



# EAST BETHEL BULLETIN

Fall 2012

Volume 10, Issue 3

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***Fall Town Hall Meeting***  
***Wednesday, November 14, 2012***  
***6:00 pm—9:00 pm***

East Bethel Community/Senior Center

At 6:00 p.m. there will be a Meet & Greet with cookies & coffee!

At 7:00 p.m. we will move into the Council Chambers for the question and answer program.



***Meet the Candidates***

The ***East Bethel Seniors*** have scheduled a **Meet the Candidates** for **Thursday, October 11, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held at ***East Bethel City Hall in Council Chambers*** at 2241 221st Avenue NE, East Bethel, MN 55011.

The ***Coon Lake Beach Community Center*** has scheduled a **Meet the Candidates** for **Thursday, October 25, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held at the ***Coon Lake Beach Community Center***, 182 Forest Road NE East Bethel, MN 55092

## Fire Department Open House

When??? Saturday, October 13, 2012 — 12:00 (noon) - 4:00 p.m.  
 Where??? Fire Station No. 1, 2751 Viking Boulevard NE

### What's Happening???

- Demonstrations and activities for everyone!
- **Learn what it takes to become a fire fighter!**
- Come see and explore our fire station!
- **Learn what it takes to join our youth fire exploring program!**
- Bring a non-perishable food item to support the local food-shelf!
- ***Lions' Club vs. Fire Department Chile Contest!***

## City Administrator Update

by Jack Davis, City Administrator

### Recycling Grant

The City has been awarded a \$29,210 grant from the Anoka County Recycling Program for improvements to our Recycling Center on Viking Boulevard. The grant will be used to install a security system and purchase a new glass crusher and a trailer for shipping compacted cardboard. This grant requires no local matching funds.

The City has reached 49.93% of our tonnage goal of 1046 tons of recyclables for the 2012. Attaining the goal of 1046 tons is a reasonable expectation and we hope that everyone will participate the Fall Recycle Day and other programs that count for the tonnage we need to meet our 2012 goal.

### Proposed Budget 2013

The City Council's review of the proposed 2013 budget began in July

and at the September 5, 2012 City Council meeting a *preliminary* tax levy and budget for 2013 will be adopted. A City Council meeting in December will be chosen to discuss the 2013 budget prior to the adoption of the final budget and tax levy.

The 2013 Preliminary Budget is available at [www.ci.eastbethel.mn.us](http://www.ci.eastbethel.mn.us) under Government/Budget. A paper copy is available for viewing at the City Hall Reception Desk.

After November 11th and on or before November 23rd, property owners should receive a notice of proposed property taxes payable year in 2013 from Anoka County. This notice will indicate the December 2012 City Council meeting date and time that the budget will be discussed.

### Municipal Utilities Project

The remaining work for the

Municipal Utilities Project along Viking Boulevard has been suspended until November 2012. Due to soil conditions in the trench bottoms and the movement of the undisturbed base material in this area, it was recommended that the project be rescheduled until there is frost in the ground. The frost conditions will spread the impact of equipment movement and minimize the lateral forces exerted by the equipment, thus reducing the soil movement in the excavated areas.

The suspension of excavation activities was anticipated in this area once the worst soils were encountered, requiring the need for winter freezing to provide the trench stability necessary to complete the project. The Project is still on schedule for completion for June 2013.

## Community/Senior Center Events

2241 221st Avenue NE

**Senior Dances**  
1:00 pm—4:00 pm  
1st Friday of the Month  
(\$5.00 admission)

**Senior Meetings**  
10:30 am  
Third Thursday of the  
Month

**Interested in joining  
the East Bethel Senior  
Group???** No forms to fill  
out. Just call  
**President Barb Kunshier**  
at 763-434-6179 for details.  
Annual dues are just \$7.00  
per person.

**Pancake Breakfast**  
8:30 am - Noon  
2nd Sunday of the Month  
(Cost is \$5 for adults - \$2 for  
children under 10)

**For rental information  
Contact Barb Kunshier at  
763-434-6179**

## East Bethel City Council Candidate Profiles

### RONALD-KOLLER

My name is Ronald Koller and I have been a resident of East Bethel since 1990 where my wife Dawn, and I have raised our family.

I have two children, Nicole, an accountant, and John who is starting his first year in college to be a Diesel Mechanic. I enjoy local activities such as hunting, snowmobiling, riding motorcycles with friends and family, and rebuilding machinery to enter in threshing shows.

I have worked as a Tool and Dye Maker for Graco for the last 35 years. I have also had a small excavating business. Having children who were involved in many activities has kept me aware of what happens in the community. This has allowed me to become more involved in activities. I was president of the St. Francis High School Chopper Booster Club, raising money for students at St. Francis High School to develop their trade skills while building and motorcycles. I am also involved in the Beaverbrook Sportsman's Club and enjoy trap shooting competitions.

I am interested in retaining the community atmosphere of a small city, by keeping the residents informed and involved. I feel that in recent years the city spending has exceeded what it should be for a city our size. The residents did not move here because it was a big city. The residents moved here because it is a convenient distance to jobs and shopping, yet it is spacious enough to have room to enjoy the outdoors. I believe we need to protect the current residents' rights and preserve the area that currently appeals to us. We do not need the high density housing and the complications that come with it. I would like to keep taxes down by cutting unnecessary expenses and creating a well-balanced budget.

As a city council member I will try to maintain a reasonable rate of growth. I would like to decrease the government impact on the community in or-



der to create a balance between economic expansion and our residential lifestyles. I believe the city council should be present to protect our property rights. I also believe that it should be a stable environment so if there are questions they can be answered with proper reasoning. I want to make the city a welcome environment, where a discussion does not leave any options unconsidered and everyone has the right to voice their opinions. I'm here to create a fair presence in the community, and to have an open door policy to discuss the issues that arise.

The reason why I became interested in the city council position was because of the confusion surrounding the city sewer and water. The initial plans for the city sewer and water have been modified so many times that the residents are uninformed and misinformed about the information. I would like to see a definite plan and budget that will clear up the misunderstandings and set the plans for the next few years. I believe that the city sewer and water should be limited in order to keep the expenses down for the general public.

### BRIAN MUNDLE

I am Brian Mundle, and have lived in or been a part of East Bethel for the vast majority of my life. East Bethel is my home and is part of my heritage since its beginnings.

My entire grade school career was through Independent School District 15. After graduation from St. Francis High School, I attended Minnesota State University - Mankato where I obtained a Bachelors of Science in Construction Management. While in Mankato I was a member of the Construction Management Student Association for four years, holding the office of Vice President my senior year. I have furthered my education by receiving a certificate in Web Design, I am a Certified Aging in Place Specialist, I am trained in Lead



Renovation for Pre 1978 Homes, and I have passed the OSHA Construction Safety Course and the Minnesota Contractors License tests. I am also a proud Eagle Scout from East Bethel Troop 733.

After graduation from MSU I began work as a Construction Manager of new homes. Much of my work has been in East Bethel, providing quality homes and creating new communities for families to live and play in. In 2011 I was selected to serve on East Bethel's Planning & Zoning Commission, and Chairman of it for 2012. I also served on the East Bethel Website Committee in 2012 to help figure out how the website should be redesigned for a better user friendly experience.

There is no one major issue that was a factor in my decision to run for City Council. There are some large subject matters looming ahead of us, but there always will be something big that people will worry about. No matter what it is, a person must have a positive attitude towards the future, and work through the situations in order to produce a great result. East Bethel is a grand city, and I would like to serve on City Council to help keep it that way, no matter what is on the horizon.

### RANDY PLAISANCE

I submit my name in consideration for a position of council member for the City of East Bethel. I do this with a great sense of responsibility and commitment to serve the community.



I was born and raised in the city of Minneapolis, graduated from West High School, attended Hennepin Technical College in Eden Prairie for printing. I joined the family business in printing for close to 15 years until the market made selling our business the best financial option. Shortly after this, I was offered a position with Target Corporation in their printing

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3****(Randy Plaisance)**

division where I have been happily employed for 13 years. These experiences have given me the chance to work as a team in committees with management, employee negotiations, and technological educational training. Through this process I have gained an understanding for the need of a measured and balanced approach to decision-making, and the importance of listening to all constituent groups..

I settled in East Bethel with my wife, Sue, and our three children 18 years ago. My children grew up here and received their education in the district. My entire family has been involved in numerous activities within the school district and in our community. Our experiences in Scouting, 4-H, church, sports, and school events have shown me that our community has many opportunities available.

I have presented my name at this time for consideration for city council, and for the challenges and opportunities that this position requires. I recognize the city's need for residents to support their community and offer leadership where needed. Most recently, I have spent time with city administrators, council members, and community members working on the East Bethel website. This has led to my continued interest in addressing the needs of our city and after studying the issues I believe that I have the skills required to help guide our city's vision.

The challenges involving city planning, sewer and water development, fiscal responsibility, and public communication engagement are challenges that I anticipate addressing. With your support, I look forward to these opportunities and serving as a member of the East Bethel City Council.

**TOM RONNING**

My name is Tom Ronning and I am seeking election to the East Bethel City Council.



My wife, Melanie, and I have been married for 39 years and have raised three daughters through tough times including two energy crisis in the 70's. We are well aware of the difficulties and expense of supporting a family, especially when times are tight, as it is for many of us right now.

Some of my life experiences include: move to MN from ND 1965, graduate from Spring Lake Park H.S. 1967, Vietnam Veteran, Ford Motor Co. 37 years Including the final 17 years with the UAW in the Detroit, MI area, East Bethel resident since October, 2004, member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

I have been retired since October, 2004. Melanie and I returned to Minnesota, knowing it would add additional cost to our lives, however, we both liked and missed the four seasons of Minnesota. I could say many things about what we like here but among the things I appreciate are friendly communities predominantly safe from crime as well as a good place to live and raise a family. Everyone will not agree about taxes, but one thing we have found after living in other states, is that you do get something in return for your tax dollar. Good roads (you'd have to live in a Detroit or Chicago to fully appreciate), school system that, from the outside, is regarded as among the best, good health care, libraries, etc., etc. This is not, however, to say that I believe taxes are overly reasonable here.

I have observed and commented at City Council meetings almost since first moving to East Bethel. I was very critical about the sewer and water project. I was in disbelief when the previous Council approved Bond issues and contractual commitments then approved and awarded construction contracts and associated commitments in late November and December, 2010, all as "lame duck Council". This may seem an old issue to some, however, we are all left with an indebtedness and major commitments through their actions.

I also believe the 2010 elected Council members have attempted to "make lemonade out of a lemon" problem while improving in other areas. Rather than repeat that "if you don't want it, you won't have to take it and it won't cost you anything", I believe we are getting much improved communication from our current Council and improved oversight regarding the functions and costs of the City.

My interest in serving on the Council is to work with, and support, the present Council efforts with resolving problems associated with the sewer/water system as well as regular issues as may come before the Council.

Melanie and I have enjoyed the "rural," open living in East Bethel while still having the conveniences of major shopping, medical facilities, an International Airport, etc. within 20 minutes to an hour from nearly anywhere within our community. I personally would like to retain what we have in that regard while making change, as necessary, in a manner that is effective and cost efficient for all of our residents.

**Do you need information on where you vote? What you need to bring to your polling place to register? Call City Hall at 763-367-7840 and we will be happy to answer your questions. You can also find the answers on our website at [www.ci.east-bethel.mn.us](http://www.ci.east-bethel.mn.us) under Government and then Elections.**

# East Bethel Mayoral Candidate Profiles

## TANNER BALFANY

I have lived in Anoka County the majority of my life and been an East Bethel resident for 5 years. I've been working as an Insurance



Agent at Associated Insurance Agents specializing in personal and commercial insurance. In my 10 years in business I have served on the Minnesota Independent Insurance Agents Young Agent Committee for 8 years in the capacity of Legislative/InsurePac and Chair positions among others. Where I have traveled to Washington DC meeting with our States elected officials to discuss important topics related to the Insurance industry and how it affects the consumer.

I currently served on the Planning and Zoning Committee and over the last 3 years have worked on the Road Committee, GRE Work Group, and Web Site Committee for East Bethel. In my time serving our city I have learned that our community as a whole has a great sense of pride for where we come from and where we want to continue live.

One issue that was a major factor in my decision to run for Mayor is that it is an important time for the city to move in the right direction and

that now is a time for leadership. Development is going to happen and seeing it happen in a responsible and positive manor is important to me. I believe we can keep our rural character while accommodating the commercial development of our city.

## RICHARD LAWRENCE

I am Richard Lawrence, and over the past two years I have had the privilege to serve as the Mayor of East Bethel. I have been married to my wife Sharon for 19 years and we have four children between us and six grandchildren. For 17 years I have been operating my own machine shop business, and I have been lucky enough to be a resident of East Bethel for over 20 years.



During my term as Mayor I have served on the Park Commission, Booster Day Committee, Fire Relief Association, the Economic Development Authority (EDA) and the GRE Transmission Line work group.

