

WEEKLY MEMO

Date: September 14, 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 16, 2012 – 11:00 am to 1:00 pm – Pig Roast Dinner – Senior Citizen Center

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

September 19, 2012 – 1:00 pm to 7:30 pm – LMC Regional Meeting, Thief River Falls

September 19, 2012 – 2:00 pm – EGF Police Department Awards – Council Chambers

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

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

October 3, 2012 – Feasibility Study Meeting with Ballard King & Associates – Training Room

WEEKLY UPDATE:

Bonding bill

Governor Mark Dayton yesterday announced the projects that are to be funded through the Capital Projects Grant program. The program was funded with \$47.5 million in state bonding appropriations. Dayton opted to fund nine projects out of a total of 90 applications. Highlights of the successful proposals include \$25 million for the renovations to the St. Paul Saints independent league baseball park, \$8.5 million for a Duluth downtown parking facility, \$4.2 million for a wellness facility in Wadena, and \$2 million for light rail in the Twin Cities. The Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) did not rank 53 projects, including the East Grand Forks waste water treatment proposal. The total amount of requests was over \$288 million for the \$47.5 million available.

Pool feasibility study

Ballard King and Associates will visit East Grand Forks on October 1-3 for the first phase of the approved pool feasibility study. The primary purpose of this visit is to gather stakeholder and public input. The consultant also will visit alternative facilities in East Grand Forks and Grand Forks such as the Choice Wellness Center, the Grand Forks public pools, and Canad Inn. The tentative schedule includes a meeting with Save Our Pool on the evening Monday, October 1. Jeff King also will hold individual meetings on Tuesday, October 2 with middle and high school students, senior citizens, and the Parks and Recreation Department. The public is invited to a forum on Tuesday, October 2 in which the public is encouraged to attend and offer ideas and suggestions (Note: this likely will run concurrently with the scheduled City Council meeting). Finally, Mr. King will brief the City Council on the afternoon of Wednesday, October 3. Ballard King and Associates will then use the information to further develop the feasibility study. Another series of meetings in East Grand Forks is scheduled for late October. Finally, the feasibility study is scheduled to be completed in late November.

Green Choices Challenge update

East Grand Forks remains in 19th placed out of 50 cities after two months of the Green Choices Challenge. The challenge places our residents in a competition with cities across the nation to determine which city can recycle the largest portion of its solid waste stream. The City is encouraging more residents to participate. And, even more importantly, we stress that those who are already signed up for the challenge continue to participate in the program so that the Recyclebank can record the activity of registered users. The competition runs through December. The top-ranked City will receive a \$100,000 grant for sustainable projects. Local participants also have free access to the Recyclebank program. Recyclebank provides rewards, gift certificates and coupons to participants just for reporting recycling and other “green” activities. Residents can register for both programs at www.recyclebank.com/greenchoices or contact the Public Works Department at 773-1313. Finally, we encourage local businesses to offer rewards through the program. Businesses can contact Recyclebank directly at www.recyclebank.com/advertise-with-us. The only cost to businesses is the promotion, reward, or discount that the business chooses to offer.

Building Inspections RFP

The City is publishing on the City web site a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Building Inspections services per Council resolution. An advertisement also will appear in *The Exponent*. Proposals are due to the City by Tuesday October 2 at 10:00 am.

Senior Center Pig Roast

The Senior Center Pig Roast is scheduled for this Sunday, September 16 from 11:00 am-1:00 pm at the East Grand Forks Senior Center (538 Rhinehart Dr). Tickets for adults are \$9, children are \$4.

PD 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!

League Regional Meeting

The Mayor, members the City Council, and I are scheduled to attend the League of Minnesota Cities Regional meeting in Thief River Falls on Wednesday. One can view the agenda at <http://lmc.org/page/1/agenda-regmtgs12.jsp>.

I will be out of the office from Thursday, September 20 through Thursday, September 27. I will attend as part of my trip the League of Minnesota Cities policy committee meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 25 and 26.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Parks and Recreation, Dave Aker

- 1) The hockey boards from the Civic Center have been sold to Luverne, MN. They are coming on Friday night to pick them up.
- 2) The new hockey boards are being installed the week of September 24 – 28.

