



## CITY OF OKOBOJI

P.O. BOX 377

OKOBOJI, IA 51355

PHONE: (712) 332-2550

FAX: (712) 332-7040

E-MAIL: [okobojich@mchsi.com](mailto:okobojich@mchsi.com)

WEBSITE: [www.okobojicity.com](http://www.okobojicity.com)

*Mission Statement: "Improve and Protect our Community"*

### QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

April 1, 2014

#### COUNCILMEMBER UPDATE

In an effort to keep the citizens of Okoboji informed, we would like to take this opportunity to update you on the incumbent Councilmembers for the city. It is easy to remember the last election, but are you able to remember your incumbent Councilmembers, especially those that have served you for many years?

Councilmember Jim Hentges was first appointed July 8, 2008, to fill the un-expired term of Joe Gamble. Jim was then placed on the November 2009 ballot and was elected, taking office January 2010 to finish that term. Jim was re-elected November 2011 for his second full term, taking office January 2012, and has faithfully exercised his obligation as your Councilmember since that time. Jim has resided in Okoboji since 1985.

Councilmember Jerry Robinson was elected November 2005, and officially assumed office in January 2006. Jerry was re-elected in November 2009 and November 2013 for his second and third terms as your Councilmember, and assumed office each following January. Jerry is retired from the Cedar Falls, Iowa, school system, and has resided in Okoboji full time since 1999.

Councilmember Jim Delperdang is the longest serving Councilmember in office today. Jim was first appointed July 8, 2000, to fill the un-expired term of Dick Hahn. Jim was elected to office in November 2003, taking office January 2004 for his first full term. Jim was then re-elected in November 2007 and November 2011 for his third and fourth terms respectively, assuming office each following January. Jim is an MD serving as an emergency room physician, and has resided in Okoboji full time since 1999.

#### CLEAN-UP DAY AND LANDSCAPE WASTE

The annual Clean-Up Day conducted by the City of Okoboji will be **June 9th** this year, **one day only**. The Clean-Up Day is designed to pick up items not normally picked up for regular garbage collection, and is for **residential only**. Please limit the weight of items you wish to have picked up, and **have your items at the curb before the designated day**. Be sure all planks/boards are cut not to exceed 6 (six) ft. in length for disposal. **Batteries, paint, insecticide cans, and other hazardous waste will not be picked up. The City will NOT collect the following special items for free on Clean-Up Day: white goods (appliances), brown goods (electronics), televisions, furniture (stuffed items), car tires, truck and tractor tires.** Tags must be purchased for the collection of those items. (Reminder: Residents may use this tag system all year round to dispose of these types of unwanted items – not just on Clean-Up Day.)

The City will begin collecting landscape waste on Wednesdays when the weather permits. We will publicize the beginning of landscape waste collection on the local radio stations. Please use clear bags if possible, but we will collect landscape waste provided it is bagged, boxed, or canned. Limit the size of branches to two (2) inches in diameter, not longer than four (4) feet in length, and seventy-five (75) pounds in weight. In the event the landscape waste site becomes too muddy or wet due to poor weather, the City will announce on the local radio stations landscape waste will not be collected that day.

#### GARBAGE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

**\*\*\* Mark Your Calendar - Week of May 19 - Twice/Week Garbage Collection Begins \*\*\***

Starting the week of **May 19<sup>th</sup>** through the Monday after Labor Day, Garbage Collection Service will be twice weekly, on Monday and Thursday. Recycling Collection Service continues once/week on Monday.

**Memorial Day Holiday:** Garbage and Recycling Collections will be one day later during that week only; on Tuesday and Friday for Garbage collection, and Tuesday for Recycling collection.

For more information, please contact Waste Management, Toll Free at 1-800-833-9596.

#### OKOBOJI RAGBRAI HOUSING

The RAGBRAI Housing Committee is looking for volunteers to host registered RAGBRAI Riders on **July 20, 2014!** We are looking for indoor & outdoor space: Shower facilities, floor space, beds, couches, backyards, parking. Riders agree that a cold shower is better than NO shower! Talk with your neighbors about sharing yard space. This is a great opportunity to meet people from all over the globe! The Housing Committee will match you with riders and provide contact information.

