

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

September, 2015

Issue No. 513

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.

September Calendar

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

Monday, September 7
 Labor Day – City Hall Closed

Tuesday, September 8
 City Council Budget
 Worksession/Special City Council
 Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 8
 Park Commission Meeting

Wednesday, September 9
 LSCV Fire District at Fire Hall

Thursday, September 10
 Recycle Day

Thursday, September 10
 Middle SCV WMO meeting at Wash-
 ton Conservation District Office

Monday, September 21
 City Council Meeting

Thursday, September 24
 Recycle Day

Monday, September 28
 LSCV Alliance – 4:30 p.m. at Fire Hall



Student Walkers & Bikers

Many elementary school students in the area will be walking or biking to school this year.



Please watch for:

- Students at intersections and in roundabouts
- Walkers/bikers on streets
- Traffic delays on St. Croix Trail at the school entrance
- Observe speed limit in the school zone
- Never pass on shoulders

Ordinance 1802.020. Open Burning

No person shall dispose of refuse by open burning, or cause, suffer, allow, or permit open burning of refuse in the City of Lake St. Croix Beach.

Ordinance 1801.010 . . . Curfew for Minors . . . Between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. during the months of September through May and between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. during the months of June through August, it shall be unlawful for any minor under the age of 16 years to idle, loiter, or be upon the public streets, boulevards, sidewalks, alleys, parks, beach, or other public places in the City of Lake St. Croix Beach.

Ordinance 724.04 Outdoor Implements . . . any power lawn mower, snowblower, power hedge clipper, power saw, or such other implement designed primarily for outdoor use, shall be operated only between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on weekdays, or between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays, and State and Federal Holidays.

There are still some areas in the city where trees and shrubs that are hanging over the road. You are responsible for trimming the brush or trees that are causing line-of-sight issues on your property or in the right-of-way. You can drop off the brush at no cost at Aggregate Industries on Saturday, September 5th from 8am-11am. Aggregate Industries is located on the Frontage Road on the north side of I-94.

September will also bring the annual Motorcycle Flood Run on Saturday, September 19th. This ride, starting early at Shiner's Bar and Grill, is the 50th anniversary of the Flood Run named in 1965 during the flood where motorcycle enthusiasts rode to Winona, Minnesota to help with the flood efforts. Today the Flood Run raises money for the Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare. You do not have to be a biker to participate in this great cause.

I would like to thank everyone that helped make our Heritage Day event another great success.

Thanks again,
Mayor Tom McCarthy

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Hello All,

The City Council is now debating the budget for next year so I am inviting anyone who has contacted us in the past regarding budget items, or more generally, anyone who is concerned about 'the budget', to come to the next (and 'the' last before approval) budget meeting that will be held on September 8, 2015 at 5:30 PM at City Hall.

Some of the City Council's actions this year may cause an increase in taxes next year. Items such as fighting the Afton Septic System and paying off the City Hall debt (thus saving multiple thousands in interest costs) adding Clean-Up Day back into our city schedule of events and hiring a Code Enforcement person may contribute to an increase in our city taxes.

Keep in mind that for the past two years we have kept the tax increases low with a flat-lined budget. Unfortunately, I expect a moderate increase this year. Perhaps with our citizens input we may be able to lower the increase. I hope to see you at the meeting date and time mentioned above.

Jim Unker
Councilmember

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LSCB Flea Market

The LSCB Playground committee will be hosting a flea market @ Pettitt park on Saturday September 26th from 8 am to 5 pm. All sellers are welcome to join us. Such as garage sale items, antiques, crafters etc.... The fee to reserve your 20 foot spot is \$20 with 100% for this fee going to our playground fund and is also tax deductible. If you would like to be a part of this Flea Market please fill out the form below and mail it to : Jeannie Paulson, 16681 16th St, Lakeland MN. 55043. Please make checks payable to Lower St.Croix Valley Foundation and make a note of the LSCB playground Fund in the memo line. Spots will be reserved on a first come first reserved basis.

If you have any questions please e-mail Jeannie @ jjjpaulson@gmail.com

You will need to provide your own tables and tent if needed.

Name _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____

Type of products _____

News from City Hall

Well hello Lake St Croix beach! My name is Sue Schuler, and I have been hired by the City Council to be your new Clerk-Administrator. I have been in this position since late January, and would just like to take a few minutes to introduce myself.

We have been very busy in the city office. You have been through many in this position, and I feel, that in that time of transition, you have lost the trust and consistency here at the city office. It is my number one goal to bring that back.

