

Falcon Heights City Council Workshop

**City Hall
2077 W Larpenteur Ave.
6:30 p.m.**

AGENDA Wednesday, October 18, 2017

- 1) Ramsey County Sheriff's Office -Law Enforcement Services**
- 2) Xcel – Franchise Fee**
- 3) Vacant Home Ordinance**

If you have a disability and need accommodation in order to attend this meeting, please notify City Hall 48 hours in advance between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at 651-792-7600. We will be happy to help.

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The City That Soars!

REQUEST FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Meeting Date	October 18, 2017
Agenda Item	1
Attachment	Proposed Contract
Submitted By	Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator

Item	Ramsey County Sheriff's Office – Policing Services
Description	<p>Commander Rich Clark with the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office will be available to discuss the proposed agreement for law enforcement services and answer any questions the Council may have for the transition from St. Anthony Police to the County.</p> <p>Staff is currently working with Commander Clark to make the transition as smooth as possible and we are working on scheduling "Meet and Greet" open houses after the contract has been approved by Council and signed.</p>
Budget Impact	Per the adopted 2018 Preliminary Levy and Budget.
Attachment(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Draft Agreement for Law Enforcement Services
Action(s) Requested	Staff is looking for direction from Council to proceed forward with the proposed agreement for policing services with the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office.

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**AGREEMENT FOR
LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES**

This is an Agreement between the County of Ramsey (hereinafter referred to as the "COUNTY"), and the City of Falcon Heights (hereinafter referred to as the "MUNICIPALITY"), to provide law enforcement services to the MUNICIPALITY for the period commencing January 1, 2018.

WHEREAS, the COUNTY has a statutory obligation to provide police protection within Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, the COUNTY has previously contracted to provide law enforcement services to the cities of Arden Hills, Gem Lake, Little Canada, North Oaks, Shoreview, Vadnais Heights, and to White Bear Township (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "MUNICIPALITIES"), and

WHEREAS, the MUNICIPALITY has determined that it is in the best interests of the MUNICIPALITY to contract with the COUNTY for law enforcement services, thereby allowing for the allocation of overhead and other administrative costs over a larger population; and

WHEREAS, the parties to this Agreement intend to contract for law enforcement functions within the political boundaries of the MUNICIPALITY through the Ramsey County Sheriff; and

WHEREAS, the COUNTY is agreeable to rendering such services on the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth; and

WHEREAS, such contracts are authorized and provided for by the provisions of Minnesota Statutes Sections 471.59 and 436.05, and Laws 1959, Chapter 372.

NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION OF the mutual undertakings set forth herein, the COUNTY and the MUNICIPALITY agree as follows:

A. SCOPE OF SERVICES

1. The COUNTY agrees, through the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office, to provide law enforcement services to the MUNICIPALITY which will include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - a. Patrol services with random patrolling of residential areas, businesses, parks, and other public property areas;
 - b. Enforcement of Minnesota State Statutes and the ordinances of the MUNICIPALITY;
 - c. Traffic enforcement including the regular use of radar or laser as a speed deterrent;
 - d. Crime prevention programs such as Neighborhood Watch, as well as other business and residential crime prevention programs;
 - e. Follow up on reported crimes with persons who reported the crime including notification by telephone or mail as to the status of the investigation;
 - f. Responses to medical, fire, and other emergencies;
 - g. Coordination of volunteer programs such as the Community Affairs Officer and Reserve Programs;
 - i. Driver's license inspections, background checks and license enforcement services as called for under applicable state law and ordinances of the MUNICIPALITY;

- j. Special event traffic patrol and patrol services for community festivals or other special events; and
 - k. Attendance at Public Safety or City Council meetings as requested by the MUNICIPALITY; and
 - l. Animal control services.
2. The manner and standards of performance, the discipline of officers, and other matters incident to the provision of services under this Agreement, and the control of personnel so employed, shall be subject solely to the control of the COUNTY. In the event of a dispute between the parties as to the extent of the duties and functions to be rendered hereunder, or the level or manner of performance of such service, the determination thereof made by the Sheriff of the COUNTY shall be final and conclusive as between the parties hereto, subject however, to the provisions of Section A.3. herein.
 3. In the event the MUNICIPALITY, through its elected body or authorized agent, notifies the COUNTY that the MUNICIPALITY is dissatisfied with the assignment of personnel for the performance of services under this Agreement and requests a change in personnel, the COUNTY shall make every effort to effect a change in the assignment of personnel, provided that such a change does not jeopardize the ability of the COUNTY to provide services to other areas of Ramsey County in a timely and efficient manner.
 4. Services shall be provided 24 hours per day and shall be performed by the number of deputies and other personnel budgeted for in the COUNTY'S Approved Budget for these services to the MUNICIPALITIES.
 5. To facilitate the COUNTY'S performance pursuant to this Agreement, the MUNICIPALITY agrees that the COUNTY shall have full cooperation and assistance from the MUNICIPALITY, its officers, agents and employees. The MUNICIPALITY shall designate a liaison to the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office. The liaison shall attend meetings of the Sheriff's Contract Communities Committee and shall represent its respective MUNICIPALITY at the meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to develop short-term and long range plans and to coordinate and analyze police service, to develop budget parameters for distributing costs among the MUNICIPALITIES, and other related public service issues. The Sheriff's Contract Communities Committee shall also review any disputes which arise between the MUNICIPALITIES and/or Sheriff's Office and recommend a resolution.
 6. The COUNTY shall furnish and supply all necessary labor, supervision, equipment, communication facilities and dispatching, and supplies necessary to provide services pursuant to this Agreement.
 7. All deputy sheriffs, clerks, and all other COUNTY personnel performing duties pursuant to this Agreement shall at all times be considered employees of the COUNTY for all purposes.
 8. The name of each of the MUNICIPALITIES that contract with the Sheriff's Office for law enforcement services shall be affixed to all squad cars and other major pieces of equipment used primarily within these MUNICIPALITIES.

B. ASSUMPTION OF LIABILITIES/INSURANCE

1. Except as otherwise provided, the MUNICIPALITY shall not be called

upon to assume any liability for the direct payment of any salaries, wages, or other compensation to any COUNTY personnel performing services pursuant to this Agreement for said MUNICIPALITY, and the COUNTY hereby assumes said liabilities.

2. Except as herein otherwise specified, the MUNICIPALITY shall not be liable for compensation or indemnity to any COUNTY employee for injury or sickness arising out of the performance of services pursuant to this Agreement, and the COUNTY hereby agrees to hold harmless the MUNICIPALITY against any such claim.
3. The MUNICIPALITY, its officers, and employees, shall not be deemed to assume any liability for the intentional or negligent acts of the COUNTY or the COUNTY'S employees performing services pursuant to this Agreement, and the COUNTY shall hold the MUNICIPALITY, its officers, and employees harmless from and shall defend and indemnify the MUNICIPALITY, its officers, and employees against any claim for damages arising out of the COUNTY'S performance of services pursuant to this Agreement.
4. The COUNTY, its officers, and employees shall not be deemed to assume any liability for intentional or negligent acts of the MUNICIPALITY or of any other officers, agent or employee thereof, and the MUNICIPALITY shall hold the COUNTY and its officers and employees harmless from, and shall defend and indemnify the COUNTY and its officers and employees against any claim for damages arising out of the MUNICIPALITY'S performance of its obligations pursuant to this Agreement.
5. The COUNTY agrees to maintain, during the term of this Agreement, automobile, general liability, workers' compensation, and professional liability insurance in amounts deemed appropriate by the COUNTY. The COUNTY shall name the MUNICIPALITY as an additional insured on these policies except for the workers' compensation policy. The MUNICIPALITY agrees to pay, as a part of the actual cost as provided in Section 6 below, a pro rata share of the COUNTY'S insurance costs. These costs shall include the costs for any assessments and credits for any dividends by participating in any insurance pools or trusts. The COUNTY may elect to self-insure all or any portion of these risks. If the COUNTY cannot obtain insurance and/or elects to self-insure, the MUNICIPALITY shall pay a pro rata share of the costs of self-insurance, based on each MUNICIPALITY'S share of the approved annual budget. Insurance costs as they relate to insurance coverage shall include premiums and deductibles. Costs of self-insurance shall include reserves, claims and damage payments, and administration costs required to maintain self-insurance.
6. The MUNICIPALITY acknowledges that the COUNTY may, in an effort to provide the best insurance coverage at the most economical cost, become a member of the Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust or some similar organization; and the MUNICIPALITY further acknowledges that membership in such an organization may be for a fixed minimum term and may expose the COUNTY to some type of contingent cost liability, such as debts, obligations and liabilities, in the event that the COUNTY withdraws its membership. The MUNICIPALITY agrees to reimburse the COUNTY for the MUNICIPALITY'S pro rata share of any such contingent cost liability arising during the term of this Agreement for Law Enforcement Services and assessed against the COUNTY. Upon notification to the COUNTY of any such contingent cost liability, the COUNTY will notify the MUNICIPALITY in a timely manner.

