

Anoka County RECORD

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ANOKA COUNTY
CITY OF HAM LAKE
CITY OF OAK GROVE

COUNTY BOARD SAYS NO MORE LIBRARY PROJECTS

Northtown Remodel Will Go Ahead

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

Emotions ran high at the Anoka County Library Board meeting Nov. 18 as the Anoka County Board of Commissioners met with the Library Board and staff in a joint meeting.

County Administrator Jerry Soma presented two handouts he had prepared describing the roles of the Library Board and the County Board, as well as an outline of future library system expansions.

Soma's written report said, "it has been noted that the Lino Lakes-Circle Pines area is underserved" but added that although the county has purchased land for a new, larger library than the Centennial branch, the project will not be going forward.

The report said, "library services are in a transition; the traditional usage of library materials exist, but the growth is in the electronic age."

Soma and County Board members elaborated on these points — that the kiosk-locker system at the Andover YMCA has been successful and that further expansion of library services should follow this model. Soma's report also identified St. Francis as an area, as well as Lino Lakes, which may receive more attention in the future.

County Board chair Rhonda Sivarajah said the board's objective is to pay down the county's debt without incurring new debt, and Soma added that new libraries would need bonding. The 2013-2016 County Capital Improvement Plan did include \$9.3 million planned for a new library in Lino Lakes, (the project has been a topic of discussion for over 8 years) however the message given this

evening to the Library Board was there were "no plans for a new library for many years".

County Commissioner Jim Kordiak, who represents Fridley and Columbia Heights, scoffed at the reasons given for the pull-back. He said he was not convinced that anyone could possibly predict what lies in the future for library services. Soma's report outlined not only the use of the Andover YMCA but also mentioned that iPads and other electronic devices were being used, questioning whether millions of dollars for bricks-and-mortar libraries would be a wise investment in the short-term.

Library Board chair Robert Thistle agreed there will not be many more stand-alone libraries in the decades to come. He listed some items that the board's Future Services subcommittee has been studying, mostly having to do with new technologies, weighing feedback from the public, and how small businesses can use the libraries. He noted since 2001 the Anoka County library system has reduced its staff by 22%.

Soma's report said the County Board, in its effort to continue to lower property taxes, wants to take a pay-as-you-go approach to new spending: "The County Board has changed their approach to building and maintenance projects. In past years there was a plan to bond every time we had a major improvement even such as a roof repair.

COUNTY BOARD MEETS WITH LIBRARY BOARD

continued on page 3

Are taxpayers funding groups working to unionize child care providers?

by Tom Steward — *Watchdog Minnesota*

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Now you see it, now you don't — or do you?

For months, a \$50,000 contract for the union-affiliated group Child Care Providers Together to provide informational seminars for families and other child care providers was axed from the proposed Ramsey County 2014-15 budget.

But it didn't stay cut.

Behind the scenes, a group of licensed family child care providers quietly made the case to county officials that the seminars amounted to a back door way for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees to network with providers in the midst of a controversial unionization drive.

Getting Organized: Unionizing Home-Based Child Care Providers, a 2010 report by the National Women's Law Center, described the program this way: "Providers acting as mentors receive a stipend from CCPT to help develop an information network for families. CCPT is working to improve the relationship and communications between providers and the licensing agency in Ramsey County as well."

Opponents pointed out CCPT liaisons listed for the training also serve as AFSCME child care provider union organizers. They also claim CCPT sessions often duplicate seminars available elsewhere. Handouts and fliers display CCPT's logo for training meetings ranging from how to identify health conditions such as asthma, record keeping and creating "calming spaces" for children.

"My intent is to draw a line about public tax money going to a specific union that's in the process of organizing and putting their logo on Ramsey County material to distribute and gain access to providers at the same time," said Cyndi Cunningham, an opponent of a provider union who operates her own St. Paul child care business.

Despite receiving about \$100,000 in the two previous county budgets, CCPT appeared to be out of luck. Budget documents analyzing the impact of defunding CCPT stated "elimination of the contract will mean that some child care providers [75-125] will need to use alternative sources of the publicly available information."

Then out of nowhere in mid-August, the county board suddenly got second thoughts, reinstating the \$50,000 line item in the budget.

"CCPT is a contract for services, so the county board, when we got to that part of the budget we talked about that and we determined as a board that we were going to reinstate that one," said Victoria Reinhardt, a Ramsey County commissioner. "It's not an uncommon thing for us to do by any means."

CCPT and AFSCME didn't respond to inquiries from *Watchdog Minnesota*. Officials say the contract

DAYCARE UNIONIZING EFFORTS *continued on page 4*

EAST BETHEL RESIDENTS TOLD 'GET READY TO PAY'— THERE'S NO STOPPING NEXT YEAR'S TAX INCREASE

At the East Bethel town hall meeting on November 21st, residents had an opportunity to speak their minds about the city council's proposed 17.5 percent tax hike. The tax increase is due to the city's ongoing controversial sewer project. It's a project that will cost almost \$50 million, but for now will only service a 1 to 2-mile commercial corridor along Highway 65. In December 2010, the city council approved borrowing \$18 million for their share of the project, days before three members left office. Now the city needs to start making payments on the debt. The remaining debt was financed by the Metropolitan Council.

