. Educators are allowed to deduct the first \$250 in out-of-pocket expenses for purchasing classroom materials on their federal returns. Minnesota teachers will no longer be able to deduct these expenses on state forms.

- Scholarship Tax

You may exclude awards you receive from a number of national scholarship and financial assistance programs from your income on federal returns. Now these awards — including some for military veterans — will be taxed by Minnesota and must be included as income on state forms.

- Education Savings Tax

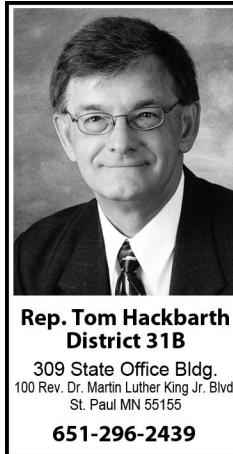
The federal government allows taxpayers to deduct distributions from a Coverdell Education Savings Account for elementary and secondary schooling. Minnesota taxpayers now must add these distributions to their income if used for K-12 education expenses.

- Student Loan Tax

Several federal provisions allow deductions for student loan interest. Minnesota taxpayers will not be able to deduct this interest when it's paid either voluntarily or after the first 60 months that interest payments are required on the loan.

Federal tax conformity generally is a non-controversial issue. But, for whatever reason, Democrats refused to do the right thing this year. It looks like they just wanted to keep more of our money. I guess they expanded their "tax the rich" definition to include teachers, students, people experiencing foreclosure, veterans trying to reintegrate and more.

The 2014 session is just months away. I seriously hope there is a different approach when we get down to budget work in 2015.



Remembering U.S. Senator Rod Grams

Many thoughts have been shared about former Senator Rod Grams who recently passed away from cancer at age 65. I thought I would share some of mine, some of which may surprise a few readers.



Most who know me well would probably guess that my first time meeting Grams was back around 2000, when both of us were serving in elected office. That would be incorrect. I actually had the privilege of first meeting Grams in the late 1980's when I was in high school. That experience helped guide me to work in the television and media industry years later.

At the time, KMSP-9 had a morning television show that I believe was titled "Young Issues". On each show, a different subject was covered, and a group of high school students were invited to be part of the panel discussion. I was part of a group of five students who were selected to appear on one of the shows. The topic involved hospice care and end of life decision making.

We car pooled down to the old KMSP-9 studios in Edina. This was my first time stepping foot in a television studio and I remember being amazed. They had four different sets from other shows in the studio. They would pull them out of the corners as needed to shoot whatever program was on the agenda for the day. We also saw the news set.

The program director got us all situated on the set and that is when Rod Grams walked in. He greeted us, shook our hands, and gave us a quick rundown of how the program would work. It was the first time I had ever met a TV personality in person. Even though the show was not broadcast live, just live to tape, it was somewhat nerve racking. But Grams was a professional and was great at his job. It was amazing how an hour long show passed by in a snap.

Afterwards we had a few minutes to talk with Grams and then it was time to go. It is an experience I will never forget. I remember thinking afterwards that this is an industry that I would like to be part of in the future. A few years later, I took a job working behind the scenes in live broadcast television for eight years. Then after being elected to public office, I started appearing in front of the camera and still do on occasion today.

When I was in office, I did get to meet Grams again when he was giving talks about the future of Social Security. He was an excellent speaker and I learned quite a bit from his presentation. I remember thinking that it was a presentation that every American should see. We got to talking afterwards and I told him about the first time we had met. We had some good laughs about times past.

Washington does change a lot of people, and generally not for the best. But I remember thinking to myself at the time that it was nice to see that Washington hadn't changed him. It was nice to see that the Rod Grams that I met as a high school student was the same Rod Grams that I met again 12 years later. I'm glad I had the opportunity to thank him at the time for playing a role in my future.

Health Care enrollment off to shaky start

Last week, the board of MNsure held their first meeting since beginning its open enrollment process. MNsure officials say that 3,769 people are in the process of enrolling.

- 406 people are in the payment process for individual market coverage.
- 867 people are enrolling in MinnesotaCare through MNsure but have not received invoices.
- 2,496 people are enrolling in MA through MNsure

However, the most important number to take away is the number zero. Zero Minnesotans have completed enrollment in a health plan through MNsure. According to MNsure officials, they are unable to transfer applicant information into health plans and confirmed payments cannot be processed. These are the final steps of the enrollment process. Without their completion, a person is not completely enrolled in a health plan. The longer MNsure remains in disarray, the fewer people will actually get insurance and the higher health insurance tax is going to be on plans sold through MN in future years. For now, that tax is set to be 1.5% beginning in 2014.

Two weeks after MNsure's failed launch and after spending more than \$150 million taxpayer dollars, not a single Minnesotan has been able to complete enrollment in a health plan through the Democrats' new state agency. Zero a number even lonelier than one is a costly figure for Minnesota taxpayers.

Election Day. Please remember that November 5 is Election Day for seats on the Anoka-Hennepin School Board.

I am always interested in your feedback. Please feel free to contact me by e-mail at Rep.Peggy.Scott@House.MN or contact my office at 651-296-4231. You can also send me mail to my office address: 201 State Office Building, 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155.



Letter to the Editor**WHO'S GUARDING YOUR PURSE?**

BEWARE! The legislators in Minnesota have given the school boards of Minnesota a special dispensation on the CRIME of PICKPURSING.

The school boards were the lucky recipient of a new statute that will allow them to pick your purse, or pocket, of \$300.00 PER PUPIL PER YEAR without even so much as a "please" or "thank you."

