

WEEKLY MEMO

Date: January 17, 2014

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

RE: Weekly Update

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

January 21, 2014 – 5:00 PM – Regular Meeting – Council Chambers

January 28, 2014 – 5:00 PM – Work Session – Training Room

February 4, 2014 – 5:00 PM – Regular Meeting – Council Chambers

February 11, 2014 – 5:00 PM – Work Session – Training Room

Department Updates:

Public Works, Jason Stordahl

Streets: Staff has been doing their best to keep streets snow and ice free, which has been difficult during our recent swings in weather. There are several residents that have been parking on the streets during their area's street maintenance day, which hinders our progress in removing snow significantly. In efforts to improve conditions the Police Department has stepped up enforcement of our Street Maintenance Parking Ordinance. First time violators will be given one warning, if they commit a second violation they will be ticketed and towed at the Officers discretion. Please see below Our Street Maintenance Parking Schedule, as well as local ordinances that pertain to snow and snow removal.

Street Maintenance Parking

Commercial Routes – No Parking
2:00 AM – 7:00 AM Monday-Friday

NO PARKING

Residential Routes

7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Mondays	District 4 - Point area/ East of Bygland Road SE
Tuesdays	District 5 - Point area/ West of Bygland Road SE
Wednesdays	District 2 - North end/ South of 17 th St NW
Thursdays	District 1- North end/ North of 17 th St NW
Fridays	District 3- East end/ Central Areas/ Downtown lots

Snow Emergency – Whenever in the opinion of the Public Works Director an emergency exists, he may declare a “Snow Emergency” and make an announcement to local news media and on the City website. Under a “Snow Emergency”, no parking on any city street is allowed until that street has been cleared to its full width. Violators will be ticketed and towed.

Ice and Snow on Public Sidewalks

Every owner, occupant, or agent of any lot or parcel of land in the City of East Grand Forks to follow the City's ordinance on § 96.05 ICE AND SNOW ON PUBLIC SIDEWALKS.

All snow and ice remaining upon public sidewalks is declared to constitute a public nuisance and shall be abated by the owner or tenant of the abutting private property within 12 hours after such snow or ice has ceased to be deposited.

Placing snow or ice in the roadway

It is a misdemeanor for any person, not acting under a specific contract with the city or Without special permission from the City Superintendent of Streets, to remove snow or ice from private property and place the same in any roadway. § 96.09 OBSTRUCTIONS IN STREET

Campbell Library, Charlotte Helgeson

The Library is kick-starting the new year with Spy Academy, Jan. 27, for Grades 1-5; Learning with Music sessions for 1-4 year-olds and our Jack Frost Art Exhibit in cooperation with the Mountainbrook Recovery Center. The Exhibit's Opening Reception filled the library with music by Calamity James, readings by authors Lorinda and Guy Donovan and a tremendous variety of artists from Mountainbrook.

Our patrons were so impressed with some of the artwork that numerous pieces were sold that evening. We are currently offering e-reader classes as we are hoping patrons will learn to use their Holiday gifts and borrow their eBooks from the Campbell Library.

Park & Recreation Department, Dave Aker

Dale Gulbranson was finished his six months of probation and is the VFW Arena Manager.

Brenden Jones was hired as a maintenance worker for the East Grand Forks Parks and Recreation Department, he will be starting January 27. He has worked for REA the last four years and worked for Grand Rapids high school for two summers. He is originally from Grand Rapids and moved to Grand Forks to go to school at UND. He has experience for most of the jobs he will be working on. We had four real good job applications and they were all real good in the interviews.

We are starting to groom the cross country trail hopefully this week. It will be done in the campground and it is about a mile and a half trail. Depending on the weather we should be up for business next week, the plan is to groom the trail once every two weeks.

Police Department, Chief Hedlund

Portable Alarm Systems – For many years the East Grand Forks Police Department has used portable alarm systems to aid businesses and home owners protect themselves from temporary security issues. Recent Federal radio regulations made the old systems unusable and the Department has now purchased four new systems. These new alarms can be set up for both interior and exterior use in a number of ways including a variety of motion sensors and panic alarms. The alarms have typically been used when a business or home owner has a specific security concern or in domestic violence situations.

Winter Driving – Our frequent snows and very cold weather this winter have combined to create dangerous driving conditions. If you are traveling plan ahead and bring winter survival gear with you in your vehicle. If it is a major storm please delay your plans and stay home when possible. A big thing to remember is it will often take longer than you think to stop or slow down so drive defensively and start to brake early. Help us keep you safe by obeying the traffic regulations!

Agenda Items

The consent agenda includes considering declaring a snow blower as surplus to use as a trade in on the purchase of a newer snow blower for the Public Works Department, adopting resolutions supporting the cantilevered path on the Kennedy Bridge along with preparing plans and specifications for a new lift stations and SCADA system, and approving a memorandum of understanding with the Law Enforcement Labor Service group.

Item 9 will recognize Mr. Dale Gulbranson for successfully passing his probationary period as Ice Arena Manager.

Item 10 will consider zoning the property that is proposed to be annexed as R-1 or single family residential. This has to be done before the property can be annexed which is why this comes before adopting the annexation ordinance and why the annexation ordinance is still under new business.

Item 11 will consider adopting an ordinance annexing City property into City limits.

Item 12 will consider allowing a three month trial run for LSS to prepare meals for Stay, Play, and Learn Daycare center.