The city council's message about the project's financing problems was one that many residents were familiar with. There is not enough development in the area that can hook up to the sewer line in order to cover the repayment costs. The city taxpayers, most of who cannot benefit from the project, will be forced to cover the majority of the costs in the near future.

Staff provided residents a quick primer on how the new sewer line works and why most will have no ability to connect to it in the near future. The sewer line is not gravity operated, like a standard line coming from a home or small business. Instead this sewer line is pressurized so material can move to the treatment plant. In order to connect to a pressurized line, a pump system is required which costs in the tens of thousands of dollars to construct. Generally only commercial developments and large housing developments would have the financial ability to connect to this system.



East Bethel residents listen to city councilors at Town Hall meeting Nov. 21.

Few if any of the comments at the meeting were positive. To the surprise of some, there were few places to direct their anger towards. None of the council members who approved the borrowing were still sitting on the dais. They were all voted out of office or chose not to run again in the 2010 and 2012 election cycles. The Metropolitan Council member who represented the area at the time, Natalie Haas Steffen, is also gone. None of the previous council members or the previous Metropolitan Council member attended the town hall meeting.

Resident Robert Nye and several other residents spoke on the issue. He informed the council that he is retired and on a limited income. He noted that he will only get a 1-1/2% pay increase next year, but his taxes will be going up 17.5%. He said that he was informed by city hall that this increased tax will continue until 2040, to which he replied, "I will be dead before that is paid off." After further commenting about having to pay for something that was of no use to him, he said, "I have to live within my means, and I wish the government would learn to do so too."

Council member Heidi Moegerle then explained the *SEWER PROJECT* *continued on page 4*

Congratulations to Anoka County leaders for getting buses running on Hwy 65

Congratulations to the Anoka County leaders who were successful in bringing express bus service to our area, running from East Bethel, Ham Lake and Blaine to downtown Minneapolis.

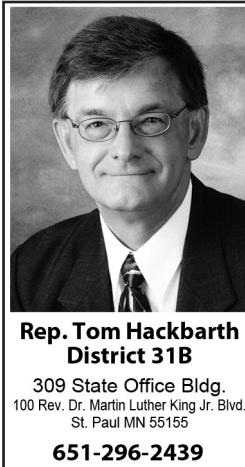
The county did well in gaining \$6.6 million in federal grants to go along with a 20-percent county match.

Metro Transit will operate the line, running coach buses during the morning and evening rush hours. Metro Transit also will bear responsibility for owning and operating park-and-ride lots along the route.

The express line is scheduled to begin service this August and will continue for three years as a "demonstration" project. At that point, the line will be evaluated to determine whether it will continue as part of Metro Transit's system once federal funding is exhausted.

I hope this turns out to be something that eases congestion on 65 and makes life easier for local commuters. Studies show buses are more cost effective than trains in mass transit. It will be interesting to see how this thing takes off during the next three years and what reports indicate.

Again, hats off to the local officials who were successful in the grant process to help make this happen.



Rep. Tom Hackbart
District 31B
309 State Office Bldg.
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul MN 55155
651-296-2439

The Battle for Public Information

On November 20th, the Minnesota Supreme Court decided against the local newspaper, the Ely Timberjay in a case regarding the public's right to see contracts entered into by local governments. The Court overturned a Court of Appeals ruling that originally favored the Timberjay which was trying to gain access to a contract between Johnson Controls and a contractor building two schools for the St. Louis County school district. The newspaper was trying to determine whether claims about taxpayer savings were accurate and could not do so without looking at the contract. In a nutshell, the Court ruled that because

the St. Louis County School District did not require Johnson Controls to provide the information as public data under the State's Public records laws, Johnson Controls was not required to make it public.

Regardless of what happened in this particular case, it's not hard to see that there could be collusion between a local government and private contractors to obscure the true costs or terms of a contract. This is a loophole in public data access that needs to be closed by the legislature as soon as possible.

For more on the story see <http://blogs.mprnews.org/newscut/2013/11/tower-timberjay-loses-gutsy-fight-for-open-data/>

COUNTY BOARD MEETS WITH LIBRARY**BOARD** *continued from page 1*

"Now the county board has allocated more money to the facilities budget so that most of our projects can be done without new bonding...selling bonds would add to the debt load which would be counter to the county's plan."

The county administrator's other handout, aiming to define the roles of the two boards, spurred a sometimes rancorous and teary-eyed debate.

