



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
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Email: lscb@comcast.net
Website: www.lscb.govoffice.com

January, 2015

Issue No. 505

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.

January Calendar

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

Thursday, January 1

City Offices Closed for New Year's Day Holiday

Friday, January 2

Recycle Day

Saturday, January 3

City Council Worksession – 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, January 7

Public Hearings and Planning Commission Meeting

Thursday, January 8

Middle SCV WMO meeting at Washington Conservation District Office

Wednesday, January 14

LSCV Fire District at Fire Hall

Thursday, January 15

Recycle Day

Monday, January 19

City Hall Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Tuesday, January 20

City Council Meeting

Monday, January 26

LSCV Alliance – 4:30 p.m. at Fire Hall

Thursday, January 29

Recycle Day



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.

Reminder: Garbage and Recycling Pick-up will be one day later the week of New Year's Day.

Happy New Year!

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.

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year's.

We had a great turnout for the city's annual holiday party on December 15th. It was very nice visiting with everyone who attended.

Thank you to everyone who served on any city commission, and I am looking forward to serving with everyone in the upcoming year. Welcome aboard to new Councilmember Michelle Kline.

And thanks again to the community for all of your support.

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.

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.

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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.

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Remember:

You must keep your dog on a leash.

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. Electrocution 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

November, 2014

Complaints Investigated

8 Medical	1 Fight
3 Traffic	1 Theft Report
3 Assist/Civil Assist/Lift Assist	1 Loud Party
2 Domestic	1 Vandalism
2 Deer Tag/Car vs. Deer	1 Welfare Check
2 Civil Process Case	1 Attempted Fraud
1 Disturbance	1 Information/Extra Patrol
1 Suspicious Phone Calls	1 Courtesy Transport

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 42 runs in November, 13 of which were in Lake St. Croix Beach.

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



Animal Control

In the month of November, 2 dogs and 2 cats were reported lost, and 1 cat was 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 – January 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

January 5, 12, and 26

Introduction to Genealogy Class

Thursday, January 15, 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

A class on using the internet for genealogy research, focusing on the research tool Ancestry Library Edition, one of Washington County Library's subscription databases. Registration is required and limited to 4. Call the library to register.



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

Schedule:	Jan. 1 at 7 a.m.
	Jan. 7 at 1 p.m. and 9 p.m.
	Jan. 8 at 9 a.m.
	Jan. 14 at 4 p.m. and midnight
	Jan. 15 at 7 a.m.
	Jan. 21 at 1 p.m. and 9 p.m.
	Jan. 22 at 9 a.m.
	Jan. 28 at 4 p.m. and midnight
	Jan. 29 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 December 15, 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, John Parotti, Kevin Sandstrom, Amy Truhlar

Others Present Michelle Kline, Bob Swenson, Pat Wood, Diane Wood, Jon Place, Deputy Sullivan, Steve Zigan, Kris Peterson, Jim Stanley, Jim Golden, Hannah Lynch

PUBLIC HEARING – TRUTH-IN-TAXATION

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING by Mayor McCarthy at 7:06 p.m.

EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CITY BUDGET FOR 2015

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Mitch Berg explained that the city's Comprehensive Plan lists two priorities that pertain to the city budget: to provide an orderly and efficient program for capital expenditures and to keep the need for public expenditures at the lowest level possible consistent with providing essential services. He stated that the proposed 2015 budget accomplishes both of these goals. The general fund expenditures increased by only 1.5% over 2014. A special revenue fund was created to capture 10% of the gaming proceeds which will be used for Heritage Day, community donations, and playground and park equipment. The Economic Development Authority (EDA) will be paying off the debt owed on the City Hall bonds, and A

City Hall Building and Maintenance Fund will be created using money set aside for that debt service. This fund will be used to pay for items listed on the Facilities Condition Report created when the City purchased the City Hall building. The City is in the process of hiring a full time City Clerk-Administrator who will seek out grants, serve as Emergency Management Director and Code Enforcement Officer, and run other services that were previously delegated to other contract staff.

Mr. Berg pointed out some items regarding the budget, noting that property taxes (primarily residential) account for 68% of the city's revenues. The two largest expenditure categories are Public Safety (23%) and Streets (22%). This is in line with other Minnesota cities. He noted that the property tax levy has remained quite stable for the past ten years, which shows how the city has been fiscally responsible. Property tax rates have also remained relatively flat over the past ten years. There was a jump in property tax rates in 2012 due to the change from the market value homestead credit (MVHC) to a market value exclusion credit.

