

Anoka
County

RECORD

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MnDOT to Hold 35W Meeting for Blaine & Lino Lakes Residents Planning includes new noise walls & toll lane

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is hosting two public presentations in June to provide residents and property owners details about an Interstate 35W North noise analysis and about how noise walls may or may not be built along the interstate.

Wednesday, June 15, 5:30-7 pm
Presentation begins at 5:45 pm
Rasmussen College Blaine Campus
3629 95th Ave NE

Wednesday, June 22, 5:30-7 pm
Presentation begins at 5:45 pm
Elmwood Evangelical Free Church
3615 Chelmsford Road NE,
St. Anthony Village

The study included analyzing noise impacts along the interstate. The results of the analysis indicated that adding noise walls at several locations would reduce noise at those locations by at least five decibels. The next step in determining if noise walls are included in a future road project requires property owners and residents who receive at least a five decibel reduction in noise to vote on whether or not they want a noise wall.

Proposed noise walls would be 20 feet tall, and be built with wood planks and concrete posts. The planks for the wall will be brown. The posts for the walls in Anoka County will be brown and the posts on the walls in Ramsey County will be tan.

Noise walls are being proposed in the following locations:

Roseville: Wall NBI: East side of I-35W between Co Rd D and Co Rd C

New Brighton: Wall NC1: East side of I-35W between the freight rail tracks and Co Rd D; Wall SE1: West side of I-35W between 10th St. NW and Co Rd E2

Mounds View: Wall SI1: West side of I-35W between Co Rd I and Squire Ln; Wall SJ1: South side of Hwy 10 between Edgewood Dr and Jackson Dr

Blaine: Wall NK1: East side of I-35W between Lake Dr and 95th Ave. NE; Wall NL1: South side of I-35W between 95th Ave. NE and Lexington Ave.

Lino Lakes: Wall NN1: South side of I-35W between Sunset Ave. and Rice Lake Dr

The noise analysis is one piece of a larger overall process to develop plans to expand 35W from Highway 36 to Lexington Avenue by installing a MnPASS toll lane. Toll would be charged to vehicles using the lane Monday through Friday, from 6am-10am and 3pm-7pm. Busses, vehicles with 2 or more occupants, and motorcycles are exempt from paying toll.

MnDOT plans to improve safety, increase traffic capacity, and reuse existing roads and bridges without the need to acquire homes and properties.

While funding for a construction project has not been identified, if funding becomes available, construction could start as early as 2018. Additional project information can be found online at <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/i35wroseville/>. Questions about the project or requests for additional information can be directed to Jerome Adams, at (651) 234-7611 or Jerome.adams@state.mn.us.

Landwehr raises questions of procedures and authority at Col Hts School Board meeting

Columbia Heights school board member Ted Landwehr raised questions at the board's May 24 televised meeting regarding an action that Superintendent Kathy Kelly was asking the board members to approve without question. He also made comments about the performance evaluation of the superintendent.

A personnel report was included in the meeting packet, which is made available to the public by the school administration only upon request. This newspaper received the packet in advance of the meeting. The report contained the names of three employees who are resigning or retiring, the names of four new teachers to be hired, and so on. It appeared to be ordinary.

Observations from the Field

Bryan Olson

COMMENTARY



Landwehr requested the personnel report item be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Vice chair Laura Palmer quickly tried to head Landwehr off at the pass: "(would discussing this) be potentially a violation of data privacy?" Chair John Larkin said he had the same misgivings and that to discuss a personnel matter on television would be inappropriate. Board member Molly Lewis quizzed Landwehr as to whether his questions would identify the person in any way. Larkin also wanted the same assurances.

Finally, the school board chair let Landwehr speak his piece.

He stated that the school board had not discussed the personnel matters before them, yet they were ready to vote. "Has anyone (referring to school board members) looked independently into these personnel matters other than what is listed in our packet, as far as the names and so forth? Has anyone researched as to whether these are appropriate actions to take?"

Suddenly some of the other board members became experts on data privacy laws.

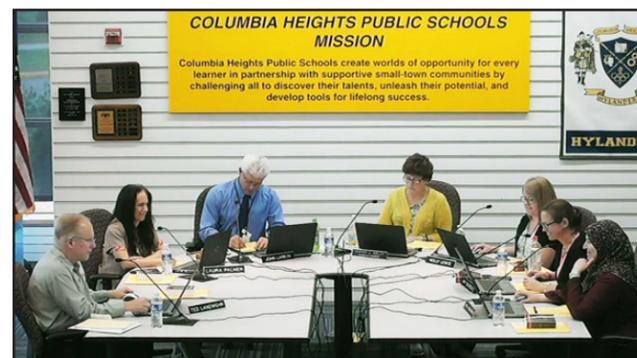
Palmer responded, "I would not seek out to ask somebody to violate data privacy issues. We have a level of separation between employees and personnel, and the board...I believe the concept is sound. It protects individuals."

Landwehr asked if these actions would occur regardless of whether the school board approved them. Superintendent Kelly said, "I would feel uncomfortable if they were not passed, and you and I have had this conversation before."

