

WEEKLY MEMO

Date: September 7, 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:

September 11, 2012 – 5:00 pm – Work Session – Training Room

September 18, 2012 – 5:00 pm – Council Meeting – Council Chambers

September 25, 2012 – 5:00 pm – Work Session – Training Room

October 2, 2012 – 5:00 pm – Council Meeting – Council Chambers

WEEKLY UPDATE:

Swimming Pool Working Group

The Swimming Pool Work Group convened on Thursday to talk with Brian Beckler of OLC Architecture. The primary topic was the council-approved pool feasibility study that will kick off in a couple weeks. Mr. Beckler also answered questions from Council members and representatives from Save Our Pool. He described some of the elements of the aquatic center concept design that he developed (attached). OLC has partnered with EAPC Architects and Engineers locally on several projects including the Choice Wellness Center in Grand Forks. They work closely with Ballard King and Associates, which will perform the pool feasibility study for East Grand Forks.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Police Department, Chief Mike Hedlund

School Safety – School is back in session in East Grand Forks and that means drivers need to be extra careful as many students will be walking or riding their bicycles to school. Slow down and be extra careful and help us keep this a safe school year! Parents who bring their children to school need to remember that the drive through areas at New Heights, South Point and Central Middle School are for loading and unloading only!! Officers will be ticketing vehicles that are left unattended in these areas. If you need to walk your child into school please use the parking areas and not the drive through areas. In addition parents dropping off children at New Heights are asked to not use the drop off area on the South side of the school. This is for bus pick up/drop off only. Thank you!

EGFPD Awards Ceremony – The East Grand Forks Police Department will be holding an awards ceremony on Wednesday September 19, 2012 at 2:00 PM in the city council chambers in the EGF City Hall. The ceremony will include awards given to citizens in appreciation for

assistance provided to the department and to officers from the department for things such as years of service, advanced certifications, and lifesaving. Refreshments will be served following the ceremony and the public is welcome!

Public Works Department, Jason Stordahl

SPRAYING

When you look around road sides and on levees in town, I'm sure that you have seen a low growing, wiry, yellow flowered plant growing. This plant is called Birdsfoot Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*). It has been an increasingly invasive plant in this area throughout the years, and can displace desirable vegetation (in this case grass).

We have treated Birdsfoot Trefoil in the past with the same chemical that we use to treat dandelions. But lately this chemical has not produced desired effects on our trefoil. So we are switching things up a bit for our fall spraying program. We purchased a different chemical and have been applying varying dosages of the chemical to small test plots throughout the city. We will continue to monitor the effects of the chemical. If we see good results we will then treat larger portions of the city with hopes of good results. If all goes well you will not see that little yellow, wiry plant around your levees or along curbs in the City!

AGENDA ITEMS:

The City Planner will discuss a proposed grant application to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) under the Legacy Regional Parks and Trails program. The City proposal is to provide major enhancements to the LaFave Park area of the Greenway Trail system. Improvements would include designate fishing platforms, a natural playscape area, and improved landscaping and foliage. The proposal is already included in the adopted Greenway Trail Plan for East Grand Forks. East Grand Forks has two of just a handful of parks and trails in Northwest Minnesota that are deemed having "regional significance." Therefore, staff believes the city's application will be highly competitive. Staff recommends a small local match to the program to maximize competitiveness.

Staff from the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will recommend the adoption of new policies that resulted from the recent federal triennial audit of transit operations. The first is to adopt a formal public participation policy. The second is to adopt a revised procurement policy. The third and final one is to adopt standard operating procedures and policy reference. Due to the length of both the procurement policy and operation procedures, a copy will be available in the administration office to look over or can be emailed to you at your request.

A property owner of Pinehurst Ct will request the City assume ownership and maintenance of a gravel alley in the neighborhood located in the Water's Edge 2nd Addition. The location of the rear alley is designated as a utility easement, which is typical with any lot in the City. There is no known record, however, of approval of this area as a public dedicated alley.

The City Attorney will discuss an agreement with Dakota Carrier Network (DCN) to install fiber optic lines in the city easements.

The Finance Director and Brenda Kreuger of Springsted Incorporated will present a proposed bond financing package for 2012. The proposal finances two pieces of equipment, portions of three special assessment paving projects, and one bond refinancing. The equipment purchases include the new aerial truck for the fire department and the motor grader for Public Works. The special assessments include the city-funded portions of 15th Street NW, Greenway Boulevard and 13th Street SE, and 14th Street SE. Finally, the package includes a call and refinancing of the City's 2003 bond issue. The proposed refinancing includes a present-value return of about 12 percent. Generally, the state requires a three percent savings on a refinancing package. Anything over 5 percent is considered good. A 12-percent savings is excellent. Overall, the anticipated interest rate on the bonds is under 2.5 percent.

The Public Works Director will present an agreement with American Crystal Sugar to accept copper nitrate into the city's waste water system. The Public Works Department after extensive research and discussions with the Minnesota Department of Health has determined that the impact on the waste water system will be negligible. The agreement outlines the terms and conditions under which the company can release compounds into the waste water system.

ZERO-DEPTH ENTRY w/
SPRAY & CANYONS (±\$3,000#)

(2) WATER SLIDES;
25FT. PLATFORM

INTERACTIVE
PLAY STRUCTURE

PASSIVE ZONE
FOUNTAINES

LINE OF EXISTG FACILITY

8FT. WIDE SIDEWALK

6LN / 25 YD. PROGRAM/COMPETITION POOL
w/ INTEGRAL DIVING BOB. (±\$4,000#)

DROP SLIDE

UNDERWATER BENCH w/ JETS

SHADE STRUCTURE

SOD/ SUNNING

FENCE LINE

BATHHOUSE (±2,800#) w/ ASSIST'D CHANGING

BIKES

NEW ENTRY CURB

FLASH DOWN

VORTEX

SHADE UMBRELLAS

COVERED PATIO

CONCESSIONS/
RETAIL

LIFEGUARDY/
FIRST-AID

ENTRY PLAZA

PROPOFF

SIGNAGE

PARKING

EXISTG STRUCTURE

CONCEPT POOL PLAN

EAST GRAND FORKS

1" = 40'-0"

