

Weekly Calendar of Events

No City Meetings the Week of December 17

Council Update

City Receives Good News From the Metropolitan Council. The Metropolitan Council approved three (3) requests from the City at their meeting on Wednesday, December 12th. The Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA) for The COR, officially putting into place the revised Development Plan (land use plan) for The COR. The Metropolitan Council also approved the requests for two (2) Transit Oriented Development (TOD) grants for Center Street development (\$650,000) and pre-development planning for Mississippi Skyway (\$100,000).

Rail Ridership Numbers. The Ramsey Rail Station has proven to be popular with riders. The attached ridership numbers show that the train is averaging about 15 to 20 percent above ridership on the express bus after the first few weeks of operation. A record 171 riders boarded in Ramsey on the big December 10th snow day. *Attached to the Weekly Update is the Northstar Ridership Numbers.*

Department Activities:

Building Maintenance

- Snow and ice removal
- Repair snow removal equipment
- Meet with state boiler inspector and completed annual inspections

City Clerk

- Data requests
- Resolution execution
- Reviewed facility use rental documents

Finance

- Finalize 2013 General Fund Budget document
- Local Government Information Systems (LOGIS) Year-End Training
- Reconcile UB system to general 2012 YTD
- Gather professional contracts & update data for 2013 insurance

Fire

- Notable Responses
 - 12/7- Steam coming from hole in roof in the 15200 block of Hwy 47. No problem found, steam was result of a bathroom vent.
 - 12/8- Townhome garage fire in the 16900 block of Iodine Street NW. Arrived to find garage fully involved with fire spreading into the living unit and also the

adjoining townhome. Crews extinguished fire and salvaged personal belongings of homeowners. Fire under investigation.

- 12/9-Chimney fire in the 5800 block of 164th Ln. Fire out upon arrival. Crews cleaned out fireplace and checked for extension. Homeowner was advised to have chimney cleaned and inspected before use.
- Fire Administration
 - Investigation on residential townhome fire
 - Fire alarm plan review for Residence at the COR
 - Daycare inspection request from MN Dept of Human Services
 - Attended planning meeting for VA Clinic active threat
- Training this week: Business Meeting

HR

- Prepared for and met with (Law Enforcement Labor Services (LELS) Patrol regarding contract negotiations.
- Attended Rink Attendant orientation, prepared new hire papers, and submitted payroll documents
- Finalized open enrollment for employee benefits

IT

- The Connect Anoka County Fiber project is nearing the 98% completion mark for construction. The total project boasts about 277 miles of fiber line and they have between 5 & 6 miles left. Schedule conflicts have left several hardware installations delayed, however all City of Ramsey buildings have their hardware installed. The current projected completion date for the project is the end of March 2013.

Planning/Building

- Updates to materials for 2013 Land Use Application forms and guides
- Toured recycling centers in Coon Rapids and Andover with ACE Solid Waste
- Assisted public safety with review of building code requirements related to recent structure fire

Police

- **Stork Arrives.** Officers received a call of a medical at a residence in Ramsey. Upon arrival, Officers were met by a woman in labor with contractions about a minute apart. Allina paramedics arrived and advised officers that the birth was going to take place at the home. Officers assisted in delivering a healthy baby girl. Mom and baby were transported to Mercy after delivery. Maybe they'll name it "Melissa" or "Nick".
- **Evasive Driving .** A Ramsey sergeant was traveling on Riverdale Drive when a deer ran out of the field and into the path of the squad. The alert officer was able to avoid hitting the deer. A second deer ran into the passenger door of the squad causing damage to the vehicle. The estimated damage to the squad was \$1600.
- **Slow Down.** Officers responded to a property damage accident on Hwy #10 where a single vehicle had left the roadway and struck a tree. Two officers were seated in the Ford Expedition with the driver of the vehicle that had gone into the ditch when they were rear ended by another vehicle. Slippery road conditions and driving too fast for conditions caused the accident. No one was hurt in the accident. The police vehicle received \$3300 in damages.
- **More Deer.** Officers received a call of a deer with a bucket stuck to the antlers. The officers were unable to locate the deer. An officer also received a call of a deer with an arrow stuck its side. The officer could not locate the deer.

- **Minor Violation Equals Arrest.** A Ramsey officer stopped a pickup for swerving over the center line on Armstrong Blvd. The officer identified the driver and found that he had a revoked driver's license. The female passenger was found to have a small amount of MJ in her possession. The officer issued a citation to the driver for Driving After Revocation and the passenger for possession of a small amount of MJ. They were released and both left on foot while the officer waited for a tow. The officer inventoried the vehicle for tow and found a different license plate on the front of the vehicle than on the back. The box of the truck was loaded with a large amount of copper, wire, and shut off valves. Approximately one hour after the stop, officers learned that the vehicle had been reported stolen from a business out of Ham Lake. The theft was caught on video and matched the occupants of the vehicle. Further investigation revealed that the property in the truck had been stolen in Meeker County. Investigators will now complete casework to charge the occupants of the vehicle with theft and possession of stolen property.

