



EAST BETHEL BULLETIN

March 2012

Volume 10, Issue 1

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Budget

By Rita Pierce, Fiscal and Support Services Director

The City of East Bethel Budgets for 2012 and 2011, along with 2010 actual Amounts, are provided on page 4 in summary form. Governmental funds, which include General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Debt Service Funds and Capital Project Funds, are totaled together in this summary. The Water Fund, Sewer Fund, Ice Arena Fund and the Equipment Replacement Fund, which are Proprietary Funds are shown individually. City Council's review of the 2012 budget began in August and continued into December. The preliminary budget and tax levy was adopted in September and the final budget and levy was adopted on December 7, 2011.

The economy continues to have a significant impact on the City including falling property values, reduced state aids and

the absence of development activities. City Council decided to decrease budget expenditures in order to reduce the property tax burden to taxpayers for 2012, while making provisions for maintaining necessary and essential services.

For those interested, the complete budget document is available for review at East Bethel City Hall and on the City's website. Just click on Government and then Budget on the left hand side of the front page of the web site.

Taxpayers are encouraged to attend the budget meetings for 2013 which will begin mid summer of 2012. Dates and times of these meetings will be posted on the City's website, on the City Bulletin Board, in the newsletter or by calling 763-367-7840.

Mark Your Calendars!!!

Spring Town Hall Meeting

Thursday, April 26, 2012

Open House at 6:00 p.m.

Q & A in Council Chambers
at 7:00 p.m.



East Bethel Senior/Community Center

2241 221st Avenue NE, East Bethel, MN

Call 763-367-7840 for more information.

City Administrator Update

by Jack Davis, City Administrator

City Sewer and Water

As part of the Municipal Utilities Project, the City bid and awarded a contract for the construction of a water treatment facility to MBI of Andover, MN. The total award for the facility was \$2,025,700. The original bid for this facility in December of 2010 was \$6,376,000. The original bid and award was suspended and evaluated by City Council. As a result of the evaluation, the project was redesigned and rebid with an alternate, but equally effective, method of treatment which culminated in a savings of \$4,227,300 in bond fund expenditures.

Due to IRS regulations and the structured agreement for the types of bonds sold, this savings can not be deducted directly from the cost of the total bond obligation. However, these surplus funds can be spent on other capital water and sewer activities such as connection of the Castle Towers Facility, connection of the east side of Highway 65 businesses and/or other connections to this project. These connections can provide additional funds, both in terms of connection fees and usage, that will be critical in generating revenue to pay for the project.

The original date for completion of the water and sewer piping for the Municipal Utilities Project was July 31, 2012. Due to claims for weather delays, the water portion of the project will be complete by December 1, 2012 and the total completion of the sewer lines has been extended to June 30, 2013. Even though the final completion date has been pushed back to June 30, 2013, the City will still be able to provide service to all the assessed properties in the sewer area and the 40 acre site

at the northwest quadrant of Viking Boulevard and Highway 65 by December 1st of this year.

The limited space of the newsletter makes it difficult to provide a thorough explanation of the details and implications of this project. If anyone has any questions concerning any aspect of the project please call Jack Davis at 763-367-7850 or e-mail at jack.davis@ci.east-bethel.mn.us.

MnDOT Grant

The City applied for and has been awarded a 2013 MnDOT Municipal Agreement Project Grant in the amount of \$702,000. This project will connect 221st Avenue to Sims Road via Johnson Street on the west side of Highway 65. This project is in our City service road plan and would result in the closure of the Highway 65 and 219th Avenue intersection and cross-over.

Our project was rated 2nd out of sixteen projects submitted for funding and received the maximum amount (\$702,000) available for a cooperative agreement grant. The estimated cost of the project is \$1,591,000 with the City share being \$889,000. Should right of way costs be less than estimated, the City portion of the local share would be reduced proportionately.

All right of way, utility relocation as applicable, and preliminary engineering are the responsibility of the City. Grant funds are eligible for the construction phase of the project.

This project must be let by June 30, 2013 or these funds will be deobligated.

Marketing & Branding Plan

The City has hired Ady Voltedge, a market research, design and communications firm based out of

Madison, WI., to prepare a marketing plan and branding recommendations to provide direction for the City's economic development activities.

Ady Voltedge has extensive experience in the branding, community and economic development, and specializes in customizing plans to address specific local marketing needs. Ady Voltedge has regional connections through the MetroMSP and has extensive experience with a broad based clientele throughout the Midwest.

The planning process was initiated with a stakeholders meeting on February 1, 2012, attended by over 40 community leaders. There was an overwhelmingly positive response from all persons in attendance at the meeting. During our contact with various stakeholders, each has expressed a great amount of support and interest in the participation of the marketing/branding process and are pleased to see that the City has taken the initiative to move forward and proactively engage in economic development activities.

There will be additional stakeholders meetings scheduled for April 1, 2012 and at a date to be determined in late May. The completion of the project is scheduled for June 1, 2012. The plan and recommendations that are developed by Ady Voltedge will be a key component in our efforts to attract and promote the type of growth that is most beneficial for the City, both in terms of its relation to our concepts of what we are, and implementation of recommendations for economic development choices.

(continued on page 3)

City Administrators Update

(continued from Page 2)

Great River Energy

As part of the current litigation between the City and Great River Energy (GRE) regarding the selection of a route for a 69 KV electrical transmission line through the City, the City and GRE have participated in mediation concerning this matter. Mediation sessions on December 6, 2011 and February 6, 2012 have been completed and several options have been presented to GRE as alternatives to "Route A", GRE's preferred alignment through the City.

As you may recall, the City denied GRE's application for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for "Route A" on June 22, 2011 and as a result, GRE sued the City over the denial of this route.

