

City Administrator's Weekly Update

WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 16, 2016

Upcoming Events:

September 20, 5:30 pm Council Work Session City Hall

September 20, 7:00 pm City Council Meeting City Hall

September 27, 4:15 pm Library Board Library

October 4, 4:30 pm Parks Commission City Hall

October 4, 5:30 pm Council Work Session City Hall

October 4, 7:00 pm City Council Meeting City Hall

October 5, 8:00 am EDA City Hall

October 18, 5:30 pm Council Work Session City Hall



Administration

Elections

The Chamber of Commerce has scheduled its election candidate forum including the Cloquet City Council for October 20 from 6-9 pm at City Hall. A Ward 5 and At-Large candidate forum has also been scheduled for October 27th from 7-8 pm at Community Memorial Hospital in the Oak Room. The sponsors invite all interested voters to attend these forums.

Other

Being that our temperatures dipped down into the 30's this week, just a reminder that this is a good time for everyone to check their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. With those furnaces kicking in it's a quick and easy way to make sure you and your families are safe.

Public Works/Parks

Veteran's/Fauley Park Improvements

Work continues down at the park though progress has slowed waiting on certain components of the project to be delivered to the Park. With the visibility of this project the City has received many, many questions and comments about the work. They have prepped most of the hillsides for landscaping. Unfortunately ATV's continue to drive through Fauley Park even after all of the improvements. Hopefully when the fencing is installed it will work to deter them.

Slate Street Sidewalk Improvement

The work has continued this week with the grading work moving beyond Sunnyside Park into the neighborhood down Slate Street.

MS4 Annual Report

The City received notice that it failed to submit its mandated annual report for our storm water management plan to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Staff will be finishing up on this report and submitting it within the next ten (10) days.

WLSSD I & I Reduction Standards

The Sanitary District is in the process of developing and proposing certain changes to its Inflow & Infiltration Reduction Standards Ordinance. Some of the changes being considered will have significant impact financially to the City and our residents in terms of inspection and repair. Staff attended a public hearing on Thursday to voice our concerns regarding the proposed language and we are attempting to schedule a meeting with our representatives on the WLSSD Board to further discuss our concerns.

Sappi Water Contract

Staff provided Sappi with the proposed water rate increase for its 2016-17 year. The rate is proposed to increase from \$.065/1000 gallons to \$0.75 to offset certain capital costs and the elimination of the monthly capital charge of \$23,000. The monthly capital charge has been eliminated due to the previous issued improvement bonds being paid off.

On a related note the City has received a request from Enbridge to connect to the Lake Superior Water Line in Superior. Staff will be evaluating the proposal and reviewing the request with Sappi before making a recommendation to the Council.

Dave Hallback, Mayor

City Council Members:

Jeff Rock, Ward 1
David Bjerkness, Ward 2
Roger Maki, Ward 3
Kerry Kolodge, Ward 4
Steve Langely, Ward 5
Lara Wilkinson, At Large

Brian Fritsinger, City Administrator 1307 Cloquet Avenue Cloquet, MN 55720 (218)879-3347

Visit Our Website at: www.ci.cloquet.mn.us

Highway 33 Interchange/Frontage Road

Staff met with MnDOT and County officials this week to discuss the status of the investigations related to the potential closure of the crossing and extension of the frontage road along the west side of the highway. MnDOT has brought on board a consultant to further analyze the options to address the short/long term safety issues present at this location as well as certain other long term challenges along each of the various interchange areas beginning at Highway 210 and terminating at Esko.

Arch Street/Avenue D Retaining Wall

Over the course of the summer the old rock retaining wall along Arch Street and Avenue D collapsed. We obtained some bids to repair the wall this week with the low bid for the wall replacement coming in at \$16,500. Following the City's purchasing policy I have authorized the repair of the wall. The wall to be constructed is a standard modular block wall with drain tile etc.

Other

We have a volunteer group that will be doing some work at various city properties over the next week. They will be painting the Sunnyside warming house, weeding and cleaning up the landscape area on Highway 33 east of Pinehurst Park, and weeding and cleaning up the grounds at the Library.

The Hilltop Park play structure is pretty much complete with some work on the border area left to complete.

The crew is back working on some pothole and street repair in town.

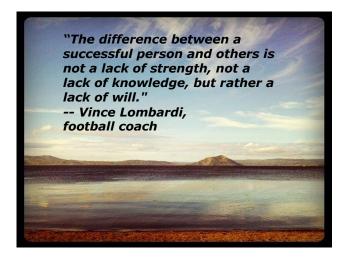
Community Development

Marketing Plan RFP's

A sub-committee of the EDA met to review the 9 proposals and has selected four for interviews. Once interviews are complete a recommendation will be made to the EDA and City Council. The goal is to have this recommendation before the Council in October.

Scanlon Building Inspection Services

Staff has been investigating an opportunity to potentially provide the City of Scanlon with building inspection services.



Have a great weekend!

