

Councilmember _____ introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION #13-11-___

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF RAMSEY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MINNESOTA GREENSTEP CITIES PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Minnesota GreenStep Cities is a voluntary challenge, assistance and recognition program to help cities achieve their sustainability and quality-of-life goals. GreenStep is a free, continuous improvement program, managed by a public-private partnership, and based upon twenty-eight (28) best practices. Each best practice can be implemented by completing one or more actions at a 1, 2 or 3-star level, from a list of four to eight actions. These actions focus on cost savings and energy use reduction as well as encourage civic innovation; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program assists in facilitating technical assistance for the implementation of these sustainable development best practices; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program provides cost-effective sustainable development best practices in the following five categories: (1) Buildings and Lighting; (2) Transportation; (3) Land Use; (4) Environmental Management; and (5) Economic and Community Development;

WHEREAS, uncertainty in energy prices and the transition away from fossil fuel energy sources present new challenges and opportunities to both the City of Ramsey and to the economic health of its citizens and businesses; and

WHEREAS, climate changes have been observed in Minnesota and have the potential to negatively impact local, regional and state economies; infrastructure development; habitat; ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose health threats to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, local governments have the unique opportunity to achieve both energy use and climate change gas reductions and cost savings through building and facilities management; land use and transportation planning; environmental management; and through economic and community development; and

WHEREAS, efforts to address energy and climate issues provide an opportunity to move toward energy self-reliance and greater community resiliency and quality of life; provide environmentally healthy and cheaper-to-operate public buildings; encourage new economic development and local jobs; and support local food and renewable energy production; and

WHEREAS, steps taken toward sustainable solutions aim to improve community quality of life, building community capital and increasing government efficiency, accountability and transparency.

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

1. The City of Ramsey will participate in the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program that offers a free, voluntary continuous improvement framework.
2. Appoints Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Chris Anderson to serve as the City's GreenStep coordinator for best practice documentation/implementation (and, as appropriate, identifies the Environmental Policy Board [EPB] as the city's GreenStep coordination team).
3. Will facilitate the involvement of community members and other units of government as appropriate in the planning, promoting and/or implementing of GreenStep Cities best practices.
4. Grants to the GreenStep program's buildings advisor read-only access to the City's B3 Benchmarking Database so as to facilitate analysis and cost-savings advice to the City regarding its buildings' energy use.
5. The City of Ramsey will identify a short list of best practices for initial implementation by March 31, 2013.
6. The City of Ramsey will claim credit for having implemented and will work at its own pace toward implementing at least *sixteen* (16) GreenStep best practices that will result in energy use reduction, economic savings, quality of life improvement and reduction in the City's greenhouse gas footprint. An on-going summary of the City's implementation of best practices will be posted on the Minnesota GreenStep Cities web site.

The motion for the 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 _____, _____.

By: _____
Mayor

By: _____
City Clerk

