Vote Early In-Person!
One week prior to the Election

Cast your ballot up to one week prior to November 8 — Election Day!
Beginning Tuesday, November 1st you can cast your ballot directly into the ballot counter at City Hall.

Who? Residents of White Bear Lake
What? Absentee Voting/Early Voting
Where? White Bear Lake City Hall
4701 Highway 61
When? November 1 - 4 (Tue. - Fri.)
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
November 5 (Saturday)
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
November 7 (Monday)
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
How? Complete the Absentee Ballot application to get your ballot. Then cast your ballot!

News from the White Bear Lake Building Department...E-PERMITS ARE HERE!

Homeowners and Licensed Contractors are now able to obtain a variety of permits online with ease. We are currently offering a wide variety of permits that do not require a plan review, see the ePermit site for the full list of permits. Another benefit of the ePermit system is the ability to view all permits that have been issued to a property, along with permit results, dating back to approximately 1988. Visit the Building Department page for the ePermit link at: www.whitebearlake.org

Hardcopies of all permit applications and informational guidelines are available on our website. Be sure to obtain the proper building permits for improvements to your home. Larger projects such as remodels, fences, sheds, decks, garages or additions require plan review by our building and zoning staff, so get your plans and permits in early to accommodate for review time. If you have hired a contractor to complete your projects, verify that they are licensed and have obtained the necessary permits. Permits need to be approved and the permit cards displayed, before work begins on your project.

Contact the Building Department with questions at 651-429-8518.

Council Prepares for 2017 Budget Adoption

As required by state statute, the City Council will be establishing the City’s preliminary tax levy at its meeting on September 13th, which will set the course for the 2017 municipal budget. The preliminary levy will be used in developing property tax statements the County is required to mail to all property owners in November. Once established, the City may lower the tax levy before final adoption of the 2017 municipal budget in December, but may not raise the levy. The Mayor and City Council will then take action to adopt the annual operating budget for 2017 after holding a public hearing at its December 13th City Council meeting.

At work sessions held last spring, the Council discussed priorities for the coming year which included intensification of housing and redevelopment efforts, with particular attention to the challenges presented by an aging housing stock and revitalization of the County Road E corridor. There has also been considerable discussion regarding the need to identify additional revenue sources in the absence of significant interest revenues since federal rates were lowered in 2008.

Conversations with Council
Questions/Comments/Concerns?
Come chat with your Council Representative and the Mayor!

6:30 - 8:00pm ~ City Hall Open Houses
Ward 1: Bill Walsh, Oct. 4
Ward 2: Doug Biehn, Oct. 13
Ward 3: Dan Jones, Oct. 20
Ward 4: Kevin Edberg, Oct. 10
Ward 5: Steven Engstran, Oct. 27

…continued on page 4
City Holds Fall Cleanup Day

Saturday, October 1, 2016 · 7 AM – 1 PM

Household hazardous waste NOT accepted. White Bear Lake residents only. Proof of residency required (i.e. utility bill or driver’s license).

Location
Former Public Works site at 4200 Hoffman Road; west side of the intersection of Highway 61 and White Bear Avenue.

Acceptable Items
- Air conditioners
- Fluorescent bulbs and ballasts*
- Furniture
- Humidifiers
- Lawn mowers & snow blowers (all fluids drained)
- Mattresses
- Televisions
- Textiles
- Tires

Unacceptable Items
- Brush
- Firewood
- Motor oil, propane tanks, paint, and other household hazardous waste
- Tree stumps
- Items larger than appliances (fish houses, boats, sheds)

Fees
A fee based on the size and type of load will be charged to help pay for disposal costs. Loads larger than a standard pick-up truck or 4’x8’ trailer will NOT be accepted. Pay at the gate with cash or check.

Please note: The City of White Bear Lake and Troje’s Trash accept no responsibility for damage done to vehicles while they are unloaded.

The following rates, which include County tax, will be used as a guide for charges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>COST (each)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pick-up fully loaded</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full 4’x8’ trailer</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fully loaded van</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air conditioners</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawn mowers and snow blowers</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Televisions and computer monitors</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major appliances</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humidifiers</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mattresses</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tires</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous electronics</td>
<td>N/C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batteries</td>
<td>N/C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textiles</td>
<td>N/C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycles</td>
<td>N/C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluorescent bulbs and ballasts*</td>
<td>N/C*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* up to 10 fluorescent bulbs will be accepted

New Bike Lanes Added on Fourth Street and Buerkle Road

As part of the 2016 Mill & Overlay Project, new striping configurations were incorporated on Fourth Street and Buerkle Road. Changes allowed bike lanes/bike routes to be incorporated on these streets, which have both been identified as non-motorized transportation corridors within the city.

Fourth Street between Otter Lake Road and Highway 61
A variety of options within the existing road width were considered, including the elimination of parking on one side of the street. Ultimately the configuration chosen was a good compromise for all roadway users. New striping now designates a shared driving lane and bike route in both directions. The shared driving / bike lane is 14 feet wide, which is 3 feet wider than a standard driving lane.

Fourth Street bike route

Buerkle Road between the railroad tracks and White Bear Avenue
New striping provides one driving lane and one dedicated bike lane in each direction. The dedicated bike lane in each direction provides a much needed connection to the Bruce Vento Trail. A continuous center turn lane allows vehicles to enter businesses while still maintaining thru traffic. The right turn lane on the east end at White Bear Avenue will be lengthened to provide more stacking distance, easing congestion during peak hours.