It began with a thumbnail history of how the county's administrative functions have evolved: "each department head was responsible to work directly with one or two county board members and was responsible for all issues that confronted their department. If a department needed a building project it was up to the department head to work with architects without any specialized help from the county. If the department needed to add staff they would put an ad in the paper and hire off the ad. The options for employee benefits were limited. There was no coordination between departments and innovation did not occur unless the department head moved forward on their own initiative."

Soma's report summarized that the department heads now have the county's in-house expertise available to them. The administration wants to see county staff utilized — that point was made verbally as well by the county commissioners at the meeting (all were present, with Commissioner Carol LeDoux arriving at 5:40 p.m.; the meeting began at 5:00 with a tour of the Northtown Library).

The process used to move along the Northtown Library remodeling project, set to commence in March, by the Library Board and Library Director Marlene Moulton Janssen has been called into question by the County Board over the past few months. The matter boiled over at a subcommittee meeting chaired by Commissioner Matt Look a few months ago (see *Anoka County Record*, Sept. 26, 2013).

Some of the points raised then were also brought up at this meeting. The County Board had been taken by surprise when they were shown architects' plans and realized how far along the project was. Look's comments have focused on fiscal restraint and wise spending, and to meet those goals he has said that utilizing in-house talent for architectural drawings and other services should be done to realize cost savings. Look has also said that every county building project should be thoroughly vetted by the county's facilities management department as to whether the project makes financial and practical sense. This would also include the county's library projects.

Soma's handout at the Nov. 18 meeting stated "this lack of clarity leads to questions as to who has responsibility for operations within the library. Is it the Library Board or the County Board?" Soma proposed that special legislation be taken to the Capitol in the coming session that would spell out the responsibilities of the Library Board. He said that other metro-area counties have had this done.

The *Record* researched the state statutes (Chapter 134) regarding library boards. 134.11 is included here in its entirety:

134.11 ORGANIZATION OF BOARD; DUTIES.

Subdivision 1. Organization. Immediately after appointment, the library board shall organize by electing one of its number as president and one as secretary, and from time to time it may appoint such other officers as

COUNTY BOARD MEETS WITH LIBRARY BOARD *cont. on page 5*

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Anoka County Watchdog

Always on the lookout for governmental waste, fraud, and abuse in Anoka County

FRIDLEY GARBAGE GRABBERS

It's time for another foray into politics and public policy in Anoka County.

The City of Fridley is well on its way to having government take over trash collection.

Why? Does Fridley handle the core functions of government so well that taking over trash is the next frontier in Big Government?

Is it because the free market system of trash collection that has worked well for the last 50 years is suddenly no good?

Is it because Obamacare has proven to be such a great success in taking over health care?

At core, Fridley is marching towards taking away yet another citizen freedom because there is an attitude among some at city hall that government makes better decisions than citizens themselves.

If government is in charge of trash, a better result will take place than allowing the idiot masses to be in charge of their trash decisions, so the thinking goes.

If you like your trash hauler, you WILL NOT be able to keep your trash hauler.

Like Obamacare, you will get the trash hauler government picks for you.

And like Obamacare, arrogant government will tell you that you're getting a better deal than the one you could get for yourself.

And what are the odds that you will get some big, Wall Street hauler with the "right" contacts over at city hall?

Pretty damn high.

No word on whether Solyndra has started a trash hauling company.

In case you're doubting that a "we're-the-government-and-we-know-better" attitude has taken hold at city hall, consider the attitude of one Sam Stoxen, who sits on the Fridley Environmental Quality and Energy Commission, the Politburo-style "citizen commission" that has endorsed the government garbage grab.

Stoxen couldn't be bothered to attend the meeting last week to actually weigh and consider the staff propaganda report justifying the garbage grab, but that didn't stop him from endorsing it.

Why? Because he thinks government can think for you better than you can think for you.

Thanks to Watchdogs in Fridley, the Watchdog has obtained an email Stoxen sent to the commission regarding his view of the garbage grab.

Here it is in its entirety (emphasis added):

From: Sam Email

Sent: Monday, November 11, 2013 5:17 PM

To: Qualley, Kay

Subject: Re: Staff report on Organized vs. Open collection systems

Hey Kay.

It looks like I have some work things I need to do tomorrow evening. That federal furlough really messed things up and set me back.

If it matters I would probably vote for a single hauler. The road wear data seems to support the concept. People might not want government making their decisions for them but they also don't want to pay for road improvement so they might need to have their hand held in some decision making.

I'll mark my calendar with next years EQEC dates just to make sure work doesn't fall on any of those dates. I'm hoping we avoid another furlough mid January.

Sorry for not being able to make it. I hope there is enough people for quarum.

Sam

We're guessing Sam I Am doesn't work as an educator, although his email makes clear that he is involved with the federal government, perhaps helping to develop fix healthcare.gov.

While the loss of freedom of choice is the primary argument against the government garbage grab, there are many, many other reasons to oppose this silly idea.

Consider that when government takes over trash, government gets to run trash hauling and therefore needs a bureaucracy to manage things.