- 3) The condensers have been installed and hooked up at the Civic Center.
- 4) The tree and stump removal bid has been approved for this fall. It is from Terry's Tree Service. Dale Gulbranson will take the smaller trees down, if you see any that have to come down now is the time.
- 5) John Snustad from US Bank has given us a grant for \$2,000 for trees that will go down in LaFave Park next spring.
- 6) Garry is finishing the tile in the VFW Arena, it is looking good.
- 7) Brian is finishing painting the hallways in the Civic Center and the lobby, he will soon be starting putting in tile in the Civic Center.
- 8) Hockey registration is October 3 at City Hall until 7:00 pm, people can register all week in the Parks and Recreation office October 1 – 5.
- 9) The trailheads are planning on closing September 30 and the Campground is closing October 15.

Library, Charlotte Helgeson

The Library's roof is in the process of being rebuilt and re-shingled. The contractors have shown a great deal of respect for the library environment and our patrons. Brad Smith, Kraus Anderson's Superintendent, is constantly onsite and involved in every step made by the numerous contractors. Matt from Braun Intertec is also onsite this week during the reconstruction phase. The project is scheduled to be completed in 4 weeks.

September is Signup for Library Cards Month. The Campbell Library is Forgetting Fines for patrons who update an old card if all materials have been returned. With each update or new card, the patrons are eligible to have their names in a book drawing every Friday in September.

Public Works, Jason Stordahl

WASTEWATER

Lift Station #1 (on 8th Ave. NW) is our primary lift station. This means it is the last lift station that wastewater goes through before entering our City Ponds. So there is a tremendous flow of wastewater traveling through the lift. With that flow of wastewater there is also odor. At times the odor, (although not harmful to residents health) can be quite pungent.

Throughout the last month our Wastewater Operators have been working diligently, experimenting with different ways to reduce the odor. So far they have had limited success. They just implemented a new order reducing product in the lift on Wednesday of this week. We are optimistic that this will help. We will monitor the odor throughout the week, and if the odor is not reduced we will move on to the next plan.

REMINDER

For all residence that signed up for the Recycle Bank contest, please remember to continue to report. And for all that have not signed up yet we encourage you to do so. For information on the Recycle Bank program you can contact the Public Works Department at 218-773-1313.

AGENDA ITEMS:

All items are slated for consent agenda, including the following.

- A gaming permit
- A temporary liquor license
- A request to sponsor the annual snowmobile trail maintenance program with the Department of Natural Resources. The Red River Snowmobile Club maintains the trails.
- A resolution to formally apply for state Legacy funds to improve the LaFave Park area of the Greenway. The total request is estimated to be \$500,000 with a local match of approximately \$50,000.
- Requests to approve three policies for transit operations including an updated public participation policy, an updated procurement, policy, and a standard operating procedures policy.
- A resolution to authorize the sale of General Obligations Bonds to finance 2012 special assessment projects, two equipment purchases and a 2003 bond refinancing.
- A request to authorize a copper nitrate waste water treatment agreement with American Crystal Sugar.
- A request to adopt the Cemetery Commission policy to charge a 20 percent administrative fee for any cemetery lots that are sold back to the City.
- A request to approve the annual Safety Management Program agreement with the Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association (MMUA).

Become a Recyclebank Reward Partner

Want to boost business while helping the environment? Join us by becoming a Reward Partner! Our members take green actions to earn online points, which they save and redeem for rewards and promotional offers from our Reward Partners. The result is a simple win-win; you see more, loyal customers and gain exposure in the community while encouraging green actions like recycling.

How it Works:

1



Recyclebank promotes your reward in its Rewards Marketplace

2



Members redeem your reward with their Recyclebank points

3



Members bring the printed reward to your store to make a purchase

Recyclebank rewards members of your community for recycling and taking other green actions. We increase peoples' awareness of the importance of a community-wide partnership to improve the environment and we want you to be part of it too!