RECEIVE COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC/READ WRITTEN COMMENTS

Councilmember Reiter noted that there is a contingency fund of \$7,000 set aside for unexpected emergencies. The city annually sets aside \$5,000 for flood fighting, which the city must fully spend before becoming eligible for any grant or aid for flood fighting. She asked whether the city would be required to spend \$12,000 to be eligible for aid with that additional line-item. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg explained that the contingency fund would be for other unexpected issues, and the city would not be expected to use that money for flood-fighting.

There were no other public comments, and the city received no written comments.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO CLOSE THE TRUTH-IN-TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:15 P.M. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

- **Call To Order** by Mayor McCarthy at 7:15 p.m.

- **Pledge of Allegiance** was said.

- **Approve Agenda** Agenda Item 3

Interim City Clerk-Administrator explained that today he received a letter from the Animal Humane Society for the 2015 contract for services. The rates remain the same as 2014, and he asked that this be added as item J on the Consent Agenda.

M/S/P (Brown, Reiter) TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **Review of Closed Session at End of November 17, 2014 City Council Meeting** Agenda Item 4

City Attorney Sandstrom reported that the City Council met in closed session at the end of the November 17, 2014 City Council meeting. This meeting was to discuss pending litigation between the City and David Triemert. The City Council adjourned the regular City Council meeting during the closed session without going back into open session. The meeting was closed pursuant to Minnesota State Statute Chapter 13B.05 on the basis of attorney-client privilege. No official action was taken at the meeting. The City Council was given an update on the pending litigation and provided guidance to the city attorney's office as to their wishes regarding the lawsuit.

- **Consent Agenda** Agenda Item 5

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

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON NOVEMBER 17, 2014 AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE LICENSES FOR MARONEY SANITATION, INC, WASTE MANAGEMENT OF

MINNESOTA, HIGHLAND SANITATION, THE BEACH BAR, AND FREEDOM VALU CENTER (ERICKSON OIL PRODUCTS) AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY FOR SUBSURFACE SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEM INSPECTION SERVICES FOR JANUARY 1, 2015 – DECEMBER 31, 2016. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE 2015 CALENDAR OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATES. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO MASTER SUBSCRIBER AGREEMENT FOR FAST ACCESS AND THE REQUEST FORM FOR COURT INTEGRATION SERVICES. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE REVISED STANDARD OPERATION PROCEDURES FOR DRAINAGE SYSTEM MAINTENANCE. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE REPOSTING OF THE CITY CLERK-ADMINISTRATOR POSITION WITH AN AMENDMENT TO THE MINIMUM REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS OF EITHER A BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR 7 YEARS OF MUNICIPAL CLERK EXPERIENCE AND TO CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THE JOB POSTING OPEN UNTIL FILLED PER THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE A SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING TO DISCUSS AND/OR INTERVIEW POSSIBLE FINAL CANDIDATES FOR THE CITY CLERK-ADMINISTRATOR POSITION ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2014 AT 6:00 P.M. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE A CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION TO BE HELD ON JANUARY 3, 2014 AT 9:00 A.M. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE 2015 CONTRACT WITH THE ANIMAL HUMANE SOCIETY FOR IMPOUND SERVICES. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **OPEN COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Jim Golden, 1920 Quarry Avenue South, noted that he attended the meeting about the Afton Cluster Septic System on December 4, 2014. He pointed out that Councilmembers Reiter and Unker also attended the meeting. Councilmember Unker stated that the presentation was very polished, but felt the information given was erroneous and incomplete. Councilmember Reiter stated that the presentation was very professional and credited Mr. Golden and his efforts for making the City of Afton go through their processes again to take the steps that should have been taken before. She stated her opinion that the only thing that seems possible now is to make sure things are done as carefully as possible.

