



October 2023

NEWSLETTER

CITY HALL OFFICE HOURS:

Mon. Tues. Thurs.
9:30 am to 1:30 pm

Wed. and Fri. closed, but
residents can call for an
appointment.

CITY COUNCIL

Tom McCarthy, Mayor
651.436-7031
lscbmayor@gmail.com

JP Armstrong, Council
612.787.5113
jparmstrong@rocketmail.com

Noah Bluesky, Council
651.734.8400
noah.bluesky@yahoo.com

Cindie J. Reiter, Council
651.436.8244
cindie55043@gmail.com

Tim Schneider, Council
608.317.7422
schneitm12@gmail.com

Dave Engstrom,
City Clerk/Administrator
651.436.7031
dengstromlscb@comcast.net

Carol Billig,
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer
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Tammy Martin,
Deputy Clerk
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Disclaimer: Errors are
included in newsletter for the
entertainment of those who
enjoy finding typos.

Mayor's Message

As a new school year begins, pedestrian and traffic safety require the cooperation of everyone understanding and obeying Minnesota's school bus stop arm laws.

Before picking up or dropping off students, a school bus signals its stop by flashing amber lights, and it's crucial that drivers don't race around the bus at this time.

Once at a complete stop, red lights activate and the stop arm extends, indicating that traffic in all directions must come to a complete stop. Violations can result in hefty fines, losing a driver's license, or even jail time if a child is injured or killed.

The well-being of our community's youngest members depends on each of us making responsible choices on the road. Together, we can ensure that our children's journey to school is a safe and happy one. Remember, the speed limit within the City is 20 MPH.

As a reminder, the City has an animal ordinance in place that says all dogs must be on a leash or kept "under control" by their owner. There have been several incidents recently where a dog has been "out of control" and not on a leash.

Please be a responsible pet owner for the safety of you, your pet and others around you.

The City recently had a drone video done of Shoreland Park, including the swimming beach area. This video provides a view that we wouldn't normally see just walking around. It will be posted on the City website and Facebook page in the near future if you would like to view it.

And last, but not least, have a safe and happy Halloween!

As always ~ stay safe!

Mayor Tom

Contacts

Animal Control
715.220.1332

Building Inspector
651.208.4684
dstensland@comcast.net

Burning Permits
651.248.5103

Environmental Center
651.275.7475

LSCV Fire Department
651.436.7033

Sheriff's Department
651.439.9381

Lakeland Water Utility
651.436.8044
swirth@peopleservice.com

Well Water Test Kits (WA
County) 651.403.6655

US Post Office (Lakeland)
651.436.5469

EMERGENCY
911



VETERAN'S MEMORIAL

SATURDAY, 4TH NOVEMBER 1:00pm. REMEMBRANCE

SERVICE. All are invited to attend. Donations can be made to the Lower St. Croix Valley Veterans Memorial (LSCVVM). 100% of your donation is tax deductible; the Memorial is a 501(c)3 organization and completely funded through donations.

To purchase a brick for yourself, friend, or loved one who lives or lived in the Valley, donations are accepted. Send a check to LSCVVM, 16455 20th St. S. Lake St. Croix Beach MN 55043. We need a name, branch of service, and years served. Suggested donation for a brick is \$25. If you requested a brick after June 1st, 2022 please call City Hall to confirm that we have your information on file.

City of Lake St. Croix Beach City Council Meeting

September 18th, 2023 6:00 PM

Unapproved Minutes

The City of Lake St. Croix Beach City Council met in regular session on Monday September 18th, at 6:00 pm. Said meeting was held in council chambers and via teleconference call, in said City. (Video of the meeting can be viewed on the city website).

CALL TO ORDER – 6:06 pm ~ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor McCarthy, Council Member Bluesky, Council Member Reiter, Council Member Schneider, Council Member Armstrong, Administrator Dave Engstrom

Also present were City Attorney Christina Benson, City Engineer John Parotti, Accountant Kim Guyer, and Deputy Clerk Tammy Martin. Others Present: (not on Agenda) Residents Dawn Bulera, Mary Ashby, Linda O'Donnell

APPROVE AGENDA for the City Council Meeting of September 18th, 2023 ~

Council Member Reiter motioned to approve Agenda, add 1 item for discussion under Old Business; Mayor McCarthy seconded. All voted Aye, carried 5/0.

APPROVE MINUTES from the City Council meeting of August 21st, 2023 ~

Council Member Reiter motioned to approve the minutes with corrections as discussed. Mayor McCarthy seconded. All voted Aye, carried 5/0.

APPROVE MINUTES from the City Council meeting of July 17th, 2023 ~ **Council**

Member Reiter motioned to table the review and approval of the July 17th, 2023 City Council meeting until the October Council meeting. Council member Bluesky seconded. All voted Aye, carried 5/0.