Take Maplewood, for example.

In 2011, city hall took over trash hauling.

Among other things, city hall now owns the headache of managing accounts, particularly those deadbeats who don't pay their bills.

Under the free market system, that is a private contractual matter between the hauler and the citizen.

The City of Maplewood now needs to expend city resources to go after people who don't pay their trash bills.

Below is a memo from a recent city council meeting regarding the need to go after deadbeats who don't pay their trash bill:

MEMORANDUM

TO: R. Charles Ahl, City Manager

FROM: Gayle Bauman, Finance Director

DATE: November 5, 2013

SUBJECT: Approval of Resolution Certifying Special Assessments for Unpaid Trash Bills

Introduction

Beginning this year, the City will levy special assessments for unpaid trash bills on property within Ramsey County. The accounts affected are those that have amounts due that are at least 6 months old. 266 notices were sent to individuals that had unpaid bills. The notices indicated that the balance due for the services along with 10% interest would be added to their 2014 property taxes if payment was not made within 30 days. A few payments were received in response to these notices. The remaining unpaid bills in the amount of \$41,519.92 plus 10% interest of \$4,152.26 should be certified as special assessments.

Budget Impact

This process assists with the collection of past due amounts.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the attached resolution be adopted to certify \$45,672.18 of unpaid trash bills for collection with 2014 property taxes which includes interest at the rate of ten percent (10%) on the total amount for one year.

Attachments

Attachment 1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO.

RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to certify to the Auditor of Ramsey County the following trash bills totaling \$45,672.18 for collection with the taxes of said property owner for the year 2013, collectible in 2014, which included interest at the rate of ten percent (10%) on the total amount for one year.

So this is what it's come to.

Government is so big and so out of control, it not only wants to own your health care, it wants to own your trash.

Whether it's your hard earned money, your body, or your coffee grounds and snotty Kleenex, government wants to own it.

Let's wake up, Fridley!

It's time to tell city hall to butt out of our banana peels and moth eaten socks.

More information to follow.

The Anoka County Watchdog is a place where concerned taxpayers can find fact-supported information and other resources about governmental waste and abuse in Anoka County. My intent is to provide you, the taxpayer, with the information you need to hold your local politicians accountable. Visit my website and sign up for our free weekly e-mail update at www.AnokaCountyWatchdog.com or contact me personally at harold@anokacountywatchdog.com.

Sincerely, Harold E. Hamilton, owner.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



DAYCARE UNIONIZING EFFORTS*continued from page 1*

doesn't imply county endorsement of AFSCME's drive to unionize child care providers.

"We have drafted the contract to list specifically what activities we expect to be supported with the dollars provided," said Dave Haley, executive assistant in the Ramsey County Community Human Services Department in an email response. "It is not the County Board's or the Department's intention to support or oppose a unionization effort. Part of our data collection and evaluation effort is to make sure we are satisfied that the funds are continuing to be used for the purposes outlined in the contract."

Cunningham acknowledges she cannot document any examples of union organizing activity by CCPT during training sessions, but insists it's all about appearances. She plans to state her case at the last public hearing on the budget Monday.

"They are the union organizers for the state of Minnesota, they are the ones in the news," Cunningham said. "They are the same people that are being paid by Ramsey County to provide services in Ramsey County."

At least one county commissioner says that's not good enough to dissuade her from voting for the appropriation in December.

"If there is any instance that they truly know of that they [CCPT] have breached that line I want to know about it immediately," Reinhardt said. "If there is, I will be the first to say OK, that's done because that's not what this is about. It's about our children and it's about training and I have never had anybody call me back with a specific instance."

Contact Tom Steward at tsteward@watchdog.org.

Relive Circle Pines and Lexington History

The Anoka County Historical Society invites you to a one-hour program on the local history of Circle Pines and the surrounding area. A slide show of photographs from the past will take you on a visual historical tour of Circle Pines and Lexington, as well as the eastern area of Blaine and parts of Centerville. The program is free and open to the public and attendees are encouraged to bring their stories about growing up in the area. Seating is limited so come early. The one-hour presentation will be held on January 11, and start at 2:00 PM. Circle Pines City Hall, 200 Civic Heights Circle. The Anoka County Historical Society's website is www.anokacountyhistory.org.

The program receives funding from the Legacy Amendment statewide sales tax.

Editor's Note: Don't park in the 15 minute parking spots in front that are reserved for pickup and drop off of library books. Drive around back to the huge parking lot behind the buildings.

Senator John Hoffman invites the public to a DFL Secretary of State candidates Town Hall Forum Tonight at Brooklyn Park City Hall

Please join me for an important Senate District 36 DFL "Meet the DFL Secretary of State Candidates" Town Hall Forum. Our discussion will be held at the Brooklyn Park City Council Chambers, Thursday, December 5th. Doors open at 7:00 P.M. and the program begins at 7:15. Address: 5200 85th Ave. N, Brooklyn Park.

