



# Chaska City Hall Bulletin

## "The Best Small Town in Minnesota"

### Chaska City Hall

[www.chaskamn.com](http://www.chaskamn.com)

#### Council Members:

Mayor – Mark Windschitt

[mwindschitt@chaskamn.com](mailto:mwindschitt@chaskamn.com)

Ward I – Scott Millard

[smillard@chaskamn.com](mailto:smillard@chaskamn.com)

Ward II – Greg Boe

[gboe@chaskamn.com](mailto:gboe@chaskamn.com)

Ward III – Christopher Schulz

[cschulz@chaskamn.com](mailto:cschulz@chaskamn.com)

Ward IV – Rick Ford

[Rford@chaskamn.com](mailto:Rford@chaskamn.com)

#### City Administrator:

Matt Podhradsky

[matt@chaskamn.com](mailto:matt@chaskamn.com)

#### Asst. City Administrator

Jeffrey Dahl

[jdahl@chaskamn.com](mailto:jdahl@chaskamn.com)

#### Planning Director:

Kevin Ringwald

[kringwald@chaskamn.com](mailto:kringwald@chaskamn.com)

#### Administrative Services Director:

Noel Graczyk

[ngraczyk@chaskamn.com](mailto:ngraczyk@chaskamn.com)

#### City Engineer:

William Monk

[brmonk@chaskamn.com](mailto:brmonk@chaskamn.com)

#### Water & Sewer Supervisor:

Matt Haefner

[mhaefner@chaskamn.com](mailto:mhaefner@chaskamn.com)

#### Public Works Director:

Tim Wiebe

[twiebe@chaskamn.com](mailto:twiebe@chaskamn.com)

#### Electrical Director:

Dan Geiger

[dgeiger@chaskamn.com](mailto:dgeiger@chaskamn.com)

#### Park & Recreation Director:

Tom Redman

[fredman@chaskamn.com](mailto:fredman@chaskamn.com)

#### Golf Course Pro:

John Kellin

[jkellin@chaskamn.com](mailto:jkellin@chaskamn.com)

#### Police Chief:

Scott Knight

[sknight@chaskamn.com](mailto:sknight@chaskamn.com)

One City Hall Plaza

Chaska, MN 55318

952.448.9200

952.448.9300 Fax

**To subscribe or unsubscribe to our weekly bulletin, please send an email to:**

[mrobbin@chaskamn.com](mailto:mrobbin@chaskamn.com)

Volume 5, Issue 18:

May 31, 2012

## POWER TO THE PEOPLE



Electric rates for users in communities served by the Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (MMPA) will be helped by a \$25.4 million grant under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to Oak Glen Wind Farm, LLC, a subsidiary of the MMPA.

Oak Glen Wind Farm, the 44 megawatt project with 24 turbines located between Blooming Prairie and Owatonna, received the award in late April. The project become operational two months ahead of schedule in October 2011 at a cost of approximately \$92 million – 10% below budget. The grant will further reduce the total cost of the wind farm, which helps MMPA maintain competitive rates for its member communities. This is an annual award bestowed by the Department of Energy's Wind and Water Program – Wind Powering America Initiative. Winners are selected on the criteria of leadership, innovation, project creativity, and benefits to customers.

MMPA was selected over 13 other public power systems from throughout the country. MMPA's member communities are Anoka, Arlington, Brownton, Buffalo, Chaska, East Grand Forks, LeSueur, St. Paul, Olivia, Shakopee, and Winthrop. The organization's mission is to supply competitively priced reliable energy to its members. MMPA will be officially presented with this award at the American Association of Power Agencies national conference in Seattle on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

Questions about the award or the Oak Glen Wind Farm Project can be referred to the City of Chaska's Electric Director, Dan Geiger, at 952-448-4335.

## MORE MMPA NEWS

The Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (MMPA) is expanding its commitment to energy education with new resources and events for schools in its member communities. The newest component of MMPA's Energy Education Program is tours of Faribault Energy Park, Minnesota's largest municipally-owned power plant. Throughout May, MMPA hosted educational tours of the



Faribault Energy Park

Agency's highly efficient natural gas power generation facility. All MMPA community schools were invited to attend and multiple tours were scheduled.

