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Your Weekly Source for City News and Information

Public Meetings Next Week:

- City Council Meeting Tuesday, January 17th, 7:00 p.m.
- Parks Commission Meeting Wednesday, January 18th, 6:30 p.m.

CITY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, JANUARY 16TH IN OBSERVANCE OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY



[Visit our website](#)

[Join us on Nextdoor](#)





NOTICE OF MEETING

City Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 17, 2023 7:00 P.M.

City of Lake Elmo | 3800 Laverne Avenue North

AGENDA

- A. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**
 - B. Approval of Agenda**
 - C. Approval of Minutes**
 - 1. December 13, 2022, January 3, 2023, January 10, 2023
 - D. Public Comments/Inquiries**
 - E. Presentations**
 - F. Consent Agenda**
 - 2. Approve Payments and Disbursements
 - 3. Approve Pay Equity Report
 - 4. Approve Purchase of Public Works Trailer
 - 5. Approve Hire of Building Inspector
 - 6. Accept Watermain and Sanitary Sewer Improvements and Approve Security Reductions for Wildflower 4th Addition
 - 7. Approve City Oversize Cost Reimbursements for Wildflower 4th Addition
 - 8. Approve City Oversize Cost Reimbursements for Wildflower 3rd Addition
 - 9. Approve Payment No. 2 for the CSAH-15 and 30th Street Intersection Improvements
 - 10. Approve Payment No. 4 for CSAH-13 Phase 2 Improvements
 - 11. Approve Change Order #1 for Water Tower #3 (Logo design change)
 - 12. Approve Radio Purchase for Fire Department
 - G. Regular Agenda**
 - 13. Impervious Surface Text Amendment – *Ordinance 2023-01; Resolution 2023-007*
 - 14. Upper 33rd Conditional Use Permit – *Resolution 2023-006*
 - H. Council Reports**
 - I. Staff Reports**
 - 4th Quarter 2022 Dashboards
 - J. Adjourn**
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NOTICE OF MEETING

**City of Lake Elmo Parks Commission
3800 Laverne Avenue North
January 18, 2023**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Select a Chair and Vice Chair for the Parks Commission
4. Approve Agenda
5. Approve Minutes
 - a) November 21, 2022
6. Public Comments
7. Commissioners Welcome Packet
8. Parks Workplan
9. Pebble/Tablyn Park Courts Bids
10. Communication
11. Adjourn



Eliminating Obstructed Fire Hydrants

To help protect the community, residents are being asked to help 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.

Get involved!

The City of Lake Elmo is seeking interested residents to serve on the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission meets 1-2 times per month to review and hold public hearings for development applications, variances and other planning related items. No experience is necessary! Application and more information is available on the City's website: [click here](#), or contact City Administrator Kristina Handt for more information: khandt@lakeelmo.org.



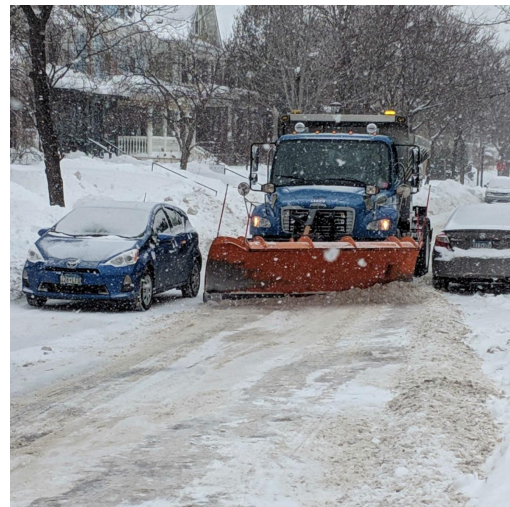
Get out and enjoy the groomed trails!

Public Works groom multiuse trails within the Sunfish Lake, Ried, Pebble and Demontreville Wildlife Parks after each snow event.

Sunfish Lake Park is the largest Park in the city and offers 248 acres of nature and fresh white snow. Walk/run/bike/ski or snowshoe the 5.5 miles of groomed trails with the park.

Winter Parking

Please remember that the City of Lake Elmo has a winter parking ordinance that **prohibits parking on city streets from November 1st through March 31st between 2:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m.** This gives crews a window of time for clearing streets curb to curb more efficiently. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!