The City granted GRE a CUP for an alternate route to "Route A" on October 19, 2011, known as Route I1. GRE has not accepted the alternate route. Mediation continues at this time and other routes are being discussed. If court supervised mediation fails to resolve this dispute, the Anoka County District Court will decide the case.

Property owners along "Route A" have been notified by letter from the City that GRE may be contacting them in regard to the proposed 69 KV transmission line for easement acquisition. It is noted in the letter that the residents should contact the City Administrator if they have any questions or wish to discuss the matter further with GRE. 81 property owners were mailed notices.

Improvements On Highway 65

There are number of improvements scheduled for Highway 65, beginning in the Summer of 2012;

1. A "Whitetop" overlay of Highway 65 from 217th to 245th Avenue will be bid in April and commence in June. This is an 8" concrete overlay of the existing

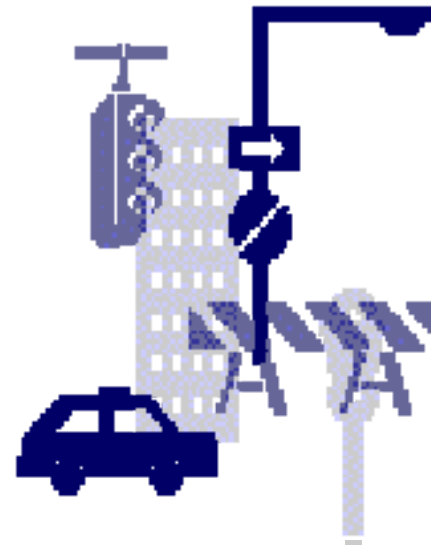
asphalt road surface and will correct the "washboard" surface issues on this section of Highway 65. There will be lane closures and traffic delays during the duration of the work. This project will be coordinated with the traffic signal project at 221st Ave. and Highway 65. The estimated cost of this project is \$10,000,000. Highway 65, north of 245th Avenue to 1.1 miles south of Isanti is scheduled be overlaid in 2015;

2. MnDOT is conducting another signal light re-timing on Highway 65. Details as to the completion of this work will be released at a later date. Flashing yellow lights, which will permit legal left turns, will be part of this project in those locations where they can be safely utilized; and

3. Anoka County still projects the provision of bus service to the City by the end of 2013. Kate Garwood, Multimodal Transportation Manager with the Anoka County Highway Department, will be requested to address Council as soon as the County's bids for equipment and park and ride locations are completed and awarded. We hope to have Ms. Garwood or an ACHD representative make a presentation at the Town Hall meeting on April 26, 2012.

Highway 65 and 221st Avenue Signalization Project

This project will be conducted in two component phases. The first phase will be a MnDOT Better Roads Project and it is expected to begin this May and continue through early September. This part of the project will involve the lengthening of the left and right turn lanes for north and south bound traffic turning onto 221st Avenue. A temporary traffic signal will be installed at this intersection



during the construction period which will occur between July 5 and September 3, 2012.

The second phase of the project will begin in August with tree clearing and grubbing operations, as well as minor road work that will have minimal effect on traffic on 221st Avenue.

At the conclusion of the MnDOT work on or about September 3, 2012, 221st Avenue will be closed at Highway 65. A detour will be implemented routing traffic to alternate access points to Highway 65 but access to all properties adjacent to the project will remain open to residents and emergency vehicles.

During this time, the intersection reconstruction will commence and is expected to last until the end of construction season. Upon completion, the detour will be lifted and the signalized intersection will be functional. Minor operations such as final erosion stabilization (seeding) might carry over into the Spring of 2013, however, the intersection is expected to completely functional and signalized by November 2012.

Final construction plans are being prepared for MnDOT for approvals. The appraisals are complete on the impacted properties and right of way negotiations are on-going. Utility relocations along 221st Avenue are expected to begin in June.

Budget (continued from page 1)

City of East Bethel Summary Budget Statement

The purpose of this report is to provide summary 2012 budget information concerning the City of East Bethel to interested citizens. The budget is published in accordance with Minn. Stat. Sec. 471.0065. This is not the complete City budget; the complete City budget may be examined at East Bethel City Hall at 2241 221st Ave. N.E., East Bethel, MN 55011. The City Council approved this budget on December 7, 2011.

Governmental Funds 2011 Adopted Budget

BUDGETED GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	2010 ACTUAL	2011 BUDGET	2012 BUDGET
REVENUES			
Taxes	\$4,742,474	\$4,853,162	\$4,895,226
Special Assessments	294,925	47,125	46,625
Licenses and Permits	106,387	117,500	117,350
Intergovernmental Revenues:			
Federal	352,874	83,000	567,730
State	415,877	715,757	775,916
County	332,642	30,721	30,721
Charges for Services	88,133	70,900	128,830
Fines and Forfeits	58,519	58,100	58,100
Miscellaneous	108,586	48,500	43,500
TOTAL REVENUES	\$6,500,217	\$6,024,765	\$6,463,998
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Proceeds from Borrowing	\$19,193,190	\$ -	\$ -
EXPENDITURES			
General Government	\$1,351,212	\$1,133,117	\$1,085,349
Public Safety	1,868,347	1,866,657	1,826,445
Streets and Highways	1,041,867	764,781	732,587
Sanitation - Recycling	33,768	35,735	32,721
Parks and Recreation	352,565	405,798	408,280
Economic Development and Housing	57,076	334,866	409,770
Debt Service - Principal	165,601	243,000	248,000
Debt Interest, Issuance & Agent Fees	766,541	136,620	1,315,616
Total Capital Outlay	3,704,796	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$9,341,573	\$4,920,374	\$6,056,768
INCREASE IN FUND BALANCE	\$16,351,834	\$1,104,391	\$407,230
PROPERTY TAX LEVY REQUIREMENT TO FUND THIS BUDGET	\$ 5,021,373	\$ 5,061,659	\$ 4,680,226



