

Councilmember introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION #11-11-XXX

RESOLUTION REQUESTING CERTAIN PRACTICES OF ALL UTILITIES DOING BUSINESS IN THE CITY OF RAMSEY

WHEREAS, the City of Ramsey considers utilities to be an important and essential service to the community; and;

WHEREAS, utilities have an obligation to manage rights-of-way and easements, including removing trees, for safety and operational reasons to ensure continued reliable service; and

WHEREAS, the City has entered into franchise agreements with each utility company to allow the company to utilize the City's rights-of-way to provide service to its residents and to support the regional system; and

WHEREAS, utilities make use of both public and private easements throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, the City has an interest in protecting the health, safety, welfare, and the value of property for its residents; and

WHEREAS, the City also has an interest in protecting the natural environment for the benefit of all; and

WHEREAS, the City works to protect its natural environment and has been designated a *Tree City USA* for the past 19 years; and

WHEREAS, residents and Ramsey officials have expressed concern over current practices in regard to the management of the rights-of-way and easements.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RAMSEY, ANOKA COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, as follows:

- 1) That the City of Ramsey does hereby state and request of all utilities doing business in the City of Ramsey that:
 - a) tree trimming and removal be minimized as much as possible in order to preserve this valuable resource for the community; and
 - b) proper survey verifications be done, to ensure that tree trimming and removal by contractors is not occurring outside of the utility easement and/or right-of-way; and
 - c) notification and written permission be received from all property owners prior to the application of any pesticide or herbicide; and

- d) personal property damage be minimized; and
- e) fully disclose all potential public health and safety issues associated with any transmission line construction or right-of-way/easement clearance activity; and
- f) restore all habitat within the right-of-way/easement with native species plantings, and remove all debris as requested by the property owner; and
- g) seek City approval for any major clearance project.

The motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember _____, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

and the following voted against the same:

and the following abstained:

and the following were absent:

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted by the Ramsey City Council this the ____ day of November 2011.

Mayor Bob Ramsey

ATTEST:

City Clerk Jo Ann M. Thieling