

Blaine: Poor Process Contributes to Finger Pointing and Accusations

The headline in the Star Tribune shouted out “Blaine’s new city prosecutors have personal ties to council members”. Mayor Tom Ryan accused fellow councilmembers and said the situation was “dirty”. One law firm had prior business dealings with and provided campaign contributions to some council members.

This all started out with the city sending out a packet in September 2014 titled “Request for Qualifications and Proposals for Legal Services”. The packet provided general information on the city’s needs and asked attorneys to submit proposals to serve as their Civil and/or Criminal attorney. Staff would weed out proposals that did not meet minimal qualifications, and then the council would award the contract based upon what was best for the city. So what went wrong?

First off let’s be clear, regardless of what the political pundits claim in the mainstream media, nothing illegal or unethical occurred here. There is nothing wrong with the city doing business with a law firm that councilmembers have done business with in the past. There are dozens of companies that concurrently do business with cities and their councilmembers every year. I also tire of hearing the claim that a political contribution at the city level of government buys anything. Maybe a city elected official would sell their vote for \$1 million, but not for a lousy \$100 contribution. Promises of free personal legal work in exchange for a vote could lead to an attorney being disbarred and their career destroyed.

So what led to the sensationalized headlines? It starts with the fact that during most of Mayor Tom Ryan’s time in office, no one was even allowed to submit a proposal to serve as city attorney. The incumbent law firm was first awarded the contract in the 1960’s. Only five years ago did the city ask for other offers, and ended up appointing the incumbent law firm again for another five years. The city should have been seeking proposals at least every three years during that entire time.

Even if the council had held a selection process at regular intervals, they still suffered from a poor process which did not provide for goals and a ranking system to be established up front. Having councilmembers share their goals and priorities AFTER proposals were already opened and made public was disastrous. Did price guide the decision, or was it used as an excuse to pick one of the firms? This question is what led the Mayor to point fingers at other members. Because of a poor process, no one will know for sure. Price was cited as a primary decision factor, but had this been announced before proposals were received, would the city now be paying even less?

The city where I previously served as Mayor has had a strong professional services policy with a sound selection processes for over two decades and covers city attorneys, consultants, and other professional services. An open application process is generally conducted every three years, not on Blaine’s ten year cycle. With every process, rating criteria is established, goals are set, interview teams are selected, and questions are drafted before any of the proposals are even opened. When proposals are opened, interviews are conducted, points are awarded, and the firms are ranked prior to the list being provided to the city council. It is an open and transparent process from start to finish. Blaine could easily establish a similar policy without having to reinvent the wheel.

While the 5-2 vote to hire a new city prosecutor for the first time in a generation created media controversy, in the end it will be good for the city. At the very least, it demonstrates that these professional services contracts can change hands, the city will not implode, and the world will not come to an end.

Publisher’s Column



John Kysylyczyn

Residents trash city plan to end choice in garbage haulers

By Tom Steward | Watchdog Minnesota Bureau

BLOOMINGTON, Minnesota — A group of residents have gone to court for the right to decide who dumps their trash.

“We want the people to have a voice in the process,” said Joel Jennissen, a day trader who founded the citizen-led Hands Off Our Cans campaign. “Every step of the process, where they’ve had citizen input, the majority says they don’t want this. The city keeps going down this path, ignoring that voice.”

The controversy amounts to nothing more —or less — than a bunch of garbage, as the city moves to trash the current system and discard that option for residents.

“It’s probably the most contentious program I’ve dealt with,” said Jim Gates, Bloomington deputy public works director, who’s fielded hundreds of emails and calls “It is pretty personal, they are vocal, and most of it is over the loss of freedom of choice.”

Residents can now select from seven garbage haulers serving a suburb best known as home to the Mall of America.

“I’ve been able to choose my hauler since I’ve lived in Bloomington, for 21 years. And I’ve changed a few times for whatever reason, service or price. And the fact the city is taking that right away from me got me involved,” said Mark Vanik, who’s going door-to-door collecting signatures for a petition campaign to place the issue on the ballot this fall.

But officials claim that fleets of trash trucks disrupt neighborhood traffic, pollute the air and cause undue wear and tear on city streets. Their so-called “organized collection” proposal requires garbage haulers to form a consortium to retain their market share of customers in Minnesota’s fifth-largest city.

“The idea of a free market and the right to choose who provides that service for you is a very legitimate response,” said Andrew Carlson, a Bloomington city councilor who supports overhauling the system. “The counter argument I’ve been hearing is, what about the right to choose the quality-of-life issues and improvements to the environment. So that’s a choice as well, and I think as a council, that’s what we’re left to figure out.”

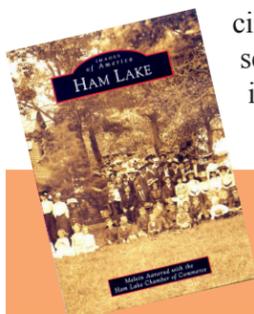
Under the new plan, Bloomington would be divided into seven sectors, one for each hauler, who would assign customers based on address rather than preference. Residents would pay a monthly flat rate for garbage collection, which, proponents maintain, will save citizens a few dollars a month.

Opponents dispute the city’s numbers.

Businesses get a pass, according to the proposal before the Bloomington City Council. The city could also keep its current garbage pickup.



SIGNING UP: Residents have asked a state court to allow their petition to put the garbage collection issue on the ballot this fall, after the city attorney ruled state law preempts their right to petition on the issue.