Public Works

- All snow this week. Started plowing main roads with 5 trucks on Sunday morning at 0930, called in the full crew to start at 1300 and plowed city wide until 2000 Sunday night. The full crew came back in at 0300 on Monday morning to complete Sunday's plowing and to re-plow the city a second time finishing at 1130. We were back out with 5 trucks to do cleanup work on Tuesday and Wednesday. Received many calls from residents about loose snow in the roadway. This is being caused by the salt spread on the hard pack and loosening it up. Thursday we went through a city wide plowing event again to try to remove as much of the loose snow and slush as possible. Hopefully, we are nearing the end of this storm. As some of you are aware, we had contracted with a private firm to handle snow removal at the Municipal Center this winter. Their contract called for the Municipal Center parking lots and sidewalks to be clear of snow, the snow to be hauled from the site and all surfaces to be chemically treated for ice/snow by 0700. As of 1000 none of these items were completed. At that point we told city staff to take over and informed the contractor that his contract with the city was being terminated for failure to perform in accordance with the agreement. Snow/sleet/ freezing rain predicted for this week end....

Save the Date:

- **Annual City of Ramsey Holiday Party**– To be held on Friday, January 4, 2012. Stay tuned for details.
- **Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce Casino Royale Gala Dinner Fundraiser** – February 22, 2013 – Greenhaven. More details will follow as the event gets closer.

Best regards,



Kurt Ulrich
City Administrator

Attachments: Northstar Ridership Numbers
Governor Mark Dayton appoints Charlie Zelle Commissioner of MnDOT.

Subject: FW: New MnDOT Commissioner - Charlie Zelle

From: "Nick de Julio" <Nickd@ewald.com>
To: bobbenke@comcast.net, "Joseph Strauss" <jstrauss@straussmgmt.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2012 9:49:25 AM
Subject: New MnDOT Commissioner - Charlie Zelle

<http://mn.gov/governor/newsroom/pressreleasedetail.jsp?id=102-50793>

Governor Mark Dayton appoints Charlie Zelle Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Transportation

December 12, 2012

President and CEO of successful transportation company to lead Minnesota's Transportation Department

ST. PAUL, MN – Today Governor Mark Dayton announced the appointment of Charlie Zelle as Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). Zelle will begin his work at MnDOT on January 15, 2013, succeeding Commissioner Tom Sorel, who resigned December 1st, 2012, to become the CEO of AAA Minneapolis.

“Charlie Zelle’s outstanding record of innovation in the private sector will serve Minnesota well, as we build a transportation system, which will serve our needs and support our future growth and prosperity,” said Governor Mark Dayton. “I know that Mr. Zelle’s very successful business career and his strong commitment to public service will make him an outstanding Commissioner of MnDOT at this important time.”

For more than 20 years, Zelle has served as President and CEO of Jefferson Lines, a Minneapolis-based transportation company providing travel services in 13 states across the Midwest. Jefferson Lines serves over 60 Minnesota communities and specializes in connecting rural areas to destinations throughout North America.

As CEO, Zelle expanded Jefferson Lines, restored and sustained the company’s profitability through new measures of efficiency and growth, and pioneered a national model for public rural transit. Zelle also modernized the company’s bus fleet and developed a “College Connection” program that helps students get back and forth from home and school across five different states. Once Commissioner, Zelle will play no role in managing the daily business of Jefferson Lines, though he will continue to serve as Chair of the Board of Directors of the company. As commissioner, Zelle will recuse himself from handling any business between MnDOT and Jefferson Lines.

"It is a great honor to join the Dayton Administration in an area that is critically important to all Minnesotans," said Zelle. "MnDOT has a strong reputation for innovation and I look forward to helping lead the agency as it

plays an increasingly important role in advancing the state's future prosperity through key investments in infrastructure."

In addition to his professional work at Jefferson Lines, Zelle has volunteered his time on transportation policy and business issues in a variety of capacities. Zelle currently serves as the Chair of the Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Corridors of Opportunity Policy Board, and a member of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. This year he was appointed by Governor Dayton to the Transportation Finance Advisory Committee (TFAC). As a founding member of the Itasca Project, Zelle is Co-Chair of the group's Transportation Task Force. He is also a Board Member and Chair of the Policy Committee of the American Bus Association in Washington D.C. Additionally, Zelle has served on the Executive Committee of the University of Minnesota Center for Transportation Studies (CTS) and chaired the American Bus Association.

For his exemplary work in transportation policy, Zelle has been recognized as a recipient of the George Rucker Award by the Community Transportation Association in 2009 and the Ray L. Lappegaard Distinguished Service Award by CTS in 2012.

Zelle is also active in several philanthropic and volunteer organizations. He chairs the Board of the Jerome Foundation, an organization supporting emerging artists in Minnesota and New York City. Zelle has also served as President of the boards of the Minneapolis Club, Guthrie Theater, Meet Minneapolis, and the St. Paul Academy. He was inducted into the Minneapolis/St. Paul Magazine's Twin Citian Volunteer Hall of Fame in 2002.

Born and raised in St. Paul, Zelle received a BA from Bates College and a MBA from the Yale Management School. He lives in Minneapolis with his wife, Julie (a minister), his daughter, Charlotte (20) and his son, Nick (17).

Nick de Julio

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