C. TERM OF AGREEMENT/TERMINATION

1. The term of this Agreement shall commence on January 1, 2018, and shall continue through December 31, 2021 ("Term").
2. If either party intends not to renew this Agreement at the end of its Term, the party must notify the other party and other MUNICIPALITIES in writing at least nine (9) calendar months prior to the end of the contract Term. If either party has not approved a successor agreement at the end of the Term, the COUNTY will continue to provide law enforcement services in accordance with this Agreement.
3. Either party may terminate this Agreement at the end of a calendar year and prior to the end of the Term of the Agreement by notifying the other party to this Agreement and the other MUNICIPALITIES in writing of their intent to terminate the Agreement at least nine (9) calendar months prior to the end of the calendar year.
4. Notice to the COUNTY shall be given to the County Manager and Ramsey County Sheriff, and Notice to the MUNICIPALITY shall be given to the MUNICIPALITY'S City Manager. Notice to the other MUNICIPALITIES will be given in accordance with the notice provisions of the contracts between the COUNTY and the other MUNICIPALITIES.

D. COST AND PAYMENT

1. The MUNICIPALITY agrees to pay the COUNTY the actual cost of providing all services covered by this Agreement. Actual cost shall mean the MUNICIPALITY'S pro rata share of the COUNTY'S total cost of providing patrol and police protection services as described in this Agreement to the MUNICIPALITIES with which the COUNTY has agreements for the current contract year, including, but not limited to the following: salaries of employees engaged in performing said services, including vacation and sick leave; mileage; uniforms; public employees retirement contributions; workers' compensation, automobile, general liability and police professional liability insurance costs or the cost of self-insurance; general overhead, including indirect expenses and supplies, radio unit expense, and health and welfare expense. The term "costs" as used herein shall not include items of expense attributable to services or facilities normally provided or available to all cities within the COUNTY as part of the COUNTY'S obligation to enforce state law. Computation of actual costs hereunder shall be made by the Ramsey County Finance Department based on information provided by the Sheriff.
2. During the term of this Agreement, the COUNTY shall annually submit a Budget Estimate for the following year of services to the MUNICIPALITY no later than August 1 of the current year. Said Budget Estimate will be for the limited purpose of better enabling the MUNICIPALITY to estimate its annual budget and tax levy. It is understood by the parties to this Agreement that said Budget Estimate shall in no way prevent the COUNTY from charging its actual costs.
3. If the MUNICIPALITY does not allocate the necessary funding for its proportionate share of the COUNTY'S Approved Budget to the MUNICIPALITIES for a given year, the MUNICIPALITY and the COUNTY must meet by January 31 of the budget year in question to review and reach agreement on modifications to service levels provided by the COUNTY that are consistent with the MUNICIPALITY'S budget and that recognize the impact of these service level changes to other MUNICIPALITIES that contract with the COUNTY for these services.

4. Unless the COUNTY and MUNICIPALITY have reached agreement pursuant to the prior paragraph for a change in the MUNICIPALITY'S contribution, the COUNTY shall bill the MUNICIPALITY on a monthly basis in advance in an amount equal to one-twelfth (1/12) of the Budget Estimate for services to the MUNICIPALITY. The MUNICIPALITY shall pay the COUNTY within 45 days of receipt of the monthly statement. At the close of the contract year, the COUNTY will reconcile the current year Budget Estimate and current year actual costs, shall provide a copy of the current year actual cost to the MUNICIPALITY, and shall either give a credit to the MUNICIPALITY or bill the MUNICIPALITY for additional costs in excess of the Budget Estimate.

E. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Notice to the COUNTY shall be given to the County Manager and Ramsey County Sheriff, and Notice to the MUNICIPALITY shall be given to the MUNICIPALITY'S City Administrator. Notice to the other MUNICIPALITIES will be given in accordance with the notice provisions of the contracts between the COUNTY and the other MUNICIPALITIES.
2. It is understood that prosecutions for violations of ordinances or state statutes, together with disposition of all fines collected pursuant thereto, shall be in accordance with state statutes, state rules, and judicial orders.
3. The Ramsey County Sheriff's Office shall submit to the MUNICIPALITY quarterly activity reports detailing the activities of the Sheriff's Office under this agreement within the MUNICIPALITY. Said reports shall contain, at a minimum, the number of calls answered and the number of citations issued. However, no information will be provided which would violate the State Data Practices Act.
4. The MUNICIPALITY may contract with the COUNTY for additional law enforcement services above and beyond those provided in this Agreement.
5. Any alterations, variations, modifications, or waivers of provisions of this Agreement shall only be valid when they have been reduced to writing, signed by authorized representatives of the COUNTY and the MUNICIPALITY and attached to the original of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the MUNICIPALITY, by resolution duly adopted by its Council has caused this Agreement to be signed by Mayor Peter Lindstrom and City Administrator Sack Thongsvanh, and the seal of the MUNICIPALITY to be affixed hereto on the _____ of _____, 2017 and the COUNTY, by resolution of its Board of County Commissioners, has caused this Agreement to be signed by the Chair and Chief Clerk of said Board on the _____ day of _____.

COUNTY OF RAMSEY

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS

By: _____,
 _____, Chair
 Board of Ramsey County Commissioners

By: _____
 Peter Lindstrom
 Mayor

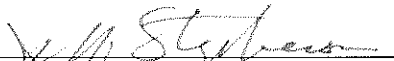
By: _____
Janet Guthrie, Chief Clerk
Board of Ramsey County Commissioners

By: _____
Sack Thongvanh
City Administrator

APPROVAL RECOMMENDED:

By: _____
Jack Serier
Sheriff of Ramsey County

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: 
Jeffrey Stephenson
Assistant Ramsey County Attorney



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REQUEST FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Meeting Date	October 18, 2017
Agenda Item	2
Attachment	Document(s)
Submitted By	Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator

Item	Proposed Xcel Franchise Ordinance and Fee
Description	Jake Sedlacek, Manger of Community Relations and Economic Development will be available to answer questions that the Council may have to implement a franchise fee for gas and electrical utilities for Falcon Heights.
Budget Impact	The projected revenue from the franchise fee is estimated at \$129,000. The City Council will have to decide how to use the additional funds.
Attachment(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Letter from Xcel – Jake Sedlacek · Franchise Fee Estimates from 2016 · Draft Xcel Electric Franchise · Draft Xcel Electric Fee · Draft Xcel Gas Franchise · Draft Xcel Gas Fee
Action(s) Requested	Staff is looking for direction on if and how to proceed with the gas and electric franchise and fee.

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3000 Maxwell
Newport, MN 55055

September 15, 2017

Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator
City of Falcon Heights
2077 Larpenteur Ave West
Falcon Heights, MN 55113

Dear Sack:

Please accept the following draft Franchise Agreement Ordinances for electric and gas service in the City of Falcon Heights. While our company headquarters are located in Minneapolis, we are here, doing business in Falcon Heights every day.

As we have discussed, franchise agreements provide greater detail in the relationship between public utilities and local right of way managers than is provided in MN Statute. The attached agreements provide a common set of ground rules in communities we serve across Minnesota. Some of the key points include dispute resolution, right of way restoration and permitting.

Also enclosed you will find draft Franchise Fee Ordinances, as requested by the City.

I look forward to speaking to your City Council about franchise agreements and fees. The franchise agreements will be effective once published in your official newspaper. The fee is subject to review by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. This is typically 90 days from date of council approval. For example, February 1, 2018 implementation would require signed copies of franchise agreement ordinances and franchise fee ordinances be returned no later than November 1, 2017.

Please let me know what further questions the city may have. I look forward to working with you through this process.

Sincerely,

Jake Sedlacek
Manager, Community Relations and Economic Development

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**City of Falcon Heights, MN
Franchise Fee Estimate – Gas and Electric
May 2016**

The following information is being provided to assist your community in discussions regarding franchise fees. **Given market sensitivity to electric and gas rates, we strongly encourage the city to reach out to residents and businesses regarding franchise fees.**

- Information based on a one-year average, ending April 2016.
- Fee amounts are rounded to the nearest \$0.25 and applied as a flat fee.
- The table below shows the fee that would be reflected on a customer's monthly bill.
- Franchise fees must be applied equally to all energy providers.
- Franchise Fees are collected in lieu of any other permit fees.
- Xcel Energy retains no portion of a franchise fee.

Franchise Fee: Gas

Customer class	Monthly Fee
Residential	\$1.50
Commercial Non Demand	\$8.00
Commercial Demand	NA
Small Interruptible	NA
Medium and Large Interruptible	NA
Firm Transportation	NA
Interruptible Transportation	NA

Estimated Annual Revenue: \$45,660

Franchise Fee: Electric

Customer class	Monthly Fee
Residential	\$2.00
Small C&I – Non Demand	\$3.00
Small C&I – Demand	\$21.00
Large C&I	\$200.00
Street Lighting	\$12.00
Municipal Pumping	NA

Estimated Annual Revenue: \$84,096

Please let me know what further questions I can answer about franchise fees and the implementation process.

Jake Sedlacek
Manager, Community Relations and Economic Development
jake.sedlacek@xcelenergy.com
651.458.1228

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ELECTRIC FRANCHISE ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. _____.

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS, RAMSEY COUNTY, MINNESOTA

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING TO NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY, A MINNESOTA CORPORATION, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, PERMISSION TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, REPAIR AND MAINTAIN IN THE CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS, MINNESOTA, AN ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM AND TRANSMISSION LINES, INCLUDING NECESSARY POLES, LINES, FIXTURES AND APPURTENANCES, FOR THE FURNISHING OF ELECTRIC ENERGY TO THE CITY, ITS INHABITANTS, AND OTHERS, AND TO USE THE PUBLIC GROUNDS AND PUBLIC WAYS OF THE CITY FOR SUCH PURPOSES.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS, RAMSEY COUNTY, MINNESOTA, ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Ordinance, the following capitalized terms listed in alphabetical order shall have the following meanings:

1.1 **City.** The City of Falcon Heights, County of Ramsey, State of Minnesota.

