



**CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
AGENDA**

**Thursday, April 6, 2023
5:15 PM**

The April 6, 2023 City Council Special Meeting will be held in-person

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – April 6, 2023 Council Special Meeting
- 4. CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS**
 - A. Emergency Declaration Resolution – **Resolution 2023-17**
 - B. Update Regarding April 1 Snow Event
- 5. ADJOURN**

<p>City of Afton 3033 St. Croix Trl, P.O. Box 219 Afton, MN 55001</p>
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Meeting Date April 6, 2023

Council Action Memo

To: Mayor Palmquist and Members of the City Council
 From: Ron Moorse, City Administrator
 Date: April 3, 2023
 Re: Declaration of Local Emergency – **Resolution 2023-17**

As the Council is planning for flood preparations, it should consider a declaration of local emergency to put the City into a position to move quickly in providing emergency aid. Staff has provided below the statutory language regarding the powers provided to a City through the declaration of a local emergency. The initial Declaration of Local Emergency is made by the Mayor. However, a Mayoral Declaration of Local Emergency is valid only for a period of three days, unless the Council adopts a resolution to extend the Declaration. A resolution extending the Declaration of Local Emergency is attached for the Council's consideration.

12.37 POLITICAL SUBDIVISION'S POWERS TO FAST PROVIDE EMERGENCY AID.

During an emergency or disaster, each political subdivision, notwithstanding any statutory or charter provision to the contrary, and through its governing body acting within or without the corporate limits of the political subdivision, may:

(1) enter into contracts and incur obligations necessary to combat the disaster by protecting the health and safety of persons and property and by providing emergency assistance to the victims of the disaster; and

(2) exercise the powers vested by this subdivision in the light of the exigencies of the disaster without compliance with time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law pertaining to:

- (i) the performance of public work;
- (ii) entering into contracts;
- (iii) incurring of obligations;
- (iv) employment of temporary workers;
- (v) rental of equipment;
- (vi) purchase of supplies and materials;
- (vii) limitations upon tax levies; and

(viii) the appropriation and expenditure of public funds, for example, but not limited to, publication of ordinances and resolutions, publication of calls for bids, provisions of civil service laws and rules, provisions relating to low bids, and requirements for budgets.

Council Action Requested

Motion regarding the adoption of Resolution 2023-17 to extend the Mayoral Declaration of Local Emergency to enable the City to quickly provide emergency aid regarding flooding.

**PROCLAMATION NO. 2023-17
DECLARING A LOCAL EMERGENCY**

Whereas, the Mayor of Afton finds that the following situation exists: It is projected that the St. Croix River could reach historic levels, which would cause a major flood event, requiring immediate actions to increase the level of flood protection and provide other emergency aid to avoid catastrophic damage and loss to residential and commercial property adjacent to the River.

Whereas, the Mayor finds that the situation is sudden and unforeseen and could not have been anticipated;

Whereas, the Mayor finds that conditions in the city have worsened considerably as a result of the situation;

Whereas, the Mayor finds that this situation threatens the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the community;

Whereas, the Mayor finds that the situation will cause a catastrophic loss to residential and commercial property adjacent to the St. Croix River if not immediately addressed; and

Whereas, the Mayor finds that traditional sources of relief are not able to prevent the loss.

Now, therefore, the Mayor declares this situation to be a local emergency effective at 5:15 p.m. on Thursday, April 6, 2023.

This declaration of a local emergency will invoke the city's disaster plan. The portions that are necessary for response to and recovery from the emergency must be used.

Mayor

Clerk

<p>City of Afton 3033 St. Croix Trl, P.O. Box 219 Afton, MN 55001</p>
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Meeting Date April 6, 2023

Council Memo

To: Mayor Palmquist and City Council Members

From: Ron Moorse, City Administrator

Date: April 3, 2023

Re: Update Regarding April 1st Snow Event

The heavy, wet snow that fell on Friday night March 31 and on Saturday morning April 1 damaged trees and electrical poles and lines, resulting in power outages, as well as tree limbs blocking major roads. As the City's street plowing contractor began plowing operations at 2:00 a.m. on Saturday morning, they found that they could not plow many of the roads because of large tree limbs blocking the roads. This required them to change from a snow plowing operation to a tree limb removal operation. Tree limbs were moved off the roads, but were not cut up or hauled away, in order that the snow removal operation could be restarted as quickly as possible. Extensive clean-up of fallen limbs and brush in the city right-of-way will be needed.

Private property owners have requested assistance from the City for the cleanup of tree limbs that fell on private property. Because the City does not have a public works maintenance staff, any assistance provided by the City to private property owners would need to be done by the City's contractor, which would be a substantial additional expense to the City. It may be best for the City to act as a clearing house for information regarding the disposal of tree limbs and brush, and regarding tree service contractors. There are a number of tree service contractors that are licensed to work in Afton.

Free Brush Disposal Site

Washington County has one free brush disposal site for County residents, which is located in Hugo at 5527 170th Street North, Hugo, MN 55038. Hours of Operation of the site are as follows:

Summer hours: April - November

Wednesday: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. (or dusk)

Friday: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Sunday: Noon - 4:30 p.m.

Privately-owned Brush Disposal Sites (Fees Apply) Open to Everyone

Cottage Grove - Rumpca Companies Inc: 651-459-1556

Denmark Township - Gertens RES: 651-458-4412