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Your Weekly Source for City News and Information

Public Meetings Next Week

- City Council Workshop Tuesday, February 9 - 6:30PM
- Planning Commission Meeting - Cancelled



City Agendas and Minutes

*Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic and the State of Emergency the City will be conducting the City Council meeting and public hearings telephonically or by other means. The City Council Chambers will not be open to the public. The City will be broadcasting the meeting via our normal link on the City website.

Visit our website



Stormwater and 4th Quarter Utility Bills are Out



We are receiving a high volume of calls pertaining to the Stormwater Utility Fee that was mailed out early January. These bills are sent to every parcel in the city, regardless of whether or not you have city water and sewer utilities. The revenue received from your stormwater utility fee is used for preparation of a Surface Water Management Plan, maintenance of existing ditches, culverts, ponds and storm sewers, capital improvements in developed areas, equipment, planning, inventories and water quality improvements including weed control. Please note that the stormwater utility fee is a different account from your water and sewer account, so it will not get paid automatically if you are enrolled in auto-pay.

Tuesday, February 2 City Council Meeting Summary

At their regular meeting on Tuesday, February 2nd the Lake Elmo City Council:

- Approved the Creation of the Capital Improvement Committee
- Approved an amended Target Residential Picketing Ordinance
- Approved a 2021 Goal Setting Session
- Approved an F550 Dump/Chipper Box Purchase
- Approved the Hunting Ordinance

On the consent agenda the Council:

- Approved Payment of Disbursements and Payroll
- Approved Keene Farm Lease for 2021
- Approved a Security Reduction for Lake Elmo Senior Living (Independent Living)
- Approved Cooperative Agreement Payment No. 3 for Inwood-5th Street Traffic Signal Improvements
- Approved a Resolution Establishing Municipal State Aid Streets
- Approved Special Assessment Abatement

Tuesday, February 9 City Council Workshop Agenda



Our Mission is to Provide Quality Public Services in a Fiscally Responsible Manner While Preserving the City's Open Space Character

NOTICE OF MEETING

**City Council Workshop
3800 Laverne Avenue North
February 9, 2021
6:30 PM**

Due to the Corona Virus pandemic and the State of Emergency, the City will be conducting the City Council meeting and public hearings telephonically or by other electronic means. The City Council Chambers will not be open to the public. The City will be broadcasting the meeting via our normal link on the City website - www.lakeelmo.org.

- To access the meeting via GoToWebinar: Use www.gotomeeting.com and select "join". Enter webinar ID 421-254-059
- To access the meeting via telephone: Call +1 ((415) 655-0052, when prompted, enter audio access code 470-931-761

AGENDA

- | | |
|--|---------|
| I. Call to Order | 6:30 PM |
| II. Royal Golf Development Agreement Amendment | 6:30 PM |
| III. Draft Request for Proposals for Purchase of City Land | 7:00 PM |
| IV. Draft Request for Proposals for Operational Audit of Building and Planning Departments | 7:30 PM |
| V. Items for Future Work Session Agenda | 8:00 PM |
| VI. Adjourn | 8:00 PM |

[Register For Virtual Meeting](#)

[Meeting Materials Can Be Accessed Here](#)

Capital Improvement Committee

At the February 2 meeting the City Council created a new committee to aid the City in development of the annual Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Members of this committee will help guide the



City's plan for infrastructure, vehicles, equipment and public facilities.

Members of this committee will meet regularly May through August to make recommendations for the CIP including estimated costs, the need for improvements, funding sources, and financial impacts of improvements.

Interested residents are encouraged to apply!

[More Information Available Here](#)



Lake Elmo Public Works is continuing to upgrade water meters in 2021. Should you receive a meter replacement letter or door tag please call Public Works to schedule an appointment. The process takes approximately 15 minutes and is at no cost to the homeowner. If you received a letter or door tag and do not want work performed in your home at this time please contact Public Works.



Lake Elmo Public Works

651-747-3940



Washington County Opens Next Round of COVID-19 Relief Funding

At the County Board Meeting on Tuesday the Board approved a second round of COVID-19 Relief Funding for businesses. Eligibility requirements, funding information, and applications are available [here](#).