Since I have started we have made some changes that I hope will be for the good. We have many projects that are currently in process. The biggest, I feel, is the codification of our city codes and ordinances and updating them. This is a rather slow process due to all the state laws and requirements, but once completed, they will be designed more for the needs of Lake St Croix Beach. They will be easily understood and available on-line. It is also my hope that during this process we will be able to continue to work closely with the MN DNR and MSCWMO to address the various districts that are unique to the city in zoning, and we will be able to better educate the citizens to their requirements. We have applied for and received grants to stabilize areas of the bluff by the beach that had been failing due to past flooding events and better securing it for any future floods. We have been working with the Army Corps of Engineers on our levees as well.

We have entered into a contract with the City of Bayport for building inspector services. As of September 1, 2015 the office of the building inspector, John Buckley, that was located in Lakeland, will now be located in the Lake St Croix Beach City Hall. Mr.

Buckley will now be working directly with the city of Lake St Croix Beach and no longer with the city of Lakeland. His office hours will be Mondays and Thursdays from 8-11 AM.

We are entering the preliminary budget time of year and have some tough decisions to make. I would like to urge residents to come to upcoming preliminary budget meetings and voice to your elected officials what is important to you in your community and what services you would like to see kept, added, or looked at to eliminate. If you are unable to attend, write a signed letter to the city for consideration in the decision making process. They can't hear you if you don't speak up.

I can't believe summer is already nearing its end, where has the year gone. Thank you for allowing me to represent you and your community. Sue Schuler, City Clerk-Administrator.

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.

From The Fire Department

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

At the Lower St Croix Valley Fire Department, we provide quality training based on real world experience and always consider it an honor and privilege to work with the citizens we serve. We provide a variety of training programs to meet the community's needs. Visit www.lscvfd.com and download an employment application packet today.

There's nothing else in the world like being a firefighter.
It is the best job in the world!

FREE SMOKE AND CO DETECTOR TESTING

The Lower St. Croix Fire Department will conduct free inspections of rental properties in Lake St. Croix Beach to ensure that they comply with the fire code, and specifically, that they have the required smoke and CO detectors. To arrange an inspection, renters should call the fire department at (651) 436-7033. Leave a voice mail request if no one answers, giving your name, address, contact information, and the reason for your call. These inspections can help ensure the safety of residents by preventing injury and reduce risk to landlords by preventing property loss and claims for injuries. Take advantage of this free service!

Calendar of Events for Valley Library in Lakeland – September 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.

Library will be closed Monday, September 7 for Labor Day.

Preschool Storytime

September 14, 21, and 28; 10:30 a.m.

Library Card Sign-Up Month

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month, a time when Washington County Library joins with the American Library Association and public libraries nationwide to make sure that every student has the most important school supply of all – a free library card. Snoopy, the world-famous beagle, is the Honorary Chair of Library Card Sign-Up Month this year. Washington County Library will celebrate with Snoopy buttons, stickers, flyers, banners, booklists, and displays. More information is available on the library's website www.co.washington.mn.us/library and by liking Washington County Library on Facebook and following us on Twitter: @washcolibrarymn.

Valley Book Club

Thursday, September 24; 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

The group that gathers will discuss the book "Nickel and Dimed" by Barbara Ehrenreich. Visit Valley library to pick up a copy of the book. Just read the book, come, and discuss. Open to all.

Public Safety

(Including Reports)



Law Enforcement Report

July, 2015

Complaints Investigated

10 Medical	2 Squad Tow
6 Parking Complaint	2 Suspicious Findings/Activity
4 Unknown Situation	2 Welfare Concern/Check
4 Injured Animal (Fox)/Animal Concern	
4 Public Assist	1 Noise Complaint
2 Fireworks Complaint	1 Solicitor Complaint
2 Robbery/Theft Report	1 Residence Check

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 47 runs in July, 13 of which were in Lake St. Croix Beach.

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



Animal Control

In the month of July, 5 dogs and 2 cats were reported lost, and 1 dog 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.**

Nuisance Complaints



Complaints Filed at City Hall

- 3 Nuisance Violations
- 46 Right-Of-Way Violation Letters
- 2 Dock/Boat Non-Compliance Issues

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.

Parks Department



Picnic Pavilion Reservations

The pavilion at the Riverfront Park is available for reservation on weekends and holidays from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. The pavilion can be reserved from 10:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. No alcohol is permitted in any City Park. Call the City Hall at 651-436-7031 to reserve the Riverfront Park pavilion for your special gatherings this summer.

Seasonal Parking Permits

Seasonal parking permits are available to LSCB residents. This permit allows City residents to park in a designated area of the Redwing parking lot. The fee for the permit is \$10. No charge for residents aged 65 or older.

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	888-960-0008

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

Brush Site

Thanks to Aggregate Industries who has agreed to provide a disposal site for brush from Lake St. Croix Beach residents again this year.

Aggregate Industries does not accept any construction materials. They will accept only brush such as limbs, trees, and shrub trimmings. No leaves or grass.

