

City of Lake St. Croix Beach
 City Hall
 16455 20th Street South
 Lake St. Croix Beach, MN 55043

Staff:
 Interim City Clerk-Administrator
 Mitch Berg
 Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
 Amy Truhlar

City Hall Hours:
 9:30 – 1:30 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
 Call for an appointment at other times
 Phone Number: (651) 436-7031
 Fax: (651) 436-8310
 Email: lscb@comcast.net
 Website: www.lscb.govoffice.com

December, 2014
 Issue No. 504

Lake St. Croix Beach

The official posting place for Lake St. Croix Beach city meetings is at the posting board near the front door at City Hall. A majority of the City Council may be in attendance at any city meeting.

December Calendar

Note: All city meetings start at 7:00 p.m. and are held at the City Hall except as noted otherwise.

Wednesday, December 3
 Public Hearings and Planning Commission

Thursday, December 4
 Recycle Day

Tuesday, December 9
 Park Commission

Wednesday, December 10
 LSCV Fire District at Fire Hall

Thursday, December 11
 Middle SCV WMO meeting at Washington Conservation District Office

Monday, December 15
 Truth in Taxation Hearing
 Regular City Council Meeting
 Holiday Party at 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 18
 Recycle Day

Monday, December 22
 LSCV Alliance – 4:30 p.m. at Fire Hall

December 24-25
 City Offices Closed for Christmas Holiday



*You are cordially invited
 to the
 LAKE ST. CROIX BEACH*

**ANNUAL HOLIDAY
 SOCIAL HOUR**

**Monday, December 15th
 8:00 p.m.**

**Lake St. Croix Beach
 City Hall**

Hosted by the City Council



**Truth-In-Taxation
 Hearing**

**Monday, December 15,
 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at City
 Hall**

See proposed budget pgs. 2-3

Winter Parking Restrictions ❄️

On street parking is prohibited throughout city:

- For more than 24 consecutive hours from Nov. 1 thru April 1
- After snowfall, for 48 hours or until snow is removed
- Where posted "No Parking"

The above conditions require that vehicles must be

**OFF THE PAVED STREET
 SURFACE.**

Citations may be issued for vehicles that obstruct snowplow routes.

**Automatic Payments –
 Water Billing**

Automatic payments are now being offered by the Lakeland Water Utility for monthly water bills. An application needs to be printed from the City of Lakeland website, filled out, and returned to Lakeland Water via email, fax, snail mail, or in person. Details can be found on the website (ci.lakeland.mn.us); click on Departments the Public Works/Water Utility.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the water utility at 651-436-8044.

	2015	Percent
	Proposed	Change
	Budget	from 2014
REVENUES		
Property Taxes	\$ 480,500.00	3.00%
Business Licenses	\$ 900.00	0%
Liquor & Cigarette Licenses	\$ 1,525.00	0%
Animal Licenses & Fees	\$ 100.00	0%
Boat & Mooring Permits	\$ 6,000.00	0%
Park Permits & Fees	\$ 18,000.00	0%
Newsletter Sponsors	\$ 2,000.00	0%
Assessment Searches	\$ 100.00	0%
Applications: Zoning & Land Development	\$ 500.00	0%
Building Permit & Fees	\$ 1,000.00	0%
Court Fines & fees	\$ 2,000.00	0%
Investment Income	\$ 100.00	0%
Cleanup Day Fees		0%
Miscellaneous	\$ 100.00	0%
Recycle Grants & Aids	\$ 4,200.00	0%
Cable Commission Grants & Aids	\$ 7,000.00	0%
Pettitt Park Improvement Fund		0%
Pettitt Park Playground Slide Grants		0%
South Bluff Project Grant		0%
Other Grants/Rebates Received		0%
Heritage Day Donations	\$ 150.00	0%
Insurance Dividend	\$ 1,169.00	0%
Other Reimbursements		0%
2014 Flood Expense Reimbursements		0%
PERA Aid	\$ 248.00	0%
Assessments, Retired Water Sys. Bonds		0%
Local Government Aid/MVHC	\$ 72,198.00	0%
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 597,790	3%

EXPENDITURES		
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
Council Compensation:		
Includes Gross Wages, Withholdings, PERA	\$ 8,786.70	109%
City Hall Staff Compensation:	\$ -	
Inclues Gross Wages, Withholdings, Benefits	\$ 122,231.89	
Unemployment Compensation	\$ -	
Flood	\$ -	
Treasurer	\$ -	
Elections	\$ 470.00	-84%
Financial Audit	\$ 6,515.00	-7%
Assessing Services	\$ 7,828.00	3%
Office Supplies	\$ 5,700.00	12%
Office Equipment	\$ 1,000.00	0%
Communication Equipment & Service	\$ 1,500.00	0%
IT Purchases	\$ -	
Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 1,000.00	100%
City Attorney	\$ 15,000.00	0%
Insurance	\$ 9,500.00	6%
Memberships	\$ 1,871.00	87%
Training	\$ 2,000.00	
Newsletter	\$ 7,000.00	0%
Publishing & Printing	\$ 1,000.00	0%
Engineering	\$ 15,000.00	-25%
Payroll Service	\$ 1,750.00	-30%
GF- Pettitt Park Playground Slide	\$ -	
Donations	\$ -	-100%
Banking Fees & Charges	\$ 50.00	0%
Miscellaneous	\$ 100.00	0%
Total General Government	\$ 208,303	9%