Mr. Golden stated that he disagreed with Councilmember Reiter and felt there were still steps that could be taken to try and stop the project. The City of Afton will be doing a voluntary Environmental Advisory Worksheet (EAW). The company performing the EAW will be the same company that has been writing all the reports for the project so far. He asked whether there was a difference between a voluntary EAW and a mandatory EAW. City Attorney Sandstrom stated he was not aware of any differences between the two as the same processes and steps would need to be followed. He added that it would be typical for the same engineering firm already working for the city to be the firm that would create all the paperwork necessary for the EAW. Mr. Golden added that there is still no official plan, and the plan they currently have has not yet been submitted to the MPCA. At the meeting, it was stated that the plan was not final.

Jon Place, owner of the Beach Bar, stated he was also at the meeting on December 4, 2014. He noted that what surprised him were all the hidden underground dynamics and movement of water in the watershed. He also pointed out that although it was said that no chemicals were going to be used in this system, at the meeting it was acknowledged that a chemical will be used at the end of the process to remove the nitrogen.

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Amy Truhlar reported that she had received a phone call from Dave Pergande, who wanted to reiterate his request from last year. He would like the median salary for sheriff's deputies, firefighters, staff, and City Council, including benefits to be included in the newsletter once per year.

- **PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS**

Councilmember Kopp reported 49 calls to law enforcement during the month of November, one for gunshots heard. One citation was issued. The animal report for November listed two dogs and two cats lost and one cat found. There was one call. Deputy Sullivan reported that there have been 449 calls for Lake St. Croix Beach year-to-date, which is down 22 calls from 2013. He noted that Deputy Erickson, Deputy Wick, and Deputy Stiffarm are going to different assignments in the county.

Jim Stanley, Deputy Chief of the Lower St. Croix Valley Fire Department, reported there were 42 runs in the month of November, 13 of which were in Lake St. Croix Beach. The fire department will begin offering CPR courses for residents in 2015. Information will be provided to the city for inclusion in the newsletter. An EMT course will be starting in January, and will include members from other districts. Ambulances must be inspected every two years. The inspection was performed two weeks ago, and was passed. He explained that this is a state-required inspection performed by the Department of Health. Pancake Breakfast with Santa was very successful. He noted that the breakfast was interrupted by two calls, and residents in attendance helped to run the breakfast while firefighters were on the calls.

- **CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT**

John Parotti, the city engineer from SEH, reported that the levee project is moving forward. He will be meeting with Xcel Energy to discuss the electric poles that need to be removed from the levee. They will be working out whose responsibility it will be to come up with the cost to move those poles.

At the city's request, a senior geologist from SEH, attended the Afton Cluster Septic System meeting. He reported that residents in the area of the proposed system can have their wells tested for free now, regardless of whether the project eventually moves forward. The testing will be performed by a third, independent party. He noted that eligible residents should be contacted by the City of Afton regarding this. Mr. Golden asked whether the City of Afton needed to have the wells tested to move forward with their project. Mr. Parotti reported that the well-testing was not necessary, but it would protect residents. The testing would offer a baseline, so that testing, in the event of contamination, performed in the future would have a baseline for their wells. City Attorney Sandstrom explained that the City of Afton just had to make the offer to test the wells, the testing was not necessary and will not be forced upon people. This is a state requirement. He also stated that he was not aware of any way the City of Afton could force residents to cap their wells and hook up to city water.

Steve Zigan, resident, asked whether the pole on the levee at 19th Street South would be moved. Mr. Parotti responded that the pole at the intersection of 19th Street South and Riviera Avenue South is a lower priority as it is not as far into the levee as some of the others. Where the pole will be moved to will be decided on a case-by-case basis.

Bob Swenson, resident, asked whether the information from a well that was tested would be given only to the resident or if the information would also go to the City of Afton. Mr. Parotti noted that the information would go to both the City of Afton and the resident. The only way to keep the information private would be for the resident to pay for the testing themselves.

- **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Pay Off City Hall 2008 Series A Revenue Bonds**

M/S/P (McCarthy, Reiter) TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2014-18, A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF LAKE ST. CROIX BEACH TO CALL FOR REDEMPTION ITS PUBLIC PROJECT REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2008A (CITY OF LAKE ST. CROIX BEACH LEASE WITH OPTION TO PURCHASE AGREEMENT) AND RESOLUTION 2014-19, A RESOLUTION EXERCISING THE OPTION TO PURCHASE CITY HALL PROPERTY FROM THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND WAIVE THE READINGS.

City Attorney Sandstrom clarified that with these two resolutions, the City Council was authorizing the EDA to pay off the City Hall debt,

the City of Lake St. Croix Beach to purchase City Hall from the EDA, and for the letter to be sent stating this.