Proprietary Funds 2012 Adopted Budgets

	Adopted 2012 Budgets				2012 Adopted Budgets	2011 Adopted Budgets
	Water	Sewer	Arena	Equipment Replacement		
OPERATING REVENUES	\$33,400	\$73,400	\$272,500	\$318,200	\$697,500	\$665,500
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Personal Services	18,917	18,833	-	-	37,750	37,054
Supplies	6,900	23,100	27,350	-	57,350	58,750
Contractual Services	13,100	30,900	187,050	-	231,050	225,500
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	600,000	600,000	258,000
OPERATING INCOME	(\$5,517)	\$567	\$58,100	(\$281,800)	(\$228,650)	\$86,196
NET INCOME	(\$5,517)	\$567	\$58,100	(\$281,800)	(\$228,650)	\$86,196

Wildland Fires

By Mark DuCharme, Fire Chief

The fire season is now a year-round reality in many areas, requiring your Firefighters and residents to be on heightened alert for the threat of wildfire throughout the year.

Each year, wildfires consume hundreds of homes in the Wildland/Urban Interface (WUI). Studies show that as many as 80 percent of the homes lost to wildfires could have been saved if their owners had only followed a few simple fire-safe practices. In addition, wildfire-related deaths occur because people wait too late to leave their home.

The East Bethel Fire Department takes every precaution to help protect you and your property from wildfire. However, the reality is that in a major wildfire, your property could be in danger.

Successfully preparing for a wildfire requires you to take personal responsibility for protecting yourself, your family and your property.

Fire is, and always has been, a natural occurrence in the wildland. Our brush-covered hills and fields burned periodically long before we built homes there. Wildfires fueled by a build-up of dry vegetation and driven by seasonal hot, dry winds, are extremely dangerous and impossible to control. However, many residents have built their homes and landscaped without fully understanding the impact a fire could have on them, and few have adequately prepared their families for a quick evacuation.

That's why the most important person in protecting your life and property is you. Through advance planning and preparation, we can all be ready for wildfire.

Defensible space is the required space between a structure and the

wildland area that, under normal conditions, creates a sufficient buffer to slow or halt the spread of wildfire to a structure. It protects the home from igniting due to direct flame or radiant heat. Defensible space is essential for structure survivability during wildfire conditions.

Zone One: extends 30 feet out from buildings, structures, decks, etc.

- Remove all dead or dying vegetation.
- Trim tree canopies regularly to keep their branches a minimum of 10 feet from structures and other trees.
- Remove leaf litter (dry leaves/pine needles) from yard, roof and rain gutters.
- Relocate woodpiles or other combustible materials into Zone Two.
- Remove combustible material and vegetation from around and under decks.
- Remove or prune vegetation near windows.
- Remove "ladder fuels" (low-level vegetation that allows the fire to spread from the ground to the tree canopy). Create a separation between low-level vegetation and tree branches. This can be done by reducing the height of low level vegetation and/or trimming low tree branches.

Zone Two: extends 30 to 100 feet out from buildings, structures and decks. You can minimize the chance of fire jumping from plant to plant by removing dead material and removing and/or thinning vegetation. The minimum spacing between vegetation is three times the dimension of the plant.

- Remove "ladder fuels."



- Cut or mow annual grass down to a maximum height of 4 inches.
- Trim tree canopies regularly to keep their branches a minimum of 10 feet from other trees.

Home Site and Yard: Ensure you have at least a 100-foot radius of defensible space (cleared vegetation) around your home.

Note that even more clearance may be needed for homes in severe hazard areas. This means looking past what you own to determine the impact a common slope or neighbors' yard will have on your property during a wildfire.

Cut dry weeds and grass before noon when temperatures are cooler to reduce the chance of sparking a fire.

Landscape with fire-resistant plants that have a high moisture content and are low-growing.

Keep woodpiles, propane tanks and combustible materials away from your home and other structures such as garages, barns and sheds.

Ensure that trees are far away from power lines.

(Some of the above information is from "Ready, Set, Go", Wildfire Information for Homeowners from the International Association of Fire Chiefs.)



These events are sponsored by the City of East Bethel and the Cedar/East Bethel Lions & Lionesses.

Partially funded by Anoka County Board of Commissioners & State SCORE Funds.

SPRING RECYCLING DAYS!

East Bethel Ice Arena

20675 Hwy 65 NE

Saturday, April 21 • 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

This location will be accepting ALL listed recyclable items.

Coon Lake Community Center

182 Forest Road

Saturday, May 5 • 8:00 a.m. - Noon

This location will only accept batteries, non-recyclables, and scrap metal.

Please, NO appliances, electronics,

Disposal Fees

Appliances**

Dishwasher, Furnace, Garbage Disposal, Humidifier, Microwave, Stove, Trash Compactor, Washer, Dryer, or Water Heater\$5
 Air Conditioner, Dehumidifier, Freezer, Refrigerator, or Water Softener\$10
 Gas Refrigerators (Ammonia or LP) min \$75

***Appliances should be free of food and debris, not compacted.*

Electronics

Small/Medium Electronics (CD/VCR/DVD Player, Camera, Electric Clock, Scanner, Small Radio, Stereo Receiver or Console, Vacuum, Cordless Drill/Saw, Fax Machine, Printer, Keyboard, or Electronic Toy)\$5/person
 Computer (Laptop or Tower) \$5
 Monitor..... \$5
 Copier (Sm/Med - up to 50 lbs) \$5
 (Lg, over 50 lbs).....\$10
 Treadmill \$5
 TV (19" or smaller) \$10
 (20-27") \$20
 (28" +, consoles).....\$30
 (plasma/LCD)\$10

Bulbs

Fluorescent bulbs (4' and up)..... \$1
 HIDS bulbs \$2

Tires (off rim)

Up to 17" \$2
 Truck tires \$3

Representatives reserve the right to refuse items.