They can now vote their district an additional levy of up to \$300 per student every year just by raising their hand at the school board meeting; no public vote, no public hearing, no justification.

My local school board from ISD 15 did just that last month. When asked why they needed the money and what they planned on spending it on their response was that they didn't need the money, but they'd figure out somewhere to spend it after they got it.

Unfortunately there were only two dissenting votes. One of those board members who voted against stealing more of our money is running this fall, Marsha Vandenburg. Two new candidates with the same attitude about protecting our money are Malcolm Vinger and Scott Schwarz.

In Fridley, Jay Lowinske and in ISD 11 District 4 William Fields are the right candidates. These people do not believe in stealing more of our money to save the public education machine. They actually believe in schooling for what it should be, a sound, basic education leading to a more enriched life for the children. As we all know, the amount of money spent by a school board has no relationship to the quality of the education. So why do school boards keep asking for more money and getting worse results? These candidates will spend their time expecting and getting results, not getting more educated in pick-pursing. VOTE FOR BETTER EDUCATION, NOT HIGHER TAXES.

*Dan Denno
Councilmember, City of Oak Grove*

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS MEETINGS *continued from page 1*

Another order of business at the Sept. 9 meeting was to award the contract to demolish the Mady's bowling alley building. The contract was given to the lowest bidder, All Metro Excavating, for \$136,333. Nine firms made bids, the highest being over \$333,000. Community Development director Scott Clark was asked at the Oct. 14 meeting as to when the demolition would be completed. He expects it to be late October or early November. Clark spoke against the proposals of Peterson and Schmitt about making the Mady's and Burger King lots "more presentable" with some light landscaping. Clark said that to disrupt the asphalt parking lot would also disrupt the contaminated soils beneath, which could bring an expensive mandate upon the city to remediate the soil problems of the Mady's property immediately.

The Sept. 23 meeting — forming an arts commission

One of the first items discussed was Comcast's letter dated June 6 addressed to the city manager, stating it wanted to open the contract renewal process. The city has six months to respond by "identifying the future cable-related community needs and interests, and to review the performance of [Comcast] under the franchise during the then current franchise term," said the resolution that was passed by the council. The current contract runs through Dec. 31, 2015.

Nawrocki asked why the council had not been apprised of this letter sooner. Linda Magee, the city manager's assistant, replied that they had six months to bring the letter to the council. The city's counsel on its cable television franchise matters, Steve Guzzetta summarized the federal law and procedures that are necessary to follow in the contract renewal process. Afterward, Nawrocki said he was even more convinced of the need to reactivate the city's cable commission, which has not met since 2010 but has never been officially dissolved by action of the city council. He thought that the commission should at least be able to make recommendations for the next contract and by having the commission reactivated it would provide a conduit for public input.

City manager Walter Fehst said he didn't think commission involvement would be necessary, and expected very few changes to the current contract. He said he didn't want to spend a lot of time and money on the effort — Magee said the cable commission was not involved in the last contract negotiation and was presented the document for comment and approval just before it was brought to the city council for same. Attorney Guzzetta agreed that involving the cable commission would "put too many cooks in the kitchen."

Nawrocki again emphasized that he wanted to see the public have a chance to weigh in on the Comcast contract; Guzzetta and councilor Tami Diehm both suggested that a public meeting could be held expressly for such input if it was thought necessary. Councilor Donna Schmitt added that one of her neighbors was on the cable commission and had the opinion that the commission was no longer serving a purpose.

Nawrocki proposed to reactivate the cable commission but his motion failed for lack of a second. While voting yes to the resolution to proceed, councilor Bobby Williams said he may consider the reactivating the commission at a later time. The resolution to begin the franchise renewal negotiations with Comcast passed 4-1, with Nawrocki dissenting.

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS MEETINGS *continued on page 4***Editorial: Elected officials find it easy to give away someone else's money**

Observations made by Joe Kimball in *MinnPost* tipped us off about an article that appears in the current issue of *Pittsburgh Magazine*. The opinion piece, by Sean Conboy, is entitled "The NFL is Running a Billion-Dollar Con."

The article is illustrated by the often-seen photo of Uber-fan Larry Spooner and his cronies bowing on their knees before Vikings team owner Zygi Wilf.

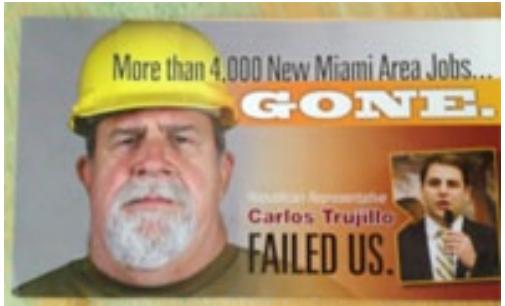
Conboy's piece is peppered with very frank language. He says referring to the new Vikings stadium as "the People's Stadium," is "nauseating political rhetoric — the big lie, told so many times with such bald-faced conviction that it seemed irrefutable: stadium projects lead to economic revitalization. The actual data tells a completely different story . . . a study of 37 metropolitan areas with pro sports franchises found that the real per capita income of city residents decreased on average after construction of a new stadium..."

