

SPRING 2009

City of Isanti isantian



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Isanti 



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Letter from the Mayor



**Mayor
George A. Wimmer**

CITY MEETING DATES:

All meetings are held at
City Hall:
110 1st Ave. NW

CITY COUNCIL
1st & 3rd Tuesday of the
month at 7:00 p.m.

**CITY COUNCIL
WORKSESSION**
Held at 5:45 prior to the
2nd City Council Meeting
of the month

**PLANNING
COMMISSION**
2nd Tuesday of the month
at 7:00 p.m.

**PARK &
RECREATION
BOARD**
4th Tuesday of the month
at 5:00 p.m.

**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY**
4th Tuesday of the month
at 7:00 p.m.

We have quite the year ahead of us. I want to first welcome our newest member to the Isanti City Council, Ross Lorinser. He was appointed to fill the remaining two years of former Council Member Duff's term.

The City Council held its annual Goal Setting session and established the following goals:

- Complete the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP)
- Increase Commercial Tax Base
- Disaster Plan
- New Personnel Policy
- City Multi-Modal Transportation Plan

We have a few items to complete on the LTFP and creating a reader friendly summary to communicate to our Citizens and Taxpayers. Increasing our commercial tax base is a key to our future development as a City. The Disaster Plan is a tool that helps us operate during crisis situations of all types such as a natural disaster but also if we lose key personnel. A new personnel policy is needed to deal with the many changes Isanti has experienced in the past few years. Having the appropriate policies in place saves us time and money in the long run. The City multi-modal transportation plan is intended to make sure all of our transportation issues are addressed. This includes a road frontage system on the west side of Highway 65, park & rides, integrated transit system linking to the metro, railroad and pedestrian uses.

The other major area I wanted to touch upon is the City's budget situation. We should all be aware of the state deficit crisis and how it has trickled its way down to Isanti. The state certified Local Government Aid (LGA) payments have been cut for 2008 and the foreseeable future. Isanti has already dealt with a \$112,000 cut at the end of 2008 and the Governor's budget cuts a further \$140,075 in 2009 and \$292,591 for 2010. This lost revenue coupled with over \$274,620.44 in delinquent taxes and \$220,069.55 in unpaid special assessments makes budgeting difficult. The Governor's budget balanced a \$4.8 billion deficit which is anticipated to grow to over \$7 billion so these numbers may get worse.

When a city is told the certified LGA amount, they put that number into their budget. In past years Isanti would have budgeted the certified amount into the current year and the state would have paid the full amount to the City by the end of that year. With the state failing to live up to its obligation, twice in the past 5 years, it would be a dereliction of duty if the Council continued to trust the state's ability to fulfill its responsibility.

In response to this situation I have proposed and the Council enacted a fundamental shift in how we use LGA. I call it the LGA Flip for lack of a better term. We are flipping the LGA ahead a year. To do this we have cut spending, increased the liquor store transfer and borrowed from our ample fund reserves. The loan will be paid back on a 5 year no interest term. This allows us to use whatever amount the state finally decides to pay Isanti in 2009 for the 2010 budget. This will be cash in hand and a true number to budget with. This process will forever eliminate the devastation caused by any future unallment. The LGA Flip gives Isanti greater control of our budgeting process.

We face difficult times but as proven by our recently attained A+ credit rating, our disciplined fiscal approach is working. We have already saved roughly \$130,000 by leveraging our improved credit rating. Our service level continues to rise even in these challenging times. I look forward to the grand openings of our nearly completed economic development projects, Ever Cat Fuels and Isanti Retail Meats, which will provide dozens of new good paying jobs.

There is so much more to discuss but my space is limited. I hope to continue hearing from our Citizens and Taxpayers through email, phone calls and visits during my office hours.

If you have any questions please contact me at george@georgewimmer.com, 763-444-7158 or 763-442-8749.