1.2 **City Utility System.** Facilities used for providing non-energy related public utility service owned or operated by City or agency thereof, including sewer and water service, but excluding facilities for providing heating, lighting or other forms of energy.

1.3 **Commission.** The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, or any successor agency or agencies, including an agency of the federal government, which preempts all, or part of the authority to regulate electric retail rates now vested in the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

1.4 **Company.** Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation, its successors and assigns.

1.5 **Electric Facilities.** Electric transmission and distribution towers, poles, lines, guys, anchors, conduits, fixtures, and necessary appurtenances owned or operated by Company for the purpose of providing electric energy for public use.

1.6 **Notice.** A written notice served by one party on the other party referencing one or more provisions of this Ordinance. Notice to Company shall be mailed to the General Counsel, 401 Nicollet Mall, 8th Floor, Minneapolis, MN 55401. Notice to the City shall be mailed to the City Administrator, City Hall, 2077 Larpenteur Avenue West, Falcon Heights, MN 55113. Either party may change its respective address for the purpose of this Ordinance by written notice to the other party.

1.7 **Public Ground.** Land owned by the City for park, open space or similar purpose, which is held for use in common by the public.

1.8 **Public Way.** Any street, alley, walkway or other public right-of-way within the City.

SECTION 2. ADOPTION OF FRANCHISE.

2.1 **Grant of Franchise.** City hereby grants Company, for a period of 20 years from the date passed and approved by the City, the right to transmit and furnish electric energy for light, heat, power and other purposes for public and private use within and through the limits of the City as its boundaries now exist or as they may be extended in the future. For these purposes, Company may construct, operate, repair and maintain Electric Facilities in, on, over, under and across the Public Grounds and Public Ways of City, subject to the provisions of this Ordinance. Company may do all reasonable things necessary or customary to accomplish these purposes, subject, however, to such reasonable regulations as may be imposed by the City pursuant to ordinance and to the further provisions of this franchise agreement.

2.2 **Effective Date; Written Acceptance.** This franchise agreement shall be in force and effect from and after passage of this Ordinance, its acceptance by Company, and its publication as required by law. The City, by Council resolution, may revoke this franchise agreement if Company does not file a written acceptance with the City within 90 days after publication.

2.3 **Service and Rates.** The service to be provided and the rates to be charged by Company for electric service in City are subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission. The area within the City in which Company may provide electric service is subject to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 216B.40.

2.4 **Publication Expense.** The expense of publication of this Ordinance will be paid by City and reimbursed to City by Company.

2.5 **Dispute Resolution.** If either party asserts that the other party is in default in the performance of any obligation hereunder, the complaining party shall notify the other party of the default and the desired remedy. The notification shall be written. Representatives of the parties must promptly meet and attempt in good faith to negotiate a resolution of the dispute. If the dispute is not resolved within 30 days of the written notice, the parties may jointly select a mediator to facilitate further discussion. The parties will equally share the fees and expenses of this mediator. If a mediator is not used, or if the parties are unable to resolve the dispute within 30 days after first meeting with the selected mediator, either party may commence an action in District Court to interpret and enforce this franchise or for such other relief as may be permitted by law or equity for breach of contract, or either party may take any other action permitted by law.

SECTION 3. LOCATION, OTHER REGULATIONS.

3.1 **Location of Facilities.** Electric Facilities shall be located, constructed and maintained so as not to interfere with the safety and convenience of ordinary travel along and over Public Ways and so as not to disrupt normal operation of any City Utility System previously installed therein. Electric Facilities shall be located on Public Grounds as determined by the City. Company's construction, reconstruction, operation, repair, maintenance and location of Electric Facilities shall be

subject to permits if required by separate ordinance and to other reasonable regulations of the City to the extent not inconsistent with the terms of this franchise agreement. Company may abandon underground Electric Facilities in place, provided at the City's request, Company will remove abandoned metal or concrete encased conduit interfering with a City improvement project, but only to the extent such conduit is uncovered by excavation as part of the City improvement project.

3.2 Field Locations. Company shall provide field locations for its underground Electric Facilities within City consistent with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 216D.

3.3 Street Openings. Company shall not open or disturb any Public Ground or Public Way for any purpose without first having obtained a permit from the City, if required by a separate ordinance, for which the City may impose a reasonable fee. Permit conditions imposed on Company shall not be more burdensome than those imposed on other utilities for similar facilities or work. Company may, however, open and disturb any Public Ground or Public Way without permission from the City where an emergency exists requiring the immediate repair of Electric Facilities. In such event Company shall notify the City by telephone to the office designated by the City as soon as practicable. Not later than the second working day thereafter, Company shall obtain any required permits and pay any required fees.

3.4 Restoration. After undertaking any work requiring the opening of any Public Ground or Public Way, Company shall restore the same, including paving and its foundation, to as good a condition as formerly existed, and shall maintain any paved surface in good condition for one year thereafter. The work shall be completed as promptly as weather permits, and if Company shall not promptly perform and complete the work, remove all dirt, rubbish, equipment and material, and put the Public Ground or Public Way in the said condition, the City shall have, after demand to Company to cure and the passage of a reasonable period of time following the demand, but not to exceed five days, the right to make the restoration at the expense of Company. Company shall pay to the City the cost of such work done for or performed by the City. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedy available to the City for noncompliance with this Section 3.4, but the City hereby waives any requirement for Company to post a construction performance bond, certificate of insurance, letter of credit or any other form of security or assurance that may be required, under a separate existing or future ordinance of the City, of a person or entity obtaining the City's permission to install, replace or maintain facilities in a Public Way.

3.5 Avoid Damage to Electric Facilities. Nothing in this Ordinance relieves any person from liability arising out of the failure to exercise reasonable care to avoid damaging Electric Facilities while performing any activity.

3.6 Notice of Improvements. The City must give Company reasonable notice of plans for improvements to Public Grounds or Public Ways where the City has reason to believe that Electric Facilities may affect or be affected by the improvement. The notice must contain: (i) the nature and character of the improvements, (ii) the Public Grounds and Public Ways upon which the improvements are to be made, (iii) the extent of the improvements, (iv) the time when the City will start the work, and (v) if more than one Public Ground or Public Way is involved, the order in which the work is to proceed. The notice must be given to Company a sufficient length of time in advance of the actual commencement of the work to permit Company to make any necessary additions, alterations or repairs to its Electric Facilities.

3.7 Shared Use of Poles. Company shall make space available on its poles or towers for City fire, water utility, police or other City facilities upon terms and conditions acceptable to Company whenever such use will not interfere with the use of such poles or towers by Company, by another electric utility, by a telephone utility, or by any cable television company or other form of communication company. In addition, the City shall pay for any added cost incurred by Company because of such use by City.

SECTION 4. RELOCATIONS.

4.1 Relocation of Electric Facilities in Public Ways. If the City determines to vacate a Public Way for a City improvement project, or at City's cost to grade, regrade, or change the line of any Public Way, or construct or reconstruct any City Utility System in any Public Way, it may order Company to relocate its Electric Facilities located therein if relocation is reasonably necessary to accomplish the City's proposed public improvement. Except as provided in Section 4.3, Company shall relocate its Electric Facilities at its own expense. The City shall give Company reasonable notice of plans to vacate for a City improvement project, or to grade, regrade, or change the line of any Public Way or to construct or reconstruct any City Utility System. If a relocation is ordered within five years of a prior relocation of the same Electric Facilities, which was made at Company expense, the City shall reimburse Company for non-betterment costs on a time and material basis, provided that if a subsequent relocation is required because of the extension of a City Utility System to a previously unserved area, Company may be required to make the subsequent relocation at its expense. Nothing in this Ordinance requires Company to relocate, remove, replace or reconstruct at its own expense its Electric Facilities where such relocation, removal, replacement or reconstruction is solely for the convenience of the City and is not reasonably necessary for the construction or reconstruction of a Public Way or City Utility System or other City improvement.

4.2 Relocation of Electric Facilities in Public Ground. City may require Company, at Company's expense, to relocate or remove its Electric Facilities from Public Ground upon a finding by City that the Electric Facilities have become or will become a substantial impairment to the existing or proposed public use of the Public Ground.

4.3 Projects with Federal Funding. City shall not order Company to remove or relocate its Electric Facilities when a Public Way is vacated, improved or realigned for a right-of-way project or any other project which is financially subsidized in whole or in part by the Federal Government or any agency thereof, unless the reasonable non-betterment costs of such relocation are first paid to Company. The City is obligated to pay Company only for those portions of its relocation costs for which City has received federal funding specifically allocated for relocation costs in the amount requested by the Company, which allocated funding the City shall specifically request. Relocation, removal or rearrangement of any Company Electric Facilities made necessary because of a federally-aided highway project shall be governed by the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 161.46, as supplemented or amended. It is understood that the rights herein granted to Company are valuable rights.

4.4 No Waiver. The provisions of this franchise apply only to facilities constructed in reliance on a franchise from the City and shall not be construed to waive or modify any rights obtained by Company for installations within a Company right-of-way acquired by easement or prescriptive right before the applicable Public Ground or Public Way was established, or Company's rights under state or county permit.

SECTION 5. TREE TRIMMING.

Company may trim all trees and shrubs in the Public Grounds and Public Ways of City to the extent Company finds necessary to avoid interference with the proper construction, operation, repair and maintenance of any Electric Facilities installed hereunder, provided that Company shall save the City harmless from any liability arising therefrom, and subject to permit or other reasonable regulation by the City.

