



## City of North Branch Agenda

|           |                           |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| Title:    | City Council Work Session |
| Location: | City Council Chambers     |
| Date:     | August 7, 2014            |

| Start        | End     | Time        | Topic                         | Presenter          |
|--------------|---------|-------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| 6:15 PM      | 6:16 PM | 0:01        | Pledge of Allegiance          |                    |
| 6:16 PM      | 6:31 PM | 0:15        | Senior Center Funding Request | Senior Center      |
| 6:31 PM      | 8:16 PM | 1:45        | 2015 Budget- Dept Reviews     | Meyers/Hill/Konrad |
| <b>Total</b> |         | <b>2:01</b> |                               |                    |

***Reminder--Please bring your budget books from the 7/17 meeting.***

June 17, 2014

City of North North Branch

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

In April 2014, I appeared before the City Council to request \$4600 for a contract of services to be provided to the City of North Branch, MN for services at the Chisago County Community/Senior Center located in North Branch, MN and help bridge the gap of increased expenses in having Catholic Charities back in North Branch serving meals.

At that City Council meeting the City stated they could do \$1500, as that was in the budget. Members of the council suggested I contact the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) American Legion, and Fire Department as these organizations all do pull tabs and need to give away a certain percentage of their receipts. If the Chisago County Community/Senior Center did not get that total I should come back to the council and there maybe additional funds available in June. We were not successful in getting \$4600. The results were \$1000.00 from the VFW, \$100.00 from the American Legion, \$ 0 from the North Branch Fire Department, two letters have been sent at the time of this letter. \$0 from Water and Light Commission , but would like the council to consider possibly doing a round up program through the local utilities, this would be something similar to what East Central Electric does. So we are \$2,000 short.

Our fundraiser in May was a great success, but that is done to generate funds for our day to day operations. Thank you Mayor Lindquist and Council Member Kathy Blomquist for attending.

The Chisago County Community/Senior Center presently operates solely on donations and a large number of dedicated volunteers. Two years ago the Chisago County Commissioners ceased to designate funding to the Center. Since then an expanded board of directors have worked very hard to re-invent the Community/Senior Center as a viable place for seniors and community members to have a place to gather. *We provide a place for congregate dining Monday-Friday, with meals coming again through Catholic Charities starting July 1,2014.* In our discussions Catholic Charities they stated many communities provided a space for free. The Chisago County Board on Aging voted to propose to Catholic Charities free space, but the congregate dining based on an sliding income scale must return to the Senior Center. We have estimated utility cost only and the increase to the Senior Center day to day operations would be in the range of \$600.00 per month, this allows for utility increases for the next 3 years the length of our contract with them.

We have expanded our programs of health and wellness for seniors and the surrounding area. Partnerships have been developed with Ecumen, Pathways-Senior Services, North Branch Community Education, North Branch Lions & Lionesses, American Legion Post 85 Auxilliary, AmericInn, distribution site for NAPS ( Nutritional Assistance Program Services) **Fairview and Allina Clinics and Chisago County Health and Human Services (newly added partnerships)** and the list continues to grow.

We are respectfully asking the the Council for an additional \$1,000, with the hope that the NB Fire Department will still come through with a donation of some kind. At this time, we would ask that in next year's budget that you would would budget \$3,000 for contract services with the Chisago County Community/Senior Center.

Sincerely,

Barbara Nelson  
Chisago County Board on Aging, President