Secretary of State Candidates, Rep. Debra Hilstrom and Rep. Steve Simon will be answering your questions and sharing their visions for the future. This is a very important constitutional office and this is our opportunity to hear from the candidates in person prior to the February Precinct Caucuses. Let your voice be heard and join in the conversation.

Thank you,
Senator John Hoffman

SEWER PROJECT DRAINS EAST BETHEL TAXPAYERS *continued from page 1*

specifics of the debt the previous council approved. She said that the bonds were structured to require users to pay first, and then the remainder was to be paid by the general city taxpayers. But since the limited number of users has generated little income, the general city taxpayers are being saddled with the majority of the debt. Mayor Richard Lawrence also informed residents that the city has worked hard to reduce other expenditures and has reduced the city's budget by \$1 million in an attempt to live within their means.

The most pointed comments were directed to current Metropolitan Council member Edward Reynoso. Residents who spoke at the meeting accused the Metropolitan Council of "selling" the project to the city when they should have known better that projections on the use of the line and repayment of debt were unrealistic. Mayor Lawrence had previously singled out the Metropolitan Council on this issue. Mayor Lawrence told the Star Tribune in October that, "The Met Council pushed it hard. They wanted it real bad. They didn't do their due diligence."



An angry East Bethel resident (right) made numerous comments and asked questions of Edward Reynoso, Metropolitan Council representative (far left) while city councilor Bob DeRoche listens.

Numerous times throughout the back and forth discussion between Mr. Reynoso and city council members or residents, Mr. Reynoso defended the agency. He said repeatedly, "The Metropolitan Council has fulfilled its commitment. We aren't the ones taxing you". He also stated several times that, "The city approached us (the Metropolitan Council) to partner with them on this project."

Reynoso said flatly, "the bottom line is that our (the Metropolitan Council) predecessors and this city council's predecessors made a decision that turned out to be not a good decision, and committed this city and its residents (to a project) that ultimately residents are going to have to pay for."

His comments did not satisfy residents.



East Bethel mayor
Richard Lawrence

One resident said that Governor Dayton should respond to this situation. He said that he contacted his office but never received a reply. Governor Dayton appoints all 17 members of the Metropolitan Council.

At the end of the meeting, several city council members spoke of the dilemma they were in. There were no easy decisions to be made. Moving forward would cost millions and attempting to stop the project part way would also cost millions. Council member Tom Ronning reminded everyone that the council members were also taxpayers. He stated that he had recently received his tax statement and was "waiting for a better day" before opening it, because he knew it bore bad news. — ACR staff

Editor's note: Senator Michelle Benson, Representative Tom Hackbart, and Anoka County Commissioner Julie Braastad, were in attendance. The legislature and the county had no involvement in the East Bethel sewer project. At press time, the East Bethel City Council was about to conduct a meeting on the evening of Dec. 4. After the Town Hall meeting, staff was able to prune more items from the 2014 budget. The agenda for the Dec. 4 council meeting was proposing a levy increase of 15.1%, dropping from the earlier proposed figure of 17.5%.

**Minnesota Department of Revenue Posting of Tax Delinquencies
Liquor, Wine and Beer Sales as of 12/3/2013**

Newly Posted — In accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 270C.725., the below taxpayers are 10 days or more delinquent in payment of their taxes and therefore no wholesaler, manufacturer or brewer may sell or deliver any product to them beginning the third business day (business days are Monday through Friday) after the date of this list. **Non-Delivery Date: Nov 20, 2013**

Posting Mo/Year				
Harvest Grill	Pot Luck Catering	12800 Bunker Pr Rd NW	Coon Rapids	Nov 2013
Grandy Nine Golf Course	Grandy Nine Golf Inc.	7651 Central Ave.	Fridley	Nov 2013

Previously Posted — The below names remain on liquor posting from previous lists and are subject to the rule of liquor posting until they have taken care of their delinquencies. No wholesaler, manufacturer or brewer may sell or deliver any product to these taxpayers while their names remain on the list.

Posting Mo/Year				
Monterrey Mexican Rest.	Monterrey Mexican Rest. of MN Inc.	9141 S Hwy Dr	Circle Pines	July 2013
Pizza Flame	Dyno Inc.	2016 105th Av NW	Coon Rapids	Oct 2013
Tasty Pizza	Wishell Inc.	3220 Bridge St	St. Francis	Aug 2013

Recently Removed — The names on the below section are businesses that were posted and have been removed. Deliveries may resume to these businesses.

Posting Mo/Year	Date Removed				
Osaka Sushi & Hibachi	Osaka Sushi & Hibachi Inc.	12580 Riverdale Blvd NW	Coon Rapids	Nov 2013	11/21/2013
Penalty Box Bar & Grill	SPM Properties	14077 St Francis Blvd NW	Ramsey	Nov 2013	11/26/2013

COUNTY BOARD MEETS WITH LIBRARY**BOARD** cont. from page 3

it deems necessary.