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

City Attorney Sandstrom explained that this issue will be on the agenda at the January City Council meeting when there will be more documentation to finalize the transaction.

- **2015 City Levy and Budget**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg reported that earlier in the day he had received a memo Washington County stating that the increase in valuation for the community was on average 6-7%. Initially they had projected 14%. The levy will go up by 3%. Based on this, the increase to an average priced home in Lake St. Croix Beach will be approximately \$70 per year.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2014-20, A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2015 TAX LEVY OF \$480,500. THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: UNKER – AYE, REITER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, KOPP – AYE, MCCARTHY – AYE.

M/S/P (Brown, Reiter) TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2014-21, A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2015 CITY BUDGET OF \$597,790. THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: UNKER – AYE, REITER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, KOPP – AYE, MCCARTHY – AYE.

- **Establishment of 2015 Capital Funds**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg noted that the city has established two special revenue funds. He explained that a special revenue fund is a fund used to keep money to be used for a specific purpose. He asked the City Council to establish a City Hall Building and Maintenance Fund using money that would have been used for the City Hall bond payment. He noted that the resolution drafted to create this fund has a clause that will allow the resolution to be amended at any time for the sole purpose of making changes to suit the needs of the city in order to best protect the health, safety, and welfare of the community.

M/S/P (Brown, McCarthy) TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2014-22, A RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL REVENUE FUND AND CITY HALL BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE FUND. THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: UNKER – AYE, REITER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, KOPP – AYE, MCCARTHY – AYE.

- **Text Amendment to Section 604 of Lake St. Croix Beach Zoning Code of Ordinances to Permit the Use of "Wooden Boat Restoration and Repair (Enclosed)" As a Conditional Use in the RB and GB Zoning Districts**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator noted that the owner of 1950 Quasar Avenue South, the former home of LPD Electric, will be leasing the property. The person that would like to lease the property, Tom Sweeney, would like to operate a wooden boat restoration and repair business on the property. This is not listed as a use allowed in the zoning district. The owner of the property then applied for a text amendment to allow this as a use in the Retail Business (RB) and General Business (GB) zoning districts.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2014-167, AN ORDINANCE REVISING ZONING CODE 604 TO ALLOW WOODEN BOAT RESTORATION, REPAIR, AND SALES IN THE RB AND GB ZONING DISTRICTS. THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: UNKER – AYE, REITER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, KOPP – AYE, MCCARTHY – AYE.

- **CUP For the Following Two Uses At 1950 Quasar Avenue South: "Wooden Boat Restoration and Repair" And "Boat, Trailer, and Marine Sales (Enclosed)"**

Mr. Sweeney, in anticipation of the city amending the ordinance, applied for a conditional use permit (CUP) to operate a wooden boat restoration and repair and boat sales business at 1950 Quasar Avenue South. City Attorney Sandstrom pointed out that there was an issue that arose regarding exterior storage at the business. City ordinances (Section 706) state that with respect to commercial properties, exterior storage will be allowed by a CUP in the commercial district. Section 604 of the city zoning code states that exterior storage will be allowed

by a CUP in the general business (GB) zoning district, but exterior storage is not allowed at all in the retail business (RB) zoning district. 1950 Quasar Avenue South is in the RB zoning district. Mr. Sweeney would like to be allowed to have some exterior storage incidental to his business.

City Attorney Sandstrom clarified that all the businesses on the west side of St. Croix Trail South (CSAH 18) are in the RB zoning district, and therefore none of them should be allowed to have exterior storage. He suggested the ordinances be amended to allow exterior storage in the RB zoning district by a CUP. By allowing exterior storage only under a CUP, the City will be able to control the nature and extent of the storage and the terms of the CUP. Such a revision would allow the applicant to store boats larger than 25 feet, and in the front of the property, if the City feels that this is appropriate and not contrary to the intent and purpose of the ordinances.

If the City Council wants to make this amendment, they should make a motion for the Planning Commission to hold a public hearing on this issue. The City Council could also direct staff to put this issue on the Planning Commission agenda to discuss and investigate. A public hearing will need to be held in order for the amendment to be made. Councilmember Reiter asked whether the applicant would be held up if a public hearing were not held. Attorney Sandstrom explained that the City Council could still grant a CUP to the applicant, but he will not be able to have exterior storage, even under the CUP, until the ordinance is amended.