New bike lanes on Buerkle Road
Our Environment

Medicine Drop-off Now Available at the White Bear Lake Public Safety Building

Safely dispose of unwanted, expired, and unused medicines for free at the new medicine drop box located in the main lobby of the WBL Public Safety Building at 4701 Highway 61 (open 24/7).

Guidelines
- Keep medicines in their original container for legal transport. Label loose medicines in a clear plastic bag.
- Seal all containers in clear plastic bags, ideally one-gallon or smaller size.
- Place the bag with medicine into the drop box.

Accepted
Medicines from households are accepted in any form including prescription, over the counter, vitamins, supplements, and pet medicines. Examples include:
- Blister packs
- Capsules and pills (unused only)
- Creams and gels
- Inhalers
- Epinephrine pens
- IV Bags
- Liquids
- Powders
- Sprays
- Patches
- Vials

Not Accepted
- No needles, syringes, lancets, or used epinephrine pens.
- Medicines are not accepted from businesses, health care facilities, long-term care facilities, pharmacies, doctors’ offices or veterinary clinics.

Why Use a Medicine Drop Box?
The City of White Bear Lake Police Department partnered with Ramsey County to provide a convenient medicine drop-off location for residents to properly dispose of unwanted medications. Proper disposal of medications is important to help prevent accidental poisoning or abuse and to protect our water resources. Medicines flushed down the drain or toilet can contaminate our lakes, streams, and groundwater. This is because most municipal wastewater treatment plants and septic systems cannot remove medications from wastewater. Research by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency confirms the presence of pharmaceuticals in Minnesota lakes and rivers, and further studies are being conducted to better understand how these chemicals affect fish and other organisms.

For a full list of medicine drop box locations in Ramsey County, visit RamseyRecycles.com or call 651-633-3279, answered 24/7.

Get Your Rebate and Promote Water Conservation

The Metropolitan Council, through funding from the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment, has awarded the City of White Bear Lake a water efficiency grant with the goal of improving municipal water conservation.

Utility customers have already submitted rebate requests totaling $32,000 for qualifying water efficient products. These water efficiency improvements amount to an estimated annual savings of 3.4 million gallons of municipal water. Nearly $17,000 in rebates are still available to water utility customers!

How does it work?
- Replace an existing clothes washing machine with an EnergyStar machine and receive up to $150, with receipts.
- Replace an existing toilet with a WaterSense certified toilet and receive up to $200, with receipts.
- Replace an existing irrigation controller with a WaterSense controller and receive up to $200, with receipts.

For more information
Visit the City’s website, www.whitebearlake.org, for rebate request forms and for more details about rebates available to White Bear Lake water utility customers.

Don’t have internet access? Contact Kara for more information: 651-429-8508.

Gallons of water saved can really add up!
- One WaterSense toilet can save 20,000 gallons of water annually
- A WaterSense irrigation controller saves 8,000 gallons annually
- An EnergyStar washer can save 3,000 gallons of water annually

Ramsey County Energy Conservation Deferred Loan Program

The Neighborhood Energy Connection (NEC) has partnered with Ramsey County to offer an Energy Conservation Deferred Loan. Homeowners in suburban Ramsey County can receive up to $6,500 in forgivable financing for select energy improvements, including new furnaces, boilers, and insulation.

The loan is 0% interest, has no monthly payments and is forgiven if the homeowner stays in their home for 10 years.

- Eligible upgrades will be identified during an in-home energy audit.
- Qualifying homes were built before 1995 and cannot exceed a market value of $251,750.
- Borrower may have a maximum of $50,000 in assets—excluding home, automobiles, and retirement funds.
- Maximum upper income limits apply.

For a full list of program details, visit www.thenec.org. Click on Home Energy Financing, then Suburban Ramsey County Energy Conservation Deferred Loan.
...Budget continued from page 1

Last year’s tax levy at $4.9 million was the same as that levied ten years earlier in 2007. Meanwhile, the City’s interest revenues have gone from nearly $2.5 million annually to less than $200,000 during the same period of time. Maintenance of the levy was accomplished through a variety of means, including strategic drawdowns of certain fund balances that could weather the impact. However, absent the recovery of federal reserve rates needed to generate meaningful interest revenue, the City must instead rely more heavily on the levy to finance its general fund operations than it has in recent years.

Community engagement as the City moves toward adoption of the 2017 budget is very important. There will be several means through which property owners can participate in the budgeting process. The proposed budget will be posted on the City’s website late October and made available at the public library and City Hall for public review and comment. Councilmembers from each Ward will also be hosting open houses throughout the month of October at City Hall to provide opportunity for property owners to learn more about the proposed 2017 budget. Property owners are also encouraged to direct any questions or comments to the City Manager at 651-429-8516.

Comprehensive Plan Update

Once every 10 years the City updates the “Comprehensive Plan”, which is the 30-year vision for the future of the community. This once-in-a-decade project is no small task! To get started, we plan to host a series of workshops this Fall and Winter to gather community input on various topics such as housing, water resources, parks & trails, economic competitiveness and resiliency. Keep an eye out for a future announcement of workshop dates and times.

Don’t want to miss out?! Be part of the planning process by signing up for announcement notices with Amy at avarani@whitebearlake.org.

WBL Police Offers Personal Safety Class for College Bound High School Girls

January 9, 2017 from 5:30pm to 8:30pm

Join White Bear Lake Police Officers at the Public Safety Building, 4701 Hwy 61, for a hands-on class that teaches high school girls self defense techniques and maneuvers. Class participants will also learn about different phone apps to use with friends that will help keep them safe. The goal of the class is to give young women some tools and ideas on how to stay safe as they head off to college. There is no charge for the class.

For more information and to register for the class, email Julie Swan-son at jswanson@whitebearlake.org.