

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

Staff:
 City Clerk-Administrator
 Sue Schuler
 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

February, 2015
 Issue No. 506

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.

February Calendar

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

Wednesday, February 4
 Planning Commission Meeting

Thursday, February 12
 Middle SCV WMO meeting at Washington Conservation District Office

Wednesday, February 11
 LSCV Fire District at Fire Hall

Thursday, February 12
 Recycle Day

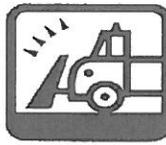
Monday, February 16
 City Hall Closed in Observance of Presidents' Day

Tuesday, February 17
 City Council Meeting

Monday, February 23
 LSCV Alliance – 4:30 p.m. at Fire Hall

Thursday, February 26
 Recycle Day

Remember:
 You must keep your dog on a leash.



Snow Plowing

During storms with heavy snowfall, the drivers will concentrate on keeping primary routes open for travel. After the storm subsides, all streets will be plowed full width. Garbage cans and recycling carts must be removed from the edge of the street as soon as possible after pickup.

Do not park cars in the street during this time so the snowplow drivers can plow the full width of the street.

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.



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.

I would like to thank all of our local sponsors for their continued support. Each month the city offers advertising space in our newsletter, and during warmer months we allow businesses to create their own banner to be hung on the outfield fence at Pettitt Park ballfield. Anyone who is interested in these opportunities can contact City Hall for fees and more information.

Once again I attended the Lower St Croix Valley Fire Department awards banquet on January 16. The fire department presented their annual service awards to those members who have met milestone anniversaries. These members continue to provide quality emergency response to our residents and provide even more valuable leadership and knowledge to new members of our department. Thank you to all of you, and your families, for all you do and all you continue to do - Congratulations on your milestones!

Have a happy and safe Valentine's Day weekend!

Mayor Tom

Recycling Picks up at Afton-Lakeland School

Did you know that Afton-Lakeland school recycles food waste and milk cartons?

Food waste recycling started in the 2013 and cartons were added in 2014 and as a result, over 88% of all waste produced in the cafeteria is now recycled! These are exceptional results as on a typical day, only about 23 lbs. of trash is produced in the cafeteria, less than one ounce per student! The high level of recycling not only helps set a good example for students and other schools to follow but also saves the district money in trash hauling costs.



So where does the food waste go?

Barthold Farms collects the food and drink waste every other day and transports it to their farm in St. Francis, MN. Once delivered to the farm, the waste is boiled for 30 minutes, cooled down, and fed to hogs. Barthold recycles about 1,000 tons of food waste each month from restaurants, senior housing facilities, and schools including those in the Stillwater district.

What happens to the milk cartons?

Waste Management collects the milk cartons with other recyclables and sorts them at their recycling facility in Minneapolis. The cartons are baled and sent to Fox River Fiber in De Pere, WI. Fox River makes a high quality pulp that is

sold to other mills to make fine writing and printing paper and also tissue products.

Volunteers needed

Although the students have caught on fast to the recycling changes, it is helpful to have volunteers oversee the sorting. If you are interested in helping over the lunch hour, please contact Laura Larsen at Stillwater Schools at 651-351-8382.



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.

Please Keep For Future Reference

2015 APPOINTMENTS

(Representative listed first, alternate second, when appropriate.)

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

(Contact Individuals Through City Hall At 651- 436-7031)

Mayor	Tom McCarthy
Deputy Mayor	Charles Brown
City Clerk-Administrator.....	Sue Schuler
Treasurer	Amy Truhlar
Deputy Clerk.....	Amy Truhlar
City Attorney (Retainer Agreement With Firm – Eckberg Lammers)	Kevin Sandstrom
City Engineer (Short Elliott Hendrickson)	John Parotti
Zoning Administrator	Sue Schuler
Building Inspector (Contract with City of Lakeland, 651-436-1405)	John Buckley
Assessor (Contract with Washington County).....	Curt Piepenburg (Residential), Robin Swanson (Commercial)
Official Depository	U. S. Bank, LMC 4-M Fund
Official Posting Place.....	City Hall, 16455 20 th Street South
Official Publication	Stillwater Gazette
Newsletter Editor	Sue Schuler
Tree Inspector	Dave Witzel, Mike Simonson
City Forester	Dave Witzel
Weed Inspector	Tom McCarthy
Emergency Preparedness (Emergency Mgmt Director)	Tom McCarthy, Brad Peters, Sue Schuler
LSCV Alliance.....	City Council/Staff
LSCV Partnership Team.....	Tom McCarthy, Cindie J. Reiter
Lower St. Croix Valley Fire Protection District	
Representatives (2 residents):	Pete Granat(6/30/16), Sally Thompson (6/30/15)
Alternates (Councilmember):.....	Tom McCarthy, Charles Brown
Middle St. Croix Water Management Organization	Cindie Reiter, Michelle Kline
Cable Television Board	Charles Brown, Tom McCarthy
Police (Agreement with Washington County Sheriff's Department) Non-emergency 651-439-9381	911
Fire (Agreement with Lower St. Croix Valley Fire Protection District) Non-emergency 651-436-7033	911
Animal Control Officer (By Contract) 715-386-7789	Kathi Pelnar
Animal Shelter 651-730-6008, Woodbury Location	Humane Society For Companion Animals
Yellow Ribbon Alliance	Mary Parr, Charles Brown, Tom McCarthy
Veterans Memorial Representative	Tom McCarthy, Charles Brown
Information Technology Coordinator	Joe Connor