HAM LAKE HISTORY BOOK
to be released July 6
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TRASH *continued from page 1*

“That would still be a separate contract. We haven’t rolled the city’s pickups into the organized portion of the program yet,” Gates said.

Since 2011, organized collection attempts have been defeated in 13 Minnesota cities, according to Garbage Haulers for Citizens Choice. St. Anthony Village implemented the system earlier this year. The industry-backed website maintains a watch-list of nine cities considering restricting residents’ choice of providers. The members emphasize their backing for political candidates who support free markets.

“We believe in the value and service options that a competitive market brings, where smart consumers can easily shop for the options that best fits their needs,” the website states.

Meantime, opponents continue to circulate petitions to put two initiatives before voters in November. The measures would prohibit the city from replacing the competitive market in solid-waste collection without voter approval.

Bloomington city attorney Sandra Johnson has ruled state law pre-empts an initiative petition on the issue. The opinion prompted Hands Off Our Cans to file a complaint in Hennepin County District Court that would allow the initiative effort to move ahead anyway.

“The voters are allowed under Minnesota laws and the Bloomington city charter to weigh in on matters of significant public importance,” said Mike Drysdale, attorney for the citizens group. “They might say yes, they might say no, but they at least get a voice. That’s what the whole initiative and referendum process in the city is all about.”

The Bloomington City Council could vote to replace the current collection system as soon as Monday.

“It’s not about trash. It’s about the people having the opportunity to voice their opinion on something that’s sweeping across the entire community,” Bill Reichert said while holding a clipboard of petitions signed by fellow residents.

Editor’s note:

On June 22, 2015, Bloomington voted 6-1 to move forward on a consortium proposal which would assign one hauler to one zone in the city. Residents would lose the option to change haulers. The city would set the rates and only in very limited circumstances would residents be allowed to opt-out of paying for the service.

Recently two Anoka County charter cities, Anoka and Fridley, voted down proposals for city managed trash collection.

Legislators make remarks on the 2015 special session**Rep. Kurt Daudt (31A)**

The 2015 session has officially come to an end after we wrapped up our one-day special session early Saturday morning.

I’m proud to report that House Republicans were successful in restoring balance to Saint Paul. While we are just one leg of a three-legged stool, the other two controlled by Democrats in the Senate and the governor’s office, we were still able to achieve conservative reforms and prevent Democrats from spending every penny of the state’s budget surplus. In fact, the 2016-2017 budget represents the 3rd lowest percent increase in spending in over 50 years, even lower than Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker’s proposed budget increase.

Here are some of our accomplishments this session:

- Defeated Democrats’ proposed highest gas tax increase in state history.
- Expanded school choice through pre-K scholarships and increased charter school funding.
- Strengthened 2nd Amendment rights including reciprocity for carry permits.
- Increased oversight of Obamacare and created a waiver for consumers from MNsure.
- Froze pay increases for the governor’s political appointees.
- Implemented long-overdue reform to improve care for aging adults.
- Eliminated \$30 million in spending on the Southwest Light Rail boondoggle.
- Increased protections for children, new mothers, and unborn babies.
- Ended the taxpayer-funded political campaign contribution program.
- Delivered resources to help fight avian flu and assist farmers.
- Provided counties the option to use private auditors instead of the State Auditor.
- Streamlined permitting by ending activist board’s interference in the process.
- Cut ratepayer-funded handouts to special solar power interests.
- Required legislative review of Obama’s Clean Power Plan.

In addition, thanks to House Republican leadership, we were able to stop Democrats from spending more than \$800 million from the budget surplus, money we will use for middle class tax relief next session. I was extremely disappointed that Governor Dayton and Democrats refused to pass one penny of middle class tax relief unless Republicans agreed to a gas tax. We know that raising the gas tax is the wrong approach with a budget surplus, and that families across the state do not support a higher gas tax. That’s why we stood strong against Democrat demands to raise taxes and take more money out of your pockets.

As we look ahead to the 2016 session, there’s still more work to do. Republicans will continue to push for a responsible, long-term transportation plan that addresses our roads and bridges without a harmful tax increase, as well as significant middle-class tax relief.



**Rep. Kurt Daudt
District 31A**
463 State Office Bldg.
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul MN 55155
651-296-5364

Rep. Connie Bernardy (41A)

On Friday June 12, the legislature held a Special Session to conclude work from the regular session. Like many of you, I was frustrated by the need for a special session and disappointed that a bipartisan compromise was not reached sooner. I refused to take any extra pay for the special session. I am pleased that the special session has concluded and that all sides were able to come to an agreement.

Here is some information about the legislation we passed during the special session and the work that remains going forward.

Why did we need a special session?

On the final night of this year’s regular legislative session, the House Majority and Governor Dayton were just \$25 million apart in their proposals for funding education, but they failed to reach a compromise. After session, three bills, including the education bill, were vetoed by Governor Dayton. A special session was required to pass these budget bills before July 1, 2015.

What happened with the final budget?

I advocated for and am pleased that the final budget improved upon our investment in Minnesota’s kids and future. After years of cuts to the classroom during the Great Recession, the 2% funding increase for each student for the next two years will help to prevent larger class sizes and teacher layoffs. It will help keep up with inflation, adequately fund classrooms, and provide more opportunities for our earliest learners.

What else was resolved in the special session?

