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Your Weekly Source for City News and Information

Public Meetings Next Week

- Planning Commission Meeting - Cancelled
- City Council Workshop Tuesday, January 12 6:30PM



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



City Offices Closed to the Public

City Offices will be closed to the public starting November 16th in order to reduce the risk of the Coronavirus. Staff will still be available by phone or email. A full list of staff contacts is available [here](#).

Tuesday, January 5 City Council Meeting Summary

At their regular meeting on Tuesday, December 15th the Lake Elmo City Council:

- Appointed the 2021 Acting Mayor
- Appointed Required Officials to Fire Relief Association Board of Trustees
- Appointed a Ramsey Washington Cable Commissioner
- Appointed Council Representatives to the EDA
- Appointed a Council School Liaison
- Tabled Appointing Planning Commissioners
- Approved the 2021 Planning Commission Work Plan
- Approved the 2021 Parks Commission Work Plan

On the consent agenda the Council:

- Approved Payment of Disbursements and Payroll
- Designated the Official Depositories of Funds
- Designated Official Publication Newspaper of Record
- Adopted a Resolution Designating Data Practice Officials and Approving the City's Data Practice Policy
- Approved a Massage Therapy License Renewal for Roxanne Fogard
- Approved a Massage Therapy License for Vincent Letorneau
- Approved the Washington Conservation District 2021 Rain Garden Maintenance Agreement
- Approved Zoning Code Clean Up Ordinance Amendments
- Accepted the Resignation of Utility Billing Clerk
- Approved the Hiring of Finance Director
- Accepted the Resignation of Paid on Call Firefighters
- Approved the Contract with AET for Geotechnical Services for City Hall Improvements
- Designated the Authority for EFT Payments
- Approved the Release of Warranty Security for the Royal Golf Club 2nd Addition
- Approved the Release of Warranty Security for the Southwind of Lake Elmo
- Accepted Improvements and Approved the Security Reduction for Legacy at North Star 1st Addition
- Approved a Security Reduction for Legacy at North Star 3rd Addition
- Approved Compensating Change Order No. 3 for the 2020 Mill and Overlay Project
- Approved Pay Request No. 4 (FINAL) for the 2020 Mill and Overlay Project
- Appointed City Attorney (Civil and Prosecution)
- Appointed City Engineer

At their Special Meeting on Tuesday, January 5th the City Council:

- Swore in Newly Elected Officials
- Interviewed Planning Commission Applicants

Tuesday, January 12th 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
January 12, 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 666-391-499
- To access the meeting via telephone: Call +1 (914) 614-3221, when prompted enter access code 691-927-868

AGENDA

I. Call to Order	6:30 PM
II. Planning Commission Interview-Diana Hafdal	6:30 PM
III. Parks Commission Interviews	6:45 PM
A. Hank Hoelscher	6:45 PM
B. Andrew Hodges	7:00 PM
C. Eva Lee	7:15 PM
D. Peter Kastler	7:30 PM
E. Juan Luis Rivera-Reyes	7:45 PM
F. Discussion of Applicant Criteria and Process	8:00 PM
IV. Committee Structure	8:15 PM
V. Utility Billing Clerk Position	8:45 PM
VI. Items for Future Work Session Agenda	9:00 PM
VII. Adjourn	9:00 PM

[Virtual Meeting Registration](#)

[Meeting materials can be accessed here.](#)

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's number one value statement is to foster an environment based on trust and ethics. These philosophies and practices help in the City in recruiting and retaining exceptional community servants in this capacity.

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](#).

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: FAIR

Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center Update

In mid-October, four volunteers from the Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center in Lake Elmo's Sunfish Lake Park, were doing a socially-distant brainstorming session looking for ways that the Nature Center could reach out and help the community during the COVID 19 pandemic. One of the volunteers suggested a nature coloring calendar. This fit perfectly with the Nature Center's mission to teach and provide activities relating to nature which would be suitable for all ages.

Now, how to do this while socially distancing? All they had to do was email the idea to other creative and dedicated volunteers and the project immediately was tackled full force. Working from home, one volunteer provided beautiful pictures of the birds she had taken in Sunfish Lake Park. Another likes to sketch and so he converted these images into line drawings that could be colored. Yet another had given the Nature Center a sketch that he had done of the building and grounds. No surprise, another volunteer stepped forward as he had a background in graphic design and offered to do the layout of the calendar, which he did from his winter home in Florida.