SECTION 6. INDEMNIFICATION.

6.1 Indemnity of City. Company shall indemnify, keep and hold the City free and harmless from any and all liability on account of injury to persons or damage to property occasioned by the construction, maintenance, repair, inspection, the issuance of permits, or the operation of the Electric Facilities located in the Public Grounds and Public Ways. The City shall not be indemnified for losses or claims occasioned through its own negligence except for losses or claims arising out of or alleging the City's negligence as to the issuance of permits for, or inspection of, Company's plans or work. The City shall not be indemnified if the injury or damage results from the performance in a proper manner, of acts reasonably deemed hazardous by Company, and such performance is nevertheless ordered or directed by City after notice of Company's determination.

6.2 Defense of City. In the event a suit is brought against the City under circumstances where this agreement to indemnify applies, Company at its sole cost and expense shall defend the City in such suit if written notice thereof is promptly given to Company within a period wherein Company is not prejudiced by lack of such notice. If Company is required to indemnify and defend, it will thereafter have control of such litigation, but Company may not settle such litigation without the consent of the City, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. This section is not, as to third parties, a waiver of any defense or immunity otherwise available to the City and Company, in defending any action on behalf of the City, shall be entitled to assert in any action every defense or immunity that the City could assert in its own behalf.

SECTION 7. VACATION OF PUBLIC WAYS.

The City shall give Company at least two weeks prior written notice of a proposed vacation of a Public Way. Except where required for a City improvement project, the vacation of any Public Way, after the installation of Electric Facilities, shall not operate to deprive Company of its rights to operate and maintain such Electric Facilities, until the reasonable cost of relocating the same and the loss and expense resulting from such relocation are first paid to Company. In no case, however, shall City be liable to Company for failure to specifically preserve a right-of-way under Minnesota Statutes, Section 160.29.

SECTION 8. CHANGE IN FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

Any change in the form of government of the City shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance. Any governmental unit succeeding the City shall, without the consent of Company, succeed to all of the rights and obligations of the City provided in this Ordinance.

SECTION 9. FRANCHISE FEE.

9.1 **Fee Schedule.** During the term of the franchise hereby granted, and in lieu of any permit or other fees being imposed on Company, the City may impose on Company a franchise fee by collecting the amounts indicated in a Fee Schedule set forth in a separate ordinance from each customer in the designated Company Customer Class. The parties have agreed that the franchise fee collected by the Company and paid to the City in accordance with this Section 9 shall not exceed the following amounts.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Fee Per Premise Per Month</u>
Residential	\$ 2.00
Sm C & I – Non-Dem	\$ 3.00
Sm C & I – Demand	\$ 21.00
Large C & I	\$ 200.00
Public Street Ltg	\$ 12.00
Muni Pumping –N/D	\$ -
Muni Pumping – Dem	\$ -

9.2 **Separate Ordinance.** The franchise fee shall be imposed by a separate ordinance duly adopted by the City Council, which ordinance shall not be adopted until at least 90 days after written notice enclosing such proposed ordinance has been served upon Company by certified mail. The fee shall not become effective until the beginning of a Company billing month at least 90 days after written notice enclosing such adopted ordinance has been served upon Company by certified mail. Section 2.5 shall constitute the sole remedy for solving disputes between Company and the City in regard to the interpretation of, or enforcement of, the separate ordinance. No action by the City to implement a separate ordinance will commence until this Ordinance is effective. A separate ordinance which imposes a lesser franchise fee on the residential class of customers than the maximum amount set forth in Section 9.1 above shall not be effective against Company unless the fee imposed on each other customer classification is reduced proportionately in the same or greater amount per class as the reduction represented by the lesser fee on the residential class.

9.3 **Terms Defined.** For the purpose of this Section 9, the following definitions apply:

9.3.1 “Customer Class” shall refer to the classes listed on the Fee Schedule and as defined or determined in Company’s electric tariffs on file with the Commission.

9.3.2 “Fee Schedule” refers to the schedule in Section 9.1 setting forth the various customer classes from which a franchise fee would be collected if a separate ordinance were implemented immediately after the effective date of this franchise agreement. The Fee Schedule in the separate ordinance may include new Customer Class added by Company to its electric tariffs after the effective date of this franchise agreement.

9.4 **Collection of the Fee.** The franchise fee shall be payable quarterly and shall be based on the amount collected by Company during complete billing months during the period for which payment is to be made by imposing a surcharge equal to the designated franchise fee for the applicable customer classification in all customer billings for electric service in each class. The payment shall be

due the last business day of the month following the period for which the payment is made. The franchise fee may be changed by ordinance from time to time; however, each change shall meet the same notice requirements and not occur more often than annually and no change shall require a collection from any customer for electric service in excess of the amounts specifically permitted by this Section 9. The time and manner of collecting the franchise fee is subject to the approval of the Commission. No franchise fee shall be payable by Company if Company is legally unable to first collect an amount equal to the franchise fee from its customers in each applicable class of customers by imposing a surcharge in Company's applicable rates for electric service. Company may pay the City the fee based upon the surcharge billed subject to subsequent reductions to account for uncollectibles, refunds and correction of erroneous billings. Company agrees to make its records available for inspection by the City at reasonable times provided that the City and its designated representative agree in writing not to disclose any information which would indicate the amount paid by any identifiable customer or customers or any other information regarding identified customers.

9.5 **Equivalent Fee Requirement.** The separate ordinance imposing the fee shall not be effective against Company unless it lawfully imposes and the City monthly or more often collects a fee or tax of the same or greater equivalent amount on the receipts from sales of energy within the City by any other energy supplier, provided that, as to such a supplier, the City has the authority to require a franchise fee or to impose a tax. The "same or greater equivalent amount" shall be measured, if practicable, by comparing amounts collected as a franchise fee from each similar customer, or by comparing, as to similar customers the percentage of the annual bill represented by the amount collected for franchise fee purposes. The franchise fee or tax shall be applicable to energy sales for any energy use related to heating, cooling or lighting, or to run machinery and appliances, but shall not apply to energy sales for the purpose of providing fuel for vehicles. If the Company specifically consents in writing to a franchise or separate ordinance collecting or failing to collect a fee from another energy supplier in contravention of this Section 9.5, the foregoing conditions will be waived to the extent of such written consent.

SECTION 10. PROVISIONS OF ORDINANCE.

10.1 **Severability.** Every section, provision, or part of this Ordinance is declared separate from every other section, provision, or part and if any section, provision, or part shall be held invalid, it shall not affect any other section, provision, or part. Where a provision of any other City ordinance conflicts with the provisions of this Ordinance, the provisions of this Ordinance shall prevail.

10.2 **Limitation on Applicability.** This Ordinance constitutes a franchise agreement between the City and Company as the only parties, and no provision of this franchise shall in any way inure to the benefit of any third person (including the public at large) so as to constitute any such person as a third party beneficiary of the agreement or of any one or more of the terms hereof, or otherwise give rise to any cause of action in any person not a party hereto.

SECTION 11. AMENDMENT PROCEDURE.

Either party to this franchise agreement may at any time propose that the agreement be amended to address a subject of concern and the other party will consider whether it agrees that the amendment is mutually appropriate. If an amendment is agreed upon, this Ordinance may be amended at any time by the City passing a subsequent ordinance declaring the provisions of the

amendment, which amendatory ordinance shall become effective upon the filing of Company's written consent thereto with the City Clerk within 90 days after the date of final passage by the City of the amendatory ordinance.

SECTION 12. PREVIOUS FRANCHISES SUPERSEDED.

This franchise supersedes any previous electric franchise granted to Company or its predecessor.

Passed and approved: _____, 2017.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Date Published: _____

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTING AN ELECTRIC SERVICE FRANCHISE FEE ON NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY, A MINNESOTA CORPORATION, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, FOR PROVIDING ELECTRIC SERVICE WITHIN THE CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS DOES ORDAIN:

SECTION 1. The City of Falcon Heights Municipal Code is hereby amended to include reference to the following Special Ordinance.

Subd. 1. Purpose. The Falcon Heights City Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the City to impose a franchise fee on those public utility companies that provide electric services within the City of Falcon Heights.

- (a) Pursuant to City Ordinance _____, a Franchise Agreement between the City of Falcon Heights and Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation, its successors and assigns, the City has the right to impose a franchise fee on Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation, its successors and assigns, in an amount and fee design as set forth in Section _____ of the Northern States Power Company Franchise and in the fee schedule attached hereto as Schedule A.

Subd. 2. Franchise Fee Statement. A franchise fee is hereby imposed on Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota Corporation, its successors and assigns, under its electric franchise in accordance with the schedule attached here to and made a part of this Ordinance, commencing with the NSPM _____, 2018 billing month.

This fee is an account-based fee on each premise and not a meter-based fee. In the event that an entity covered by this ordinance has more than one meter at a single premise, but only one account, only one fee shall be assessed to that account. If a premise has two or more meters being billed at different rates, the Company may have an account for each rate classification, which will result in more than one franchise fee assessment for electric service to that premise. If the Company combines the rate classifications into a single account, the franchise fee assessed to the account will be the largest franchise fee applicable to a single rate classification for energy delivered to that premise. In the event any entities covered by this ordinance have more than one premise, each premise (address) shall be subject to the appropriate fee. In the event a question arises as to the proper fee amount for any premise, the Company's manner of billing for energy used at all similar premises in the city will control.

Subd. 3. Payment. The said franchise fee shall be payable to the City in accordance with the terms set forth in Section 9 of the Franchise.