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS:		
Maintenance & Utilities	\$ 13,000.00	0%
City Hall Renovation		
City Hall Improvement - furnace/HVAC		
Total Government Buildings	\$ 13,000	-28%
PUBLIC SAFETY:		
Law Enforcement	\$ 61,589.52	1%
Fire Protection	\$ 51,788.00	0%
Fireman's Retirement Fund Contribution	\$ 500.00	
Fire Station Debt Service	\$ 13,640.00	-2%
Grants	\$ -	
Animal Control	\$ 2,000.00	0%
Erosion & Flood Control	\$ 5,000.00	0%
Total Public Safety	\$ 134,518	1%
STREETS:		
Lighting	\$ 9,600.00	7%
Maintenance	\$ 20,000.00	-11%
Snow Removal	\$ 20,000.00	-20%
Street Drainage / Flooding	\$ 2,700.00	0%
Signs & Sign Inventory	\$ 5,000.00	0%
Planned Use of Fund Balance		
Total Streets	\$ 57,300	-11%
SANITATION:		
Weed Eradication	\$ 1,000.00	0%
Tree Program	\$ 2,500.00	-50%
Clean Up Day		
Recycle	\$ 24,000.00	45%
Total Sanitation	\$ 27,500	22%
WATER:		
Watermain repairs		
RECREATION:		
Park Maintenance & Supplies	\$ 9,500.00	-59%
Park Salary	\$ 4,700.00	0%
Mowing & Lawn Maintenance	\$ 12,000.00	0%
Pettitt Park Improvements		
Bluffland Improvement & Maintenance	\$ 5,000.00	0%
Total Recreation	\$ 31,200	-30%
CITY DEVELOPMENT:		
City Development/Heritage Day	\$ -	-100%
Training & Tuition	\$ -	-100%
Meeting Per Diem/Exp	\$ 2,750.00	10%
Codification	\$ 5,000.00	
Water System Core Facility		0%
Water Management. Organization	\$ 4,500.00	0%
Total City Development	\$ 12,250	-90%
CONTINGENCY FUND CONTRIBUTIONS:		
Contingency Fund	\$ -	
Total Reserve Fund Contributions	\$ -	0%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES	\$ 484,070	0%
TSF		
CIP Streets - 10yr Plan	\$ 72,198.00	3%
TSF to Special Revenue Fund	\$ 2,000.00	
TSF to Bluffland Fund	\$ -	
TSF to City Hall Debt Service Fund: Rent to EDA	\$ 38,243.75	-1%
Total TSF Out	112,442	
TSF		
CIP Streets - 10yr Plan	\$ 72,198.00	3%
TSF to Special Revenue Fund	\$ 2,000.00	
TSF to Bluffland Fund	\$ -	
TSF to City Hall Debt Service Fund: Rent to EDA	\$ 38,243.75	-1%
Total TSF Out	112,442	
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES W/TSF	596,511.86	
Total Revenue Without Tax Levy	\$ 117,290	5.25%
Gross Tax Levy	\$ 480,500	3.00%
Revenues Less Expenses	\$ 1,278	

Once again, our Annual Holiday Social Hour will follow our City Council meeting on Monday, December 15, 8:00 p.m. at City Hall. Everyone is welcome! Feel free to bring a food item or beverage to share.

This year went by very quickly. I really enjoy serving the residents of Lake St. Croix Beach. Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to continuing to serve the city for years to come.

A big thank you to everyone who participated in the 2nd Annual Holiday Craft Sale. It was a great event. Happy Holidays and have a happy and safe Christmas!

Mayor Tom

The Playground Committee has worked very hard over the past year to fund new playground equipment for Riverfront Park.

If you are interested in helping, checks made payable to St. Croix Valley Foundation, with LSCB Playground Fund in the memo line, can be sent to: 516 Second Street, Suite 214, Hudson, WI 54016.

News From The Fire Department...

PANCAKE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Sunday, December 7, 2014; 8:00 am – Noon

At the Fire Department (1560 St. Croix Trail South, Lake St. Croix Beach)

Come and enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, juice, milk, and coffee. Santa will be visiting during the breakfast for photo opportunities.

Free-will offering: Bring your food donation of non-perishable food items to help stock the local food shelves. Last year we gathered over 200 pounds of food. Let's do our part to help others!

FIRE EXTINGUISHER RECHARGING

Did you know that it is fire code for all non-sprinkled commercial businesses to have a fire extinguisher within 50 feet of you at any time? The extinguishers must also be recharged and have a current tag from a licensed technician annually. Annual certifications are required for all businesses only.

On Tuesday, December 9th we will have a service tech from Becker's Fire Safety at the Lower St Croix Valley Fire station (1560 St Croix Trail South) starting at 8 am until 12 noon or longer if necessary. He will recertify your present extinguisher if possible and if not will have 5# extinguishers available for purchase. If you have a cheaper extinguisher with plastic nozzle and trigger, they are not cost effective to recharge or recertify. The advantage of coming to our station is that you will avoid a service charge having someone come out to your business or avoid having to take them into St. Paul.

This is open to all residents and businesses. Please enter at the service door on northwest corner of the fire station. You can park in the rear parking lot near that door. Payment is due on that day made directly to the Beckers.

Community Forum: United We Stand and Prescription Pill Take Back Night

Three major organizations stand united to inform, protect, and help our community stop opiate addiction in its tracks. Listen in as young adults from Washington County share their personal story of substance abuse, and how their recreational drug use evolved into heroin addiction. Hear from Washington County Law enforcement and prevention professionals as they teach on current local drug trends, root causes of addiction, and means of intervention. This presentation is for parents, youth-workers, teachers and concerned adults.

2 Locations and Dates:

Thursday, December 11th, 2014 6:30-8:00PM

Mahtomedi High School Chautauqua Fine Arts Center

8000 75th Street N, Mahtomedi, MN 55115

6:30-7:30pm - Presentation

7:30-8pm - Question & Answer

Tuesday, December 16th, 2014 6:30-8:00PM

Stillwater High School Auditorium

5701 Stillwater Blvd N., Stillwater, MN 55082

6:30-7:30pm - Presentation

7:30-8pm - Question & Answer

PRESCRIPTION PILL TAKE BACK NIGHT

Unused medications? Don't let them fall into the wrong hands. Bring your unwanted meds to the events to be properly disposed of. Prescription drop box will be outside!