Planning Commission

Meets: 1st Wednesday

Mary Ashby
Linda O'Donnell
Nancy Truax
Mary Yanchar
Steve Zigan

Alternates

Marilyn Siebenaler
Kelly Wood

Council Liaison

Cindie Reiter
Michelle Kline

Codification Committee

Sue Schuler
Cindie J. Reiter
Linda O'Donnell
Nancy Truax
Kevin Sandstrom

Park Commission

Meets: 2nd Tuesday

Becky Brewster
Bill Glampe
Joe Riley
Tom Runge
Lyle Sorenson

Alternates

Bruce Albrecht
Dave Witzel

Council Liaison

Michelle Kline
Charles Brown

Park Manager

Bob Shearer
Ex Officio
Tom McCarthy

Environmental Advisory Commission

Meets: As needed
Bruce Albrecht
Marilyn Siebenaler

Alternates

Council Liaison

Cindie Reiter
Jim Unker

Personnel Committee

Meets: As needed
Tom McCarthy
Charles Brown
Karen Riley
John Sievert

Floodplain Advisory Commission

Meets: As Needed
Gina Allen (100 yr)
Bill Carlson (100 yr)
Tom Kingston (500 yr)
Linda O'Donnell (at large)
Joe Riley (at large)
John Sievert (at large)
Todd Streeter (100 yr)
Paul Vielhaber (500 yr)
Brad Peters

City Council

Meets: 3rd Monday
Tom McCarthy, Mayor
Charles Brown
Michelle Kline
Cindie Reiter
Jim Unker

Please Keep For Future Reference

Public Safety

(Including Reports)



Law Enforcement Report

December, 2014

Complaints Investigated

7 Medical	1 Assault
3 Threats/Harrasment	1 Injured Big Bird
2 Noise Complaint	1 Scam Report
2 Suspicious Situation	1 Driving Complaint
1 Extra Patrol Request	1 Welfare Check
1 Deer Tag	1 Dumping Complaint
1 Gas Leak	1 Found Property
1 Burglary	1 Stolen Vehicle

Citations Issued: 1

• 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 December, 12 of which were in Lake St. Croix Beach.

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



Animal Control

In the month of December, 1 dog and 1 cat was reported lost, and no animals 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 – February 2015

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

February 2, 9, and 23; 10:30 a.m.

Dog Gone Reading With Chase

Tuesday, February 24; 4:00 p.m.

Children in grades K-7 may practice reading aloud to a certified therapy dog and its owner. Reading sessions are 15 minutes in length. Sign up at the library.

Valley Book Club

Thursday, February 26; 5:00 p.m.

The title for February is "Messenger of Truth" by Jacqueline Winspear. Just read the book, come, and discuss.

Winter Jackets Reading Program for Adults

January 1 – February 28

Washington County Library invites adults to participate in Winter Jackets, a free winter reading program, Jan. 1–Feb. 28.

The Winter Jackets program encourages library users age 17 and older to spend the winter months reading and submitting short book reviews to the library. These book reviews are available at the library for participants to peruse. Additionally, the book review forms serve as entries into a drawing for reward book packs.

Winter Jacket Event:

- Feb. 1-28: Hardwood Creek Library and Oakdale Library host community art shows. Those interested in being a part of the show may call the Hardwood Creek Library (651-275-7300), the Oakdale Library (651-730-0504), or see www.co.washington.mn.us/library.

Winter Jackets events are free, open to the public, and presented in collaboration with the Metropolitan Library Service Agency (MELSA).

For additional information about Winter Jackets and other library programs, call 651-731-1320, visit a local library, or see www.co.washington.mn.us/library.



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

Schedule:

- Feb. 4 at 1 p.m. and 9 p.m.
- Feb. 5 at 9 a.m.
- Feb. 11 at 4 p.m. and midnight
- Feb. 12 at 7 a.m.
- Feb. 18 at 1 p.m. and 9 p.m.
- Feb. 19 at 9 a.m.
- Feb. 25 at 4 p.m. and midnight
- Feb. 26 at 7 a.m.

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 January 20, 2015 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, Michelle Kline, Cindie Reiter, Jim Unker

Staff Present Mitchell Berg, John Parotti, Kevin Sandstrom, Sue Schuler, Amy Truhlar

Others Present Mary Parr, Bill Glampe, Lori Sukup, Jon Place, Gary Johnson, Tom Sweeney, Karen VanSomur, Joe Riley, Karen Riley, Jim Golden, Bob Swenson, Mary Ashby

- **Call To Order** by Mayor McCarthy at 7:00 p.m.
- **Pledge of Allegiance** was said.
- **Approve Agenda** Agenda Item 3
Councilmember Reiter stated that Oaths of Office for the newly elected and re-elected were not on the agenda. It was noted that Councilmember Kline took the oath earlier in the day. Mayor McCarthy and Councilmember Reiter took the oaths of office.
M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- **Consent Agenda** Agenda Item 5
Councilmember Reiter noted that the minutes from the January 3, 2015 City Council Worksession listed Michelle Kline as a Councilmem-

ber. Newly elected officials are not members until the first Monday of the year. Therefore, Ms. Kline should be listed under "Others Present" and Cheryl Kopp should be listed as "Councilmembers Absent" to better show the proper vote from the Special Meeting.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS AMENDED. THE FOLLOWING VOTE WAS TAKEN: UNKER – AYE, REITER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, KLINE – AYE, MCCARTHY – AYE.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (EDA) MEETING ON DECEMBER 15, 2014 AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON DECEMBER 15, 2014 AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON DECEMBER 22, 2014 AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION ON JANUARY 3, 2015 AS AMENDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE 2015 HERITAGE DAY ICE CREAM SOCIAL FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2015, AND DIRECT STAFF TO WORK WITH THE PARK COMMISSION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION/RECYCLE COMMITTEE TO MAKE THE USUAL ARRANGEMENTS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, CITY CLERK-ADMINISTRATOR, AND DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER AS ELIGIBLE SIGNERS AT THE STATE OF MINNESOTA SURPLUS SERVICES FACILITY IN ARDEN HILLS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE 2015 CITY CLEAN-UP DAY FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2015 FROM 9:00 UNTIL 12:00, AND DIRECT STAFF TO WORK WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION/RECYCLE COMMITTEE TO MAKE THE USUAL ARRANGEMENTS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE CITY CLERK-ADMINISTRATOR EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH SUSAN SCHULER. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