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City Offices & Staff Directory

City Staff

763-444-5512

Administration

City Administrator Donald Lorsung dlorsung@cityofisanti.us

City Clerk/Assistant City Administrator Irene Bauer ibauer@cityofisanti.us

Building Department

Building Official Rick Sames building-inspections@cityofisanti.us

Finance

Finance Director Kristi Smith ksmith@cityofisanti.us

Community & Economic Development

Community & Economic Development Director Carla Vita cvita@cityofisanti.us

Planning & Zoning/Park and Recreation

City Planner Lisa Krause lkrause@cityofisanti.us

Public Works

Public Works Director Pat Meyer pmeyer@cityofisanti.us

Police Department

Police Chief Ron Sager ChiefSager@cityofisanti.us

Liquor Store

Manager Shari Harker sharker@cityofisanti.us

City Council Members:

Mayor	George A. Wimmer	Phone 763-444-7158	e-mail: george@georgewimmer.com
		Cell 763-442-8749	
Council Member	Jim Kennedy	Phone 763-444-4650	
Council Member	Jeff Kolb	Phone 763-444-4304	e-mail: jeffery.kolb@hotmail.com
Council Member	Sue Larson	Phone 763-286-9964	e-mail: larson2854@aol.com
Council Member	Ross Lorinser	Phone 651-285-2763	e-mail: ross.lorinser@hotmail.com

CITY CONTACTS:

CITY HALL:

110 1st Ave. NW

PO Box 428

Isanti, MN 55040

763-444-5512

Fax 763-444-5560

isanti@cityofisanti.us

www.cityofisanti.us

POLICE:

Non-Emergency

763-444-4761

Emergency

911

Fax 763-444-4868

PUBLIC WORKS:

763-444-0459

Fax 763-444-5125

MUNICIPAL LIQUOR STORE:

763-444-5063

Meeting dates as noted on page 2 and all changes will be posted on the website, at City Hall and the Post Office. Special Meetings & times will also be posted on the website, City Hall and Post Office.



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Community Development

City Offices Closed

May 25
Memorial Day

July 3
Independence Day

Lost & Found Warming House

A variety of items were left at the warming house. These items can be picked up at City Hall during normal business hours Monday thru Friday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. to be claimed. Items not picked up by May 1, 2009 will be donated to Family Pathways Thrift Store.

Wise Ways to Use Water

- Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator rather than running the tap until the water gets cold.
- Fixing that leaky toilet can save as much as 500 gallons a day.
- Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers. One drop per second can add up to 2,700 gallons per year.
- Use mulch around trees to slow evaporation.
- Direct downspouts and other runoff toward shrubs, trees and gardens.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks and driveways.

If you dig a hole:

Please call Gopher One State at 1.800.252.1166 to locate your utilities for free!

Economic Development Authority

cvita@cityofisanti.us • 763-444-5512

The City Council has made economic development a priority again in 2009. The Council's goal to strengthen the "Commercial Tax Base"; encompasses the goals of prior years, which is to bring more commercial and industrial businesses to Isanti. As the economic forecast in our country has been dismal, Isanti still has many businesses that we are working with to locate within our City. Already this year, two new businesses have opened in our City – Charisma and Big Dog Pizza.

In 2008, the City witnessed eleven businesses locating and relocating. The Downtown became a topic of conversation in our region with the mural on the Family Pathways wall, the banners on the street lights, flowers and benches. The City was also the recipient of the Economic Development Association of Minnesota's Business Recruitment award – only one such award is given a year. Business retention visits continued and we learned from our local businesses on matters that are important to them. The Mayor also held this first annual Business Luncheon; which recognized our local businesses and the contributions they give to our community, to include tax base, jobs, opportunities, volunteering and so much more.

In 2008, the City created a tax abatement policy and a Revolving Loan Fund. Both of these items are to assist in business development within Isanti and enable the City to remain competitive, as many other cities have similar programs to lure businesses. Staff also worked on the Rental ordinance and the foreclosure project, both of which have been successful.

Recreationally, the City welcomed the BMX Land O'Lakes Nationals and the Owls Hockey team. Both have brought people to our community and additional business.

For 2009, the City of Isanti has some things to look forward to, which include the following: First, the City has applied for funds for a second downtown mural. We will know if we received the funds in late February. If granted, the funds would bring a mural to the east side of the American Family Insurance building in the southwest corner of First Avenue SW and Main Street W.

Second, the long awaited opening of Isanti Retail Meats in our downtown and Ever Cat Fuels in the industrial park will also take place in 2009. Both businesses are celebrated additions to the community. Each business will create additional employment opportunities, which are needed.

