



Inside this issue:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Influence of Crime | 2 |
| New Water Rates Continued | 2 |
| New Prague Area Community Education | 3 |
| Ice/Snow Removal | 3 |
| February/March Meeting Calendar | 4 |
| 2015 Community Events | 4 |

New Year and New City Councilmembers

New City Councilmembers Jason Stern, and Josh Berg took the Oath of Office on Thursday, January 8, 2015 signifying the start of their duties on the Elko New Market City Council and will serve until December 31, 2018. Councilmember Julius was given the Oath of Office on Thursday, December 4, 2014 and will serve until December 31, 2016.

Changing his role on the City Council, Bob Crawford, who had been a Councilmember since January, 2013, became Mayor by taking the Oath of Office on January 8, 2015 and will serve until December 31, 2016.

The City Council is currently interviewing candidates to fill the open Council seat vacated by Bob Crawford when he was elected Mayor last November. The Council expects to name a new Councilmember at its meeting on February 12, 2015 to serve until December 31, 2016.

The City again expresses its appreciation and gratitude for now former Mayor Tony Gabriel and Councilmembers Hank Marotske and Brandon Prasnicki, along with Planning Commissioner Kent Hartzler, who stepped into the role of Councilmember for 6 months, for their service the City.



Photo Courtesy of New Prague Times—Pictured left to right: Josh Berg, Jason Stern, Bob Crawford, and Joe Julius

Egg Hunt

The annual Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, March 28th.



When available, details and registration information will be provided on the City's website at www.ci.enm.mn.us under Events

New Water Rates

The City of Elko New Market wants water customers to be aware of significant 2015 tier rate changes and plan for the notable base rate increases anticipated in 2016.

Usage tier rates have changed for 2015. The changes have the potential to significantly affect customers that use a lot of water for things like lawn irrigation and swimming pools. The City has experienced several days of high peak usage in recent years, especially during dry weather. These high usage peaks put the system at increased risk of being unable to keep water in the towers. When all wells need to run frequently to meet high demand, even a minor breakdown taking a few hours to repair can lead to supply shortage. The shortage would affect all users.

One strategy the City already has in place is odd/even watering restrictions. This is intended to prevent all customers from watering at the same time. Residents should expect increased enforcement of this restriction. Another strategy is to discourage excessive or wasteful use of water for watering. Elko New Market uses a tiered rate structure to promote conservation of water. The first tier (up to 10,000 gallons per month) is sold at a modest price. This amount of water will cover domestic usage for laundry, cooking, bathing, and consumption for most families. It will typically allow some water for other uses like watering. Elko New Market families use, on average, 7,000 gallons per month when no watering is taking place. The second tier of usage (10,000 to 20,000 gallons per month) is sold at roughly double the price



Influence of Crime

When you witness a crime, it is your responsibility to report it to the Police Department. This is one of the ways we keep our community safe. Often people assume that if the crime seems minor or the damage can be repaired by insurance, they shouldn't bother the police.

Under reporting can affect crime statistics. Not reporting a crime always gives the impression that it is acceptable to break the law. To report a crime or suspected crime - call 9-1-1.

The Neighborhood Watch program and other crime prevention efforts have an impact on crime. If citizens are kept informed about crime trends and prevention measures, and if they are comfortable calling the police when they see something suspicious, crimes are prevented.

What is suspicious?

Anything that seems out of the ordinary to you - follow your instincts.

Listen to Your Inner Voice

"We intuitively evaluate people all the time, quite attentively but they only get our conscious

attention when there is reason. Thus, when something does call out to us, we ought to pay attention. For many people, that is a muscle that they do not exercise." quote from Gavin DeBecker - The Gift of Fear

The Power of Observation

What you observe is of great importance because the police can't be everywhere at once. If what you are observing is suspicious to you, then it is very important that you call 9-1-1 immediately.

What if you interrupt or witness a crime?

Stay Calm—Get yourself to a position of safety—Evaluate the situation—Observe what's happening—Call 911—stay on the phone with the dispatcher

Give the following information:

Direction of travel—Suspect info (height, weight, age, race, clothing)—Vehicle description (license #, color, make)

Chief Steve Mortenson



New Water Rates Continued

per gallon as the first tier. After the first 10,000 gallons is used, each thousand gallons will cost \$7.04. This adds up quickly. The City has added a third tier to further discourage very high usage. Over 20,000 gallons in a month, each thousand gallons costs over \$14 per thousand. It is expected that conservation will continue to be a hot topic in the water industry in Minnesota and nationwide. Elko New Market will be one of many agencies working to promote efficient use of water resources in coming years.

For 2015 and beyond, residents are cautioned to be mindful of water used – especially for watering lawns, etc. There is a lot of information on the web about how to conserve water while maintaining landscaping and City staff can try to guide residents with specific questions. The purpose of this article is to raise awareness about rate changes in 2015 before the summer irrigation season begins.

While most users may not see a big change in 2015 (especially if they stay in the first tier of usage), 2016 rates will affect all users. The base fee charged to every account before usage is added on will need to be raised substantially to cover debt service on the water treatment facility currently under construction. The good news is that the water will be noticeably improved because the rust and associated staining will be removed as a secondary benefit to the removal of Radium required to meet EPA standards. The water is fine to use in the interim – you've probably already seen numerous articles about this issue. The City Council chose to hold off on the required rate increases for debt service until the water is actually improved. The 2016 increase is for better water. In contrast, the 2015 increase in tier rates is for conservation and to improve the reliability of the system in providing water at all times.