M/S/P (Reiter, McCarthy) TO DIRECT THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 604 OF THE CITY ZONING CODE. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg explained that the City Council could approve the CUP now, and then address the exterior storage issue later if the amendment is approved allowing that. City Attorney Sandstrom noted that the amendment allowing wooden boat restoration and repair was not technically in effect yet as it had to be published first, which is required before an ordinance or an amendment is in effect. He stated that the City Council could pass the resolution approving the CUP, contingent upon publication of the amendment to the zoning code. He reviewed the provisions of the CUP as recommended by the Planning Commission. He noted that there was no exterior storage listed except employee and customer vehicles. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg suggested obtaining a site plan from the applicant showing the exterior storage, which would clarify the number of boats Mr. Sweeney would like to store outside. The exterior storage could be addressed now on the CUP, contingent upon the amendment being adopted, or the City Council could address the exterior storage in the future after the amendment is adopted.

Two residents, who were unable to attend the public hearing, talked with Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg expressing some concerns they had regarding odors and noise from the business. He told them this would be addressed on the CUP. The City Council discussed hours of business. Mr. Sweeney has asked to have his hours of business be 6:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. every day. He noted that the City Council could limit certain activities to certain times of the day, including when deliveries were allowed.

City Attorney Sandstrom clarified that the City Council will need to determine what level of exterior storage is acceptable on any given property if the amendment allowing this is adopted. City Clerk-Administrator Berg pointed out that the City Council could approve the CUP with no exterior storage. If the amendment allowing exterior storage in the zoning district is adopted, the CUP holder could apply for an amendment to his CUP at that time.

It was noted that LPD Electric's hours of operation were listed as 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. on their CUP. Councilmember Reiter asked whether the deliveries to Freedom (also a retail business in the same zoning district) were limited to certain hours. She felt the businesses should be able to receive deliveries in the same manner. Pat Wood, owner of the property at 1950 Quasar Avenue South, stated that the clearer the ordinances are regarding what is allowed and what is not allowed, the better off everyone is.

John Perotti noted that there was a storm basin constructed on the property, and he asked whether this should be addressed on the CUP, as it should continue to be maintained. He was concerned that if not specifically listed on the CUP, it could be eliminated.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg reported that the hours of operation for Freedom CUP were 6:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. with no restrictions listed regarding deliveries. He agreed that the CUP should clarify that the drainage plan is to be maintained. City Attorney Sandstrom recommended that the City Council approve Resolution 2014-23

as presented with the addition of a condition that the grading and drainage plan previously in existence on the site must remain in existence.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2014-23, A RESOLUTION GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (CUP) FOR A WOODEN BOAT RESTORATION AND REPAIR AND BOAT, TRAILER, AND MARINE SALES (ENCLOSED) FACILITY TO OPERATE AT 1950 QUASAR AVENUE SOUTH AS PRESENTED WITH THE ADDITION THAT THE DRAINAGE PLAN REMAIN IN EFFECT ON THE SITE AND BE MAINTAINED. THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: UNKER – AYE, REITER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, KOPP – AYE, MCCARTHY – AYE.

o **Refer To The Planning Commission A Public Hearing For IUP Process and Extend Deadline For Application For Single Family Dwelling in the RB Zoning District**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator explained that there is a single family home on the property at 1950 Quasar Avenue South. Mr. Sweeney would like to use this as his home while leasing the property for his business. The Planning Commission discussed this issue at the December Planning Commission meeting and recommended allowing this use under an Interim Use Permit (IUP). Currently, there is no process for granting an IUP, so the Planning Commission asked that the City Council direct them to hold a public hearing to develop the IUP process.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO REFER TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING FOR AN INTERIM USE PERMIT (IUP) PROCESS AND EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR THE APPLICATION FOR A SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING IN THE RETAIL BUSINESS (RB) ZONING DISTRICT AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg explained that a CUP is tied to the land or the property. An IUP can be revoked at any time by the City Council or can be allowed for a set time period. An IUP offers the flexibility to make changes in the event the arrangement is not working well.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councilmember Reiter noted that the Holiday Social Hour was advertised as beginning at 8:00, and there were residents waiting for that. She suggested recessing the City Council meeting for the Holiday Social Hour as the meeting was probably not going to be over soon.