Annual Notice to All Residential Utility Customers

Bills can pile up just like snow, but the Minnesota Cold Weather Rule is designed to protect people who may have trouble paying their utility bills in winter. The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule applies from October 15 to April 15. The rule, established by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, means that your utility cannot disconnect your residential electric service during the winter if the customer meets the following requirements:

1. Utility disconnection would affect the customer's primary heat source;
2. The customer has declared inability to pay on forms provided by the utility (Note: Customers receiving "any form of public assistance," including energy assistance, are deemed to have qualified for inability to pay status);
3. The household income of the customer is less than 50% of the state median income level, as documented by the customer to the utility; and
4. The customer enters into and makes reasonably timely payments under a payment agreement that considers the financial resources of the household.

If you have trouble paying your utility bill, local agencies may be able to provide payment assistance. The state Department of Human Services recommends you call the county in which you live.

If you know you are going to have trouble paying your utility bills, please contact the utility to try and work out a payment schedule.

How to Extend the Life of a Small Appliance

We always talk about waste management's three Rs: reduce, reuse and recycle. For small appliances, such as blenders, coffee makers, toasters, and curling irons, let's add a fourth R: repair.

Repair Tips

Small appliances that are not working often need minor repairs or parts replaced. Consider troubleshooting and repair options before getting rid of broken appliances.

Some communities offer fix-it clinics. Repairable small appliances include lamps, fans, flashlights, blenders, sewing machines, hair dryers, and more. At the clinics, residents receive free, guided help from volunteers with repair skills to disassemble, troubleshoot and fix their items.

Fix-it clinics teach valuable troubleshooting and basic repair skills. They also build community connections and reduce the number of repairable objects that are thrown in the trash. Check with your city or county recycling coordinator to find out where the nearest fix-it clinic may be.

Many businesses in the Twin Cities repair lamps and other small appliances. An online search will point you in the right direction.

Reduce, Reuse

Before you buy a new small appliance, try shopping at consignment and second-hand shops. You also can try online resale outlets like Craigslist.

If you have a small appliance in good working condition that you no longer need, contact a local charity to ask about donating it. For a list, refer to the yellow pages under "charities."

Also consider online resale sites for reselling working appliances.

Recycle

The Recycling Zone in Eagan accepts small appliances for free from Twin Cities residents. Green Lights Recycling in Blaine accepts items for a small fee.

Most locations that recycle major appliances, such as refrigerators, ovens, washers and dryers, will not accept small appliances. Please call for information about acceptable items.

If you are purchasing a new small appliance, ask the retailer if they will recycle your old appliance. Best Buy accepts many appliances at no charge, not including small kitchen appliances, no matter where they were purchased. Hair dryers and curling items are examples of personal care items accepted. See BestBuy.com for details.

Disposal

Contact your trash service provider to confirm which items can be placed in the trash. If the small appliance is cordless, remove and recycle the batteries before placing the appliance in the trash. Rechargeable batteries may contain hazardous or rare metals. If improperly disposed, they can pollute our air, land and water. Rechargeable batteries can be recovered and recycled to make new products. Bring rechargeable batteries to most hardware stores. Some county household hazardous waste drop-off sites accept rechargeable batteries; check with your county.

For more information on managing appliances, visit www.RethinkRecycling.com.



House Numbers

Ordinance 505.045 It shall be the duty of the owner, lessor and/or occupant of every house, apartment, duplex, industrial, commercial, or other building to have house and/or building numbers clearly displayed thereon, either by affixing to said building or sign post . . . The numbers shall not be less than 3 inches in height, in a contrasting color to the base and be placed as to be easily and clearly seen from the street when approached from either direction.

With the holidays approaching, if you live near or in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), thinking about flooding may be the last thing on your mind.

However, this is the perfect time for us to let you know how we will notify you in the event of a flood, and what precautions you can take to protect you and your property, prior to the next flood event.

Flood Warning:

Many times flooding along the St. Croix River within the City of Lake Saint Croix Beach can be predicted in advance, giving ample warning to prepare. However, heavy rainfall may come with little to no advanced warning. In the event flooding is anticipated or there is an immediate and impending flood, the city will activate the Emergency Alert System (EAS) which is comprised of utilizing Code Red, a reverse 911 system which can notify residents via phone, text or email. In the event of an immediate and impending emergency the city will utilize the Advanced Early Warning System (storm siren) and also utilize both Code Red and the local radio and television to advise you of the situation.

Flood Safety:

The following common sense guidelines can help you from the dangers of flooding:

- Do not drive through a flooded area. More people drown in cars than anywhere else. Do not drive around barriers.
- Do not walk through flowing water. Currents can be deceptive. Six inches of water can knock you off your feet.
- Stay away from power lines and electrical wires. If your house is about to be flooded, turn off the power at the service box. Electrical current can travel through water. Electrocutation is the 2nd leading cause of death during floods.
- Be alert to gas leaks. Turn off the gas to your house before it floods. If you smell gas, report it to your gas company. Do not use candles, lanterns or open flames if you smell gas or are unsure if your gas has been shut off.
- Keep children away from flood waters, ditches, culverts, and storm drains. Flood waters can carry unimaginable items that have dislodged themselves. Culverts may suck smaller people into them rendering them helpless.
- Clean everything that has been wet. Flood water will be contaminated with sewage and other chemicals which pose severe health threats.
- Look out for animals, especially snakes. Small animals that have been flooded out of their home may seek shelter in yours.
- Do not use gas engines, such as generators, or charcoal fires indoors during power outages. Carbon monoxide exhaust can pose serious health hazards.