But how many people are aware of other egregious examples of taxpayer dollars used to support professional sports around the country? Here are summaries of a few "economic development" deals that should have sent elected officials to prison:

Miami: Early this year, the owners of the Miami Dolphins football team drew up a plan for \$350 million in stadium renovations they felt were necessary to lure a future Super Bowl to Miami. In May, the NFL was about to decide which cities would be getting the next two Super Bowls. The mayor of the hybrid Miami-Dade city-county government cooked up a scheme to raise revenue for the stadium renovation by raising the hotel tax from 6% to 7% and giving the team 75% of that new revenue, with increases along the way, for the next 26 years.

The elected officials must have had a lot of faith in the honor system because they also put a clause into the agreement that would have required the team to bring four Super Bowls and four college football championship games to the stadium over a 30-year timeframe. If not met, the county expected a cash penalty. Penalties were also to be imposed if the team was sold within five years, and if the team was moved within 30 years. Such faith!

This story came to a funny end: The team financed a voter referendum campaign. The special election was set for May 14, but was cancelled at the last minute due to the legislature's failure to act. (Legislation was required to enable the sales tax to be raised, then voters would have had to approve the legislature's action).



The city-county government also required the team to pay election costs in advance, \$4.8 million — as a non-refundable fee. The government did expense some of the money but had almost half of it left over. What to do with this excess money? Although some public sentiment, reported in the Miami Herald, said it should be returned to the team, government officials decided to spend it on election equipment.

The team's referendum campaign cost \$4.5 million, in addition to the \$4.8 million paid for the election that was never held. The \$9.3 million expenditure was by far the largest ever for a referendum in Miami-Dade County. San Francisco and Houston will be the sites for the next two Super Bowl games.

Cincinnati: The Hamilton County Board is still paying off the public financing of two stadiums, for the Bengals and the Reds. 16% of the county's annual budget is earmarked to pay the debt service on the \$1 billion investment. The debt load is cutting into the county's ability to deliver expected services to the public. Voters did get to vote on this, but they were snookered into believing the promises of the mischief makers who said that by approving the extra sales taxes for the projects, property taxes would go down and there would be more money for schools!

Seattle: In the fall of 2012, the Seattle City Council voted 6-2, with one council member absent, to give a tax-revenue deal to a developer who wanted to build a new \$500 million sports arena to house a new basketball and maybe a hockey team. The developer had to secure such teams before the city would issue bonds. The deal would cost at least \$200 million to the public in lost revenues to city hall, because the taxes that the development would have paid once it was online, were to be redirected to the pockets of the developer, to help him pay off the costs of the construction. Like Vikings fans here, a contingent of Seattle basketball fans camped out at city hall, wearing their fan jerseys and chanting for a return of NBA action to the city. The Sonics basketball team had been in Seattle from 1967 to 2008. (The city council also expended huge legal fees to hold the team to its lease, once the owners announced their intention to move in 2007.)

The developer set his sights on Sacramento, and made efforts to purchase that city's basketball PUBLIC SUBSIDIES: THE CRAZE CRIPPLING THE COUNTRY *continued on page 5*

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS MEETINGS *cont. from pg. 3*

A \$3.5 million bond issue. The city's Finance Director, Joseph Kloiber and Steve Bubel, bond attorney from Kennedy and Graven, presented a plan to the city council to issue \$3.5 million of General Obligation Improvement and Utility Revenue bonds, which will have an interest rate around 2%. That is roughly half of what is being paid now on some older debt that would be refinanced with part of the bond sale proceeds.

Attorney Bubel said the revenue-supported bonds could be approved by the council by resolution as allowed by state law. Bubel summarized the city's charter provisions for bonding by ordinance, which allows for a reverse referendum by citizens' petition. The charter however does allow for bonds that will be used for refinancing older debt to be approved by resolution of the city council (Section 72 of the Columbia Heights City Charter). Any other bonding has to be done by ordinance, and any ordinance of the city can be challenged by a citizens' petition.

Nawrocki said the bond issue would normally have been done next year since the projects involved are not going to be done until 2014 or 2015, and he speculated the bonding would be done now to afford the city a clean slate in 2014 to possibly bond for a new library building. He said he was opposed to bonding by resolution rather than by ordinance, pointing out that citizens can challenge only an ordinance.

Councilor Diehm said, "I don't see this as an effort to avoid anything," and supported making the bond issue by resolution as it would be more expedient than by ordinance, which requires two readings and a minimum of 30 days before it would take effect. She also added that if the same method was used to bond for a new library, the citizens' ability to petition for a reverse referendum would still be available.

(That point may be up for debate when and if a bonding proposal is made for a library. The type of bonds and the various requirements that could call for the council vote to be by either a 3/5ths or 4/5ths majority, are among many factors that could play into a library bond issue. There may also be legal interpretations needed as to whether the city charter trumps state statute in certain areas).

The projects to be completed with the bond proceeds include work to the water tower, storm sewer work at Labelle Pond, reconstruction of Silver Lake Pond, the Chatham Road lift station and some street projects.

Former city manager Malcolm Watson spoke on the item, stating that over the years many properties had gone tax delinquent where special assessments had been levied. When the properties were abandoned, taxes on other city properties had to be raised to shore up the lost revenue. Watson said he didn't think the bond issue was needed. When he was city manager (1950s to 1970s) the city did not project far ahead but was rather a pay-as-you-go operation.

"I wonder at what point do we start paying our way regularly instead of getting behind apparently, to the point where we need another three and a half million dollars," Watson said, also noting that a 3.68% levy increase has been proposed for 2014 while property values have been going down. Referring to the proposed levy increase, Watson remarked, "I'm kind of sorry to see that."

The bond issue was passed on a 4-1 vote, by resolution, with Nawrocki against.

