

Deephaven News

Information for City Residents www.cityofdeephaven.org October, November and December 2003



MAYORS CORNER by Mayor Tom Anderson

Democracy at work!!!

By now, I am certain that residents are aware of the pending request for additional slips and slides for the residents of Deephaven that are proposed to be located immediately south of the Deephaven Beach at St. Louis Bay. This application has been a part of a larger effort on the part of the volunteers who serve on the Boat Committee. Over the past several years the committee has been working on solutions to the festering problem of long wait times to obtain a City leased boat space.

The City leased spaces are clearly a perk for Deephaven residents; however, many feel that such a long wait, especially for dock slips (17+ years), is unfair and that only a few benefit even though everyone pays taxes. In order to address this problem, the Committee has been considering all alternatives, from more boat storage units to better enforcement to higher fees and many more.

I would like to specifically address the issue of added boat storage units (BSU's). Since 2000, the Boat Committee has been exploring BSU options at their public meetings. Currently, Deephaven utilizes only 60% of the available space according to an LMCD formula. Possible locations in the Back Bay of Carson Bay, St. Louis Bay, street ends and on-shore storage have all been considered. The Back Bay, along the shoreline abutting Burton Park, was opposed by an organized group of residents. Due to the public opposition, as well as the lack of available off-street parking, further consideration for spaces in this area was abandoned.

Other options were generally not opposed at that time, leading the council to believe that these other locations were an acceptable alternative. During this period, a subcommittee of the LMCD was formed to analyze the possibility of placing a moratorium on allowing the installation of additional boat storage units in Carson's and St Louis Bays. The moratorium would include both public and private docks. The City felt that a moratorium was premature, especially before there was sufficient evidence of a before there was evidence of a density problem. I might add that during this period, the City of Excelsior applied for and was granted additional

docks in Excelsior Bay, a bay that is defined by the LMCD as "critically dense".

Our application went to the LMCD in March, 2003 driven primarily by the fear that the City would forever lose the possibility of adding BSU's as a partial solution to the problem of long waiting lists. The LMCD returned the application to the City for additional

clarification before a public hearing could be scheduled before the LMCD. During this period of refining the application, the City held the April 9th Town Hall meeting on the subject of boats. It was very well attended. The application was made known during this meeting although very little was said regarding the proposed plan. The most popular topics at the Town Hall meeting centered on the cost of leasing space at the city docks and providing more access to those residents without a dock slip. Once again, the council did not hear any concerns by residents the St. Louis Bay dock project and assumed that this project was not an issue.

The application was finally heard before the LMCD on July 23rd. As a matter of operating policy, the LMCD provides public notice of the meeting to all residents within 350 feet of the proposed site. The notice is sent to residents ten days prior to the meeting. Over that ten-day period, two individuals contracted me questioning the environment impact of the proposal. Once again, given that several hundred were alerted and only two responded, I think it is fair to say that we felt a false sense of support for the project.

At the LMCD meeting, eight individuals who lived near the proposed site stated their objection to the proposal. The rest they say is history. Since that time, the Council has held a public meeting on the matter and formed a citizens task force to issue recommendations on this project and other boat-related issues in order to coordinate ideas on how to find a solution to the problem. In the meantime, the application before the LMCD has been tabled until the citizens task force has had the opportunity to do its work. I have already heard some great win, win ideas coming from residents of our wonderful community. The committee will be asked to clear the slate and consider any and all ideas and pick those that best serve the community. Hopefully, once again, our community can turn lemons into lemonade.



Rake-A-Thon celebrates 17 years

If you are a senior, or can not rake your lawn due to a disability, the rake-a-thon can help you! A team of volunteers will rake and bag your leaves.

Best of all, the service is free! The event is scheduled for Saturday, October 25th. Minnetonka Community Education and Services (MCES) sponsors this free event. To register to have your yard raked, please call 952-474-7635. If you would like to volunteer your time to rake someone's yard, please call Amy at MCES at 952-401-6833.

