



Bayport News

DECEMBER 2014, ISSUE 28



Preliminary rendering of the proposed new Bayport Fire Hall designed by Leo A. Daly Architects

Bayport Ranked One of the Safest Cities in the State

A recent study completed by home security provider SafeWise, ranked Bayport as one of the 15 safest cities in Minnesota!



SafeWise used the 2012 Federal Bureau of Investigation Crime Report to analyze the number of violent and property crimes for cities with a population over 2,500 and compile their rankings. We are proud to share this recognition with the 14 other safest cities and appreciate being acknowledged for the continued good work done by the city's public safety departments!

A Message from the Mayor *by Susan St. Ores*



I would first like to thank the citizens of Bayport for re-electing both myself and Councilmembers Michele Hanson and Patrick McGann to remain

on the City Council. We are thankful for the opportunity to serve and we all look forward to another rewarding term ahead.

As I begin my third term as Mayor, I continue to feel both honored and privileged to work with such a dedicated and professional group of councilmembers and city staff members that truly have the best interest of our community at heart. It is because of this collaboration that we have been able to accomplish several important projects over the past few years while still providing quality city services, and maintaining a fiscally responsible budget, and we will continue to do so in 2015.

The city worked very hard to keep the tax levy as flat as possible for next year,

while still allocating funds to allow reinvestment in our parks, utilities, and infrastructure. Perhaps the most anticipated project slated for 2015 is a comprehensive study of our municipal utility and street infrastructure system.

Much of the city's current utilities and streets are approaching 60 years old, requiring more frequent maintenance and repairs. This study will assist with identifying and prioritizing utility and street reconstruction projects to pursue over the next several years, so we may budget appropriately and provide notice to affected properties. Look for updates on this and other important city projects to be featured in upcoming editions of *Bayport News*. Cheers to a safe and healthy 2015!

City Takes Next Step Toward A New Fire Hall



Over the past few months, the City Council has convened several meetings to review, discuss, and gain public input on the preliminary design concept and site plan for a new Fire Hall building (see rendering above left). Based on positive feedback and support from the general public and the partner service communities of Baytown, Oak Park Heights, and West Lakeland, the Bayport City Council voted on December 1 to proceed with refining the building design and development of construction documents to solicit bids this coming spring.

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Community Programs and Events

Outdoor Ice Skating at Perro Park



Get some exercise and enjoy the outdoors this winter at the Perro Park ice skating rinks! Weather permitting, the rinks are anticipated to be open late December through February, with open skating from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily.

Valentine Party Celebration

Celebrate Valentine's Day on Saturday, February 14 at the American Legion! Activities begin at 6:00 p.m. and include live music, dancing, delicious food, and a silent auction. Contact the Legion for more information at 651-439-5463. Thanks to the Bayport Community Action League for co-sponsoring this event!



Community Input and Volunteer Opportunities



The Bayport Community Action League (BCAL) is a volunteer group that is responsible for organizing many of our local community events, including Bayport Derby Days. To improve their efforts, the BCAL is seeking suggestions for activities, games, or events that people would like to see included at Derby Days. The

BCAL is also seeking additional volunteers to help coordinate events and get involved in the community! Individuals interested in contributing should email at info@bayportcommunityactionleague.com

Police Department Property Watch Program

Participation in the property watch program is encouraged for property owners planning on being away for an extended period of time. This alerts the city to look out for suspicious activity at the property and provides the Police Department with emergency contact information. Forms are available on the city's website or at City Hall.



Plan Ahead! Park Reservations for 2015 Available Soon

Looking for a great place to hold a reunion, shower, graduation, or birthday party? Look no further than one of our city parks to host your event!



Beginning January 5, the city will be accepting priority reservations from residents for the beach house, picnic shelters, game fields, and courts in all city parks. After January 15, the city will begin accepting reservations from non-residents. Facilities book up early, so for best availability, we recommend making your reservation as soon as possible! Information on all park amenities, as well as reservation request forms, fees, and policies are available on the city's website or at City Hall.

Warning: Don't Be Fooled by IRS Scam



Recently, the Police Department has received reports that a person claiming to be from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is calling individuals in our community and demanding money for back taxes. The caller usually requests payment via a bank transfer. Residents should be advised

that this type of telephone call could likely be a scam and to report it to the Police Department at 651-275-4400.

2015 Brings New Library Hours and an Opportunity to Serve on the Library Board

Change is in the air at the Bayport Public Library! We are excited to announce that the library will open an additional 5 hours per week beginning in January. Also, a vacant seat exists on the library board, which is a great opportunity for a resident to get involved and make a difference in the community. Individuals interested should view the posting on the city's website. The new 2015 library hours are:

- Monday: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- Tuesday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Wednesday: 12 – 8 p.m.
- Thursday: 12 – 8 p.m.
- Friday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Saturday: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- (Labor Day – Memorial Day)
- Sunday: Closed



Congratulations to the 2014 *Focus on Bayport* Photo Contrst Winners

Once again, residents captured some great images of our city in this year's *Focus on Bayport* Photo Contest! Thanks to residents of all ages who participated in the contest and shared their spectacular photos.