The site will be open from 8:00 to 11:00 am on the following Saturdays (first Saturday of the month, excluding holidays):
September 5



The Lake St. Croix Beach City Council Meetings may be viewed on Channel 16. Meetings are also available on the city's website www.lscb.govoffice.com

Schedule:

Sept. 2	at 4 p.m. and midnight
Sept. 3	at 7 a.m.
Sept. 9	at 1 p.m. and 9 p.m.
Sept. 10	at 9 a.m.
Sept. 16	at 4 p.m. and midnight
Sept. 17	at 7 a.m.
Sept. 23	at 1 p.m. and 9 p.m.
Sept. 24	at 9 a.m.
Sept. 30	at 4 p.m. and midnight

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



HIGHLIGHTS **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL**

The following are unapproved minutes from the August 17, 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 John Parotti, Kevin Sandstrom, Susan Schuler, Amy Truhlar
Others Present Brad Peters, Melissa Taphorn, Angie Schuppert, Kristen Scobie, Dolly Burns, Gary Johnson, Junetta Johnson, Kathy Golden, S. Storm, Jim Golden, Jon Place, Mary Parr

- **Call To Order** by Mayor McCarthy at 7:02 p.m.
- **Pledge of Allegiance** was said.
- **Approve Agenda** Agenda Item 3
Councilmember Unker asked to add Item 10D, Code Enforcement.
M/S/P (Unker, McCarthy) TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED WITH THE ADDITION OF ITEM 10D, CODE ENFORCEMENT. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- **Consent Agenda** Agenda Item 4

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

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON JULY 20, 2015 AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON AUGUST 10, 2015 AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO APPOINT SALLY THOMPSON AS RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE LOWER ST. CROIX VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FOR A TERM ENDING 6/30/2017. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **OPEN COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Jim Golden, 1920 Quarry Avenue South, reported that his boat had sunk, but he has obtained another boat and will put it on the buoy soon. He asked if the city had gotten any response from City Clerk-Administrator Schuler's data request to the MPCA and State Archaeological Office. It was noted that this will be reported later in the meeting as the Afton Wastewater Treatment System is on the agenda.

- **PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS**

Councilmember Brown reported there were 68 calls to law enforcement in the month of July, and 2 citations were issued. The animal control report for the month of July listed no calls out and no warning letters sent. 5 dogs and 2 cats were reported lost, and 1 dog was reported found. Mayor McCarthy asked staff to get a list of animal licenses to the animal control officer.

Deputy Sullivan reported that there was an error on the report: there were 9 tickets issued for parking violations. He also noted there were two robberies in July – one on 16th Street South and one near Freedom, which was a Craig's List set-up. Deputy Sullivan reminded everyone to call right away when there are issues needing attention. There was an interrupted burglary on Quebec Avenue South at 5:30 a.m. one morning, and the residents did not call until 9:30 a.m. he pointed out that the earlier they hear reports like this, the more likely they are to catch the person(s) responsible. Residents should call regarding odd or suspicious items, events, and activities and parking issues.

Deputy Sullivan reported he had worked with City Clerk-Administrator Sue Schuler to ensure all deputies had correct and current ordinances, and the issue with the courts not having all city ordinances has been corrected. Tickets are now being processed without issue.

Councilmember Unker asked about the injured fox. Deputy Sullivan reported that the fox is still on the move and is still eating, and in this situation they will not pick him up.

Jim Stanley, Deputy Chief of the Lower St. Croix Fire Protection District, reported 47 calls in July, 13 of which were in Lake St. Croix Beach. The fire department is currently working on writing a district-wide, 5-city burning ordinance. This will make it easier for issuing citations, and they are cooperating with Washington County Sheriff's Office. After it is drafted, they will gather comments from the member communities, incorporate those changes, and return to the cities for passage.

- **CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- **Valley Branch Watershed District Boundary Adjustment - Update**

John Parotti, City Engineer with SEH, reminded the City Council that the Valley Branch Watershed District (WD) is evaluating its hydrologic boundaries in preparation for a regulatory boundary adjustment. The WD is making adjustments to their boundaries to add the hydrologic areas that flow to Valley Branch Creek and eliminate the hydrologic areas that do not

flow to Valley Branch Creek. Mr. Parotti noted that this is regarding surface water, not aquifers. Their mission is to regulate water that flows into the creek. A large portion of Lake St. Croix Beach will now be in the WD.

The Valley Branch WD and Middle St. Croix Water Management Organization (WMO) are currently working together to agree on a hydrologic boundary and then determine the legal (jurisdictional) boundary. Once the boundary adjustments are agreed upon, the WD will prepare resolutions/letters of concurrence, prepare and send notices to affected property owners, cities, and townships, the cities and townships will need to pass resolutions and approve letters of concurrence, the WD will submit the information to the Board of Soil and Water Resources (BWSR), and BWSR will then undergo its process.

