



Winter Newsletter—January 2014

Volume 1, Issue 2

Mayor's Year-End Report

Hello fellow residents,

I would like to start off by saying thank you to my fellow council members and city staff for the great job they have done in 2013. I have received many compliments from our residents and business owners regarding how well city hall has been running since we restructured our staffing needs in April.



In January, our council set very specific goals for ourselves and our city, and those goals guided us and dictated the agendas of our meetings. If you have any topics or subjects you would like your city council to research and discuss, please let us or city hall know.

In 2014, growth will again be our number 1 priority. The council and economic development authority (EDA) were very busy this past year putting the pieces in place to prepare us for responsible growth going forward. We reviewed all of our policies, reviewed our fee schedule and removed any that were unnecessary, we created growth incentive programs for new homes, businesses, and commercial lease space, we updated our website and facebook page, and we recently invested in the services of an economic marketing firm to help in numerous areas, such as marketing Clearwater to residential developers and new business prospects.

This past May our half-cent sales tax fund received the final approval from the MN legislature that our city had been waiting for, and our newly formed Parks Board wasted no time, making improvements to the Frisbee golf course and ice rink, with more park improvements to come in 2014. One of our biggest decisions in 2014 will be in regards to our Community Center. The council and a community center sub-committee have been discussing the potential options, and our goal for this in 2014 is to come to a final decision on our community center needs, which option (if any) will work in Clearwater, and present that option to the residents.

2014 is poised to be a great year for our city, and we would like to invite you to participate in your local government in any of the following ways: attend city council meetings, join or attend a committee to share your opinions and new ideas, or connect with myself or any of the other city council members to let us know what you think of our decisions.

Wishing you a Happy New Year!

Mayor Edmonson



Clearwater, MN Like us on Facebook to keep up-to-date on city information

CLEARWATER CITY HALL

Office Hours:

Monday—Thursday

8:00 AM—4:30 PM

Fridays—CLOSED

From City Administrator Sue Vergin

I would like to take this opportunity to say that I am enjoying serving the City of Clearwater. I started with the City of Clearwater in 2010 as the Finance Director, and am now serving as the City Administrator. In this capacity, I have more interaction with the residents and the business owners, which I find rewarding. Please remember that the role of city staff is to serve you, the public, so I ask that when you have questions or concerns or are unclear about the city rules and regulations please do not hesitate to contact city hall.

2014 City Budget Adopted

During 2013, the City strived to look at ways to reduce costs and save money, which assisted us in the planning for the 2014 budget, which was adopted in December. Staff was restructured, police protection hours were decreased, alternative funding sources when applicable are continuously being sought, and hats off to the multiple volunteers that assist the city in many ways.

The City typically starts the budgeting process in May/June identifying the needs, setting goals and objectives for the next year, as well as future needs over several years. By September, the City is required to set a preliminary budget, and then the final budget and tax levy (tax dollars needed to operate the City) must be set and formally adopted in December. The "2014 Final Budget Summary" which compares the 2014 budget to the 2013 budget is included inside this newsletter for your review. Have a wonderful 2014.

City of Clearwater, Minnesota 2014 Final Budget Summary				
	<u>Total 2014</u>	<u>Total 2013</u>		
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% Chg</u>	
Revenues:				
Property Taxes	\$ 1,013,784	\$ 1,016,642	-0.28%	
Local Option Sales Tax	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000	0.00%	
Cable Franchise Fees	\$ 11,650	10,980	6.10%	
Special Assessments	\$ 77,813	93,089	-16.41%	
Licenses and Permits	\$ 28,135	29,695	-5.25%	
Intergovernmental	\$ 116,453	48,203	141.59%	
Charges for Services	\$ 1,309,130	1,367,010	-4.23%	
Interest Income	\$ 12,720	17,905	-28.96%	
Contributions and Donations	\$ 9,200	9,700	-5.15%	
Miscellaneous	\$ 9,247	2,200	320.32%	
Total Revenues	\$ 2,753,132	\$ 2,760,424	-0.26%	
Other Financing Sources:				
Bond Proceeds	\$ -	\$ 112,346		
Transfers In	\$ 156,170	\$ 84,799	84.16%	
Total Other Financing Sources	\$ 156,170	\$ 197,145	-20.78%	
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$ 2,909,302	\$ 2,957,569	-1.63%	
Expenditures:				
General Government	\$ 1,100,709	\$ 1,113,341	-1.13%	
Public Safety	\$ 350,704	461,737	-24.05%	
Streets and Highways	\$ 204,987	184,391	11.17%	
Culture and Recreation	\$ 243,883	101,895	139.35%	
Economic Development	\$ 23,547	16,867	39.60%	
Capital Outlay	\$ 23,500	26,275	-10.56%	
Debt Service	\$ 949,342	881,220	7.73%	
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,600	2,750	-41.82%	
Total Expenditures	\$ 2,898,272	\$ 2,788,476	3.94%	
Other Financing Uses:				
Transfers Out	\$ 95,825	\$ 84,799	13.00%	
Total Other Financing Uses	\$ 95,825	\$ 84,799	13.00%	
Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	\$ 2,994,097	\$ 2,873,275	4.21%	
<i>Copies of the entire City budget in detailed format are available for inspection during regular hours of operation.</i>				
Increase/(Decrease)		\$ 167,760		
Total Levy - All Funds	\$ 1,059,335	\$ 1,031,737		

COUNTY ROAD 24 BRIDGE PROJECT

This project is still in the final planning stages. The utility work will commence this year, 2014, with the bridge construction commencing in 2015. The existing bridge will remain in place and open for traffic during the construction of the new bridge. The new bridge will be wider, and will be located on the east side of the existing bridge. A preliminary layout is available for viewing at city hall.