The Arts Commission. The matter was first brought up at a televised council meeting on April 22 of this year, when Keith Roberts, former Columbia Heights school board member, had been invited by Mayor Gary Peterson to make a pitch for starting a city-sanctioned Arts Commission. Roberts is a co-founder of the Columbia Heights Fine Arts Foundation.

City Manager Fehst and Parks & Recreation Coordinator Liz Bray researched other arts commissions in the area but their findings were not included in the meeting packet. (Minneapolis and Coon Rapids have art commissions; Nawrocki told Fehst that he expected a report of findings. Fehst said the resulting ordinance passed out to the council represented his findings).

Fehst said that the proposed ordinance to create the Arts Commission was culled from a number of sources — from other cities' documentation. In the Columbia Heights ordinance, there were a number

of descriptions and specifics as to Definition of Public Art, Statement of Purpose, Values and Goals and so on.

The language in the ordinance frequently refers to the use of public spaces for art, on city-owned property. Here is a sampling of some of the phrases used in the document: "Generating economic impact; attracting media attention; enhancing cultural tourism in our area; physically represent our values or aesthetic; empowering individuals who don't usually have a role in decision-making; develop artworks that are integrated into City building and streetscape/development projects; invite visitors to the city as a popular art destination; promote working space for artists; provide pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods; respect the creative rights of artists; and, use city funds to leverage private investment in public art and use public art to leverage private investments in other City ventures."

Even though the council could read the printed page in front of them that called for taxpayer dollars to be expended, virtually everyone in the room apart from councilor Bruce Nawrocki kept selling the idea that this commission was not asking for financial support and nothing was being budgeted — "at least at this point," said Fehst.

Anyone who has followed this in other cities certainly must know that some governments are now requiring that art be incorporated into building projects. Most of those are government projects, and the art component certainly adds cost.

Nawrocki made a number of comments. "I question frankly, if this is a proper function of city government... you say you aren't going to spend any taxpayer money for this. If this moves ahead, it won't be long before we are asked to put money into art projects."

When he began to speak about the merits of art and that people have different ideas as to what art is, Roberts butted in and interrupted the councilman, "I don't think the commission is looking at dictating or mandating what art is. I think it's encouraging opportunities and those opportunities encourage growth for the city."

Nawrocki's opinion fell on deaf ears — he was trying to point out that perhaps art is too much of a personal matter for government to be a promoter of. Art is highly subjective, it means something different to each person. It isn't the same as blacktopping a street or making sure the sewers are working. Aesthetics play no part in sewer operations, but play a big role in art. Instead of acknowledging his arguments, the promoters used the "opportunity" to bring the discussion down to a catfight about the merits of art. It was another one of those "beat up on Nawrocki" episodes that council meeting audiences are used to seeing. (These meetings start off with a prayer, by the way.)

Mayor Gary Peterson is convinced everyone in the city will get rich in a hurry because of all the economic activity that public art will bring. He wants to latch onto the Art-A-Whirl annual event in Northeast Minneapolis. Peterson also used the Uptown Art Fair as an example of a tenstrike. (It's been around for about 50 years and it isn't a Minneapolis City Hall operation). Sure, the taco truck might sell a few more tacos on a weekend, but who would call that "economic activity"?

Even councilor Donna Schmitt caught this bug, by saying that the city website lacks a feature that would promote tourism in Columbia Heights. She is convinced that tourists do make the city a destination point but there is no information provided about the city's attributes, and public art could be a great attraction. Too bad she isn't as concerned about other things the city website lacks, such as meeting packets and the budget books.

To finish off naysayer Nawrocki, the promoters were happy to see a regular visitor, Jeff Diehm, the husband of councilor Tami Diehm who sits next to Nawrocki and combs the internet during the meetings. (It also should be said here that the council ought to be careful what they mutter under their breath as it can be easily heard. It's that new-fangled high-tech microphone system they put in a couple years ago. It works too well, folks.)

Mr. Diehm said, "I drove all the way down here, because I was watching this on t.v. and thought someone needed to speak up in support of this."

A little perturbed, Diehm went on: "The idea that someone on this council would fight this under the premise that someday we might spend some money on it, I think is a pathetic example of government in action."

He then skewered what he called the "I got mine" mentality of the aged, those who don't want to spend "a few dimes or a few dollars" that may benefit other people. Diehm said he sees such people as a barrier "standing in the way of opportunity" (there's that overused word again).

Councilor Bobby Williams hurriedly called the question — leaving Nawrocki without the chance to answer Diehm's drubbing. Peterson kept moving the meeting along and paid no attention as Nawrocki said his integrity had been challenged and wanted to respond. "So you can say things about people and people don't get a chance to respond?" Nawrocki questioned. The first reading of the ordinance was approved 4-1, and would be brought back for a second reading at the next meeting.

Later, when called, Nawrocki had a chance to change the subject back to what he wanted to say about the Diehm speech. "I've sat on this council for quite a few years. I've been called a heavy big spender and now I'm being called other things." Peterson then cut him off.

The meeting concluded with a chuckle for those who are longtime followers of the council meetings. Regular citizen observer Harold Hoium spoke during Public Comment: "I've been paying taxes in this city for about 80 years. There's a (pedestrian) bridge on 42nd and University. On the west end of that bridge the stairway is full of twigs and grass, leaves and trash. So have it cleaned up. There's weeds along that path. Cut them down. Then trim the trees that hang over that bridge so the people don't get slapped in the face with branches when they're trying to get down those steps."