School and community groups visiting Faribault Energy Park's "working classroom" viewed a natural gas turbine in operation, saw an operating wind turbine up close, viewed an energy-efficient steam recovery turbine, and learned about alternative energy sources.

"We expect to see about 1,400 fourth graders at Faribault Energy Park this year," said Wally Wysopal, MMPA board chairman and North St. Paul's city manager. "We are all lifetime consumers of energy, and every citizen will benefit from knowing more about it," he said.

For educators, the Energy Education Program provides a variety of tools, including lesson plans, activities, wind energy information, traveling turbine kits, presentations, and tours.

MMPA's energy education program is cited on the U.S. Department of Energy's "Wind Powering America" website as a resource for other states and public power entities, and is included on the DOE's online map showing the location of wind energy educational programs and training in the U.S. (View at [www.windpoweringamerica.gov](http://www.windpoweringamerica.gov).)



## WEST CREEK SUBSTATION CONSTRUCTION

As part of the improvements being made to the City of Chaska's electric distribution system, construction was recently started on the West Creek Substation, just to the west of the United Health Group Data Center building and West Creek Industrial Park. While the site work was completed last fall, the contractor began last week with the improvements on the site, starting with the installation of underground utilities. It is expected that the substation will be up and operational by September 1<sup>st</sup> of this year. Xcel Energy will also be moving to install new transmission lines at the same time. This project will not only provide sufficient electricity to help achieve Chaska's goal of creating more corporate-industrial users in the community, but will also continue to make improvements to keep our electric system so viable to our customers.



Questions may be directed to the Dan Geiger, the Electric Director.

Did you know? There are 87 counties in the State of Minnesota. There are 861 cities.



Chaska City Council Meeting  
Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm  
Chaska City Hall  
Work Session at 6:00 pm  
Go to [www.chaskamn.com](http://www.chaskamn.com) for the  
complete agenda on Friday.



**CHASKA COMMUNITY  
CENTER  
ACTIVITIES**

**SWIMMING POOL UPDATE**

As a final update to the Community Center Pool Project, the HVAC and pool improvements are scheduled to be finished today, May 31<sup>st</sup>, with re-opening scheduled for Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.

The City of Chaska is very pleased with the final project and we are confident that the reinvestment made into the facility will help ensure that the swimming pool area will have a good operating system for the next 20 years. This project was the first phase of our CCC Capital Improvement Program. The second phase will begin next summer with the replacement of the mechanical system in the two ice rinks. Please refer any questions to the Chaska Community Center at 952-448-5633.

**LITTLE RASCALS CAMP**

Ages 2 and 3  
Join us in the upper gym for pint-sized super silly fun. We will strike up the band, have story time, and pull out the sports equipment. Big fun for little ones!  
Session 1: June 4-6  
Session 2: July 23-25  
Time: 9:30-10:30 am  
Place: CCC Upper Gym  
Cost: \$25 Member; \$32 Non-Member

**AMERICAN RED CROSS  
SAFE ON MY OWN:**

A child's guide to home  
alone safety  
Ages 8 to 12



As a parent, would your child be safe and feel confident if they were to be left alone for a minute or hours while you were away? The American Red Cross has developed this course to help teach children 8 to 12 years how to be safe when at home alone.

Course includes a student guide book covering:

- Home safety skills
- How to interact with strangers
- Internet safety skills
- Basic First Aid
- Choking emergencies
- Create a fun and healthy snack.

Session 1: Monday, June 4  
Session 2: Monday, July 23  
Time: 5:15-7:45 pm  
Cost: \$30 Member; \$38 Non-Member

**ZUMBA**

The Zumba program fuses hypnotic Latin rhythms and easy to follow moves to create a unique workout. Zumba routines feature interval training where fast and slow rhythms combine with resistance moves for an excellent fat burning workout. Add some Latin flavor and international zest into the mix and you've got a Zumba class!

Instructor: Lora Johnson  
Dates: Tuesdays, June 5-July 17  
(No class July 3)  
Time: 6:55-7:55 pm  
Cost: \$48 Member; \$62 Non-Member



(Have a great weekend!)