She continued, "We would not be granting any individual member of the board any license to go into people's personnel files to discuss why they were taking FMLA (family medical leave) or any of the things that are on the personnel report..." Kelly said that investigations may be done when grievances or litigation is involved.

Landwehr then asked, "as superintendent, do you have the authority to enact these actions absent the approval of the school board?" That sounds like a question that needs only a Yes or No answer, but Kelly said she "would feel more comfortable" with the whole board approving. Several times she emphasized the phrase, "the whole board" in her answers.

Landwehr declared to the body, "the board is now going to vote on personnel matters in which they have no right to look into and seek independent



The Columbia Heights school board (left to right): Landwehr, Palmer, Larkin, Superintendent Kelly, Lewis, Severson and Asamarai.

LANDWEHR continued on page 4

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ANOKA COUNTY WATCHDOG

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

May 27th, 2016

Quote of the Week: "No light rail funding, no bonding bill. When will the House figure this out?"

- **State Sen. Ron Latz** (DFL - Saint Louis Park)

Editor's Note: Next Monday, is Memorial Day. Memorial Day is a national holiday to honor those men and women who have died serving in the national defense. This is a friendly reminder that it's not a day to thank veterans, cops, or the guy who walks your dogs. Social media will be filled with chowder heads doing this. Don't be one of them. It's a day to remember our war dead - period.

SESSION WRAP UP - OUR TAKE

Well, that was interesting, to say the least. The 2016 legislative session, much like the 2015 session, ended in chaotic fashion.

And that's okay. Only the mainstream media and Big Government sheeple are concerned with a smooth and non-confrontational process in our democratic institutions.

The clashing of political interests is normal in a democracy (or a representative republic for you purists).

Back in 2013 and 2014, the process in Minnesota ran very smoothly because the DFL had majorities in the House and Senate and a liberal governor. They all agreed with each other to tax the snot out of taxpayers and jack up spending. Our state was very efficiently driven off the cliff.

Much of the inefficiency and "gridlock" of the past two years can be attributed to the House Republican majority putting the brakes on the typical DFL overreach regarding taxes, spending, and social issues, such as putting gay marriage on the same moral and legal plane as traditional marriage between one man and one woman.

Moreover, the House GOP did more than simply slow down the DFL Big Government Express.

They also outmaneuvered the DFL Senate and Governor Dayton to implement some good ideas.

How thankful we can be that the House GOP limited the current state budget to the second lowest level of growth in the past 50 years!

So what are the takeaways from the 2016 session?

TAKEAWAY: It wasn't a "do nothing" session.

With Republicans controlling one leg of the three-legged stool of governance, the mainstream media just couldn't help

themselves in blaming Republicans in the bogus "do nothing" narrative.

No matter what Republicans do in Saint Paul, the media can be counted upon to criticize their actions, all in the name of supporting the DFL and the liberal world view, to which most of them subscribe.

The reality is that many things were accomplished this session, while the things that weren't done were the result of DFL intransigence, particularly the single-minded obsession with the \$2 billion light rail line known as "Southwest LRT."

Let's put aside for a moment the merits of the bills passed by the Republican House and simply focus on the idea that House Republicans "didn't do their job" at the Capitol this year.

According to the Governor's official legislative tracker, 61 bills have been signed into law so far during this 10 week legislative session. Moreover, there are scores of bills awaiting gubernatorial action that were passed in the last three days of the legislative session.

Recall that our constitution gives the governor 14 days to act on bills that are passed in the last three days of the legislative session. If not signed or vetoed during that period, the bills do not become law, the victim of a "pocket veto."

Many of those bills were of significance, including a tax cut for businesses in the form of a reduction in the unemployment insurance tax, drug sentencing reform, a presidential primary, and enhancements against patent infringements for companies like Medtronic and 3M.

There are other bills awaiting action, like the omnibus tax bill, that cut taxes \$279 million this year and will grow those cuts to over \$500 million next year.

All those bills were passed with significant bi-partisan support.

And the same holds true for the media's Holy Grail bill of the 2016 session, the bonding bill.

The media has created a false and misleading narrative that because a bonding bill didn't pass, the legislature (read "Republicans") didn't get anything done this legislative session,

BS. The House Republicans indeed passed a bonding bill. That bonding bill passed with significant support, with 60 Republicans and 31 Democrats voting "aye" and sending the bill to the DFL-controlled Senate.

Over in the Senate, the DFL dithered and dallied while working to get funding language for the Southwest Light Rail line inserted. By the time it was all done, it was too late to send the amended bill back to the House for consideration.

Agree or disagree with the contents and merits of the four major bills, the House passed a tax bill, passed a supplemental

spending bill and passed a bonding bill, all with significant bi-partisan support.

Only the most partisan and biased observer could attempt to claim that the House GOP didn't take care of business this session.

Even on a transportation bill, the House put together a pretty good offer that the DFL rejected.

The bottom line is that the House GOP cannot be blamed for not getting things done this session.