- **Site #1 Flood Damage Repair Project – Application for Payment #1**

The Site #1 repair project is now complete. Zappa Brothers, Inc., the contractor for the project, has submitted an application for payment. Standard protocol on these types of projects is to pay 95% of the amount due until the project is fully restored with grass germinating and well-established. This project however, is being done with a partial reimbursement grant. The reimbursement will not be made until the contractor has been paid in full. The City Council could choose to either pay 95% as recommended or pay 100% to allow staff to apply for reimbursement from the grant. Grass has started to germinate. If heavy rains were to come this week, the contractor would be responsible to come back and repair that. The contractor has also warranted the work for one year. Councilmember Reiter asked whether the payment in full could be approved with the condition that the contractor honor the agreement as if the 5% had been held. City Attorney Kevin Sandstrom stated that since the contractor has provided a warranty, the statement would not be needed, but the statement could be added to a letter provided with payment.

M/S/P (Reiter, McCarthy) TO PROVIDE PAYMENT IN FULL TO ZAPPA BROTHERS, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$17,655.50. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **Site #2 Flood Damage Repair Project – Authorization to Solicit Bids for Grading and Riprap**

City Engineer Parotti reported that the design for Site #2 has been completed and updated the cost estimate for the project. He noted that the City has been awarded two grants for this project. The State of Minnesota HSEM Disaster Recover Assistance Grant is \$38,616, and the Lower St. Croix Watershed Improvement Grant is \$37,500. The project is scheduled to be done in two phases: grading and riprap (Phase 1) and native vegetation restoration (Phase 2). The total estimated project cost is \$103,300. In order to receive the grant from HSEM, work must be completed by November 2015, and in order to receive the Watershed Improvement grant, the work must include a vegetative solution. Mr. Parotti explained that he is asking for authorization to solicit bids for Phase 1 of this project.

M/S/P (Reiter, Brown) TO AUTHORIZE CITY ENGINEER PAROTTI TO OBTAIN BIDS FROM CONTRACTORS FOR THIS WORK. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mayor McCarthy noted that there are some French drains in the city, and he wondered when and how often they should be pumped. City Engineer Parotti stated that these should be pumped once per year, and he has not yet heard from the contractor that the work has been performed. If the work is not being done (as it was not done last year), the City should consider a new plan to ensure the work is completed. Bids could be solicited from new contractors. Councilmember Reiter suggested a multi-year contract for the work, and City Attorney Sandstrom stated this could be done. City Engineer Parotti

noted that the same contractor has done the work for many years, and he would contact the contractor to determine when it will be completed this year.

- **NEW BUSINESS**

- **CDBG Presentation**

Angie Shuppert, Washington County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA), presented information on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). HRA administers both programs on behalf of Washington County. Eligible uses for CDBG funds are for acquisition of real property, relocation and demolition, rehabilitation of residential and non-residential structures, construction of public facilities and improvements, public services, and economic development and job creation/retention activities. The funds are typically to benefit low/moderate income people, to eliminate slum/blight, and urgent community development needs. HOME funds are used for affordable housing for low-income households for new construction, rehabilitation of rental or owner-occupied housing, homebuyer assistance, and rental assistance. These funds are typically used by local nonprofit groups and developers. Participation in these programs provides access to federal funds and county-wide programs, and it does not cost cities anything to participate in the programs. 1 of the 43 loans provided over four years was to a Lake St. Croix Beach resident. The City has used CDBG for 2 community development projects: installation of a handicap accessible restroom on the main floor of the former City Hall (1919 Quebec Avenue South) and installation of handicap accessible sidewalk, doorway ramp, and 2 car pads at Pettitt Park.

Kristen Scobie, project manager with Washington County HRA, presented information on the Septic System Financial Assistance Programs. Of the 17,000 septic systems in Washington County, an estimated 5-20% are noncompliant, which poses a risk to water quality and public health. There are low-interest loans available through Washington County to address failing systems. To be eligible for these loans, applicants must be a rural landowner (no municipal sewer connection), commercial and residential/rental properties are eligible, the system must be deemed noncompliant by Washington County Department of Public Health, applicants must be current on property taxes and mortgage, there are no upper limits on income, assets, or property value, and loan recipients must demonstrate the ability to support repayment. Since May 2014, 2 Lake St. Croix Beach residents have applied for and received these loans. Application materials are available at the Washington County Septic website (www.co.washington.mn.us/septic) or by contacting Washington County HRA (651-458-0936).

- **Gary and Junetta Johnson, 1860 Riviera Avenue South, Change in Plan**

City Clerk-Administrator Schuler explained that a Public Hearing was held at the August Planning Commission meeting for an amendment to a resolution (variance) approved for Gary and Junetta Johnson, 1860 Riviera Avenue South. The amendment was to change the site plan to change the location of the driveway for safety reasons. Impervious surface will be decreased slightly with this plan.