OPEN COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Jim Golden, 1920 Quarry Avenue South, asked if anyone had heard or knew anything new regarding the Afton Cluster Septic System. When the City Council stated that they had not heard anything new, Mr. Golden asked whether follow-up on previously approved legal action could be pursued. City Attorney Kevin Sandstrom reported that he had filed formal petitions with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and had talked with them. A representative from MPCA told him that when the time came to review and make findings regarding those positions, he would be contacted. Mr. Golden asked whether there was some legal action that could be taken at this time, perhaps in conjunction with St. Mary's Point. He also asked whether time from the city attorney could be authorized each month to work on this issue. He stated that none of their comments made to the City of Afton have ever been answered. He felt that people had given up and were content to just let the project move forward, and he asked the City Council to do something to find out what the next steps were.

Councilmember Unker noted that a statement was made at an Afton meeting that there was no alternate site in the event of a 100-year flood, but officials from the City of Afton said there was an alternative site on the property near the existing house. Mr. Golden stated that the plan has still never been made official. He then pointed out that the petition from residents in the area was submitted in June. It was originally denied and then reinstated. He feels that the City of Afton has openly misled the community every step of the way. Councilmember Unker wondered if the alternate site was a reality and whether it was the required distance from uncapped or in-use wells.

Mr. Golden reported that there are 70 endangered species in that area of Valley Creek. He noted that the Environmental Assessment

Worksheet (EAW) is being completed now, and everyone is assuming it will go through. He stated that he wanted them to be held accountable, and felt that there was something the city could be doing right now.

Councilmember Reiter asked whether the EAW would be made public or if the findings would be published. City Engineer John Parotti reported that comments were part of the EAW. Mr. Golden asked whether there was something proactive the city could be doing. City Attorney Sandstrom pointed out that the city has a petition pending with the MPCA. He stated there was no rush to hold the hearing for that petition as the permit for the system cannot be issued without the petition being dealt with. Mr. Golden asked if City Attorney Sandstrom was sure that the permit would not be issued before the petition hearing was held. City Attorney Sandstrom explained that he had been told that the permit could not be issued without dealing with the petition first. Mr. Golden asked if the petition would be left unanswered if the hearing was not held within a certain period of time. City Attorney Sandstrom repeated that the hearing for the petition would be held before the permit could be issued. Mr. Golden asked for written information laying out the steps in the process. He asked how long an EAW usually took. Mr. Parotti responded that he did not have that information.

Mr. Golden asked if something could be done to find out the status of things. Councilmember Reiter suggested city staff could contact the City of Afton to see where things are at in the EAW process. Mayor McCarthy suggested that this item be added to the agenda each month to get continuous updates. He asked Councilmember Unker to take the lead on this issue. Mr. Golden asked to have some legal time set aside for this issue every month as well. He asked City Attorney Sandstrom if he had written confirmation regarding the status of the petition. City Attorney Sandstrom stated that he is not pushing the issue of dealing with the petition now as that does not benefit the city. It could be a tactic later in the process that will delay the project. He repeated that the hearing will be held before a permit is issued to the City of Afton to build the system.

Lori Sukup, member of the League of Women Voters (LWV) of the White Bear Lake Area, reported that the local LWV covers about 30 communities in north and east section of the Twin Cities. Last spring, the local League developed a year-long study to survey and compare local governments and their adherence to the Open Meeting Law. She stated that compared with other states, Minnesota's Open Meeting Law requires little to be in compliance. She stated there is no requirement regarding keeping meeting minutes. The League is documenting how cities take and publish meeting minutes, televise meetings, allowing residents to speak at meetings, etc. The goal of the study is to develop and share a local position on the best practices for government meetings.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg noted that if anyone present had a comment regarding the variances listed on the agenda they should speak now as comments would not be taken later.

Mary Parr asked that everyone on the Council dais speak up as she was having trouble hearing everyone.

• **PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS**

Councilmember Brown reported there were 35 calls to law enforcement in the month of December, and one citation was issued. In December there were no calls to animal control for service. One dog and one cat were reported lost, and no animals were reported found. Councilmember Reiter asked about the injured big bird listed on the list of calls. Deputy Sullivan reported that after looking for a long time for a big, white bird, he was unable to find it. It was reported to have been on 13th Street South between Quinlan Avenue South and Racine Avenue South.

Deputy Sullivan introduced Deputy Steve Bell, who will be Deputy Sullivan's replacement in the area on his days off. He noted that this time of year there are a lot of calls from people claiming to be from the IRS or FBI. He noted that these agencies will not contact you by phone or by email. These calls are fraudulent calls.

In 2014, Lake St. Croix Beach had 29 fewer calls than 2013. 8% of the calls in the county came from the Lower St. Croix Valley. He also reported that he would be meeting with Mitch Berg and City Clerk-Administrator Sue Schuler on Thursday. Roles in ordinance enforcement will be discussed as well as what the deputies will enforce, their role in the city's complaint process. Sergeant Van Klei will also be attending the meeting. Councilmember Unker stated he would also like to attend that meeting.

Mary Parr stated that she has received some calls that her caller ID say are coming from her. Deputy Sullivan explained that this is done by a cloning program, and are usually fraudulent calls. They are

usually traced overseas after being routed through a city in the U.S. He suggested not answering those calls and not listening to them.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg reported that a criminal citation has been issued to the resident living in an illegal dwelling. Deputy Sullivan explained that the resident is given 30 days to address the citation, similar to a traffic citation. If he does not attend the court date, a warrant will be issued for his arrest. Deputy Sullivan stated he will be working closely with the city on this issue.