2004 BUDGET

The Deephaven City Council certified the 2004 General Fund Levy on September 9th. The public is invited to comment on the 2004 Budget at the annual Truth-in-Taxation hearing scheduled for December 1st. Hennepin County will notify all property owners within Deephaven of this meeting later this year. The following is a brief summary of the 2004 Budget:

General Fund Revenues – Total 2004 General Fund Revenues are budgeted at \$2,144,369 and consist of eight major budget categories:

Category	2004 Budget	% of Revenues
Taxes	1,426,096	66.5%
Licenses & Permits	192,100	8.9%
Intergovernmental	62,501	2.9%
Charges for Services	289,787	13.5%
Interest Income	68,000	3.3%
Fines & Penalties	72,000	3.3%
Transfers from Other Funds	16,569	0.8%
Miscellaneous	17,316	0.8%
Total 2004 Revenues	2,144,369	100.0%

2004 Revenue Highlights –

- ◆ The 2004 property tax levy is scheduled to increase \$78,118 (5.8%) over the 2003 levy in order to support the 2004 increase in the annual lease payment for the new fire facilities and to allow a transfer into the Capital Improvement Fund to provide funding for the future repair of streets and the replacement of aged equipment and vehicles.
- ◆ Licenses & Permits are expected to increase 5.2% due to expected increases in parking permit and animal permit revenues.
- ◆ Service contracts with the cities of Woodland and Greenwood combine to equal 12.1% of all General Fund revenues in 2004.

General Fund Expenditures – Total 2004 General Fund Expenditures are budgeted at \$2,098,903 and consist of twelve major departments:

Department	2004 Budget	% of Expenses
Administration / Elections	279,679	13.3%
General Government	173,175	(1.3%)
City Hall Buildings	37,000	(5.1%)
Zoning / Building Inspections	166,838	(4.3%)
Streets & Roads	69,325	(0.3%)
Public Works	327,146	3.7%
Parks and Recreation	54,450	(1.4%)

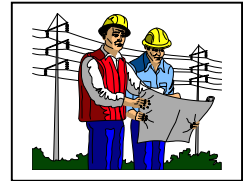
Police	632,147	2.2%
Fire Services	287,959	22.8%
Emergency Management	45,155	3.3%
Recycling	13,379	(34.6%)
Animal Management	12,650	0.4%
Total	2,098,903	3.2%

2004 Expenditure Highlights -

- ◆ Total 2004 General Fund Expenditures increased \$65,621 or 3.2% over 2003. Fire Services accounts for 81.5% of the 2004 increase.

2004 Property Taxes – Despite a \$78,118 increase in the 2004 levy, the 2004 Tax Capacity Rate of 18.663% will still be less than the 2003 Tax Capacity Rate of 20.114%. Will this result in lower city taxes for 2004? Probably not. The increase in the 2004 estimated market value of most properties in Deephaven will likely result in an increase in the amount of taxes that are paid to the City of Deephaven.

Progress Report on the East & West Side Fire Stations



West Side Station – There really isn't anything new to report on the West Side Station since the last update given in the July Newsletter. Construction on this facility is still expected to be completed by December 2003 and should come in on budget. The total cost of this combined police and fire facility is estimated at \$8,015,000 - \$3,952,000 for the fire station and \$4,063,000 for the police station. The City of Deephaven is responsible, along with the other members of the Excelsior Fire District, for the costs of the fire station only.

East Side Station – Construction on the East Side Station, which will be located behind Deephaven City Hall, was tentatively scheduled to begin mid-September. However, with bids expected to be reviewed by the Excelsior Fire Board in mid-October, the construction schedule is uncertain at this time. The total budget for the East Side Station has been established at \$2,060,000 with \$1.6 million budgeted for construction.

Maintenance Shed

Construction of the East Side Station behind City Hall has required the City's Maintenance Shed to be relocated south of City Hall on a parcel of land near the paddletennis court. The cost of constructing the shed is

estimated at \$122,700 and it is anticipated that construction will be completed by mid-November. Once it is built, the shed will contain sand, salt, rock, wood chips, and other miscellaneous supplies and equipment. Partial funding for construction of the shed in the amount of \$85,000 was received from the Excelsior Fire District as compensation for the lease of city property for the East Side Fire Station.