M/S/P (Reiter, McCarthy) TO RECESS THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING AT 8:24 P.M. FOR THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY SOCIAL HOUR. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

• **RECONVENE CITY COUNCIL MEETING** by Mayor McCarthy at 9:05 p.m.

• **OTHER BUSINESS**

o **Personnel Committee Recommendations Compensation Review for The Deputy Clerk-Treasurer**

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg explained that he conducted a performance review of Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Truhlar and recommended a 1.5% increase in pay retroactive to July 1, 2014. The Personnel Committee agreed and recommended this to the City Council. This will increase her wage to \$18.02 per hour.

M/S/P (Brown, McCarthy) TO INCREASE DEPUTY CLERK-TREASURER TRUHLAR'S WAGE TO \$18.02 PER HOUR RETROACTIVE TO JULY 1, 2014. MOTION PASSED, 4 AYES, 1 ABSENT (REITER).

It was noted that Councilmember Reiter had to leave during the recess.

Code Enforcement Role

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg reported that the Personnel Committee recommended that the role of Code Enforcement Officer be the responsibility of the City Clerk-Administrator since the hours have been increased to 40 per week. He noted that if this role was delegated to someone not already an employee, the City Council would need to approve the hiring. He recommended that if this were to happen, the Code Enforcement Officer should report directly to the City Clerk-Administrator as it was a job duty that fell under the responsibility of the City Clerk-Administrator.

M/S/P (Brown, Kopp) TO APPOINT THE CITY CLERK-ADMINISTRATOR AS THE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.

Councilmember Unker asked what role the Washington County Sheriff's Office would play in code enforcement. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg explained that the agreement with the sheriff's office will enforce the city's code as if they were the city's police department. He noted that some cities have their own police officers who take care of code enforcement, sometimes with a community service officer (CSO), and other cities utilize code enforcement officers. The sheriff's deputies have been very cooperative with Mr. Berg when asked for specific help with specific properties. City Attorney Sandstrom stated that he sees the code enforcement officer as appointed by the City Council as an administrative role with code violation letters and administrative citations. He noted that there is always the option of criminal prosecution in code violations. In that case, the sheriff's deputy should be more involved in the issue.

Councilmember Unker noted that sometimes a more immediate need for enforcement is necessary, such as someone demolishing a home without a permit on a weekend when City Hall is closed. If City Hall can not be reached, this activity could not be stopped and the person would have gotten what they wanted. Attorney Sandstrom noted that the sheriff's deputies would be reluctant to get involved in an issue such as this unless a specific crime is occurring. He noted that most people who would demolish a structure will want to build a new one. In this case there would be repercussions when they tried to rebuild such as a large fine before a building permit is issued or stop work orders, as the structure could not be rebuilt within a day.

City Attorney Sandstrom noted that there are some code violations that the sheriff's deputies will be more quick to get involved in, such as noise violations with a loud party or a jackhammer late at night. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg suggested the city could have a meeting with the sheriff's office to better clarify roles. He noted that the city currently has a good relationship with the sheriff's office.

MOTION PASSED, 4 AYES, 1 ABSENT (REITER).

Special Projects Position and Contract

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg noted that in anticipation of the City finding a permanent City Clerk-Administrator, he was offering to help with the transition and provide some additional services. He drew up a contract for these services modeled on the contract between the City of Lakeland and their City Administrator. He stated the City Council should terminate the present employment agreement with Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg in order to enter into a new contract effective January 21, 2015. He chose this day because it is the day after the City Council meeting. He noted this position would be up to 15 hours per month at \$35 per hour on an as-needed basis. The agreement would be for January 21, 2015 – March 31, 2015 and follow month-to-month on an as-needed basis after that.

M/S/P (Brown, Unker) TO TERMINATE THE PRESENT EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH INTERIM CITY CLERK-ADMINISTRATOR BERG ON JANUARY 20, 2015 IN ORDER TO ENTER INTO A NEW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT EFFECTIVE JANUARY 21, 2015. MOTION PASSED, 4 AYES, 1 ABSENT.

Hiring A City Consultant

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg reported that the Personnel Committee also voted to recommend to the City Council the hiring of a consultant to help the new City Council and the new City Clerk-Administrator with role clarification. The consultant, an objective third party, would also help to establish a set of protocols and procedures to better define the roles and responsibilities between the City Council, staff, and volunteer committees.