Mayor McCarthy reported that the Fire Department report will be given when Deputy Chief Jim Stanley is able to arrive after attending another meeting.

• **CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT**

John Parotti, City Engineer from SEH, had nothing to report.

• **NEW BUSINESS**

○ **Resolution 2015-01, A Resolution of Annual Appointments and Designations for 2015**

Mayor McCarthy asked that Jim Golden be removed from the list of appointments for the Environmental Advisory Commission.

M/S/P (Brown, McCarthy) TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2015-01, A RESOLUTION OF ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS AND DESIGNATIONS FOR 2015, AND WAIVE THE READING.

Councilmember Reiter pointed out that many of the appointments were people who lived in the Riverway. She felt that other parts of the city should be represented as well. Councilmember Unker noted that he was unhappy with the process for giving Councilmember duties. He felt the duties should be spread out more equitably among the members. Councilmember Reiter asked staff to verify the names of the assessors.

THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: UNKER – AYE, REITER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, KLINE – AYE, MCCARTHY – AYE.

○ **Resolution 2015-02, A Resolution Adopting 2015 City Fees**

Mayor McCarthy noted some changes to be made to the 2015 city fees including the weekend parking rate and the newsletter sponsor charge.

M/S/P (Brown, Reiter) TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2015-02, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY OF LAKE ST. CROIX BEACH 2015 CITY FEES AS AMENDED, AND WAIVE THE READING.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg noted that the fee for an Interim Use Permit (IUP) should also be added contingent upon the city approving that later in the meeting.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT BY COUNCILMEMBER BROWN, ACCEPTED BY COUNCILMEMBER REITER, TO ADD THE INTERIM USE PERMIT (IUP) CHARGE TO THE LIST OF FEES WITH THE FEES BEING THE SAME AS THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FEES.

There was discussion regarding whether the per diem compensation had been changed. It was noted that there had previously been discussion to change the amount to \$15 per meeting, but it had not been changed.

THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: UNKER – AYE, REITER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, KLINE – AYE, MCCARTHY – AYE.

○ **Resolution 2015-03, A Resolution Authorizing Signatory Power With US Bank for the City of Lake St. Croix Beach**

M/S/P (Reiter, McCarthy) TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2015-03, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIGNATORY POWER WITH US BANK FOR THE CITY OF LAKE ST. CROIX BEACH. THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: UNKER – AYE, REITER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, KLINE – AYE, MCCARTHY – AYE.

○ **Purchase of Laptop**

M/S/P (Reiter, McCarthy) TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A NEW LAPTOP FOR STAFF IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$325.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg explained that the laptop would also need the Office Suite package.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT BY COUNCILMEMBER REITER, SECONDED BY MAYOR MCCARTHY, TO AMEND THE MOTION TO A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$525 TO ALSO PURCHASE THE OFFICE SUITE PACKAGE FOR THE LAPTOP. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

• **PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS**

Jim Stanley, Deputy Chief of the Lower St. Croix Valley Fire Department, reminded the City Council that a few months ago he had requested information regarding sign ordinances. He got the rules regarding LED signs, and the Fire Department has been considering their options. They have received support from the Cable Commission. Councilmember Brown, member of the Cable Commission, explained that the Cable Commission made a determination that each city should contribute a percentage of the sign cost based on their cable subscribers. Using this calculation, the city's share would be 24%.

Mr. Stanley reported that the sign they want to purchase is \$15,000. The Cable Commission wanted to donate up to \$7,000 toward the purchase price, but they are not able to donate the money directly to the Fire Department. The money would come to each city as past practice based on the number of subscribers in each city, each city would then have to approve of the payment to the fire department. Mr. Stanley noted that the sign the Fire Department would like to purchase is an LED, back-lit, reader sign. The brightness is based on the ambient lighting, so it will be less bright at night when there is no other light. If some cities do not agree to donate to the sign, the Fire Department will need to come up with that additional portion of the sign cost. More information regarding the sign can be received upon request.

In the month of December, the Fire Department made 38 runs, 12 of which were in Lake St. Croix Beach. He also provided the city with an annual report by district. He noted that the average response time is thrown off by aid to Hudson, which is not an emergency, but a call to the Fire Department to be stand-by at the Hudson station.

He reminded the City Council that there will be a meeting held on Thursday, January 29, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lower St. Croix Valley Fire Hall. This meeting will be held to provide information about the Fire Department Relief Association. All Councilmembers from the 5-city area are invited and encouraged to attend (Afton, Lake St. Croix Beach, Lakeland, Lakeland Shores, St. Mary's Point). The Fire Relief Association will be asking the cities to vote on a resolution to increase the payout to \$150 per year of service. The risks to the cities and what this would mean will be explained at the meeting. Mr. Stanley gave the City Council his phone number and asked them to RSVP. Experts are scheduled to attend, but will not come if less than 13 of the 25 Councilmembers invited do not attend. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg asked Mr. Stanley about the current asset to liability ratio. Mr. Stanley explained that he did not have that information with him, and did not know the current ratio. He explained that this is an open meeting so anyone can attend, but the Fire Department is strongly urging all Councilmembers to attend. He provided copies of the resolution for Councilmembers to review before the meeting.

• **NEW BUSINESS**

○ **Special Projects**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg noted that his last day as Interim City Clerk-Administrator was January 20, 2015, which is also the first day for Sue Schuler as new City Clerk-Administrator. She has asked for some extra time for training. The new employment contract only permits him to work up to 15 hours per month. He is asking for City Council approval to go up to 25 hours for the month of January. The entire 25 hours may not be needed, but he is asking for the approval in case it is needed.