To the extent that things didn't happen, they stemmed primarily from the DFL's insistence on funding a boondoggle train that won't move people faster than busses or cars and will be financed primarily with yet another big IOU to the federal treasury, which is now \$18 trillion in debt and counting.

TAKEAWAY: The Republican "Big Four" bills were pretty darn good. Well, three of them.

Start with taxes. Cutting taxes is always a good thing. The omnibus tax bill cut taxes nearly \$280 million this year and over \$500 million in the out years.

Perhaps most significant was a tax cut businesses hammered by the statewide business property tax.

There was also a welcome tax cut for Big Tobacco. Back in 2013, when the DFL ran the show, they jacked up the taxes on cigarettes to pay for the Vikings stadium after Mark Dayton's idea to fund the stadium with electronic pull tabs failed in an epic way.

One of the tricks the DFL pulled was to "index" the cigarette tax, which provided for regular and automatic tax increases.

Tax increases on auto pilot are horrible public policy and the indexing of cigarette taxes was unique to Minnesota.

Moreover, it is also dubious public policy to use the tax code to make people act a certain way. The tax code is a tool to raise revenue, it isn't a behavior modification tool like a shock collar.

So Democrats and Republicans took the cigarette tax of the index and made some other changes, which provided yet another opportunity for Governor Dayton to drop his pants and look stupid.

He now running around claiming he didn't know this change to the cigarette tax was in this major tax bill.

Gee, where have we heard this before? Personal seat licenses, farm equipment repair tax...

Here we go again. Either Governor Dayton isn't telling the truth or he and his staff are utterly incompetent. Both, perhaps? What an embarrassment.

On top of that, don't forget that candidate Mark Dayton was OPPOSED to raising tobacco taxes, saying those taxes were

ANOKA COUNTY WATCHDOG *cont. on page 5*

Sen. Benson: DFL Senators Block Anoka County Road and Bridge Projects over Demand for Minneapolis Light Rail Funds

Major Issues Updates: What got done vs. What didn't get done

The 2016 legislative session began with a large budget surplus and high hopes for funding transportation and infrastructure projects across the state. The session came crashing down when seven metro-area DFL senators withheld funding for roads, bridge improvements, and critical infrastructure over a demand for more light rail in Minneapolis.



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the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro area currently requires over \$40 million annually in taxpayer subsidies. With commuters stuck in traffic and bridges in need of repair, expanding light rail and increasing ongoing light rail subsidies is not a good use of taxpayer funds. A light rail line might be a nice amenity, but it is not the most effective means of mass transit and it is certainly not worth holding up other absolutely critical funding projects across the entire state.

In a last minute effort to rescue light rail, Democrats in the Senate killed a \$1 billion bonding bill, including \$300 million in transportation spending, on the last night of the legislative session. The impact on the residents of Anoka, Isanti, and Sherburne Counties is tremendous as the bill contained key area projects that would benefit the entire region. The interchange at Interstate 35 and Trunk Highway 97 in Columbus is literally crumbling and in dire need of repair. Much needed funding for security and safety renovations at the Anoka

Metro Regional Treatment Center is now lost, as well as funding for improvements to U.S. Highway 10, improvements to Trunk Highway 95 in Cambridge – the list goes on and on.

I am disappointed, but not deterred, and will continue to fight against wasteful spending in defense of critical infrastructure needs for our area and beyond.

WHAT GOT DONE:

Tax Relief

With a budget surplus, tax relief was a high priority this session. I am happy to report that, this year, we achieved one of my top tax priorities by exempting veterans' pensions from the state income tax. The tax relief package also includes property tax relief for farmers and small businesses, creates a new tax credit for individuals with student loans, expands tax credits for childcare and veterans, new family

BENSON continued on page 4

Commuter rail is expensive to build. At \$100 million per mile, Southwest Light Rail Transit will cost almost \$1.8 billion to complete. By contrast, adding one new lane to an existing metro-area freeway typically costs around \$14 million per mile. Commuter rail is also highly subsidized; the Northstar requires a \$44 per person round trip subsidy. Existing light rail in

Historic Session Officially Ends

Sunday, May 22nd, marked the end of the 2016 legislative session, and the official end of a historic two years for Minnesota. This biennium marked the first time in more than 30 years that Minnesotans had a DFL Governor, a Senate DFL majority, and a House Republican majority working together to lead state government.

For the past two years House Republicans have served as a check on the tax and spend policies Democrats want to bring to Minnesota. Our restraint ensured one of the lowest spending increases in more than 50 years, and we pushed for and successfully passed more than half a billion dollars in permanent middle-class tax relief.

We did all of this while still investing in our priorities like nursing homes, education, and broadband internet for rural areas. We showed Minnesotans that government can prioritize and hold spending at a responsible level.

The last weekend of session saw a flurry of activity, with legislators passing a supplemental budget bill and a tax bill that will mean more than \$877 million in tax relief over the next 3 years. The supplemental bill includes an historic tax cut for our veterans that would exempt all military retirement benefits from state taxes, and an angel investment tax credit that will help grow jobs in all regions of the state.

