

WEEKLY MEMO

Date: November 1, 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 – November 5, 2013 – 5:00 PM – Council Chambers

Work Session – November 12, 2013 – 5:00 PM – Training Room

Regular Council Meeting – November 19, 2013 – 5:00 PM – Council Chambers

Work Session – November 26, 2013 – 5:00 PM – Training Room

BOARD & COMMISSION UPDATES:

Library Board Update

Andrea Scherer is enjoying being the Campbell Library's Program Coordinator, even though it is a tremendous amount of work. She runs to keep up with our regular activities, adding new twists and creating entirely new approaches and activities. This week the EGF Senior High Band played for Story Time. She's scheduling time with the local schools which is an area that needed to be reestablished. As a Grand Forks native, past EGF Public teacher and current Speech Coach for the high school, Andrea has a number of local connections, idea resources and support. The programming for 2014 is coming into focus as she tries her hand at grant writing and contracts.

Be sure to check the Library's web page for details on activities coming up, such as Games Day, Learning with Music, Computer Classes and "Cozy Up to Fiber" Art Exhibit. www.egflibrary.org

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

Fire Department – Chief Larson

The Fire Dept remains busy with Rental Inspections and Commercial Inspections. Enforcing state fire codes is a gray area, as they run you around in circles. I hope to get the State Fire Marshalls office in to put on a class for our paid personnel after the first of the year. We are sending 3 people down to Waterous Fire Pump School in November. It is a three day seminar that teaches how to repair fire pumps. This has save the City many dollars over the years, and gives our pump operators a better understanding of how the pump operates.

We met with Scott Breathing Apparatus this Wednesday on new SCBA's. We also had and MSA in the station, so we were able to compare fit, communications, and operations of the two units. They are the two leaders in the industry of SCBA's. We hope the Federal Government approves the 2013 standards on breathing apparatus so we can make a decision and purchase the SCBA's.

We remain busy with 860 calls for the year.

I would like to thank everyone for sitting through the budget meeting and if there are any questions or comments please contact me.

Community Development – Nancy Ellis

Trees were removed from City Hall property this week. After years of numerous attempts to keep the trees alive and healthy, it was decided that they should be removed and new trees planted. I have contacted Shea's Nursery and they will be planting 7 new trees on the property next week. We will be planting 3 oak trees, 2 linden, and 2 maple trees. I hope that we have better success with the growth of these new trees.

Rental inspections are done for the fall. The Fire Dept and the Inspections office try to inspect rental properties each Spring and Fall. We are also slowing down with requests for permits. Permit numbers and revenue will be presented at the November 12th budget meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Under Consent the council will consider approving the facility lease agreement between the City and the East Grand Forks Public School District and declaring civil defense sirens as surplus and allowed to be sold for scrap metal.

Item 9 under old business will reconsider approving the labor agreement between the City of East Grand Forks and the Teamsters Local No. 120.

Item 10 under old business will reconsider adopting a resolution amending the skating and hockey fees for the 2013-2014 season.

Item 11 will consider approving a mutual aid agreement between the City of East Grand Forks and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Item 12 will consider the request to start the hiring process for a park maintenance worker that will be vacant in November.

Item 13 will consider approving the request for the City to sign up and use a purchasing card program starting in January of 2014.