Flood Resources:

The City of Lake St. Croix Beach's website has several flood resources available to property owners living within the flood plain. Some of the resources include, but are not limited to:

- Current and projected flood level data
- Historical flood level data
- Flood Insurance Information and access to FEMA Flood Insurance Map
- The city's Flood Management Manual and Flood Inundation Map, showing the three different flood level stages within the city (at the 10, 100 and 500 year flood level)
- The City's Flood Plain Management Ordinance
- FEMA resources for building within the Flood Plain
- Resources on how to protect yourself and your property in the event of a flood

In addition, the city has created a virtual resource library on the city's website, which can be found by going to www.lscb.govoffice.com.

If you do not have internet access the same materials found in the virtual resource library can also be obtained by visiting Washington County's Lakeland Library Branch, during regular library hours.

For this or any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact city hall at 651-436-7031 or by email at lscb@comcast.net

Public Safety

(Including Reports)



Law Enforcement Report

October, 2014

Complaints Investigated

9 Medical	1 Noise Complaint
3 Lift Assist	1 Gas Drive-Off
3 Public Assist/Civil Assist	1 Trespassing
3 Property Retrieval	1 Disturbance
3 Alarm	1 Credit Card Fraud
2 Civil Process Case	1 Attempted Assault Report
1 Dog Bite	1 Harassment Complaint
1 Suspicious Person	1 Driving Complaint

Citations Issued: 0

• **Sheriff's TIPLINE**

A quick, simple way to forward information to Washington County Investigators anonymously.

E-mail: sheriff@co.washington.mn.us

Or Phone 651-430-7850

Crime in progress – call 911

Fire Department Report



The Fire Department reported 38 runs in October, 13 of which were in Lake St. Croix Beach.

The Fire Department's Website is www.lscvfd.com.



Animal Control

In the month of October, 6 dogs were reported lost, and 2 dogs and 1 cat were reported found.

Reminder: Animal License Renewals are now due. All dogs and cats over 6 months of age must be licensed. Licenses can be purchased at City Hall during normal business hours or by mail. **Application, payment, and proof of current rabies vaccination required.**

Building Permits



Remember to Contact the Building Inspector
before you start a project!

The Building Inspector, is located at
Lakeland Water Department Plant No. 2
1190 St. Croix Trail South

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 321, Lakeland, MN 55043,
Phone: 651-436-1405

Please note: The Building Department Office Hours
Mondays 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.
Thursdays 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Solid Waste and Recycling

Recycle Service

We use a single-sort recycle service. Only certain materials can be recycled. These items are listed on the lid of the cart. Please set your recycle cart at the curb by 7:00 a.m. every other **Thursday**.
Recycle Hauler is Waste Management 877-969-2783

Garbage Service

The City of Lake St. Croix Beach currently has three garbage haulers who are licensed to collect garbage on **Wednesdays and Thursdays** only:

Highland Sanitation	651-458-0043
Maroney Service Inc.	651-439-7279
Waste Management	651-437-9201

Residents may choose a garbage hauler from those who are licensed with the City. All residents must have a contract with a garbage hauler or be able to prove that their garbage is taken to a proper collection site.

Hazardous Waste Site

General Information

Did you know that residents can drop-off household hazardous waste, electronics, and recyclables for free at the new Washington County Environmental Center? The Center is located at 4039 Cottage Grove Drive in Woodbury, near the intersection of Manning and Bailey Road, just 4 miles south of I-94. The Center replaces the Hazardous Materials Collection Site in Oakdale, which permanently closed in 2009.

The Environmental Center is open:

Tuesdays Noon – 7:00 p.m.
Thursdays 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Saturdays 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Free Product Room

Don't need it? Someone might! Did you know that some of the items you drop-off at the Environmental Center might be stocked in the **Free Product Room** for other residents to pick up, free of charge?

The **Free Product Room** is located inside of the Washington County Environmental Center at 4039 Cottage Grove Drive in Woodbury. Products set out in the **Free Product Room** are first screened for quality. Some of the more popular items are paint and stain. If you are on a tight budget, you might just find the color you were looking for, and there's no cost to you. Other popular products set out in the **Free Product Room** are lawn & garden products and automotive fluids.

For materials collected and more information go to www.co.washington.mn.us/envirocenter or call 430-6655.

Yard Waste Dropoff & Compost Sites

Woodbury: Compost Concepts
Location: 4600 Cottage Grove Drive
Phone: 651-769-0531

Cottage Grove: Cottage Grove Compost Site
9600 Glendenning Rd.
Phone: 651-459-1556

Calendar of Events for Valley Library in Lakeland – December 2014

Valley Library

380 St. Croix Trail South

Website: www.washington.lib.mn.us

Phone: (651) 436-5882

Monday, Friday, Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Tuesday – Thursday 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Preschool Storytime

December 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29

Dog Gone Reading

Tuesday, December 23, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Kids in grades K – 7 read aloud to a certified therapy dog and its owner. Reading intervals are 15 minutes in length. Call the library to arrange a time to read.



The Lake St. Croix Beach City Council Meetings
may be viewed on Channel 16.