Subd. 4. Surcharge. The City recognizes that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission may allow Company to add a surcharge to customer rates of city residents to reimburse Company for the cost of the fee.

Subd. 5. Enforcement. Any dispute, including enforcement of a default regarding this ordinance will be resolved in accordance with Section 2.5 of the Franchise Agreement.

Subd. 6. Effective Date of Franchise Fee. The effective date of this Ordinance shall be after its publication and ninety (90) days after the sending of written notice enclosing a copy of this adopted Ordinance to NSPM by certified mail. Collection of the fee shall commence as provided above.

Passed and approved: _____, 2017.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

SEAL

SCHEDULE A

Franchise Fee Rates:

Electric Utility

The franchise fee shall be in an amount determined by applying the following schedule per customer premise/per month based on metered service to retail customers within the City:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Amount per month</u>
Residential	\$2.00
Sm C & I – Non-Dem	\$3.00
Sm C & I – Demand	\$21.00
Large C & I	\$200.00
Public Street Ltg	\$12.00

Franchise fees are submitted to the City on a quarterly basis as follows:

- January – March collections due by April 30.
- April – June collections due by July 31.
- July – September collections due by October 31.
- October – December collections due by January 31.

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GAS FRANCHISE ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. _____.

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS, RAMSEY COUNTY, MINNESOTA

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING TO NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY, A MINNESOTA CORPORATION, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, PERMISSION TO ERECT A GAS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR THE PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTING, OPERATING, REPAIRING AND MAINTAINING IN THE CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS, MINNESOTA, THE NECESSARY GAS PIPES, MAINS AND APPURTENANCES FOR THE TRANSMISSION OR DISTRIBUTION OF GAS TO THE CITY AND ITS INHABITANTS AND OTHERS AND TRANSMITTING GAS INTO AND THROUGH THE CITY AND TO USE THE PUBLIC GROUNDS AND PUBLIC WAYS OF THE CITY FOR SUCH PURPOSES.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS, RAMSEY COUNTY, MINNESOTA, ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Ordinance, the following capitalized terms listed in alphabetical order shall have the following meanings:

- 1.1 **City.** The City of Falcon Heights, County of Ramsey, State of Minnesota.
- 1.2 **City Utility System.** Facilities used for providing non-energy related public utility service owned or operated by City or agency thereof, including sewer and water service, but excluding facilities for providing heating, lighting or other forms of energy.
- 1.3 **Commission.** The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, or any successor agency or agencies, including an agency of the federal government, which preempts all, or part of the authority to regulate Gas retail rates now vested in the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.
- 1.4 **Company.** Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation, its successors and assigns.
- 1.5 **Gas.** "Gas" as used herein shall be held to include natural gas, manufactured gas, or other form of gaseous energy.
- 1.6 **Gas Facilities.** Pipes, mains, regulators, and other facilities owned or operated by Company for the purpose of providing gas service for public use.
- 1.7 **Notice.** A written notice served by one party on the other party referencing one or more provisions of this Ordinance. Notice to Company shall be mailed to the General Counsel, 401 Nicollet Mall, 8th Floor, Minneapolis, MN 55401. Notice to the City shall be mailed to the City Administrator, City Hall, 2077 Larpenteur Avenue West, Falcon Heights, MN 55113. Either party

may change its respective address for the purpose of this Ordinance by written notice to the other party.

1.8 **Public Ground.** Land owned by the City for park, open space or similar purpose, which is held for use in common by the public.

1.9 **Public Way.** Any street, alley, walkway or other public right-of-way within the City.

SECTION 2. ADOPTION OF FRANCHISE.

2.1 **Grant of Franchise.** City hereby grants Company, for a period of 20 years from the date passed and approved by the City, the right to transmit and furnish Gas energy for light, heat, power and other purposes for public and private use within and through the limits of the City as its boundaries now exist or as they may be extended in the future. For these purposes, Company may construct, operate, repair and maintain Gas Facilities in, on, over, under and across the Public Grounds and Public Ways of City, subject to the provisions of this Ordinance. Company may do all reasonable things necessary or customary to accomplish these purposes, subject, however, to such reasonable regulations as may be imposed by the City pursuant to ordinance and to the further provisions of this franchise agreement.

2.2 **Effective Date; Written Acceptance.** This franchise agreement shall be in force and effect from and after passage of this Ordinance, its acceptance by Company, and its publication as required by law. The City by Council resolution may revoke this franchise agreement if Company does not file a written acceptance with the City within 90 days after publication.

2.3 **Service and Rates.** The service to be provided and the rates to be charged by Company for Gas service in City are subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.

2.4 **Publication Expense.** The expense of publication of this Ordinance will be paid by City and reimbursed to City by Company.

2.5 **Dispute Resolution.** If either party asserts that the other party is in default in the performance of any obligation hereunder, the complaining party shall notify the other party of the default and the desired remedy. The notification shall be written. Representatives of the parties must promptly meet and attempt in good faith to negotiate a resolution of the dispute. If the dispute is not resolved within 30 days of the written notice, the parties may jointly select a mediator to facilitate further discussion. The parties will equally share the fees and expenses of this mediator. If a mediator is not used or if the parties are unable to resolve the dispute within 30 days after first meeting with the selected mediator, either party may commence an action in District Court to interpret and enforce this franchise or for such other relief as may be permitted by law or equity for breach of contract, or either party may take any other action permitted by law.

SECTION 3. LOCATION, OTHER REGULATIONS.

3.1 **Location of Facilities.** Gas Facilities shall be located, constructed and maintained so as not to interfere with the safety and convenience of ordinary travel along and over Public Ways and so as not to disrupt normal operation of any City Utility System previously installed therein. Gas Facilities shall be located on Public Grounds as determined by the City. Company's construction,

reconstruction, operation, repair, maintenance and location of Gas Facilities shall be subject to permits if required by separate ordinance and to other reasonable regulations of the City to the extent not inconsistent with the terms of this franchise agreement. Company may abandon underground gas facilities in place, provided, at City's request, Company will remove abandoned metal pipe interfering with a City improvement project, but only to the extent such metal pipe is uncovered by excavation as part of the City's improvement project.

3.2 Field Locations. Company shall provide field locations for its underground Gas Facilities within City consistent with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 216D.

3.3 Street Openings. Company shall not open or disturb any Public Ground or Public Way for any purpose without first having obtained a permit from the City, if required by a separate ordinance, for which the City may impose a reasonable fee. Permit conditions imposed on Company shall not be more burdensome than those imposed on other utilities for similar facilities or work. Company may, however, open and disturb any Public Ground or Public Way without permission from the City where an emergency exists requiring the immediate repair of Gas Facilities. In such event Company shall notify the City by telephone to the office designated by the City as soon as practicable. Not later than the second working day thereafter, Company shall obtain any required permits and pay any required fees.

3.4 Restoration. After undertaking any work requiring the opening of any Public Ground or Public Way, Company shall restore the same, including paving and its foundation, to as good a condition as formerly existed, and shall maintain any paved surface in good condition for one year thereafter. The work shall be completed as promptly as weather permits, and if Company shall not promptly perform and complete the work, remove all dirt, rubbish, equipment and material, and put the Public Ground or Public Way in the said condition, the City shall have, after demand to Company to cure and the passage of a reasonable period of time following the demand, but not to exceed five days, the right to make the restoration at the expense of Company. Company shall pay to the City the cost of such work done for or performed by the City. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedy available to the City for noncompliance with this Section 3.4, but the City hereby waives any requirement for Company to post a construction performance bond, certificate of insurance, letter of credit or any other form of security or assurance that may be required, under a separate existing or future ordinance of the City, of a person or entity obtaining the City's permission to install, replace or maintain facilities in a Public Way.

3.5 Avoid Damage to Gas Facilities. Nothing in this Ordinance relieves any person from liability arising out of the failure to exercise reasonable care to avoid damaging Gas Facilities while performing any activity.

3.6 Notice of Improvements. The City must give Company reasonable notice of plans for improvements to Public Grounds or Public Ways where the City has reason to believe that Gas Facilities may affect or be affected by the improvement. The notice must contain: (i) the nature and character of the improvements, (ii) the Public Grounds and Public Ways upon which the improvements are to be made, (iii) the extent of the improvements, (iv) the time when the City will start the work, and (v) if more than one Public Ground or Public Way is involved, the order in which the work is to proceed. The notice must be given to Company a sufficient length of time in advance of the actual commencement of the work to permit Company to make any necessary additions, alterations or repairs to its Gas Facilities.

SECTION 4. RELOCATIONS.

4.1 Relocation of Gas Facilities in Public Ways. If the City determines to vacate a Public Way for a City improvement project, or at City's cost to grade, regrade, or change the line of any Public Way, or construct or reconstruct any City Utility System in any Public Way, it may order Company to relocate its Gas Facilities located therein if relocation is reasonably necessary to accomplish the City's proposed public improvement. Except as provided in Section 4.3, Company shall relocate its Gas Facilities at its own expense. The City shall give Company reasonable notice of plans to vacate for a City improvement project, or to grade, regrade, or change the line of any Public Way or to construct or reconstruct any City Utility System. If a relocation is ordered within five years of a prior relocation of the same Gas Facilities, which was made at Company expense, the City shall reimburse Company for Non-Betterment Costs on a time and material basis, provided that if a subsequent relocation is required because of the extension of a City Utility System to a previously unserved area, Company may be required to make the subsequent relocation at its expense. Nothing in this Ordinance requires Company to relocate, remove, replace or reconstruct at its own expense its Gas Facilities where such relocation, removal, replacement or reconstruction is solely for the convenience of the City and is not reasonably necessary for the construction or reconstruction of a Public Way or City Utility System or other City improvement.

