



Ward 6  
September 2016  
Newsletter

## Path to Raise Minimum Wage A MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL MEMBER WARSAME



On August 31, 2016 the Minnesota Supreme Court released a decision about amending the city charter and that the \$15 minimum wage question should not be on the ballot in Minneapolis on November.

I have been and continue to be a staunch supporter of increasing the minimum wage. On August 3rd, I authored a staff direction along with Council Members Lisa Bender and Jacob Frey that took a historic first step in enacting a municipal minimum wage in the city of Minneapolis. This work will require dialogue, collaboration and inclusion of every stakeholder. It will require a high level of engagement.

I look forward to talking with you all and taking all your voices into consideration as we embark on crafting an ordinance that works for our workers and protects our small businesses. Thank you to everyone who has taken part in the process regardless of the position held and thank you to everyone who has contacted my office regarding this important issue.

## U.S. SPEAKER PROGRAM IN MOROCCO

I have been invited by the Department of State and at the Embassy in Rabat, Morocco to participate in a three day U.S. Speaker Program to promote the success of Muslims in the U.S. The goal of the speaker program is to persuade influential Moroccans that American Muslims can and are indeed elected by their fellow citizens to positions of power and illustrate the important role Muslims play in the U.S.

During my visit, I spoke about Muslim Americans in the United States, and their role in combatting negative stereotypes of Muslims. I then spoke briefly about the topic of combatting violent extremism.



I had many engagements that with local politicians and diplomats. I've also had the privilege to deliver remarks at Al Akhawayn University, the number #1 English University in Morocco and one of the best in all of Africa. My speech was about the role of youth in politics. My trip which came as a request from the State Department was an honor and an eye opener. I met with several actors of Moroccan civil society and institutions, and was impressed by their courage and their creativity in countering extremism. Morocco is stable and a beautiful country, and that fact proves the confidence its people bear for their country.

Thank You,

Council Member Abdi Warsame, Ward 6



## *Learn about the Minneapolis Customer Service Line:*

*CALL 311 for City information and Services*

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Minneapolis 311 is the single point of contact and the gateway to the City of Minneapolis and its many services. 311 is a simple, three-digit number residents, businesses and visitors can call to reach the City to inquire about services, report problems, check the status of issues, or get information. If you are out of the City limits you can call 612-673-3000; hours of operation are weekdays from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and 8am to 4:30 on weekends. 311 is closed on City recognized holidays.

There are four different ways you can request a municipal service from the City of Minneapolis. Call 311 directly, use our web self-service at [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/311](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/311); email us at [minneapolis311@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:minneapolis311@minneapolismn.gov), or contact 311 via a mobile device by simply downloading the app from your mobile devices app store, type Minneapolis 311 in the search bar.



Service requests made online will get a tracking number that lets you track the progress of your request by calling 311.

Call 311 to report graffiti, snow removal, stray animals, parking problems, or to get help with permits. Renters can contact 311 when they have brought health or safety concerns to the attention of their landlord and they're not getting fixed. Renters have the right to a safe and livable home. Call 311 to report heating, plumbing, broken appliances, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors that are defective or missing. By doing so, 311 will make it possible for City inspectors to get involved.

There is no charge for calling 311 within the city limits of Minneapolis (some cell phone plans may charge for their minutes, and pay phones have a charge). You can talk to 311 in any language. When calling, simply press 1 for English, 2 for Spanish, 3 for Somali or 4 for Hmong; or wait for an agent to answer and tell them what language you need and you will be transferred to an interpreter.



## *Career Opportunities at the City of Minneapolis*

*Apply Today*

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Interested in working for the City of Minneapolis?

Opportunity is knocking. 900+ times. The City of Minneapolis has more than 900 career opportunities available. Visit <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/jobs> for more information.

# Minneapolis Boards and Commissions: Help Shape Our City

## Apply for Openings

Applications are now being accepted for a number of open board and commission positions that the City Council and mayor will appoint this fall. Board and commission members in the City of Minneapolis provide valuable insights, help shape key policy decisions and provide community-based input into administration of services. The City is seeking applicants with a diversity of backgrounds and experiences to strengthen the work of the City.