The tax bill includes tax relief for college graduates paying off student loans, families saving for their children's college costs, veterans, agriculture property tax relief, and more. Both bills are currently sitting on the Governor's desk, and it's my hope he will sign these middle-class tax breaks into law.

I was deeply disappointed by the political game-playing that resulted in the failure of a bonding bill that would have invested a significant amount into roads and bridges across the state. The compromise bonding bill, that was significantly lower than the \$1.4 billion originally proposed by Democrats, passed the House with a majority of support from both parties would have funded infrastructure projects that have been waiting for years, if not decades.

Unfortunately these and many other great projects were tanked in the waning moments of session due to an amendment for Southwest Light Rail. Rather than sending the compromise bill to the Governor's desk, Senate Democrats amended on a light rail provision. They did this knowing that there wouldn't be sufficient time to repass the bill once it returned to the House. The same group of Senators who threatened earlier this month to withhold support for a bonding bill if it didn't include Southwest Light Rail decided that a train in Minneapolis was more important than major road projects—including projects in both Greater Minnesota and the Metro.

It's my hope we can call a special session quickly and pass the agreed-upon compromise bill. Minnesotans have been waiting—let's stop the delays and political maneuvers, let's pass this bill and move forward on these important projects.



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Governor Encouraged to Sign Tax Relief Bill

The 2016 legislative session is now in the books.

A top accomplishment from the recently concluded session is tax relief to the tune of \$801 million over the next three years. This is a step in the right direction after Democrats rammed a historic tax increase into place just a few years ago when they had one-party control in St. Paul. Provisions House Republicans led to passage this year will benefit working families with young children, small businesses, veterans, college graduates, farmers and more. Key tax relief includes (totals are for the next three years):

- \$150 million in tax relief for working families by expanding the working family tax credit. This reduces the tax burden for an estimated 386,000 low- and middle-income filers
- \$110 million in tax relief for college graduates paying off student loans through a refundable tax credit up to \$1,000, the first of its kind in the country
- \$49 million in tax relief for families who contribute to 529 plans to save for their children's college costs
- \$146 million in tax relief for every small business in Minnesota by exempting the first \$100,000 of commercial-industrial property. This is projected to save Minnesota businesses \$115 million in the next biennium
- \$13 million in tax relief for Minnesota veterans by raising the income eligibility threshold, and increasing the total credit from \$750 to \$1000
- \$32 million to reduce the cost of childcare by expanding the childcare tax credit, families could earn a tax credit up to a \$960
- Federal conformity provisions that allow Minnesotans to deduct higher education tuition expenses, mortgage insurance premiums, classroom expenses for teachers, charitable giving (for seniors), and more
- \$91 million in tax relief for Minnesota farmers

Minnesota has a \$900 million surplus because taxpayers have been overcharged. It is good to see we did the right thing by returning money to those people. This bill is still in the hands of the governor for enactment and I urge him to sign it soon.

There also are some loose ends from the session regarding a bonding/transportation bill the House passed with wide, bipartisan support Sunday night, only to have it stalled by Senate Democrats' last-minute maneuvering. Just as the midnight Sunday legislative deadline approached – and just after the House adjourned – Senate Democrats changed the bill by adding a light-rail train provision. That meant the bill could not receive final approval in the Legislature and now the governor would have to call a special session for that package to be re-examined.



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LANDWEHR *continued from page 1*

inquiry, which according to our Code of Ethics, requires us to not vote on these matters until we are able to make an informed vote. This is why I will abstain as I believe this is the ethical vote (to make)."

Landwehr then made a second point, "these are clearly personnel management issues that we're being asked to approve," and that state law puts the school board in charge of management. "I've asked in the past that we merely acknowledge these actions, but these motions (to approve) put forth by the administration continue to be approved." Landwehr complained the school board "has to approve issues it has no knowledge of, or no independent research of." He deemed this "a big problem and it isn't right." (School Board Policy #201 also states the school board has authority for hiring and firing employees, referencing Chapter 123 of state statutes).

School Board member Molly Lewis said she was pleased to leave such matters in the hands of the superintendent: "My interpretation of being a school board member is to oversee the logistics at the board level; we employ a superintendent to make management decisions. I do not feel I am qualified to know if I did have permission to go look... I am not an administrator — that's why we have people in those positions. You take a difference stance on this than I do."

Landwehr summarized his points again about written school board policies and state law, and abstained from the vote (5-0-1). There were no other comments from board members.

Performance evaluation of the Superintendent

Landwehr commented on the school board's closed meeting held May 17 to discuss the performance of Superintendent Kathy Kelly, who has had the position for nine years.

"I do have concerns about the evaluation being delayed," Landwehr stated, noting that it had been discussed a couple months earlier and "it's not a 'best practice' according to the Minnesota School Boards Association."

"Only four board members participated in the evaluation. What you're going to hear tonight is a report by Chair Larkin with the opinions of four board members and I think it's important that the public know that. He's going to talk about the consensus of those four board members and not the entire vote. There were other choices besides 'excellent' and 'good' — (they were) 'poor', 'fair' and 'not enough information.'"

