

## Council Study Session Minutes, November 27, 2012

### I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Ely City Council Study Session was called to order by Mayor Skraba at 6:00pm on November 27, 2012 at the Ely City Hall.

Present: Council members Debeltz, Nikkola, Polyner, Sheddy, Zupec and Mayor Skraba (6)  
Absent: Council member Omerza (1)

### II. ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO TONIGHT'S MEETING: None

### III. REQUEST TO APPEAR

- A. Michael Koop, representative from the State Historic Preservation Office which is a department within the Minnesota Historical Society, gave a presentation on the benefits and programs that his office has to offer the city if they were interested in forming a local Heritage Preservation Commission. The work they do is based on the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Benefits for being listed on the National Registry include: Federal and State tax credits for income producing properties; State grants may be available to public entities; technical assistance.

Minnesota Historical and Cultural Grants (MHCG or Legacy) are eligible to nonprofit organizations, Government units, Tribes and Educational organizations. Legacy dollars can be used to determine the future use of a building through reuse studies and structural reports. Funding can help aid in the survey, inventory and evaluation of city buildings.

Local Heritage Preservation Commission, which its members are appointed by the Council, can help the City to survey and designate properties that have historical interest and review building permits for alteration or demolition of designated properties. Owners of the property listed on the National Registry still maintains full rights over that property unless the city has an ordinance which can designate a property as a historical landmark.

Many Heritage Preservation commissions apply to become a Certified Local Government (CLG). This is a program which allows for preservation to grow within the community through grants which help to pay for surveys, designations (as historical landmarks), Heritage Tourism projects, public education, design guidelines, etc.

Discussion ensued among the council and the public on forming a Heritage Preservation Commission. This will be put on the next regular council meeting for approval.

Adjourn

**Debeltz/Sheddy moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:46pm. Motion carried unanimously.**

Claire Huisman  
Deputy Clerk