NO Hazardous Waste!

These items will be collected at **NO Charge:**

- Scrap metal (Freimuth Enterprises)
- Computer hard drives, cables, disk drives, old circuit boards
- Vinyl siding (Plastic Recovery Technologies)
- Old cell phones, ink jet cartridges, rechargeable batteries (East Bethel Royalty)
- Used bicycles (Re-Cycle)
- Used oil and oil filters (East Side Oil)
- Automotive batteries, used eyeglasses/hearing aids, laser cartridges and food for the food shelf

Furniture

Mattress\$15
 Sofa Sleeper.....\$25

NO other furniture will be accepted.

Call ACCAP at (763) 783-4735



East Bethel Cub Scout Pack #521 will be collecting worn and torn flags for proper disposal.

Questions? Call (763) 367-7840

Running for City Council or the Mayor's Seat in the City of East Bethel

By Wendy Warren, Deputy City Clerk

At the end of the year 2012, the terms for two (2) City Council seats and the Mayor's seat will expire. The City Council seats are four (4) year terms and the Mayor seat is a two (2) year term.

Candidates interested in seeking election for any of these seats, must meet certain requirements.

The filing period for municipal elections in which a primary is not to be held for those offices (City of East Bethel) are July 31, 2012 until

August 14, 2012.

Candidates for municipal offices must file with the municipal clerk at City Hall. The filing fee is \$5.00.



All candidates must file an affidavit of candidacy for office. A candidate must state that the name listed on their affidavit is the true name by which they are commonly know in the commu-

nity.

Affidavits of candidacy must be signed in the presence of a notary. The date for withdrawal of a affidavit of candidacy for the municipal offices is August 16, 2012.

The primary election is August 14, 2012 and the general election is November 6, 2012.

If you have any questions, or just need more information, please contact Wendy Warren either by e-mail at wendy.warren@ci.east-bethel.mn.us or 763-367-7853.

Lethality Assessment Pilot Project

By Anoka County Sheriff James Stuart

Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior used for the purpose of gaining power and control over another person. For victims of domestic violence, assaults are rarely isolated incidents, but rather part of an ongoing pattern that can escalate, increasing in both frequency and intensity over time. One study looking at fatalities in domestic violence situations found that 50% of those murdered had law enforcement intervention at some point prior to their death, while only 4% had ever accessed an advocacy service.

In an effort to better serve victims in Anoka County, the Anoka County Lethality Assessment Steering Committee was formed in 2010. This committee initially consisted of representatives from the Anoka County Sheriff's Office, County Attorney's Office, County Corrections, County Public Health, Columbia Heights Police Department, municipal prosecutors, and Alexandra House – our local domestic violence victim services agency. The committee has since expanded to include representatives from most of the law enforcement agencies in Anoka County.

This steering committee developed a Pilot Project and adapted a Lethality Assessment screening tool created. The tool consists of 12 questions or indicators that have been shown to be predictive of a higher level of risk for lethality. For example: victims who are threatened or assaulted with a gun or other weapon were found to be 20 times more likely than other victims to be murdered; victims whose partners threatened to kill them were 15 times more likely than others to be killed.

When a deputy arrives on the scene of a domestic violence call, the deputy assesses if a Lethality Assessment screening should be done based on a protocol. If the victim identifies as high risk based on responses given, the deputy then connects the victim to advocacy services from the scene via a 24-hour crisis line at Alexandra House. The information is also then passed on to the court system with the intent of aiding all levels of the criminal justice system in providing the best information and resources to victims.

The Lethality Assessment Pilot Project also includes an intensive pre-trial monitoring program through Corrections that focuses on reducing risk to victims and the community by supervising high risk offenders, and a case expediting program, currently being used in the County Attorney's Office and the cities of Andover and Oak Grove, meant to resolve criminal domestic violence cases faster.

Since the project began in September of 2010, 484 Lethality Screens have been conducted in Anoka County, with 69% of those screening as "high risk". 76% of those victims have received ongoing advocacy services.

While the lethality screen cannot predict with 100% accuracy those who are at risk of being killed, it is the hope of the Anoka County Sheriff's Office and the steering committee that this pilot project will help victims access valuable services and get the help needed to make a positive change. This is one more program that demonstrates how working together, we can make positive changes in our communities.

Local Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting

By Rita Pierce, Fiscal and Support Services Director

In late March, the Anoka County Assessor's Office will be mailing notices of valuation and classification to property owners in the City. These are sometimes included with your current year property tax bill. The information on the notice of valuation and classification is important to you as a property owner, as this is the information the County Assessor will use as the value on which your property taxes for 2013 will be calculated.

If you believe the information on the notice is incorrect or, you disagree with the value or classification, or have any other questions regarding

the mailed notice, please contact the City's Assessor, Mr. Ken Tolzman at 651-464-4862. He will discuss the value or classification with you to help you understand how he arrived at the values. If there is something he has missed or is not aware of, he will make the necessary adjustment. If, after your discussion with the City's Assessor you continue to believe that the valuation and/or classification is incorrect, the City Council, acting as the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization, provides a forum to discuss the issues with you.

The Local Board of Appeal and

Equalization has the authority to make changes if the changes can be supported by comparative sales information. Should you wish to appear before the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization, please contact the City's Assessor, Mr. Ken Tolzman at 651-464-4862 and give notice of your intent to appear at the hearing.