Larkin then pounced. Only when agitated does he become audible. He warned Landwehr to stay away from making references about the scoring results of the evaluation. Landwehr hadn't made any comments in that regard.

Larkin read a prepared memo that described how the evaluation was done: the school board members completed an anonymous, written survey and submitted them independently to the school district's Human Resources department. HR consolidated the findings into one report. Each of the elected officials were given the report and a closed meeting, without the superintendent present, was held May 17. "At the request of the superintendent and in accordance with past practice, the Chair and Vice Chair met with the superintendent May 20" to discuss the result of the closed meeting.

The survey consisted of 23 questions based on the superintendent's job description and responsibilities set by the school board.

Larkin explained the district's attorney advised that he read only the written conclusions of a consensus of the board and that any comments on the report may be in violation of data privacy laws. Continuing to read the report orally, Larkin grouped a number of duties, responsibilities and characteristics in which Superintendent Kelly was rated positively on all — with a "good" or higher ranking. *ACR*

BENSON *continued from page 3*

deductions, among various other provisions.

Supplemental Budget

I could not support the omnibus supplemental budget bill. It included various provisions that I support, but it also included a \$74 million shift out of the Health Care Access Fund. As a result, I could not support this sort of reckless spending — especially in a year not designated as a budget year. We had absolutely no obligation to spend surplus dollars that were collected as a result of an overtax on hardworking Minnesotans.

Broadband Internet

An agreement was struck to spend \$35 million on grants to improve broadband internet access across Greater Minnesota.

Body Cameras

An agreement to set the ground rules for the use of police body cameras was struck, with most of the footage collected from those cameras kept private.

Drug Sentencing

An agreement was reached to change various sentencing guidelines for individuals convicted of certain drug offenses. Although I agree that the criminal justice system and sentencing guidelines need reform, I could not support this bill primarily because the threshold for a first degree felony of sale and possession of cocaine and methamphetamine was raised.

WHAT DIDN'T GET DONE:**Transportation**

We began this session with high hopes for passing a full transportation package to fund road and bridge improvements and congestion relief across the state. Unfortunately, the Democrats would not back down from their demands for light rail trains and a gas tax increase. As a result, a

transportation package could not be agreed upon. We had an opportunity to provide at least a one-time boost of \$700 million for roads and bridges over the year, but the Senate DFL tried to force an amendment at the very end and time expired without a deal. This is unacceptable. Minnesotans deserve a long-term fix for roads and bridges that does not raise their taxes.

Health Care

It is now commonplace for families to pay outrageous premiums or lose coverage altogether through MNsure. Over the session, my colleagues and I offered a number of real world, effective solutions for improvement. However, my suggestions were not given a committee hearing and MNsure continues to fail at the expense of its users and taxpayers.

REAL ID

As I have written in previous newsletters, I support a two-tiered system of REAL ID conformity, allowing Minnesotans to opt out of a federally-mandated identification requirement. Despite our lengthy debate this year, several of the last-minute implementation details held up the final REAL ID agreement.

Sunday Liquor Sales

I have heard from many of you both in favor and against Sunday liquor sales. This came up as an amendment in the House and failed, and did not come up for a vote in the Senate.

SPECIAL SESSION?

The governor possesses sole power to call the legislature into a special session. It is my hope that we are called back in the next several weeks for a special session to fulfil our duties to Minnesotans and work toward reaching an agreement on transportation and bonding projects.

Ramsey City Council Future Topics
(subject to change)

Date	Topics for Discussion – Council Action
June 14	Process for the City Administrator's Annual Review (Lasher)
June 14	Receive Update on Off Street Parking Compliance at 14911 Ramsey Blvd NW (Gladhill)
Future	Continued Discussion regarding Scope of Communications Plan (Wenberg)
Future	Review Bidding Process for Towing Contract (Katers)
Future	Discuss a Resolution of Support for the City of Anoka having Sole Responsibility for Maintaining Dam (Bruce)
Future	Discuss Ordinance Governing Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Use (Katers)
Future	Review and Potentially Adopt Ramsey's Portion of Previous Highway 47 Study (Gladhill)
Future	Cost Share a Corridor Study for Nowthen (Gladhill)
Future	ICE Reports for Spot Improvements on Armstrong (Gladhill)
Date	Topics for Discussion – Policy
Future	Discussion regarding the Policy for the Recruitment, Application, and Interview Process for Appointing City Board and Commission Members (Lasher)
Future	Future Business Park Policy (Brama)
Future	Facilities Use Policy (Wenberg)
Future	Social Media Facebook Policy (Wenberg)
Future	Public Facilities Naming Policy (Riverblood)
Future	Trail Maintenance Policy (Westby)
Future	Stormwater Pond Maintenance Policy (Westby)
Future	Citizen Volunteer and Recognition Program (Ulrich)
Date	Newsletter Policy (Brama)
Date	Topics for Discussion – Planning and Budget
Future	Summary of Compensation Plan for Employees (Lasher)
Future	Evaluate Staffing Deployment and Process Effectiveness (Ulrich/Lasher/Gladhill)
Future	Web Site Redesign (Wenberg)
Future	Review Comprehensive Plan for Long-Term Water Supply (Westby)
June 14	City Banners (Ulrich/Brama)

ANOKA COUNTY WATCHDOG *continued from page 3*

regressive and hit the poor harder than others, which is all true.

