

# WEEKLY MEMO

**Date:** June 24, 2011

**To:** Mayor Lynn Stauss, Council President Craig Buckalew, Vice President Wayne Gregoire, Council Members Marc Demers, Ron Vonasek, Henry Tweten, Greg Leigh, and Mike Pokrzywinski.

**From:** Scott Huizenga

**RE:** Weekly Update

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

*June 28, 2011 – 5:00 pm – Work Session – Training Room*

*July 5, 2011 – 5:00 pm – Council Meeting – Council Chambers*

*July 12, 2011 – 5:00 pm – Work Session – Training Room*

*July 19, 2011 – 5:00 pm – Council Meeting – Council Chambers*

## **WEEKLY UPDATE:**

### **Sherlock Park Update**

As most are now aware, Leighton Broadcasting will host the Rockn' for Sherlock fundraising event for the Sherlock Forest project on Wednesday, June 29. The City and partners have established several points of contact for updates on the project. The City web site can be found at [www.sherlockplayground.org](http://www.sherlockplayground.org). The Facebook site is [www.facebook.com/sherlockforest](http://www.facebook.com/sherlockforest). And, the Community Foundation ([www.gofoundation.org](http://www.gofoundation.org)) is accepting donations.

I have been assured by the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) that the damage to the facility will be fully covered up to 150-percent of its value based on actual replacement cost. As such, I believe the fundraising efforts will be more than sufficient to cover any needed funding gaps, landscaping, and enhancement needs. Any remaining balances will remain in a dedicated non-profit endowment dedicated exclusively to Sherlock Park.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **Library, Charlotte Helgeson**

Our Summer Program has a waiting list this week. Nearly half-again as many children were on the waiting list to make a model with Mike Hoekstra and the Modelers Club as were able to participate. With the Park & Rec Playground program beginning at 1 p.m. and ours beginning at 3 p.m., the library has many children all afternoon. A perfect spot on rainy afternoons. One young lady arrived with her reading ledger today with 16 hours of recorded reading time. She's on her way to big prizes for the summer.

### **Parks and Recreation, Dave Aker**

- 1) The campground is presenting Small Mammals of Minnesota Saturday, June 25 at 10:30 am until 11:30 am in the campground.
- 2) Flowers were donated for across City Hall by Elaine Olson in memory of Brian and Cindy Olson who passed away this spring.

## AGENDA ITEMS

1. Andy Magness of Ground UP Adventures (which organizes the Extreme ND race among others) will present to the Council a proposal to add a boat storage facility to the LaFave Park/Catfish Days area of the Greenway.
2. The City Engineer will request authorization to file plans and prepare bid advertising for the Greenway Trail Improvements project. The project is 50 percent funded from a grant from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.
3. The City Engineer will request the authorization of plans and specifications to improve 14<sup>th</sup> Ave SE. The City previously held a public hearing on the proposed assessment roll. This proposal would include alternates to improve the entire street with the city paying for the non-assessable half of the street. The City would also bid an alternate to include the unimproved half of 11<sup>th</sup> Ave SE depending on final bid prices.
4. The Public Works Director and the City Engineer will discuss street repair options for 2<sup>nd</sup> Street NW and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street NW – commonly referred as the “Sacred Heart road” along the levee. The Council has two options to repair the road. An overlay option would cost approximately \$60,000 with an estimated increased life span of approximately seven years. A total replacement is estimated to be \$209,000 plus soft costs. There has been no assessment hearing on the project. Therefore, any repair would be funded exclusively by the City.
5. The Public Works Director and the City Engineer will discuss street repairs for DeMers and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Northwest that are proposed to coincide with sill repair work as part of the US Army Corp of Engineers “loose ends” on the levee project.
6. The Public Works Director and the City Engineer will discuss turf repair to the boardwalk area and certain other areas of the levee that have experienced damage after flooding events of the last few years.
7. The Library Director will discuss options for Library roof repair. The preferred option by the Library board is to proceed with an entire design and replacement of the conference room portion of the Library, which has had design complications since its inception possibly due to its radial design. The City has pursued several smaller, less expensive options to abate the ice damming and leaking issues in the Library. All “band-aid” approaches have proved insufficient.
8. I will provide a brief overview of the potential shutdown implications to the City should the Governor and the Legislature not agree on a state budget before July first. I will review timelines and fund balances to show how long the City can rely upon reserves during a shutdown. I will also provide some service alternatives should the shutdown prolong into the fall. I still hope, but I do not expect, a resolution to be reached soon so that this presentation is a moot point.