The City of East Bethel Local Board of Appeal and Equalization will meet at East Bethel City Hall on Wednesday, April 18, 2012 at 6:30 PM for the purpose of reviewing and correcting, if appropriate, the 2012 property assessment for taxes payable in 2013.

Summer is Coming Soon!

Submitted by Denise Lachinski, Booster Day Coordinator

Why attend a community event? There is a sense of belonging; a time to see friends, relatives, and neighbors that you have not been seen for quite some time due to a busy schedule. Another reason is to participate in events that create memories that one can reminisce and joke about years later. East Bethel Booster Day is East Bethel's summer event where the city can come together and enjoy an activity or two.

The dates for this year's event are July 20th-21st, 2012. Our committee is gearing up to make this the best event ever, but we need help to achieve the level of success that we believe the City of East Bethel deserves. We are a volunteer organization that is comprised of local talent and individuals who work all year to bring the community an event that is not only entertaining, but also affordable for the entire family.

We are looking for volunteers to help with our set-up and take-down, as well as helping with our parade. We also have a couple of ideas up our sleeves but need personnel who can help us execute them. You do not have to be an expert in any particular field to help make a memory for someone, but it can only happen through participation.

We are also looking for crafters, artisans, vendors and youth groups to participate in our Merchant's Row and Kid's Zone areas. For more information regarding this event: we meet monthly (check the city's website for our meeting dates) at East Bethel City Hall or contact Denise Lachinski, East Bethel Booster Day Coordinator at dlachinski@gmail.com or 763-413-2748. Let's make 2012 the one to beat them all!



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. An-
nual 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

What's Happening In The Public Works Department? Spring 2012

By Nate Ayshford, Public Works Manager

2012 Road Construction and Maintenance Projects

Each year the City performs seal coating and crack sealing to help prolong the useful lifespan of its streets. These street maintenance activities are bid under a Joint Powers Agreement with eight other North Metro Cities and the savings of the combined bid are estimated to save up to 20% as compared to bidding the work on an individual basis. The following streets are scheduled for seal coating in 2012:

- Hupp St and 239th Ave
- 234th Ave east of Durant St
- Erskine, Kissel, 231st LN, and 233rd Ave

In addition to the seal coating, crack sealing will take place on streets throughout the city as well as restriping 60,000 linear feet of road markings. Also, Sandy Drive will be getting a new fog seal from County Rd 74 to County Rd 26 similar to what was performed on Bataan St in 2011.

The proposed reconstruction of Jackson St from Viking Blvd south to 181st Ave is also being planned for the summer of 2012. The 1.5 mile project will include removing the existing curb and pavement and installing new curb and road surface. The project is still in the planning phase and construction schedules have not been set but will be included in future updates. Funding for this project will come from the City's Municipal State Aid account that is provided to municipalities to help cover the cost of constructing and maintaining MSA designated roads.

An asphalt overlay is being planned for the Coon Lake Beach Neighborhood and should be completed in the summer of 2012. Funding for this project will come from the

Street Capital Fund.

2012 Park Projects

Proposed 2012 Park Improvement Projects include installing the new playground equipment at Norseland Manor Park along with other site improvements, upgrading and installing a tennis court at the Coon Lake Beach Community Center Park, and performing field renovations at the Booster West baseball/softball complex.

Adopt-a-Park Program

The City of East Bethel has created an Adopt-A-Park Program to allow its citizens the opportunity to ensure every park, trail, and athletic field is clean, safe, and well-maintained. This program promotes community involvement and allows community groups, civic organizations, or individuals, the ability to aid in litter pick-up, identify safety hazards, and communicate other issues associated with their adopted park.

The groups or individuals who participate in the program will be formally recognized by the City Council and have a sign placed in their adopted park. The adopters are asked to schedule a minimum of two park visits per year to perform litter collection and help identify any park deficiencies or safety hazards. The City of East Bethel will provide the materials needed for litter collection and disposal.

Interested parties should contact City Hall at 763-367-7840 for more information.

Road Restrictions

Spring road restrictions will go into effect in March of 2012. Please call the Public Works Department at 763-367-7876 for more information on the date these restrictions may be posted. City Streets will be posted at 5 tons per axle during the restriction timeframe.

New Regulations on Operation of All-Terrain Vehicles, Off-Road Motorcycles and Off-Road Vehicles

The City Council adopted Ordinance 33, Second Series, an Ordinance Amending Chapter 70 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of East Bethel on December 21, 2011. The ordinance change allows for the use of all-terrain vehicles in the right-of-way area on city streets. The ordinance change will be reviewed after a 90 day trial period.

All operation of all-terrain vehicles, off-road motorcycles and/or off-road vehicles must be compliance with the rules and regulations set forth by the State of Minnesota.

Please see the ordinance on the City's webpage or call City

Hall at 763-367-7840 for more details and information. Also available at City Hall are the Minnesota Department of Resources "Off Highway Vehicles Regulations 2011-2012" booklets and "Minnesota Snowmobile" Safety Laws, Rules & Regulations 2011 & 2012. These booklets are free.

Oak Wilt

Oak wilt is a common fungus in East Bethel that kills hundreds of mature oak trees annually. New infection sites occur when oaks are damaged, cut, or pruned during the months of April, May, June and



(continued on Page 10)

Septic Tank Maintenance

by Larry Martin, Building Official

A few dollars spent every three years on proper cleaning of your septic tank is much less expensive and easier to plan for than unexpected septic system failures.

City Ordinance Chapter 74 Utilities, Article II Sewage Treatment Section

74-39. Maintenance requires that the owner of an individual sewage treatment system or the owners agent “*pumper*” (under new Minnesota Pollution Control Agency rules the pumper is now referred to as the “*maintainer*”) shall regularly, but in no case less frequently than **every three years** measure or remove the accumulations of scum, which includes grease and other floating materials at the top of each septic tank and compartment along with the sludge,

which includes the solids denser than water.

