

WEEKLY MEMO

Date: September 13, 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

RE: Weekly Update

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Regular Council Meeting – September 17, 2013 – 5:00 PM – Council Chambers

Work Session – September 24, 2013 – 5:00 PM – Training Room

Regular Council Meeting – October 1, 2013 – 5:00 PM – Council Chambers

Work Session – October 8, 2013 – 5:00 PM – Training Room

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Parks & Recreation, Dave Aker

R-22 Phase Out

I thought I would give you a little bit of info I learned about the R-22 phase out from the MIAMI Conference I went to last week. R-22 is the fluid we use in the ice arenas to cool the floors down so we can make ice. They are phasing out R-22 by the year 2020 and we are going to have to make changes. There are currently are 3 types of (HFC) hydrofluorocarbons that we can change to R-507A, R-410A and R-404A.

There will be an increase for R-22 next year (2014) of 90%, so if you need 6,000 lbs at \$18.00 per lb it will cost \$108,000. That is the total for a direct system which is what we have at the VFW Arena, the Civic Center and Blue Line Arenas are indirect systems. The total cost for changing the systems over to a different HFC is \$50,000 for direct systems and \$200,000 for indirect systems. The State is trying to pass a law that says they are trying to pass a grant like the Mighty Ducks, last year it failed by one vote. It is going to be brought up again and they are not sure if it is for a facility or community you receive the grant.

The other troubling thing is they are trying to phase out all the HFC so then arenas would be forced to go to ammonia or CO2 systems. To change over the system is approximately 1.4 million dollars for direct and 1.2 million for indirect. The reason that cost so much is because you would have to tear up the floor, both are highly efficient. I will keep you aware of anything that takes place in this area.

Public Works, Jason Stordahl

Wastewater:

-We had VFD failures at our primary lift station this week. I will explain more at next week's council meeting.

-The fence repair out at our wastewater ponds is 75% complete.

-Lift Station One (primary lift, located on north end of town) has had issues with odor this week. Staff found that there was an issue with one of the hoses that implements the odor reducing product, and was fixed. It may take several days for the product to be distributed throughout the system. I would anticipate that residents will notice the smell disappearing within the next couple of days.

Streets:

-MNDOT finished the repairs at the intersection of Demers and 2nd St. NW on Thursday, September 12th. We reopened Demers Thursday afternoon, four days ahead of schedule!

AGENDA ITEMS:

The Consent agenda consists of considering approving a new hiring register for the police department, accepting a grant from Project Lifesaver, replacing a pump in lift station 1 with Minnesota Pump Works, awarding the street crack sealing job to Northwest Asphalt, approving an updated compensation plan for non-union employees, approving an exempt gambling application, and approving the MMUA service agreement for the safety program.

Item 12 will consider adopting a resolution approving the State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements.

Item 13 will consider adopting a resolution acknowledging excellent work done with the completion of the MNDOT Projects.

Item 14 will consider an amendment to the agreement the City has with the Department of Employment and Economic Development. The EDHA Director will be addressing this and answering questions.

Item 15 will consider replacing VFDs at Lift Station 1. The Public Works Director will be addressing this and answering questions.

Item 16 will consider adopting a resolution to increase the fixed meter rates by \$5.00 which would take effect on October 1, 2013.

Item 17 the council will be voting on what waste water system project to move forward with.