

WEEKLY MEMO

Date: March 2, 2012

To: Mayor Lynn Stauss, Council President Craig Buckalew, Vice President Wayne Gregoire, Council Members Marc Demers, Ron Vonasek, Henry Tweten, Greg Leigh, and Mike Pokrzywinski.

From: Scott Huizenga

RE: Weekly Update

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

March 6, 2012 – 5:00 pm – Council Meeting – Council Chambers

March 13, 2012 – 5:00 pm – Work Session – Training Room

March 20, 2012 – 5:00 pm – Council Meeting – Council Chambers

March 27, 2012 – 5:00 pm – Work Session – Training Room

WEEKLY UPDATE:

Legislative Update

It was a relatively slow week in the legislature regarding bills that directly impact cities (Vikings stadium deal notwithstanding). A bill that would require all cities to publish at least four years of object code-level budget data is languishing in several different committees. Analysts conclude that this indicates legislators' reluctance to proceed with another "unfunded mandate" directed at cities. Also, a bill to allow the sale and use of fireworks in Minnesota is advancing at the legislature. The current version would *not* allow cities to regulate fireworks sales.

The Office of the State Auditor will release its Annual City Finance report on Monday.

Personnel Updates

All department personnel have completed their Position Analysis Questionnaires (PAQs) as part of the update to the City's Compensation and Job Classification Plan. The next step will be for the consultant to review and assign points to each job classification. On-site job audits may be conducted as needed. The consultant will conduct market surveys of wage and benefit data to compare East Grand Forks and its peers. We remain on track for a completion date of May-June for the updated plan.

The City has completed interviews and background checks for the Public Works Director position. I will include a recommendation to the full City Council at the regular Council meeting of March 20.

The Civil Service Commission will hold interviews for the vacant Administrative Assistant position in mid to late March.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Public Works, Jason Stordahl

Since we have had very little snow this year up until this point, I wanted to send out this friendly reminder of the local ordinances that pertain to snow and snow removal. I have also included the Street Maintenance Parking Schedule.

Ice and Snow on Public Sidewalks

Every owner, occupant, or agent of any lot or parcel of land in the City of East Grand Forks to follow the City's ordinance on § 96.05 ICE AND SNOW ON PUBLIC SIDEWALKS.

All snow and ice remaining upon public sidewalks is declared to constitute a public nuisance and shall be abated by the owner or tenant of the abutting private property within 12 hours after such snow or ice has ceased to be deposited.

Placing snow or ice in the roadway.

It is a misdemeanor for any person, not acting under a specific contract with the city or Without special permission from the City Superintendent of Streets, to remove snow or ice from private property and place the same in any roadway. § 96.09 OBSTRUCTIONS IN STREET

Street Maintenance Parking

Commercial Routes – No Parking

2:00 AM – 7:00 AM Monday-Friday

NO PARKING

Residential Routes

7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Mondays	District 4 - Point area/ East of Bygland Road SE
Tuesdays	District 5 - Point area/ West of Bygland Road SE
Wednesdays	District 2 - North end/ South of 17 th St NW
Thursdays	District 1- North end/ North of 17 th St NW
Fridays	District 3- East end/ Central Areas/ Downtown lots

Snow Emergency – A snow emergency automatically goes into effect when 2 inches or more of snow has fallen until the streets are cleaned.

Under a snow emergency, no parking on any city street is allowed until that street has been cleared to its full width. Violators will be ticketed and towed.

Parks and Recreation, Dave Aker

1. The outdoor rinks will be closed on March 4, they can still be skated on but no warming house or lights will be available.
2. Next week the Park Foreman and a worker will start putting together the four bleachers for the baseball field.
3. This weekend is Regions for Hockey: the Bantam A & B teams are both in St. Cloud; the

14UA team is at Roseau; 12UA is at Hibbing.

Good Luck to all the teams!

4. East Grand Forks is hosting the 10UA Districts on Saturday and Sunday, March 3 & 4.

5. The Squirt A team is at Roseau this weekend and the Squirt B team is at RLF.

AGENDA ITEMS:

The consent agenda includes two temporary liquor license applications, a special event permit, and records management software purchase for the Police Department.

Item 9 declares a valid petition for the proposed special assessment paving project on Greenway Boulevard SE and 13th Street SE. The petition submitted by property holders represents 43 percent of the total property in the proposed assessment district. State statute requires 35 percent or more for a special assessment petition to be valid. The resolution motion simply schedules a public hearing based on the valid petition. It does not express the City Council's position on whether or not to proceed with the project.

Item 10 considers a resolution requesting the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to amend the Transportation Improvement Plan to replace the 5th Avenue NW intersection project with the 17th Street NE as the City's 2014 federal sub-target project.