Clearwater Fire Department
3-on-3 Boot Hockey Tournament
March 8th, 2014
More information to follow

The 2014 Recycling calendar is available on the City's website or you can get a copy at City Hall.



Remember bins need to be curbside by 7am, 3 feet from

NOTICE TO ALL CLEARWATER SEWER AND WATER CUSTOMERS:

There will be a change to the water and sewer rates effective January 1st and you will see this change on your January bill.

Water Service, each month:

Commercial/Residential base rate of \$5.80 per month per user/unit
(old rate \$ 5.69) increase of 11 cents per month per user/unit.

Sewer Service, each month:

Commercial/Residential base rate of \$29.65 per month per user/unit
(old rate \$28.65) increase of \$1.00 per month per user/unit

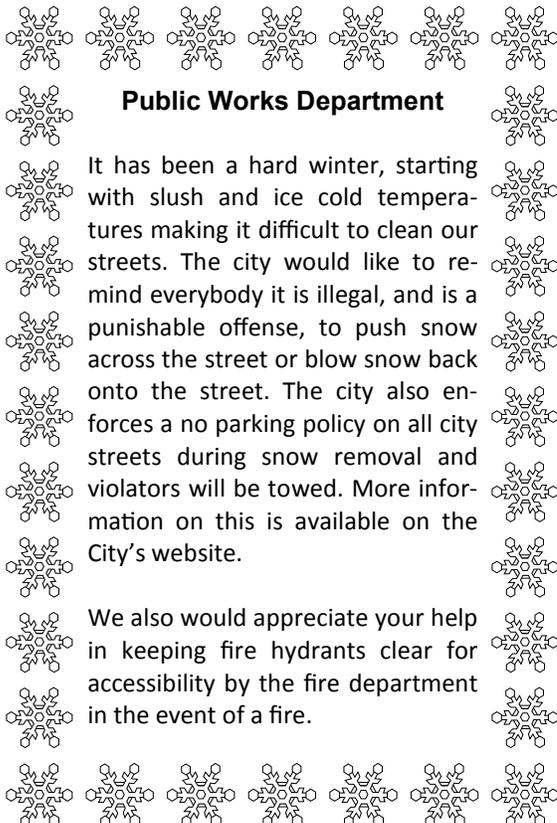
Residential Usage rate per 1,000 gallons \$9.50 (old rate \$9.20) increase of 30 cents per 1000 gallons used

SAC CHARGES (SEWER ACCESS CHARGE) \$5,607.00 (old rate \$7,750.00)
Decrease of \$2,143.00.

ALL OTHER UTILITY RATES REMAIN THE SAME AS OF JANUARY 1ST, 2014.

As you may know, the City of Clearwater has made changes to the waste water treatment plant and replaced some aging collection, distribution and storage components of our water and sewer service system. Funding for these projects was through low-interest loans. User base fees are used to repay the loans – no special assessments were levied for this project. The above base rate increase is to adjust the base rate to cover the 2014 loan payments. Other rate adjustments are based on amounts needed for loan payments, annual increases in operation & maintenance costs, and annual amounts needed for estimated future replacement costs of other components of the Water/Sewer Service System.

If you have any questions regarding the rate changes, please contact City Hall at 320-558-2428 (Monday through Thursday, 8am – 4:30pm).



Public Works Department

It has been a hard winter, starting with slush and ice cold temperatures making it difficult to clean our streets. The city would like to remind everybody it is illegal, and is a punishable offense, to push snow across the street or blow snow back onto the street. The city also enforces a no parking policy on all city streets during snow removal and violators will be towed. More information on this is available on the City's website.

We also would appreciate your help in keeping fire hydrants clear for accessibility by the fire department in the event of a fire.

View and pay utility bills at www.ClearwaterCity.com

Pay online – it's FREE. Make an immediate payment, schedule a payment, or set up auto-payments. Log into our website for instructions to set up an account to view your bill and/or pay your bill.

Mark Your Calendars

**City-Wide Clean-Up
Day will be
Saturday
April 26, 2014**

**City-Wide Garage
Sale Day will be
Saturday,
June 14, 2014**

**Clearwater Heritage
Days
Aug 1st and 2nd
See their website for
more information:**



The City's Economic Development Authority (EDA) has been actively working in connecting with our business community. As part of that connection, the EDA will randomly spot light a business, below is the first of our spotlights.

Lee & Friends

Clearwater Business Spotlight

Q & A Interview

Who are you and where are you?

*Lee Frederickson – owner
Lee & Friends Hair Design
810 Clearwater Center, Clearwater, MN
Tel.# 320-558-6620*

What services or products do you offer?

Hair Cuts, Color, Lo-Lites, Hi-Lites, UpDos, Facials, Shellac, Pedicures, Ombre, Biliage, Manicures, Blow-outs, Body Art Glitter

How many and who do you have on your staff ?

What services do they offer?

Five(5) on our staff: Yvonne, Heather, Stephanie, Rebecca & Lee. Entire staff provide all services.

What is your latest service or products that you are offering?

Shellac & Body Art Glitter- Classes taken in Chicago.

Do you offer any special services for the local clientele ?

Wedding groups – offer makeup also.

Children's Birthday Parties w/ body art.

Proms – Hair styling , also body art glitter

How long have you been an established business in Clearwater
40 years in the Clearwater area

What is it that you like about the Clearwater community?

*The people and the services available.
It is a good place to live !*

