

COUNCIL ADOPTS FINAL PAYABLE 2012 LEVY AND BUDGET

At their last regular meeting of 2011, the Long Lake City Council adopted both a \$1,003,110 payable 2012 property tax levy and 2012 operating and capital improvement budgets. The adopted levy represents a 0.44% decrease compared to the payable 2011 levy. The 2012 levy fund includes \$147,525 in required bond debt service payments as well as \$855,585 in operations within the General Fund. Of the \$1,350,968 in budgeted 2012 General Fund expenditures, about 63% is funded from these ad valorem property taxes. General Fund expenditures by category include 20% for general government, 21% for police protection, 37% for fire protection, 2% for protective inspection, 14% for public works, and 6% for park maintenance. The primary planned 2012 capital expenditure is a continuation of the street seal coating program.

REMINDER: DOGS MUST BE LICENSED

All dogs owned or kept in the City of Long Lake and over the age of 6 months **MUST** be licensed. Licenses may be applied for in person at City Hall; or completed applications accompanied by license fees and rabies vaccination records may be mailed in to Long Lake City Hall, 450 Virginia Avenue, PO Box 606, Long Lake, MN 55356. Your dog license(s) and original vaccination records will be returned to you by mail. License applications are available on the City's website at www.longlakemn.gov, under Permits & Licenses. Documentation of current rabies vaccination showing both the rabies tag number and the date the vaccination was administered is required for all applications.



Please note that licensed dogs who are spayed or neutered and current on vaccinations are welcome to play and exercise in the new seasonal off-leash dog area in Holbrook Park, open April 1 through October 31.

Any questions relative to dog licensing in Long Lake? Please call 952.473.6961 x1.

Reminder: no on street overnight parking

As a reminder, parking on all city streets is prohibited between the hours of 2:00 am to 6:00 am all year round. If you are resurfacing your driveway and will need to park vehicles on the street overnight temporarily, please call City Hall at 952.473.6961 x1 a few days in advance.

Parking on city streets is also prohibited at any time when there is 2" or more of snow until the streets are cleared. Please stay informed of weather forecasts and move your vehicle from the street whenever snow or ice conditions may require plowing.



SINGLE SORT RECYCLING COMING SOON!

In December 2011, the Long Lake City Council approved entering into a new 3 year contract with Waste Management for the provision of residential curbside recycling services. The new contract implements an exciting change - a move to single sort recycling! Beginning in mid-January, Long

Lake will have a new, improved curbside recycling program featuring wheeled carts instead of bins, and the collection of recyclables with no sorting required.

In January, Waste Management will be sending a direct mailing out to Long Lake residents both informing you of the change to single sort recycling, and including a recycling schedule for 2012. Recycling will continue to be picked up on a bi-weekly basis, every other Thursday. Waste Management will be providing every curbside recycling household in Long Lake with a new 64-gallon recycling cart with wheels and a lid. Waste Management is anticipating that delivery of the new carts will take place the week of January 16.

Residents will be able to keep their old bins to re-use however they want, or feel free to give them away to a friend who needs a sturdy storage bin.

The recycling fee posted to your quarterly City utility bill will be increasing by only \$0.70 - from \$6.80/quarter to \$7.50 per quarter. The amount residents are charged on their utility bill covers only a portion of the entire City recycling program. Besides curbside recycling, the program also includes access to the Plymouth Yard Waste site for disposal of brush, spring cleanup days (in partnership with the City of Orono), and spring and fall leaf pickup days.

We hope that significantly improving the convenience of recycling will encourage increased participation in recycling. If you have any specific recycling questions, please call 952.473.6961 x1. For missed recycling pickups, call Waste Management at 1.800.777.8408.

Long Lake area Chamber of commerce launches new website

Looking for information about a business in Long Lake? Are you a business owner in the Long Lake area interested in networking and business promotion opportunities? The Long Lake Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce the launch of their new state of the art website, www.longlakeareachamber.com. The site includes a directory of member businesses, improved contact information for Board members, and will act as a community hub for events in the Long Lake area.



A MINUTE WITH THE MAYOR

2011 IN REVIEW - The City Council tasked the Planning Commission, Park Board and City staff with several work items in 2011. A variety of work projects were successfully completed, including, but not limited to the following:

- Development of an ordinance to address green technologies.
- Development of a rental housing registration ordinance.
- Reconfiguration of the gravel boat and trailer parking area at Nelson Lakeside Park.
- Establishment of a seasonal off-leash dog area for public use.
- Launch of a new City website under a new domain name, www.longlakemn.gov.
- Completion of Well No. 2 rehabilitation project improvements.
- Installation of a solar LED lighting system along the berm on the east end of town in addition to on the entrance sides on the east and west ends of town.

City Council milestones included working together in 2011 to adopt a City budget resulting in a 0.44% decrease to the City's total levy for 2012 from the previous year's levy, with minimal impact to residential and business property taxpayers' bills. Additionally, the Council approved a project to upgrade the Highway 12 bypass emergency access gate located just west of the Long Lake Town Center mall to a new, more reliable automated electronic gate system.



City entrance sign with new solar powered lighting

FOR 2012 - My personal goals in working with the City Council, advisory commissions and boards, and staff in 2012 are centered around facilitating occupation or development of three properties in particular:

1. Former Billy's Lighthouse site
2. Former Kenny's Market site
3. Former Burger King site

Additionally, if the City is successful in obtaining the vacant site on Virginia Avenue north of City Hall from Mn/DOT, the Council will likely be seeking Planning Commission input on possible uses for the site, as well as actively seeking out development opportunities.

Also, Hennepin County will be beginning the turnback planning process for the old Highway 12, now numbered CSAH 112, roadway. The completion of this reconstruction project will involve many years.

Best wishes to all for a happy new year in 2012!

Mayor Tim Hultmann

New! Rental housing registration

At their December 20, 2011 meeting, the Long Lake City Council adopted an Ordinance establishing regulations for the management and registration of rental housing. All residential rental properties must register with the City and receive a Certificate of Residential Rental Registration. Either the residential rental property owner or the rental manager may complete the registration form. The Residential Rental Property Registration application form is available online at www.longlakemn.gov. Hard copies may also be obtained by calling 952.473.6961 x1. There is NO fee to complete this registration; however, registration of residential properties is not optional - it is required by Ordinance.

If you are the owner or manager of a residential rental property in Long Lake, please register your property using the above referenced application form immediately. If you are the resident/tenant of a rental property, we encourage you to contact the owner or manager of your property and inform them of the registration process. Alternatively, if you do not feel comfortable advising your rental property's owner or manager that they need to register their property, please feel free to call 952.473.6961 x1 and provide staff with the name and mailing address of the owner/manager. Staff will use this information to advise them of the registration requirement.

Hol brook park winter skating update

Early in December there was a week of cold weather and the rinks were almost ready for use with roughly 4" of good ice. Record high temps and sunshine since then have melted the ice from the top, and also from the bottom since the ground below the rinks never became cold enough to freeze hard. Colder weather is expected in January and Public Works will again attempt to build good ice. At this point it is uncertain if and when the rinks may be able to open; however, staff Public Works will continue ice making efforts in the hopes of opening for a short season.

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ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION

For additional contact information, resources, and City news, please visit the City of Long Lake website at www.longlakemn.gov.