We urge you to let Community Development Director Vita (763-444-5512 or cvita@cityofisanti.us) know of any business or industry that may have interest in our community or that may be considering relocating from their current location. The Isanti Team will work to assist the business to be a part of our business community.

Construction

MNDOT has stated that the intersection project at TH 65 and CSAH 5 is still planned for this year. City Staff does not have a date certain when construction may begin, but we have been informed that the spring weather will make a difference. The details are the same as last year with new signals, concrete medians and additional turn lanes. The upgrades to the intersection will make it safer for all of us. Please check the City's website, www.cityofisanti.us on the Construction link for more information.

Subdivision Ordinance

As part of the adoption of the 2008 Comprehensive Plan, one of the implementation tools of the plan was for the City's subdivision regulations to be reviewed against the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan, and revised and modified where necessary. Staff has been working on those revisions to ensure that proper physical development and adequate public facilities within the City and its growth areas will occur in the future.

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Community Development

Building Department

Building-inspections@cityofisanti.us • 763-444-5512

The number of new home starts are down considerably but the number of empty homes is also going down which is a positive sign. The number of home improvement permits are holding steady and in some areas actually increasing.

We did have storm damage to some roofs in the city. If you have not had yours looked at for damage, it may still not be too late. Please contact your insurance agent for details. We have many unfinished permits in my files. If you have not called for a final inspection on your projects I encourage you to do so ASAP. In many cases the permit has expired but we **MAY** be able to work something out without requiring additional permit fees.

The City of Isanti has received funds to be used for help with foreclosed homes. Please see Page 6 for more details.

We have finished the initial canvassing of the city trying to locate all rental residential housing. If you own rental property or are living at rental property and have not been contacted, you probably were inadvertently missed. The City of Isanti does require rental housing to be licensed and so if you have been missed, please contact my office immediately.

Again, any time you have a question regarding permits, building, etc., please don't hesitate to give me a call. Hope to see you at the Isanti Home Show, I will be in the City of Isanti booth.

*City of Isanti Building Official,
Rick Sames*

Small Business Development Center Serves the Isanti Community

Whether you are thinking of starting a business or growing your existing business, the Minnesota Small Business Development Center (SBDC) satellite office at Anoka-Ramsey Community College's Cambridge Campus, is here to help you.

The mission of the Small Business Development Center is to improve economic growth in central Minnesota by providing assistance to entrepreneurs and small businesses in order to increase the number of new business start-ups, expand existing small businesses, and reduce the number of small business failures.

Most business support is provided through one-on-one counseling with a SBDC assigned counselor. All consulting services are confidential and are low or no cost. Counseling is provided by professional consultants and qualified volunteers who have extensive, practical experience in areas such as marketing, finance and accounting, operations and business planning. Most consultants have been business owners themselves and have advanced college degrees.

Anoka-Ramsey Community College also offers public courses which focus on business start-up and key business practices for a modest fee. Those courses can be seen at: <http://www.anokaramsey.edu/continuing/sbdc.cfm>

For information on how you can access help from Anoka-Ramsey Community College's Small Business Development Center satellite office, Contact Craig W. Bakken at 763-433-1964 or at craig.bakken@anokaramsey.edu.

Counseling services are funded, in part, through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development and regional support partners.

Restrictive Watering Ban in Force

City Code Chapter 325 shall be enforced as follows: During the period from May 1 through September 1 annually, all property with address that end with an odd number may be sprinkled on odd numbered days, and property with address that end with an even number may be sprinkled on even numbered days.

Total ban of sprinkling from 12:00 Noon to 6:00 p.m. only odd/even sprinkling allowed. This water restriction will be enforced. Violators shall be fined.

Properties with new lawns of less than six weeks old may be exempt from the odd/even sprinkling restriction. Please call City Hall to request the exemption.

Isantian Deadlines & Contact Info

The Isantian is published four times a year. The next edition of the Isantian newsletter will be sent out June 16th with an advertising deadline of May 27th. The fall newsletter will be sent out September 15th with an advertising deadline of August 19. The winter newsletter will be sent out December 15th with an advertising deadline of November 25th.