Partnership Benefits:

Increased Sales

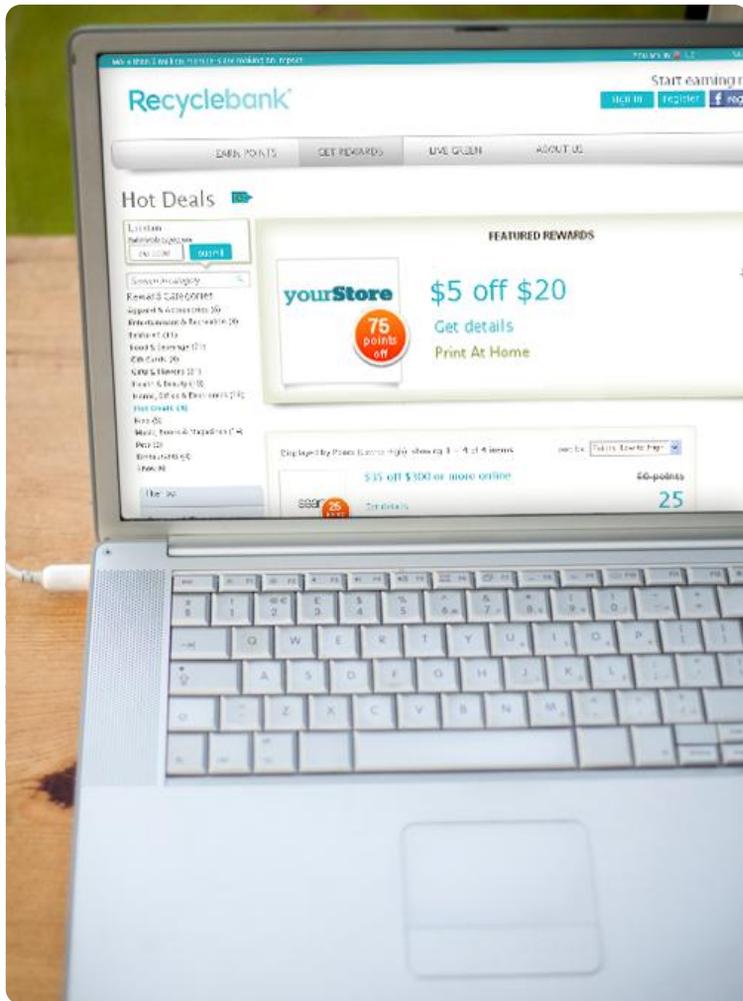
- New customers
- Incremental visits
- Average sales / visit

Community Connection

- Community initiative
- Local PR and marketing
- Loyalty and referrals

Environmental Impact

- Advance education
- Increase recycling



From our website to your store!

OUR MEMBERS, YOUR CUSTOMERS:

1. Log in to their account and see their Recyclebank points balance.
2. Browse rewards by category and select your store's reward offer.
3. Add reward to shopping cart, and check out.
4. Print the reward at any time.
5. Bring reward to your store and make a purchase!



To find out more about becoming a community reward partner, please go to www.recyclebank.com/advertise-with-us and follow the instructions in the Local Advertisers section. We look forward to partnering with you!

PITCH IN TO HELP US GET A \$100,000 GRANT!



Take Part at Recyclebank.com/greenchoices

Help our community come out on top in
the SC Johnson Green Choices
Recycling Challenge!

SC Johnson
A Family Company

GREEN CHOICES
RECYCLING
CHALLENGE

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WM
WASTE MANAGEMENT



Green Choices Recycling Challenge

Challenge Period: July 2nd, 2012 – December 31st, 2012.

The Green Choices Recycling Challenge is intended to encourage resident recycling participation in each participant community and award the community that exhibits through skill, innovation, planning, and other measures the most recycling participation during the Challenge Period with a grant to fund a green community project. Eligibility is limited to communities who have been solicited by RecycleRewards, Inc. and agreed to participate in the Challenge. For a list of participating communities, go to www.recyclebank.com/greenchoices. Member participation: Individual households registered with RecycleRewards, Inc. within a participating community must self-report with RecycleRewards, Inc. its recycling participation each month during the Challenge Period. **Grant:** \$100,000 grant to be used for a project or program that promotes community sustainability. **Complete Official Rules at:** www.recyclebank.com/greenchoices.

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RECYCLE FOR THE PLANET. RECYCLE FOR A \$100,000 GRANT!

Help our community come out on top in the
SC Johnson Green Choices Recycling Challenge!



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