M/S/P (Reiter, McCarthy) TO APPROVE UP TO AN ADDITIONAL 10 HOURS FOR MITCH BERG TO ASSIST WITH THE TRANSITION TO THE NEW CITY CLERK-ADMINISTRATOR DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 2015. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

○ **Amendments to Sections 604, 706, and 728 of the City's Zoning Code**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg explained that there are conflicting ordinances regarding storage issues in the Retail Business (RB) Zoning district. The new tenant at 1950 Quasar Avenue South has asked to be able to store one or two boats outside in the front of the

property. In an attempt to clarify this issue and allow certain types of exterior storage (open and screened) with a Certificate of Compliance or a Conditional Use Permit (CUP), amendments to the ordinances were drafted. These drafts were presented to the Planning Commission, who held public hearings regarding the drafted amendments to the ordinances and made recommendations to the City Council. He presented these amendments to the City Council with proposed new language underlined and proposed deleted language stricken through. City Attorney Sandstrom explained that adopting a new ordinance would be done by roll call vote.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NUMBER 2015-167, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 728 INTERIM USES AND STRUCTURES, AND WAIVE THE READING AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION. THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: UNKER – AYE, REITER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, KLINE – AYE, MCCARTHY – AYE.

○ **Creating Section 504 and Amending Section 604 of the City's Zoning Code**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg reported that the owner of the boat restoration business at 1950 Quasar Avenue South, who is leasing the property, would like to use the single-family dwelling, located on the property, as their residence. Since single-family dwellings are prohibited uses within the RB district, discussion was held regarding allowing the use through an Interim Use Permit (IUP). With a CUP, the city cannot impose any form of a time limit on the use, but with an IUP, the use is temporary until a particular date, the occurrence of a particular event, or zoning regulations no longer permit it. In order to create an IUP process, Section 504 of the zoning code was drafted as well as an amendment to section 604. Section 719 will also need to be amended after a public hearing and recommendation from the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission held public hearings on the creation of Section 504 and the amendment to section 604. The Planning Commission also made recommendations to the City Council on the new ordinance and the amendment.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NUMBER 2015-168, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 604 AND SECTION 706, ORDINANCE NUMBER 2015-169, AN ORDINANCE ADDING SECTION 504, AND ORDINANCE NUMBER 2015-170, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 604, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION, AND WAIVE THE READING OF ALL THREE. THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: UNKER – AYE, REITER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, KLINE – AYE, MCCARTHY – AYE.

○ **Permitting an Interim Use Permit (IUP) for a Single Family Detached Dwelling in the RB Zoning District**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg noted that the ordinances will not be in effect until they are published in the newspaper. Contingent upon that, the owner of the wooden boat restoration business (Tom Sweeney) at 1950 Quasar Avenue South has applied for an IUP to reside in the single-family dwelling already located on the property. The Planning Commission held a public hearing and recommended approving this use under an IUP, with several conditions. Also contingent upon publication of these new ordinances, Mr. Sweeney has applied for an amendment to the CUP to include the IUP.

M/S/P (Brown, Reiter) TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2015-04, A RESOLUTION GRANTING AN INTERIM USE PERMIT (IUP) FOR A RESIDENTIAL SINGLE-FAMILY DETACHED DWELLING TO BE USED AS A SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCE AT 1950 QUASAR AVENUE SOUTH. THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: UNKER – AYE, REITER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, KLINE – AYE, MCCARTHY – AYE.

○ **Variance Request – 16611 19th Street South**

Councilmember Unker recused himself from the dais as this was his property and variance request. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg explained that there was one variance requested for this property. In the fall of 2014, a fire destroyed a detached, accessory garage located at 16611 19th Street South. Minnesota State Statutes exempt applicants from needing variances if a structure is destroyed due to fire or natural disaster, provided the applicant rebuilds the structure in its exact location (without an expansion) and a building permit is applied for within 180 days from when the fire or natural disaster occurred.

However, the owner of the property at 16611 19th Street South, Jim Unker, has applied for a variance to build a larger garage than what had existed there previously. The location of the new garage will be in front of the home on the property, which is prohibited by city ordinance.

es. It was noted that this property is located on a corner. City codes state that for a property located on a corner, the narrowest street frontage is considered the front of the property (which is 19th Street South in this case). If the longest street frontage were considered the front of the property, this variance would not be needed. When a variance is granted, the standards of practical difficulty must be met. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg noted that the proposal is harmonious with the goals of the city's Comprehensive Plan, it is a reasonable use, and it will not alter the essential character of the locality. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on this proposal and made a recommendation to the City Council to approve the variance with several conditions.

Councilmember Reiter asked how much difference there would be between the south side of the house and the south side of the garage regarding their locations. Mr. Unker explained that he was trying to even the back locations up. There would be two feet or less difference in the locations. The garage will not be further forward than his neighbor. He noted that 60-70% of the homes in the area have garages that are further forward than the homes.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2015-05, A RESOLUTION GRANTING VARIANCES TO BUILD A NEW GARAGE AT 16611 19TH STREET SOUTH. THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: UNKER – ABSTAIN, REITER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, KLINE – AYE, MCCARTHY – AYE.

o **Variance Request – 1300 Riviera Avenue South**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg reported that 1300 Riviera Avenue South is located in the Riverway District, but is not in a floodplain. The city received an application from Joe and Karen Riley, 1300 Riviera Avenue South, requesting to construct a 980 square foot detached accessory garage on their property. Four variances are needed: minimum lot size, lot width at building setback line, maximum total lot area covered by impervious surface, and number of driveway accesses. The Planning Commission held a public hearing for this project and made a recommendation to the City Council to approve the variances with several conditions. He noted that the City Engineer report was provided to the City Council at the meeting because it was received by city staff the day of the City Council meeting.

