



CITY OF OKOBOJI
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Mission statement: "Improve and Protect Our Community"

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

JULY 1, 2013

OKOBOJI BIDS FAREWELL TO A LONGTIME COUNCILMEMBER

The City of Okoboji bid farewell on June 4, 2013 to longtime Councilmember Sue Larsen. Sue served the city beginning in 1995 on the Planning and Zoning Commission. She then served on the City Council beginning in 1999 through March 2013, when she resigned due to health problems, and passed away May 30th. Sue will be remembered as a very conscientious Councilmember who remained steadfast in her underlying devotion to the City of Okoboji. The City has honored Sue with a sign dedicating a drainage project in her honor. She was instrumental in assisting the City in receiving a \$100,000 grant for this project located at the Echo Bay Dock Owner Association access. An angel figurine will also be placed in that same location provided by friends of Sue. Please visit this site when the project is complete sometime later this fall.

RECYCLING & GARBAGE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Waste Management will continue with the twice-weekly garbage collection schedule (on Mondays & Thursdays for the whole town) through the Monday after Labor Day. Recycling Collection Service continues once a week on Mondays.

Please have your trash and recycling out to the curb by 7:00 a.m. on pickup days.

With July 4th falling on a Thursday, the residential garbage will be collected on Friday that week.

Labor Day Holiday: Garbage and Recycling Collections will be one day later during that week.

(Tuesday for Recycling; Tuesday & Friday for Garbage)

RENTAL OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

It has come to our attention that there has possibly been some rental of residential property for shorter tenures than allowed by city ordinances. According to Article V, R-1 Single - Family Residential District, Section 2, Paragraph A.4 of the City of Okoboji Zoning Ordinance, "The renting of residential property such as a room, a group of rooms, or an entire residence for the sleeping, living, and housekeeping activities by the same person or same group of persons on a permanent or semi-permanent basis is prohibited except for an intended tenure of 30 days or more." This holds true for rentals in an R-2 Multi-Family District and the L-R Lakeshore Residential District as well. The definition of a "family" is as follows: "An individual or two or more persons related by blood, marriage or adoption living together in a single housekeeping unit in a dwelling unit, OR a group of not more than five persons who need not be related, living together as a single housekeeping unit in a dwelling unit." Please be advised that the practice of renting for a tenure of less than 30 days and/or renting to more than five unrelated individuals is prohibited and may force the City of Okoboji to proceed with enforcement action, which could become costly and time consuming for all parties involved.

HOUSE NUMBERING UPDATE:
WOULD THE AMBULANCE CREW BE ABLE TO FIND YOU??

In the April newsletter, you were reminded that each home or business must be numbered. **Our Fire Chief has requested that you make sure your number is displayed AND visible to passing traffic.** To those of you that have complied since the last newsletter a big thank you goes out to you all. In the event that you have not yet numbered your home or business, please do so as soon as possible. Letters will be sent one more time in the near future advising you of the rules and regulations and what could take place if compliance is not met. **PLEASE**, for your own safety and well being, put the numbers into place on your home or business.

BARKING DOGS

There have been some problems relating to barking dogs in town. Chapter 55.09 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Okoboji 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. If it is found that one is in violation of this section of the code, you could be served with a citation and possible fine for that violation. The City of Okoboji is kindly asking that everyone please take notice and govern your pet accordingly.

WATER PLANT RENOVATION PROJECT

We are pleased to announce the water plant has been online since February 1 of this year and is performing beautifully. The capacity of the water plant has been increased from 1.5 million gallons to 2.4 million gallons of water that can be produced if needed. According to Water Superintendent Mike Miller, the water plant is 99% substantially complete. He stated the only item remaining is a "punch" list of items that need to be addressed and completed before actually accepting the project as complete. The City of Okoboji was able to finance this project using the State Revolving Fund for a certified water project at a very desirable 3.25% interest rate, plus we were awarded a grant of \$875,000 for the project. The City of Okoboji worked with Tim Oswald of the Piper Jaffray Company, and we have since been able to refinance this SRF loan and another SRF loan for a water main project into a General Obligation Loan for a little over 2% interest -- thus saving the city approximately \$597,000 in interest over the life of the loan. The loan is in place for 20 years.

NOTICE TO THE CITIZENS OF OKOBOJI

The Consumer Confidence Report of Water Quality for the City of Okoboji, Iowa, will not be mailed to you. However, a copy is posted at the Okoboji City Hall and at the Okoboji Post Office as well as having been published in the Dickinson County News. Copies of the report are available at the Okoboji City Hall. You may also request a copy via email – send your request to okobojich@mchsi.com.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City offices will be closed on Thursday, July 4, 2013, in observance of Independence Day. **(The Thursday garbage collection will be one day later that week – it will be collected on Friday, July 5th.)**

City offices will also be closed on Monday, September 2, 2013, in observance of Labor Day. **(Garbage and Recycling Collections will be one day later during Labor Day week – Garbage on Tuesday & Friday, and Recycling on Tuesday.)**

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.

Have a safe and happy summer!!!

Dennis J. Daly, CMC
City Clerk/Administrator