

# City of Wells

125 South Broadway ♦ Wells, MN 56097

Dave Jacobson, Mayor  
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Council Members:  
Stephen Burns ♦ Ron Gaines  
Scott Linde ♦ Shannon Savick

## RESOLUTION NO. 2008-18

### RESOLUTION SUPPORTING MAINTENANCE OF LOCAL TITLE AND REGISTRATION SERVICES

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota established a public/private deputy registrar system to provide citizens convenient locations to conduct title registration services for motor vehicles and DNR recreational vehicles; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota in 1949 established a user service fee on motor vehicle transactions to be retained by the deputy registrar to defray the cost of providing the local service; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota has shifted increased costs and responsibilities onto the deputy registrar such as regular replacement schedules of computers and associated electronic equipment, printing of previously supplied state forms, and expanded auditing tasks with additional risks and potential liability that was previously the responsibility of the State; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota now competes with deputy registrar offices for the retention of some user fees that were traditionally retained primarily by deputy registrars; and,

WHEREAS, collectively the deputy registrar system handles over one billion dollars of state funds for the State of Minnesota annually on a cash basis only with considerable risk whereby dishonored checks are the responsibility of the deputy registrar in the full amount tendered after remitting the bulk of those funds to the State; and,

WHEREAS, the user service fee that should fully support the cost for providing motor vehicle transactions no longer covers the operational costs to maintain most deputy registrar offices. Public deputy registrars must use property tax levy proceeds to subsidize this service. Rural areas with lower volumes are in jeopardy of losing service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Wells supports the State Legislature authorizing the acceptance of more secure alternative payments at deputy registrar offices; and to achieve a greater retention of existing fees or a user service fee increase in the year 2009 to maintain local title and registration service to the citizens of Minnesota .

Passed and adopted this 22 day of December, 2008.

*Jeremy R. Seaman*



**WELLS**  
MINNESOTA

♦ Industrial Park ♦ Airport ♦ Swimming Pool ♦  
♦ 9 Hole Golf Course ♦ Broadway Apartments ♦