After the “*maintainer*” has pumped out your tank they are required by MPCA rules 7080 to visually assess whether the sewage tank leaks below the designed operating depth, whether sewage tank tops, riser joints, and riser connections leak. The contractor is required to pump and conduct the visual inspection through the maintenance hole.

Improper tank maintenance allows solids into the soil treatment area (**drain field**) which eventually could clog and affect the performance of your system. Additives and cleaners are heavily promoted to homeowners

but there’s no such thing as a safe and effective septic system additive.

Proper treatment of sewage recycles water back into the natural environment reducing health risk to humans, animals and preventing groundwater contamination.

City staff will soon send letters to property owners that have exceeded the three year pumping requirement.

For questions regarding your septic system contact the Building Department at (763) 367-7844 or emmanuel.sackey@ci.east-bethel.mn.us.



Burning Permits

The City of East Bethel regulates open burning with the City. Burning permits are available at City Hall or from Fire Wardens below (please call them first to let them know you are coming):

Don & Sherri Anderson
4574 Wild Rice Drive NE
763-434-4390

Gary & Kathy Stern
1105 Klondike Dr. NE
763-434-7442

Don & MaryAnn Griep
2810 Viking Blvd. NE
763-434-5979

Spring Public Works Update (continued from Page 9)

July. Once a new infection site is established the fungus can spread to neighboring trees through their root systems. It is important to remember not to cut or prune any oak trees during these months and limit activities around these trees that could result in damage to the tree. Trees that are infected with oak wilt should be removed the follow-

ing winter and chipped, burned, or sealed with plastic to limit the number of fungal spores available during the spring months. Infected wood should not be moved offsite. If you do need to prune or cut down an oak tree, make sure to have it done by the end of March!

Recycle Day

The Spring Recycle Day is scheduled for April 21st from 8am to 1 pm at the East Bethel Ice Arena and May 5th at the Coon Lake

Beach Community Center from 8am to 12 pm. Please see page 6 for specific information on fees and what can be recycled.

If you have any issues or need to report a public works related problem please call Nate Ayshford at 763-367-7876. We depend on and encourage your assistance in reporting any safety or maintenance matters and will respond to any of your comments or concerns in a timely manner. Thanks for all your help.

Accessory Structures

By Larry Martin, Building Official

As spring arrives staff would like to just highlight a couple of requirements before you erect that new structure.

City Code covers accessory structures in Section 14, Detached Accessory Structures in Appendix "A" of our zoning ordinance. Section 1.9 in Appendix "A" defines an accessory structure as *Any building or improvement clearly subordinate to a principle use such as garages, sheds, or storage buildings located on the same parcel as the principle structure.*



Section 14 of the city code also de-

scribes the architectural elements, exterior materials etc. that are required for detached accessory structures.

Zoning Appendix "A" sections 40 thru 50 lists the different zoning districts located in the City of East Bethel. Each zoning district has regulated minimum

building setbacks standards, maximum allowable for number of accessory structures, the maximum allowable square footage and building heights allowed under city ordinances.

Although city ordinances do not require that you obtain a building permit for an accessory structure 120 square foot or less, you must comply with other ordinance regulations some of which we have addressed in this article.

One example of structures that staff has seen a lot of are the metal frames with a tarp or other covering; chicken coops, dog kennels etc. These types of uses are considered accessory structures.

Please contact the Building Department at 763-367-7844 prior to constructing your accessory structure.

New for Election 2012! Cities to Provide In Person Absentee Ballot Services

Submitted by Anoka County Elections Office

Anoka County residents who are unable to go to their polling place on Primary or General Election Day may cast an absentee ballot by mail or in person during the 46 days prior to each election.

New in 2012, voters who prefer to cast their absentee ballot in person may vote at the city hall of the city in which they reside during regular office hours. For East Bethel Residents this is 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. In person absentee balloting will also be available at city halls on the Saturday prior to each election from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and until 5:00 p.m. the day before each election.

Note: In person absentee voting will not be offered at the Linwood Township Hall. Residents of Linwood Township will be notified of alternate arrangements prior to the time absentee ballots are available.

The absentee balloting period for the August 14, 2012 Primary Election runs from Friday, June 29,

2012 through Monday, August 13, 2012. For the November 6, 2012 General Election, absentee balloting will take place between Friday, September 21, 2012 and Monday, November 5, 2012.

Absentee voting is allowed if the voter:

- 1) will be absent from his or her precinct on Election Day;
- 2) is ill or disabled;
- 3) is serving as an election judge in another precinct; or
- 4) If a religious discipline or religious holiday or observance prevents a voter from voting on Election Day;
- 5) An eligible emergency declared by the governor or quarantine declared by the federal or state government prevents voting on Election Day.

Voters who wish to vote absentee by mail can download the absentee ballot application any time at www.anokacounty.us/absenteevoting. Voters also can call 763-323-5275 to

have an absentee ballot application sent to them.

Anoka County will continue to offer both in person and mail absentee balloting services to any Anoka County resident during the absentee balloting periods noted above. Anoka County's Election Office is open weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. the Saturday before the election; and until 5:00 p.m. the day before the election.

For more information about elections and voter registration, go to www.anokacounty.us/elections.



