

**CITY OF SUNFISH LAKE
DAKOTA COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**RESOLUTION NO. 16- 12
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SUNFISH LAKE
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MINNESOTA GREENSTEP CITIES PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, Minnesota GreenStep Cities is a voluntary assistance, recognition, and challenge program designed to help cities achieve their sustainability and quality-of-life goals. GreenSteps is a free, continuous improvement program, managed by a public-private partnership, and based upon 29 best practices. Each best practice can be implemented by completing one or more action opportunities, from a list of four to eight action opportunities; 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;

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

WHEREAS, 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 water supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose health threats to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, local governments have the unique opportunity to achieve both energy use and climate change gas reductions and cost savings through land use planning; environmental management; and through economic and community development; 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;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Sunfish Lake does hereby authorize the City of Sunfish Lake to participate in the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program that offers a free, voluntary continuous improvement framework. Passage of this participation resolution allows the City to be recognized as a Step One GreenStep City.

FURTHER RESOLVED, the City hereby:

1. Appoints Jim Naves and Shari Hansen or their designees to serve jointly as the City's GreenStep coordinators for best practice documentation/implementation; and
2. Will facilitate the involvement of community members and Council as appropriate in the planning, promoting and/or implementing of GreenStep Cities best practices; and
3. 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
4. Will claim credit for having implemented and will work at its own pace toward implementing any 5 GreenStep best practices that will result in energy use reduction, economic savings, quality of life improvement, reduction in the City's greenhouse gas footprint, and recognition by the League of Minnesota Cities as a Step Two GreenStep City. An on-going summary of the City's implementation of best practices will be posted by the City on the Minnesota GreenStep Cities web site.

FURTHER RESOLVED, the City hereby claims credit for the following five GreenStep Best Practices:

1. Adopting a subsurface sewage treatment system ordinance based on the Association of Minnesota Counties' model ordinance (under Environmental Management Category)
2. Maximize tree planting throughout the city (under Environmental Management Category)
3. Develop/fund a conservation easement program, such as a purchase of development rights program in collaboration with a land trust (under Land Use Category)
4. Implement one or more city-wide solid waste collection/recycling systems (under Environmental Management Category)
5. Prepare to maintain public health and safety during extreme weather and climate-change related events, while also taking a preventive approach to reduce risk for community members (under the Economic and Community Development Category). In 2007 the City of Sunfish Lake endorsed the objectives of the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, as amended by the 73rd Annual U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting, to guide and direct actions of the City.

Passed this 3rd day of May, 2016.

Molly Park, Mayor

ATTEST:

Catherine Iago, City Clerk