



Chaska City Hall Bulletin

From the desk of Mayor Van Eyll
"The Best Small Town in Minnesota"

Volume 2, Issue 2:
January 15, 2009

NEW ASSISTANT CITY ADMINISTRATOR HIRED

The City of Chaska moved forward this week to fill the Assistant Administrator position vacated by Matt Podhradsky, by offering the job to Bart Fischer. Fischer has been with the City of Newport, Minnesota for six years, serving as the Assistant City Administrator and most recently as the Interim Administrator upon the retirement of their long-term City Administrator.

In his position in Newport, Fischer was in charge of all Human Resource and Economic Development activities. He also was involved in special administrative projects. He had exposure to a number of different departments within the City and brings a great deal of knowledge of local and state government to the job, having working with the Minnesota State Senate in the 1990s.

Fischer will be a good fit as the new Chaska Assistant Administrator because of his varied exposure to a number of different areas. As well as being responsible for Human Resources and EDA activities, he will also take over insurance claims, communications, general administrative projects, and help promote and grow our downtown business district and recruit employers for the industrial parks and bioscience area.

Fischer is married and has three children. He and his family currently live in Cottage Grove but they will be moving closer to the City of Chaska. He begins employment with the City on Monday, February 2nd. The City is very excited about having Bart Fischer start with Chaska and we are confident that he will be a valuable asset to the community.

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CITY TO RECEIVE PLAQUE



At the January 26th meeting of the Chaska City Council, the City will be receiving a recognition plaque from our financial advisors, Springsted Financial Services, for a recent upgrade the City received in its bond ratings. This past fall the City increased its Standard and Poors Bond rating from A+ to AA, which is a full two-step increase in rating. This is great news for the City, as it very positively affects the interest rates we are able to obtain for financing on projects. The City is confident that in the future this upgrade in rating will help us in financing public improvement projects. Any financial questions may be directed to Noel Graczyk, Administrative Services Director, at 952-448-9200.

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Ridgeview ER Final Approval Scheduled



The Chaska Planning Commission considered the final site and building plan approvals for the Ridgeview Ambulatory Center at its January 14th meeting. The proposed building is planned to be six stories and located at the northeast corner of Highway 41 and new Highway 212, directly across from the SuperAmerica Station on Hundertmark Road. The building will include a full emergency room, surgical suite, and medical specialty offices. Initially, only four of the six stories will be built, given the number of tenants slated for the building. When fully completed, the building will be over 250,000 sq ft and will include many of the components found in a traditional hospital.

As part of the components of the project, a section of Hundertmark Road directly in front of the site will be reconstructed from Christian Drive to Highway 41 to accommodate the increase in traffic, and widening of the road and additional turn lanes will also be completed. A signal is planned for the entrance into the Ambulatory Center to accommodate ingress and egress out of the site. The entrance to the SuperAmerica site is slated to be shifted to the east to match up with the entrance to the proposed Ridgeview building.

This project would be the only location in the State of Minnesota to provide a stand-alone emergency department, without being formally tied to a hospital facility. The City of Chaska is excited about this proposal and the high quality medical facility that will serve the area. As new Highway 212 opened, one of the stated goals of the City Council was to try and attract a major medical facility to the community. This project will clearly help the City meet that goal and provide

residents with an excellent level of medical service. The Council will consider the recommendations of the Planning Commission at its January 26th meeting.

Questions about the project may be directed to the Chaska City Administrator, Matt Podhradsky.

Reminder of Snow Plowing Procedures

For the first time in several years, Minnesota has been experiencing a typical winter, which has included both cold weather and snow. With the significant number of snow events over the past three weeks, we would like to remind residents of the City snow plowing procedures.

The City focuses on clearing the main snow emergency routes when they start to become snow covered. After the snow has concluded, snowplowing activities will typically be completed during the night, usually between 2:00 am and 7:30 am. While this does create some noise during the night time hours, it does ensure that by the time rush hour begins in the morning, all City streets have been cleared.

Between November first and April first, the City has an odd/even parking schedule for all residential streets, as well as in the downtown business district. On even calendar days, residents should park on the even side of the street, and on the odd side on odd days. Parking in the downtown business district is not allowed between 2:00 am and 6:00 am at anytime. The night after a snowstorm, the City will usually go back and perform snow removal in the downtown area from the plowing procedures. The City is very committed to providing a safe road environment and takes great pride in providing excellent snow plowing services.

Questions or concerns about snow plowing activities can be directed to the Public Works Director, Tim Wiebe, at 952-448-4335.





Don't forget the annual Chaska Volunteer Fire Department Fishing Contest on Clayhole Lake at the Firemen's Park on Saturday, January 24th from 2-4pm. Guaranteed Fun!



COMMUNITY CENTER ACTIVITIES

AOA Fitness Assessments:

This program, offered FREE of charge, for Active Older Adults (ages 55+), offers the opportunity to get a baseline measurement of your fitness level. Wednesday, January 21, join Susan Marek, CCC Fitness Coordinator and Group X Instructor, at 10:00 a.m. in the Lodge. She will lead you through seven safe and effective functional fitness tests designed for independent adults. The tests provide feedback on activities for daily living through related fitness components:

- ❖ Cardiovascular Endurance
- ❖ Muscular Strength
- ❖ Flexibility
- ❖ Power
- ❖ Agility
- ❖ Balance

Your assessment can be compared to peer population performance and we can help set plans to improve these measurements. We will offer two assessment opportunities in 2009 so you can track your progress! Get measured, get started, have fun! Sign up at The Lodge 952-448-2023.

Indoor Soccer Begins:

Chaska Indoor Soccer begins Saturday, January 24. With over 180 boys and girls enrolled from ages 4 through 10, the winter season will be jam packed with fun and excitement! Teams are formed and games played each Saturday for 6 weeks. The boys and girls get t-shirts, as well as the experience of being part of a team, learning the game of soccer, and having fun.



Yoga Club:

Join, Susan Marek, on Tuesdays, starting January 20, at 2:45 p.m. for Yoga Club, geared for ages 11 to 14. In this Yoga Club, youth and yoga combine for a relaxed, yet physical practice of this ancient activity. It will be a time for learning yoga postures, breathing and mindfulness. Bring your friends to this welcoming activity and discover amazing body movement and mind focus. Bring your own music CD and we will use it in our youthful yoga practice! Call the CCC for more information 952-448-5633.



Jeff Foxworthy on Minnesota

If you carry jumper cables in your car, and your girlfriend knows how to use them,
You might live in Minnesota.

If someone in a store offers you assistance, and they don't work there,
You might live in Minnesota.

If vacation means going "up north" for the weekend,
You might live in Minnesota.

If you measure distance in hours,
You might live in Minnesota.

If you see people wearing hunting clothes at social events,
You might live in Minnesota.

If you find -10 degrees "a little chilly",
You might live in Minnesota.

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