Important Phone Numbers

East Bethel City Hall Numbers:

Main Number	763-367-7840
Fax	763-434-9578
Building Department	763-367-7844
Public Works Department	763-367-7876
Fire Department (Non Emergency)	763-367-7885
Ice Arena	763-434-0397

East Bethel Senior/Community Center Numbers:

EB Senior President (Barb Kunshier)	763-434-6179
Senior/Comm. Center Rental	763-434-6179

Animal Humane Society 763-522-4325

Anoka Conservation District 763-434-2030

Anoka County Numbers:

Main Number	763-421-4760
Crime Watch	763-767-4664
Commissioners	763-323-5700
Community Action Program	763-783-4700
Household Hazardous Waste	763-323-5730
License Bureau	763-323-5777
Police (Non Emergency)	763-427-1212
Prop. Records/Taxation	763-323-5400
Senior Information Line	763-783-4707
Traveler (Transportation)	763-422-7075
Veterans Services	763-323-5290

Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve
763-434-5131

City Assessor—Ken Tolzmann 651-464-4862

Coon Lake Community Center:
Rentals, Membership, etc: 651-982-4628

Coon Lake Improvement Assn:
Barb Bouljon 612-554-4190

Coon Lake Improvement District:
Michael Bury 612-618-1372

East Bethel Royalty:
Becky 763-434-6876

East Bethel Bandits:

Coach Dallas Jelmsberg 763-286-5570

Electrical Permits and Inspections

Brian Nelson 763-434-4853

Food Shelf—North Anoka County:

NACE 763-444-7685
Clothing Closet 763-434-7463

Gopher State One Call 651-454-0002

Meals on Wheels 763-236-8716

Metro. Mosquito Control 651-645-9149

Mn. Dept. of Health

Well Management 651-643-2113

North Metro Soccer Assn. 763-753-3050

Barb Anderson (President)

Post Office

Bethel—55005 763-434-3000

Cedar/EB—55011 763-434-7200

Wyoming—55092 651-462-5252

St. Francis Gladiators (Wrestling) 612-789-0260

St. Francis Youth Hockey 763-434-2221

School Districts:

Forest Lake District 831 651-982-8100

Forest Lake Activities/Athletics 651-982-8525

St. Francis District 15 763-753-7040

St. Francis Activities/Athletics 763-213-1504

Soderville Athletic Association:

Main Number 763-413-3555

MidContinent Cable 1-800-888-1300

(If you know of a number that should be listed here,
please contact Wendy Warren at 763-367-7853)

Are you a Veteran?

(Or do you know someone who is?)

The Anoka County Veteran Services Office can assist with:

Health Care Benefits

Home Loans

Disability Compensation

Dental Care/Optical Care

Certificate of Eligibility

Property Tax Exclusion

Survivor Benefits

Burial Benefit

Discharge Papers

763-323-5290 or veterans@co.anoka.mn.us or www.anokacounty.us/veterans

Do You Want to Be an Election Judge?

By Wendy Warren, Deputy City Clerk

During a general election, approximately 30,000 election judges are needed to staff more than 4,100 polling locations throughout Minnesota. Election judges are needed in East Bethel.

Election judges are paid officials who staff local polling places and try to ensure that rights of voters are protected on Election Day.

Qualifications to Serve as An Elec-

tion Judge:

- * be a U.S. Citizen
- * be a Minnesota resident
- * not have had your voting rights revoked
- * read, write and speak English
- * attend Election Judge training session

You cannot be:

- * the spouse, parent, child, or sibling of any election judge serving in

the same precinct.

- * the candidate or the spouse, parent, child or sibling of any candidate on the ballot in that precinct.

You may apply to be an election judge by completing the questionnaire on the city web site at www.ci.east-bethel.mn.us or e-mail wendy.warren@ci.east-bethel.mn.us and/or call 763-367-7853.

East Bethel Pet Clinic

Saturday, March 31, 2012 ~ ~ ~ 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 (Noon) p.m.
 East Bethel Ice Arena ~ ~ ~ 20675 Highway 65 NE

Canine Vaccinations:

Rabies	\$25
Distemper Combo	\$15-20
Lyme	\$25
Bordetella	\$20

Canine Blood Tests:

Heartworm	\$20
Lyme & Heartworm	\$48

Feline Vaccinations:

Rabies	\$15
Distemper Combo	\$15-20
Feline Leukemia	\$20
F.I.P	\$25



Heartworm & Flea/Tick Products will be sold

East Bethel City Code requires all dogs within East Bethel City Limits be licensed. Licenses are free with proof of rabies vaccination. Licenses will be available at the Pet Clinic. Call 763-367-7840 for more information.

New Hours at Anoka County License Centers

Effective March 1st, the license centers will have restructured hours. There are five license centers in Anoka County.

Columbia Heights hours will be 7:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday.

Blaine and Ham Lake hours will be 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday.

Coon Rapids and Ramsey hours will be 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday.

For more information go to the License Bureau web site at http://www.co.anoka.mn.us/v1_departments/div-governmental-services/dept-license-bureau/index.asp

New East Bethel City Council Meeting Playback Schedule on Government Access Channel 10

Weekday	Hours
Sunday	10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Monday	Noon and 9:00 p.m.
Tuesday	10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Noon and 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	Noon and 5:00 p.m.
Friday	10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Take Pride in Your Community – Help Make a Cleaner, Greener East Bethel!

By Carrie Frost, Recycling Coordinator

As we've all learned, **recycling** is the reprocessing of old materials into new products and preventing waste.

Each year, the City of East Bethel receives SCORE recycling funds from Anoka County to promote recycling within the City. In return, Anoka County sets a "tonnage goal" for the City to achieve. In 2011 the City recycling program recycled over 930 tons, or about 154 pounds per person, which was approximately 88% of its goal.

The recycling goal set for the City of East Bethel for the year of 2012 is 1,046 tons. That's more than the combined weight of 7 adult blue whales... That's a lot of material!! A large portion of that amount is picked up through your curbside recycling pick-up. Local sanitation services send in reports each month, detailing the weights of different types of materials that you, as residents, recycle. For example, 1,828 lbs of aluminum were collected from the East Bethel community last July. In terms of energy, that's enough to power a typical home for almost 10 years, or the equivalent of saving more than 2,100 gallons of gas!