At the Planning Commission meeting, Mr. Johnson proposed a different plan. He no longer wants to simply elevate the structure. He would like to square the home on the property, moving it away from the property line to the south and change the location of the driveway. This plan will slightly decrease the percentage of impervious surface on the property as the new footprint of the home will be smaller. This new plan will be a complete tear down and rebuild rather than a remodel and elevation. City Clerk-Administrator Schuler explained that the Planning Commission struggled with this request as they agreed it did not appear to be an amendment to the resolution.

She noted that she felt the whole variance application process should be redone as this plan was entirely different from the original. The Planning Commission recommended many amendments to the resolution to make it fit with the new plan.

Mr. Johnson explained that the building inspector, John Buckley, originally suggested this change. When he talked to builders, they also suggested that since he was changing the footprint, he should just tear down and rebuild. He stated he was not changing the variances, so he was just bringing it back to the city because it was very clear that if it became a tear-down project, he was to come back to discuss the new project. He added that he was fine with amending the resolution approving the variances with the new plan to approve a new, smaller foundation with an elevation and a change in the location of the driveway. He would do the project without tearing everything down, but with the new footprint. He will need to rebuild one wall because the footprint will be smaller.

Councilmember Reiter pointed out that this home started out as a cabin on a small lot, and 11 variances were requested and approved. After elevation and the addition of a second story, the structure will be 35 feet tall on a 40 foot wide property. Although she voted to approve the resolution originally, she has since felt guilty for doing so because it really is not in character of the other homes in the area. When a structure is torn down, plans are to be started from scratch and need to follow dimensional standards and follow current codes. If this parcel was empty, the proposed plan would not be approved. Floodproofing on this property could be achieved by elevating the structure by only 4 feet.

Mr. Johnson noted that there is value in floodproofing homes, and that is the reason why FEMA encourages it and has provided funds for it. He stated he is fine with going with the originally approved plan, but would prefer this plan. The home on the original plan is very close to the lot line, so he would need to fireproof that wall, which would require a new wall anyway.

There was discussion regarding the driveway location. The driveway currently and under the approved plan comes off of Upper 18th Street South. The new plan calls for a driveway coming off of Riviera Avenue South. It was noted that if a full size pick-up parked in the driveway on Upper 18th Street South, it would hang partially out onto the street. The driveway off of Riviera Avenue South would be longer and would not create this problem.

Councilmember Unker stated he would vote to approve the amended resolution as the plan seems to come from the building inspector, and anything is better than what it currently in existence on the property. City Attorney Sandstrom pointed out that the building inspector does not make decisions regarding city zoning ordinances. Just because this new, proposed plan would make sense from a building inspector's viewpoint, it does not mean it follows the city's zoning codes.

Mayor McCarthy noted that there are advantages for this new plan: the structure will be squared on the property, the footprint will be smaller, creating less impervious surface, and the driveway will be longer which will allow for better, safer parking options. City Attorney Sandstrom stated this was a complicated issue because if this lot were empty, the City Council would probably not grant 12 variances to allow someone to build a substandard structure on a substandard lot. He added that residents have a right to maintain what they have, and they have a right under city code to elevate and floodproof a structure that already exists. However, allowing this amendment essentially allows for a new structure.

M/S/P (Unker, Kline) TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2015-09 (A), A RESOLUTION GRANTING AN AMENDED VARIANCE AND CUP TO ELEVATE AND REMODEL STRUCTURE AT 1860 RIVIERA AVENUE SOUTH.

Councilmember Brown stated he felt Mr. Johnson should go with the old plan that was already approved. Mayor McCarthy agreed as he saw that as the right way to do it. Councilmember Unker stated he liked that the impervious surface was being decreased and that the new driveway location would be safer. It was noted that impervious surface is currently 26.5%, and the impervious surface under the proposed plan would be 26.1%.

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

Councilmember Reiter reminded Mr. Johnson that if the project became a tear-down, they would need to go before the DNR and City Council again.

o **Stormwater Ponds Inspection**

Councilmember Reiter asked how often the stormwater ponds (one in the St. Croix Villas development, one in the Woodlands development, and one on the east side of St. Croix Trail South), were inspected. City Engineer Parotti answered that it is recommended that they be inspected annually, typically in the spring after the first mowing. However, he reported that a previous City Council removed that duty from the City Engineer, and made it a duty of a Councilmember. Since that time he does not know the status of the inspections. Councilmember Reiter stated that she would like to have City Engineer Parotti perform those inspections again. She noted that the City has easements for these stormwater ponds and needs to ensure they are maintained as necessary. There was discussion regarding whose responsibility it was to mow these areas. Staff was directed to look up the easement agreements for the stormwater ponds to determine mowing responsibility so they can be inspected again.

o **MIDS Draft Review By City Attorney**

City Attorney Sandstrom stated that this was for authorization for his office to incur some costs to review the MIDS ordinance that is being put together for the City. He has not yet seen the draft ordinance. He explained that this is the new stormwater ordinance that is being promoted by the WMO. Councilmember Reiter stated that she asked for this to be added to the agenda to get City Council approval to direct City Attorney Sandstrom to review the MIDS draft ordinance from a legal perspective before it is presented to the City Council for approval.