Applications will be reviewed beginning Oct. 21. The positions are open until filled. There are 151 open positions on 17 City boards and commissions:

- ◆ [Advisory Committee on Aging.](#)
- ◆ [Advisory Committee on People With Disabilities.](#)
- ◆ [Arts Commission.](#)
- ◆ [Capital Long-Range Improvement Committee.](#)
- ◆ [Charter Commission](#) – the application review process is underway.
- ◆ [Commission on Civil Rights](#) – the application review process will begin Oct. 14.
- ◆ [Community Environmental Advisory Commission.](#)
- ◆ [Heritage Preservation Commission](#) – the application review process will begin Sept. 30.
- ◆ [Planning Commission.](#)
- ◆ [Police Conduct Review Panel](#) – the application review process will begin Oct. 10.
- ◆ [Police Oversight Commission](#) – the application review process will begin Oct. 10.
- ◆ [Public Health Advisory Committee.](#)
- ◆ [Public Housing Authority.](#)
- ◆ [Telecommunications Network.](#)
- ◆ [Workplace Advisory Committee](#) – the application review process will begin Oct. 14.
- ◆ [Youth Violence Prevention Executive Committee.](#)



Contact Ward 6

  
350 S. 5th Street, Room 307  
Minneapolis, MN 55415

  
(612) 673-2206

  
[www.minneapolismn.gov/ward6](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ward6)

## New Workplace Advisory Committee

### City Council Approves Creating of Committee

The City Council passed a [resolution](#) establishing a new Workplace Advisory Committee charged with advising City policymakers on workplace-related issues. The 16-member committee will include a cross-section of business and worker stakeholders. It will advise City leaders on workplace initiatives, provide recommendations on community outreach, monitor implementation of workplace policies, and offer suggestions on ways to improve policies to better serve businesses and workers. The makeup of the committee will be as follows:

- ◆ Two representatives from business associations.
- ◆ Two members from mid-size to large employers.
- ◆ Two representatives from small and independently owned businesses.
- ◆ One representative from a not-for-profit organization.
- ◆ Five employee representatives.
- ◆ Two members from organized labor.
- ◆ One Park Board representative.
- ◆ One public employee.

Committee members will be selected through an open-appointment process for two-year terms. The mayor will appoint three members and the City Council will appoint the remaining 13 members.

The creation of the Workplace Advisory Committee follows the recent passage of the Minneapolis Safe and Sick Time Ordinance, which will take effect July 1, 2017. Employers with six or more employees will be required to provide up to 48 hours of paid sick and safe time annually to workers. For more information on the Safe and Sick Time ordinance, go to [www.minneapolismn.gov/sicktimeinfo](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/sicktimeinfo).

## BOSASO, SOMALIA BECOMES MINNEAPOLIS NEWEST SISTER CITY

On Friday, August 12, on a public signing ceremony, Bosaso, Somalia, became Minneapolis' newest Sister City. Bosaso Mayor Yasin Mire Mohamud joined Minneapolis Mayor Betsy Hodges in signing a memorandum of understanding formalizing the Sister City relationship, which was originally endorsed by the Minneapolis City Council in October 2014.

Led by Council Member Warsame, the first Somali-American elected to public office in Minneapolis, the initiative had broad support from Somali community business and cultural leaders and institutions. Council Member Warsame said the Sister City relationship strengthens and formalizes ties that already exist between the two communities and improves Somalia's status in the United States and the rest of the world. "We as a nation are living through a period of time when the politics of hate and division are being trumpeted by some who seek to lead our country," Warsame said in an article in *The Journal* newspaper. "We, as a city, have the opportunity to defy this rhetoric. Already we have forged a first-in-the-nation relationship with Bosaso. This connection allows us to act on our values of openness and acceptance and strengthens the bonds that tie us all together."



Mayor Hodges and Bosaso Mayor Yasin Mire