



Spring Issue

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Inside this issue:

Recycling Questionnaire Results.....	1
Turkey Bow Hunting.....	1
Recycling Bin Relocation.....	1
Council Minutes.....	2
5 Year Capital Improvement.....	2
April Council Meeting date change.....	2
Zinc Alloy Screen.....	2

Results from the Recycling/Garbage Questionnaire

There were a total of 270 recycling/garbage surveys returned. 203 responses wanted to keep the recycling as it currently is with no changes or cost increases. 34 responded they would like curbside instead of the recycling bins and would be willing to pay the additional cost. 33 additional surveys were returned but didn't answer the questions either way but made some type of comment.

Some of the comments received include: 16 people suggested we empty the recycle bins more often. Dennis checks them daily and tries to anticipate when they will be full because we have to call a few days in advance to have them dumped but sometimes they can be 1/2 full one day, and fill up over night. Another problem we have is people not breaking down boxes before putting them in the bin. Several said they didn't have room for another container in their garage or didn't want to get rid of the large bins, some wanted yard waste containers or be able to include yard waste in the current garbage containers.

Thanks to everyone for the response and great feedback.

TURKEY BOW HUNTING

A resident recently presented a concern about the turkey population at the January City Council meeting. He showed pictures of turkey feces all over his yard because of a large number of the birds perching in trees on his property at night. Mayor Joenks and Councilman Prior met with DNR to try to solve the problem by having some of the birds relocated, however, DNR said they were feral turkeys and relocation was not an option. DNR could trap the birds and euthanize them at a cost to the City, but suggested a bow hunting season in the city limits as a better option.

At the March 9th City Council meeting, the Council voted unanimously to approve the first reading of Ordinance #156: An Ordinance Adopting a New Section 55.17 of the Wahpeton City Code entitled "Turkey Bow Hunting". Because flocks of wild turkeys exist in the City of Wahpeton which have become a nuisance due to the excessive waste produced; and where, the IDNR licenses and regulates the hunting of wild turkeys with bow and arrow; and, upon consideration, the Wahpeton City Council has determined that bow hunting of wild turkeys within the corporate limits of the City should be permitted under the following conditions:

1. All licensing requirements and regulations of the IDNR shall apply, including shooting hours and shooting seasons.
2. Only hunting with bow and arrow is permitted.
3. Hunting on private property is permitted only with the advanced consent of the owner or tenant.
4. Hunting shall not be permitted on or over any street, alley, highway, sidewalk, public way or the grounds of any public building.

5. Any person who seeks to hunt turkeys within the corporate limits of the City of Wahpeton pursuant to this ordinance shall register with the City Clerk/Administrator.
(this is a condensed version of the ordinance - to see the entire ordinance go to www.wahpetonia.govoffice.com)

The next reading will be at 5 p.m. at the April 20th City Council meeting.

Recycling Bin Relocation

At the last two City Council meetings the City Council discussed moving the recycling bins to a location west of the playground and basketball court area. There has been some concern that the bins are unsightly at the current location, and that trash blows out of them into a nearby residential area. Also, there is a need for more parking spaces for the tennis courts.

At the request of the Council, Dennis Clark compiled estimates to concrete the proposed area or concrete a portion of the area where the bins would be located and add crushed concrete to a driveway and parking area. There are several other costs involved in the relocation including: a culvert for a new driveway, a lot survey, low impact development, an additional electric pole, light, wire & conductor, moving the current pole to a safe traffic location, and an electrician to move the security camera to the new location, wire & pole. The Council felt the estimates came in too high so Clark is getting estimates for a thinner pad of concrete for the bins to sit on and see if the costs could be minimized.

There were some concerns about snow removal and ruts on the unpaved driveway and parking area at the proposed new location.

Council will discuss if this project is feasible at the next council meeting on April 20th.

ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FY2015/16 APPROVED

The City Council held a public hearing for the proposed Annual Budget for FY 2015/2016. With no comments or concerns from citizens the council unanimously approved the budget. The total estimated budget expenditures for FY 2015/2016 will be \$1,433,118 and the tax levy will remain at 3 percent.

