## RESOLUTION 09082014-1 CITY OF PIERZ COUNTY OF MORRISON STATE OF MINNESOTA

## A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF PIERZ TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MINNESOTA GREENSTEP CITIES PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Minnesota GreenStep Cities is a voluntary challenge, assistance and recognition program to help cities achieve their sustainability and quality-of-life goals. GreenStep is a free, continuous improvement program, managed by a public-private partnership, and based upon 28 best practices. Each best practice can be implemented by completing one or more actions at a 1, 2 or 3-star level, from a list of four to eight actions. These actions are tailored to all Minnesota cities, focus on cost savings and energy use reduction, and encourage civic innovation; and

WHEREAS, local governments have the unique opportunity to achieve both energy use and climate change gas reductions and cost savings through building and facilities management; land use and transportation planning; environmental management; and through economic and community development; and

WHEREAS, the Next Generation Act of 2007, Minnesota Session Laws 2007 - Chapter 136:

- (1) sets State greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals of cutting emissions to 15 percent below 2005 levels by 2015, 30 percent below 2005 levels by 2025, and 80 percent below 2005 levels by 2050;
- (2) sets a State energy conservation goal of achieving annual energy savings equal to 1.5 percent of annual retail energy sales of electricity and natural gas;
- (3) establishes an energy policy goal that the per capita use of fossil fuel as an energy input be reduced by 15 percent by the year 2015, through increased reliance on energy efficiency and renewable energy alternatives;
- (4) establishes an energy policy goal that 25 percent of the electricity used in the state be derived from renewable energy resources by the year 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program assists in facilitating technical assistance for the implementation of these sustainable development best practices;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Pierz does hereby authorize the City of Pierz to participate in the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program that offers a free, voluntary continuous improvement framework. Passage of this participation resolution allows the City to be recognized as a Step One GreenStep City. Be it further resolved that the City:

- 1. Appoints Nicole O'Hotto to serve as the City's GreenStep coordinator for best practice documentation/implementation and
- 2. Will facilitate the involvement of community members and other units of government as appropriate in the planning, promoting and/or implementing of GreenStep Cities best practices; and
- 3. Grants to the GreenStep program's buildings advisor read-only access to the City's B3
  Benchmarking Database so as to facilitate analysis and cost-savings advice to the City regarding its buildings' energy use; and
- 4. Will claim credit for having implemented and will work at its own pace toward implementing any 6 GreenStep best practices that will result in energy use reduction, economic savings, quality of life improvement, reduction in the City's greenhouse gas footprint, and recognition by the League of Minnesota Cities as a Step Two GreenStep City. An on-going summary of the City's implementation of best practices will be posted by the City on the Minnesota GreenStep Cities web site.

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ATTEST: