

WINTER 2018

SEASONS OF SPRING PARK

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



FROM YOUR MAYOR

Happy New Year! As we begin 2018, I wanted to thank you for electing me to serve as your Mayor for the previous year. The pleasure has been all mine. I've been fortunate to have a very professional staff to work with as well as a great Council and Planning Commission. It's been a year full of team work and success.

Our major accomplishment of 2017 was the outdoor storage ordinance for our residential district. It is the result of the hard work of the Planning Commission, input from our residents, and finalization by the City Council. This success has now shifted our focus to a similar outdoor storage ordinance for our commercial district.

We also have targeted another project for our city. We begin the study of our aging water and sewer lines for possible replacement. We're in the beginning phases of this study, but we'll keep you informed as updates are available.

Finally, there has been interest in the redevelopment of a couple of commercial properties in the city. This is exciting to welcome new development and we look forward to what the new year brings, it's a positive outlook for our city!

Here's wishing everyone a very happy and prosperous new year!

As usual, "Your concerns are my concerns." Please give me a call at (612) 310-7095 with any concerns you have.

Thanks again,

Jerry Rockvam

Your Mayor

Jerome P. "Jerry" Rockvam



HELP SAVE VALUABLE TIME DURING AN EMERGENCY

From the Mound Fire Department



In winter, the deep snow creates a problem with high piled snow around fire hydrants. The deep snow often makes it very difficult for firefighters to find the buried fire hydrants.

In an emergency we must have clearly marked and accessible fire hydrants. It normally takes a firefighter less than a minute to connect a large fire hose to a fire hydrant. If a fire hydrant is buried under a pile of snow, the time involved will likely double or even triple.

You can volunteer and help (us and yourself) by clearing the snow from around the fire hydrants in your neighborhood. Please help us keep them accessible through out the winter so we can be much more efficient and timely in the event of an emergency!

If you are unable to clear the snow from a fire hydrant in your neighborhood, please call Vicki Weber at the Mound Fire Department administrative office (952) 472-3555 and we will help clear the snow from the hydrant. Thank you for your assistance!

Visit us online at
www.ci.spring-park.mn.us



Important Dates

Council Meetings: 7:00 p.m.

Jan 16 (Tues); Feb 5, 20 (Tues);
Mar 5, 19

Council Work Sessions: 6 p.m.

Jan 16 (Tues); Feb 20 (Tues); Mar 19

Planning Commission: 7 p.m.

Feb 14; Mar 14

No Sort Recycling: Fridays

Jan 12, 26; Feb 9, 23; Mar 9, 23

Office Closed: Jan 15; Feb 19

Utility Bills Due: Thursday, Feb 8



FROM THE MPCA

Smart Salting Tips That Help Protect Minnesota Waters

Smart salting strategies can help reduce chloride pollution in state waters, while saving money and limiting salt damage to infrastructure, vehicles, and plants.

- **Shovel.** The more snow and ice you remove manually, the less salt you will have to use.
- **15 degrees (F) is too cold for salt.** Most salts stop working at this temperature. Use sand instead for traction, but remember that sand does not melt ice.
- **Slow down.** Drive for the conditions and make sure to give plow drivers plenty of space to do their work.
- **Apply less.** More salt does not mean more melting. Use less than four pounds of salt per 1,000 square feet.
- **Sweep up extra.** If salt or sand is visible on dry pavement it is no longer doing any work and will be washed away. Use this salt or sand somewhere else or throw it away.



NEWS FROM AROUND THE LAKE

What the Tech?

In October 2017 a team of 4th and 5th grade students from the Lake Minnetonka area visited the Spring Park water treatment facility, water tower, and one of the City's lift stations as part of their participation in The Lego League, an international robotics program. Their team name is "What the Tech?" and they are coached by Spring Park resident Doug Sipple.

The theme for this year's Lego League project is the human water cycle and hydro-dynamics; specifically where the water we use comes from, how we transport it, and disposal of it. As part of the project they are to identify a problem, design a solution, and present it to Spring Park Public Works Contractor Dallas Roggeman for feedback before displaying it at the regional tournament. Teams are scored on their problem solving innovation, robotic functions and operation, inspiration, and core values of working together.

The team chose to focus on ice that forms in water towers and designed a thermostatically controlled aerator to prevent this issue. Their system also included solar panels to provide energy that they would then sell to the grid and buy it back when energy was needed for operation of the aerator. Along with this project, the students also designed, built, and programmed a robot that will compete in hydro-dynamics related missions on a game board.

During the regional tournament, "What the Tech?" competed against 15 teams in their bracket and was chosen as one of the top teams in the Lakes Division to advance to sectionals. We wish "What the Tech?" good luck as they compete in the sectional tournament in January for a chance to advance to the state tournament in February!



"What the Tech?" with their project display and Public Works Contractor Dallas Roggeman

4349 Warren Avenue
Spring Park, MN 55384
Office Hours: M-Fri 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Phone: 952-471-9051
Fax: 952-471-9160
E-mail: tschyma@ci.spring-park.mn.us

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: Jerome P. "Jerry" Rockvam
Council Members: Pamela Horton, Gary Hughes, Catherine Kane Palen, Megan Pavot

PLANNING COMMISSION

Chair: Jeff Hoffman
Commissioners: Max Avalos, Bruce Homan, Pete Kaczanowski, Michael Mason

CITY STAFF

Administrator: Dan Tolsma
City Clerk: Theresa Schyma
Public Works: Dallas Roggeman
Office Assistant/Utility Clerk: Sharon Farniok



FROM THE CITY DESK

Attention All Green-Thumb Gardeners!

Beginning March 1 the City will begin accepting new applications for the Spring Park Community Garden at Wilkes Park. We currently estimate that there will be approximately one to three available plots for new gardeners this upcoming season. A plot costs \$25 for the season and reservations will be done on a first come, first served basis.

If you have additional questions about the Spring Park Community Garden or would like an application, please call City Clerk Theresa Schyma at (952) 471-9051 or email tschyma@ci.spring-park.mn.us.



WESTONKA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

"History Talks" at Lake Minnetonka Shores, 4515 Shoreline Drive, on the second Saturday of every month from 11 a.m. to noon.

- 1/13-"Lake Minnetonka Boats"
- 2/10-"Pre-History of the Lake Minnetonka Area"
- 3/10-"Forest for the Trees, How Humans Shaped the Northwoods"
- 4/14-"Secrets of the Congdon Mansion"
- 5/12-"Stolen from the Garden - The Piper Kidnapping"

For more information contact Historical Society staff at (952) 472-9800 or on their website www.westonkahistoricalsociety.org.



FROM THE UTILITY DEPARTMENT

Heading South For the Winter?

If you are a snowbird who heads south for the winter, don't forget to contact the Utility Billing Department before you leave town if you would like to schedule an appointment to have your home's water turned-off at the street.

Contact Sharon at (952) 471-9051 to schedule an appointment and for more tips on winterizing your home before you leave.



LMCD 2017-2018 WINTER RULES

Hot Off the Presses!

The LMCD has recently reformatted the Winter Rules brochures to make the guides more user-friendly by focusing on common questions, highlighting law changes, and printing them on waterproof paper. Grab a copy at Spring Park City Hall or the LMCD in Mound.

For more information, call the LMCD at (952) 745-0789 or go online to www.lmcd.org.