



# City Administrator's Weekly Update

WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 24, 2017

## Upcoming Events:

February 28, 4:15 pm  
Library Board  
Public Library

February 28, 5:30 pm  
Dunlap Island Design  
City Hall

February 28, 7:00 pm  
Planning Commission  
City Hall

March 1, 8:00 am  
EDA  
City Hall

March 6, 4:30 pm  
Parks Commission  
City Hall

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

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

## Administration/Finance

### Miscellaneous

The Secretary of State was in Cloquet on Friday and met with Holly to chat about how business is going in the City and to get various business community leaders' opinions on a report and other initiatives of his Department.

The legislation being pursued by the CAFD will receive a Hearing in the House of Representatives on Monday of next week. Staff will be in St. Paul to testify on its behalf. County Commissioner Proulx provided written support of this legislation to our local legislators. Thanks Tom! The District also had follow up discussions with Thomson Township, who has indicated that with some better understanding of the District's implementation plans for the legislation, that it could provide some support.

Staff also has been exploring the City's banking services. We have been with Wells Fargo for a number of years and we believe that it's time to explore other options to make sure that the services being offered are the most cost effective and appropriate for the City. We have no formal obligation to bid this service but will be meeting with several businesses for a better understanding of what can be provided.

Staff has also continued to work with our financial advisors, Ehlers & Associates, to make sure that all of the necessary steps are being taken in preparation of the issuance of the Sales Tax Revenue Bonds. We are attempting to schedule our bond rating meeting prior to my departure, but have not yet been able to confirm that meeting with Moody's.

The City has initiated the City Administrator recruiting process by making contact with several executive recruitment firms who will be preparing proposals for the City. Once received, these proposals will be considered by the City Council.

Several Council members attended the Chamber's Annual Banquet on Wednesday evening.

### Mayor's State of City

The Pine Journal published a shorter version of the Mayor's State of the City Address this week. As mentioned last week, the full version is posted on the City website.

## Public Works/Parks

### Dunlap Island/Broadway Streetscape Project

Just a reminder that the design review meeting will be held next Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at City Hall. The City Council, Parks Commission and Master Plan Task Force, along with some select other individuals have been invited to meet with SEH to review and discuss the current plans and provide some final design feedback for the projects.

## Community Development

### Landfill

Just a reminder to the Council that the Landfill application will be heard at the March 7<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. If the Council has any questions, thoughts or feedback related to the draft staff report that was provided last week, please let us know as soon as possible so that staff can help you with those ideas or conduct further investigation before the report is finalized.

**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

Brian Fritsinger,  
City Administrator  
1307 Cloquet Avenue  
Cloquet, MN 55720  
(218)879-3347  
bfritsinger@ci.cloquet.mn.us

**Visit Our Website at:**  
[www.ci.cloquet.mn.us](http://www.ci.cloquet.mn.us)

**Miscellaneous**

Staff met with Carlton County this week to discuss a new County program aimed at encouraging the cleanup of blight and redevelopment of property. While the County does not have a great deal of funding available, this could be a good program for future City projects. Staff and the EDA will be discussing the program further to see if there are any potential projects that could be prioritized to access its monies.

Staff continues to work with a developer on the potential of new housing in the Golf Course addition. The developer is considering application for tax increment financing to assist with the project.

Recently, a question was asked regarding the Blue Line parking spaces at Northwoods Arena. Staff has followed up with Blue Line representatives and they indicated they are operating consistent with the City's authorization which included 20 spots being set aside only on High School game days. This project resulted in the participation of 20 major sponsors raising about \$12,000. They believe the program was very much worth the effort and hope to see it continued into the future.

*"When one door of happiness closes, another opens;  
but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see  
the one which has been opened for us."*

*-- Helen Keller,  
author and political activist*