Hoium said Xcel's light pole needs to be moved so that it sheds better light on the stairway and that he told city hall about this two years ago and "they didn't do 'nuthin' about it."

"To keep the city attorney out of trouble, see that he rewrites all the city ordinances so that they are 100% beneficial to 100% of the people 100% of the time, and if he can't do it, throw him out. You've got until Friday to get the grass cut, you've got until Friday to get the pole moved and you've got until November first to have those ordinances rewritten."

Chortling, Williams asked Hoium if he would pay the bills. Hoium said "I'll send you a bill that will knock your eyeballs out, I'll get OSHA down there and I'll show you how to really run up a bill!"

The Oct. 14 meeting — another bout over the Arts Commission

Ordinance 1613 creating a city Arts Commission was back for a second reading. The most noteworthy moment occurred when amendments put forth by councilor Donna Schmitt were met with some disagreement from the council majority she always votes with.

The ordinance outlines the authority of the commission, stating that it exists under an advisory capacity to the City Council and the Planning Commission; that it has no by-laws; the mayor appoints the members and the council ratifies; the commission shall comprise 5 to 7 members with terms of 3 to 6 years and no more than two consecutive terms allowed, and residency is not required to serve on the commission.

As with the Library Task Force, the Arts Commission is being proposed to have no residency requirements and the mayor gets to appoint the members. The council ratification is only a rubber-stamp formality.

Nawrocki objected to the Library Task Force being handled the same way in early 2012 — the council was not allowed to interview applicants or keep the membership to city residents only. The task force members were actually chosen by the then Library Director, whose choices included some residents of Fridley. That list was handed to the mayor for his blessing and the task force, not created by ordinance, began to meet.

Schmitt's amendment had two numbered paragraphs.

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS MEETINGS *continued on page 6*

PUBLIC SUBSIDIES: THE CRAZE CRIPPLING THE COUNTRY *cont. from page 3*

team. The effort failed a few months ago when the NBA rejected the Seattle developer's offer and gave its blessing to a new owner that would keep the team in Sacramento. However, the new owner wanted a new arena and then city hall stepped in.

A citizens' petition drive to put the arena issue to a voter referendum netted 18,000 signatures until the Seattle developer and cohorts were fined for failing disclose and brazenly trying to hide their donations to aid the petition drive in Sacramento.

Seattle still has no team for the proposed new arena. We have seen time and time again the luring of a business from one locality to another with the promise of a larger public subsidy, pitting one set of taxpayers against another, with only the business owners being the true winners.

An ironic twist to the Seattle deal is that it was revealed that the CEO of Microsoft and members of the Nordstrom department store empire are investors in the sports arena proposal. The public has been asking why do some of the richest people in the country need a public subsidy?

Glendale, Arizona: There is a small but stubborn interest in NHL hockey in this suburb alongside Phoenix. So much so, that the Glendale City Council ap-

proved a deal a few months ago to keep the hockey team, at further taxpayer expense. \$180 million of public money was committed 12 years ago to build a \$220 million arena for the purposes of luring an NHL franchise.

The team later went into bankruptcy and was purchased by the NHL at a fire sale price — whereupon the league has been shopping for a buyer ever since. Finally a management group came forth and the Glendale City Council cut a deal with that group, paying it \$15 million a year to manage the hockey team. (A bargain, considering the city had been paying the NHL \$25 million a year for the same services). The city taxpayers are also on the hook for maintenance to the arena and its debt service. The hockey team would pay rent, parking fees and sales taxes would be collected, surcharges put on hockey and concert tickets, naming rights and various other streams of revenue would be eventually be split out so that the net result to the city taxpayers would be an estimated annual loss of \$12 to \$13 million. Once again the interests in Seattle wanting hockey and basketball teams made unsuccessful efforts to acquire the Glendale team (now known as the Arizona Coyotes). The city council

feared the city's entertainment area, anchored by a 20-screen movie theatre and the arena would go down the tubes if the arena's main tenant was lost.

In 2012 the city faced a \$35 million budget shortfall that caused the dismissal of 49 employees and the raising of property and sales taxes. The debt service on the arena is running \$12 million a year. The state's most respected newspaper, the *Arizona Republic* made the analysis that if the hockey team, which has the next-to-lowest attendance in the NHL, was in the next twenty Stanley Cup championships, and the arena had 30 sell-out concerts each year for the next 20 years, the city taxpayers would still have to take a \$9 million annual loss.

Connecticut: The governor of Connecticut, Dan Malloy, is now proud to say that his is the first state to have purchased a pro tennis tournament. A state economic development authority, made up of 13 members appointed by the governor and state legislators, approved the expenditure of over \$600,000 for the rights to a Women's Tennis Association tournament. The U.S. Tennis Association wanted to sell the tournament to Winston-Salem, North Carolina but tennis buffs who happened to be government officials in Connecticut would hear none of that. The state,

over 20 years ago, racked up \$18 million in debt (with general obligation bonds) to construct a world-class tennis center at Yale University in New Haven. Investments in that project continue to be made and why not purchase this tournament? The governor says it's an important move to spur local economic activity, and he thinks that seeing tennis played in New Haven on worldwide television can't hurt either.

So as the electronic pull-tabs to offset the Vikings Stadium debt are still not selling, and the publicly-subsidized "ballpark" in downtown St. Paul, to cost over \$60 million — will soon be under construction, just remember that all is not lost.