As a member of the EDA my goal was to create a business atmosphere to encourage development and expansion of the water/sewer project. I want to continue to work to assist the Economic Development Authority to further enhance development of East Bethel's business

climate.

When I served on the GRE Transmission Line work group, I worked in cooperation with Athens and Lincoln Townships to assist in a complete route for Great River Energy.

Another project that will be completed during my term is the Accident Reduction Signal at Highway 65 and 221st Avenue NE. This project was defined to create a safer intersection at 221st, bringing safety to the residents of East Bethel.

I decided to run for re-election to further define solutions to the ongoing development of our business community. I began my term with the water/sewer project already approved by the past council/mayor. After detailed study, it was impossible to cancel the bonding for this project. We were able to curtail some of the wasteful spending on the water treatment plant by redesign and saving \$4.4 million. Unfortunately we could not return this money as it has to be used for capital improvement. These funds will enable us to provide service along Highway 65 all the way to Castle Towers. We can decommission the treatment plant at Castle Towers, saving us an additional \$2 million in needed repairs.

Also during my term, my goal was to lower property taxes and I was successful in this effort. Running for re-election I will continue to look for ways to further reduce East Bethel homeowner's taxes.

  
**Need Information?**  
 If you don't find the answer you are looking for here, call us at **763-367-7840** and we will get it for you!  




### If You Have a Grease Fire

- Oil and water don't mix!  
**Never add water to a grease fire**
- Turn off the burner
- Cover the pan with a lid or cookie sheet to cut off the oxygen
- Don't move the pan, the hot grease that could severely burn you
- Leave your home and call 9-1-1



## New Employee Spotlight!



My name is Nick Schmitz and I am the Building Official/Code Enforcement Officer for the City of East Bethel. I attended Centennial High School in Circle Pines before attending North Hennepin Community College in North Brooklyn Park. I have been a

building inspector for over 20 years. Prior to working as a building inspector I was in the construction trades. I am very excited to be working for the City of East Bethel, so feel free to contact me at City Hall for any building construction questions.

## Mailbox Checklist

by Nate Ayshford, Public Works Manager

Fall is a good time to check the construction and sturdiness of your mailbox prior to the snowplow season. Mailboxes can be especially vulnerable to damage from snow removal operations. When inspecting your mailbox, make sure it is installed so that the bottom edge is 45" to 47" above street level; with the post 36" back from the curb or front of the box. That amount of clearance is needed to keep the plow's wing from hitting the box. If there are any plastic newspaper tubes attached to the mailbox, they should be above 45" height requirement as well. Check to make sure the construction is stable enough to withstand the force of the wet snow and ice coming off of the wing of the snowplow.

## Road Construction Update

by Nate Ayshford, Public Works Manager

As we approach the end of the extremely busy construction season of 2012, a few projects are still being completed. Below are the updated timelines.

### Signal Light Project at 221<sup>st</sup> Ave and Highway 65 (Anoka County/MnDOT)

The installation of the new traffic signal at 221<sup>st</sup> Ave (CR 74) has a scheduled completion date of Nov 15, 2013. Access to 221<sup>st</sup> at Hwy 65 could remain closed until the project completion date. Updates and detour maps can be found on the Anoka County Highway De-

partment website at [http://ww2.anokacounty.us/v3\\_highway/construction.aspx](http://ww2.anokacounty.us/v3_highway/construction.aspx)

### Jackson St Reconstruction

Jackson St from 181<sup>st</sup> to Viking Blvd will be reconstructed this fall and will be closed for the majority of construction activities. Residents and businesses located along Jackson will have access throughout the project. The road should be substantially completed with the asphalt base course installed and open to traffic by November 9, 2012. The final asphalt wear course will be installed by June 15, 2013.

## Parking Restrictions

No motor vehicle shall be parked on any public street between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. on any day from November 1 to March 31.

No motor vehicle shall be parked on any public street between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on any day when there has been an accumulation of snow to a depth of two or more inches during the preceding 24-hour period commencing as of 4:00 a.m. on the day of the parking restriction. The public works manager shall determine whether there has been a snowfall requiring such parking restriction.