4.2 Relocation of Gas Facilities in Public Ground. City may require Company at Company's expense to relocate or remove its Gas Facilities from Public Ground upon a finding by City that the Gas Facilities have become or will become a substantial impairment to the existing or proposed public use of the Public Ground.

4.3 Projects with Federal Funding. City shall not order Company to remove or relocate its Gas Facilities when a Public Way is vacated, improved or realigned for a right-of-way project or any other project which is financially subsidized in whole or in part by the Federal Government or any agency thereof, unless the reasonable non-betterment costs of such relocation are first paid to Company. The City is obligated to pay Company only for those portions of its relocation costs for which City has received federal funding specifically allocated for relocation costs in the amount requested by the Company, which allocated funding the City shall specifically request. Relocation, removal or rearrangement of any Company Gas Facilities made necessary because of a federally-aided highway project shall be governed by the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 161.46, as supplemented or amended. It is understood that the rights herein granted to Company are valuable rights.

4.4 No Waiver. The provisions of this franchise apply only to facilities constructed in reliance on a franchise from the City and shall not be construed to waive or modify any rights obtained by Company for installations within a Company right-of-way acquired by easement or prescriptive right before the applicable Public Ground or Public Way was established, or Company's rights under state or county permit.

SECTION 5. TREE TRIMMING.

Company is also granted the permission and authority to trim all shrubs and trees, including roots, in the Public Ways of City to the extent Company finds necessary to avoid interference with the

proper construction, operation, repair and maintenance of Gas Facilities, provided that Company shall save City harmless from any liability in the premises.

SECTION 6. INDEMNIFICATION.

6.1 Indemnity of City. Company shall indemnify, keep and hold the City free and harmless from any and all liability on account of injury to persons or damage to property occasioned by the construction, maintenance, repair, inspection, the issuance of permits, or the operation of the Gas Facilities located in the Public Grounds and Public Ways. The City shall not be indemnified for losses or claims occasioned through its own negligence except for losses or claims arising out of or alleging the City's negligence as to the issuance of permits for, or inspection of, Company's plans or work. The City shall not be indemnified if the injury or damage results from the performance in a proper manner of acts reasonably deemed hazardous by Company, and such performance is nevertheless ordered or directed by City after notice of Company's determination.

6.2 Defense of City. In the event a suit is brought against the City under circumstances where this agreement to indemnify applies, Company at its sole cost and expense shall defend the City in such suit if written notice thereof is promptly given to Company within a period wherein Company is not prejudiced by lack of such notice. If Company is required to indemnify and defend, it will thereafter have control of such litigation, but Company may not settle such litigation without the consent of the City, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. This section is not, as to third parties, a waiver of any defense or immunity otherwise available to the City and Company, in defending any action on behalf of the City shall be entitled to assert in any action every defense or immunity that the City could assert in its own behalf.

SECTION 7. VACATION OF PUBLIC WAYS.

The City shall give Company at least two weeks prior written notice of a proposed vacation of a Public Way. Except where required for a City improvement project, the vacation of any Public Way, after the installation of Gas Facilities, shall not operate to deprive Company of its rights to operate and maintain such Gas Facilities, until the reasonable cost of relocating the same and the loss and expense resulting from such relocation are first paid to Company. In no case, however, shall City be liable to Company for failure to specifically preserve a right-of-way under Minnesota Statutes, Section 160.29.

SECTION 8. CHANGE IN FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

Any change in the form of government of the City shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance. Any governmental unit succeeding the City shall, without the consent of Company, succeed to all of the rights and obligations of the City provided in this Ordinance.

SECTION 9. FRANCHISE FEE.

9.1 Fee Schedule. During the term of the franchise hereby granted, and in lieu of any permit or other fees being imposed on the Company, the City may impose on the Company a franchise fee by collecting the amounts indicated in a Fee Schedule set forth in a separate ordinance from each customer in the designated Company Customer Class. The parties have agreed that the franchise fee collected by the Company and paid to the City in accordance with this Section 9 shall not exceed the following amounts:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Fee Per Premise Per Month</u>
Residential	\$ 1.50
Commercial Firm Non-Demand	\$ 8.00
Commercial Firm Demand	\$ 75.00
Small Interruptible	\$ 50.00
Medium and Large Interruptible	\$ 100.00
Firm Transportation	\$ 15.00
Interruptible Transportation	\$ 15.00

9.2 Separate Ordinance. The franchise fee shall be imposed by a separate ordinance duly adopted by the City Council, which ordinance shall not be adopted until at least 90 days after written notice enclosing such proposed ordinance has been served upon Company by certified mail. The fee shall not become effective until the beginning of a Company billing month at least 90 days after written notice enclosing such adopted ordinance has been served upon Company by certified mail. Section 2.5 shall constitute the sole remedy for solving disputes between Company and the City in regard to the interpretation of, or enforcement of, the separate ordinance. No action by the City to implement a separate ordinance will commence until this Ordinance is effective. A separate ordinance which imposes a lesser franchise fee on the residential class of customers than the maximum amount set forth in Section 9.1 above shall not be effective against Company unless the fee imposed on each other customer classification is reduced proportionately in the same or greater amount per class as the reduction represented by the lesser fee on the residential class.

9.3 Collection of the Fee. The franchise fee shall be payable quarterly and shall be based on the amount collected by Company during complete billing months during the period for which payment is to be made by imposing a surcharge equal to the designated franchise fee for the applicable customer classification in all customer billings for gas service in each class. The payment shall be due the last business day of the month following the period for which the payment is made. The franchise fee may be changed by ordinance from time to time; however, each change shall meet the same notice requirements and not occur more often than annually and no change shall require a collection from any customer for gas service in excess of the amounts specifically permitted by this Section 9. The time and manner of collecting the franchise fee is subject to the approval of the Commission. No franchise fee shall be payable by Company if Company is legally unable to first collect an amount equal to the franchise fee from its customers in each applicable class of customers by imposing a surcharge in Company's applicable rates for gas service. Company may pay the City the fee based upon the surcharge billed subject to subsequent reductions to account for uncollectibles, refunds and correction of erroneous billings. Company agrees to make its records available for inspection by the City at reasonable times provided that the City and its designated representative agree in writing not to disclose any information which would indicate the amount paid by any identifiable customer or customers or any other information regarding identified customers.

9.4 Terms Defined.

- 9.4.1 “Customer Class” shall refer to classes listed in the Fee Schedule and as defined or determined in Company’s gas rate book on file with the Commission.
- 9.4.2 “Fee Schedule” refers to the Schedule in Section 9.1 setting forth the various customer classes from which a franchise fee would be collected if a separate ordinance were implemented immediately after the effective date of this franchise agreement. The Fee Schedule in the separate ordinance may include new Customer Classes added by the Company to its gas tariffs after the effective date of this franchise agreement.
- 9.4.3 Therm shall be a unit of gas providing 100,000 Btu of heat content adjusted for billing purposes under the rate schedules of Company on file with the Commission.

9.5 Equivalent Fee Requirement. The separate ordinance imposing the fee shall not be effective against Company unless it lawfully imposes and the City monthly or more often collects a fee or tax of the same or greater equivalent amount on the receipts from sales of energy within the City by any other energy supplier, provided that, as to such a supplier, the City has the authority to require a franchise fee or to impose a tax. The “same or greater equivalent amount” shall be measured, if practicable, by comparing amounts collected as a franchise fee from each similar customer, or by comparing, as to similar customers the percentage of the annual bill represented by the amount collected for franchise fee purposes. The franchise fee or tax shall be applicable to energy sales for any energy use related to heating, cooling or lighting, or to run machinery and appliances, but shall not apply to energy sales for the purpose of providing fuel for vehicles. If the Company specifically consents in writing to a franchise or separate ordinance collecting or failing to collect a fee from another energy supplier in contravention of this Section 9.5, the foregoing conditions will be waived to the extent of such written consent.

SECTION 10. PROVISIONS OF ORDINANCE.

10.1 Severability. Every section, provision, or part of this Ordinance is declared separate from every other section, provision, or part and if any section, provision, or part shall be held invalid, it shall not affect any other section, provision, or part. Where a provision of any other City ordinance conflicts with the provisions of this Ordinance, the provisions of this Ordinance shall prevail.

10.2 Limitation on Applicability. This Ordinance constitutes a franchise agreement between the City and Company as the only parties and no provision of this franchise shall in any way inure to the benefit of any third person (including the public at large) so as to constitute any such person as a third party beneficiary of the agreement or of any one or more of the terms hereof, or otherwise give rise to any cause of action in any person not a party hereto.

SECTION 11. AMENDMENT PROCEDURE.

Either party to this franchise agreement may at any time propose that the agreement be amended to address a subject of concern and the other party will consider whether it agrees that the amendment is mutually appropriate. If an amendment is agreed upon, this Ordinance may be

amended at any time by the City passing a subsequent ordinance declaring the provisions of the amendment, which amendatory ordinance shall become effective upon the filing of Company's written consent thereto with the City Clerk within 90 days after the date of final passage by the City of the amendatory ordinance.

SECTION 12. PREVIOUS FRANCHISES SUPERSEDED.

This franchise supersedes any previous Gas franchise granted to Company or its predecessor.