Indianapolis came up with a great idea of how to repurpose a stadium after its minor league baseball team pulled out. Convert the empty stadium to high-end housing. The walls will be preserved to make it look like a stadium from the street, however the stands will be converted to living spaces that will make the tenants feel they live in a corporate suite at the former ballpark. In fact, the infield area will be kept mostly as is, giving it that ballpark feel. Now we can sleep easier at night knowing that the Vikings and Saints stadiums could be converted to housing if all else goes sour. Nighty, night. ACR

GOVERNMENT MEETINGS CALENDAR**ANOKA COUNTY**

Anoka County Government Center
2100 3rd Ave.
Anoka MN 55303-5024
Ph.: 763-323-5700
www.co.anoka.mn.us

Thurs. Oct. 24 & Tues. Nov. 12

Management Cmte, 8:30 am,
Rm 772, ACGC

County Board, 9:30 am, Rm 705, ACGC

Wed. Oct. 30

Anoka Co. Joint Law Enforcement
Council, 2 pm, Blaine Police Dept.,
10801 Town Sq Dr., Blaine

Mon. Nov. 4 & Mon. Nov. 18

Transportation Cmte, 9 am, Rm 772, ACGC

Tue. Nov. 5

Parks & Community Services Cmte.,
Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts,
6666 E River Rd, Fridley, 9 am

Thurs. Nov. 7

Anoka Co. Workforce Council mtg,
7:30 am, Blaine Human Service Ctr.
Rm 202, 1201 89th Ave. N.E., Blaine

Mon. Nov. 11

County offices closed — Veterans' Day

Wed. Nov. 13

Waste Mgmt & Energy Cmte, 8:15 am,
Rm 772, ACGC

FRIDLEY

Fridley City Hall
6431 University Ave NE
Fridley, MN 55432
Ph: 763-571-3450
www.ci.fridley.mn.us

Mon. Oct. 28 & Nov. 4

City Council, 6:30 pm "workshop",
meeting 7 pm
Parks Comm., 7 pm

Wed. Nov. 6

Appeals Comm. — Cancelled

Thurs. Nov. 7

HRA, 7 pm

Tues. Nov. 12

Environmental Quality & Energy
Comm., 7 pm

HAM LAKE

Ham Lake City Hall
15544 Central Ave NE
Ham Lake, MN 55304
Ph: 763-434-9555
www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us

Hours: M-Th 7 AM - 4:30 PM
Fri: 7 AM-12 NOON

Mon. Oct. 28 & Tues. Nov. 12

Planning Comm., 6 pm

Mon. Nov. 4

City Council, 6 pm

LINWOOD TWP

Linwood Town Hall
22817 Typo Creek Dr. NE
Linwood, MN 55079
Ph: 651-462-2812
linwoodtownship.org

Mon. Oct. 28 & Nov. 25

Park & Rec. Cmte., 6 pm

Mon. Nov. 4

School Forest Cmte., 5 pm

Tues. Nov. 5

Road & Bridge Cmte., 7 pm

Tues. Nov. 12 & 26

Town Board, 6 pm

Tues. Nov. 19

Planning & Zoning Cmte., 7 pm

OAK GROVE

Oak Grove City Hall
19900 Nightingale St. NW
Oak Grove, MN 55011
Ph: 763-404-7000
www.ci.oak-grove.mn.us

2nd and last Monday of month

City Council, 7 pm (EDA follows
council mtg on last Monday)

3rd Wednesday

Parks Comm., 6 pm

3rd Thursday

Planning Comm., 7 pm

RAMSEY

7550 Sunwood Dr. NW
Ramsey, MN 55303
Ph: 763-427-1410
www.ci.ramsey.mn.us

Tues. Oct. 29

City Council closed session, performance review of city administrator,
5:30 pm, followed by "work session"
with Planning Comm., EPB, EDA

Wed. Oct. 30

Anoka Co. Local Govt. Officials mtg,
Cedar Creek Natural History Area,
2660 Fawn Lake Dr NE, East Bethel

Mon. Nov. 4

Former Municipal Center Collaborative Process, 6 pm

Mon. Nov. 4

Environmental Policy Board, 6:30 pm

Thur. Nov. 7

Planning Comm., 7 pm

Tues. Nov. 12

City Council "work session" 5:30 pm,
reg mtg 7 pm, followed by HRA

Thur. Nov. 14

EDA, 7:30 am

Park & Rec. Comm., 6:30 pm

ANOKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

1318 McKay Dr NE #300
Ham Lake, MN 55304
Ph.: (763) 434-2030
anokascd.org

Mon. Nov. 18

Board of Supervisors, 5 pm

CENTENNIAL ISD #12

4707 North Rd
Circle Pines, MN 55014
Ph.: (763) 792-6000
isd12.org

Mon. Nov. 4

School Board "work session", 5:30 pm

Mon. Nov. 18

School Board, 6:30 pm

FRIDLEY ISD #14

6000 W Moore Lake Dr
Fridley, MN 55432
Ph.: (763) 502-5000
fridley.k12.mn.us

Tue. Nov. 19

School Bd "work session," 5:30 pm,
Public Comment, 7 pm, Business
Mtg 7:30 pm, Fridley City Hall

SPRING LAKE PARK ISD #16

1415 81st Ave NE
Spring Lake Park, MN 55432
Ph.: (763) 786-5570
springlakeparkschools.org

Tue. Oct. 29

School Board "work session", 6 pm

Tue. Nov. 12

School Board, 6:45 pm

QCTV Cable Commission

Ramsey, Andover, Champlin, Anoka

Thurs. Nov. 21

Cable Commission, 10 am, Anoka City Hall

North Metro TV Cable Commission

Ham Lake, Blaine, Spring Lake Park, Lino Lakes, Lexington, Centerville, Circle Pines