M/S/P (Reiter, McCarthy) TO AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE FOR THE CITY ATTORNEY TO REVIEW THE MIDS DRAFT ORDINANCE. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

o **City Council Worksession Date**

The City Council discussed dates and times. This worksession/Special City Council meeting is to discuss the 2016 budget and levy and other items tabled at the last City Council worksession. This will be held on September 8, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

Councilmember Unker asked that \$6,000 be added to the expenditures for 2016 for code enforcement, and eliminate animal control. City Clerk-Administrator Schuler stated they could email any additional changes to her.

o **Agenda Organization**

City Clerk-Administrator Schuler asked that the agenda be changed to have Staff Reports on the agenda right after Public Safety Reports. The Staff Reports section would include the City Engineer, the City Attorney, the City Clerk-Administrator, and the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer. The City Council agreed to this change.

o **Building Official Contract**

City Clerk-Administrator Schuler reported that the new contract for building inspection services is the same one currently used by Lakeland with Bayport. City Attorney Sandstrom recommended the arbitration clause be eliminated, but otherwise he thought the contract was fine.

City Clerk-Administrator Schuler reported that the City currently contracts with Lakeland for building inspection services. Lakeland contracts with the City of Bayport. Lakeland is terminating its contract with Bayport effective September 1, 2015 and was hoping Lake St. Croix Beach go along with them. However, contracting with Bayport directly will allow the city to retain the current building inspector and also collect more of the building inspection fees. Bayport will receive 37% of the building permit fees, and Lake St. Croix Beach will keep the rest.

M/S/P (McCarthy, Kline) TO AGREE TO CONTRACT WITH THE CITY OF BAYPORT FOR BUILDING INSPECTION SERVICES PURSUANT TO THE VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL CONTRACT PREVIOUSLY BETWEEN THE CITY OF LAKE ST. CROIX BEACH AND THE CITY OF LAKELAND WITH THE REMOVAL OF THE ARBITRATION CLAUSE. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The City Council directed staff to ensure retention of all building inspection records.

• **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

o **Purchasing Policy**

Although there is a statement in the Personnel Policy regarding purchases, the City Auditor advised that a Purchasing Policy be adopted. City Clerk-Administrator Schuler presented a model policy drafted with the help of the League of Minnesota Cities (LMC). She noted that this policy is to ensure that non-urgent expenditures are not incurred without prior approval.

M/S/F (Reiter, Brown) TO APPROVE THE PURCHASING POLICY AS PRESENTED.

City Attorney Sandstrom noted that item II B was out of character for the City as it seemed to allow the City Clerk-Administrator the ability to make purchases up to \$10,000 without City Council approval. He noted that has not been done in the past. He pointed that item II D should also be changed so that all purchases/projects over \$100,000 required sealed bids as that is the amount required by State Statutes. City Clerk-Administrator Schuler explained that she brought this to the City Council as a policy they could review as a place to start. She was not recommending this particular policy. It was a model policy from the LMC.

It was suggested that the amount in item II A be lowered to \$500.

Councilmember Reiter reported that she has begun chemotherapy and was not feeling well. She left the meeting at left the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Councilmember Unker wanted to make sure that number 3 in the second part of Part I, would still allow reimbursement if the mayor found a good deal on things the City needed such as shovels, etc. and suggested an additional statement that Councilmembers could make purchases that may be reimbursed if approved by the City Council subsequent to the purchase.

Councilmember Unker wanted to allow local businesses/vendors to bid 10% higher and still be awarded contracts. City Attorney Sandstrom stated that he understood the rationale behind that, but that may violate State Statutes requiring the City to take the lowest responsible bidder. He advised that the City could look into a rating system for businesses based on various factors, but one statement in a Purchasing Policy favoring local businesses in that fashion would violate

State Statutes. Cities are required to take the lowest responsible bidder as resident tax dollars are used for those projects.

City Engineer Parotti noted that the largest projects in the city typically come through his office. On a \$100,000 project (the lowest amount requiring a sealed bid) a 10% difference would be \$10,000, and on a \$250,000 project a 10% difference would be \$25,000. Mr. Parotti noted that these differences are not seen. Differences of that amount do not occur. The responsible bidder laws are currently quite detailed, and City Attorney Sandstrom should address the legalities of them.

