

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-123

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY OF MINNETONKA TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GREENSTEP CITIES PROGRAM

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, as follows:

Section 1. BACKGROUND.

- 1.01 Minnesota GreenStep Cities is a voluntary challenge, assistance and recognition program to help cities achieve their sustainability and quality of life goals. GreenStep is a free, continuous improvement program, managed by a public-private partnership, and based upon 28 best practices. Each best practice can be implemented by completing one or more actions at a 1, 2, or 3-star level, from a list of four to eight actions. These actions are tailored to all Minnesota cities, focus on cost savings and energy use reduction, and encourage civic innovation; and
- 1.02 Uncertainty in energy prices and transition away from fossil fuel energy sources presents new challenges and opportunities to both the city of Minnetonka and the economic health of its citizens and businesses; and
- 1.03 Climate changes have been observed in Minnesota and have the potential to negatively impact local, regional and state economies; infrastructure development; habitat; ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking waters supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose health threats to our citizens; and
- 1.04 Local governments have the unique opportunity to achieve both energy use and climate change gas reductions and cost savings through building and facilities management; land use and transportation planning; environmental management; and through economic and community development; and
- 1.05 Efforts to address energy and climate issues provide an opportunity to

move towards energy self-reliance and greater community resiliency and quality of life; 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

- 1.06 Steps taken toward sustainable solutions aim to improve community quality of life, building community capital and increasing governmental efficiency, accountability and transparency; and
- 1.07 Minnesota Session Laws 2008, Chapter 356, Section 13 directed the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Office of Energy and Security in the Department of Commerce in collaboration with Clean Energy Resource Teams, to recommend municipal actions and policies that work towards meeting the State's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals; and
- 1.08 The Next Generation Act of 2007, Minnesota Session Laws 2007 - Chapter 136:
- a. Sets State greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals of cutting emissions to 15 percent below 2005 levels by 2015, 30 percent below 2005 levels by 2025, and 80 percent below 2005 levels by 2050;
 - b. Sets a State energy conservation goal of achieving annual energy savings equal to 1.5 percent of annual retail energy sales of electricity and natural gas;
 - c. Establishes an energy policy goal that the per capita use of fossil fuel as an energy input be reduced by 15 percent by the year 2015, through increased reliance on energy efficiency and renewable energy alternatives;
 - d. Establishes an energy policy goal that 25 percent of the electricity used in the state be derived from renewable energy resources by the year 2025; and
- 1.09 A broad coalition of public and private stakeholders including the League of Minnesota Cities, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Office of Energy Security and Clean Energy Resource Teams responded to the 2008 legislation by establishing the 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

- 1.10 The Minnesota GreenStep Cities program assists with facilitating technical assistance for the implementation of these sustainable development best practices; and
- 1.11 The Minnesota GreenStep Cities program provides cost-effective sustainable development practices in the following five categories: (1) building and Lighting; (2) Transportation; (3) Land Use; (4) Environmental Management; and (5) Economic and Community Development.

Section 2. BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, that the city:

- 2.01 Authorizes the city of Minnetonka to participate in the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program that offers a free, voluntary continuous improvement framework.
- 2.02 Will claim credit for having implemented and will work at its own pace toward implementing at least 16 GreenStep best management practices that will result in energy use reduction, economic savings, quality of life improvement and reduction in the City's greenhouse gas footprint.
- 2.03 Appoints the planning division of the community development department to serve as the City's GreenStep coordinator for best practice documentation/implementation; and
- 2.04 Will facilitate the involvement of community members, planning division of the community development department, and other units of government as appropriate in the planning, promoting and/or implementing of GreenStep Cities best practices; and
- 2.05 Grants to the GreenStep program's buildings advisor read-only access to the City's B3 Benchmarking Database so as to facilitate analysis and cost-savings advice to the City regarding its buildings' energy use; and
- 2.06 Plans to take actions to implement the following best practices –
 - Economic and Community Development:
 - Benchmarks and community engagement
 - Green business development
 - Renewable energy

- Local food
- Business synergies

Transportation:


- Efficient city fleets

- 2.07 Will claim credit for having implemented and will work at its own pace toward implementing at least 16 GreenStep best practices that will result in energy use reduction, economic savings, quality of life improvement and reduction in the City's greenhouse gas footprint. An on-going summary of the City's implementation of best practices will be posted on the Minnesota GreenStep Cities web site.
- 2.08 A summary of the City's implementation of best practices will be available on the Minnesota GreenStep Cities website.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, on December 2, 2013.



Terry Schneider, Mayor

ATTEST:


David E. Maeda, City Clerk

ACTION ON THIS RESOLUTION:

Motion for adoption: Wagner

Seconded by: Acomb

Voted in favor of: Wagner, Ellingson, Allendorf, Acomb, Wiersum, Schneider

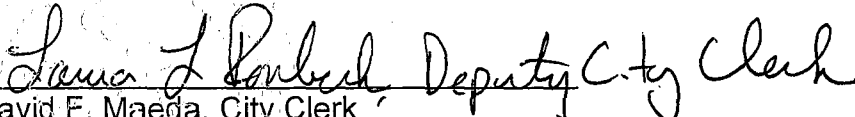
Voted against:

Abstained:

Absent: Hiller

Resolution adopted.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, at a duly authorized meeting held on December 2, 2013.


Laura J. Parbeck, Deputy City Clerk

David E. Maeda, City Clerk

SEAL