

Grant Logo

## THE GRANT NEWS FROM YOUR CITY COUNCIL *FROM THE MAYOR*

The winter has gone on forever. It's time for spring. Getting outside again to do all the things we want to do in our yards. I'm looking forward to raking and cutting the grass! Looking forward is one way Minnesotans can handle a long cold winter.

Looking forward is also a way we can see the future of Grant and get through the winter of problems that came up. I took office in January. It's amazing how much is involved in running a city. There are easy things to grasp and some are much harder. I have a lot to learn. But just like winter, the problems will melt away eventually and we can concentrate on fun things we can do in Grant.

One thing we're working on is a Grant City Festival. The "festival" is tentatively scheduled for August 11<sup>th</sup> at the Quad fields (ball fields) by the Mahtomedi schools. We'll finalize things after a walk through once the snow melts to make sure the site works. Flea market, vendor booths, demo's, tug of war, skits, music, horse rides, hay rides and food . We're open to other ideas.

The name is not set either. Hay Days is one theme with a horse trough for pop and hay bales to sit on. It's wide open. It was really not that long ago that a state was formed and they decided to have a fair. Now it's the great Minnesota Get Together. I think we ought to have the Great Grant Get Together! Some people will think this is a waste of time or won't work. I think it's something fun to focus on other than the cold and snow. All we have to do is start.

Please call me with your ideas and to volunteer. And please don't make me beg!

Tom Carr, 651-653-4531  
Your Mayor

### GRANT ROADSIDE CLEAN UP DAY

Set aside Saturday April 28<sup>th</sup>, from 9am til noon for Grant's Roadside Clean Up. May 5<sup>th</sup> is the rain date. First timers - pair of gloves, boots, trash bags, and a willing back are all it takes. The "goods" are dropped off at the Grant Town Hall. Once again, Joyce Welander has volunteered to handle sign ups and coordinate locations. She can be reached at 439-2598 or online through [WELJO1@aol.com](mailto:WELJO1@aol.com).

In addition to Roadside Clean Up, Grant residents may, for a fee, drop off large appliances at the City Hall on Clean Up Day. Payment and proof of residence is due at the time of drop off. **NEW! Maroney's Sanitation, Inc. has increased the cost of picking up Dishwashers, Washing Machines, Dryers, Hot Water Heaters & De-humidifiers at the [Spring Clean](#) up from \$10.00 to \$20.00, Refrigerators & Freezers \$30 and Stoves \$25.** FYI, Maroney's will transport the appliances to the appropriate recycling/reconditioning centers where hazardous materials are removed and parts are salvaged.

### GET INVOLVED!

Volunteer activities can feed your passions. Or give you enough experience to try something else. Two therapeutic horseback riding programs operate at Washington County's Fairgrounds. Both groups are always looking for volunteers: "bomb proof" horses and people to work with the kids and horses. It's a great way to help kids with disabilities. Plus, it's a fun way to learn more about horses while working with them. Good training is involved with both programs. For more information call Lynn Keller 653-8244 or the programs directly: Courage Riders at 651-351-2315 or River Valley Therapeutic Riders 651-439-2558, which also has a driving program and operates a program in Hugo.

## ROAD SUPERVISOR'S REPORT--Art Welander

**REMINDER:** Pushing SNOW out onto City roads and Streets is against State Law. Our concern is your safety.

**SPRING ROAD WEIGHT LIMITS:** Vehicles traveling on public streets in the City of Grant may not exceed 5 ton gross weight per axle during spring thaw. Spring thaw dates are determined by MN\_DOT in our area usually in March or April and into May. Check with me later for those dates. Emergency vehicles and school buses are exempt. It is our City's desire to protect our Streets for the Citizens of Grant.

**CALCIUM CHLORIDE:** See article below.

**SNOWPLOWING:** Because of the heavy snowfall this year, you may have noticed that the plows are pushing the snow further out on the right of ways (33 ft. from the center of the road) and into the ditches. This obviously will allow for future, possible snowfalls yet to come. Thank you for your patience and support.



*Thanks to Art and Joyce Welander for the family photo from the 1936 snowfall. The photo was taken on what is now Kimbro, between City Hall and Hagstroms (recognize the pine trees?) and was hand shoveled!*

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH:** It was Abe Lincoln who said, "To test a man's character, give him power".

### CaCl FOR THE YEAR 2001

It's Calcium Chloride time again! The Road Supervisor, Art Welander, will be getting bids in the spring for application this year. The City has made no budget provisions for providing calcium chloride (CaCl) to gravel roads as the product is not needed on all gravel roads, and some residents are not in favor if its application. The city will ensure that the application is done properly.

Talk to your neighbors if you are interested in having CaCl applied, and call Art in April. Forms are available from Welander's or the Grant Web site. The cost will vary depending on the length of road treated and the number of homes contributing. And funds must be deposited before the CaCl application dates.

CaCl would be applied once or twice per summer, immediately after the road has been bladed and then it should be left alone as long as possible. The length of time the chloride remains effective depends on the weather and the amounts of traffic. After CaCl is put onto the roads, the road is not graded for a month, or until residents call the City Road Supervisor to let him know that it is time to grade.

### WELCOME TO GRANT NEWS!

Joan Sprain, Lynn Keller, and Rick Vanzwol are your editors. Many thanks to Page Weed for the work she's done on previous newsletters. And for the help in learning another software package!

We are looking for information and articles for Grant's quarterly newsletter. Try your hand at writing. We can accept any form - e-mail to handwritten articles which we'll type up. Since articles need to be approved by City Council, the deadlines for the remainder of the year are : April 20<sup>th</sup> (May) , July 27<sup>th</sup> (August Newsletter), and October 26<sup>th</sup> (November). Please note the deadlines if you'd

like us to include seasonal information or activities.

If you have any suggestions, please let us know. Help us build a stronger sense of community by letting us know what you'd like to see. Working towards a brighter future,

Joan Sprain 773-5886 [sprainfamily@netscape.net](mailto:sprainfamily@netscape.net)

Lynn Keller 653-8244 [lynn@bigoakhill.com](mailto:lynn@bigoakhill.com)

Rick Vanzwol 426-2378 [rvanzwol@aol.com](mailto:rvanzwol@aol.com)

## GRANT CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

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<p>Sharon Schwarze - Council Member Home Phone (651) 429-2153 10707 Joliet Avenue N. Stillwater, MN 55082 Email: <a href="mailto:ksjta@aol.com">ksjta@aol.com</a> Council Appointments: Metropolitan Council Liaison</p>	<p>Rick Vanzwol Home Phone: (651) 426-2378 9750 Jamaca Avenue N. Mahtomedi, MN 55115 Email: <a href="mailto:rvanzwol@aol.com">rvanzwol@aol.com</a> Council Appointments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Highway36 SubArea Study</li><li>Washington County Liaison</li><li>Grant News Liaison, Editor</li><li>Weed Inspector</li></ul>
<p>Art Welander - Deputy Mayor Home Phone: (651) 439-2598 10381 83rd Street N. Stillwater, MN 55082 Email: <a href="mailto:Weljo1@aol.com">Weljo1@aol.com</a> Council Appointments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Road Supervisor</li><li>Animal Control</li><li>Recycling Bins</li><li>Ball Fields</li></ul>	

## **CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS SCHEDULE**

**Meetings** start at 7 pm at the Grant Town Hall, 8380 Kimbro Avenue. Please confirm workshop schedules by calling the office (651) 426-3383 or checking [www.ci.grant.mn.us](http://www.ci.grant.mn.us), where agendas are generally posted five days before the meeting. Additional agenda items for City Council meetings are due by noon, the day after Planning Commission meetings

Month	Meeting	Workshop
March	6th	27th
April	3rd	24th
May	1st	22nd
June	5th	26th
July	3rd	31st
August	7th	28th
Sept.	4th	25th
Oct.	2nd	30th
Nov.	6th	27th
Dec.	4th	18th

**Minutes** can be found at the Grant City Office, the Wildwood Library, and the web site.

### **KEY CONTACTS: \*\*\*\*\* 911 for all emergencies \*\*\*\*\***

Deputy Mark Lombardi: 651- 439-9381 - Washington.County Sheriff's Voice Mail System  
Officer Tim Adams (part-time, burn permits): 651-430-2367  
City Assessor Pat Poskek: 651-351-9160  
City Attorney Kevin Shoeberg: 651-735-9340  
City Clerk Stephanie Marty 651-426-3383  
City Engineer/Planner Jay Kennedy 763-287-7192  
City Treasurer James Keating: 651- 429-9533

## **GRANT PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS**

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## PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULES AND APPLICATION DEADLINES

[Meetings](#) start at 7pm and are held at the Town Hall 8380 Kimbro Avenue. Confirm date by calling city office (651) 426-3383 or [www.ci.grant.mn.us](http://www.ci.grant.mn.us). Please note that applications received by Application Deadline will be heard at the following month's Planning Commission meeting, i.e. March deadline goes to the commission in April, then City Council in May.

Month	Meeting	App.Deadline
March	26th	22nd
April	23rd	19th
May	21st	31st
June	25th	28th
July	30th	31st
Dec.	17th	27th
Aug.	27th	23rd
Sept.	24th	27th
Oct.	29th	31st
Nov.	26th	21st

## WATERSHEDS

A watershed is a region draining into a river, river system or other body of water. Watersheds may include land-locked basins or lakes, wetlands, streams, lakes, ponds and rivers that all drain through a common outlet if the water levels are high enough. If you have a well, keep reading!

Watershed's are important to recharging the groundwater which feeds your well. Surface water, both quantity and quality, impacts you. For example, erosion, with fast melt runoff or a heavy rain, not only eats away our roads, but carries pollutants and particulates into bodies of water, harming plants, birds, fish, reptiles, and amphibians. If you enjoy nature, the biodiversity found in Grant is directly impacted by watershed issues.

Watershed districts are the political body that manages activities and projects to maintain or improve water quality and flooding related issues. The four watersheds districts found in Grant are based on hydrology, not politics. They are: Brown's Creek, Valley Branch, Rice Creek and Carnelian Marine Watershed. Each district is required to make their projects and plans available to the public in a timely manner.

Watershed projects are funded in several ways, one of which is tax levies on land owners in the specific, geographic watershed. Brown's Creek Watershed residents in Grant, Hugo, May Township, Stillwater and Oak Park Heights have all seen a dramatic increase in their tax levy over the past three years. The increase paid for specific projects with tight budget deadlines. Since watershed managers are required to be taxpaying residents in the watershed they represent, they, too, felt the increase. Future tax levels for Brown's Creek residents should be dramatically reduced as the required projects are completed.

Watch for more watershed information and how you can help sustain our natural resources. Specific details on the Brown's Creek projects can be found at the Stillwater and Wildwood Libraries or Grant City Office. Ask for the Brown's Creek Watershed District Plan.

## **CITY COUNCIL SUMMARY OF ACTIONS--Rick Vanzwol**

The following summarizes actions taken by Grant City Council. Please see the minutes for more detailed information on meetings. Minutes are found online at [www.ci.grant.mn.us](http://www.ci.grant.mn.us), at the city office, and at the Wildwood Library. If you are unable to access minutes in these ways, please contact the City Clerk 651-426-3383 and request a copy be mailed to your home.

### **City Council actions in January 2001:**

1. After swearing in the new Council members a long list of annual appointments was confirmed.
2. The Council decided to appeal the American Tower suit to the Minnesota Supreme Court.
3. The Council agreed to hold monthly workshop meeting on Tuesday, the day after the Planning Commission meetings as long as

there are agenda items needing discussion. Agendas will be available on the City website or from the City Clerk.

5. Salaries for City employees were increased by 5% for the year 2001 except for the Treasurer and City Clerk who will be considered separately.
6. At a workshop meeting January 23 the Council and others discussed options for cablecasting Council meetings.
7. At a workshop meeting January 30 the Council and others discussed job descriptions for the Treasurer and City Clerk as well as general issues about the City web site.

#### **City Council Actions in February 2001**

1. Reappointed Barb Wohlferd as the City Webmaster.
2. Appointed Council member Tim Gangnon to form and chair a committee to draft an Emergency Management Plan.
3. Set March 13, 2001 for an assessment hearing for the Jocelyn paving project.
4. Recessed until February 22 at which time discussed options for improvements to the intersection of Highway 36 and Lake Elmo Avenue.
5. All five members of the Council attended the League of Minnesota Cities conference workshop in February.
6. At a workshop meeting February 27, discussed job descriptions and salary levels for the Treasurer and City Clerk. Also discussed choices for annual auditor selection.