M/S/P (Brown, McCarthy) TO HAVE THE INTERIM CITY CLERK-ADMINISTRATOR INTERVIEW PROSPECTIVE CONSULTING FIRMS TO ASSIST THE CITY IN CLARIFYING ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000.

Councilmember Unker expressed concern regarding what this was for and asked if Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg could do this. Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg stated this was not his specialty and there were consultants who did specialize in this kind of work. Resident Bob Swenson suggested the City use this person on an as needed basis, expressing concern that consultants try to get as much money as they can from companies. City Clerk-Administrator stated that City Councilmembers and Commission/Committee members are very good-natured and nice, and he noted that some people can find weaknesses in and manipulate those weaknesses. In some cases this can cause disharmony between staff, the City Council, and/or Com-

missions/Committees. An objective, third party could help to identify these issues and help to implement changes to create greater efficiency.

MOTION PASSED, 4 AYES, 1 ABSENT.

• **COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS**

Councilmember Brown's Report

Councilmember Brown had nothing further to report. He wished happy holidays to everyone in the community.

Councilmember Kopp's Report

Councilmember Kopp noted that this is her last City Council meeting as a Councilmember. She stated it had been an honor and privilege to serve the community and wished the future City Council the best of luck. She reported that the Yellow Ribbon Alliance had met and noted that volunteers are always needed. Anyone interested should contact City Hall.

Councilmember Unker's Report

Councilmember Unker reported that he had attended the Personnel Committee meetings and thanked the volunteers on that committee. He stated that although their job was not easy, he felt they were doing it very well. He attended the Afton Cluster Septic System meeting and noted that the presentation appeared very polished, but he was still skeptical of the project's success and some of the statements that were made. He wished everyone a very prosperous 2015.

Councilmember Reiter's Report

Councilmember Reiter left during the recess.

Mayor McCarthy's Report

Mayor McCarthy thanked City Councilmember-Elect Michelle Kline for helping to decorate City Hall. Sentenced-To-Service (STS) crews have begun work that is needed on the levee. He stated that STS is a great program and expressed gratitude for the amount of help they give to the city. He was unable to attend the meeting regarding the Afton Cluster Septic System as he was out of town. He wished everyone a happy holiday season, and thanked Councilmember Kopp for her service.

City Attorney's Report

City Attorney Sandstrom had nothing further to report. He stated it was a pleasure to work with Councilmember Kopp and looked forward to working with Councilmember Kline.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Mitchell Berg

Interim City Clerk-Administrator Berg reported that the City received a letter from the Washington County Historical Society thanking the city for the donation. He reported that a report will be put together and there will be a public comment period as part of the Afton EAW process. It would be appropriate for the city to comment on the EAW.

He noted that the ISO has recommended to FEMA that the city retain its rating of 6, which is good news because the requirements changed, which made it harder to retain previous ratings.

The hearing officer for the dangerous dog designation appeal recommended keeping the label of potentially dangerous dog. The hearing officer noted that the city's ordinance regarding dangerous dogs is very restrictive. The same effects occur whether the dog is deemed dangerous or potentially dangerous. City Attorney Sandstrom added that the city's ordinance is far more restrictive and burdensome than state statutes. The hearing officer did recommend amending the city's ordinance to align with state statutes.

Interim City Clerk-Administrator stated it was a pleasure to work with Councilmember Kopp, and wished everyone a happy holiday.

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Truhlar's Report

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Truhlar presented the bills for the month totaling \$37,713.32. The annual payment for the fire hall (\$13,874) is included in that total.

M/S/P (Brown, Kopp) TO APPROVE THE BILLS AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED, 4 AYES, 1 ABSENT.

Ms. Truhlar then noted that it is typical for the City Council to approve payment of any additional bills that come in through the end of December. She asked for approval to do this again.

M/S/P (McCarthy, Unker) TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF ALL BILLS THAT COME IN DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER FOR 2014. MOTION PASSED, 4 AYES, 1 ABSENT.

- **ADJOURNMENT**
M/S/P (Brown, Unker) TO ADJOURN AT 9:45 P.M. MOTION PASSED, 4 AYES, 1 ABSENT.