Deer Management Program Update

In the July Newsletter, a brief article appeared regarding the Deer

Management Program that described the problems associated with an excessive deer population, the Department of Natural Resource's recommendation to remove 40 deer in Deephaven to control the growth in our deer population, and a request for private contributions to assist in the cost of implementing a Deer Management Program this year.

We are delighted to report that the response to our request for voluntary donations has gone exceeding well and we would like to thank all those individuals that contributed over \$8,800 to assist with the costs associated with deer removal. Due to the success of these contributions, the City Council formally adopted a Deer Management Program at a public hearing held on September 22nd that targets the removal of 40 deer at selected locations throughout Deephaven later this year.

The Deephaven Park Committee is seeking three new members!!

Do you think you might be interested in joining the Deephaven Park Committee? The Park Committee meets the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. to discuss a wide variety of issues pertaining to parks, beaches, trails, park equipment needs and recreational activities. If you think you might be interested, please call City Hall at 474-4755.

Update on the Town Meeting on the St. Louis Bay Dock Proposal

On September 9th, a public meeting was held to discuss a pending application before the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District for the construction of 31 dock slips and 9 slides that would replace 12 existing shore space docks immediately south of Deephaven Beach on St. Louis Bay. With approximately 130 residents in attendance, it was quite apparent that the vast majority of those in attendance did not favor the proposed project. A total of 26 residents spoke at the meeting and the majority

of the comments centered on their opposition to the project due to:

- ◆ The proposed project adversely impacting the swimming and Main Beach Park area
- ◆ Adding parking and traffic congestion to an already congested area
- ◆ Increasing noise, air and water pollution
- ◆ Adding to the existing density of boats on the Bay
- ◆ The additional boat slips provided by this project will not significantly impact the waiting list for slips and slides

Further comments and recommendations were made on ways to address the waiting list, subletting, and enforcement of the existing boating ordinance.

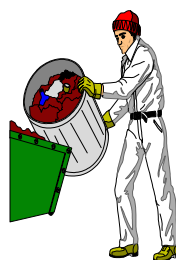
In order to address the concerns and recommendations of those in attendance, the City Council is in the process of forming a Task Force of interested citizens to specifically review.

If you are interested in serving on this Task Force, please call City Hall at 474-4755.

BOAT CARDS TO BE SENT NOVEMBER 1ST

Shortly after the April 9th public meeting on City Marina Issues, the City Council commissioned the Deephaven Boat Committee to develop a comprehensive plan to attempt to address many of the issues that were discussed at the public meeting. The Boat Committee submitted their recommendations to the City Council on August 18th. Since that time, the Council has continued to review, refine and reshape the recommendations with the intent to modify the Watercraft Space Ordinance to provide a more equitable and efficient boat management system. It is expected that it will take the City Council and the Task Force at least until the end of October before these modifications are finalized.

For this reason, Boat Cards will be sent to permit holder's one month later than usual. Boat Cards will be sent **NOVEMBER 1ST** instead of October 1st. Boat Cards will need to be returned by **DECEMBER 15TH** instead of November 15th. We apologize for any inconvenience that this might cause.



Annual leaf and yard waste collection

Autumn leaf pick-up for our residents is Saturday, November 1. *This is for curbside pick-ups only and will begin at 7:00 a.m.* No drop-offs at City Hall. Please observe these requirements:

- Brush must be cut and bundled with

string; branches can not exceed four feet in length and four inches in diameter.

- Leaves and yard waste must be bagged.
- Bundles and bags can not exceed 40 pounds.

On a related topic, please do not rake leaves onto the street. It creates a hazard for motorists, especially when leaves become wet. When applying the brakes, a vehicle may skid on wet leaves much like they do on icy roads. Consider your neighbors and keep leaves off the street.