As there were changes requested, the City Council asked that they be made and brought back to them at the next City Council meeting.

MOTION FAILED, 4 NAYS, 1 ABSENT (REITER).

- o **St. Croix Villas Releases**

City Attorney Sandstrom reminded the City Council that this item was discussed at the July City Council meeting, but it was questioned by one of the owners of the parcels in question so the issue was tabled. He explained that the two lots are currently undeveloped, vacant lots. In trying to clear up the titles on the properties, it was noted that the developer's agreement was still recorded against the properties. Since the lots are now in private ownership, rather than the developer's ownership, it is being requested that the lots be released from the developer's agreement. This is allowed under the development agreement. These properties will still be subject to the covenants and restrictions of the homeowner's association. They are only being released from the developer's agreement, which laid out the requirements of the developer, not the association.

M/S/P (Brown, McCarthy) TO APPROVE THE RELEASE OF LOT 2 BLOCK 1 AND LOT 3 BLOCK 1 FROM THE DEVELOPER'S AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZE MAYOR MCCARTHY AND CITY CLERK-ADMINISTRATOR SCHULER TO EXECUTE THE RELEASES FOR THESE PROPERTIES. MOTION PASSED, 4 AYES, 1 ABSENT (REITER).

- o **Resolution 2015-04 (A), A Resolution Granting An Interim Use Permit (IUP) For a Residential (Accessory) Single Family Detached Dwelling To Be Used As A Single Family Residence At 1950 Quasar Avenue South (With Corrected Legal Description)**

City Clerk-Administrator Schuler explained that Resolution 2015-04 was passed in January, but the legal property description was incorrect on the original resolution.

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

- o **Code Enforcement**

Councilmember Unker stated he wanted to eliminate animal control expenses from the budget and have the Code Enforcement Officer handle those duties. He also wanted to seek a deduction in the charge from Washington County for law enforcement services as they will not be handling code enforcement duties. Councilmember Unker stated he would like to revisit the complaint policy.

- **OTHER BUSINESS**

- o **Afton Wastewater Treatment System**

Councilmember Unker noted that Mr. Golden sent an email to the City Council stating that he is waiting for compliance with the Data Practice Act regarding a request for information he

made to Afton. City Clerk-Administrator Schuler reported that she had submitted a data request regarding archaeological information. She has spoken with Afton City Administrator Ron Morse, who will present a monthly report to her regarding the archaeological aspects starting in September. The archaeological office has been inundated with data requests recently. Therefore, it will take longer to get the data returned. She has been working on setting up the 3-city meeting with Washington County. A tentative date has been set for Wednesday, September 9 at 6:00 p.m. She will inform the City Council once the date has been confirmed. Councilmember Unker stated he would like for Mr. Golden to go in his place. City Clerk-Administrator Schuler pointed out that the meeting will be open to the public, but Washington County Commissioner Gray Kriesel stated this would not be a place for the public to make comments. It would be a forum for the City Councils to meet and get questions answered and facts distributed. Mayor McCarthy and Councilmember Brown stated they would be attending. Councilmember Kline stated she would not be able to attend. Councilmember Unker asked to get information on alternative sites and a regional solution at the meeting. He would be unable to attend.

Mr. Golden asked what was discussed when City Clerk-Administrator Schuler talked with Afton City Administrator Morse. She reported that the only thing they discussed was the report he suggested presenting on a monthly basis regarding any archaeological aspects of the treatment system project and where they are in the process. Mr. Golden stated she told him Mr. Morse would have something to her today. She noted that he had hoped to have something to her, but did not have the time. Mr. Golden stated that Mr. Morse has been saying he would have something the following week since May. He felt that Mr. Morse is not being entirely transparent.

- **COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS**

- o **Councilmember Brown's Report**

Nothing further to report.

- o **Councilmember Kline's Report**

Councilmember Kline reported that she attended the WMO meeting where their budget was discussed. According to the figures presented, Lake St. Croix Beach, at Councilmember Reiter's suggestion, had budgeted enough to cover the increase in their portion of the WMO budget.

- o **Councilmember Reiter's Report**

Absent.

- o **Councilmember Unker's Report**

Nothing further to report.

- o **Mayor McCarthy's Report**

Mayor McCarthy thanked everyone who volunteered and participated at Heritage Day. He stated it was a great turnout. Sentenced-To-Service crews (STS) will be in the City on Thursday, August 20. He stated they should cut down trees on the levee. He noted that he would like to rehire the former Code Enforcement Officer, Brad Peters. He asked him to speak to the City Council about the position.