If you would like to advertise in the Isantian, please contact Sue Beckman, 763-691-6035 or Karen Barth 763-691-6007 at the Scotsman/Isanti County News.

For additional information regarding any of the content of the Isantian, please see our website www.cityofisanti.us or contact the city staff at the numbers listed on Page 3 of this newsletter.

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ock St. NW



RUM RIVER MEADOWS PARK

1108 South Passage SW

Along the north side of South Pas-
sage SW, just west of County Rd.
23 SW.



MATTSON PARK

311 5th Avenue NW

Intersection of Main St. W & 5th
Ave. NW.



WHISPER RIDGE PARK

795 3rd Ave SW

Nestled behind homes on the corner
of Cottonwood St. SW & 3rd Ave.
SW.



ISANTI TOT LOT

518 Dogwood Street SW

Nestled behind homes on the corner
of Cedar St. SW & 6th Ave. SW.



VFW PARK

410 Railroad Avenue SW

Intersection of Railroad Ave. SE and
Palomino Road SE.



UNITY PARK

420 3rd Avenue NW

North of Unity Blvd. NW.



BLUEBIRD PARK

201 Isanti Parkway NW

Intersection of 3rd Ave. NW and
Isanti Parkway NW.



KEY



City Flag

The Park and Recreation Board have moved on to the next phase in the creation of the City Flag. The Park Board has worked to create a final design, which takes into consideration each of the components identified within the winning flag drawings. The final design will be converted into an electronic document that will be sent to various flag companies for final modification and production. The Park and Recreation Board hopes to have the project completed this spring, so the flag can be flown over City Hall.

Student Representative

At the first meeting of 2009, the Park and Recreation Board discussed the creation of a volunteer position for a student representative to sit on the Park Board. The Board members felt that this position would give one area student an opportunity to get involved in the governmental decision-making process. In addition, a student's perspective on the City's park related programs and opportunities would be a great asset to the community and would enable the City to be responsive to the needs and requests of the community's youth. While the position would need to be reviewed and approved by the City Council, the Park Board is excited to be considering this type of opportunity for an area youth. Further details and information will be provided at a later date.

Bike/Walk Trail linking Isanti and Cambridge

After several years of planning and fundraising, the Bike/Walk Trail linking Isanti and Cambridge is on its way to becoming a reality. Funds have been allocated by the federal government as well as by the State of Minnesota, the City of Isanti, City of Cambridge, and Isanti Township to help with the design and construction of this regional trail project. Representatives from each of the various entities have been meeting to discuss the location, design, and timeframe for the development of the trail. This trail will serve as a major transportation linkage between the City of Isanti and the City of Cambridge. The project is in the preliminary design phases; however, both communities hope that the trail will be constructed and open to the public by the end of 2009.

City of Isanti Awarded Neighborhood Stabilization Funds

On February 26, 2009 the City of Isanti received notification that the City was selected to receive \$552,855 in Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) Funds. The City will use the funds to increase home ownership in targeted neighborhoods where there is a high incidence of foreclosures. The funds do have requirements such as the funds are for homeownership; the property to be acquired must be foreclosed and vacant; and the homeowner must meet income guidelines. For more information and additional requirements, please contact Jason at Central Minnesota Housing Partnership at (320) 259-0393 or visit the City's website at www.cityofisani.us



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Administrative/Finance

2009 Amended Budget

Isanti City Council approved the 2009 budget at its December 16, 2008 meeting. On January 6, 2009 City Council approved Resolution 2009-003 which authorized amendments to the 2009 budget. Resolution 2009-027 was approved on February 3, 2009 authorizing a second round of amendments to the 2009 budget.

The original budget for 2009 included expenditures of \$3,407,479 which was an increase of 3.3% from 2008. The amended budgets includes expenditures of \$3,341,456 which is an increase of 1.3% from 2008. Both amendments were considered necessary due to anticipated reductions in Local Government Aid.

A copy of the 2009 amended budget is available on the City's website.