Report Streetlight Outage

Xcel Energy maintains streetlights on public streets in Lake Elmo. If you notice a streetlight that is burned out or malfunctioning, please use the link below to report the issue. It's helpful to note the location with nearest cross streets and the pole number if you are on foot and able to make note of it.

[Click Here to Report Streetlight Outage](#)

MPCA Utilizing New Technology to Clean Water in Lake Elmo

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has placed equipment at Tablyn Park that utilizes a new technology to remove contamination from groundwater. Click below to view a KSTP news story featuring an interview with Councilmember Jeff Holtz.

[KSTP Story](#)



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 31, 2022

[Hannah Sabroski](#), 651-757-2178

MPCA brings cutting-edge technology to Minnesota to remove PFAS from water

Minnesota is the first state government in U.S. to use this combination of innovative technologies to address "forever chemicals"

(St. Paul, MN) – The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) today announced the purchase of new state-of-the-art emerging technology to remove and destroy bulk concentrations of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from contaminated water in the environment. This fall, the state will deploy the technology in the East Metro as part of the ongoing work to address PFAS contamination affecting the drinking water for roughly 174,000 residents. The system is paid for with funds from the 3M settlement.

The process works in two parts. The first technology, surface activated foam fractionation (SAFF), injects outdoor air into contaminated water, turning PFAS into foam that can be separated from the water. The foam is then removed, PFAS levels are significantly reduced, and the water is returned to the environment — both cleaner and safer. The PFAS concentrate then goes to the DEFLUORO unit, a second technology where the carbon-fluorine bonds (the backbone of PFAS chemicals) are broken through electrochemical oxidation. Both technologies are mobile and work without adding any chemicals back into the surface or groundwater.

"This pilot project marks the beginning of a new era for PFAS clean-up in Minnesota," said MPCA Commissioner Katrina Kessler. "This study will help us address PFAS contamination at the source and develop long-term solutions for cleaner water — ensuring safe drinking water for Minnesotans. We hope to eventually employ this technology around the state including in Greater Minnesota, where PFAS is a growing concern."

With fewer than 20 systems in existence, the SAFF technology is in high demand across the globe for its innovative ability to separate PFAS from water safely and quickly. Minnesota is the first state government in the country to purchase and implement it. The SAFF unit will deploy at Tablyn Park in Lake Elmo for the first round of testing on groundwater and surface water. It will likely move to other testing locations over the next one to two years. The DEFLUORO unit will be staged at the former Washington County landfill location.

Australian-based OPEC Systems, Ltd. designed the SAFF technology. U.S.-based AECOM designed the DEFLUORO unit. The SAFF unit is in route to Minnesota from Australia and is scheduled to arrive next month.

State agencies are working with city and county representatives to ensure safe handling practices under applicable regulations. None of the water used in this temporary test is connected to the city's drinking water, which remains safe and well within Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) drinking water guidelines for PFAS impacts.

The City of Lake Elmo is on Nextdoor!

In an effort to reach as much of the community as possible we've joined Nextdoor. We will use our public agency page to post news and important updates for residents.

[Find us here!](#)



is closed and under construction. All City Services are available at City Hall, 3800 Laverne Avenue

Please drive slowly and watch for construction activity

The Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center is open every day
Visit <https://sminc-lake-elmo.org/> for details.



The Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center in Lake Elmo's Sunfish Lake Park is operated by a non-profit organization for the benefit of the entire community. We offer programs and events for people of all ages, and have "adopted" the Park in the City's program. This work is all funded by donations. Thank you for your support!

Are you looking for something to do this week? Come check us out.

- **Saturday 1/14 10am to Noon – Interpretive Drop-In Event on Cardinals.** This is a free family event for all ages.
- **Saturday 1/14 2pm to 3pm – Building a Bird Friendly Backyard,** Adult Education Series. Tips and tricks on how to build a bird-friendly backyard for winter birds. Includes how to feed, watch for and identify winter birds. Reserve a spot by registering online at <https://sminc-lake-elmo.org/adult-education-presentation-series/> or drop-ins available if our website shows there are openings.
- **Sunday 1/15 Noon to 2pm – Interpretive Drop-In Event on Cardinals.** This is a free family event for all ages
- **Weekly Tai Chi on Wednesdays** from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM - Tai Chi will be meeting in the upper mezzanine level. Learn to improve your balance and coordination with this low-impact exercise program. Free coffee or tea and camaraderie afterwards. Email Paul at pryberg@gmail.com for more information. No need to register, just come.
- **Saturday 1/21 10am to 11am – Winter Bird Hike,** Family Nature Exploration Event with birder Chase Davies. Reserve a spot by registering online at <https://sminc-lake-elmo.org/family-nature-exploration-events/> or drop-ins available if our website shows there are openings