Passed and approved: _____, 2017.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Date Published: _____

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTING A GAS SERVICE FRANCHISE FEE ON NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY, A MINNESOTA CORPORATION, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, FOR PROVIDING GAS SERVICE WITHIN THE CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS DOES ORDAIN:

SECTION 1. The City of Falcon Heights Municipal Code is hereby amended to include reference to the following Special Ordinance.

Subd. 1. Purpose. The Falcon Heights City Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the City to impose a franchise fee on those public utility companies that provide natural gas services within the City of Falcon Heights.

- (a) Pursuant to City Ordinance _____, a Franchise Agreement between the City of Falcon Heights and Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation, its successors and assigns, the City has the right to impose a franchise fee on Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation, its successors and assigns, in an amount and fee design as set forth in Section 9 of the Northern States Power Company Franchise and in the fee schedule attached hereto as Schedule A.

Subd. 2. Franchise Fee Statement. A franchise fee is hereby imposed on Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota Corporation, its successors and assigns, under its gas franchise in accordance with the schedule attached here to and made a part of this Ordinance, commencing with the NSPM _____, 2018 billing month.

This fee is an account-based fee on each premise and not a meter-based fee. In the event that an entity covered by this ordinance has more than one meter at a single premise, but only one account, only one fee shall be assessed to that account. If a premise has two or more meters being billed at different rates, the Company may have an account for each rate classification, which will result in more than one franchise fee assessment for gas service to that premise. If the Company combines the rate classifications into a single account, the franchise fee assessed to the account will be the largest franchise fee applicable to a single rate classification for energy delivered to that premise. In the event any entities covered by this ordinance have more than one premise, each premise (address) shall be subject to the appropriate fee. In the event a question arises as to the proper fee amount for any premise, the Company's manner of billing for energy used at all similar premises in the city will control.

Subd. 3. Payment. The said franchise fee shall be payable to the City in accordance with the terms set forth in Section 9 of the Franchise.

Subd. 4. Surcharge. The City recognizes that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission may allow Company to add a surcharge to customer rates of city residents to reimburse Company for the cost of the fee.

Subd. 5. Enforcement. Any dispute, including enforcement of a default regarding this ordinance will be resolved in accordance with Section 2.5 of the Franchise Agreement.

Subd. 6. Effective Date of Franchise Fee. The effective date of this Ordinance shall be after its publication and ninety (90) days after the sending of written notice enclosing a copy of this adopted Ordinance to NSPM by certified mail. Collection of the fee shall commence as provided in above.

Passed and approved: _____, 2017.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

SEAL

SCHEDULE A

Franchise Fee Rates:

Gas Utility

The franchise fee shall be in an amount determined by applying the following schedule per customer premise/per month based on metered service to retail customers within the City:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Amount per month</u>
Residential	\$1.50
Commercial Non-Demand	\$8.00
Commercial Firm Demand	\$75.00
Small Interruptible	\$50.00
Medium and Large Interruptible	\$100.00
Firm Transportation	\$15.00
Interruptible Transportation	\$15.00

Franchise fees are submitted to the City on a quarterly basis as follows:

- January – March collections due by April 30.
- April – June collections due by July 31.
- July – September collections due by October 31.
- October – December collections due by January 31.

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The City That Soars!

REQUEST FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Meeting Date	October 18, 2017
Agenda Item	3
Attachment	Proposed Ordinance
Submitted By	Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator

Item	Proposed Vacant Home Ordinance
Description	<p>Falcon Heights City Council to review the enacting this article to help protect the public health, safety, and welfare by establishing a program for the identification and regulation of vacant buildings within the city. This article also determines the responsibilities of owners of vacant buildings and provides for the administration, enforcement, and penalties associated with the same.</p> <p>The city council finds that vacant buildings are a major cause and source of blight in residential and non-residential neighborhoods, especially when the owner(s) or responsible parties of the building fails to actively maintain and manage the build to ensure it does not become a liability to the neighborhood. Vacant buildings often attract unauthorized inhabitation and conduct unlawful activities. Neglect of vacant buildings creates a risk of fire, explosion, and flooding of the vacant building and adjacent properties. Vacant properties often are used dumping areas for junk and debris and are often overgrown with weeds and tall grass. Vacant buildings that are boarded to prevent entry by non-owners discourage economic development and lower appreciated of property values. There is a substantial cost to the city for monitoring vacant buildings whether or not those buildings are boarded. This cost should not be borne by the general taxpayers of the community. These cost should be borne by those who choose to leave their property vacant.</p> <p><u>Highlights</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishes a requirement for vacant homes to registered with the City. 2. Creates definitions that articulate what vacant homes are and who is responsible. 3. Requires owners or agents to register the building within 30 days. 4. Fees are determined by Council as an item on the fee schedule. 5. Requires a timeline or property plan for re-occupation of the structure or demolition. 6. Owners that do not respond to requests for registration will be administratively placed on the list. An assessment is issued for the fee. 7. Provides methods of inspections. 8. Provides for Appeals. 9. Property is to maintain an "occupied" appearance.

Budget Impact	There will be a change to the City's Fee Schedule to account for the change in the ordinance and the implementation.
Attachment(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Draft Vacant Home Ordinance
Action(s) Requested	Staff is looking for feedback on the draft ordinance to address vacant property within the community to protect the health, safety and welfare of all members of the community.

Article VI – Vacant Building Registration Ordinance

105-115 Purpose and findings.

(a) The Falcon Heights city council is enacting this article to help protect the public health, safety, and welfare by establishing a program for the identification and regulation of vacant buildings within the city. This article also determines the responsibilities of owners of vacant buildings and provides for the administration, enforcement, and penalties associated with the same.

(b) The city council finds that vacant buildings are a major cause and source of blight in residential and non-residential neighborhoods, especially when the owner(s) or responsible parties of the building fails to actively maintain and manage the build to ensure it does not become a liability to the neighborhood. Vacant buildings often attract unauthorized inhabitation and conduct unlawful activities. Neglect of vacant buildings creates a risk of fire, explosion, and flooding of the vacant building and adjacent properties. Vacant properties often are used dumping areas for junk and debris and are often overgrown with weeds and tall grass. Vacant buildings that are boarded to prevent entry by non-owners discourage economic development and lower appreciated of property values. There is a substantial cost to the city for monitoring vacant buildings whether or not those buildings are boarded. This cost should not be borne by the general taxpayers of the community. These cost should be borne by those who choose to leave their property vacant.

105-116 Definitions. For the purpose of this section, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them and shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this article.

Abandoned property. Property that the owner has surrendered, voluntarily relinquished, disclaimed, or ceded all right, title, claim, and possession, with the intention of not reclaiming it.

Compliance official. The city administrator and the city administrator's designated agents authorized to administer and enforce this section.

Building. Any roofed structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy.

Owner or Property owner. The owner of record according to Ramsey County property tax records; those identified as owner or owners on a vacant building registration form, a holder of an unrecorded contract for deed, a mortgagee or vendee in possession, a mortgagor or vendor in possession, an assignee of rents, a receiver, an executor, a trustee, a lessee, other person, firm or corporation in control of the freehold of the premises or lesser estate therein. An owner also means any person, partnership, association, corporation or fiduciary having a legal or equitable title or any interest in the property or building. This includes any partner, officer or director of any partnership, corporation, association or other legally constituted business entity. All owners shall have joint and several obligations for compliance with the provisions of this section.

Responsible party. An owner, entity or person acting as an agent for the owner who has direct or indirect control or authority over the building or real property upon which the building is located; any party having a legal or equitable interest in the property. Responsible party may include but is not limited to a realtor, service provider, mortgagor, leasing agent, management company or similar person or entity.

Vacant building. A building is vacant if no person or persons actually and currently conducts a lawful business or lawfully resides or lives in any part of the building on a permanent, non-transient basis in accordance with the city of Falcon Heights regulations.

105-117 Vacant Building Registration.

(a) Application. The owner or responsible party shall register a vacant building with the city no later than 30 days after the building becomes vacant. The registration shall be submitted on a form provided by the city and shall include the following information supplied by the owner:

- (1) The name, address, telephone number, and email address, if applicable, of each owner and each owner's representative;
- (2) The names, addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses, if applicable, of all know lien holders and all other parties with any legal interest in the building;
- (3) The name, address, telephone number, and email address, if applicable, of a local agent or person responsible for managing or maintaining the property;
- (4) The tax parcel identification number and street address of the premises on which the building is situated;
- (5) The date the building became vacant, the period of time the building is expected to remain vacant, and a property plan and timetable for returning the building to appropriate occupancy or use and correcting code violations and nuisances, or for demolition of the building;
- (6) The status of water, sewer, natural gas and electric utilities.
- (7) The owner shall notify the compliance official within 30 days of changes in any of the information supplied as part of the vacant building registration.

(b) Property Plan. The property plan identified above in section 105-117 (a) (5) shall meet the following requirements:

- (1) General provisions. The plan shall comply with all applicable regulations and meet the approval of the compliance official. It shall contain a timetable regarding use or demolition of the property. The plan shall be completed within 30 days after the building is registered.
- (2) Maintenance of building. The plan shall identify the means and timetable for addressing all maintenance and nuisance-related items identified in the application. Any repairs, improvements or alterations to the property shall comply with building code provisions and applicable city regulations.
- (3) Plan changes. If the property plan or timetable for the vacant building is revised in any way for any purpose, the revisions shall meet the approval of the compliance official.
- (4) Demolition required. If a building has remained vacant for a period of 365 consecutive days, and the compliance official has not approved an alternative schedule in the property plan, the city may declare the building to be a nuisance and direct the owner

to demolish the building and restore the grounds. If the owner does not demolish the building and thereby eliminate the nuisance conditions, the city may commence abatement and cost recovery proceedings for the abatement of the violation in accordance with this code and Minnesota Statutes, section 429.101.