Codification of City Ordinances

On February 17, 2009 the Isanti City Council approved the new City Code. The City Code consists of the codification of most City Ordinances and places them within one book; therefore making it much easier to locate a specific code. The Code is divided into parts. Part I, Administrative Legislation, contains all City legislation of an administrative nature, namely, that dealing with the administration of government, that establishing or regulation municipal departments and that affecting officers and employees of the municipal government and its departments, Part II, General Legislation, contains all other city legislation of a regulatory nature. Items of legislation in this part generally impose penalties for violations of their provisions, whereas those in Part I do not.

The Code does not include the Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Ordinance, Storm Water Management Ordinance, and other related zoning ordinances; they still remain in effect and can be found on the City's website. All new Administrative and General Legislation that is adopted within the current year will be placed on the City's website. At the end of the year the City Code will be amended to include all newly adopted legislation. You can link to the City Code by going to City's website or by using the following web address: <http://www.ecode360.com/?custId=IS2802>.

Pedestrian Bridge – One Step Closer to Becoming a Reality

On February 25th, 2009, the House of Representatives approved the Omnibus Appropriations Act. Within that Act, the City of Isanti will receive \$950,000 towards the construction of the Pedestrian Bridge that has been proposed to span over Trunk Highway 65, providing a safe crossing for pedestrians and bicyclists. As of the printing of this publication, President Obama has not yet signed the bill into law.

Fee Schedule

Isanti City Council approved City Code Chapter 160 and Resolution 2009-009 authorizing the changes to the Fee Table and Fee Schedule.

The fee schedule is available on the City's website.

City of Isanti Achieves A+ Rating

On November 25, 2008 the City of Isanti was notified by Standard & Poor's that a bond rating of A+ has been issued. This bond rating was used to issue \$1,275,000, General Obligation Improvement Bonds, Series 2008A and \$570,000 General Obligation Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2008B. These bonds were issued to cover the costs from the 2008 street and utility project, 2007 SE Quadrant Highway 65 project, and East Highway 65 utilities. The increase bond rating reduced the interest to be paid over the life of the bonds by \$55,375.

On January 23, 2009 Standard & Poor's again notified the City of Isanti of an A+ bond rating. The City utilized the bond rating to issue \$1,120,000, General Obligation Cross-over Refunding Bonds, Series 2009A. These bonds were issued to pay off the General Obligation Sewer Revenue Bonds, Series 1999A and General Obligation Improvement Bonds, Series 2001A. Due to the bond rating and available interest rates the City received a net present value benefit of \$71,679.07.

Standard & Poor's provided an A+ bond rating based on the following rationale:

- Access to Twin Cities economic base;
- Good income levels, as measured by median household income;
- Strong market value levels that continue to grow; and
- Very strong financial operations, as evidenced by a high general fund balance reserve and positive operation results.

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The deadline for the spring issue is February 25, 2009.

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Public Works/Engineering/Police Department



Attention Dog Owners

Please be reminded that dog licenses are due on March 31, 2009. All dog owners must license their dogs annually. License fees are \$10 per year for fixed dogs and \$15 per year for non-fixed dogs. A late fee of \$5 will be charged if licensed after March 31, 2009. City Code states that any property owner who has more than two dogs must obtain a kennel permit. Please contact Lisa Krause, City Planner regarding information on obtaining a kennel permit. 763-444-5512



Pet Clinic

Does your pet need shots? Bring your pet to the Pet Clinic Saturday, April 25, 2009. The Pet Clinic will be held at the Isanti Ice Arena and will run from 1-4 p.m. The Ice Arena is located 2 blocks north of the intersection of 1st Avenue and County Road 5. Park and access the building on the south side. No late fee for dog licenses obtained at the clinic.

Zeman Receives Isanti County Officer of the Year Award

Officer Valerie Zeman was nominated by the Isanti County Law Enforcement Association to receive the 2008 Isanti County Officer of the Year Award. On January 6th, Mayor George Wimmer presented Zeman with a Certificate of Appreciation for her dedicated service and commitment to the City.

The Isanti Public Works Department

The Public Works Department consists of the Director and five Maintenance Technicians who are proud to provide service to our community. The Department is responsible for the following City services: Water and Wastewater (Sewer) Utilities, Streets, Parks, and General Maintenance. Street maintenance includes snowplowing, street sweeping, patching, striping, etc. They provide maintenance in City parks to ensure that equipment is repaired and is in safe condition and the grass is mowed. In late summer of 2009 the new Water Treatment Plant will be on line and the maintenance and operation of the facility will be a part of their duties. They also operate and maintain the City Wells, the Wastewater Treatment Facility and related utility systems. The Public Works Director is Patrick Meyer.