PUBLIC INPUT ~ Resident Dawn Bulera commented that she was concerned about comments made at a previous meeting.

Continued next page...

Council Meeting minutes continued...

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS – Council Member Armstrong

- A. Law Enforcement – 31 incidents and 4 citations
- B. Emergency Response and Fire – 58 runs in August
 - 1. Beth Olfelt Nelson – LSCVFPD Chairperson ~ Beth has Council Member Reiter give Council Members 2 handouts regarding the 2023 Public Safety Aid dollars being presented to Cities on Dec. 26, 2023. Also presented a list of the Fire Department needs and explained the list, asking for a donation. Discussion was held.
- C. Animal Control – 1 found dog impounded - \$132.10, owner pays fees.

CITY STAFF REPORTS

City Accountant Report; **1.** State of Operations July, 2023, **2.** Claims to be Approved – September 18, 2023. **Council Member Reiter motioned to approve bills, payments and claims with a review of Maroney's as follows: Checks: 19849-19876, 19899-19900 and EFT/DD: 230901-230832. Total amount of \$89,202.74. Council Member Schneider seconded. All voted, Aye. Carried 4/0, Council Member Armstrong abstained. 3.** Resolution 2023-07 Adopting proposed budgets and property tax levies for year 2024 was presented. **Mayor McCarthy made motion to approve the Resolution. Council Member Reiter seconded. All voted, Aye. Carried 5/0.**

City Engineer Parotti – Presented updates on the street projects as follows:

- ~ Micro Surfacing project is complete. The crack sealing project is complete.
- ~ Reclamite Maltene based Rejuvenating agent being applied to selected pavement project is complete.
- ~ The 2022 Bluff Toe Stabilization Project is complete and has been inspected.
- ~ Mr. Parotti recommended the Council to authorize a survey to be done by SEH to report on the damage done during the spring flood. Cost of the survey is \$1,800. **Mayor McCarthy made a motion to authorize the survey. Council member Bluesky seconded. All voted Aye, carried 5/0.**
- ~ Discussion was held regarding maintenance on the bike trails and cutting the woody vegetation out of the rip rap.

City Attorney Christina Benson – Codification meeting scheduled for Thursday September 21st, 2023 from 2:00-5:00 pm.

- D. Administration Dave Engstrom – presented the purchase of a new John Deere Gator and trade in the old one. After some discussion **Council Member Bluesky motioned to approve the trade-in and purchase. Council Member Schneider seconded. All voted Aye, carried 5/0.**
- E. Building Permit Activity – report was submitted

NEW BUSINESS - None

OLD BUSINESS – July 2023 council meeting minutes tabled until October council meeting so changes can be made.

COUNCIL REPORTS AND REQUESTS

Council Member Armstrong – corrected his comment to reflect Siberian Elm tree, not a maple.

Council Member Bluesky – nothing to report this month

Council Member Reiter – commented that the council needs to review the Code of Conduct

Council Member Schneider –commented that residents need to keep their dogs on a leash or at a minimum, keep control of them. Will put reminder in October newsletter.

Mayor McCarthy – commented that the Flood Run went well and that he thought the Field of Bands went well also.

ADJOURN – Mayor McCarthy motioned to adjourn. Council Member Armstrong seconded. All



Wednesday
October 25
6:00PM–8:00PM
Church Parking Lot
(inside if rain)



Neighborhood is WELCOME!

Let your friends & family know!

Interested in decorating your car? We are always looking for more cars to fill our lot. Need details contact Cindy b at St Francis Church. 651-436-7817



**SAINT FRANCIS OF
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NEW—Haunted Hay Ride in the field!

Crafts, spooky snacks, Movie & Popcorn inside

VALLEY LIBRARY

~ The Library will be closed **Wednesday October 11th** for Staff Training.

~ October is TeenTober so we will be celebrating teens all month. Stop by the library or check out the library website for more information.

~ Ongoing: Scavenger Hunt – October theme: Football. Find 10 images throughout the library and win a prize.

Did you know you can suspend your HOLDS so that they arrive when it is convenient for you? Simply click the “Edit/Suspend Hold(s)” button. From there you can choose to either suspend your hold indefinitely or schedule your hold for a specific date. The E-catalog on the Libby app has this feature too!

Washington County Library goes to the Movies! Reel Talk Movie Series: Are You There God? It’s me, Margaret on **Monday October 9th** 5:00-7:30pm at the Oakdale Branch. Hitchcock on **Sunday October 15th** 2:00-4:00pm at the RH Stafford Woodbury Branch.

For Adults: Local resident and author, Don Jones, will present *18 Days Across the Atlantic* on **Thursday, October 12th** 5:00-6:00 in the Valley Conference Room.