City Engineer John Parotti explained that his report was late because the plan was only received at the Planning Commission meeting. He noted that sometimes there is confusion whether to count the impervious surface between the lot line and the edge of the road. He has provided the impervious surface percentages including that area and not including that area. The lot is flat, but erosion control measures should still be taken to prevent issues to neighboring properties. He made several other suggested conditions to the approval of the variances. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg noted that the resolution approving these variances includes a condition that the applicants must abide by any conditions given by the city engineer.

M/S/P (Brown, McCarthy) TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2015-06, A RESOLUTION GRANTING VARIANCES TO BUILD A NEW GARAGE AND ALLOWING FOR A SECOND DRIVEWAY ACCESS AT 1300 RIVIERA AVENUE SOUTH.

Councilmember Unker noted that the neighbor to the south of 1300 Riviera Avenue South was against approval of this variance. Mayor McCarthy noted however that resident has two garages and two driveways. Councilmember Unker noted that Mr. and Mrs. Riley planned to turn this property into a duplex. He asked whether the second garage was for each tenant could have their own garage. Mrs. Riley stated they bought the property as a duplex, and they are currently remodeling the interior. She noted that it was then brought to their attention that they needed to apply for a CUP to use the property as a duplex. That application has been submitted. Mr. Riley stated that the home was already set up as a duplex, but the city wants to have CUPs on duplexes, even though many people in the community do not do that. He feels that this property should be grandfathered in as a duplex. Councilmember Reiter noted that residents near the home have stated that 1300 Riviera Avenue South has never been used in a duplex. She stated that she has been in the house, and it was not used as a duplex. Mr. Riley noted that there are bathrooms and kitchens on both levels of the home. He added that it may not have been used as a duplex, but it was set up as a duplex. It was stated that there are two furnaces, the ductwork is separate, and there are now two meters for the home. There is only one water source, which Mr. Riley stated is common for duplexes in the community.

Councilmember Reiter noted that the information from Molly Shodeen, representative from the DNR, was included in the Planning Commission packets, but was not discussed. She pointed out that the

DNR is not in favor of the project due to the request to exceed the impervious surface percentage. Ms. Shodeen noted that the variance does not meet the practical difficulty standard because it is being created by the landowner and is not unique to the property, as many properties in the Riverway are not the required size. It is not a land issue, but an issue created only because the applicant wants the detached accessory structure amenity. Councilmember Reiter noted that at the Planning Commission meeting, the applicants stated the additional garage would be beneficial for storage of items used to mow the lot or clear snow off the driveway.

Councilmember Reiter noted that the structure exists on the property under a variance with the condition not to exceed the impervious surface percentage, so it was hard for her to approve the increase when all lots in the city are small. She noted that there was a complaint recently that there was too much runoff to allow new plants to grow on a nearby lot. She felt that increasing impervious surface in the area was not a good idea. She added that the neighbor to the west will now be looking into a garage, and although she understands the need for a garage, there is already one on the property.

Mrs. Riley explained that she has been working with the Water Management Organization (WMO), and they are in favor of this and agree that Mr. and Mrs. Riley are making the property better with the large raingarden that is in their plan. She also noted that the property is relatively flat, but it slightly slopes toward Ramada Avenue South, away from the St. Croix River. Councilmember Reiter, to avoid confusion, noted that the WMO approved the raingarden, not the project. Mrs. Riley pointed out that the WMO looks at the water management on locations; they do not look at the entire project.

Councilmember Unker worried that the DNR could sue the city for approving a project without carefully determining the practical difficulty standard. He asked whether the City Council should be concerned about that. City Attorney Sandstrom was unsure whether the DNR had standing to sue the city on that sort of issue, but staff was more concerned about the second driveway as the code clearly states each property should have only one driveway access. He noted that the Planning Commission discussed different ways to access the second garage, including adding onto the current driveway.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg added that he asked the applicants whether they could add this addition onto the existing garage. The applicants rejected this idea because the intention was not for connected storage. This led him to wonder if this was an appropriate use for the structure. He noted that the City Council has required other residents in the Riverway to use wheel pads rather than full driveways to help decrease the amount of impervious surface. Mr. Riley stated that most driveways in the area come out on Ramada Avenue South, as it is a much quieter street than 13th Street South. It was noted that there are many unofficial, illegal, and unapproved second driveways in the city.

Councilmember Reiter asked how the City Council could approve this use with the practical difficulty standard when this seemed to her to be something that is not needed, but a desired amenity. She felt that it was out of character for not only the area, but the entire city to have four garage spaces on one property. City Attorney did not have any suggestions of how to meet the practical difficulty standard.

Councilmember Unker wondered if considering the duplex issue would help. City Attorney Sandstrom pointed out that the code allows for a detached, accessory structure for storage purposes, but the concern is the impervious surface percentage requirement in this case.

Mayor McCarthy asked whether the driveway was the problem. Councilmember Unker stated that even with a smaller garage and no driveway, the property would still be above the allowable impervious surface. Mayor McCarthy stated that many properties in the area, including the Rileys' other property, had two two-car garages, and many of them had two driveways. Mr. Riley stated that with their plan with a large raingarden, they would mitigate the additional impervious surface.

Councilmember Kline noted that at the Planning Commission, there was discussion regarding not approving the driveway, as that would greatly decrease the amount of impervious surface on the property. However, it was noted that without a driveway, there would still be driving to the garage, which would cause mud and dirt to be tracked onto the street. She added that this garage would provide storage for things like a lawn mower to be used on the property so the Rileys did not need to bring things back and forth. Mary Ashby, Planning Commission Chair, noted that connecting the current driveway to the new garage would not work as that would go right over the septic system on the property. Eventually, the area leading to the second garage would become impervious surface anyway. There was discussion whether the driveway could be made narrower or tapered from the garage to

the street. The Riley's said they would be willing to taper the driveway from 20 feet, at the base of the garage, down to 16 feet at the street.

THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: KLINE – AYE, BROWN – AYE, REITER – NAY, MCCARHTY – AYE, UNKER – AYE.

o **Variance Request – 1860 Riviera Avenue South**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg explained that the property owners of 1860 Riviera Avenue South applied for variances and a CUP. This property is in the Riverway District and the floodplain. Gary Johnson, the property owner, submitted an application to elevate his home using an alternative method. The application included a request for multiple variances to expand and remodel the principle dwelling and remove a detached garage. The Planning Commission held a public hearing for this application and made a recommendation to the City Council. He noted that this application is for an expansion and remodel, not a complete tear-down. If the structure is determined to be unsound and needs to be torn down, the application will need to resubmitted with a new plan for a tear-down and rebuild, and the variance request process will need to be done again. The Planning Commission recommended approval with many conditions, including one that specifically states that this approval was only applicable for a remodel, not a tear-down.

After the Planning Commission, a concern was raised that this was a substandard structure. This applicant has come to city staff several times in the past. The first time, there was a moratorium on variances due to a case before the State Supreme Court regarding variance approvals. City Attorney Sandstrom noted that this was the case that led to the change in the law from hardship to practical difficulty in determining whether to grant variances. The second time, there was discussion between the City Clerk-Administrator and City Attorney Vierling. The floodplain ordinances allows expansion or alteration of substandard structures if they are going to become compliant with all floodplain ordinances. Although he could not find the city attorney's response, it seemed that this was determined to not be allowed because it was a substandard structure that would not then meet all floodplain ordinances. There is also an ordinance that relates to increasing the value of a property. If the increase in the value exceeds 50%, it is not allowed unless the structure is elevated above the flood level. Councilmember Reiter asked a few questions regarding what was included in the 50% value determination. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg stated that it did not matter how it was calculated as this structure will be elevated above the flood level, so the ordinance does not affect this property. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg noted that the DNR gave comment regarding this project. They did not have any concerns or issues with this application.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg reported that a concern was also raised that this property was a seasonal structure, which would have additional requirements. If a seasonal structure is made into a year-round residence, a CUP would be required. The structure would also have to meet the dimensional requirements of the local ordinance. The qualifications to determine whether a structure is seasonal include weatherized construction and a compliant year-round sewage treatment system. There are some items in the property file that reference this as a seasonal structure. The tax records state that this is a seasonal structure. However, there is no documentation that states why it is a seasonal structure. The building inspector has stated that the structure is insulated and has a furnace. Lakeland Water Utility confirmed there is water going to the property. There is a drainfield and septic system. Chris LeClair, from Washington County Department of Public Health and the septic system inspector for this area, has no records to indicate what type of septic system is on the property, but he found records that the system has been pumped. There is no definition for a year-round septic system or weatherization.

There was discussion regarding the difference between a remodel and a tear-down. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg suggested the City Council could require a structural engineer analysis to determine whether the structure can support the elevation and extra weight of another story before a building permit is issued. That way, the City Council will not feel backed into a corner to approve something because the building has partially begun. It was noted that the property was 40 X 100 feet. The building height limit is 35 feet. This means that the house could be almost as tall as the property is wide.

Gary Johnson, the applicant, noted that he wants to put in a compliant septic system, and the only way that he can do that is to remove the detached garage. He will keep the home in the same footprint, and the septic system will be a mound system. Councilmember Reiter pointed out that water ponds in that area and suggested that a grading plan for the property be submitted to ensure that water management is

done properly. City Engineer Parotti noted that a grading plan was submitted for the property, and he had reviewed it.

City Attorney Sandstrom noted that given the complexity of this issue, a resolution was not drafted for this project, and a variance resolution would be needed. Each component approved will need to be included in the resolution. He suggested that the City Council could require Mr. Johnson to have the structural engineer analysis completed before they determine whether to approve this project as proposed. Mr. Johnson noted that the City Council had approved the previous variance requests as the Planning Commission recommended, and he asked why that couldn't be done in his case as well. Councilmember Reiter noted that there is the fear that the current structure will not be able to be lifted. Previous elevations had a structural engineer analysis performed before the City Council considered the plan. Mr. Johnson felt that the City Council could grant the variances, and as his project moves forward, he could have extra things done as needed.

M/S/P (Brown, Reiter) TO DIRECT CITY ATTORNEY SANDSTROM TO BRING A RESOLUTION TO THE FEBRUARY CITY COUNCIL FOR A VARIANCE APPROVAL CONTINGENT UPON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN INTERIM CITY CLERK-ADMINISTRATOR BERG'S MEMO DATED JANUARY 13, 2015 WITH THE ADDITIONAL CONDITION THAT THIS IS ALL CONDITIONED UPON A STRUCTURAL ENGINEER ANALYSIS BY A STRUCTURAL ENGINEER AND IF IT IS DETERMINED THAT THE PLAN CAN NOT MOVE FORWARD AS STATED, THE APPLICANT MUST RETURN WITH A NEW PLAN FOR A TEAR-DOWN RATHER THAN A REMODEL.

Mr. Johnson noted that he is squaring off the structure, so there are places where the walls will be extended because of the plan. He was concerned that the motion would not allow for his project as proposed. Councilmember Unker noted that they City Council was not as concerned with the process as whether the structure can handle the project. Planning Commission Chair Ashby wanted it to be clear to the applicant that there could be a delay in approval of his project if the structural engineer analysis does not approve this project. The delay will be caused because the applicant will have to bring a new plan to the Planning Commission before moving onto the City Council again. City Attorney Sandstrom explained that if the structural analysis engineer determines this can not be done, the City Council will deny this request for variances, and the applicant will have to reapply with a new plan to tear down, which will require different considerations and the attempt to get the property as close to compliance as possible.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

City Attorney Sandstrom explained that variance requests are to be decided by the city within 60 days of the completed application being submitted, but they can extend that time period to 120 days. The city has done so because this will not be decided before the time limit.