Subd. 2. Duties. The library board shall adopt bylaws and regulations for the government of the library and for the conduct of its business as may be expedient and conformable to law. It shall have exclusive control of the expenditure of all money collected for or placed to the credit of the library fund, of interest earned on all money collected for or placed to the credit of the library fund, of the construction of library buildings, and of the grounds, rooms, and buildings provided for library purposes. All money received for the library shall be paid into the city or county treasury, credited to the library fund, kept separate from other money of the city or county, and paid out only upon approval by the board. The library board may lease rooms for library use. The library board shall appoint a qualified library director and other staff as necessary, establish the compensation of employees, and remove any of them for cause. With the approval of the council or board of county commissioners, the library board may purchase grounds and erect a library building thereon.

Scott, Carver and Washington counties all had special legislation passed, by the 2005 and 2008 state legislatures. Authority given to library boards in Subd. 2 above was turned over to the county boards. Hiring the Library Director and staff, setting their salaries and firing them if needed, was made a county board duty. Library boards had been given authority by state statute to spend all money designated to the library system in any way the board saw fit. The

new legislation for these counties put all fiduciary concerns, including the setting of budgets, in the hands of the county board. The role of the library boards after the counties' legislation was passed, was that of an advisory nature to the county board, responsible for the day-to-day operations and policies of the libraries.

The majority of the Anoka County Library Board did not take City Administrator Jerry Soma's proposal too kindly. Library Board chair Robert Thistle asked if the county board could work with the library board to achieve the changes it would like to see without resorting to placing it in state law.

Most visibly upset was County Commissioner Jim Kordiak, who had been the liaison to the library board for many years. He brought up the Rainbow Rowell controversy by way of uttering a repeated stream of "the F word" — one of many expletives found in the controversial author's book, "Eleanor & Park." His point seemed to be that the legislation proposal to define the roles of both boards was another example of the county board clamping down on the county libraries. His comments alluded to another author who supposedly was turned away from the Anoka County libraries but when the *Record* inquired about the remarks, Kordiak would not elaborate.

The Rowell controversy (see *Anoka County Record*, Aug. 29, 2013) began in the summer when the Anoka-Hennepin school district showcased the book in its summer reading program, only to receive strong criticism for its steamy content which some

considered inappropriate. They complained that the school district should not be a purveyor of such content where the audience for the book are female students about 12 to 15 years of age.

Thistle explained that the author was being promoted by the school district, and not the library board or staff. The school district had asked if the library board would spend some of its grant monies to help with the expenses of bringing the author here for appearances at a school and county library. Thistle said the request came the day of a library board meeting and it was decided to not include the item on its meeting agenda.

Sivarajah affirmed that the issue was the use of grant funds, which also come from taxpayers, she said, for such a purpose. She deemed it would have been inappropriate.

Commissioner Matt Look answered Kordiak's remarks with some emphatic comments: "when I get calls from my constituents asking me why we would be promoting that subject (the "Eleanor & Park" book) . . . I'm going to shut that down with everything I've got."

The legislation proposal was discussed the following day at a county committee meeting. It was decided it would not be pursued, and that a set of policies could be worked out, which was Thistle's suggestion. Library Board member Kim Sampson of Fridley did say at the Monday night joint meeting that she opposed legislation and would lobby legislators to defeat it.

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. Dec. 5

County Board Truth in Taxation Public Meeting, 6 pm, Rm 705, ACGC

Fri. Dec. 6

Management Cmte., 8:30 am, **Cancelled** County Board, 9:30 am, Rm 705, ACGC

followed by HRA meeting, 10:30 am

Transportation Cmte, 11 am, Rm 772, ACGC Park & Tree Comm., 6 pm

Wed. Dec 11

Waste Management & Energy Committee, 8:15am, Room 772, ACGC

Thurs. Dec 12

Human Services Cmte, 8:30am, Rm 710, ACGC Information Technology Committee, 10:30am, Rm 772, ACGC

Finance & Capital Improvement Cmte., 1 pm, Rm 772, ACGC

Intergovernmental & Community Relations Cmte., **Cancelled**

Mon. Dec 16

Library Board, 5:30pm, Library offices next to Northtown Library, Blaine

Tues. Dec 17

Management Cmte., 8:30am, Rm 772, ACGC County Board, 9:30am, Rm 705, ACGC, followed by Regional Rail Authority

