

CITY OF WINDOM

NEWS & NOTES

By: Steve Nasby, City Administrator



55th Edition

June 30, 2020

Department Head Meeting Highlights

- Coronavirus Information and Discussion
 - The State released CARES Act funding to local governments. Windom was awarded \$341,000 to assist with costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Additional K95 masks are available for City employees. Please see your Department Head if you need some for City work.
- 169 Quevli Avenue – Cottonwood County will be receiving this property for back taxes. The City was asked if we have use for the property. The City also has a 30 foot parcel bordering this property which was discussed if it needs to be retained for easements or it could be sold along with the primary parcel.
- Reminder City Vehicles – Are for City business use. The public does pay attention to employees and City vehicles.
- Employee Recognition Event – The ad hoc planning committee (Jeff Dahna, John Nelson and Spencer Winzenried) have set Friday, August 21st as the date for the 2020 Employee Recognition Event. It will be held at the Community Center and the Windom Lions Club will be doing the food. Games and activities are being planned. Please watch for more information and RSVP coming in the near future.
- City Council Strategic Planning Meeting – Will be held on July 14th starting at 5:00 pm and be held at the Community Center, Lakeview Room. This will be a discussion of their long range plans and goals. The meeting is open to the public.

Activities & Project Updates

- Streets – Crew busy with tree removal\trimming and park maintenance.
- Parks – Mowing. Public rest rooms are continued to be closed as the Covid rules require hourly cleaning and documentation. Windom Recreation Area facilities are open during youth activities and cleaned by Recreation Dept. staff.
- Police – Busy. New Officer Issak Paulson has started and Tessa Crowell is recommended for hiring for the part-time officer position.
- Electric – Crews finishing up work on 16th Street by Oddson Underground. The rate study was completed and there are minor adjustments to rates phased in over two years.

- Library – Still doing curbside service, but opening to the public has gone well. Virtual summer reading program starting via Facebook live.
- Liquor – RFP for feasibility study and preliminary options. Busy and staffing up for the July 4th holiday weekend. Anticipating that hours will be lengthened and cash will be accepted in the near future.
- Telecom – Conference call on Federal EDA grant for Jeffers Fiber expansion and discussion with the County on rights of way.
- Water\Wastewater – Plant work on antitoxic basin and crew working with contractors on the street project.
- Economic Development Authority – Possible purchase agreement for the EDA Spec Building with conversion to housing on the site. Re-zoning would be part of the process if this moves forward.
- Building\Zoning – Building and zoning permits keeping staff busy. This is the third year for the rental inspections which is the last phase of the initial inspections. Due to Covid what should be the protocols?
- Arena – Arena parking lot is prepped. Removed stalls in Barn buildings as the Fair Board is going to work on the floors.
- Pool – Opened June 27th and swimming lessons start July 6th.
- Recreation – Recreation programs are underway and the State allowing some games so those will start.
- Community Center – Calls are in-coming on re-scheduling events. July 11th the first large event (Wedding).
- City Office/Finance – The 2019 Audit is finally completed.

CITY COUNCIL – July 7, 2020

The upcoming City Council meeting will include these highlights:

1. 2019 City Audit Presentation
2. Liquor Store – Request for Proposals on Feasibility and Preliminary Design
3. Second Reading of Proposed Code Revisions
4. Personnel – Hiring PT Police Officer and PT City Hall staff
5. Domestic Fowl – City Code Chapter 93 – Direction on Council regarding Chickens
6. HRA Board Appointment
7. Contractor Payment(s)

Thank you to everyone for your hard work and dedication to the citizens of our community.