Schedule:

Dec. 3 at 4 p.m. and midnight
Dec. 4 at 7 a.m.
Dec. 10 at 1 p.m. and 9 p.m.
Dec. 11 at 9 a.m.
Dec. 17 at 4 p.m. and midnight
Dec. 18 at 7 a.m.
Dec. 24 at 1 p.m. and 9 p.m.
Dec. 25 at 9 a.m.
Dec. 31 at 4 p.m. and midnight

Upon occasion, the transmission of these meetings may be delayed or not available due to technical difficulties. Check their website for more information www.vactv.org



HIGHLIGHTS REGULAR CITY COUNCIL

The following are unapproved minutes from the November 17, 2014 City Council meeting. *Minutes may at times be condensed to fit space. (Complete minutes on file at City Hall.)*

Members Present Tom McCarthy, Charles W. Brown, Cheryl Kopp, Cindie Reiter, Jim Unker

Staff Present Mitchell Berg, Kevin Sandstrom, Amy Truhlar

Others Present Don James, Buster Schneider, Bill Glampe, Michelle Kline, Steve Zigan, Jim Stanley, Kris Peterson, Tom Sweeney, Mike Edgell, Pat Wood

- **Call To Order** by Mayor McCarthy at 7:07 p.m.
- **Pledge of Allegiance** was said.
- **Approve Agenda** Agenda Item 3
Mayor McCarthy asked that a Closed Session be added to the agenda after Council/Staff Reports. City Attorney Kevin Sandstrom explained that the closed session would be held to discuss the pending litigation that David Triemert has brought against the city.
M/S/P (Unker, Brown) TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- **Consent Agenda** Agenda Item 6
M/S/P (Reiter, Kopp) TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: UNKER – AYE, REITER – AYE, KOPP – AYE, BROWN – AYE, MCCARTHY – AYE.

M/S/P (Reiter, Kopp) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON OCTOBER 20, 2014 AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Kopp) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON NOVEMBER 12, 2014 AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **OPEN COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Tom Sweeney, 101 East 6th Street in St. Paul, explained that he will be applying for a conditional use permit (CUP) for 1950 Quasar Avenue South, the former site of LPD Electric. He stated he would be leasing the property to restore classic wood boats and would need the current CUP to be amended and the zoning changed for this to be allowed. He will sell some boats, but the business will primarily be for the restoration of boats. The city code does not address this type of use. Mr. Sweeney stated that he would also like to live in the house on the property. The owner of the property is applying for a CUP amendment to change the zoning for the property. City Attorney Sandstrom reported that Mr. Sweeney will submit an application for this, and the issue will be presented to the City Council after staff has reviewed the application and processed it.

- **PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS**

Councilmember Kopp reported there were 44 calls to law enforcement in the month of October with 1 citation issued. The animal control report for October listed 6 dogs lost and 2 dogs and 1 cat found. There were no calls for service in October. Deputy Sullivan had nothing further to add.

Jim Stanley, Deputy Chief of the Lower St. Croix Valley Fire Department, reported 38 runs in October, 13 of which were in Lake St. Croix Beach. He noted that at the Public Hearing for CUPs on November 5, 2014, there was a question as to why there was a pipe coming from the side of the fire station. Until the area can be redone, the pipe is there to temporarily direct water away from the area. He stated that he has not completed the fire inspections for the CUP holders yet, but will submit them to city staff when they are done.

Mr. Stanley reported that he had spoken with neighbors along Quasar Court (behind the fire station) about the trees, and they will be trimming the trees to clean the area up. There will be a Pancake Breakfast/Breakfast With Santa at the fire station on December 7. The all-cities meeting with the Fire Relief Association will be held Thursday, January 29. The date was chosen because it will be the fifth Thursday of month and should not interfere with any monthly city meetings. All City Councilmember from the 5 cities (Afton, Lake St. Croix Beach, Lakeland, Lakeland Shores, St. Mary's Point) are invited to attend. An agenda will be sent closer to the meeting date.

- **CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Mitch Berg explained that the fall street sweeping was scheduled to occur the week of November 17, 2014. Due to the snow, this will be cancelled.

- **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Annual Review of Conditional Use Permits and Certificate of Compliance**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg explained that the Planning Commission made one motion approving the annual reviews of CUPs and the Certificate of Compliance of all the businesses they did not have questions about. He noted that the property owner of the duplex at 1936 Racine Avenue South has not yet paid his annual review fee.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS AND CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR 1770 ST. CROIX TRAIL SOUTH, BEACH BAR, BIRDSEYE PROPERTIES D/B/A WOOD WONDERS SUPPLY AND DESIGN, INC., CITY OF LAKE ST. CROIX BEACH, DUPLEX AT 1936 RACINE AVENUE SOUTH, DUPLEX AT 16360-16370 18TH STREET SOUTH, ERICKSON OIL PRODUCTS D/B/A FREEDOM, KOPP SIGN AND DESIGN, OLD FIRE BARN, SCENIC HILLS, AND ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH CONTINGENT UPON THE PAYMENT OF THE REVIEW FEE FOR 1936 RACINE AVENUE SOUTH AND ALL BUSINESSES SUCCESSFULLY PASSING A FIRE INSPECTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Lower St. Croix Valley Fire District and Nails, Etc.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg noted reported that the Planning Commission asked him to look into a few items for the re-

maining CUPs. Bordertown Holdings did not pay the annual review fee because of the application for a change to the CUP. The property is currently not being used. City Attorney Sandstrom explained that the CUP will still exist with no use currently being undertaken, and there will be an application for a different use.

Councilmember Reiter noted that the previous property owner did live in the house on the property, but the residential use stopped when the property was purchased by Bordertown Holdings (doing business as LPD Electric). City Attorney Sandstrom explained that he was unsure whether that would still qualify as a grandfathered use if it was no longer being used in that way, even though the house is still there. He stated that the CUP should not go away just because the property was not being used. He noted that the residential parcel was in the wrong zone but assumed it pre-exists the current zoning, but would need to research the matter further to make a final determination.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg pointed out that the concerns raised regarding the Lower St. Croix Valley Fire District were addressed by Mr. Stanley during his report.