They had designed a calendar. But that wasn't enough. An angel donor had given the Nature Center a donation to incorporate Spanish into the programs, exhibits and curriculum. Our graphic designer translated the calendar into Spanish and another edited it for accuracy. So now the calendar is in Spanish and well as English.

Bayport Printing House got on board and supported this project with wonderful friendly service as well as community-service pricing.

Each month shows a color picture of a seasonally appropriate bird, and next to it is the line drawing to be colored. It was decided to omit the standard holiday designations in favor of letting the calendar users such as seniors, families, schools, or individuals, fill in their own significant days. The calendar could also be used as a journal or as a birdwatcher's diary. It was suggested that one could send a copy of the calendar to distant family members and use Zoom or Facetime to discuss which events to write in. Spanish Immersion classes would benefit from this calendar too.

Packets of the calendars were distributed to the Senior Residences that have been partnering with the nature center, and to the staff at the Lake Elmo School where Spanish Immersion is gaining traction. While delivering these to the care centers one volunteer said she felt like it really was Christmas, delivering gifts to those who needed something special right now. These calendars are available for order at www.sminc-lake-elmo.org/Order a Calendar.



Water Updates

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency announced that several metro water bodies have new protective water and fish consumption values for PFOS. The target waters include Lake Elmo, Raleigh Creek, Eagle Point Lake, Horseshoe Lake and Tartan Pond. Because of the Values of PFOS found in fish in these waters, the Minnesota Department of Health is extending "do not eat" fish consumption advice to these bodies of water. More information can be found [here](#).

Fish Consumption Advisory CATCH & RELEASE FISHING

Do not eat fish from Raleigh Creek and all bodies of water in Lake Elmo Park Reserve.

Based on updated testing, MN Department of Health (MDH) has issued a fish consumption advisory for these waters due to high levels of Perfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS).

Swimming and wading are NOT affected:

- MDH has determined that exposure to PFAS through swimming or wading is not a concern, though people and pets should avoid contact with visible foam on surface waters in this area.
- If you or your pets come into contact with foam, wash thoroughly with soap and water.
- If you were following previous MDH guidelines for eating fish from Lake Elmo or nearby water bodies, your risk of health effects from PFAS would be minimal.

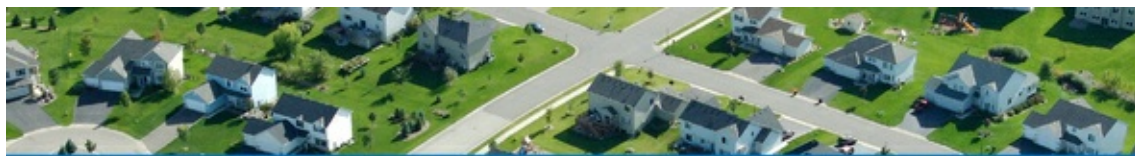
Questions?

MN Department of Health (800) 657-3908

DNR Area Fisheries Office (651) 259-5831



Department of Natural Resources
Department of Health



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.

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

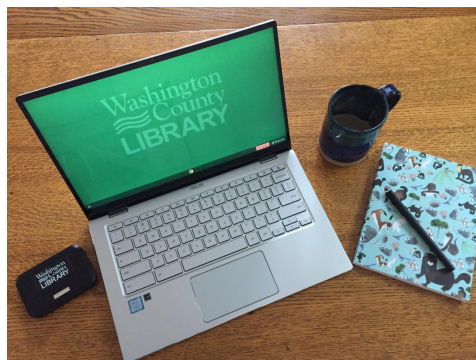


Washington County Library branches are currently open for Express Service. Visit the library during reduced hours to browse materials, pick up holds, and use a computer for up to one hour.

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.

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.





The City of Lake Elmo is accepting applications for multiple positions:

- Building Official
- Paid-on-Call Firefighters

Job postings and application materials can be found [here](#).



Guided Bird Hikes Continue January 16

A rotating schedule of bird hikes throughout Washing County Parks will continue with a hike 9a.m. to 10:30am.a Saturday, January 16 at Lake Elmo Park Reserve.

[More Information Available Here](#)

Public Facilities Project Update

At the December 15th meeting the City Council approved agreements with Leo A Daly and H+U Construction for the design and construction of a colocated City Hall and Fire Station, as well as an addition to the Public Works facility. As progress is made we will be sending out frequent updates to residents using our website, social media, and newsletters.

