



City Administrator's Weekly Update

Week Ending January 16, 2015

MEETING SCHEDULE

January 19

City Offices Closed

January 27, 4:15 pm

Library Board
Cloquet Library

January 27, 7:00 pm

Planning Commission
City Hall

February 2, 4:30 pm

Parks Commission
City Hall

February 3, 5:30 pm

Council Work Session
Council Chambers

February 3, 7:00 pm

City Council
Council Chambers

February 4, 8:00 am

EDA
City Hall

February 10, 7:00 pm

Planning Commission
City Hall

February 11, 4:30 pm

Cable Commission
High School

February 16, All Day

Presidents Day
City Offices Closed

February 17, 4:30 pm

Council Work Session
Council Chambers

ADMINISTRATION

PERSONNEL

Thoughts and prayers this week to our various staff who have had to experience the challenges of caring for sick family or passing of family.

Congratulations and best of luck to former City employee Steve Hills who retired this week from the Cloquet Area Fire District.

Interviews with police officer candidates were held this week. After completion of background checks the group will be narrowed down to a smaller pool which will participate in a second round of interviews.

MISCELLANEOUS

The City's financial auditor spent a day in City Hall this week to start getting prepared for the 2014 audit. They will be back later this winter to complete the full audit.

FACILITIES STUDY

Staff met with BKV who has finished up on the cost estimates for the preliminary projects identified in the Study. We will next be working

"Progress lies not in enhancing what is, but in advancing toward what will be."

*-- Kahlil Gibran,
Lebanese artist, poet and writer*

with Ehler's to identify funding options. I will be traveling to Minneapolis on Jan. 28 to receive and review the draft study. The final will then tentatively be slated for Council presentation on February 17.

CABLE FRANCHISE

The Cable Commission continues work on the renewal of the Cable franchise with Mediacom. Staff is in the process of re-working the agreement and will soon be providing a proposal to the company. A public hearing will be required at some point by the City Council.

PUBLIC WORKS / PARKS

GENERAL

This past week an area around Oak Street and Park experienced some sewer back ups. Two claims have been filed against the City and staff has been working to identify the cause of the problem.



OTHER INFORMATION ATTACHED

Attached the Council will find the following:

- January 7, 2015 Letter from the University of Minnesota
- January 14, 2015 Draft Cable Commission Meeting Minutes

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DRAFT

**Cable Commission Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2015**

Present: Kathy Hanson, Frank Yetka, Adam Kemptar, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Pete Radosevich, Brian Fritsinger, and Eric Lipponen.

FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

Mr. Fritsinger and Mr. Yetka provided some background on the research into the legal formation of the Commission. They clarified that they could find no formal action by the City related to a joint powers agreement or similar legal document with other member communities. Mr. Yetka explained that based upon the information he has seen the Commission is simply an advisory board to the Cloquet City Council. Discussion amongst the Commission took place regarding these findings.

The Commission agreed that the current franchise agreement should be used as the basis for the new franchise not the revised agreement proposed by Mediacom. Mr. Fritsinger will scan the old document and make updates to it based upon changes identified by the Commission. He will then forward that draft to Mr. Yetka for a legal review prior to the next Commission meeting. The Commission discussed the need for drops and clarifying the two-way nature of the drops. It was agreed that based upon the current understanding of the Commission these drops will be limited to Cloquet locations. The Commission also wants to maintain the channel 7 location on the lowest tier of service. The Commission also asked for maps showing current service areas of Mediacom and that franchise payments to the City be made quarterly.

Discussion about the need to hold a public hearing on the renewal took place. Mr. Yetka will draft a letter to neighboring communities regarding the legal history of the Commission.

LOGO DESIGN

Staff noted that to date the Commission has received a number of submittals. With the submittal deadline of February 28, 2015 staff will hold the materials until the next Board meeting. Mr. Lipponen explained the rough nature of some of the proposals and would like to make sure that the Commission has the flexibility of awarding a winner but tinkering with the proposals to develop a more professional logo if necessary.

PROGRAMMING

Mr. Lipponen noted that there haven't been any changes to programming since the last meeting.

STUDIO EQUIPMENT

Mr. Lipponen was to develop an inventory list. Some more technical discussion took place on cable services.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting will be on the 2nd Wednesday of February (February 11). The group agreed that it would try to meet monthly during the franchise agreement renewal process on the second Wednesday of each month at 4:30 pm.

Hearing no other items of discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Adjourn.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

University of Minnesota Extension

Carlton County

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January 7, 2015

City of Cloquet
City Administrator
1307 Cloquet Ave.
Cloquet, MN 55720

Dear Township Officer:

The Minnesota Extension Service, following Minnesota Pollution Control guidelines, has reviewed and accepted an application to land apply wood ash and lime product from Sappi Cloquet LLC, of Cloquet MN, as a liming agent and nutrient source on the following site:

William Danielson, 275 Jack Pine Drive, Cloquet, MN, 55720. Land description:

Soil Test #WDan26) NW ¼ of NW ¼ of Sec. 8 – 18 acres, T49N, R17W, City of Cloquet, Carlton County.

Based on analyses of lime from past operating reports, it is considered suitable for agricultural use if proper application rates and management practices are followed.

Complete Permit applications are available for review at the Carlton County Extension office. These permits include:

1. Complete soil tests of the field
2. Aerial photos of the field
3. U.S. Geological Survey maps of the field and surrounding area
4. S.C.S. soil maps indicating location and extent of soils
5. Corresponding soil interpretive records for the above map
6. County plat book map of township

If you have any comments or questions, please contact us at (218) 384-3511.

Sincerely,



Troy Salzer
Extension Educator, Agriculture

cc: County Zoning Office, County Commissioner

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