There were several items violating exterior storage ordinances at Nails, Etc. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg noted that exterior storage is not allowed in the RB zone, even when the items are incidental to the business. Mike Edgell, owner of Nails, Etc., pointed out that the dumpster, which is inside the fence, has been in the same location since his business began and has never been an issue. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg explained that a Planning Commissioner had noted several additional items not allowed by the CUP, such as trailers, vehicles, and other miscellaneous items. Mr. Edgell explained that he has always put the pallets outside near the street, and residents take them and use them for firewood. City Attorney Sandstrom noted that since exterior storage is not allowed, items should be inside or screened from view. Mr. Edgell pointed out that the dumpster is a roll-off and is filled, emptied, and replaced every one-two months. There was discussion regarding different locations for the dumpster. Mr. Edgell suggested that he could put some kind of paneling on the gate so the dumpster could not be seen from the outside. It was noted that currently the dumpster is located behind a cattle gate, so even when the gate is closed, the dumpster is still visible. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg noted that even if properly screened only certain items are allowed for exterior storage. Steve Zigan, a resident, noted that unless the fence was very high, watercraft would not be screened.

Councilmember Reiter asked for suggestions to bring Nails, Etc. into compliance. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg noted that the garbage container must be properly contained, the boats and vehicles are acceptable as long as they are properly licensed, and the pallets should be kept inside. It was noted that if the cattle gate was covered and closed at night, the items would be screened and properly contained. There was discussion regarding what should be used to cover the fence. It was suggested that the chain link mesh could be used or thick, nylon-type material attached with zip ties could be used.

It was noted that there is another person sharing the property with Nails, Etc., but he is not renting the space. They are also in construction, so it was verified that it was the same use.

M/S/P (Brown, Reiter) TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF NAILS, ETC. AND THE LOWER ST. CROIX VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTINGENT UPON SUCCESSFULLY PASSING A FIRE INSPECTION AND THE PAYMENT OF THE REVIEW FEE FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Bordertown Holdings LLC d/b/a LPD Electric

Pat Wood, owner of Bordertown Holdings LLC and LPD Electric, explained that he has applied for a change to the zoning of the property, and Mr. Sweeney has applied for a CUP. He has applied for the zoning change in order to use the property as residential again. When he bought the business in 2004, the previous owner was living in the house on the property. Mr. Wood used the house as his office space, but it is still suitable for residential use as the kitchen and bathroom were not removed.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg reported that he reviewed the pages in the city code regarding uses allowed in the zoning district. He suggested attending the City Council meeting to determine whether a text amendment was necessary, which would require a Public Hearing. Mr. Wood noted that although boat sales is an allowed use, there is no definition of boat sales. He felt that the definition is therefore arbitrary, open to interpretation, and could change depending upon who is reading the code. City Attorney Sandstrom noted that the restoration of boats is closer to boat manufacturing than boat sales. Boat restoration and manufacturing will use certain chemicals, adhesives,

etc that boat sales and therefore should be regulated differently. Mr. Wood argued that the reason for a CUP was to list the conditions of operating a certain business at a certain site. He added that he did not mean to start an argument. The comment regarding definitions was an observation, and he felt it should be addressed. He noted that he has submitted an application for a text amendment and will go through the process to get that. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg pointed out that the city code has five pages listing uses in certain zoning district. There are no definitions of these uses and many possible uses are not listed. Just because certain uses are not listed in the city code, it does not mean the use can not be allowed under a CUP. The Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing for the text amendment to the zoning code and the changes to the CUP.

Mr. Wood clarified that he and Bordertown Holdings LLC have responsibilities and obligations to the city as property owners, but LPD Electric is gone and has no obligation to or association with the city.

- o **Variance Request by St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 16770 13th Street South**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg reported that the Planning Commission held a Public Hearing and special meeting prior to the City Council meeting to consider a variance request made by St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. St. Francis Church wanted to replace a garage that was removed from the property. Mr. Berg noted that city code says that if a standard structure is removed, a new structure must meet all current city codes. The church stated in their application that they would like to use the same footprint from the old garage, so there would be no change to the impervious surface or setbacks. Since the church is over the allowable percentage of impervious surface and the placement would not meet the current setbacks, a variance is needed.

At the Planning Commission meeting, it was noted that due to water damage to the previous garage, the plans for the garage call for overhangs, where there were no overhangs before. This will slightly increase the impervious percentage by approximately 70 square feet. He explained that an overhang is considered impervious surface the same way a deck is because as you look straight down from the sky, the land under the overhangs is not directly open to rainfall. City Attorney Sandstrom clarified that although the church will be using the existing slab from the old garage, there is a slight difference in impervious surface due to the overhangs. Because the increase is so small, the Planning Commission did not see this is a reason to not grant the variance. The church was open to using rain barrels and/or gutters to mitigate the impervious surface. They were also willing to work with the Middle St. Croix Water Management Organization (WMO) on plans to ensure mitigation and runoff control. Councilmember Reiter noted that if the City Council approved this variance, they should make it contingent upon a plan to remediate the impervious surface percentage dealt with between the WMO, the City, and St. Francis. Mr. Sandstrom stated that any new plans or recommendations from the WMO should be submitted to the city and added to the property file.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg noted that the variance needed to be approved as a resolution. There was a resolution written and included in the agenda packets, but it would need to be amended to include issues from this discussion. There was a review of the changes that would be needed.

M/S/P (Reiter, Unker) TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2014-17, A RESOLUTION GRANTING VARIANCES TO REBUILD A 24X22 AND 12 FOOT HIGH DETACHED ACCESSORY GARAGE STRUCTURE WITHIN THE R-2 ZONING AND ST. CROIX RIVER SHORELAND/BLUFFLAND DISTRICT AS AMENDED. THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: UNKER – AYE, REITER – AYE, KOPP – AYE, BROWN – AYE, MCCARTHY – AYE.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator reported that when the City received paperwork from the WMO, St. Francis would be able to apply for a building permit.