The City of Lake Elmo is Accepting Applications for Multiple Commissions and Boards

The City of Lake Elmo is experiencing an exciting time of community growth. The City is fortunate to have active and involved residents on its commissions providing valuable input for future projects and growth. The City is currently seeking applications for:

- Planning Commission
- Capital Improvement Committee
- Economic Development Authority
- Citizen Representative to the Ramsey Washington Suburban Cable Commission

If you are interested in serving the community in this capacity, please contact City Hall at 651-747-3900 for an application form. The application form is also available [here](#).



Eliminating Obstructed Fire Hydrants



To help protect the community, residents are being asked to keep fire hydrants clear and accessible. Having timely and efficient access to a water supply is critically important for fighting fires. The longer it takes to access the supply, the quicker a fire can spread and the more dangerous it will be for responders. Obstructions cause unnecessary delays when firefighters are forced to take time to locate hidden hydrants, slowing their response.

Many hydrants are hidden by weeds, shrubbery, flowerbeds, posts, fences, snow and other obstructions. Residents are urged to check to see if they have a hydrant in their front yard or somewhere on their property and to “adopt” it, keeping it clear. A path from the street and an area three feet around the hydrant will allow quick access for firefighters and for public works staff completing maintenance.

Please help protect the city, its people and their homes.

Lake Elmo Public Works



The City of Lake Elmo is Accepting Applications for the Following Positions:

- Building Official
- Full Time Utility Billing Clerk
- Paid on Call Firefighters

[Visit our website](#)

Washington County Sheriff Department

If you are planning on being away from home or on vacation please follow some of the tips below to increase the safety and security of your property.

1. Lock all of the doors and windows.
2. Clear out the mailbox and notify the post office to hold your mail until you return. If you are having packages delivered be sure to use the package tracking options and arrange for the package to be picked up by a friend of family member.
3. Keep the yard and/or driveway maintained. Removal of snow from the driveway and walking paths is important.
4. Hide or secure your valuables from view of windows. Using safes is helpful in securing important items.
5. Don't broadcast your plans of being gone on social media. Only notify those who will be helping you in keeping an eye on your residence like a neighbor, family or friends.
6. Get your security system updated, tested and notified of your vacancy. Posting security signage in your yard on residence can help with deterrence of theft and burglary. Many door camera systems can be purchased at a reasonable price with instant notification of activity at your residence while you are away.
7. Adjust your heating settings especially as temperatures can drop significantly this time of year to avoid frozen water lines.
8. Security lighting and timers. The proper lighting on your residence can help to deter theft.
9. Request vacation checks through the Sheriff's Office while you are out of town.

These are just a few quick steps you can take to increase the security of your home while you are away. If you are interested in receiving information on vacation checks call our non-emergency number 651-439-9381

County Highway 13 (Ideal Avenue) Phase II

Washington County in partnership with the City of Lake Elmo are providing an online project update on the proposed improvements to Ideal Avenue between County Highway 14 and 44th Street. The project website provides program information and updates.

[Project Website](#)



**ADOPT
A STORM
DRAIN**



Storm drains in our city help to protect neighborhoods from flooding, but they also carry litter and polluted runoff from streets and parking lots into nearby lakes and streams.

You can make a difference by volunteering just 15-minutes, twice a month, to keep their nearest storm drain clear of litter, leaves, grass clippings and dirt. To sign up: go to

www.Adopt-a-Drain.org and use the map to find your neighborhood storm drains – then click and sign-up to adopt.

Temporary Rate Discount for Small and Mid Sized Businesses from Xcel Energy

If your business has experienced a material impact from the pandemic, along with an electric load decrease of 25% or more in electric demand as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic or civil unrest, you may be eligible for a temporary 25% discount on base energy and demand charges.

[Information Available Here](#)



Winter Parking Ordinance Now In Effect

The Winter parking ordinance prohibits parking on Lake Elmo Streets from November 1 through March 31 between 2:00AM and 7:00AM. Public Works cannot clear roadways with cars blocking the path.



Lions Park Ice Rink Open

The Lions Park Ice Rink and pleasure rink are open to the public. The warming house is not open, and there are no staffed attendants. Due to the Governor's orders rink capacity is limited to 15 persons.