The legislature was able to somewhat improve the jobs and energy bill, although I opposed the provision that lessens incentives for people to use solar for their energy needs. We also fixed some of the drafting errors that occurred in the rush to finish the regular session. In addition, the legislature passed an omnibus environment and agriculture bill that included some good provisions to address our state’s avian flu crisis and implemented ag buffers. I opposed the rollbacks on protecting our water and environment including a provision allowing nurseries to label plants that are potentially toxic to bees and butterflies as “pollinator-friendly.” I also opposed the elimination of the Minnesota Pollution Control’s Citizen Board. We need to increase opportunities for citizens’ voices to be heard, not decrease them and protect our pollinators, not hurt them.

We also passed a bonding bill that includes infrastructure projects throughout the state.

What didn’t get done this year?

Unfortunately, the legislature left much work undone. Fixing our state’s roads, bridges and transit was a top priority for many, but a dimly lit “lights on” transportation bill was all that was passed because the legislature could not agree on a way to fund our needed transportation repairs. Tuition at our public colleges and universities are also expected to go up next year due to underfunding in the higher education budget. I was hoping we would be able to continue our two year college tuition freeze. The House Majority also failed to pass a tax bill this session—meaning tax initiatives to help working families, seniors, and small businesses were not addressed.

What should be our priority next year?

With a \$1.9 billion surplus and growing economy, we missed many opportunities this session to keep moving Minnesota forward. From 2013-2014 we made progress by improving our state for hardworking Minnesota families, students, and seniors. We ought to look for ways to make college more affordable and reduce student debt, pass a bipartisan transportation compromise that will fix our state’s transportation system for all people, and continue to improve our state’s world class education system for all children.



**Rep. Connie Bernardy
District 41A**
253 State Office Bldg.
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul MN 55155
651-296-5510



ANOKA COUNTY WATCHDOG

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

Quote of the Week: "No, you can't always get what you want. But if you try sometime, you just might find, you get what you need."

— Mick Jagger

THE BOTTOM LINE

So it's done. The 2015 Not-so-Special Session has concluded and the legislature has adjourned until March of 2016.

The Watchdog and other political observers have weighed in over the course of the past few weeks on the whole situation, offering analysis and insights.

As expected, there is a rather large divergence in opinion in the conservative/libertarian family regarding the performance of the GOP in both the regular and especially the special session.

The bottom line for the Watchdog staff is that given the makeup of state government, Speaker Dautt and the GOP did very well against Governor Dayton and the DFL Senate.

First, Governor Dayton was forced to abandon his number one priority, universal Pre-K education, which would have instituted a massive and incredibly expensive (and intrusive!) education program.

Second, the Senate Majority Leader Tom Bakk was forced to walk away from his number one priority, a gas tax at the wholesale level.

Third, the GOP won major policy victories, including eliminating the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Citizens' Board and a new policy allowing counties to contract with private entities to conduct audits.

Fourth, the GOP skillfully navigated the special session period, securing a good, negotiated outcome while eviscerating the hoped-for DFL narrative that Republicans can't govern when they're in charge and always drive the state into chaos and shutdown.

In fact, the GOP did great on that front. While the House GOP gets most of the attention because of their majority status, it shouldn't be lost on readers that it was the Senate GOP that played the adult in the room in the Upper Chamber and provided the key votes to pass the budget while securing a pledge for tax reform next year in exchange for that bailout.

Conversely, the special session exposed a DFL party riven by internal strife, back biting, acrimony and a host of significant personality conflicts.

Talk about a sideshow! Watching the DFL-on-DFL violence was something to behold - and thoroughly enjoy.

Besides the legislative outcome, the political outcome of the special session was strongly in favor of the GOP.

The DFL looked weak, indecisive, and at war with itself. The GOP, on the other hand, was united, purposeful, and poised.

This certainly has not been the outcome of previous special sessions.

Again, the outcome wasn't all roses for the GOP, but that is due to the nature of divided government and not because of flaws or errors in GOP strategy.

As expected, some in the family are bitterly complaining about the outcome. But to believe their narrative one is required to engage in some significant suspension of disbelief. Similar to the kind of suspension of disbelief it requires to enjoy movies like Star Wars or Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines.

Thinking that the GOP could somehow force the DFL to fully implement the GOP agenda is the stuff of pure fantasy, divorced in every way from the reality of the situation.

Art imitates life and provides the vivid metaphor.

So, if Speaker Dautt and the GOP played to the Rolling Stones and their ode to recognizing the possible, some Tea Party folks are still clinging to Steve Winwood's rebellion against reality:

Dear Mr. Fantasy play us a tune
Something to make us all happy
Do anything, take us out of this gloom
Sing a song, play guitar, make it snappy
You are the one who can make us all laugh
But doing that you break out in tears
Please don't be sad if it was a straight mind you had
We wouldn't have known you all these years

THAT HOUSE IS DIVIDED!

Democrats have spent a lot of time lately penning editorials and letters to the editor talking up "unity" and describing all the neat dogma and tenets of the Liberal worldview that bind them together.

No wonder. The past few weeks have seen rifts develop in the DFL that haven't been seen in some time.

On the federal level, outright civil war has broken out among Democrats over trade, with the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal serving as a flashpoint.

Despite the president's direct lobbying efforts, Congressional Democrats rejected a key portion of the package, rebuking the president in the process.

Moreover, the opposition was led by Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi.

On the state level, environmental issues have been the primary cause of the family feud.

Mining issues of the silica, ferrous, and non-ferrous kind have resulted in more warfare and strife.

