

BACKGROUND MEMORANDUM
Council Workshop
April 4, 2011

Port Authority

Members of the Port Authority will be on hand to discuss revitalization efforts in the downtown and related issues.

Proposed Amendment to Charitable Gambling Ordinance

Mayor Dehen has been approached by the Lake Washington Improvement Association requesting a modification of our Charitable Gambling Ordinance that would allow them to conduct charitable gambling at Hott Shotts Bar. As the Lake Washington Improvement Association does not meet any of the current criteria, they are requesting that you consider an extension of the allowable radius to include points within two miles of the limits of Independent School District 77.

Swim Facility

We have included the operation of the swim facility in the approved 2011 General Fund Expenditures Budget. With approximately two months to go before the opening of the swim season, we will need to decide now if we intend to open the pool as scheduled. As we have no definitive information at this time from the Legislature, the Council will need to determine how to proceed on the swim facility. The Finance Director has calculated the estimated net savings in the General Fund if we do not open the swim facility in 2011.

VINE

VINE is seeking the Council's endorsement for their proposed acquisition and renovation of Nichols Hall. Materials are enclosed for your reference.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council and
City Administrator
City of North Mankato

FROM: Steve Mork, Finance Director

DATE: March 30, 2011

SUBJECT: Swim Facility Budget

I have completed an analysis of the savings recognized if the swim facility is not opened in 2011.

Total 2011 Budgeted Revenue	\$36,800.00
Total 2011 Budgeted Expenditure	<u>\$99,710.00</u>
Amount Subsidized from Levy	\$62,910.00
Fixed Expenditures (Insurance and Part of Utilities)	<u>(\$5,535.00)</u>
Net Savings	<u>\$57,375.00</u>

Aging to the Max in the Greater Mankato Area

VINE Faith in Action is actively raising funds to obtain and re-purpose the 60,000 square foot Nichols Building. Located within the central core of Mankato, this landmark building would house the senior programming of the Summit Center and consolidate the offices and programs of our organization. Blue Earth County has agreed to sell the Nichols Building to VINE for \$1.00, provided we can generate the resources needed to renovate this former MSU Lower Campus classroom building. Funds to rehabilitate the building envelope, estimated at \$1.7 million, are needed by this fall. Total project cost, including floor build-outs, is \$4.3 million.



VINE plans to create a "one-stop shop" for aging adults, a place to improve physical health, socialize with peers, volunteer to help others and access needed services. This much-needed new community resource will include a state-of-the-art adult center, a café, community meeting rooms, a fitness center with a warm water exercise pool, an adult respite center, a large chore garage and office space for VINE's administrative and program staff and volunteers.

VINE is committed to helping older adults remain healthy and living in their own homes for as long as it is safe and reasonable to do so. This past year, 566 trained adult volunteers assisted over 3,500 community members with transportation, home chores, respite care, friendly visits and a multitude of other tasks that helped neighbors through the challenges of life. Since VINE assumed management of the Summit Center in 2006, weekly participation has grown from 50 to 485 people per week. The organization is rich in human resources; however, additional space for programming and parking is critical for continued growth.

The community's help is needed to bring this vision to life. Contact Pam Determan, VINE Executive Director, at (507) 387-1666 or pamdeterman@vinevolunteers.com for more information.

Coming soon: www.agingtothemax.com



COMMUNITY ENDORSEMENTS

"VINE has been a valuable resource to many individuals and families in Blue Earth County. We are pleased to be collaborating with VINE to re-purpose the building and the corresponding services that would be made available with a facility renovation. VINE provides cost effective services to many people resulting in reduced reliance on public resources. The Blue Earth County Board of Commissioners supports the effort of VINE to expand their services and their goal of raising capital to support the revitalization of the Nichols Building."



~ Kip Bruender, Chair, Blue Earth County Board of Commissioners

"Blue Earth County Human Services is pleased to support the efforts of VINE to raise the capital necessary to renovate the Nichols Building. VINE has been a great community partner serving low income, disabled, elderly and minority populations. Their cost effective programs have helped to allow people to live in their own homes longer with a higher quality of life. We greatly appreciate the work that VINE does for the community, the value their services provide and strongly support the vision they have for this project."

~Bob Meyer, Interim County Administrator, Blue Earth County

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"Envision 2020 emphasizes "planning for an aging population" and "encouraging the development of community centers." VINE's ability to continue its work in these areas and expand its community partnerships would be strengthened by revitalizing the Nichols Building. Envision 2020 supports their efforts."

~ Dr. Tony Filipovitch, Chair, Envision 2020 Implementation Task Force

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"I had the privilege of being involved in the development of the vision and mission of VINE and of being a member of the original Board of Directors. I have witnessed the growth of VINE's programming which resulted from their response to the needs of the community. VINE's vision of an adult community center where older adults, caregivers and care-receivers have the opportunity to age well, explore new possibilities and give back to the community is a positive response to the coming age wave of baby boomers. VINE has demonstrated their capacity to decisively and successfully respond to local challenges and needs. Support of the capital campaign will enable VINE to enhance and expand their programming and services."



~ Linda Giersdorf, Executive Director, Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging®, Inc.

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- Quotes of support from the United Way, Cities of Mankato and North Mankato, and the VINE Board.
- Names of task force members