Ice condition is currently: GOOD



3M East Metro Settlement Updates



Well sampling in the east metro area

If you live in the area that is a priority for testing, you can request that your private well water be tested.

- To see if you live in the priority sampling area, use the [interactive map](#).
- If you live in the priority sampling area, you can request to have your well tested by filling out and [submitting this online form](#).

More information about the priority testing area is available on the [Well sampling in the East Metro Area webpage](#).

Water Conservation Rebate Program

The City of Lake Elmo, in partnership with the Metropolitan Council, is offering a rebate program for purchases of eligible WaterSense toilets and Smart Irrigation Controllers. Qualifying purchases are eligible for up to a \$200 credit on your water bill.



[Program Details Available Here](#)

Washington County Library branches are open for express service.

Washington
County
LIBRARY

- Pick up holds • Browse materials
- Use computers for 1 hour or less
- Schedule curbside pickup



Washington County Library branches are currently open for Express Service. Visit the library during reduced hours to browse materials, pick up holds, and use a computer for up to one hour.

Curbside service is also available for community members who cannot enter our buildings.

To limit personal contact and follow social distancing guidelines, meeting rooms are currently closed and seating within the library has been removed. Learn how we're keeping the library safe

for everyone at WashCoLib.org/COVID19.



Washington County Library now has mobile hotspots and Chromebooks available to check out. Get internet at home or on the go (for free!). Devices can be checked out for one month at a time, and can be renewed three times if there are no other holds. You only need a library card registered in Washington County to borrow a device. More information is available at WashCoLib.org/devices.

Washington County Library Events

Practice Smart Salting This Winter to Protect our Water

1. Shovel first
2. Use less - 12oz of salt melts 10 sidewalk squares, or a 20ft driveway
3. Don't use salt when it's below 15 degrees
4. Sweep up and reuse leftovers
5. Drive slow and wear boots!

PROTECT OUR WATER FROM SALT POLLUTION

WEAR BOOTS

When it is snowy and icy, wear boots or shoes with good traction to avoid falling.

Consider buying Yaktrax or winter cleats.



Where & How to Place Your Garbage Can

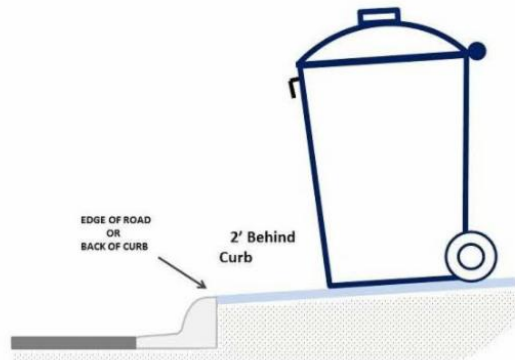
Garbage and recycling containers need to be placed off the street per MN State Statute 160.2715 (A)(2)

Please Do not place garbage cans in the street. We realize this area is an enticing location to place garbage cans, but it creates a hazard as it narrows the travel lanes creating safety concerns. The cans could get hit by vehicles or create visibility issues. Most garbage trucks are equipped with a hydraulic extending arm that grasps garbage cans. It is recommended that garbage cans be placed at least 3 to 5 feet off the edge of pavement, into your driveway, so they are out of the way of traffic and maintenance vehicles.



Retrieve your garbage cans soon after collection. Garbage cans often sit at the roadside on collection day until the evening. Empty cans are vulnerable to winds and road maintenance operations and could cause a hazard if knocked into the roadway. Prompt removal of empty containers is recommended.

These tips can make garbage collection day safer and easier for all of us. The City of Lake Elmo thanks you for taking time to read this message!



Help Name the Sanctuary Neighborhood Park!

The City of Lake Elmo is seeking naming suggestions for the St. Croix's Sanctuary Neighborhood Park.

[More Information and Naming Suggestions Here](#)

The City of Lake Elmo, along with Leo A Daly Architects and H+U Construction, are currently in the Schematic Design phase of the new City Hall and Fire Station construction and Public Works addition. Most recently a survey and soil borings were performed at the City offices site.