On one side are pro-labor Democrats who support the high paying jobs (mostly union) that these mines offer in rural Minnesota.

On the other side are liberals, mostly from the urban core, who side with environmental radicals and passionately oppose mining.

This rift was put on full display during the special session, when a provision of the environmental spending bill contained a provision to eliminate a citizen board advising the PCA. The

environmental wing of the DFL opposed the provision while the pro-labor wing supported it.

The rift took down the bill initially in the Senate and resulted in the Senate GOP extracting concessions regarding tax relief in order to pass the bill.

Senate Democrats were so fractured and divided over this and other special session issues that they held a closed door meeting for over two hours immediately after the special session concluded in the wee hours of the morning. New leadership and votes of "no confidence" were discussed in detail, sources tell the Watchdog.

All this comes on top of the horrible relationship between Governor Dayton and Majority Leader Bakk, the former gubernatorial rivals who saw their strained relationship meltdown in nuclear fashion over massive pay raises for highly-compensated executive branch political appointees.

Dayton, who has always struggled with self-control, predictably swung to heated rhetoric in describing his relationship with Bakk, describing him as a "conniver" and a "backstabber." Dayton went so far as to state that he couldn't again meet alone with Bakk as there apparently needs to be a witness to what is said.

The louder liberals proclaim DFL unity and shout about GOP factionalism, the better off Minnesota and America will stand, because surely the opposite is true.

No wonder the DFL so readily agreed to not reconvene until March of next year. What a circus.

THE LIBERALS WERE WRONG - AGAIN

Perhaps the most fundamental philosophical difference between conservatives and liberals is that conservatives recognize the nature of humans and seek to craft public policy that recognizes that nature.

For example, conservatives recognize that humans naturally seek comfort, which in turn causes humans to seek wealth and prosperity, meaning in turn that public policy should recognize, encourage, and reward wealth seeking behavior.

Liberals, on the other hand, obsess over the way humans SHOULD behave, as they define the word "should."

Frequently, the way people "should" behave is contrary to the liberal world view, which leads to despotic and tyrannical law making, because forcing people to act contrary to their nature requires force.

This difference has been on display recently in two areas that have been the subject of intense liberal social engineering, those areas being automobiles and housing.

These issues have been on display recently because the liberals have suffered a setback in both areas.

In housing, liberals have yelled long and loud for years that people need to live in tighter, denser urban settings that are more "sustainable" than the large houses with large lots that have become the standard in American home building over

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ANOKA COUNTY WATCHDOG

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the years.

It is a Liberal article of faith that zoning laws should be used to prevent people from living in the suburbs or exurbs while steering them into the urban core.

The theory goes that after being forced to live this way, people will get used to it and start to embrace living like people in Tokyo.

In other words, people will move away from the natural tendency to seek comfort through large and amenity-filled homes and instead gladly live in a micro apartment and share a small plot of grass with hundreds of neighbors and their bratty kids.

Hardly.

Last year, for the first time, the average size of the American single family home topped 2,600 square feet. One-third of those homes were over 3,000 square feet, according to an article in the Star Tribune.

By comparison, the average square footage of a single family home in 1973 was 1,660.

This is happening despite the fact that there are fewer people, on average, living in those homes today than 40 years ago.

And this despite the best efforts of liberal policy makers to discourage such a thing.

The same holds true of the car. For years, liberal policy makers have attempted to force Americans into subcompact, electric vehicles, like the Chevy Volt.

Large pick-up trucks and SUVs are anathema to liberals, spewing carbon into the atmosphere and giving Americans the kind of freedom of movement that mass transit just can't match.

In fact, the two go hand in hand, with large vehicles giving citizens access to large houses out in the suburbs.

Today, just like in recent years, large truck sales provide the lion's share of car maker profits, with demand continuing to rise.

In fact, some manufacturers are having trouble keeping certain models in stock.

Try as they might, liberals will never defeat human nature, at least in the long run. In the short run, regimes like Cuba and North Korea have forced citizens to live a certain lifestyle, but freedom always ultimately prevails. And when it does, human nature prevails.

Watch Cuba. As capitalism takes hold and freedom prevails, Cubans will seek bigger houses and bigger cars.

No one in Cuba will proclaim years from now that they endured years of totalitarianism and oppression in order to drive crappier cars and live in smaller apartments.

In sum, capitalism is about living big and dreaming big. It's about celebrating human achievement and the blessings of liberty and freedom.

It's an optimistic celebration of man's triumph over the challenges of nature as we mold our surroundings to fit our needs and enhance our quality of life.

So make it happen, Watchdogs. Celebrate the end of the legislative session by firing up your SUV, running the riding lawnmower, and sitting on your deck while enjoying a cigar and cooking up some tasty red meat on the grill while giving thanks and praise to America and capitalism.

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 free weekly e-mail updates at www.AnokaCountyWatchdog.com or contact me personally at harold@anokacountywatchdog.com.

Sincerely,

Harold E. Hamilton, owner.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

SEE COUNCILMEMBERS FIGHT REAL FIRES!

Publisher announces July 6th release

New book traces Ham Lake's past

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

Vintage photographs tell the story of Ham Lake's early days in a new book simply called "Ham Lake."

Those familiar with Arcadia Publishing's historical books will immediately recognize the book's cover as being one of the many entries in the *Images of America* series.