- **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- o **Cash Healthcare Waiver**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg reminded the City Council that in October they approved offering employees the option of taking a cash payout instead of the city's insurance. He stated that the Personnel Policy should reflect this, and presented a text amendment written with input from City Attorney Sandstrom. City Attorney Sandstrom added that this was an employment policy that would allow city employees to take a cash payout rather than the city-offered health insurance. The payout will be equivalent to the single premium paid by

the city. In order to take this payout, the employee will need to provide proof that they have insurance from another source.

Councilmember Unker felt that the payout should be less than 100% of the insurance premium. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg noted that the city offers salaries that are below the market average. Councilmember Reiter pointed out that Lake St. Croix Beach is a small city, but it is in close proximity to the metro area. Therefore, she felt the payout should be 100% to better compete with larger cities offering higher wages. Councilmember Reiter felt that the motion should reflect that a waiver would need to be signed to receive the cash payout and not take the health insurance offered by the city. Interim City Clerk-Administrator noted that this is explained in the policy amendment.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO THE Lake St. CROIX BEACH PERSONNEL POLICY TO ALLOW FOR A CASH BENEFIT IN EXCHANGE FOR WAIVING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE. MOTION PASSED, 4 AYES, 1 NAY (UNKER).

- o **Long- And Short-Term Disability Insurance**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg explained that the Personnel Committee recommended adding short-term and long-term disability benefits to employees. It was also recommended that life insurance be increased from \$10,000 to an amount equal to the employee's annual salary. He obtained a quote through the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust, the city's insurance provider. The quote was for a 13-week short-term disability policy and a 90-day qualifying period long-term disability insurance for each eligible employee up to 2/3rds of the employee's salary. The short-term disability plan would require a 15-day wait period.

The Lake St. Croix Beach Personnel Policy, adopted in 2008, states, "The City will pay for life insurance for each eligible employee. The value of the policy will be equivalent to the annual salary rate of the employee." In the past, the city has only offered a \$10,000 maximum life insurance policy. The city was not in compliance with its own policy. Based on this, staff has directed the insurance agent to increase of the life insurance of the one active employee. It is unclear at this time whether the insurance company will allow this for an existing employee and not a new enrollee. He is working with the insurance agent to determine how this can be changed.

M/S/P (Brown, Kopp) TO APPROVE THE SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE PLAN AND MAKE THE CHANGE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2015 AND TO AMEND THE LAKE ST. CROIX BEACH PERSONNEL POLICY TO INCLUDE THE LANGUAGE AS RECOMMENDED.

Councilmember Reiter asked whether employees could use sick and/or vacation time during the 15-day waiting period for short-term disability insurance.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS**

- o **Councilmember Brown's Report**

Councilmember Brown reported that he attended the Veterans Dinner on November 10, 2014 and thought it was a wonderful event. He thanked all the volunteers who worked hard to make it happen. He attended the Special City Council meeting on November 13, 2014 to certify the municipal election results. He thanked everyone who voted for doing so.

- o **Councilmember Kopp's Report**

Councilmember Kopp reported that she also attended the Veterans Dinner and agreed that it was a wonderful event. She thanked the Yellow Ribbon Alliance for putting the event together. She stated she received numerous complaints regarding snowplowing on the west side of St. Croix Trail.

- o **Councilmember Unker's Report**

Nothing further to report.

- o **Councilmember Reiter's Report**

Councilmember Reiter reported that the WMO was scheduled to meet with representatives from Great River Greening and perform a north bluff assessment to determine whether it would be eligible for grant money for the restoration of the area and removal of invasive species. She was unable to attend the Partnership Team meeting, but they discussed a Lake St. Croix Beach project (1483 Riviera Avenue South).

St. Mary's Point received a request to have a shared Clean-Up Day event with Lake St. Croix Beach. St. Mary's Point agreed they would be willing to discuss the possibility if Maroney's Sanitation could be the vendor for the event. She received calls from residents regarding someone putting flyers in mailboxes. She reminded everyone that it was a federal offense for non-postal workers to put things in mailboxes.

Mayor McCarthy's Report

Mayor McCarthy congratulated all election winners. He also attended the Veterans Dinner. He reported that Sentenced-To-Service (STS) crews will be in the city on Tuesday, November 18, and they will be trimming trees on 21st Street South.

City Attorney's Report

City Attorney Sandstrom reported that he sent a Facilities Response regarding the Afton Cluster Septic System. He received comments from City Councilmembers from Lake St. Croix Beach and St. Mary's Point, he added those comments, and sent the letter to Afton last week. He also sent a copy of the letter to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). A copy of the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) proposed by St. Mary's Point and Lake St. Croix Beach to Afton was included with the Facilities Response.

There will be a Closed Session of the City Council regarding the lawsuit between Mr. Triemert and the city.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Mitchell Berg

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg reported that Afton will be holding a Public Hearing regarding the Facilities Plan on Thursday, December 4, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at Memorial Lutheran Church. On Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. the Lower St. Croix Valley Foundation will hold a meeting to discuss improvements to the bike trail. This meeting will be held at Lakeland Village south end room. Councilmember Reiter noted that there is a JPA for the bike trail, and each city is responsible for the portion that runs through their city. When Lake St. Croix Beach had to replace the portion between 19th Street South and 20th Street South, it cost the city \$42,000. When the roundabouts were installed on St. Croix Trail in Lakeland and Lakeland Shores, the bike trail going through those cities was replaced as part of that project.

