

CITY OF WINDOM

NEWS & NOTES

By: Steve Nasby, City Administrator



58th Edition

August 12, 2020

Department Head Meeting Highlights

- Coronavirus Information and Discussion
 - City Departments discussed the needs and uses for “fogger” types of sanitizing equipment. Needs were identified and an order for the City is being placed for equipment and supplies.
 - CARES Act funds of \$341,000 were received and to date expenses are \$140,000. A meeting with the County and Chamber will occur later in the week to discuss business grants.
- City Hall Office Staffing – Chelsie Carlson, Finance Director\Controller has announced that she will be stepping down from full-time employment with the City starting in September. Advertising for a full-time Finance Director\Controller will be start upon City Council approval. Chelsie will stay on at least through the first quarter of 2021 to assist with the transition and potentially into a part-time role with the City.
- Riverfest – No new updates. Activities are still scheduled for August 13-16 including the fireworks, parade and entertainment. The parade route will start at Highland School and go to Tegel’s Park.
- City Council Filing – Terms of Mayor Jones and Councilmembers Grunig and Byam end on December 31. Candidates for these offices ended August 11. Mayor Jones and Council member Grunig have re-filed. Norman Bedner and Jackie Schmidt have filed for Council member Byam’s Ward II seat.
- Employee Recognition Event – Friday, August 21st starting at 5:30 pm at the Community Center. **Get your RSVPs in to John Nelson, Spencer Winzenried or City Hall by August 14.**
- City Council Strategic Planning Meeting – Was held July 28th and the goals from the 2012 Plan were kept with some revisions and formation of a mission statement. The next meeting focusing on finances and revenues will be on September 22nd. These meetings are open to the public and staff is welcome\encouraged to attend.

Activities & Project Updates

- Streets – City crews patching potholes on 10th Street. Street project work.
- Parks – Work on maintenance continues. MMUA has done a safety review of all parks. Staff has contacted the health department regarding restrooms and what is permitted for opening.
- Police – Ready for Riverfest activities. No on-site POST review due to COVID, but document and policy review. Compliance with the new Police Reform Act does not require much change as we are currently doing most of the required trainings, etc. Officers generally busy.

- Electric – Boring in power lines continues and doing some work for Telecom. New line worker Tristian Jones starting.
- Library – Business as usual.
- Liquor – Mask requirement causing some issues with a small number of customers. Beer shortages occurring with some brands.
- Telecom – Email server updated, which caused some issues with customer email software if they had an old browser. Medallion hunt underway.
- Water\Wastewater – Plant work about 93% done. Some jetting work being done and Street project work.
- Economic Development Authority – Working on Housing leads. Submitted a letter of interest for a Transportation Enhanced Development (TED) grant from MN DOT.
- Building\Zoning – 169 Qveli Avenue and 70 11th Street homes being demolished. Building activity back to normal, but could slow down again due to shortages of building materials.
- Arena – Second lift of asphalt coming soon. Staff working on being ready to open to indoor activities.
- Pool – Door replacements underway.
- Recreation – Summer recreation programs finished at end of July.
- Community Center – Board discussed master planning for the site. New dishwasher waiting to be installed.
- City Office/Finance – Chelsie will be scaling back to part-time upon the new school year. Advertising for a full-time Finance Director\Controller will commence. Food drive with credit for Wellness so bring an item to the Employee Recognition Event on August 21.

CITY COUNCIL – August 18, 2020

The upcoming City Council meeting will include these highlights:

1. Public Hearing – 2270 7th Avenue Residential Tax Abatement
2. Resolution Accepting CARES Act Funding
3. Call for Public Hearing on Issuance of Bonds and Capital Improvement Plan
4. TIF District 1-22 Redevelopment Area Boundary Expansion
5. City-wide Clean-Up Recycling Fees Discussion
6. Annual Firefighters Relief Association Report
7. Personnel Item – Advertise for FT Finance Director\Controller
8. Contractor Payment(s)

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