

Support Polymet Mining NorthMet Project

WHEREAS, nonferrous ores contain metals essential to modern daily life – copper, nickel, cobalt, platinum, palladium and gold – found in countless products including cell phones, computers, diabetes test strips, joint replacements, electrical wiring, hybrid cars, catalytic converters, and wind turbines; and

WHEREAS, the significant domestic demand for these metals exceeds our national supply due to very few mines in the U.S. producing them, creating an unhealthy imbalance and outside reliance on indispensable raw materials, even with the high rate of recycling (the U.S. currently imports nearly 90 percent of its platinum, more than 50 percent of its palladium, approximately 35 percent of its copper and gold, and does not have any active nickel mines); and

WHEREAS, the proposed PolyMet site is located near the community of Hoyt Lakes, within an existing mining district where operating and former iron mines and processing facilities already exist and, with the existing infrastructure in place, the site is viewed as conducive for such an initiative without threatening our region's environment; and

WHEREAS, the ore industry has for generations supported tens of thousands of families in our region, dozens of communities, schools, commerce and recreation centers, and has created opportunities for scores of children to attend universities and technical schools to develop their own careers and families within the region; and

WHEREAS, an independent research study conducted by the University of Minnesota Duluth Labovitz School of Business and Economics indicated that the evolution of nonferrous mining in the region has the potential to generate more than 600 indirect jobs in goods and services; \$515 million annually in St. Louis County alone in wages, benefits and other spending (more than \$10 billion over the 20-year life of mine); \$15 million annually in state and local tax revenues (\$300 million over the life of mine); \$45 million annually in federal tax revenue (\$900 million over the life of the mine); and more than \$2 million annually for northeastern Minnesota schools; and

WHEREAS, the Northeast region is well positioned to support the addition of PolyMet Mining to the complement of local employers due to the high availability of skilled and dedicated workers and a comprehensive employment and training system to develop the appropriate workforce; and

WHEREAS, as the primary administrator of workforce development programs and funding in the region, the Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training is actively engaged in supporting a responsible natural resource-based economy through the investment of millions of dollars in job training for a skilled workforce. Particularly during the last decade, we have witnessed a decline in job opportunities within our region. For this reason, we welcome responsible economic opportunities such as those provided through the proposed PolyMet initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Local Elected Official Board of the Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training has declared its support for the existing open, transparent, and comprehensive environmental review and permitting process in place for various nonferrous mining initiatives, including Polymet's proposed NorthMet mining project, currently planned for development in Northeast Minnesota.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Aitkin County Board supports the success of these projects, for the above stated reasons and believes by meeting Minnesota's strict environmental standards through a comprehensive environmental permitting process, PolyMet will be poised to play a significant role in contributing to the sustainability of our region's economy by mining the metals we need every day without harming our region's air and water quality.

Commissioner Niemi moved the adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote

FIVE MEMBERS PRESENT

All Members Voting Yes

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
County of Aitkin) ss.
Office of County Auditor,)

I, Kirk Peysar, Auditor, of the County of Aitkin, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original resolution filed in my office on the 12th day of May A.D., 2015, and that the same is a true and correct copy of the whole thereof.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE at Aitkin, Minnesota, this 12th day of May A.D., 2015



KIRK PEYSAR, County Auditor

BY _____, Deputy

CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION OF COUNTY BOARD OF AITKIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

ADOPTED May 12, 2015

By Commissioner: Westerlund

20150512-024

High Lifter Quadna Mud Nationals

BE IT RESOLVED, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agrees to approve the Application for Large Assembly:

ATV/SxS Event – High Lifter Quadna Mud Nationals (High Lifter Products, Inc., d/b/a Mud National Events, LLC) – City of Hill City and Hill Lake Township

This is scheduled to take place June 12th – 14th, 2015 from 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. daily.

Commissioner Niemi moved the adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote

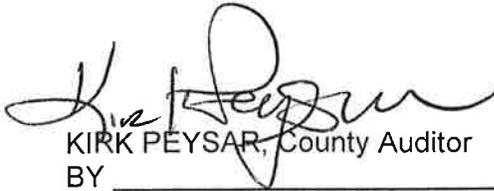
FIVE MEMBERS PRESENT

All Members Voting Yes

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KIRK PEYSAR, County Auditor
BY _____, Deputy

CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION OF COUNTY BOARD OF AITKIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

ADOPTED May 12, 2015

By Commissioner: Westerlund

20150512-025

Roberts-Glad VFW Post 1727 – Form LG214

BE IT RESOLVED, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agrees to approve the following Premises Permit Application - Form LG214, of the Roberts-Glad VFW Post 1727, at the Roberts-Glad VFW Post 1727 – Aitkin Township. This establishment has an address of 36558 410th Avenue, Aitkin, MN 56431