Residents can also help the numbers add up by dropping off recyclable materials at the local recycle center. The East Bethel Recycle Center is located adjacent to the

Fire Station near the intersection of County Road 22 and County Road 15. It is open 24 hours daily, and is operated by the Cedar/East Bethel Lions. Aluminum cans and foil (without food debris), automotive batteries, glass, paper, steel food cans, cell phones, clothing, printer cartridges, used oil (uncontaminated with other fluids), and used oil filters are all accepted.

Another part of our tonnage goal is made up of material collected at our Recycle Day events. A recycle drop off event is held in the spring and fall each year. This year, the Spring Recycle Day events will be held at the Ice Arena on April 21, 2012 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and Coon Lake Beach on May 5, 2012 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Recycle Day information and pricing will be posted on the City website prior to the event date. (If you miss an event and have an appliance or large electronic device to recycle, you can call your trash hauler to schedule a pick-up, or check the City of East Bethel website for other drop off suggestions.)

One of the best ways of achieving this goal is by gathering weight slips. Anytime you sell or trade-in recyclable materials (including alu-

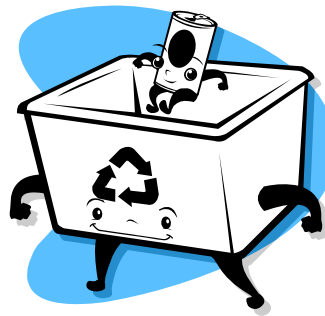
minum cans, scrap metal and appliances), you should receive a **weight slip** for the transaction. East Bethel residents can retain these slips and turn them in to the City. Sales to any vendors (regardless of where it is turned in) can be counted towards our recycle goal... as long as the City receives the weight slip

from the date of sale! This is a great opportunity; the resident receives the money for the sale, and the City gets a credit for tonnage toward our annual recycling goal. It's win-win!! (Please note: any weight slips for auto hulks

or engine parts **cannot** be counted towards our tonnage goal... But we're glad that you're recycling them!)

To make turning in the weight slips more convenient, they can be mailed in to City Hall, or dropped off at one of our collection boxes. Collection boxes are located at the Recycling Center and in the reception area at City Hall. We appreciate all efforts, and look forward to seeing those weight slips roll in!

If you have any questions regarding recycling please call Carrie Frost at 763-367-7840 or e-mail questions to carrie.frost@ci.east-bethel.mn.us.



Free Income Tax Assistance

This free Income Tax Assistance program is available for taxpayers with low and moderate income and persons with disabilities, with special attention to those 60 years and older.

E-filed tax preparations will be done between February 1st and April 17th at many Anoka County

locations. A list of those locations is posted at East Bethel City Hall and on the City web site.

Please bring a copy of your 2010 tax return and all 2011 tax information; such as any W-2s from employment, 1099s for pensions, interest, social security, miscellaneous income, records of contributions and medical

expenses. To complete the rent credit, they will need the CRP form from your landlord. For the real estate refund, please bring your property tax statement payable in 2012.

This free service is sponsored by the AARP Tax Aide Foundation, the IRS, and the MN Dept of Revenue.

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.

City Council	March 7	7:30 pm	City Hall
Road Commission	March 13	6:30 pm	City Hall
Park Commission	March 14	7:00 pm	City Hall
City Council	March 21	7:30 pm	City Hall
Planning Commission	March 27	7:00 pm	City Hall
City Council	April 4	7:30 pm	City Hall
Road Commission	April 10	7:00 pm	City Hall
Park Commission	April 11	6:30 pm	City Hall
Board of Appeals and Equalization	April 18	6:30 pm	City Hall
City Council	April 18	7:30 pm	City Hall
Planning Commission	April 24	7:00 pm	City Hall
Town Hall Meeting	April 26	6:00 pm	East Bethel Sr/Comm. Center
City Council	May 2	7:30 pm	City Hall
Road Commission	May 8	6:30 pm	City Hall
Park Commission	May 9	7:00 pm	City Hall
City Council	May 16	7:30 pm	City Hall
Planning Commission	May 22	7:00 pm	City Hall

Economic Development Authority (EDA) Meetings dates are the fourth Wednesday of the months at City Hall. Please call 763-367-7840 for more information.

Coon Lake Beach Community Center Activities

**182 Forest Road NE
www.coonlakebeach.org
651-982-4628**

Membership Meeting
2nd Monday of the Month
7:00 pm
March 12
April 9
May 14

Senior Lunch
4th Thursday of each month at noon
Everyone is Welcome!
March 22
April 26
May 24

Pancake Breakfast
1st & 3rd Sunday of the month
9:00 am—12:00 (Noon)
March 4 & 18
April 1 & 15
May 6 & 20

Coffee Time
1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month
10:00 am
March 1 & 15
April 5 & 19
May 3 & 17

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 Chris at 651-387-5709
for more info.**

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



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East Bethel, MN 55011
www.ci.east-bethel.mn.us

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2241—221st Avenue NE
East Bethel, MN 55011
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 - 763-412-6839

Council Member Bill Boyer - bill.boyer@ci.east-bethel.mn.us - 763-434-0637

Council Member Robert DeRoche - robert.h.derochejr@ci.east-bethel.mn.us - 651-464-6615

Council Member Heidi Moegerle - heidi.moegerle@ci.east-bethel.mn.us - 651-464-2595

Council Member Steven Voss - steve.voss@ci.east-bethel.mn.us - 651-308-0198

City Administrator - Jack Davis - jack.davis@ci.east-bethel.mn.us - 763-367-7850