Don't hold your breath waiting for the media to call him out on that.

The transportation bill the GOP offered was also a nice one. No gas tax was a good start.

The bill contained \$255 million in repurposed funds out of the general fund that involved taxes from auto-related sales and services like the sale of auto parts and the car rental tax.

There were also funds from bonding, a leveraging of federal funds, and other revenues totaling \$730 million in the next fiscal year.

Now there was some consternation over authorizing both the Met Council and the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) authority to levy a 0.25% sales tax.

While we agree that this authority should come with reforms, this provision has taken a bit of a bad rap in our opinion.

First, this is about local control. Yes, the Met Council needs to be more accountable and that should happen. In this case of CTIB, it is made up of county commissioners from the 5 counties who comprise it. Don't like CTIB, vote out your county commissioner.

Now check out these additional features. For CTIB, in exchange for this authority, the board would be required to pay for 100% of the capital and operating costs of light rail after July 1, 2016. In other words, the state would be out of the light rail game.

For the Met Council, the plan would limit the Met Council to paying only for busses, except for the ongoing Blue and Green line operating subsidy, which would move from the state general fund to the Met Council. Again, the state would be out of the rail game.

This publication would like to see more accountability out of the Met Council than staggered terms.

Putting elected officials on the board, like the CTIB, would be one way to go. The Met Council has to be more directly accountable to voters or at least local elected officials should have some sort of veto power. The power of taxation demands representation. Met Council members currently represent the governor who appointed them, not the voters who have to live under the mandates of the Council.

Next is the bonding bill. While clocking in at a hefty \$1.4 billion (cash and bonding), the contents of the bill were best we've ever seen, with a heavy emphasis on roads and bridges and the maintenance of existing capital assets like college buildings and prison security upgrades.

For example, the transportation portion invested over \$700 million in roads and bridges:

- \$149 million for local bridge repair/

replacement

- \$137 million for local road improvements

- \$27 million for railroad crossing grade separations

- \$200 million for roads and bridges and key corridors of commerce

- \$101 million for state/local roads

- \$100 million for state roads

- \$62 million for state trunk highways

Overall, the bill was surprisingly devoid of the typical crap in bonding bills like civic centers, snow making machines, ski jumps, and roof top gardens.

The fourth big bill was supplemental spending. We get that that is part of the deal when dealing with Democrats, but state government agencies are fully funded for the upcoming fiscal year and there is no need to boost their spending. We can't support that.

So what happens next? Here's our prediction: Dayton signs the tax bill into law, he signs the supplemental spending bill into law, there is a one day special session to pass a bonding bill (without funding or authorization for Southwest light rail), and the transportation bill falls by the wayside over insurmountable differences over Met Council and CTIB reform.

If Governor Dayton and the Democrats want to kill a bonding bill over Southwest light rail, let them. There are critical infrastructure projects in every corner of the state from transportation to prison safety upgrades to flood mitigation needs. Let the Democrats campaign this fall on the message of not doing THEIR job on a bonding bill, all because of light rail.

Speaker Daudt has the upper hand here. His bonding bill attracted 60 GOP and 31 DFL votes in the House, all without light rail funding.

The House has a well-established position on bonding. He should stick to it.

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:

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Sincerely,

Harold E. Hamilton, owner.

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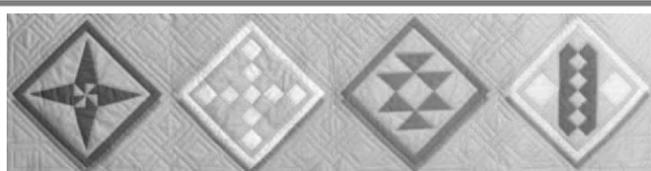
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Dean Rasmussen



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Our Price

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Generic price for 200mg x 100



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PUBLIC NOTICES

ANOKA COUNTY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

The Anoka County Board met on May 10, 2016. Standing county committee information reports and action items were considered, and action was taken as necessary. The following resolutions were adopted: #2016-54 Foster Care Provider Month, #2016-55 Accepting Gift, #2016-56-57 Archery Deer Hunting, #2016-58 Sugar Hills Regional Trail, #2016-59 User Fees, and #2016-60 CDBG and HOME Programs. A public hearing was held related to user fees. 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 5/31, 2016 Anoka County Record) #436

ANOKA COUNTY SUMMARY OF BIDS

Bid #2016-16
Description of Bid/RFP: Advertisement for Bids for the New Construction of a Single Family Home at 208 Clay Street, Anoka, MN 55303
Bid Opening: June 22, 2016
For more information regarding the above published bids/RFPs, please visit the Anoka County Web Site at: www.AnokaCounty.us/bids. (Published 5/24, 5/31, 6/7, 2016 Anoka County Record) #433

