

# Council Connection



## A summary of the Jan. 8 Edina City Council meeting



### Mayor, Council Members take Oath of Office

Mayor Jim Hovland and City Council Members Mary Brindle and Ann Swenson took the Oath of Office at the first meeting of the year, Jan. 8. City Clerk Debra Mangen administered the oath to Hovland and Brindle, but Swenson's husband – Judge Jim Swenson – did the honors for her.

Throughout the meeting, members expressed their satisfaction with being able to continue working together on the Council.

Hovland has already served as mayor for seven years. Once Hovland completes his current four-year term, he will have the distinction of being Edina's longest-serving mayor. The record is currently held by Fred Richards and Wayne Courtney, who each served as mayor for eight years.

### Swenson named Mayor Pro Tem

The Council appointed Council Member Ann Swenson as Mayor Pro Tem.

According to State law, the Council must appoint a Mayor Pro Tem (acting mayor) at the first meeting of each year. The Mayor Pro Tem fulfills the duties of the mayor in his absence. Member Ann Swenson is the Council Member of the longest tenure, so Mayor Hovland suggested she be re-appointed as the Mayor Pro Tem. Swenson has filled the role since 2011.

### Council makes reappointments to advisory groups

The Council made several reappointments to its advisory boards and commissions.

Reappointed were Kitty O'Dea, Art Center Board; Ron Anderson, Michael Friedberg, Jeff Johnson, Steve Suckow and Gordon Tuchenhagen, Board of Appeal & Equalization; Kumar Belani and Matt Doscotch, Community Health Committee; Bob Gubrud, Keith Kostuch, Bill Sierks and Paul Thompson, Energy & En-

vironment Commission; Ross Davis, Heritage Preservation Board; Jan Seidman, Human Rights & Relations Commission; Ellen Jones, Louis Segreto and Keeya Steel, Park Board; Arlene Forrest and Michael Platter, Planning Commission and Nathan Franzen and Paul Nelson, Transportation Commission. Though the Edina Housing Foundation is not advisory, the Council reappointed Jack Rice to that group.

There are several vacancies on the Council's advisory boards and commissions. Applications for appointment are being accepted through Feb. 1.

### Date set for Volunteer Recognition Reception

The Council set a date for the annual Volunteer Recognition Reception.

The recognition event will be held Tuesday, April 30, at Braemar Golf Course. At the event, the Mayor's Commendations will be presented and service organizations and clubs will be able to honor their volunteers.

#### Upcoming meetings:

- City Council, 7 p.m. Jan. 22
- Human Rights & Relations Commission, 7 p.m. Jan. 22
- Planning Commission, 7 p.m. Jan. 23
- Art Center Board, 4 p.m. Jan. 24
- City Council, 7 p.m. Feb. 5

#### City Contacts

**City Manager**  
Scott Neal 952-826-0401

**Assistant City Manager**  
Karen Kurt 952-826-0415

**City Clerk**  
Debra Mangen 952-826-0408

**We'd like to hear from you ...**  
If you have any comments, call Communications & Technology Services Director Jennifer Bennerotte at 952-833-9520. The text of this publication will be available online at [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov).

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