Please contact the Housing Committee at: [ragbrai@vacationokoboji.com](mailto:ragbrai@vacationokoboji.com) or [www.okobojiragbrai.com](http://www.okobojiragbrai.com)

#### HOUSE NUMBERING:

WOULD THE AMBULANCE CREW BE ABLE TO FIND YOU??

This is a reminder that your home or business must be numbered. **Our Fire Chief has requested that you make sure your number is displayed AND visible to passing traffic.** Our fire and rescue personnel have had difficulty finding certain locations because of no house numbers or numbers that are hard to see. The time spent trying to locate your house number could be a matter of life and death in an emergency situation. Please contact City Hall if you are not certain of your house or business number. Our City Ordinance states: The owner shall place or cause to be installed and maintained on the principal building the assigned number in a conspicuous place to the street in figures not less than two and one-half (2 ½) inches in height and of a **contrasting color** with their background. If your home or business is located so it is not visible from the roadway, then a number must be placed on a post as near to the road as possible for easy identification. For those of you who know your home or business is not numbered, please do so at your earliest convenience.

#### **AUTOMATIC BANK PAYMENT**

The City of Okoboji offers automatic bank payments for your quarterly water bills. With the auto-pay system, your payments will be made automatically from your checking or savings account. You never have to worry about forgetting a payment, mailing it in on time, or incurring additional charges for late payment. If you have more than one City water account, you can sign up for all of them on one form. Please contact City Hall if you have any questions about this service, or to request an ACH Debit Authorization form. **If you are not using the automatic bank payment option, the City respectfully requests that you please put your account number on your check along with your payment stub.**

#### **DOGS AND CATS RUNNING AT LARGE**

Just a reminder to all citizens of Okoboji: It is illegal to allow an animal to run at large. This problem seems to surface particularly during the summer months. Chapter 55 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Okoboji states it is unlawful for any owner to allow an animal to run at large within the corporate limits of the City. The Code also states that in the event any animal is found running at large and not under restraint, it shall be presumed that the owner or harbinger of said animal has permitted said animal to run at large and consented thereto and the burden of proof shall be upon said owner or harbinger to prove otherwise. It is also unlawful for the owner of an animal to allow or permit such animal to pass upon the premises of another thereby causing damage to, or interference with, the premises. The Code further states it is unlawful for the owner of a dog to allow or permit such dog to cause serious annoyance or disturbance to any person or persons by frequent and habitual howling, yelping, barking, or otherwise; or, by running after or chasing persons, bicycles, automobiles or other vehicles. The City is asking all animal owners to please observe the law and more importantly to observe the rights of others, as picking up those animals that are running loose or causing other problems is time consuming and costly for everyone.

#### **DOG WASTE RECEPTACLES**

The City currently has dog waste receptacles at locations throughout town. Receptacles are located at Speier Park, each end of the Dixon Beach walkway, the corner of Lake Shore Drive and County Home Road, the corner of Julia Street and Lake Shore Drive, the south Echo Bay dock owners' access, and the north City limits at the last stop sign location in town. The receptacles will provide a plastic bag for you to use as well as the bin where you can place the waste. The City of Okoboji has always encouraged those who walk their dogs within the City limits to pick up after them. Please make use of these receptacles, as this service is being provided at no charge.

#### **HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

City offices will be closed Monday, May 26, 2014, in observance of Memorial Day.

City offices will be closed on Friday, July 4, 2014, in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

These newsletters are furnished to all taxpayers and citizens of Okoboji, hoping they will enhance efforts to keep all informed as to local government issues and to encourage participation. If you have a suggested topic for future newsletters, advise your Mayor or Councilmembers, or you may call or write directly to the City Hall.

Dennis J. Daly, CMC  
City Clerk/Administrator