Wed. Dec 18

Solid Waste Abatement Advisory Team mtg, 2 pm, Blaine City Hall

Thurs. Dec. 19

Public Safety Cmte., 3pm, Anoka County Public Safety Center, Andover

FRIDLEY

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

Thurs. Dec. 5

HRA, 7 pm

Mon. Dec. 9

City Council, 6:30 pm

Parks & Rec. Cmte., 7 pm

Wed. Dec. 18

Planning Comm., 7 pm

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

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. Dec. 9

Planning Comm., 6 pm

Mon. Dec. 16

City Council, 6 pm

Wed. Dec. 18

Transportation Cmte, 11 am, Rm 772, ACGC Park & Tree Comm., 6 pm

LINWOOD TWP

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

Tues. Dec. 10

Town Board, 6 pm

Tues. Dec. 17

Planning Comm., 7 pm

Mon. Dec. 23

Park & Rec. Cmte., 6 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

Mon. Dec. 9 & Jan. 13

City Council, 7 pm

3rd Wednesday

Parks Comm., 6:30 pm

3rd Thursday

Planning Comm., 7 pm

RAMSEY

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

Thurs. Dec. 5

Planning Comm., **Cancelled**

Tues. Dec. 10

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

Wed. Dec. 11

Hwy 10-Armstrong Interchange Public Open House, City Hall

Thurs. Dec. 12

Future Business Park location, 6 pm

Parks & Rec. Comm., 6:30 pm

Thurs. Dec. 19 & Jan. 9

EDA: 7:30 am

Thurs. Jan. 9

Planning Comm., 7 pm

ANOKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

Mon. Dec. 16

Board of Supervisors, 5 pm

CENTENNIAL ISD #12

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

Mon. Dec. 16

School Board, 6:30 pm

FRIDLEY ISD #14

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

Tues. Dec. 17

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

SPRING LAKE PARK ISD #16

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

Tues. Dec. 17

School Board mtg and Truth in Taxation hearing, 6:45 pm

QCTV Cable Commission

Ramsey, Andover, Champlin, Anoka

Thurs. Dec. 19

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. Dec. 18

Cable Commission, 6 pm, Spring Lake Park City Hall

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA MORRIS

morris.umn.edu

Priority Application Deadline December 15.

Wind Plant Managers

ALLETE Clean Energy seeks Wind Plant Managers for facilities in both Lake Benton, MN and Storm Lake, IA. Responsibilities include: managing wind generation site(s), leading operations and maintenance teams and administering contracts. Offering includes a competitive salary and full benefits package.

For more information and to apply, please visit:
www.allete.com/careers.



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PUBLICATION SCHEDULE**DECEMBER**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23</					

ANOKA COUNTY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

The Anoka County Board met on November 12, 2013. Standing county committee information reports and action items were considered, and action was taken as necessary. The following resolutions were adopted: #2013-127 County Ditch 35 Findings and Orders, #2013-128 & 129 Highway Right of Way Items, and #2013-130 & 131 Property Classifications. A public hearing was re-convened regarding County Ditch 35 and its five branches. A full copy of the agenda, minutes, accounts, and claims greater than \$2000 may be found on the Anoka County Web site: www.anokacounty.us

(Published Dec. 5, 2013 Anoka County Record)

Household Hazardous Waste

Take unneeded household products that are corrosive, flammable, combustible or poisonous to the

Anoka County Household Hazardous Waste Facility
3230 101st Ave. N.E. in Blaine
November-March
Wednesdays: 2-8 p.m.
Saturdays: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Closed Christmas and New Year's Day
763-323-5730
anokacounty.us/recycle

**The Bunker Hills Compost Site**

will be open the first two weekends in January to accept Christmas trees and evergreen garland, as well as the usual yard and tree waste

Call 763-323-5730 or go to anokacounty.us/recycle

Bunker Hills Compost Site
13285 Hanson Blvd., Coon Rapids

Special January Hours

Saturday, January 4 & 11

9 am - 4:30 pm

Sunday, January 5 & 12

Noon - 4:30 pm

Website ANOKACOUNTYRECORD.COM

E-Mail EDITOR@ANOKACOUNTYRECORD.COM
Got something to say? Send it to us.

Go to our website and sign up for our E-Mail Notification List — we'll let you know when the new edition is available online!

Interest rate on unpaid state taxes and overdue refunds stays the same for 2014

The Minnesota Dept. of Revenue has announced that in 2014, taxpayers will pay a 3% interest rate on delinquent state tax payments. This rate has remained the same since 2010.

The department calculates interest from the date the tax is due until it is paid in full. By law, a person or business with delinquent taxes must pay interest on the amount of the penalty owed, as well as on the amount of tax owed.

Likewise, the state must pay taxpayers the same 3% rate on tax refunds not issued within the allotted time frame.

As specified by statute, to determine the 2014 interest rate, the department used the average short-term interest rate commercial banks charged large-business customers between April 1 and September 30, 2013, rounded to the nearest full percentage. The Federal Reserve Board determines the average prime rate banks charged. The interest rate has been based on the adjusted prime rate since 1983.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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DECEMBER 5, 2013

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CITY OF RAMSEY EMPLOYMENT POSTING
Engineering Technician III

The City of Ramsey is seeking an Engineering Technician III. This is a full-time position.

