

July 7, 2020

Credit River Township
18985 Meadow View Boulevard
Prior Lake, MN 55372
www.creditriver-mn.gov

News Release

For immediate release

Last evening (July 6), The Credit River Town Board approved a resolution moving the Township one step closer to becoming a City.

The resolution formally petitions that the Office of Administrative Hearings, Municipal Boundary Adjustments, institute a public hearing and upon reviewing the evidence presented, enter an order incorporating the Township of Credit River as the City of Credit River.

This is a project that began in 2006. At that time, there was discussion and many meetings regarding Credit River becoming a city. While no action was taken at that time, the Town Board continued to consider the possibility as Credit River grew and urban planning became more important.

Over the last few years, Credit River has seen parcels that border the City of Prior Lake get annexed into the City, resulting in a loss of tax base and properties that could become commercial development. Longtime Credit River Supervisor Leroy Schommer said “It’s always been about protecting our borders.”

Planning and Zoning was the first step. As the Metropolitan Council began working with metro area cities and townships to develop the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, Credit River made the decision to develop its own plan, instead of relying on Scott County to develop its plan along with the other Townships in the County. When the Metropolitan Council releases the 2040 Comprehensive Plan later this year, Credit River will take responsibility for Planning and Zoning.

There will be the need for urban services in portions of Credit River. The Township has developed a comprehensive wastewater plan. The northern

portion of the township is guided for urban expansion. Without incorporation, it would become difficult to plan for and deliver municipal services.

Credit River Township Chairman Chris Kostik said “while many things won’t change in becoming a city, we will become eligible to receive Municipal State Aid funding for street construction, and the city would be eligible for Local Government Aid from the State of Minnesota.”

The next step is the Metropolitan Council’s final approval of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan which should be approved within the next month. Following that, this issue will come before an Administrative Law Judge. Anticipating a positive outcome in the beginning of 2021, the final order provides for an at-large election of city council members and mayor, with regular city elections thereafter in every even-numbered year.

Credit River was organized over 160 years ago and currently has a population approaching 6000 residents. With development expecting to continue in the area, Credit River’s population will likely increase rapidly over the next 10 years. This change in form of government will ensure a sustainable future for Credit River.

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