Mr. Berg reported that he closed out several complaints. At the City Council in October, a resident came asking the city for permission to use the parcel of land he owned across the street from the parcel with his home. He wanted to be able to park his car or boat on the land. After discussion with City Attorney Sandstrom. Staff told the resident he could temporarily park his vehicles on the property. City Attorney Sandstrom stated that after reviewing the code, they could find no ordinance requiring exterior storage be on property with a principal structure. Councilmember Reiter noted that there are many small parcels in the city that do not have a principal structure on them. City Clerk-Administrator Berg suggested that this could be straightened out with the recodification process, and a moratorium could be put in place on this kind of storage until the recodification of the ordinances is complete.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg pointed out that the code does not address what happens if an ordinance violation is abated after an administrative citation is issued. A resident was issued a citation for not abating an ordinance violation. After the citation was issued, the ordinance violation was corrected. He asked whether the City Council wanted to give him the ability to waive the fee or continue to go after it. Councilmember Reiter noted that the goal is to get compliance with the ordinances, but she felt the city should at least get a portion of the fee because staff time had been spent on the issue. City Attorney Sandstrom stated he would need to investigate whether the city code included a provision to allow for assessment of the citation fees if it is not paid.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg informed the City Council that FEMA reimbursement for flood costs in 2014 is not likely, but there is some money available from the state that the city may qualify for. Three additional applications were received for the City Clerk-Administrator position after the extended deadline. Interviews are scheduled for December 1 and December 3. A Special City Council meeting will need to be scheduled for the interviews with the finalists. The Washington County Sheriff's Department declared a dog potentially dangerous. The owner of the dog has appealed the designation and a hearing will be held on the appeal.

The City Council had discussed paying off the city's bond at a worksession. After reviewing the bond documents, it was determined that the city must give 30-day written notice that they will be calling the

bond, and they must wait until the next payment is due, which is February 1, 2015. An Economic Development Authority (EDA) must meet to approve this, so the EDA will meet on December 15, 2014 at 6:30 to take up this action. Councilmember Reiter suggested that the money should be used to repair/replace the items that were suggested for repair or replacement when the building was purchased rather than paying off the bond.

A Craft Sale will be held at City Hall on Saturday, November 22 10:00 – 5:00. The proceeds will be donated for playground equipment at Riverfront Park and Pettitt Park.

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Truhlar's Report

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Amy Truhlar presented the bills for the month of November totaling \$23,876.93. She also noted that the paper order had not come in yet, so the interim financial reports were not printed for the meeting. She stated she could email them to anyone who wanted one or she could print one off once the paper order was received.

M/S/P (Brown, Reiter) TO APPROVE THE BILLS AS PRESENTED IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$23,876.93. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The city will hold their annual holiday party on December 15, 2015 at 8:00 p.m. immediately following the December Regular City Council meeting. Everyone is welcome and invited to bring a dish to share. At the beginning of the December Regular City Council meeting, the Truth-in-Taxation Hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m.

M/S/P (Reiter, McCarthy) TO DIRECT STAFF TO PURCHASE ITEMS FOR THE HOLIDAY PARTY. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Truhlar explained that the week of elections, the city was without internet service. When internet service was restored, her computer was still not connecting to the internet. A quick fix was done over the phone, but it left her without the ability to scan. Therefore, the City Council agenda packet was not posted to the website on Friday as was the usual practice. The packet was posted to the website Monday after being scanned to City Clerk-Administrator Berg's computer.

CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Sandstrom explained that the City Council would be going into Closed Session to discuss pending litigation with the city in the matter of David Triemert vs. The City of Lake St. Croix Beach. The meeting is being closed pursuant to Minnesota State Statute 13.05 subdivision 30B, which permits a meeting of the City Council to be closed to the public for the purposes of discussing attorney-client privileged information in relation to pending litigation. An update will be provided to the City Council regarding the pending litigation. No official action will be taken regarding this matter. The Regular City Council meeting will be adjourned as part of the Closed Session. At the opening of the December Regular City Council meeting, a summary of the Closed Session will be given.

The City Council went into Closed Session at 9:02 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

M/S/P (Brown, Kopp) TO ADJOURN AT 9:19 P.M. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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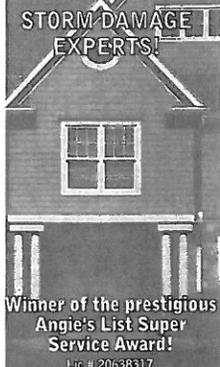
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Jim Unker

Councilmember, 340-5800

E-Mail: C6513405800@gmail.com

Services

Animal Control 715-386-7789

Building Inspector 651-436-1405

City Hall 651-436-7031

Fire Hall (non-emergency) 651-436-7033

Lakeland Water Utility 651-436-8044

Police (non-emergency) 651-439-9381

Street Lights Out - Xcel Energy 1-800-960-6235

Well Water Test Kits - Wash. Co. 430-6655

U. S. Post Office - Lakeland 651-436-5469

Waste Management (Recycling) 877-969-2783

Maroney's Sanitation 439-7279

Highland Sanitation 458-0043

Waste Management (Garbage) 437-9201

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Future Newsletter Articles should be submitted to: Newsletter Editor at the Lake St. Croix Beach City Hall.

"Choosing to save a river is more often an act of passion than of careful calculation. You make the choice because the river has touched your life in an intimate and irreversible way, because you are unwilling to accept its loss." - David Bolling, 1994

Representatives

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Washington County Commissioner 651-430-6213

Kathy Lohmer

Minnesota Representative (District 39B) 651-296-4244

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Al Franken

U. S. Senator 651-221-1016 or 202-224-5641

E-mail: info@franken.senate.gov

Meeting Schedule

- Planning Commission – 1st Wednesday
- LSCV Alliance – 4th Monday at Fire Hall at 4:30
- Middle SCV WMO – 2nd Thursday at Washington Conservation District Office
- Park Commission 2nd Tuesday
- Recycle Committee Varies
- LSCV Partnership Team – Varies
- City Council 3rd Mon (2nd Mon in Jan & Feb)
- Land Use Review Committee Varies
- LSCV Fire District – 2nd Wednesday at Fire Hall

Please call the City Hall at 651-436-7031 for the address of any meeting held outside of the City. Check the City's Posting Box for up to day information on City meetings.

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