The "Ham Lake" book is the newest in that series, and the publisher, based in South Carolina, has 90 Minnesota-related titles in its inventory. The *Images of America* books are mostly histories of cities, neighborhoods of cities, and other places. The books are designed similarly, emphasizing photographs where each receive a caption written in a style that leads to the next photograph and caption — telling a story in a visual way. The *Images* books are not overly wordy.

A letter which appears in the book from the Ham Lake Chamber of Commerce credits Mel Aanerud, who is on the chamber's board, for writing the Ham Lake history. Photographs used came from a number of private parties, various government entities, the Anoka County and Minnesota historical societies, among other sources.

Ham Lake's beginnings date to around the time of Minnesota's statehood. The book tells of how the area got its name and but also other early names that were used (we won't divulge all here, for that take would away some of the book's elements of surprise).

"Ham Lake" is divided into eight sections, starting with "Early History" and includes looks at schools, churches, city government (the book includes a list of the city's mayors), and a section called "Interesting Residents."

Photos from the 1940's and '50's show the growth of the city and the changes that were made when Highway 65 was expanded. Also included are plat maps of the area from the 1880's.

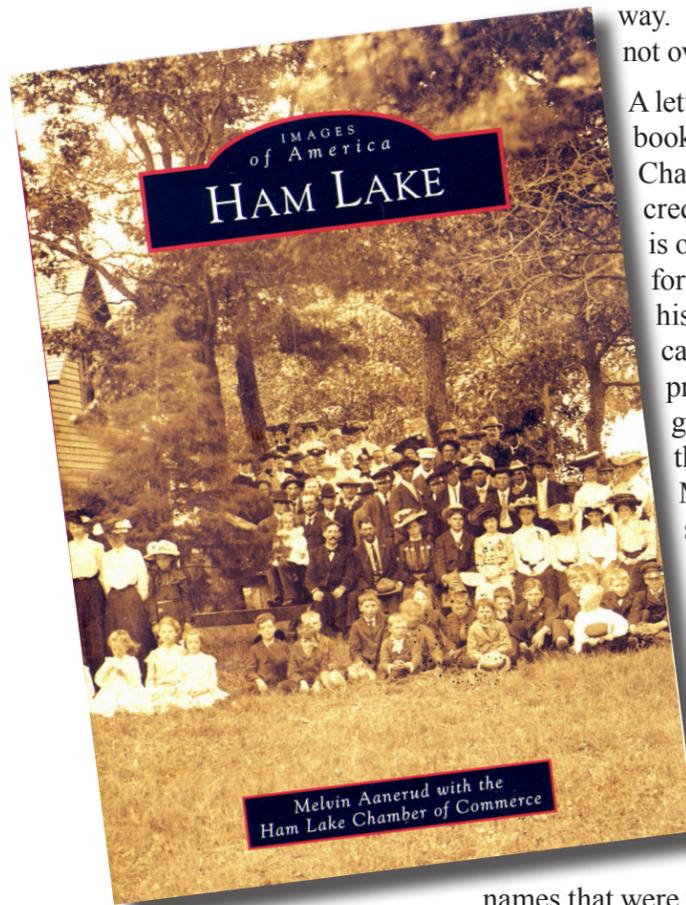
Nearly all of the *Images* series books have a page tally around that of "Ham Lake"'s 128 pages. The books pack a lot of material into a small, easy-to-handle book. There is no waste. Photographs are printed well, and the book's pages are of ultra-white glossy stock. Such describes the high quality of the books we have seen from this publisher.

Anoka County Library Director Marlene Moulton Janssen told the *Record* there would be at least three circulating copies of "Ham Lake" in the libraries.

"Ham Lake" retails for \$21.99 and will be available from the publisher and in local and online bookstores after July 6.

When the *Record* perused the publisher's website recently, (www.ArcadiaPublishing.com) we found the entire website had a 20% off sale in progress.

Arcadia Publishing can also be reached by telephone at (888) 313-2665.



Logging in the Ham Lake area. Reprinted with permission from Ham Lake, by Mel Aanerud with the Ham Lake Chamber of Commerce. Available from the publisher online at www.arcadiapublishing.com or by calling 888-313-2665

Blaine man charged with tax crime

ST. PAUL, Minn. – The Minnesota Department of Revenue announced that the Ramsey County Attorney’s Office recently charged Atef Mouhamad Maarouf with a tax-related felony.

Maarouf is charged with one count of possession of untaxed tobacco products. The charge stems from a joint investigation between the Minnesota Department of Revenue and the Minnesota State Patrol.

The complaint states that Maarouf was stopped for speeding by the Minnesota State Patrol in December 2014. Maarouf was driving a rental truck containing approximately \$30,000 worth of tobacco products--mostly loose tobacco--that he purchased from an out-of-state wholesaler. The Minnesota State Patrol held the truck as evidence and members of the Minnesota State Patrol and the Minnesota Department of Revenue executed a search warrant for the truck.

Maarouf allegedly evaded approximately \$28,500 in Minnesota taxes by purchasing the tobacco products from an out-of-state wholesaler that did not collect the required tax, according to the complaint.

Each tax-related felony charge carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison, a \$10,000 fine, or both. Defendants are presumed to be innocent unless and until proven guilty.

This is just one example of the department’s ongoing efforts to uniformly enforce the state’s cigarette and tobacco laws.