Join us at 10:30 a.m. **every Monday** for Storytime at Valley Library. Each week we'll read stories and sing songs that focus on strengthening early literacy skills. Meet new friends and spend time together as we sing, talk, read, write, and play ...at storytime! This storytime is for children of all ages and their caregivers. Super Storytime on **October 16th** 10:30-11:30 – Storytime plus a fun craft activity. The theme for October is: Fall is Fun

Thursday, October 5th 3:30-5:30 Brick Builder’s Club. Drop by to design, build and create with LEGO bricks. No registration required. This program is recommended for ages 5-12.

Thursday, October 19th 4:00-6:00 Crochet Pumpkin class. In this class, each participant will learn basic crochet stitches to make their own crochet pumpkin. Crochet experience is helpful but not required. All materials will be provided. This class is for teens ages 11-18. Class size is limited so registration is required. Register online, or call your local branch.

Monday October 23rd 10:30 Siama and Dallas – Siama’s Congo Roots

Join us at for a very special musical and storytelling experience. Siama invites you to join him on this very special musical journey to Africa! He's known for his intricate guitar, catchy songs, spirited singing and traditional African instruments like Mbira (thumb piano), Lokole (tongue drum) and Balafon (marimba). He's joined by Dallas Johnson who encourages everyone to sing along in Kikongo and Lingala while they both tell stories that bring Siama's hometown in rural Bas Congo to life. This program is especially designed for kids and families but it's enjoyed by all, so don't miss it!

The Valley Library **Book Club** meets 5:00-6:00pm on the 4th Thursday of every month. This book club meets in person in the Valley Library conference room but a Zoom link can be provided for those who wish to join virtually.

The title selection for the **Thursday October 26th** meeting is “The Moor’s Account” by Laila Lalami. Find more information at <https://washcolib.libcal.com/event/10089069>

Fiery Fall in acrylic paint with Karen Chan on **Saturday October 28th** 11:00am – 1:00 pm. Teaching artist, Karen Chan will lead a class where participants will learn how to use acrylic paints to create their own Fiery Fall landscape. Registration is required <https://washcolib.libcal.com/event/10966413>

Building Permits

City Building Inspector is:
Duane (Dewey) Stensland
651-505-9985

Are you doing a bit of Renovation? Restoration? Reconstruction to your home?

Before you begin ANY PROJECT, call the City Office to determine whether a permit will be required.

Doing work without a permit is a risky undertaking and the building inspector could 'red tag' your project which puts an immediate halt to your renovation.

Not only that, but now the permit will cost you double what it would have had you just gotten a permit in the first place.

Call City Hall with questions
651.436.7031.

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

Fire Prevention Month

Many things you do every day can raise or lower the risk of a fire in your home. Make sure to keep your home safe by following these guidelines:

It's getting chilly out! Keep all portable heaters at least three (3) feet away from flammable items.

Turn off space heaters before leaving a room, even if you will be gone only a short time.

Do not overload electrical circuits, such as wall outlets and extension cords - use a circuit (power) strip.

Do not run electrical cords under rugs, carpet, or furniture.

Fire Prevention Week

Fire prevention week is October 8th through October 14th. Take this opportunity to Plan Ahead! If a fire breaks out in your home, you may have only a few minutes to get out safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Everyone needs to know what to do and where to go if there is a fire.

Everyone – including children – need to know your family escape plan. The National Fire Protection Association indicates 71% of Americans have a home fire escape plan but only 47% have practiced it. Practice your fire drill with everyone in the house at night and during the day, twice a year. Remember to:

- * Practice getting out with eyes closed, crawling low to the floor and keeping your mouth covered
 - Practice closing doors behind you
 - Practice how to "[stop, drop and roll](#)" if your clothes catch on fire
 - Practice testing door handles to see if they are hot before opening them
 - Teach children never to hide and how to escape on their own in case you can't help them

*

Daylight savings time is on Sunday November 5th, 2023. When we change our clocks, it's a great time to check and/or change the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.

The normal battery life in a smoke detector is 10 years and a carbon monoxide detector it's 7 years. On the back of these you can find the a date to help you decide if the batteries need changing.

Beach BAR

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legally referred to as the Bottle House.

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LAKE ST. CROIX BEACH
POSTAL PATRON
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County and State Contact Information

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MN Representative Mark Wiens: 651.296.4244 rep.mark.wiens@house.mn.gov
MN Governor Tim Walz: 651.201.3400 tim.walz@state.mn.us
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www.lakelandheatingandac.com

Alec's Auto

Alec Vojovich
Owner/Operator
Low Overhead

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Lake St. Croix Beach, MN 55043

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