

WEEKLY MEMO

Date: May 17, 2013

To: Mayor Lynn Stauss. Council President Craig Buckalew, Vice President Greg Leigh, Council Members Clarence Vetter, Ron Vonasek, Henry Tweten, Mark Olstad, and Chad Grassel

From: Scott Huizenga

RE: Weekly Update

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Regular Council Meeting – May 21, 2013 – 5:00 PM – Council Chambers

Work Session – May 28, 2013 – 5:00 PM Training Room

Regular Council Meeting – June 4, 2013 – Council Chambers

Work Session – June 11, 2013 – 5:00 PM – Training Room

WEEKLY UPDATE:

Labor Update

There are two labor agreements on next week's Council agenda. That brings the total to three settled contracts out of five. The remaining groups – Public Works and Fire Fighters – currently have final offers from the City. The proposals are virtually identical to those offered to the groups that have settled.

Thank you

Thanks again to the Mayor, Council, and staff of the City of East Grand Forks. The last five years has been a rewarding, enlightening, and humbling experience. It is hard to pry myself out of my office, as I type this at 12:37 pm on my final day in the office. My last official day is May 31. I will be in touch with the City remotely for at least that long for any outstanding issues to be addressed.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Department, Chief Gary Larson

We are back to normal staffing with the water receding.

We are using a MN Training grant to purchase books to start a program in the Fire Dept. that will get our fulltime firefighter certified in Fire Instructor, Fire Inspector, and Fire Officer. We hope to put this program in our training portal so our personnel can complete this study program on nights and weekends.

I have been attending 800 MGZ radio meeting in Polk County. Polk County is going to change over to using 800MHZ. We were able to get 2 - 800 portable radios on a grant. It is a good system, but very

expensive to change over. It also causes problem with people we work with on the North Dakota side of the river. I will keep you updated on progress.

We are at 307 calls for 2013.

Good news, we were notified by Senator Franken's office that we were awarded the Aid to Firefighter Grant from FEMA. This grant is worth \$123,990 and will purchase all new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus. It is great timing because the tanks have a 15 year shelf life, and the ones we have are going out of service next year. The city's share on this grant is \$.05 on the dollar with the total cost to the city at \$6199. I will forward a RCA for council approval.

Library Director, Charlotte Helgeson

The Library is accepting registrations for the Celebrating Summer the children's program. The interest is high. We also have the Reading Passport enrollment for K-8th grade co-sponsored with the Optimist Club. A Reading Passport is setup to help children keep track of how many minutes are read throughout the summer and receive prizes for reading.

Braun Intertec will be returning to the Library to do a deeper investigation of the roof cavity to determine actions in correcting the remaining difficulties with the roof repair. This continuing investigation will not incur any expense to the city.

Agenda Items:

The consent agenda consists of the Transit Title VI Plan and Liquor License renewals.

Item 11 considers approving the plans and specs and ordering for bids for the repair work needed on the Police Department Building.

Item 12 considers awarding the 2013 manhole and catch basin job to H&S Construction for up to \$30,000.00 in repairs.

Item 13 considers the purchase of a new 72 inch deck mower for \$24,915.10 which includes a deduction of \$2,000.00 for a 1991 Toro GM345 mower.

Item 14 considers purchasing a planter to put at the city lot next to the VFW building for a cost up to \$15,000.00.

Item 15 and 16 considers approving the labor agreement and memorandum of understanding between the city and the Law Enforcement Labor Services, Inc Local 152.

Item 17 considers approving the labor agreement between the city and AFSCME Council 65.