For more information on the rules and laws for retailers selling tobacco products, visit our webpage with information on tobacco taxes in Minnesota. http://www.revenue.state.mn.us/businesses/cigarette/factsheets/cigarette_fs2.pdf

CITY OF OAK GROVE, MINNESOTA SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR GENERAL OPERATIONS GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013			
	Total 2014	Total 2013	Percent Increase (Decrease)
REVENUES			
Property Taxes	2,199,609	2,374,028	7.35%
Tax Increments	7,279	8,295	12.25%
Special Assessments	37,185	52,100	28.63%
Licenses and Permits	208,256	227,584	8.49%
Intergovernmental	797,957	696,890	-14.50%
Charges for Services	26,509	23,175	-14.39%
Fines and Forfeitures	32,836	37,815	13.17%
Miscellaneous:			
Investment Income	185,731	(61,968)	399.72%
Contributions and Donations	18,839	54,062	65.15%
Franchise Fees	-	16,855	100.00%
Other	27,710	17,717	-56.40%
Total Revenues	3,541,911	3,446,553	-2.77%
Per Capita	412	421	2.14%
EXPENDITURES			
Current			
General Government	685,303	691,114	0.84%
Public Safety	878,567	955,221	8.02%
Public Works	510,712	508,066	-0.52%
Sanitation	25,104	20,948	-19.84%
Parks and Recreation	42,067	46,153	8.85%
Economic Development	48,809	8,867	-450.46%
Debt Service			
Principal	139,300	134,300	-3.72%
Interest and Other Charges	91,909	97,926	6.14%
Capital Outlay			
General Government	9,487	9,959	4.74%
Public Safety	59,481	394,173	84.91%
Public Works	929,409	830,979	-11.85%
Sanitation	-	374	100.00%
Total Expenditures	3,420,148	3,698,080	7.52%
Per Capita	398	452	11.93%
Total Long-term Indebtedness	1,580,000	1,690,000	6.51%
Per Capita	184	206	10.97%
General Fund Balance - December 31	1,293,705	1,131,163	-14.37%
Per Capita	151	138	-8.91%

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of information concerning the City of Oak Grove to interested citizens. The complete financial statements may be examined at City Hall, 19900 Nightingale Street Northwest, Oak Grove Minnesota. Questions about this report should be directed to Rick Juba, City Administrator at (763) 404-7075.

(Published June 26, 2015, Anoka County Record) #245

GOVERNMENT MEETINGS CALENDAR

CITY OF HAM LAKE, Ham Lake City Hall, 15544 Central Ave. NE (763) 434-9555 (www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us)
Hours Mon-Thurs 7 am-4:30 pm; Fri. 7 am-Noon) *Closed Fri. July 3*
Mon. July 6 - City Council, 6 pm
Mon. July 13 - Planning Commission, 6pm
Wed. July 15 - Park & Tree Commission, 6pm
Mon. July 20 - City Council, 6 pm
Mon. July 27 - Planning Commission, 6pm
Mon. Aug 3 - City Council, 6 pm
Mon. Aug 10 - Planning Commission, 6pm

CITY OF OAK GROVE, Oak Grove City Hall, 19900 Nightingale St. NW (763) 404-7000 (www.ci.oak-grove.mn.us)
Closed Fri. July 3
Mon. June 29 — City Council, 7 pm
Mon. July 13 — City Council, 7 pm
Mon. July 15 — Park Commission, 6:30 pm
Mon. July 16 — Planning Commission, 7 pm
Mon. July 27 — City Council, 7 pm
Mon. August 10 — City Council, 7 pm

CITY OF NOWTHEN, City Hall
Thurs. July 9 — City Council “workshop”, 5 pm

CITY OF EAST BETHEL, 2241 221st Ave. NE, East Bethel (763) 367-7840
Closed Fri. July 3
Wed. July 1 — City Council, 7 pm

CITY OF ANDOVER, City Hall, 1685 Crosstown Blvd., (763) 755-5100
Closed Fri. July 3
Thurs. July 2 & 16 — Parks Comm., 7 pm
Tues. July 7 — City Council “workshop”, 6 pm, mtg 7 pm
Tues. July 14 — Planning Comm., 7 pm

CITY OF LINO LAKES, City Hall, 600 Town Center Pkwy., (651) 982-2400
Closed Fri. July 3
Thurs. July 2 — EDAC, 8 am
Mon. July 6 — Park Board, 6:30 pm
Wed. July 8 — Planning Comm., 6:30 pm

CITY OF RAMSEY, 7550 Sunwood Dr NW; (763) 427-1410 *Closed Fri. July 3*
Thurs. July 2 — EDA, 7:30 am
Thurs. July 9 — Planning Comm., 7 pm

CITY OF FRIDLEY, Fridley City Hall, 6431 University Ave NE, (763) 571-3450
Closed Fri. July 3
Mon. July 13 — City Council “workshop” 6:30 pm; mtg 7 pm
Tues. July 14 — Environment Quality and Energy Comm., 7 pm
Wed. July 15 — Planning Comm., 7 pm
Thurs. July 16 — HRA, 7 pm

CITY OF SPRING LAKE PARK, City Hall, 1301 81st Ave. NE., (763) 784-6491
Closed Fri. July 3
Mon. July 6 & 20 — City Council, 7 pm

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VERIFIED

ANOKA COUNTY NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Date: Wednesday, June 24, 2015

Anoka County Community Development Department 2100 Third Avenue, Suite 700

Anoka, MN 55303 763-323-5764

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the County of Anoka.