New Prague Area Community Education Update

Don't let the winter doldrums get you down! New Prague Area Community Education has numerous activities scheduled to cure any cabin fever that might come your way. Check out the Winter/Spring brochure either online or in printed form to see all that is offered. Some activities coming to Elko New Market include:

Adults:

- 2/19—Breads Like Grandma Made
- 2/19—Lifestyle Changes for a Healthier You
- 2/23—Marketing 101 with Amy Lewis
- 3/9—Intro to QuickBooks with Dawn Davis
- 3/19—Thyroid Health Naturally
- 3/31—Buying and Investing in Real Estate
- 4/2—Preparing Your Home for Sale
- 4/6—Straw Bale Gardening
- 4/15—Small Business Finance with Joe Julius
- Zumba (registration is on-going)
- Online classes with Anna Simon (check the brochure for times and dates)

Kids:

- 2/24—Watch Me Draw! Spring Art Studio (gr. K-5)
- 2/26—Wilderness Skills with Three Rivers Park District (ages 8-13)
- 3/5—LEGO Machines: Wheels and Racers (gr. 1-5)
- 3/7—Crazy Chemworks (gr. K-5)
- 3/10—Young Writers' and Artists' Conference
- 3/10—March Madness Junior Basketball (gr. K-3)
- 3/11—Fencing II (gr. 2-8)
- 3/11—Grand masters of Chess (gr. K-5)
- 3/16—KidCreate Studio Splat-tacular Art Class (ages 4-9)
- 3/16—Dance with Me, Daddy – Royal Gala (ages 3-10 and Dad)
- 3/20—Home Alone Clinic (ages 8-11)

You will find a full listing of courses, descriptions, dates and times in our catalog and online at ce.np.k12.mn.us. Register now!



Ice/Snow Removal

Winter brings with it lots of fun outdoor activities, like sledding, ice skating and skiing. But winter also means mounds of snow to shovel and layers of slippery ice to remove from our sidewalks and driveways. We often attempt to make the job easier by using various products to melt the snow and ice. Even if the surface you are applying a deicer to is relatively far from a street or creek, much of the product will not soak into the soil because the ground is frozen. However when the ice melts, the salt and chemicals dissolve and flow into street drains that lead directly into nearby water bodies.

Here are some alternative deicers to try:

- Calcium magnesium acetate (CMA) has fewer adverse environmental impacts than salt and doesn't cause corrosion. CMA is recommended for environmentally sensitive areas but is a little more expensive.

- Another alternative is Safe Step this is safe for children, pets and your lawn. It melts until -10°F and helps to keep ice from refreezing 2 ½ times longer than other deicers. This is available at most hardware stores.
- Bare Ground is a deicer that is a bit more expensive up front but it's a natural and biodegradable product. This product may be more difficult to find, but is available at some hardware stores.

Not sure how to pick a deicer?

Read the label. Check the ingredients.

Magnesium and calcium chloride work better in colder temperatures. Blends typically consist mostly of sodium chloride because it is cheap. Urea may be listed as pet or plant friendly, but is a poor melter.



CITY OF ELKO NEW MARKET

**601 Main Street
PO Box 99
Elko New Market, MN 55020**

**Phone: (952) 461-2777
Fax: (952) 461-2782
E-mail: info@ci.enm.mn.us**

PRSRRT STD

ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
ELKO NEW MARKET,
MN 55020
PERMIT 14

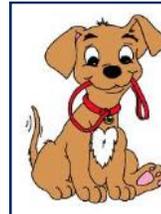
PARKS COMMISSION RECEIVES DNR GRANT TO START ARCHERY PROGRAM

The Parks Commission was awarded a \$1,600 matching grant from the Minnesota DNR to purchase archery equipment to start an archery program for Elko New Market area youth. In cooperation with New Prague Community Ed, the Parks Commission will begin offering lessons at Windrose Park this Summer. Watch the City website for more details or call Mark Nagel, Assistant City Administrator, (952) 461-2777 for more information.



*****ECRWSSSEDDM****

Postal Customer
Elko New Market, MN



Residents should be aware that all dogs residing within Elko New Market city limits must be licensed with the City. Questions? Call (952) 461-2777

February 2015 Calendar

| | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 3 | Planning Commission | 7:00 pm |
| 10 | Parks & Rec Commission | 4:00 pm |
| 12 | City Council Workshop (Time Change) | 6:00 pm |
| | City Council Business Meeting | 7:30 pm |
| 16 | Presidents Day | City Offices Closed |
| 26 | City Council Workshop | 6:30 pm |
| | City Council Business Meeting | 7:30 pm |

March 2015 Calendar

| | | |
|----|-------------------------------|---------|
| 3 | Planning Commission | 7:00 pm |
| 10 | Parks & Rec Commission | 4:00 pm |
| 12 | City Council Workshop | 6:30 pm |
| | City Council Business Meeting | 7:30 pm |
| 26 | City Council Workshop | 6:30 pm |
| | City Council Business Meeting | 7:30 pm |

2015 Community Events

2015 Event Schedule

| | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Egg Hunt | March 28 |
| City Wide Garage Sale | May 14-16 |
| Spring Clean-Up | June 6 |
| Fire Rescue Days | June 26-28 |
| Night to Unite | August 4 |
| Halloween Party | October 24 |

Watch upcoming newsletters and the City website at www.ci.enm.mn.us for more community events as they are scheduled.