Council Clips:

Minutes are published in the Dickinson County News, posted at City Hall & Kazarelli's Restaurant. Complete copies are available from City Hall or on our Website at: www.wahpetonia.govoffice.com

January 12, 2015:

- Jack Jones showed pictures and explained a turkey problem at his residence.
- No action was taken on a request from Barb Rolston with MPLOA. She asked to be the permit holder for all 5 docks on Hiawatha Beach but the City will maintain control.
- Tom Malmgren was reappointed to the Board of Adjustment and Fran Parrish was reappointed to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Both are 5 year terms.

February 9, 2015:

- Council discussed the results of the recycling/garbage survey.
- Council reviewed the proposed 2015/16 Budget figures.

March 9 2015:

- Russ Beckendorf reviewed the City's general/property insurance with the council.
- Public hearing & approval of the 2015/16 Annual Budget.
- Council approved Resolution 15-2 For a Capital Improvement Plan and transferring of funds to the Water Tower Capital Fund.
- Council approved the first reading of Ordinance #156—Adopting a new Section 55.17 of the Wahpeton City Code entitled "Turkey Bow Hunting".
- Council discussed relocating the recycling bins.
- Council approved the Refuse Collection Agreement with Town & Country for another 3 years.
- The City plans to get estimates to fix the approaches on Harpen Street Bridge.

The City of Wahpeton is now accepting all major credit card payments for utility bills, deposits, and miscellaneous items. Fees are applied in addition to your transaction which include 2.75% for swiped transactions or 3.5% plus 15 cents for manually entered transactions.

City Hall Information

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5 YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The City Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 15-2 Authorizing and directing the preparation of a capital improvement plan for the Wahpeton water utility and transferring funds to the water tower capital fund.

The City Clerk/Administrator, Water Supt. and Council Finance Committee have identified several needed major capital improvements to the water utility which require planning and financing, including a new elevated storage facility; replacement of the primary water main from the tower down Lakeside Avenue; other water main service connections and hydrant replacements. This water utility capital improvement is necessary in order to preserve and protect the public health and safety and to eliminate leaks and failures. The committee will develop a five-year plan with the help of a consulting civil engineer to help prioritize the improvements and estimate cost.

The resolution also approved transferring funds totaling \$213,238.83 to the Water Tower Capital fund from the completed Lakeshore Canal bridge fund, Local Option sales tax and the Bike Trail funds.



This is the new raw water intake screen made from zinc alloy. It was installed by divers to the intake pipe located 550 ft. from the shore bank and 6 ft. off the bottom of the lake across from the water plant on Manhattan Blvd. It was installed to prevent zebra mussels from getting into the water system or attaching to the screen causing blockage or damage to the water system.

Please Note: Date Change for April City Council Mtg.

Normally, council meeting are held the 2nd Monday of every month. But, because of some conflicts, the next City Council meeting will be held on Monday, April 20th at 5 pm.

Out of the Office

The City Clerk will be out of the office April 14th—17th attending meetings.

If you need assistance, please leave a message on the phone at 337-3522 and Doug or Dennis will return your call as soon as possible. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.



Siren Drill

According to Dickinson County Emergency Management, statewide tornado tests will be done each Wednesday at noon.

Garbage Pickup Reminder:

Beginning May 1st garbage pickup days will be Tuesdays & Saturdays.

Office Hours:

Mon – Fri 8:00 - 4:00 p.m.

City Clerk/Administrator: Bonnie Roberts
Supt. of Public Works: Doug Hanna
Zoning: Dennis Clark

Council Meeting:

2nd Mon. of the month at 5:00 p.m.

Mayor: Frank Joenks

Councilmen: Brad Jones, Tom Rieron, Phil Johnson, Harold Prior & Steve Feld

Board of Adjustment:

3rd Thurs. of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Chairman: Wanda Nelson

Members: Colin Jensen, Tom Malmgren, Jerry Edwards & Jack Jones

Planning & Zoning Commission:

2nd Tues. of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Chairman: Donna Harris

Members: Tom Hart, Fran Parrish, Mark Foss & LeAnn Blau.

As a reminder per Chapter 165.02.98 of the Wahpeton Code of Ordinances, residential homes in Wahpeton cannot be rented or leased for any period less than one month. To do so is a municipal infraction punishable by civil penalties, per Chapter 165.16.