Request for Request of Funds

On or about July 31, 2015, the Anoka County Housing and Redevelopment Authority will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of HOME & NSP funds for the following project:

2015 CDBG Funds – funds will be used to clean up the contaminated lots for future development. The City of Columbia Heights will be administering this funding in the amount of \$300,000.00 and all federal guidelines will be met. Location is as follows:

- 3927 & 3939 Central Avenue NE, Columbia Heights, MN 55421
- PIN #: 36-30-24-33-0148 & 36-30-24-32-0252

Finding Of No Significant Impact

The County of Anoka has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file in the County Community Development Department, 2100 Third Avenue, Suite 700, Anoka, MN 55303-5024 and may be examined weekdays 8:00 am – 4:30 pm.

Public Comments

Any individual, group, or agency wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to the County of Anoka. All comments received by 4:30 pm on July 11, 2015, will be considered by the County of Anoka Prior to submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which notice and project they are addressing.

Release of Funds

The County of Anoka certifies to HUD that Anoka County and Karen Skepper, in her capacity as Executive Director of the Anoka County HRA, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and allows the County of Anoka to use program funds.

Objections to the Release of Funds

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and

the County of Anoka's certification for a period of 15 days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the certifying officer or other officer of the County of Anoka; (b) the County of Anoka has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24C.F.R. Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred costs not authorized by 24 C.F.R. Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another federal agency acting pursuant to 40C.F.R. Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 C.F.R. Part 58) and shall be addressed to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development at 920 Second Avenue South, Suite 1300, Minneapolis, MN 55402. HUD will not consider objections to the release of funds on the bases other than those stated above. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Karen Skepper
Executive Director, Anoka County HRA
Anoka County Government Center
2100 Third Avenue, Suite 700
Anoka, MN 55303-5024

(Published June 26, 2015, Anoka County Record) #245

ANOKA COUNTY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

The Anoka County Board met on June 9, 2015. Standing county committee information reports and action items were considered, and action was taken as necessary. The following resolutions were adopted: #2015-69 Board of Appeal Appointment, #2015-70 Gift from Connexus, #2015-71 Right-of-Way Plat, #2015-72 Gifts for Fishing Clinic, #2015-73 Anoka County Regional Trail Master Plan Amendment, #2015-74 Ski Trail Programs Grant, and #2015-75, 76, & 77 Deer Hunting in Parks. A full copy of the agenda, minutes, accounts, and claims greater than \$2000 may be found on the Anoka County Web site: www.anoka-county.us

(Published June 26, 2015 Anoka County Record) #250

ANOKA COUNTY SUMMARY OF BIDS

Bid #2015-19
Description of Bid/RFP: Advertisement for Bids for Coon Rapids Dam Restroom Remodel
Bid Opening: July 24, 2015
For more information regarding the above published bids/RFPs, please visit the Anoka County Web Site at: www.AnokaCounty.us/bids.
(Published June 12, 19, 26, 2015 Anoka County Record) #236

ANOKA COUNTY SUMMARY OF BIDS

Bid #2015-21
Description of Bid/RFP: Advertisement for Bids for Jail Boiler Replacement Project
Bid Opening: July 14, 2015
For more information regarding the above published bids/RFPs, please visit the Anoka

County Web Site at: www.AnokaCounty.us/bids.
(Published June 26, July 3, 2015 Anoka County Record) #246

ANOKA COUNTY SUMMARY OF BIDS

Bid #2015-22
Description of Bid/RFP: Advertisement for Bids for Wargo Pedestrian Entrance Project
Bid Opening: July 27, 2015
For more information regarding the above published bids/RFPs, please visit the Anoka County Web Site at: www.AnokaCounty.us/bids.
(Published June 19, June 26, July 3, 2015 Anoka County Record) #241

ANOKA COUNTY SUMMARY OF BIDS

Bid #2015-23
Description of Bid/RFP: Advertisement for Bids for 911 Cooling Upgrade
Bid Opening: July 28, 2015
For more information regarding the above published bids/RFPs, please visit the Anoka County Web Site at: www.AnokaCounty.us/bids.
(Published June 26, July 3, 2015 Anoka County Record) #247

ANOKA COUNTY SUMMARY OF BIDS

Bid #2015-24
Description of Bid/RFP: Advertisement for Bids for the New Construction of a Single Family Home at 208 Clay Street, Anoka, Minnesota 55303
Bid Opening: July 23, 2015
For more information regarding the above published bids/RFPs, please visit the Anoka County Web Site at: www.AnokaCounty.us/bids.
(Published June 19, June 26, July 3, 2015 Anoka County Record) #242

ANOKA COUNTY SUMMARY OF BIDS

Bid #2015-25
Description of Bid/RFP: Bids Invited for Anoka County Project, Minnesota Project No. HSIP 0215 (090) State Project No. 002-030-006 CSAH 22 (Viking Blvd NW) Nowthen & CSAH 18 (Crosstown Blvd NW/NE) Andover and Ham Lake, State Project No. 002-030-008 CSAH 22 (Viking Blvd NE) East Bethel and Linwood Township Minnesota, Anoka County
Bid Opening: July 14, 2015
For more information regarding the above published bids/RFPs, please visit the Anoka County Web Site at: www.AnokaCounty.us/bids.
(Published June 19, 26, July 3, 2015 Anoka County Record) #243