## Snowplowing Reminders

by Nate Ayshford,  
Public Works Manager

Snowplow operators try to evenly distribute the snow along the route, but in some instances limited space can make this difficult. For safer streets and faster, more thorough service, our snowplow drivers urge you to remember:

- Keep a safe distance from the snowplow. They can weigh 17 times more than the average car and frequently back up.
- Think safely. Plan on traffic delays following a snowfall.
- Protect your kids. Remember it is dangerous for children to play in snow banks along city streets where snowplow operators are unable to see them.
- Do not plow, shovel, or blow snow into or across any city street.
- Garbage cans and recycle bins should be placed behind the curb in the driveway, not in the street.
- Do not place metal stakes, boulders, or permanent structures in the road right-of-way area. Staking the curb line with temporary wooden lathe is acceptable and does make it easier for plow operators to distinguish the road edge under the blanket of snow.

## EAST BETHEL MEETING SCHEDULE

If you plan to attend any of these meetings, please call City Hall at 763-367-7840 to confirm times and locations, or consult the City's website at [www.ci.east-bethel.mn.us](http://www.ci.east-bethel.mn.us).

City Council	September 5	7:30 pm	City Hall
Road Commission	September 11	6:30 pm	City Hall
Park Commission	September 12	7:00 pm	City Hall
City Council	September 19	7:30 pm	City Hall
Planning Commission	September 25	7:00 pm	City Hall
Economic Development Authority	September 26	6:30 pm	City Hall
City Council	October 3	7:30 pm	City Hall
Road Commission	October 9	6:30 pm	City Hall
Park Commission	October 10	7:00 pm	City Hall
City Council	October 17	7:30 pm	City Hall
Planning Commission	October 23	7:00 pm	City Hall
Economic Development Authority	October 24	6:30 pm	City Hall
City Council	November 7	7:30 pm	City Hall
Road Commission	November 13	6:30 pm	City Hall
Park Commission	November 14	7:00 pm	City Hall
City Council	November 21	7:30 pm	City Hall
Planning Commission	November 27	7:00 pm	City Hall
Economic Development Authority	November 28	6:30 pm	City Hall

## Coon Lake Beach Community Center Activities

**182 Forest Road NE**  
**[www.coonlakebeach.org](http://www.coonlakebeach.org)**  
**651-982-4628**

**Membership Meeting**  
2nd Monday of the Month  
7:00 pm  
September 10  
October 8  
November 12  
December 10

**Senior Lunch**  
4th Thursday of each month at noon  
Everyone is Welcome!  
September 27  
October 25  
No Lunch in November or December

**Pancake Breakfast**  
1st & 3rd Sunday of the month  
9:00 am—12:00 (Noon)  
September 2 & 16  
Pancake Breakfast will not be scheduled for October, November or December

**Coffee Time**  
1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month  
10:00 am  
September 6 & 20  
October 4 & 18  
November 1 & 15  
December 6 & 20

**Crafts - Every Tuesday at 9:00 am**

**Bingo is the 2nd Saturday of the month at 2:00 pm**

**Narcotics Anonymous -**  
**Tuesdays at 7:00 pm -**  
**call Paul at 651-336-0381**  
**for more info.**

**Volunteers are Needed!**  
**Call Kathy at**  
**651-982-4628**



2241 221st Avenue NE  
East Bethel, MN 55011  
[www.ci.east-bethel.mn.us](http://www.ci.east-bethel.mn.us)

PRSR STD  
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**City of East Bethel**  
**2241—221st Avenue NE**  
**East Bethel, MN 55011**  
**[www.ci.east-bethel.mn.us](http://www.ci.east-bethel.mn.us)**

**Office Hours**  
**Monday - Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**  
**City Hall - 763-367-7840**  
**Fax - 763-434-9578**

**Mayor Richard Lawrence - [richard.lawrence@ci.east-bethel.mn.us](mailto:richard.lawrence@ci.east-bethel.mn.us) - 763-412-6839**

**Council Member Bill Boyer - [bill.boyer@ci.east-bethel.mn.us](mailto:bill.boyer@ci.east-bethel.mn.us) - 763-434-0637**

**Council Member Robert DeRoche— [robert.h.derochejr@ci.east-bethel.mn.us](mailto:robert.h.derochejr@ci.east-bethel.mn.us) - 651-464-6615**

**Council Member Heidi Moegerle - [heidi.moegerle@ci.east-bethel.mn.us](mailto:heidi.moegerle@ci.east-bethel.mn.us) - 651-464-2595**

**Council Member Steven Voss - [steve.voss@ci.east-bethel.mn.us](mailto:steve.voss@ci.east-bethel.mn.us)- 651-308-0198**

**City Administrator - Jack Davis— [jack.davis@ci.east-bethel.mn.us](mailto:jack.davis@ci.east-bethel.mn.us) - 763-367-7850**