MAINTENANCE TECHNICIANS are from left to right: Jim M., Matt S., Vic F., Mike H., and Mike N.

Isanti Police Department

ChiefSager@cityofisanti.us • 763-444-4761

ISANTI POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

Reported Crime	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	% Change
Theft	86	142	158	213	134	137	195	204	208	187	-10%
Assault	40	50	31	59	54	43	73	78	39	33	-15%
Vandalism	61	85	98	118	117	72	89	112	75	63	-16%
Narcotics	27	13	24	23	47	49	61	48	40	26	-35%
Burglary	11	21	23	23	19	22	28	33	25	31	24%
Domestics	41	36	41	61	70	49	52	52	64	74	16%
Crim Sex	5	14	11	11	9	7	6	7	10	13	30%
Robbery							1	0	0	1	100%
Loud Party								62	49	76	55%
Traffic Offenses											
No Insurance	20	26	42	30	73	87	89	83	129	95	-26%
D.U.I.	42	33	24	38	36	62	80	77	80	49	-39%
Accidents	45	41	46	71	64	67	85	71	75	53	-29%
Hit & Run	6	5	12	14	14	12	9	16	11	6	-45%
Warrant P/U	20	21	36	43	44	33	54	47	45	45	0%
Speeding	113	167	151	163	237	183	257	247	318	259	-19%
DAR/DAS									101	75	-26%
Squad Mileage											
06 Dodge 221								23744	56868	84399	
06 Dodge 222								16512	54305	82891	
08 Dodge 223										14037	
2004 Ford						15923	73399	105656	126189	137755	
98 Blazer					66700	71052	75977	82751	90024	96953	
Total Miles Drive						59529	101350	97631	98723	88649	

*2004 Database lost, back up stats

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 www.isanticountynews.com

Public Works/Engineering/Police Department

Sign Regulations

As a reminder to current business owners and any other individual looking to construct or place a sign upon their property, the City of Isanti has adopted regulations for signage. The ordinance regulates the location, size, placement, and various features of signs to enable the public to locate goods, services, and facilities without difficulty or confusion; to prevent the wasteful use of resources in competition among businesses for attention; to prevent hazards to life and property; and to ensure an aesthetic value of the City.

Property owners looking to construct signs are required to obtain a sign permit from the City prior to construction and/or location of a sign. All signs are reviewed by City Staff to ensure compliance with the sign ordinance regulations. Signs constructed without a permit or signs found to be in violation of ordinance requirements and standards may result in revocation of the sign permit for that particular business and/or issuance of a citation due to non-compliance with City Ordinances. Please contact the Planning Department for all questions and concerns regarding sign regulations.



New Zoning Ordinance

On October 21, 2008, the Isanti City Council approved a new zoning ordinance. The new ordinance will help the community to grow and develop into the future. The new zoning ordinance as well as planning and zoning applications can be found on the city's website at www.cityofisanti.us. If you have questions regarding the new ordinance provisions or the planning process, please contact Lisa Krause, City Planner at (763) 444-5512 or via e-mail at lkrause@cityofisanti.us.

Overview of City Nuisance and Parking Code

City Code Chapter 216, Nuisances, provides for maintaining a safe, healthy, and aesthetically pleasing environment to the citizens of Isanti. § 216-2 covers nuisances affecting health such as outside accumulation of rubbish, salvage materials, junk, unlicensed vehicles and other items causing a depressing influence on property values in the area.

City Code Chapter 227 regulates the outdoor parking and/or storage of vehicles, boats, trailers, RVs and other items. The City Code does include a listing of proper requirements for storage of such units (Exhibit A). They need to be parked on impervious or improved surfaces. There are also time limits for parking such units in the front yard. Units stored on side yard and/or back yard must be 80% screened from view of neighboring property or a public street.

For further information on these and other City Codes, you can go to www.cityofisanti.us. For questions please contact me at swacha@cityofisanti.us – 763-444-4761.