ANOKA COUNTY SUMMARY OF BIDS

Bid #2015-26
Description of Bid/RFP: Bids Invited for Anoka County Project NO. SP 002-618-030, CSAH 18 (Broadway Ave. NE) and CR 62 (Kettle River Blvd.) Intersection Reconstruction Project, Roundabout, City of Columbus, Anoka County MN
Bid Opening: July 21, 2015
For more information regarding the above published bids/RFPs, please visit the Anoka County Web Site at: www.AnokaCounty.us/bids.
(Published June 26, July 3, 10, 2015 Anoka County Record) #248

ANOKA COUNTY SUMMARY OF BIDS

Bid #2015-27
Description of Bid/RFP: Advertisement for Bids for Radio Frequency Identification
Bid Opening: July 30, 2015
For more information

regarding the above published bids/RFPs, please visit the Anoka County Web Site at: www.AnokaCounty.us/bids.
(Published June 26, July 3, 2015 Anoka County Record) #249

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:

Verite Video and Film
Business:
2. Principal Place of Business:
3951 87th Lane NE Circle Pines, 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:
Matthew Edward Bonnema
3951 87th Lane NE Circle Pines, 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: June 10, 2015, #829458800029, /s/ Matthew Bonnema
(Published June 19, 26, 2015, Anoka County Record) #238

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

1. List the exact assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted:
Larson Law MN
2. Principal Place of Business:
4335 Pheasant Ridge Dr. Suite #127 Blaine, MN 55449

able to identify the true owner of a business.

3. List the name and complete street address of all persons conducting business under the above Assumed Name, OR if an

able to identify the true owner of a business.

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

VCA PineRidge Animal Hospital
Business:
2. Principal Place of Business:
2172 Station Parkway NW Andover, MN 55304

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:
Pet Services of Minnesota, P.C.
380 Jackson Str #700 St. Paul, MN 55101

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: June 18, 2015, #830115200030, /s/ Stephen Sperdelozzi, authorized agent of Stephen P. Hadley
(Published June 26, July 3, 2015, Anoka County Record) #244

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:

Larson Law MN
Business:
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4335 Pheasant Ridge Dr. Suite #127 Blaine, MN 55449

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:

Larson Law MN PLLC
4335 Pheasant Ridge Dr. Suite #127 Blaine, MN 55449

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

AHMED ADEN MOHAMED

SUMMONS AND PETITION FOR LEGAL SEPARATION
State of Minnesota
County of Anoka

District Court
10th Judicial District
Court File No: 02-FA-15-809
Case Type: Legal Separation
In Re the Marriage of: Yasmin Abdulle Ali, Petitioner and Ahmed Aden Mohamed, Respondent

TO: Ahmed Aden Mohamed, THE STATE OF MINNESOTA TO THE ABOVE NAMED RESPONDENT:

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon the attorney for Petitioner an answer to the Petition which is herewith served upon you, within thirty (30) days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.

NOTICE OF TEMPORARY RESTRAINING PROVISIONS

UNDER MINNESOTA LAW, SERVICE OF THIS SUMMONS MAKE THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO BOTH PARTIES TO THIS ACTION, UNLESS THEY ARE MODIFIED BY THE COURT OR THE PROCEEDING IS DISMISSED:

- (1) NEITHER PARTY MAY DISPOSE OF ANY ASSETS EXCEPT (i) FOR THE NECESSITIES OF LIFE OR FOR THE NECESSARY GENERATION OF INCOME OR PRESERVING ASSETS, (ii) BY AN AGREEMENT IN WRITING, OR (iii) FOR RETAINING COUNSEL TO CARRY ON OR TO CONTEST THIS PROCEEDING;
- (2) NEITHER PARTY MAY HARASS THE OTHER PARTY; AND
- (3) ALL CURRENTLY AVAILABLE INSURANCE COVERAGE MUST BE MAINTAINED AND CONTINUED WITHOUT CHANGE IN COVERAGE OR BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION.

(4) PARTIES TO A MARRIAGE LEGAL SEPARATION PROCEEDING ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEMPT ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO MINNESOTA LAW. ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION INCLUDES MEDIATION, ARBITRATION, AND OTHER PROCESSES AS SET FORTH IN THE DISTRICT COURT RULES. YOU MAY CONTACT THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR ABOUT RESOURCES IN YOUR AREA. IF YOU CANNOT PAY FOR MEDIATION OR ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION, IN SOME COUNTIES, ASSISTANCE MAY BE AVAILABLE TO YOU THROUGH A NONPROFIT PROVIDER OR A COURT PROGRAM. IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC ABUSE OR THREATS OF ABUSE AS DEFINED IN MINNESOTA STATUTES, CHAPTER, 518B, YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO TRY MEDIATION AND YOU WILL NOT BE PENALIZED BY THE COURT IN LATER PROCEEDINGS.

IF YOU VIOLATE ANY OF THESE PROVISIONS, YOU WILL BE SUBJECT TO SANCTIONS BY THE COURT.

Dated: 6/23/15

By: /s/ Yasmin Abdulle Ali
Attorney for Petitioner: Eric S. Day, Esq.

Patty Day, Legal Assistant, Law Offices of Eric S. Day, PLLC, 4103 E. Lake St. Mpls, MN 55406

(Published June 26, July 3, 10, 2015 Anoka County Record) #240

entity, provide the legal corporate, LLC, or Limited Partnership name and registered office address:

Larson Law MN PLLC
4335 Pheasant Ridge Dr. Suite #127 Blaine, MN 55449

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: June 2, 2015, #828246600036, /s/ Douglas Larson, Owner
(Published June 26, July 3, 2015, Anoka County Record) #251



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