“Water Drops” by Jessica Buck

We look forward to continuing this contest annually and showcasing the talent of our residents! So grab your camera and start capturing your favorite images of our city for next year's *Focus on Bayport* Photo Contest!



“Not Yet In Bloom” by Jessica Buck

Entries were judged by the Bayport City Council on visual and technical merit, creativity, and composition. Winning photos are featured in this article and will be on display at City Hall through February.



“Christmas Cardinal” by Don Hoye

Tips to Help Prevent City Water Main Breaks and Frozen Pipes this Winter

Like many surrounding communities, Bayport experienced several water main breaks and frozen utility lines last winter, due to extremely cold weather. To help prevent frozen pipes in your home, which can cause severe damage and result in costly repairs, please consider these tips as colder weather approaches.

Normal Cold Weather Conditions

- Keep your furnace set above 55 degrees Fahrenheit
- Shut off and drain water pipes leading to outside faucets
- If away, plan to have someone check on your property or have the city turn off your water service

Extreme Cold Weather Conditions

- Leave cabinet doors open below sinks to keep pipes warm
- If tap water temperature drops below 38 degrees Fahrenheit, leave a ¼ inch water stream running from sink faucets and notify the city



CITY OF BAYPORT
294 North Third Street
Bayport, MN 55003

CITY HALL

Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Phone: 651-275-4404
Fax: 651-275-4411
Email: khuftel@ci.bayport.mn.us
Website: www.ci.bayport.mn.us

PUBLIC WORKS

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Phone: 651-275-4410

UTILITY, FIRE, POLICE EMERGENCY

Phone: 911

CITY OBSERVED HOLIDAYS

City offices will be closed to observe the following upcoming holidays in 2015:

New Year's Day	January 1
M. Luther King Jr. Day	January 19
President's Day	February 16
Memorial Day	May 25
Labor Day	September 7
Columbus Day	October 12
Veteran's Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	November 26
Christmas Eve Day	December 24
New Year's Eve Day	December 31

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

January 5	July 6
February 2	August 3
March 2*	September 8*
April 6	October 5
May 4	November 2
June 1*	December 7*

*A 4:30 p.m. workshop will tentatively be held prior to these meetings.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

Third Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Find specific city staff contact information and forms on the city's website.

www.ci.bayport.mn.us



CITY OF BAYPORT
 294 North 3rd Street
 Bayport, Minnesota 55003-1027
 651-275-4404 | 651-275-4411 fax
 www.ci.bayport.mn.us

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A License Not Only Keeps Your Pet Safe – It’s The Law!

Licensing is one of the most important things you can do to keep your pet and the community safe. Unfortunately, it is also the most overlooked city ordinance by residents. The city requires that cats and dogs over 3 months be licensed annually by February 1 for the calendar year and display a city license collar tag. The license form is available on the city’s website or at City Hall. The fee is \$10.00 for spayed/neutered pets. To avoid possible impoundment and/or fines up to \$200.00, be sure to purchase your pet the best gift of all this season... a city license and collar tag!



Meet the City’s New Consulting Engineer

John Parotti of SEH is the city’s new lead consulting engineer, who assists city staff with utility and infrastructure projects, as needed. John replaces Barry Peters of SEH, who previously served as the city’s engineer for over 20 years. Residents should continue to contact City Hall for utility and engineering related issues, but be sure to welcome John to the city if you see him in your neighborhood!



City Takes Next Step Toward A New Fire Hall

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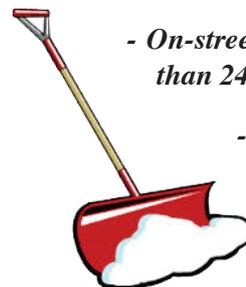
Architect Leo A. Daly and construction manager Kraus Anderson will work together over the next few months to finalize the design for the building and site, which is to be located at the intersection of 5th Avenue North and Stagecoach Trail.

The preliminary project budget has been set at approximately \$5,700,000, which would be cost-shared amongst the partner service communities. Look for updates to be featured in upcoming editions of *Bayport News* and at City Council meetings.



Resident Reminders: On-Street Parking and Snow Removal Regulations

Removing snow and ice from city streets, sidewalks, and parking areas is critical to ensure motorists, pedestrians, and emergency responders can maneuver through the city in a safe and efficient matter. For this reason, the city has adopted the regulations listed below.



- On-street parking is not allowed for more than 24 consecutive hours

- Vehicles parked on the street or on public property need to be removed after a snowfall over 2 inches

- Property owners adjacent to a public sidewalk need to remove snow/ice accumulation within 24 hours

- Property owners shall not blow or push snow/ice onto public property, such as boulevards, sidewalks, alleys, and/or streets

Individuals in violation of these regulations may be ticketed, charged for the cost of sidewalk snow/ice removal, or have their vehicle towed. Please do your part to abide by these regulations so we can keep our streets and sidewalks safe!