Commissioner Niemi moved the adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote

FIVE MEMBERS PRESENT

All Members Voting Yes

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
County of Aitkin) ss.
Office of County Auditor,)

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WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE at Aitkin, Minnesota, this 12th day of May A.D., 2015


KIRK PEYSAR, County Auditor
BY _____, Deputy

CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION OF COUNTY BOARD OF AITKIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

ADOPTED May 12, 2015

By Commissioner: Napstad

20150512-026

Support Toward Zero Deaths Coalition

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Aitkin County Board supports the Toward Zero Deaths Coalition.

Commissioner Marcotte moved the adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote

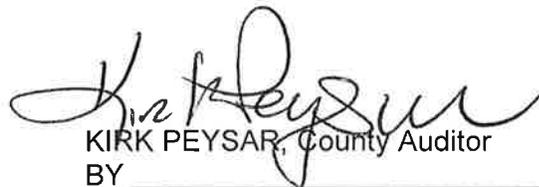
FIVE MEMBERS PRESENT

All Members Voting Yes

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
County of Aitkin) ss.
Office of County Auditor,)

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WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE at Aitkin, Minnesota, this 12th day of May A.D., 2015


KIRK PEYSAR, County Auditor
BY _____, Deputy

CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION OF COUNTY BOARD OF AITKIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

ADOPTED May 12, 2015

By Commissioner: Westerlund

20150512-027

TZD Fiscal Agent Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, that Toward Zero Deaths enter into a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, for traffic safety projects during the period from October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that Kirk Peysar, Aitkin County Auditor, is hereby authorized to execute such agreements and amendments as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of Toward Zero Deaths and to be the fiscal agent and administer the grant.

Commissioner Niemi moved the adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote

FIVE MEMBERS PRESENT

All Members Voting Yes

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
County of Aitkin) ss.
Office of County Auditor,)

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WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE at Aitkin, Minnesota, this 12th day of May A.D., 2015


KIRK PEYSAR, County Auditor

BY _____, Deputy

Northern Hydraulic Service Tax Rebate Financing

WHEREAS, Northland Hydraulic Service, (hereinafter Property Owner), has filed an application for Tax Rebate Financing pursuant to Minnesota Statute Sections 469.1812 to 469.1815 (Tax Abatement) to construct a 2,400 sq. ft. addition to the existing Northern Hydraulic Service shop and office building parcel # 57-0-002903; and

WHEREAS, Property Owner has requested Tax Rebate Financing from the County of Aitkin for taxes payable to the County of Aitkin in an annual amount of \$850.00 over a maximum term of ten (10) years, commencing with taxes payable in 2017 and ending with taxes payable in 2026, the total abatement requested is \$8,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Rebate Financing assistance to be provided to Property Owner will be contingent on Property Owner employing two additional FTE employees, to be certified annually by May 15th, at a wage rate of 140% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines for a Family of Four and completing the construction of the 2,400 square foot expansion; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Rebate Financing will be in the form of a rebate of taxes paid by Property Owner to the County of Aitkin on parcel # 57-0-002903, commencing with taxes payable in 2017; and

WHEREAS, Property Owner's application meets the Criteria for awarding Tax Abatement Financing (TAF) in the TAF Policy for Aitkin County, Minnesota, including increasing the tax base and providing additional employment opportunities in Aitkin County; and

WHEREAS, Property Owner will construct a 2,400 square foot expansion to Northern Hydraulic Service; and

WHEREAS, Property Owner's application is not considered a business subsidy pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 116J.993; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was conducted on the Tax Rebate Financing application from Property Owner on May 15, 2015 at the Aitkin County Courthouse pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 469.1812 - 1815, and 116J.993; and

WHEREAS, the Aitkin County Board finds that it is reasonable to waive the 5 job requirement of the Aitkin County Tax Abatement policy due to current employment circumstances in the Hill City area and the quality of jobs to be created by this action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners approves the Tax Rebate Financing for Northland Hydraulic Service as contained above.

Commissioner Niemi moved the adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote

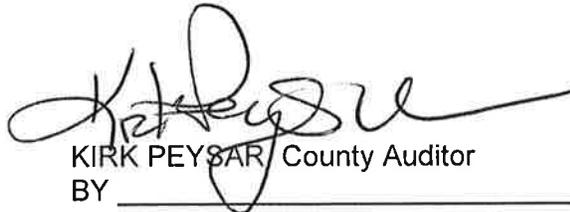
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KIRK PEYSAR, County Auditor

BY _____, Deputy