Mr. Peters stated that as a licensed and sworn peace officer in the State of Minnesota, part of his mission is to enforce State and local laws, ordinances, and codes, including animal control. In Pequot Lakes and Westbrook, where he is a police officer on the weekends, when the animal control officer is not on call, it is his duty to perform the role of animal control officer. No statutory requirements are needed to be an animal control officer like there are for a peace officer.

He noted that he had served temporarily as a code enforcement officer for the city and offered his services for that position again at the direction and control of the City Council. Councilmember Unker stated he saw this position managing

the overgrown shrubbery and trees in the right-of-way and citing people for not maintaining these types of vegetation.

Now that Site #1 of the flood damage repair project has been completed, he asked for all the invoices for the project so he can apply for reimbursement. He claimed that although he had been told the City would be paid incrementally as the project went along, the terms of reimbursement were changed so everything would only be paid at completion of the project. He stated there was approximately 90 days for Site #2 to be completed before the timeline ran out on that project and the ability to get reimbursed for costs. He reminded the City Council that the reimbursement grant for this project was only to bring the area back to the condition it was in before the flood. City Clerk-Administrator Schuler pointed out that was the reason the project was separated into two phases. The first phase would bring the area back to the original condition, and the second phase would improve the area.

City Attorney's Report

City Attorney Sandstrom reported that the status of the person residing in a trailer has not changed. The attorney for this resident inquired about building on the property, but many hurdles would be involved for that property. The next court date for the issue is September 1, 2015. The resident's attorney assured City Attorney Sandstrom that the property would be cleared by the date of the next hearing regardless of whether he pursues building on the property or not.

City Clerk-Administrator Susan Schuler

City Clerk-Administrator Schuler reported on some ongoing and completed projects. She finished the Planning Commission codebooks, which took longer than expected as she found different codebooks had different ordinances in them. It took some time to determine the current ordinances. She worked with law enforcement and City Attorney Sandstrom to ensure that all deputies had ordinances so citations could be issued and that all ordinances and fee schedules were sent to the courts so citations could be processed correctly and timely. City Clerk-Administrator Schuler completed over half of the right-of-way violation letters and will be sending out 4 letters from citizen complaints this week. There is currently one outstanding violation. She sent ordinances to American Legal that were left out when the ordinances were sent to them earlier by the Interim City Clerk-Administrator. At the request of Mayor McCarthy, she made phone calls on some violations rather than sending out letters. Councilmember Unker stated everyone should be treated the same, and the process should be the same for every complaint.

A vegetation cutting permit was approved for three dead trees, verified by the tree inspector, to be removed near St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, and the DNR and WMO were informed of this. City Clerk-Administrator Schuler has also begun working on a policy for procedures on zoning to present to the NFIP and the 2016 fee schedule.

Mary Parr reported that the Yellow Ribbon Alliance did not have their meeting at Heritage Day as planned. There was no agenda, and not many members attended. The next meeting will be September 1, 2015 at a member's house.

Deputy City Clerk-Treasurer Amy Truhlar

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Amy Truhlar presented the disbursements for the month totaling \$57,751.60. This total included a little over \$30,000 for January – June law enforcement services.

M/S/P (Brown, McCarthy) TO PAY THE BILLS AS PRESENTED TOTALING \$57,751.60. MOTION PASSED, 4 AYES, 1 ABSENT.

City Clerk-Administrator Schuler reported that the Playground Fund will be having a Flea Market at Pettitt Park on September 26, 2015. A car show will be held at the event.

Councilmember Unker stated the City should again look for someone to rent out the garage at City Hall. This could be discussed at the worksession.

• ADJOURNMENT

M/S/P (Brown, Kline) TO ADJOURN AT 9:57 P.M. MOTION PASSED, 4 AYES, 1 ABSENT.

Acronyms and abbreviations that may appear in this newsletter.

CC	=	City Council
EAC	=	Environmental Advisory Commission/ Recycle Committee
FAC	=	Floodplain Advisory Commission
FEMA	=	Federal Emergency Management Agency
LSCVA	=	Lower St. Croix Valley Alliance
LSCVCC	=	Lower St. Croix Valley Cable Commission
M/S/P	=	Moved, Seconded, and Passed
M/S/F	=	Moved, Seconded, and Failed
M/S/W	=	Moved, Seconded, and Withdrawn
RFP	=	Request For Proposal
STS	=	Sentenced-To-Service
SEH	=	Short Elliott Hendrickson (City Engineer)

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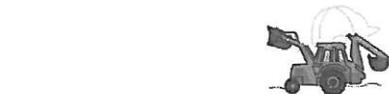
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E-Mail: lscbmayor@gmail.com

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E-Mail: cindie55043@gmail.com

Jim Unker

Councilmember, 651-340-5800

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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) 888-960-0008

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

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

Representatives

Gary Kriesel

Washington County Commissioner 651-430-6213

Kathy Lohmer

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Amy Klobuchar

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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
- 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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