Recycling and garbage news

HOLIDAYS! Remember garbage and recycling pickup is one day later on Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day.

Please put your garbage and recycling out so that it can be seen from the street by 7:00 a.m.!

Winter trail activities

The City will maintain the LRT trail for winter use from November 15 to March 31. Half the trail will be plowed for those who jog and walk. The other half will be left with snow for cross-country skiers.



Warming house attendants sought

If you are interested in working as an attendant at either the Thorpe Park or City Hall warming house, please call 952-474-4755 or stop by City Hall for an application. You must be at least 16 years of age by mid-December. Flexible work hours are available after school, on weekends and over school winter break.

Ghosts & goblins at Police station

The police department will host a Halloween Open House at City Hall. Wear your costume and come visit us on October 31st from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



Snowplows are coming!

Winter is coming, and we want to give you some useful information that will help us clear snow from your streets and make winter driving safer.

- Move your car off the street or from a city parking lot during or immediately after a snowfall of two or more inches. You may return your vehicle to the street or lot after it has been completely plowed. If you are in doubt about how much snow has fallen or is falling, please move your vehicle. The police are authorized to tow vehicles parked in violation of this regulation.
- Allow plenty of space between your vehicle and a snowplow. Snow dust from a snowplow can obstruct

your vision while driving, creating hazardous conditions.

- If you experienced yard damage from a snowplow in the past, please install stakes just off the road every 20 - 25 feet to mark its edge.
- Please do not allow your children or other children to play in snow banks near the street.
- Lower your driving speed and change your driving habits for unexpected winter conditions.



Snowmobile regulations

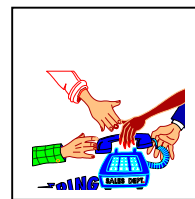
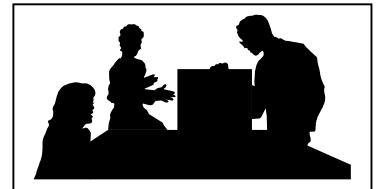
City ordinance 705.03 prohibits the operation of snowmobiles under any of these circumstances:

- On a sidewalk or walkway provided or used for pedestrian traffic,
- On private property without the operator having in possession written consent from the property owner,
- On any public land or frozen waters including, but not limited to, school and school grounds, park property, playgrounds and recreational areas, except for areas authorized for such use by proper authority when traversing to or from approved snowmobile areas by the shortest legal route,
- Between 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., except to travel to a final destination without delay, and
- On any street except when traversing to or from an approved area by the shortest legal route.

Southshore Community & Senior Center

The Center is open Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It is located at 5735

Country Club Road in Shorewood, near the County Road 19 intersection. Noon lunches are served on Monday, Tuesday and Friday. Call 952-474-7635 for more information.



Dial-A-Ride (952) 474-7441

Includes the areas of Deephaven, Excelsior, Greenwood, Shorewood, and Tonka Bay.

7:30 AM – 3:30 PM Monday thru Friday

8:00 AM – 12 PM Saturday & Sunday

General Public \$1.50 each way. Seniors, Suggested donation \$1.00.

Funded under contract with the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging, Inc. and the Metropolitan Council.

EVENTS

Senior flu shot clinic, Tuesday, October 14th 9 AM – Noon. You can register at the Center. There is no charge for those bringing their Medicare and supplemental insurance cards.

AAA will be offering a 4-hour senior driving improvement class, Friday, October 17 from 1 to 5 PM. To register 1-888-234-1294.

The Deephaven City Council meets twice a month on the first and third Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The Planning Commission meets at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. Residents are welcome to attend these meetings.

Administration and Public Works	952-474-4755
Police	952-474-7555

CITY OF DEEPHAVEN
20225 Cottagewood Road
Deephaven, MN 55331

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Mayor Tom Anderson, Kim Crockett, Nancy Middleton,
Jon Monson and Paul Skrede

Dana Young, City Administrator
Sandy Langley, City Clerk
Harlan Johnson, Police Chief
Jerry Hudlow, Public Works Foreman