ANOKA COUNTY SUMMARY OF BIDS

Bid #2016-17
Description of Bid/RFP:

Advertisement for Bids Coon Lake County Park Beach Facility
Bid Opening: June 27, 2016
For more information regarding the above published bids/RFPs, please visit the Anoka County Web Site at: www.AnokaCounty.us/bids. (Published 5/17, 5/24, 5/31, 2016 Anoka County Record) #427

CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME STATE OF MN MN STATUTES CHAPTER 333

The undersigned, who is or will be conducting business in the State of Minnesota under an assumed name, hereby certifies:

1. Assumed Name: **Evensong Music, Media & Graphics**
2. Principal Place of Business: **2925 129th Ave NW Coon Rapids, MN 55448**

Nameholder(s): **Jonathan Orwig 2925 129th Ave NW Coon Rapids, MN 55448**
4. I certify that I am authorized to sign this certificate and I further certify that I understand that by signing this certificate, I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Minnesota Statutes section 609.48 as if I had signed this certificate under oath.

FILED: 5/11/2016, # 887901100022 /s/ Jonathan Orwig (Published 5/24, 5/31, 2016 Anoka County Record) #435

CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME STATE OF MN MN STATUTES CHAPTER 333

The undersigned, who is or will be conducting business in the State of Minnesota under an

assumed name, hereby certifies:

1. Assumed Name: **C. Beh Resumes**
2. Principal Place of Business: **7845 East River Road, Apt 318 Fridley, MN 55432**

Nameholder(s): **Cassandra Beh 7845 East River Road, Apt 318 Fridley, MN 55432**
4. I certify that I am authorized to sign this certificate and I further certify that I understand that by signing this certificate, I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Minnesota Statutes section 609.48 as if I had signed this certificate under oath.

FILED: 5/16/2016, # 888502700020 /s/ Cassandra Beh (Published 5/24, 5/31, 2016 Anoka County Record) #434

CERTIFICATE OF AMENDMENT TO ASSUMED NAME STATE OF MN MN STATUTES CHAPTER 333

The undersigned, who is or will be conducting business in the State of Minnesota under an assumed name, hereby certifies:

1. Assumed Name: **Social Steward**
2. Principal Place of Business: **4655 University Ave NE #8 Columbia Heights, MN 55421**

Nameholder(s): **Duane Lackey 4655 University Ave NE #8 Columbia Heights, MN 55421**
5. This certificate is an amendment of Certificate of Assumed Name File Number: 889470000023. Originally filed on May 23, 2016 under the name Social Zookeeper

6. I certify that I am authorized to sign this certificate and I further certify that by signing this certificate, I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Minnesota Statutes section 609.48 as if I had signed this certificate under oath.

FILED: 5/25/2016, # 889708700023 /s/ Duane Lackey (Published 5/31, 6/7, 2016 Anoka County Record) #437

CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME STATE OF MN MN STATUTES CHAPTER 333

The undersigned, who is or will be conducting business in the State of Minnesota under an assumed name, hereby certifies:

1. Assumed Name: **Standing in the Gap A friend of God Ministries**
2. Principal Place of Business: **23591 Washington St NE East Bethel, MN 55005**

Nameholder(s): **Jennifer Klasons 23591 Washington St NE East Bethel, MN 55005**
4. I certify that I am authorized to sign this certificate and I further certify that I understand that by signing this certificate, I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Minnesota Statutes section 609.48 as if I had signed this certificate under oath.

FILED: 4/27/2016, # 884534400039 /s/ Jennifer Klasons (Published 5/31, 6/7, 2016 Anoka County Record) #438

PUBLIC NOTICES UNPAID

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

Public Hearing
The Board of Managers of the Coon Creek Watershed District will hold a Public Hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting:

5:30 PM
Monday, June 13, 2016
Bunker Hills Activity Center
550 Bunker Lake Blvd. Andover, MN

All residents of the Watershed District are invited to attend a public hearing on the Coon Creek Watershed

VICTOR MANUEL GUZMAN
STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF ANOKA
DISTRICT COURT TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT FAMILY COURT DIVISION
02-FA-16-605
In Re the Marriage of: Soledad Sanchez Flores, Petitioner, and Victor Manuel Guzman Respondent
SUMMONS
THE STATE OF MINNESOTA TO THE ABOVE NAMED RESPONDENT:
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to serve upon the Petitioner an Answer to the Petition for Dissolution of Marriage which is herewith served upon you within thirty (30) days of service of the Summons upon you exclusive of the date of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Dissolution of Marriage.
NOTICE OF TEMPORARY RESTRAINING PROVISIONS UNDER MINNESOTA LAW:
SERVICE OF THIS SUMMONS MAKES 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 PRESERVATION OF 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 DISSOLUTION 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 MAYBE AVAILABLE TO YOU THROUGH A NONPROFIT PROVIDER OR A COURT PROGRAM. IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC ABUSE OF 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: 2/10/2016
/s/ Soledad Sanchez Flores
5770 - 2nd Street Northeast, #3
Fridley, MN 55432
(Published 5/17, 5/24, 5/31 2016 Anoka County Record) #428

District Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) required as part of the NPDES Program and administered by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). (Published 5/10, 5/17, 5/24, 5/31, 2016 Anoka County Record)

CITY OF COLUMBIA HEIGHTS

CUSTODIAN I (PART-TIME)

Position Summary: Responsible for providing efficient custodial services in and around public buildings by performing general maintenance, cleaning, and related janitorial duties. Duties require skill in the use of cleaning materials and equipment. Responds to the needs and concerns of all using the facility in a courteous manner. Responsible for ensuring equipment is operational. Position is directly supervised by the Facilities Maintenance Supervisor.