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Rain Barrel, Compost Bin & Annual Tree Sale

Friday, April 24 8:00am-8:00pm
Saturday, April 25 8:00am-12:00noon
Washington County Fairgrounds
12300 North 40th Street
Lake Elmo, Minnesota 55042

This spring the Washington Conservation District (WCD) is teaming up with the Recycle Association of Minnesota (RAM) to host a rain barrel and compost bin sale in conjunction with our annual tree sale. Rain barrels collect rainwater from your roof downspouts, which can later be used to water your lawn or garden during dry weeks. Most have a screen on the top to keep mosquitoes from breeding, an overflow valve, and a spigot at the bottom to attach to your garden hose.

You can pre-purchase rain barrels and compost bins from the Recycle Association of Minnesota this spring at very discounted rates. Online pre-ordering will begin early 2015 and stay open until sold out. There are also additional various pick-up dates this spring throughout the metro area in addition to the Washington County Fairgrounds which you can view on the RAM website.

The Washington Conservation District is currently taking orders for the annual tree sale. Trees can be ordered in bundles of 25 for only \$35, and the selection includes conifers, hardwoods and shrubs. In addition we are offering a special bird pack of trees – 30 bird friendly trees for \$50 that include Bur Oak, White Oak, Black Cherry, White Pine, Chokecherry, and Wild plum. Conservation District staff can also help you to plan your planting project and have tree bars available for rental. To order trees, check for sold out trees, or to learn more about the program, visit the WCD website or call Wendy at (651) 275-1136 x24.

Rain barrels and compost bins: <http://www.recycleminnesota.org>
Tree Sale Order Form & Information
www.mnwcd.org

Reframing Stormwater: A Resource, not a Waste Product

I recently attended a tour of the new 17th Ave Residence Hall at the University of Minnesota to see their stormwater reclamation system, the first of its kind within the university system. Quite frankly, the system was surprising simple and a bit underwhelming, but that's of beauty of it!

Stormwater, or the water the runs off roads, roofs and driveways into storm drains, carries with it trash, excess sediment, fertilizers and pesticides, and well as organic matter such as leaves and grass clippings that go directly into our lakes and rivers. We encourage and incentivize landowners to do their part to keep any water running off their property clean by taking simple steps, such as sweeping up lawn clippings, raking leaves out of streets, or installing a raingarden. In the end, however, water is still running off the landscape and into a storm drain. In essence, it is treated as a waste product and not as the resource it is.

The 17th Avenue Residence Hall houses some 600 students, and as you can imagine that translates to quite the number of flushes in the morning before classes begin. The building collects up to five days' worth of rainwater to supply the toilets inside as well as sprinklers outside for the small vegetated areas. The collection is done through a green roof vegetated with succulents, a porous paver patio, and a system of intake pipes that collect the water and channel it into two 1,000 gallon underground cisterns. The water is treated with ozone and dyed blue (to prevent confusing it with municipal water), pressurized and then sent through a high efficiency plumbing system to the nearly 100 toilets in the residence hall. Here stormwater is a valuable resource and significantly decreases the amount of clean, drinking-quality water from being used to flush sewage.

While this technology is valuable for large multi-family or student residences, it is probably not the most applicable method of managing stormwater at a single family home. Water can be kept onsite at your home by installing a rain barrel, a raingarden, or creating a driveway make of porous pavement that can soak in the water instead of letting it run off. Take a moment to watch how water moves across your property the next time it rains or as the snow melts, and start rethinking how you view it – as a waste product to manage, or as a valuable resource to capture. For more information on how to manage water on your property or for a free site visit from a conservation professional, you can contact the Washington Conservation District at 651-330-8220 or visit www.mnwcd.org.

Jenn Radtke is an educator for the East Metro Water Resource Education Program. She can be reached at 651-330-8220 x44 or jradtke@mnwcd.org.

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Tom McCarthy

Mayor, 436-5686

E-Mail: lscbmayor@gmail.com

Charles Brown

Councilmember, 612-889-7588

E-Mail: chazbrown@comcast.net

Michelle Kline**Cindie Reiter**

Councilmember, 436-8244

E-Mail: cindie55043@gmail.com

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

Fire, Medical & Sheriff Emergency 911

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

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Mark Dayton

Minnesota Governor 651-201-3400

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

Betty McCollum

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

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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.

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

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