



# City Administrator's Weekly Update

WEEK ENDING JANUARY 13, 2017

## Upcoming Events:

January 16  
MLK Holiday

**City Hall Closed**

January 17, 5:30 pm  
Council Work Session  
City Hall

January 17, 7:00 pm  
City Council Meeting  
City Hall

January 18, 6:00 pm  
CAFD Board  
Scanlon City Hall

January 31, 4:15 pm  
Library Board  
Public Library

February 1, 8:00 am  
EDA  
City Hall

February 6, 4:30 pm  
Parks Commission  
City Hall

February 7, 5:30 pm  
Council Work Session  
City Hall

February 7, 7:00 pm  
City Council Meeting  
City Hall



## Administration/Finance

### Finance

The City's financial auditors made their first visit to City Hall this week as they prepare to undertake the 2016 financial audit. As noted last week, staff has been busy preparing for the visit by getting some of the preliminary documentation completed for the auditors. They will be back in April to conduct the full audit.

### Community Information Sign

Staff has started work with the City Council on the proposed electronic community information sign. Once additional information can be gathered, the Council will be asked to provide further direction for this future project which is currently proposed along Highway 33.

### Cable Commission

The Commission met this week for their first regular meeting of 2017.

## Public Works/Parks

### Miscellaneous

Snow, plow, snow, plow, and throw in a few more water main breaks to break up the monotony. Add cold weather to make it even more entertaining.

### Highway 33/I-35 Intersection Design

Staff met with MnDOT this week to continue conversations on some of the design options being considered by the State for this area of the community. They are looking at an alternative concept that they will be refining on paper and will tentatively present it to the City in 6-8 weeks. They are still hoping to get a design approved in 2017 so that the project can be bid this fall and constructed next year.

### Well Exploration

Staff held its initial meeting with our consultant as we begin studying options for well exploration.

### Emerald Ash Borer

Several weeks ago, the City Council received a copy of a notice from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture stating that a portion of the City of Cloquet has been added to the quarantine area for the Ash Borer. Staff had some initial discussions with the Department this week and learned that the City has been split in half in terms of the quarantine and as a result of our inclusion, we will likely have to elevate our response and plan for the problem. We know at a minimum, that we will no longer be able to access brush at the public works garage due to its location outside of the quarantine zone. We expect to have further conversations with the State to better understand our obligations. More information can be found at: <http://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants/pestmanagement/eab/stlouisquarantine.aspx>

**Dave Hallback, Mayor**

**City Council Members:**

Jeff Rock, Ward 1  
David Bjerkness, Ward 2  
Roger Maki, Ward 3  
Kerry Kolodge, Ward 4  
Steve Langley, Ward 5  
Adam Bailey, At Large

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**[www.ci.cloquet.mn.us](http://www.ci.cloquet.mn.us)**

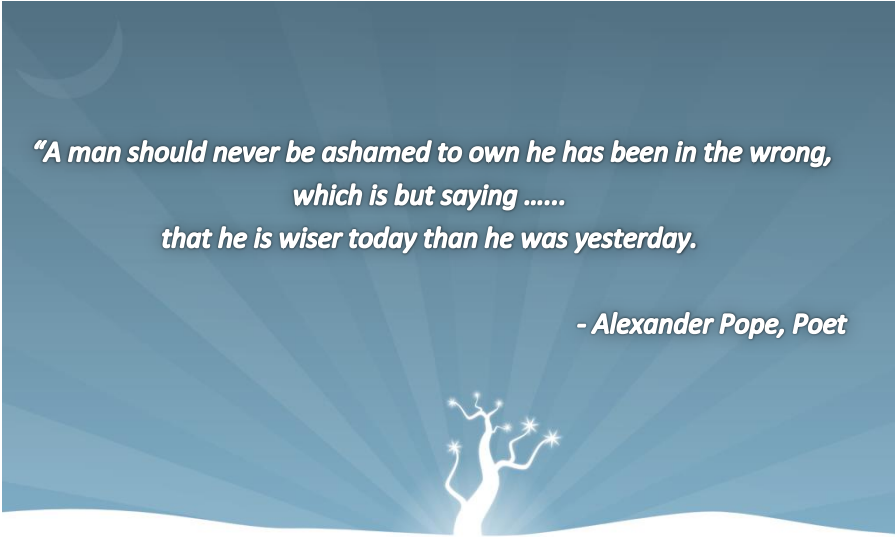
## **Community Development**

### **Landfill**

The Planning Commission received an application from SKB to amend their Conditional Use Permit to allow for longer operating hours and placement of larger quantities of paper sludge at the landfill. The Commission recommended approval of the request and the Council will now consider this application at its meeting on February 7.

### **Rehabilitation of Ed's Bakery**

With the EDA taking action to support the City's investment of \$25,000 to rehabilitate the exterior of Ed's Bakery building, staff continues to work with our legal advisors on how to best accomplish this undertaking. The City is also working with E&H Custom Builders as the potential contractor on the project. The Planning Commission also discussed this item at its meeting this week.



*"A man should never be ashamed to own he has been in the wrong,  
which is but saying .....  
that he is wiser today than he was yesterday.*

*- Alexander Pope, Poet*