



Councilmember Reetz introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION 19-2011

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF ARLINGTON
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MINNESOTA GREENSTEP CITIES PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, sustainable development activities conducted by the City of Arlington have the potential to positively impact the local, regional and state economies; result in sustainable infrastructure development; preserve natural habitat; sustain ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; limit the spread of invasive species and exotic diseases; preserve drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and manage health threats to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arlington has an opportunity to achieve both energy use and climate change gas reductions through building and facilities management; land use and transportation planning; environmental management; and through economic and community development; and

WHEREAS, implementation of best practices for sustainable development relating to building and facilities management; land use and transportation planning; environmental management; and economic and community development provide an opportunity to move toward energy self-reliance and greater community resiliency; provide environmentally healthy and cheaper-to-operate public buildings; encourage new economic development and local jobs; and support local food and renewable energy production; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Session Laws 2008, Chapter 356, Section 13 directed the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency ("MPCA") and Office of Energy Security in the Department of Commerce ("Office of Energy Security"), in collaboration with Clean Energy Resource Teams ("CERTs"), to recommend municipal actions and policies that work toward meeting the State's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals; and

WHEREAS, a broad coalition of public and private stakeholders including the League of Minnesota Cities, the MPCA, Office of Energy Security and CERTs responded to the 2008 legislation by establishing the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program to provide a series of sustainable development best practices focusing on local government opportunities to reduce energy use and greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, the GreenStep Cities program aims to provide Minnesota cities a clear pathway to greater sustainability based upon implementing best practices specific to Minnesota cities of differing sizes and capabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program identifies cost-effective sustainable development best practices in the following five categories: (1) Buildings and Lighting; (2) Transportation; (3) Land Use; (4) Environmental Management; and (5) Economic and Community Development;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Arlington does hereby authorize the City of Arlington (the "City") to participate in the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program.

Be it further resolved that the City:

1. Appoints Curt Reetz to serve as the city's GreenStep coordinator to facilitate best practice implementation; and
2. Will facilitate the involvement of community members, civic, business and educational organizations, and other units of government as appropriate in the planning, promoting and implementing of GreenStep Cities best practices; and
3. Plans to take actions to implement the following best practices:
 - a. Building and lighting best practices related to public buildings;
 - b. Building and lighting best practices related to building reuse;
 - c. Land use best practices relating to comprehensive planning;
 - d. Land use best practices relating to highway development;
 - e. Transportation best practices relating to complete green streets;
 - f. Transportation best practices relating to mobility options;
 - g. Environmental best practices relating to environmental purchasing;
 - h. Environmental best practices relating to urban forests;
 - i. Environmental best practices relating to stormwater;
 - j. Environmental best practices relating to surface water;
 - k. Economic and community development best practices relating to benchmarks & community engagement;
 - l. Economic and community development best practices relating to green business development; and
4. Will claim credit for having implemented and will implement in total at least twelve (12) required and optional GreenStep best practices that will result in energy use reduction, economic savings and reduction in the community's greenhouse gas footprint. A summary of the city's implementation of best practices will be posted on the Minnesota GreenStep Cities web site.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember Pederson and upon poll being taken thereon the following voted in favor thereof: Pederson, Pichelmann, Ruehling, Wills, Reetz; and the following voted against the same: None; and the following abstained from voting: None; and the following were absent: None.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Arlington this 7th day of March, 2011.

Signed: _____



Mayor

Attest: _____



City Administrator

Whereupon the resolution was declared duly passed and adopted and was signed by the Mayor whose signature was attested by the City Administrator.