



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

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

JULY 1, 2014

LONG TIME CITY ATTORNEY RESIGNS

Okoboji City Attorney Michael Chozen has resigned after 31 years of unwavering service. Mike resigned effective March 25, 2014. During his tenure Mike successfully represented and defended the City of Okoboji not only at the District Court level, but also at the Appellate and Supreme Court levels. Mike was tireless in his devotion as your city attorney. Having known Mike personally as well as professionally, he will be greatly missed. If you happen to see Mike during your travels, please thank him for a job well done and wish him well for the future. In his place, the City Council appointed David Stein, Jr. of the Stein Law Office of Milford, Iowa. David was officially appointed on March 25, 2014, and brings a wealth of experience to the position. If you would happen to see David, please congratulate him on the appointment.

ZEBRA MUSSEL INFESTATION

As we have heard through the news media, the Iowa Great Lakes has been blessed with zebra mussels. The mussels create a host of problems, and one of those is clogging water intakes in the lake for withdrawal of water for treatment for potable purposes. The City of Okoboji has been asked several times what measures have been taken to ensure the water treatment plant intake is not affected by these organisms. When the new intake in West Lake was put into place two years ago, a special zinc alloy screen was installed to deter adult zebra mussels from attaching themselves to the screen and eventually plugging it. The chemical sodium permanganate is injected into the intake pipe to keep an immature mussel from attaching itself to the inside of the pipe and growing. The chemical used is approved for human consumption.

A side note to the installation of the new intake pipe is that local divers were hired by the contractor to assist in the placement of the pipe underwater. The divers spent many hours working on this, and produced a savings for the contract. These individuals are to be commended for their hard work during this time.

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.

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.

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. Article II, Definition of Terms, Section 2.1, Paragraph 112 of the City of Okoboji Zoning Ordinance states: **“RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES: The intent to use and/or the use of a room or group of rooms for the sleeping, living and housekeeping activities for the same person or the same group of persons, on a permanent or semi-permanent basis of an intended tenure of one (1) month or more. It is the intent of this definition to prohibit rental of residential property for an incidental term of 30 consecutive days or less.”** This holds true for rentals in an R-2 Multi-Family District and the R-3 Lakeshore Residential District as well.

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.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

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

City offices will also be closed on Monday, September 1, 2014, 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