(c) Non-compliance and notification.

- (1) If the owner does not comply with the property plan, or maintain or correct nuisance violations, the city may commence abatement and recover its costs for correction of those items in accordance with this code and Minnesota Statutes, section 429.101. In the case of an absent owner and ongoing nuisance issues, the city need not provide notice of each abatement act to the owner. A single notice by the city to the owner is determined to be sufficient notice that it intends to provide ongoing abatement until the owner corrects the violations.

(d) Exemptions.

- (1) Fire damage. A building that has suffered fire damage is exempt from the registration requirements for a period of 90 days after the date of the fire if the owner submits a request for exemption in writing to the compliance official. An exemption request for review by the compliance official shall include the following information supplied by the owner:
 - (1) A description of the premises;
 - (2) The name and address of the owner or owners;
 - (3) A statement of intent to repair and reoccupy the building in an expeditious manner and the time frame for completion;
 - (4) Actions the owner will take to ensure the property does not become a nuisance for the neighborhood.
- (2) Snowbirds. Those persons who leave their residential buildings on a temporary basis for vacation purposes or to reside elsewhere during the winter season and have the intent to return are exempt from the registration requirements. Requests for "snowbird" exemption will be considered annually with proper verification.

(e) Fees.

- (1) The owner shall pay an annual registration fee. The registration fee will be in an amount adopted by resolution by the city council. The amount of the registration fee shall be reasonably related to the administrative costs for registering and processing the registration form and for the costs of the city in monitoring the vacant building site. The fee shall be paid in full prior to the issuance of any building permits or licenses, with the exception of a demolition permit. **This fee is not to be used for abatement.**

(f) Waiver of Fees.

- (1) The city may waive the registration fee if the owner or responsible party has paid all past due registrations fees and all other financial obligations and debts owed to the city that are associated with the vacant property and demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the compliance official that:
 - (1) The property is re-occupied, with the exception of demolition, within a period of 60 days; and either
 - (2) The owner or responsible party is in the process of demolition, rehabilitation, or other substantial repair of the vacant building; or
 - (3) The owner of responsible party has a plan for the demolition, rehabilitation, or other substantial repair of the vacant building in a period 30 days.

(g) Assessment.

- (1) If the registration fee or any portion in not paid within 60 days after billing or within 60 days after any appeal becomes final, the city council may certify the unpaid fees against the property in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 429.101.

(h) Issuance of registration.

- (1) Upon completion of the registration process and payment of the fee, the city will issue a Vacant Building Registration to the owner. The owner shall securely post the registration on the vacant building on a side entrance door, where possible, that is not generally visible from the public street. If no side entrance door is available, the registration shall be securely posted on another available entrance door.

(i) Failure to register.

- (1) If the property is abandoned or the owner or responsible party fails to complete the registration process, the property will be administratively registered as a vacant property.

105-118 Change of Ownership

(a) A new owner(s) shall register or re-register a vacant building in accordance with subsection 105-117 within 15 days of any transfer of an ownership interest in a vacant building. The new owner(s) shall comply with the approved property plan and timetable submitted by the previous owner or shall submit any changes proposed to the property plan to the compliance official for review and approval as required by subsection 105-117 of this section. For the purposes of this section, a new owner is an "owner" as defined in subsection 105-116 who has purchased the vacant building since its registration by the previous owner and has succeeded to all rights of that previous owner.

105-119 Inspections.

(a) The compliance official may inspect any vacant building in the city for the purpose of enforcing and assuring compliance with this section and other applicable regulations. Upon the request of the compliance official, an owner or responsible party shall provide access to all interior portions of the building and the exterior of the property in order to complete an inspection. If the owner or responsible party is not available, is unresponsive, or refuses to provide access to the interior of the building, the city may use any legal means to gain entrance to the building for inspection purposes. Prior to any re-occupancy, the owner or responsible party shall request an inspection of the vacant building by the compliance official to determine compliance with Chapter 105 Article III of this code and all other applicable regulations. All application and re-inspection fees also shall be paid prior to building occupancy.

105-120 Maintenance of vacant buildings.

(a) The owner shall comply with and address the following items in the property plan, as described in section 105-117 (b):

- (1) Appearance – All vacant buildings shall be so maintained and kept that they appear to be occupied. Personal property shall be stored and removed from public view.
- (2) Securing - All vacant buildings shall be secured from outside entry by unauthorized persons or pests. Security shall be ensured by normal building amenities such as windows and doors having adequate strength to resist intrusion. All doors and windows shall remain locked. There shall be at least one operable door into every building and into each dwelling unit. Exterior walls and roofs shall remain intact without holes.
 - (1) Architectural (cosmetic) structural panels. Architectural structural panels may be used to secure windows, doors and other openings provided they are cut to fit the opening and match the characteristics of the building. Architectural panels may be of exterior grade-finished plywood or Medium Density Overlaid plywood (MDO) that is painted to match the building exterior or covered with a reflective material such as plexi-glass to simulate windows.
 - (2) Temporary securing. Untreated, exterior grade (CDX) plywood or similar structural panels may be used to secure windows, doors and other openings for a maximum period of 90 days.
 - (3) Artistic board-up. With prior approval of the compliance official, artistic options may be utilized to secure a vacant building.
 - (4) Emergency securing. The compliance official may take immediate steps to secure a vacant building at their discretion in emergency circumstances.

- (3) Fire safety.
 - (1) Fire protection systems. Owners of non-residential vacant buildings shall maintain all fire protection systems, appliances and assemblies in operating condition and maintain underwriter laboratories (UL) monitoring of all systems.
 - (2) Removal of hazardous and combustible materials. The owner of any vacant building, or vacant portion thereof, shall remove all hazardous materials and hazardous refuse that could constitute a fire hazard or contribute to the spread of fire.
- (4) Plumbing fixtures - Plumbing fixtures connected to an approved water system, an approved sewage system, or an approved natural gas utility system shall be installed in accordance with applicable codes and be maintained in sound condition and good repair or removed and the service terminated in the manner prescribed by applicable codes. The building's water systems shall be protected from freezing.
- (5) Electrical - Electrical service lines, wiring, outlets or fixtures not installed or maintained in accordance with applicable codes shall be repaired, removed or the electrical services terminated to the building in accordance with applicable codes.
- (6) Lighting - All exterior lighting fixtures shall be maintained in good repair, and illumination shall be provided to the building and all walkways in the same manner as provided at the time the building was last occupied or as otherwise provided in the approved vacant building plan.
- (7) Heating - Heating facilities or heating equipment in vacant buildings shall be removed, rendered inoperable, or maintained in accordance with applicable codes.
- (8) Termination of utilities - The compliance official may require that water, sewer, electricity, or gas service to the vacant building be terminated or disconnected. Prior to the termination of any utility service, the city will provide written notice to the owner. No utility may be restored until consent is given by the compliance official. Utilities may be discontinued at the request of the owner or responsible party as part of the approved vacant building property plan. The compliance official may authorize immediate termination of utilities at their discretion in emergency circumstances and provide subsequent notice to the owner or responsible party.
- (9) Signs - Obsolete or unused exterior signs and installation hardware shall be removed. Holes and penetrations shall be properly patched and painted to match the building. Surfaces beneath the signs that do not match the building shall be repaired, resurfaced, painted or otherwise altered to be

compatible with the building surfaces. All signs shall be maintained in good condition and comply with the provisions of Chapter 113 Article VII of this code.

- (10) Exterior maintenance – The owner shall comply with all applicable property maintenance regulations and city codes.
- (11) Removal of garbage and refuse – The owner of any vacant building or vacant portion thereof shall keep the building and property free of all garbage, refuse, litter, rubbish, swill, filth, or other materials.
- (12) Loitering, Criminal activities - Loitering or engaging in criminal activities is prohibited in the vacant building or on the real property upon which the vacant building is located. The owner or responsible party shall not allow these activities and shall take immediate actions to eliminate these conditions upon notification by the city or upon discovery.
- (13) Emergency abatement - The compliance official may authorize immediate abatement of any public nuisance or correction of any maintenance item if the compliance official determines that conditions exist that present an imminent threat to the public health and safety in accordance with section Chapter 105 Article III of this code.
- (14) Other Codes - The property owner or responsible party shall comply with all other city codes and applicable regulations.

105-121 No occupancy or trespassing

(a) No person may trespass, occupy or reside, on a temporary or permanent basis, in any vacant building, registered or not, without the owner's consent.

105-122 Vandalism or removal of items prohibited.

(a) No person may vandalize or remove items from a vacant building or the property upon which it is located, including, but not limited to, appliances, fixtures, electrical wiring, copper, or other similar items without the owner's consent.

105-123 Appeal - Any person or responsible party aggrieved by a decision rendered under section Chapter 105 Article VI may appeal to the city council. The appeal shall be made in writing, shall specify the grounds for the appeal, and shall be submitted to the city administrator within ten business days of the decision that is basis of the appeal.

105-124 Penalties - Any person or responsible party who violates the provisions of Chapter 105 Article VI is subject to penalty as provided under Chapter 113 Article II of this code. Nothing in this section, however, is deemed to impair other remedies or civil penalties available to the city under this code or state law, including, but not limited to, Minnesota Statutes, sections 463.15 through 463.261.