Wed. Nov. 20

Cable Commission, 6 pm, Spring Lake Park City Hall

Tues. Nov. 5

Operations Cmte., 10:30 am, North Metro TV facility, 12520 Polk St. NE, Blaine

Meetings listed on this page are subject to change — call ahead to verify

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CITY OF HAM LAKE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF ANOKA
ORDINANCE NUMBER 13-13

An Ordinance relating to the use of Rain Gardens in subdivisions. Be it Ordained by the City Council of the City of Ham Lake, Anoka County, Minnesota, as follows:

There is hereby added to the Ham Lake City Code an Article 10-420 (j) to read as follows:

J. Rain Gardens. Rain Gardens are designed depressions in the topography intended to impound surface water runoff so that it may percolate into the soil. They are compatible with certain types of decorative improvements, such as rock and vegetation, and exterior decorative low-profile fencing or bordering. The developer of any subdivision may incorporate Rain Gardens into new plats upon approval of the City Engineer, subject to the condition that all Rain Gardens shall be located in dedicate public drainage and utility easements. Abutting property owners shall be allowed to, but not required to maintain the Rain Gardens on which their lot abuts, subject to certain limiting conditions:

1. No obstruction to the flow or percolation of surface water may be imposed within or affecting any Rain Garden.
2. The Rain Garden shall not be permitted to fill with silt, debris or decaying or dead vegetation;
3. Decorative bordering, such as stone, commercial paver/landscaping block or decorative mini-fencing may be placed around the Rain Garden, but not to exceed six inches in height, and not to be placed in a manner that hinders the receiving of surface water into the rain garden in accord with the original approved drainage plan for the subdivision.
4. No alteration of the Rain Garden shall be permitted beyond the original footprint.
5. The City reserves the right to supersede any owner maintenance, including, without notice or cause, the removal of items placed in the Rain Garden.

A Short-Form Development Agreement making reference to the lots abutting Rain Gardens shall be recorded at the time of plat recording. Presented to the Ham Lake City Council on October 7, 2013 and adopted by a unanimous vote this 21st day of October, 2013.

/s/ Michael G. Van Kirk, Mayor /s/ Denise Webster, City Clerk
(Published Oct. 24, 2013, Anoka County Record)

CITY OF HAM LAKE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF ANOKA
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
VACATION OF PUBLIC LAND

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a Public Hearing will be held before the Ham Lake City Council on the 18th day of November, 2013, at 6:05 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 15544 Central Avenue N.E. Ham Lake, Minnesota 55304, to hear comments and questions concerning the proposed vacation of the following described land within the City of Ham Lake, Minnesota:

That part of the existing drainage and utility easement on Lot 1, Block 1, HIDDEN FOREST NORTH, Anoka County, Minnesota, according to the recorded plat thereof, described as follows:

Commencing at the northeast corner of said Lot 1, Block 1; thence on an assumed bearing of South 00 degrees 16 minutes 15 seconds West, along the east line of said Lot 1, Block 1, a distance of 79.95 feet; thence South 61 degrees 44 minutes 52 seconds West a distance of 52.35 feet; thence South 77 degrees 57 minutes 46 seconds West a distance of 112.59 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 00 degrees 16 minutes 15 seconds East a distance of 64.00 feet; thence North 30 degrees 10 minutes 30 seconds East a distance of 26.24 feet; thence South 08 degrees 50 minutes 53 seconds West a distance of 87.73 feet to the point of beginning.

Said hearing is conducted pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 412.851.

Dated: _____ /s/ Denise Webster, City Clerk
Posted at City Hall between the dates of October 24, 2013 and November 18, 2013.

(Published Oct. 24, 2013, Anoka County Record)

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF HAM LAKE
COUNTY OF ANOKA
STATE OF MINNESOTA

TAKE NOTICE, that pursuant to the requirements of Minnesota Law, a Public Hearing shall be held before the Ham Lake Planning Commission on Tuesday, November 12, 2013 at 6:01 p.m. at the City Hall located at 15544 Central Avenue NE for the purpose of considering the application of Jake Marrs requesting a Conditional Use Permit to operate North Metro Motors at 17159 Highway 65 NE, a parcel of land situated in the City of Ham Lake, Anoka County, Minnesota and which is described as follows to wit:

PIN #08-32-23-13-0005

UNPLANTED HAM LAKE TWP TH PT OF THE SW1/4 OF THE NE1/4 SEC 8-32-23 ANOKA CNTY, MN THAT IS DESC AS FOL-COM AT A PT ON THE FOL DESC LINE WHICH IS 1168 FT NLY OF THE S LINE OF SD SW1/4 OF NE1/4 AS MEASALONG SD LINE BEG AT A PT ON THE S LINE OF SD SEC 8 DIST 225.2 FT E OF THE S 1/4 COR THEREOF-TH RUN NLY AT AN ANGLE OF 92 DEG 9 MIN WITH SD S SEC LINE (MEAS FROM W TO N) FOR 4100 FT AND THERE TERMINATING PROCEEDING -TH E AND PRLL WITH THE S LINE OF SD SEC 8 FOR A DISTOF 275 FT PROCEEDING-TH N AND PRLL WITH THE E LINE OF SD SW1/4 OF NE1/4 TO THE N LINE OF SD SW1/4 OF NE1/4 PROCEEDING-TH W ALONG SD N LINE OF SD SW1/4 OF NE1/4 AND TO THE LINE FIRST DESC HEREIN AS SAME IS EXTENDED N TO INTERSECT THE SD N LINE OF SAID SW1/4 OF THE NE1/4 PROCEEDING-TH S ALONG SD LINE FIRST DESC HEREIN AND THE EXTENSION THEREOF N TO THE SD N LINE OF SD SW1/4 OF NE1/4 TO THE PT OF COM (SUBJ TO AND RESERVING AN EASE FOR RDWAY PURPOSES OVER THE N 3 3 FT THEREOF)(SUBJ TO ANY EXISTING EASERRESTRICTIONS OR RESERVATIONS)

At such hearing both written and oral comments will be heard.