To learn more about this opportunity or to download an application packet, please follow the link below. If the link does not work, please copy the link and paste into web browser.

<http://www.cityoframsey.com/sites/default/files/documents/Employment/2013%20Eng%20%20Tech%20III%20Application%20Packet.pdf>

This position is open until filled; however, applications will be reviewed on **Friday, December 13, 2013** after 4:30 p.m.

To apply, please submit a City of Ramsey application, supplemental application, and optional resume to: The City of Ramsey, Human Resources Office, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, MN 55303.

Questions can be directed to Colleen Lasher, Human Resources Manager, at 763-576-4301 or by emailing clasher@ci.ramsey.mn.us.

RAMSEY CITY COUNCIL Tentative Future Topics

December 10, 2013

CCWS/Discuss Charter Amendment Language

CCWS/Union Negotiations – Closed Session

CCReg/Public Hearing – Truth in Taxation

CCReg/Public Hearing – on Proposed Charter Amendment Language

CCReg/Review 2014 Legislative Agenda

CCReg/Consideration of Adopting Resolution #13-XX

approving Joint Powers Agreement with Anoka County

for CSAH 5/Alpine Drive Intersection Improvements

CCReg/Application for Fire Fighter Grants

January 14, 2014

Charter Amendment Ordinance

CCReg/Declaration of Restrictive Covenant for

Access Easement on Tract C RLS 241

No date assigned

CCWS/Code Enforcement

CCWS/Happy Days Update

Engineering and Final Design Services – Mississippi Skyway

CCWS/Review CIP – January 2014

CCWS/Hunting within the City of Ramsey (e.g. distances, Lake Itasca, Trails, etc.) – Feb/March 2014

CCReg/Adopt Resolution to Join Mayors along the Mississippi River

CCReg/Approve Request for Proposals for

Permitting, Geotechnical

CCWS/Discuss Authority/Duties of City Administrator

CCWS/Meeting with Met Council Representative

Ed Reynoso

CCWS/Discuss Building Design

CCWS/Reduce Council Update

CCWS/Proposal from North Fork Inc. to Convey Certain Parcels Adjacent to Lake Itasca to the City for Park Purposes

CCWS/Finalize Discussion re Conflict of Interest

CCWS/Highway 10 Commercial Signage Standards

CCWS/Discuss Department Reporting (Police/Fire)

CCWS/Review of Home Occupation Ordinance

HRAReg/Review Draft of Housing Assistance

Policy

HRAReg/Consider Policy

on Community Sign

Tenant Panels

Personnel/Update the

Personnel Policy

Missed something?

All back issues
can be found at
AnokaCountyRecord.com

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:

ROBBINS ISLAND MUSIC

2. Principal Place of Business:

22031 Woodbine St NW, Oak Grove 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:

ROBBINS ISLAND MUSIC LLC, 22031 Woodbine St NW, Oak Grove MN 55303

4. This certificate is an amendment of Certificate of Assumed Name File Number: 0165863, originally filed on Sept. 25, 1995

5. 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 3, 2013 #7055144003

/s/ Bradley Joseph Trochil, Owner

(Published Nov. 21, 2013 & Dec. 5, 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:

SECOND GOLDFISH

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. This certificate is an amendment of Certificate of Assumed Name File Number: 7130702, originally filed on 11/15/2013, under the name **Second Goldfish LLC**.

5. 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: 11/15/2013

/s/ Melissa Kay Aho

(Published Dec. 5, 2013 & Dec. 19, 2013 Anoka County Record)

Vietnamese Bilingual Work From Home Telephone Data Collectors

Westat has immediate openings for Vietnamese bilingual Home-based Telephone Data Collectors. Candidates must be able to work 15 - 40 hours per week (evenings and weekends) and have a windows-based computer and printer, land line phone, webcam, and internet.

For more details and qualifications about these positions, visit www.westat.com/jobs and enter Job ID number 7045BR – Vietnamese Bilingual.

WESTAT

EOE

The Metropolitan Council will discuss its preliminary 2014 Unified Budget and receive public comment on the budget at its regularly scheduled meeting **December 11 at 3 p.m.** in the Council Chambers.

PDF files of the 2014 budget are available on the Metropolitan Council's website; to request print copies of the budget, email public.info@metc.state.mn.us or call 651-602-1140.

Public comment procedure: People will be called to speak in the order in which they have registered, and may register to speak in advance by calling 651-602-1140.

Individuals will have 3 minutes each and designated representatives of groups will have 5 minutes. Once all speakers have presented, speakers may request additional time to make further comments.

The chair shall have discretion in limiting or extending testimony by any person.

Upon request, the Council will provide reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities.

How to comment: Comments will also be accepted prior to December 11th. To be included in the official record, comments must be received before 5 p.m., Tuesday, December 10, 2013. You may submit comments for the official record via:

Mail — Metropolitan Council, Public Information, 390 N. Robert Street, St. Paul, MN 55