



# City Administrator's Weekly Update

WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 10, 2017

## Upcoming Events:

February 14, 7:00 pm  
Planning Commission  
City Hall

February 15, 6:00 pm  
CAFD Board  
Station 2 - Perch Lake

February 20  
President's Day  
CITY HALL CLOSED

February 21, 5:30 pm  
Council Work Session  
City Hall

February 21, 7:00 pm  
City Council Meeting  
City Hall

February 28, 4:15 pm  
Library Board  
Public Library

February 28, 7:00 pm  
Planning Commission  
City Hall

## Administration/Finance

### Personnel

The City has advertised for the summer engineering intern position this week. In addition to sending the information to several colleges and the Indeed job website, it is also posted on the City's website.

The Safety Committee met this week and agreed to expand its role into the area of employee wellness. They have stated researching potential options for this venture so if you have any ideas, please contact James Barclay. The committee also discussed the outcome of OSHA's recent visit.

We have started work on the development of a leadership and training program for the City's supervisory staff. This was a goal set by the City Council at its last strategic planning retreat in 2015.

The City Council continued to discuss the Employee Personnel Manual at this week's Work Session meeting.

### New Middle School Tour

Councilors Bailey and Rock toured the construction site of the new Cloquet Middle School this week. According to the contractor, the project is currently on schedule to be complete for the beginning of the 2017 school year.

### CAFD Building Project

The Fire District's building committee met this week and has learned that the paperwork on the transfer of property from Jarden is almost complete and the actual transfer of the property should take place within the next 90 days. The Committee is going to be meeting with three architectural firms to discuss final design services. City Council took action at the February 7<sup>th</sup> meeting supporting the District's efforts to obtain additional legislation from the State clarifying its levying and bonding authority.

## Public Works/Parks

### Miscellaneous

We saw all types of weather this week, it snowed, it was cold and now it is warming up! That meant the crew was again busy working on all of the normal winter activities. We even threw in another water main break to "break up" the monotony.

On a more fun note, Karin Stedman and her husband were successful in finding the medallion in the annual medallion hunt this past week. The medallion had been hidden at our disc golf course on 14th Street. Congratulations Karin!

### Dunlap Island/Broadway Avenue Projects

Staff met with our consultant to discuss the design work on the Dunlap Island Park and Broadway streetscape projects. As previously mentioned, the design is at about the 60% design level. Unfortunately, the current design budget, based upon previous feedback from the Council, is about 25% over budget. As a result, we are scheduling another meeting with the Council, Parks Commission and property owners impacted by the project. We are hoping to hold this meeting within the next 4 weeks.

**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)

The City received one bid from an interested party for dismantling the old traders post located on Dunlap island. We will be reviewing the bid more to see if it meets the minimum requirements.

**WLSSD Board Seat**

Former Mayor Bruce Ahlgren has agreed to continue to serve on the WLSSD Board until the City can find a replacement. Mr. Ahlgren previously submitted his resignation for his term which expires June 30, 2017.

**Community Development  
Development**

Staff has been speaking with Commonwealth Development regarding some challenges related to the company's development of rental housing for the Cloquet HRA. Apparently there have been some changes on the State/Federal side relating to the tax credit program which was being used to fund the project. These changes have caused a gap in financing that the developer must now look at how to fill or to reduce the scope of the project. Staff will offer its professional assistance as necessary.

**SKB Landfill Planning Case**

Staff has confirmed with SKB that the application to amend its Conditional Use Permit will be heard by the Council on March 7<sup>th</sup>. The newspaper has already been notified of the date and notices will be sent to those neighbors that have already been notified of the proposed changes. City staff continues to work with our attorney on a variety of items and hopes to be in a position to provide the Council with the staff report and associated data to be considered by the Council at the conclusion of its February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. This will provide ample time for the Council to review the information and provide any feedback it might have prior to the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting in case additional research or analysis is required.

**Economic Development Partnership**

The Partnership met this week and agreed that the group should continue to meet and work on collaborative issues related to economic development. The group would like to focus some of its efforts on more specific needs with the community such as broadband fiber, workforce housing, and workforce development. More to come down the road.

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*"What we do for ourselves dies with us.  
What we do for others and the world  
remains and is immortal."  
— Albert Pine*