

**MINUTES  
OF THE TOWN HALL MEETING OF THE  
EDINA CITY COUNCIL  
HELD AT CITY HALL  
JANUARY 27, 2009  
11:30 A.M.**

**ROLLCALL** Answering rollcall were Members Bennett, Brindle, Housh and Mayor Hovland. Member Swenson was absent.

Mayor Hovland thanked persons for attending. He explained this was the first of what the Edina City Council hoped would be biannual Town Hall Meetings hosted by the Edina City Council. He noted that residents had been asked to complete a card stating their name, address and topic and he would be calling residents to speak by name. Each speaker would be allowed to have three minutes to speak on any issue or concern they wished to express.

Charles Hughes, 6136 Brookview Avenue, expressed concern about the negative impact the installation of an electric pole had on the property at 6145 Oaklawn Avenue.

Janey Westin, 6136 Brookview Avenue, presented ideas about the City utilizing the benefits of solar election and hot water heat on roof tops and she presented her concerns over the preservation of trees, particularly old growth trees. Ms. Westin presented photos and tree preservation ordinances from Lake Forest, Illinois, and Minnetonka, Minnesota. Ms. Westin spoke a second time and shared an anecdote about Mr. T purchasing a property in Lake Forest and clear-cutting the land. More than just trees should be considered; when preservation was reviewed, the entire environment should be considered.

Addie Fitzsimmons, 5025 Yvonne Terrace, stated the Sun Current was not always received by her, and she noted difficulty getting needed information from City staff, lack of privacy when making a complaint at City Hall and her experience with an Edina Ambulance crew.

Dick Whitbeck, 6128 Brookview Avenue, expressed concern over a construction matter that would be heard by the Zoning Board of Appeals. He encouraged people to attend the meeting.

Sandy Fox, 5801 West 68<sup>th</sup> Street, expressed concern over the maintenance of Edina's residential streets and their overall decline. She asked how street reconstruction and maintenance were prioritized and noted the streets in her neighborhood were in poor shape.

Bruce Kieffer, 5404 Edenmoor Street, suggested that all flat roofs in Edina be required to be green. He also questioned what plans if any the City had for providing Wi-Fi internet services. Mayor Hovland responded.

Marie Anderegg, 5848 Creek Valley Road, asked how the City of Edina interacted with other organizations to collaborate on projects directly affecting the Edina community, such as Nine Mile Creek Watershed District or Three Rivers Park District. Mayor Hovland and Member Bennett responded.

Wayne Dvorak, 5840 Kellogg Avenue, suggested that City employees not be given wage increases and that there could be staff cuts to more efficiently run the City. He questioned the need for 31 fire fighters.

Jane Fuegner, 5225 Kellogg Avenue, thanked the Council for listening to the community when drafting the update to the City's Comprehensive Plan and suggested that the Council consider a Point of Sale inspection program. Ms. Fuegner spoke a second time asking questions about a home sale inspection program. Manager Hughes responded.

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Lonni Skrentner, 5551 Village Drive, questioned the process followed in making appointments to the various advisory boards, commissions and committees. Ms. Skrentner stated she had liked the process instigated in 2008 and was disappointed that a different practice would be followed in 2009.

Chris Rofidal, 5037 West 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Chair of the Edina Heritage Preservation Board, noted that the stringent attendance policy codified by the Council in 2008 cost his board a very good member. He suggested that room for concessions based upon circumstances be allowed. Mr. Rofidal encouraged investigation of whether web based or conference call attendance could be possible.

Jan Ferrell, 4704 West 70<sup>th</sup> Street, asked why Improvement Project BA313 West 70<sup>th</sup> and Metro Boulevard had not been built. Ms. Ferrell noted the road had been through many design iterations and expressed concern that it has not been reconstructed and had been moved back to the 2009 Mill and Overlay Project.

Jim Grotz, 5513 Park Place, stated he had signed a petition for an improvement project in his neighborhood in 2006. He said that he understood the project would not be constructed until 2010 and asked how the decisions were made for when projects were constructed. Mr. Grotz said politics should not be involved in such decisions and suggested that some type of board could be used. ‘

Jennifer Janovy, 4016 Inglewood Drive, presented a letter to the City Council from the Morningside Neighborhood Association with handwritten comments by residents gathered during their winter party.

Dick Whitbeck, 6128 Brookview Avenue, requested that meetings of the Zoning Board of Appeals be videotaped and broadcast so citizens could view the proceedings.

Clara Englebert, 6313 Ashcroft Lane, requested that the City consider developing a performing arts venue outside of the theaters in the Edina Public Schools.

Mayor Hovland declared the meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Debra A. Mangen, City Clerk