• **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

o **City Hall Bond Payoff**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg reported that the City Council and the Economic Development Authority (EDA) have authorized the payoff of the City Hall bond, and payment will be sent on or before February 1, 2015. As a requirement of the sale of the building from the EDA to the city, the EDA must hold a public hearing before transfer of ownership can take place. This will not delay payment of the bond.

City Attorney Sandstrom explained that the resolution that should be passed is to direct the EDA to hold a public hearing for the transfer of the title of the City Hall from the EDA to the City. After the public hearing, the finalization of the sale and transfer of the title will take place at that time. The public hearing will be held during the City Council meeting on February 17, 2015. An attorney specializing in real estate at Mr. Sandstrom's firm will draft the title paperwork transferring the title and will attend the meeting. The resolution directs staff to get the information complete for the next meeting.

M/S/P (Reiter, McCarthy) TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NUMBER 2015-07, A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON BEHALF OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF LAKE ST. CROIX BEACH, MINNESOTA ON THE PROPOSED SALE OF REAL PROPERTY TO THE CITY OF THE CITY HALL PROJECT. THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: UNKER – AYE, REITER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, KLINE – AYE, MCCARTHY – AYE.

Mary Parr, resident, asked whether the EDA will then be abolished. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg explained that the EDA

will remain in place as there are some issues that are more efficiently dealt with by the EDA.

City Attorney Sandstrom explained that the City Council will open their meeting on February 17, 2015, and they will then go into recess. The EDA will hold the public hearing, vote on the transfer, and reconvene the City Council meeting.

- **COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS**

- **Councilmember Brown's Report**

- Nothing further to report. Councilmember Unker asked how and why the Cable Commission determined it was in their purview to get involved in the sign for the Fire Department. Councilmember Brown noted that the sign is a communication issue because it will give city information as well as fire department information. Councilmember Unker objected to the Cable Commission's involvement and the percentages. He also objected to the fact that only cable subscribers were paying for this. Councilmember Reiter stated that if a city does not approve the donation, they will still get the benefits of the sign, and that did not seem right to her.

- **Councilmember Kline's Report**

- Nothing further to report.

- **Councilmember Reiter's Report**

- Councilmember Reiter noted that in the City Council packets there was information regarding testing that was performed in the Mississippi River for invasive carp. She noted only one sample contained any evidence of the carp in the 500 samples.

- She thanked everyone for their support in the loss of her mother.

- The WMO will be making a presentation to the City Council in February regarding MIDS (Minimal Impact Design Standards). The WMO will try to include the minimal impact designs into the city's process. The WMO has received a grant to help the cities in the Middle St. Croix area to include MIDS in their ordinances.

- **Councilmember Unker's Report**

- Nothing further to report.

- **Mayor McCarthy's Report**

- Mayor McCarthy thanked everyone who signed to be volunteers on the many City commissions/committees: Planning Commission, Park Commission, Environmental Advisory Commission/Recycle Committee, Flooplain Advisory Commission, Codification Committee, and Personnel Committee.

- The snowplow contractor is asking residents to pull their garbage and recycle bins back from the street. He reminded everyone there was an ordinance requiring this.

- **City Attorney's Report**

- City Attorney Sandstrom reported that the WMO put on a conference for city attorneys about MIDS. He noted the design standards will help with water runoff management beyond raingardens.

- He noted there was a closed session at the City Council worksession in early January. The City Council discussed the Triemert litigation and an offer that was made to settle. The settlement has still not been settled with Mr. Triemert as he has some arguments about some language that will be in the settlement documents. There is a pending motion to dismiss that will be heard Friday, January 23, 2015. This motion was filed months ago, and the hearing has been scheduled for two months.

- Mary Parr, City representative to the Yellow Ribbon Alliance, noted the members of the Yellow Ribbon Alliance are looking for additional volunteers to help with the meat raffles held at The Bungalow on the first and third Saturdays of the month. If they can not secure volunteers for these events, that opportunity for funds will no longer be available.

- **Interim City Clerk-Administrator Mitchell Berg**

- Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg noted that this is his last City Council meeting as Interim City Clerk-Administrator. He thanked the City Council for their support during tenure here. Sue Schuler will be the new City Clerk-Administrator, and he feels that she will be a great asset to the city.

- **Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Truhlar's Report**

- Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Truhlar presented the bills for the month totaling \$232,986.95. This total included \$171,990.02 for the City Hall bond payoff and \$30,726.66 for police services from July – December, 2014.

- M/S/P (Reiter, Kline) TO APPROVE THE BILLS AS PRESENTED FOR TOTALING \$232,986.95. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

- M/S/P (Brown, Reiter) TO ADJOURN AT 10:15 P.M. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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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

Fire, Medical & Sheriff Emergency 911

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

Gary Kriesel

Washington County Commissioner 651-430-6213

Kathy Lohmer

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

E-mail: rep.kathy.lohmer@house.mn.us

Karin Housley

Minnesota Senator (District 39) 651-296-4351

E-mail: sen.karin.housley@senate.mn

Mark Dayton

Minnesota Governor 651-201-3400

E-mail: mark.dayton@state.mn.us

Betty McCollum

U. S. Representative (District 4) 202-225-6631

E-mail: betty.mccollum@mail.house.gov

Amy Klobuchar

U. S. Senator 612-727-5220 or 202-224-3244

E-mail: klobuchar@senate.gov

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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