DATED: October 24, 2013

Dawnette M. Shimek

Zoning Official / Building Clerk

City of Ham Lake

(Published Oct. 24, 2013, Anoka County Record)

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS MEETINGS cont. from pg. 4

The first said the commission must have a majority of Columbia Heights residents in any given year, and that the non-residents on the commission should be (the amendment did not read "shall be") people who either work or own a business in the city, or "have gone to school in Columbia Heights or have family members still living in Columbia Heights."

Nawrocki seconded the amendment.

Schmitt raised no objections at the time as to how the Library Task Force was created. For the Arts Commission, she and Peterson traded opinions on the value of having non-residents serve on the commission. Peterson did not agree that non-residents needed to have some kind of tie to the city — he thought more import was being put on this point than necessary. Catherine Vesley, Library Board member and former candidate for city council, offered comments from the audience. She said she had been on the Minneapolis Arts Commission at one time and does advocate keeping a similar Arts Commission in Columbia Heights flexible to allow for non-resident seatholders. The amendment was passed unanimously.

Then Schmitt added another amendment that was a bombshell. The ordinance said "the mayor appoints and the council ratifies." Schmitt wanted that replaced with, "the city council appoints the members to the commission." Councilor Tami Diehm asked Schmitt about the process that is in place for appointing other commissions. Schmitt anticipated the question and had researched the answer: "all the others are 'the council appoints the commission.'" Fehst then quickly chimed in that the mayor appoints the HRA and the EDA with council approval.

Peterson did not like the idea at all. He thought that having the council do interviews and make appointments would only slow down the process. Williams agreed.

Peterson chuckled. "If you think that I'm going to appoint someone that you guys are dead against and we're going to wrestle about it, that isn't going to happen," he said with assurance. He complained of too many rules and "much ado about nothing."

Peterson even went so far to say that the council could appoint and the mayor ratify, that he wasn't all that concerned about it — yet he also castigated, at the same time, the suggestion that the council make the appointments. He said it was "ridiculous to beat up people who want to help our community" and make them go through an interview process, as if such process was somehow tantamount to human rights abuse.

Diehm said she was agreeable to the original language that kept the appointments in the hands of the mayor, and believed the council would have difficulty finding time to interview applicants.

Nawrocki seconded Schmitt's amendment but they lost the 3-2 vote to keep the original ordinance language. The mayor will appoint.

Nawrocki got another chance to rebut Jeff Diehm's comments made at the previous meeting where he assailed Nawrocki for not supporting the Arts Commission idea. Nawrocki said he received a number of comments after that meeting from people who thanked him for standing up for the taxpayers. One of the people he had a conversation with reminded him of the Winston Churchill quote, "You have enemies? Good. That means you've stood up for something sometime in your life."

Upon hearing that, Catherine Vesley, still in the audience, let out a big caterwaul.

**OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE
CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME
MINNESOTA STATUTES, CHAPTER 333**

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable consumers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

1. List the exact assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted:

Student Pilot Helper

2. Principal Place of Business:

9532 Lexington Ave., Lexington MN 55014

3. List the name and complete street address of all persons conducting business under the above Assumed Name, OR if an entity, provide the legal corporate, LLC, or Limited Partnership name and registered office address:

Melissa Kay Aho, 9532 Lexington Ave., Lexington MN 55014

4. I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

FILED: October 1, 2013 #703921000026

/s/ Melissa Kay Aho, Owner

(Published Oct. 24, 2013 & Nov. 7, 2013 Anoka County Record)

**OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE
CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME
MINNESOTA STATUTES, CHAPTER 333**

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable consumers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

1. List the exact assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted:

Deanna Marie Photography

2. Principal Place of Business:

4638 Third St. N.E., Fridley MN 55421

3. List the name and complete street address of all persons conducting business under the above Assumed Name, OR if an entity, provide the legal corporate, LLC, or Limited Partnership name and registered office address:

Deanna Marie Casale, 4638 Third St. N.E., Fridley MN 55421

4. I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

FILED: October 11, 2013 #706449800026

/s/ Deanna Casale

(Published Oct. 24, 2013 & Nov. 7, 2013 Anoka County Record)

**OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE
CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME
MINNESOTA STATUTES, CHAPTER 333**

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable consumers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

1. List the exact assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted:

Bible Givers International

2. Principal Place of Business:

647 School Street, Anoka MN 55303

3. List the name and complete street address of all persons conducting business under the above Assumed Name, OR if an entity, provide the legal corporate, LLC, or Limited Partnership name and registered office address:

International Bible Givers, 647 School Street, Anoka MN 55303

4. I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

FILED: October 9, 2013 #705708000027

/s/ Tammy Donner

(Published Oct. 24, 2013 & Nov. 7, 2013 Anoka County Record)