

January 27, 2014

COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2014

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Sartell City Council was held on January 27, 2014 in the Council Chambers of Sartell City Hall. Mayor Perske called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Perske, Council members: Braig-Lindstrom, Hennes, Nicoll and Peterson
ABSENT: None
ALSO PRESENT: Mary Degiovanni, City Administrator
Anita Rasmussen, Community Development Director
Brad Borders, Public Works Director
Jim Hughes, Police Chief
Mike Nielson, Engineer
Judy Molitor, Recording Secretary

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SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Sarah Hayden, Central CERT Coordinator, presented information to support Sartell's consideration of participating in the GreenSteps Cities voluntary challenge program. Ms. Hayden explained some of the benefits and best practices of the program. Hayden noted that many of the best practices associated with this program, the City of Sartell is already actively doing.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER NICOLL AND SECONDED BY MEMBER HENNES AMENDING THE AGENDA TO CONSIDER ITEM #9 (THE RESOLUTION ADOPTING MN GREENSTEP CITIES PARTICIPATION). THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council member Braig-Lindstrom thanked Sarah for coming and noted she is in favor of the program.

Council member Nicoll explained how Sartell is active in many of the best practices and believes the City already researches ways to be green and more cost effective. Nicoll believes that this is not necessarily a free program as someone is funding the program and does not feel it is necessary for our City to adopt this resolution since we already adopted the St. Cloud Area Regional Sustainability Plan.

Council member Hennes talked about the funding source coming from the League of Minnesota Cities and other partner organizations and believes the partnership could benefit the City. Hennes verified that the Planning Associate would be the staff person assigned to this project.

Mayor Perske talked about his concern of duplication of programs and sustainability as well, however noted it would fit well with the City's Comprehensive plan. Mayor also asked about staff time involved.

Council member Peterson stated that he favors the resolution and the ability to tap into the resources, especially with grant applications.

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A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAIG-LINDSTROM AND SECONDED BY MEMBER HENNES APPROVING RESOLUTION 06-2014 AUTHORIZING MN GREENSTEP CITIES PARTICIPATION. UPON VOTE BEING TAKEN, THE FOLLOWING VOTED:

AYE: MAYOR PERSKE, COUNCIL MEMBERS BRAIG-LINDSTROM, HENNES, PETERSON

NAY: COUNCIL MEMBER NICOLL

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAIG-LINDSTROM AND SECONDED BY MEMBER NICOLL TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:55 p.m. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Minutes By

**Judy Molitor
Recording Secretary**

Joe Perske, Mayor

RESOLUTION ____

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

WHEREAS, 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

WHEREAS, 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

WHEREAS, steps taken toward sustainable solutions aim to improve community quality of life, building community capital and increasing government efficiency, accountability and transparency; 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

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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 Minnesota GreenStep Cities program assists in facilitating technical assistance for the implementation of these sustainable development best practices; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program provides 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 Sartell does hereby authorize the participation in the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program that offers a free, voluntary continuous improvement framework. Be it further resolved that the City:

Appoints the Planning Associate to serve as the City's GreenStep coordinator for best practice documentation/implementation; and

Will facilitate the involvement of community members and other units of government as appropriate in the planning, promoting and/or implementing of GreenStep Cities best practices; and

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

Will identify a short list of best practices for initial implementation by *August 1, 2014* ; and

Will claim credit for having implemented and will work at its own pace toward implementing at least 8 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.

By: _____
Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator

Date: _____