Steve Wacha
Community Service Officer

Weed and Grass Nuisances

Summer is approaching and with that comes the season of lawn care. The City of Isanti would like to bring to your attention City Code – Chapter (§) 216 and the fees associated with this.

§ 216.2H. states: All noxious weeds and other rank growths of vegetation upon public or private property.

§ 216-5 Abatement: In accordance with the notification requirements of Section 6 of the City Code, and after seven (7) calendar days notice by the City, the Public Works Director shall implement the mowing and removal of noxious weeds and vegetation on the private premises.

§ 216-7 Recover of Costs: The owner of the premises on which a nuisance has been abated by the City shall be personally liable for the cost to the City of the abatement, including administrative costs.

§ 216.7.B. states all unpaid charges will be assessed to the property.

The costs associated with this are billed on a time spent basis. The current fee schedule includes a Mow Charge with Operator \$90.00 per hour and Weed Whip Charge with Operator \$75.00 per Hour. In addition to this charge is a \$25.00 non-compliance fee.

For complete copy of Chapter 216 of the City Code and fee schedule visit our website at www.cityofisanti.us. This is enforced by Community Service Officer Wacha, 763-444-4761.

Bike, Skate & Blade Ordinance

City Code §99 regulates the use of bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades and similar items in the city of Isanti. It is unlawful for any person to ride a bicycle, or use a skateboard or roller blades upon a sidewalk within the downtown commercial district along Main Street between 2nd Avenue and the railroad tracks from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Burning Ordinance

City Code § 119 permits burning by reference of MN State Statute 88 and the MN Uniform Fire Code. Campfires are permitted if applied as follows: A campfire is a fire set for cooking, warming, or ceremonial purposes, which is not more than three feet in diameter by three feet high and the ground surrounding the fire has been cleared of all combustible material twenty-five feet from the base of the fire.

Flushing of Water Mains April 27-May 8

If you live in or near an area that is being flushed, your water may have some discoloration for a short period of time. You should avoid doing laundry at this time or running your water, as this can actually bring discolored water directly into your home's pipes. Run your tap after the flushing and it should clear up. Check our website: www.cityofisanti.us for updates as the schedule is subject to change daily.

Community Events

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 25

Chamber Dinner

April 25

Pet Clinic

April 25 • 8 am-12 pm

City Wide Clean Up
Public Works Garage

May 16

Garden Party

June 6

Take a Kid Fishing Day
Martin's Landing

June 27

Birthday Party

June 28

Rum River Float

July 9

Jubilee Days Parade

July 9-12

Isanti Rodeo/Jubilee Days

July 12

Ambassador Coonation

July 25-26

National BMX Tournament

August 4

National Night Out

Isanti Senior Dining/ Meals on Wheels

Isanti Community Center
121 W. Norelius
Isanti, MN 55040

Contact Glenda
763-444-6320

Senior Dining:
Mondays & Wednesdays
11:00 a.m.
Age 60 & up: \$3.25
or whatever you can afford
Under Age 60: \$6.00

City Wide Clean Up Day

Saturday, April 25, 2009

8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Public Works Garage • 100 Isanti Parkway W, Isanti

Directions: 3rd Avenue North to Isanti Parkway, right on Isanti Parkway to garage. Drop off on east side of garage. City residents ONLY. Must show driver's license. All items listed must be prepaid at Isanti City Hall, 110 1st Avenue NW (Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.).

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

Brush, yard waste, and small miscellaneous items will be accepted at no cost. **NO HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE WILL BE ACCEPTED!** Other acceptable items and related fees are as follows:

Appliances: \$10 each

Air Heat Pump, Freezers, Furnaces, Microwave Ovens, Water Heaters, Dishwashers, Garbage Disposals, Refrigerators, Washers, Dryers, Dehumidifiers, Trash Compactors, Vacuum Cleaners, Ovens, Stoves, Air Conditioning Units & Water Softeners \$20 each. Commercial & gas/ammonia appliance fees will vary.

