

**STAFF SUMMARY
CITY OF MINNETONKA
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL STUDY SESSION
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2007
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Council Present: Dick Allendorf, Bob Ellingson, Al Thomas, Tony Wagner, Brad Wiersum and Mayor Jan Callison.

Council Excused: Terry Schneider

Staff: John Gunyou, Geralyn Barone, David Maeda

Callison called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m. and explained the interview process.

1. Boards and commissions interviews

Chris Jewett said he moved into the Gray's Bay area in September, 2006. He is a year round lake user and wants to help restore and preserve the lake for the next generation. He identified milfoil, zebra mussels, and purple loose strife as issues or soon might be issues for Lake Minnetonka. Jewett has served on five different boards in the past eight years.

Allendorf asked what Jewett's daytime job was. Jewett said he is a financial advisor for Morgan Stanley in Wayzata.

Thomas asked what Jewett's philosophy was for those who use the lake but are not residents. Jewett said that it is important to create a safe environment for all lake users. He said education is important to create a safe environment.

Callison asked for Jewett's thoughts on the city's potential buffering ordinance. Jewett said he was not educated enough on the issue to have an opinion.

Wiersum asked Jewett what he thought were the biggest issues facing the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District. Jewett said preventing zebra mussels is one issue. Another issue is managing milfoil. He said the use of chemicals to control milfoil raises other issues. And finally there are dock issues- how many are allowed and how many boats are allowed need further discussion.

Ellingson said when he served on the Hennepin County Park Board the board looked into harvesting milfoil. He asked Jewett the status of that technique. Jewett said harvesting is used but it ultimately doesn't reduce the amount of milfoil in the lake. He said that milfoil can grow up to three inches a day and harvesting is similar to mowing a lawn- eventually the milfoil grows back.

Jewett asked what the council is looking for in the person appointed to the LMCD. Callison said there is a challenging relationship between the city and the district. The city has the smallest amount of lake shore on the lake and the highest assessment. She said the appointed representative needs to be able to effectively communicate the city's issues to the district helping to make good

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decisions for the future of the lake. Thomas added the representative needs to be able to express the council's opinions to the district.

Jewett asked what the timing was for filling the opening. Callison said the city hoped to fill the spot as soon as possible. She thanked the previous representative, Katy Van Hercke, for her six years of service and effective representation on behalf of the city.

Linda Witte said she recently moved to the city and is the general counsel for Fingerhut. She applied because she wants to be of service to the city and is looking for ways to be involved in the community. She said she is an avid water person and she and her husband are kayakers.

Thomas noted that Witte had expressed interest in serving on the park board as well as the conservation district. Witte said she is very impressed with the city's park system and would be interested in serving on the park board.

Wiersum asked Witte as a new resident what impressed her most about the city. Witte said she was thrilled with city's outdoor environment, mature trees, and trail system.

Wagner asked how Witte would balance her work and life given her position with Fingerhut. Witte said there is always a way to make sure there is a balance.

2. Adjournment

The study session adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Maeda
City Clerk