

WEEKLY MEMO

Date: February 20, 2015

To: Mayor Lynn Stauss. Council President Mark Olstad, Council Vice-President Chad Grassel, Council Members Clarence Vetter, Mike Pokrzywinski, Craig Buckalew, Henry Tweten, and Marc DeMers.

RE: Weekly Update

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

February 23, 2015 – 5:00 PM – Work Session/Special Meeting – Training Room

March 3, 2015 – 5:00 PM – Regular Council Meeting – Council Chambers

March 10, 2015 – 5:00 PM – Work Session – Training Room

March 17, 2015 – 5:00 PM – Regular Council Meeting – Council Chambers

Legislative Update:

The Greater Minnesota Partnership announced in the February 18th newsletter that workforce housing bills were introduced in both the House and Senate. The bills are proposing tax credits and grants to encourage investors and developers to build workforce housing in Greater Minnesota. The partnership is looking for people from the business community to testify. If interested please contact Dan Dorman at dan@gmnp.org.

The Business Development Public Infrastructure (BDPI) Grant Program legislation was passed in the House committee hearing this past week. If enacted the program would provide \$20 million in funding to help provide infrastructure for private business for places such as the Industrial Park.

The Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities announced in their newsletter from February 19th that legislation had been introduced in both the House and Senate proposing an increase to LGA by over \$45 million in the next two years which would bring the program back to the 2002 funding level.

Agenda Items:

Work Session –

Item one will be a brief presentation of a proposed plan for lighting the Sorlie Bridge.

Item two will be a review of actions taken by the Council regarding waste water rates and where the rates are currently at.

Item three will be a discussion on the possibility of setting a policy for elected officials requesting information from staff.

Special Meeting –

The special meeting will consist of reviewing the Strategic Plan set by the City Council in 2014 along with a review of the methods and characteristics of an effective Council.