Required Qualifications: One year custodial or building maintenance experience. Ability to lift up to 25 pounds.

Desired Qualifications: Two years custodial or building maintenance experience. One year of public contact work experience.

Hours: 16-18 hours per week: Monday-Wednesday after 8 p.m. (3-4 hours) Thursday after 5 p.m. (3-4 hours) Saturday after 4 p.m. (3-4 hours)

Salary Range: \$12.72 - \$15.90 /hour
Application Procedure: City applications are available from the City Hall Information Window, from the City's website at www.columbiaheightsmn.gov or by calling the Personnel Line at (763) 706-3616. Applications MUST be completely filled out and returned to the Human Resources Director/Assistant

to 30th from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm.

the City Manager, City of Columbia Heights, 590 40th Avenue NE, Columbia Heights, MN 55421, or by e-mail to Nancy Becker at nbecker@columbiaheightsmn.gov. Applications will be accepted until 4:30 p.m., Monday, June 13, 2016. In addition, applicants may submit any other data they feel is pertinent to their consideration. Resumes may be submitted in addition to, but not in lieu of, the City application.

Closing Date: Applications will be accepted until 4:30 p.m., Monday, June 13, 2016.

COON RAPIDS HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Please take notice that the Coon Rapids Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 at 6:55pm in the Council Chambers at Coon Rapids City Hall, 11155 Robinson Drive. The purpose of this hearing is to take public comments regarding the HRA's conveyance of land located at 122xx Northdale Boulevard.

All persons desiring to be heard are invited to speak at this meeting. Questions may be directed to Matt Brown at 763-767-6430.
Joan Lenzmeier
City Clerk

CITY OF NOWTHEN

ADVERTISMENT FOR BIDS
The City of Nowthen will be accepting sealed bids until 12:00 pm, Wednesday, July 6, 2016 for the following: 1970 Namco Standup Forklift, 2000 lb lift, propane, Onan 2 cylinder
Public inspection/viewing dates are Wednesday, June 15th from 8:00 am - 10:00 am, and Thursday, June 30th from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm.

The City of Nowthen reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to waive any informalities therein, and to adjourn the meeting to a later date for the purpose of further consideration of the bids and taking action thereon.

Please contact Joe Glaze at (763) 498-9110 with any additional questions.

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Please contact Joe Glaze at (763) 498-9110 with any additional questions.

3:00 pm. All bids will be publicly opened and read out loud at the City Council Workshop on Thursday, July 7, 2016 at 5:30 pm at the City Hall, 19800 Nowthen Blvd. NW, Nowthen, Minnesota. Final bid acceptance/rejections will be announced at the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, July 12, 2016 @ 7:00 pm at the City Hall.

The City of Nowthen reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to waive any informalities therein, and to adjourn the meeting to a later date for the purpose of further consideration of the bids and taking action thereon.

Please contact Joe Glaze at (763) 498-9110 with any additional questions.

CITY OF NOWTHEN

ADVERTISMENT FOR BIDS
The City of Nowthen will be accepting sealed bids until 12:00 pm, Wednesday, July 6, 2016 for the following: 1992 Ford L8000 Single Axle Truck, 71,010 miles, good tires 24.5, 6 cylinder Ford Cummings automatic, 10foot dump box, under body plow, 11 foot snow plow, 9 foot wing, sander 9" auger
Truck still in use, mileage may change.

Public inspection/viewing dates are Wednesday, June 15th from 8:00 am - 10:00 am, and Thursday, June 30th from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm.

All bids will be publicly opened and read out loud at the City Council Workshop on Thursday, July 7, 2016 at 5:30 pm at the City Hall, 19800 Nowthen Blvd. NW, Nowthen, Minnesota. Final bid acceptance/rejections will be announced at the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, July 12, 2016 @ 7:00 pm at the City Hall.

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CITY OF NOWTHEN

ADVERTISMENT FOR BIDS
The City of Nowthen will be accepting sealed bids until 12:00 pm, Wednesday, July 6th, 2016 for the following: 1997 Chevy 4x4 1 ton, 109374 miles, 9 foot dump box
16,374 miles on 350 motor, automatic, good tires (235-75-16), 9 foot Leo Plow
Truck still in use, mileage may change.

Public inspection/viewing dates are Wednesday, June 15th from 8:00 am - 10:00 am, and Thursday, June 30th from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm.

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