

**RESOLUTION NO. 3723 , SECOND SERIES**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF MARSHALL, MINNESOTA  
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MINNESOTA GREENSTEP CITIES PROGRAM**

*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. Due to the multiple environmental, economic and social dimensions of the best practices, leadership from a city's council is needed to oversee their implementation and coordination/integration with other city and community activities and with other governmental jurisdictions (such as surrounding townships) as appropriate.*

WHEREAS, efforts to address energy and climate issues 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, the Next Generation Act of 2007, Minnesota Session Laws 2007 – Chapter 136:

- (1) 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;
- (2) 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;
- (3) 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;
- (4) 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

WHEREAS, the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program assists in facilitating technical assistance for the implementation of these sustainable development best practices; 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 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, uncertainty in energy prices and the transition away from fossil fuel energy sources present new challenges and opportunities to both the City of Marshall and to the economic health of its citizens and businesses; and

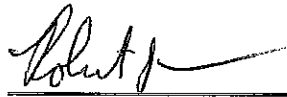
WHEREAS, local governments have the unique opportunity to achieve both energy use and climate change gas reductions through building and facilities management; land use and transportation planning; environmental management; and through economic and community development;

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

1. The City of Marshall will appoint someone 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. Will identify a short list of best practices for initial implementation by June 1, 2012; and
4. Will work towards implementing in total at least nine required and seven optional GreenStep best practices that will result in energy use reduction, economic savings and reduction in the community's greenhouse gas footprint. With the help of the GreenStep coordinator, a summary of the city's implementation of best practices will be posted on the Minnesota GreenStep Cities web site.

Passed and adopted by the Common Council March 27, 2012.

THE COMMON COUNCIL



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Mayor of the City of Marshall, MN.

ATTEST:



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City Clerk/Financial Director