2023 WINTER PROGRAMS

Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center

Family Nature Exploration Events 10-11am

\$5/family, register online, ages 5 and up

January 21 - Winter Bird Hike with Birder Chase Davies

February 5 - Animal Tracks in Snow Hike with Chase Davies

February 18 - Snow Stratigraphy with Denise Gerdes (ages 10+)

March 4 - River Otters Hike & Sled with Ami Voeltz

March 24 - Maple Syruping with Connie Kirk

Interpretive Drop-In Events - Saturdays 10am-12noon Sundays 11am-1pm

Free, drop-in education activities in the building for all ages

January 14 & 15 - Cardinals

January 28 & 29 - Snowflakes

February 11 - Cryogenics with 3M Wizards

February 25 & 26 - Conifers

March 11 & 12 - Tree buds

March 25 & 26 - Signs of Spring

Adult Education Presentation Series

\$10/person, register online

Monthly adult presentations and workshops offered on topics related to nature, research, and science. Reserve a spot by registering online or drop ins available if our website shows there are still openings.

January 14 from 2-3pm - Building a Bird Friendly Backyard

with Cathy Olyphant

February 18 from 2-3pm - Snow Stratigraphy

with Denise Gerdes (ages 10+)

March 16 from 7-8pm - Becoming a Butterfly Scientist

with Anne Espeset

Check our programs schedule and register for fee based events at:

<https://sminc-lake-elmo.org/event-descriptions/>



Running a company of any size can be a challenge. For a small business owner, it can be a lonely one too. Wouldn't it be helpful to have a group of peers where you have a forum for exchange of information, ideas, insights, and perspectives?

That's what our WHAT'S NEXT CEO Roundtable is all about - a place where you can work through your specific business issues with fellow small business owners. This is not a networking event. It is a peer-to-peer group that provides a secure environment for open, confidential discussions about concerns, problems, and opportunities a member may be facing.

Our What's Next CEO Roundtable is a professional business meeting consisting of small business Presidents, Owners, and CEOs from Washington County. The group will consist of 10 to 12 members from non-competing companies.

The purpose of the group is to provide a gathering for the exchange of information, ideas, insights, and perspectives. All meetings are completely confidential which provides a secure environment for open discussions about concerns, problems, and opportunities a member may be facing. On occasion, guest speakers will present ideas and solutions to roundtable members.

The value of joining and attending our monthly CEO Roundtable is to learn from peer-to-peer experiences through a facilitated roundtable conversation. You benefit by learning from each other's achievements and mistakes.

For more information click here: [What's Next CEO](#)



Lake Elmo Library

3537 Lake Elmo Avenue N
Lake Elmo MN 55042
651-275-8515
WashCoLib.org

Hours:

Monday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Tues., Wed., Thurs.: 12-8 p.m.
Friday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.



Public Facilities Project Update



The new front entrance of the City Hall building is progressing and windows will hopefully be installed soon.



The main entry atrium is starting to take shape! This area will connect the City Council Chambers and Community Room areas to the service counters and office area.



The addition to the public works building on Ideal Avenue is making progress after delays in delivery of steel for several weeks.



Drywall installation is in full swing throughout the building. This area is the upper level office area that will be home to our finance and administration staff.



CITY OF LAKE ELMO COMBINED CITY HALL & PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY

The new Lake Elmo City Hall / Public Safety Facility combines City Hall staff and functions, the entire Fire Department, and a satellite office for the Washington County Sheriff's department. This co-location involves renovating and expanding the City-owned Brookfield Office building to concentrate civic resources into a single structure at the historic core of the city. In addition, the Public Works facility will also be expanded to accommodate City growth and expanded service needs.



TOTAL ANTICIPATED PROJECT COST: \$14,600,000
DESIGN COMPLETION: Late summer 2021
CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION: Fall of 2022



City of Lake Elmo | 3800 Laverne Avenue North, Lake Elmo, MN 55042

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