

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**, 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) for large scale tree clearance operations an environmental worksheet be completed; and

- f) fully disclose all potential public health and safety issues associated with any transmission line construction or right-of-way/easement clearance activity; and
- g) restore all habitat within the right-of-way/easement to a level consistent with surrounding habitat; and
- h) 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.

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Mayor Bob Ramsey

**ATTEST:**

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City Clerk Jo Ann M. Thieling