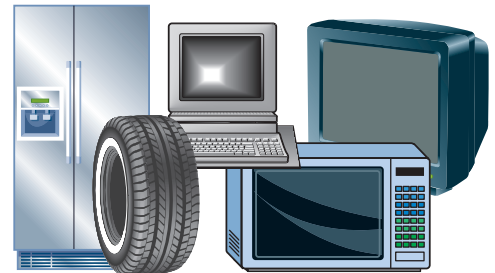
TIRES:

Passenger Car/ATV	\$4/Tire
Truck	\$8/Tire
Bicycle	\$1/Tire
Motorcycle.....	\$1.50/Tire
Tubes	Free

NO Tractor Tires will be accepted.

LARGE ITEMS:

Regular Sofas	\$15.00
Sleeper Sofas	\$25.00
Loveseat	\$10.00
Living Room Chairs	\$12.50
Mattresses.....	\$30.00
Box Springs	\$30.00



ELECTRONICS:

TVs 40" & under \$20.00; TVs over 40" \$40.00;
Console TV \$55.00; Computer Monitors \$15.00;
CPU Box \$5.00; Keyboard & Mouse \$5.00; Lap-
top Computers \$10.00; Scanner \$10.00; Copier
\$25.00; Printers \$10.00



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Community Events

Isanti Home Show Features "Eco-Friendly" Theme

Home Show things are coming together for the 9th annual event held at the David C. Johnson Civic Arena. Mark the dates of March 28 and 29, 2009 and head to Isanti, because this year's show is all about going green.

Saving "green" is certainly on the minds of just about everyone now, and the Home Show will connect visitors to landscapers, remodelers, heating and cooling specialists, financial institutions - and many more vendors. Discuss ways you can Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Replenish and Restore to allow you and your family to save not only cash, but the earth.

Check out the many prizes, valued at over \$3,000 that will be given away just for registering at the door. Some lucky winners will receive an Apple i-Touch, laptop, Pine Log bench (donated by Ben's Hometown Flooring), a NuWave Oven, Eco-friendly office supplies, and even Eco-friendly beauty and cleaning products (donated by WillowBridge Center). See the complete prize listings at www.isantihomeshow.com.

Visitors can also register for WILD tickets at the Info Center. Each year, this popular drawing has fans salivating for a chance to see their team. The April 10 game against the Nashville Predators will be no exception. WILD tickets are donated by East Central Sanitation.

For more information, or to inquire about booth availability, please call Debbie Bray at 763.444.8303 or visit www.isantihomeshow.com.



Isanti Chamber of Commerce

The Isanti Area Chamber of Commerce is organized to advance the general welfare and prosperity of the Isanti Area so that its citizens and all areas of business prosper.

Therefore, the Chamber urges you to shop local as much as possible. Statistics show that \$45 of every \$100 spent at a local independently owned business returns to the local economy. Statistics also show that for every \$100 spent at a large chain store, only \$15 returns to the local economy. Shopping locally protects local character and prosperity, builds strong neighborhoods and community well-being and fuels the local economy by creating jobs and funding city services through sales tax. Locally owned businesses require comparatively little infrastructure and make more efficient use of public services as well as reducing sprawl, habitat loss and water pollution. Support your community and shop local.

The Chamber is proud to announce our new website, which should be operationally by March 5. This website will offer a "Hot Deals" button where you can find specials offered by member businesses. It will also offer a Calendar of Events for the entire community. Check it out at www.isantichamber.com.

Isanti Ambassador Program

The Isanti Ambassador Program provides education scholarships to three individuals who are selected to represent the Isanti community as public relations ambassadors. The ambassadors attend functions at neighboring community festivals and celebrations, such as parades, coronations, and luncheons. Volunteerism is stressed by helping out local businesses and civic groups with fundraising and promotions in and around the community: painting faces at Kids' Day at the Isanti County Fair, Isanti Home Show, National Night Out, Relay for Life, Santa Day and Old Tyme Dances.

Applicants must be individuals between the ages of 17-22 (as of July 1, 2009). Candidates must graduate from High School by the year 2010 to participate in this year's program. All candidates must be single and have no dependents. Interested individuals may contact JoAnn Welcome at 763-444-4431. The 2009 Isanti Ambassadors will be selected on Sunday, July 12 at the Coronation Ceremony held in the Ice Arena.

Businesses interested in sponsoring a 2009 Ambassador candidate may contact JoAnn Welcome at 763-444-4431 for details.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for something to do while helping your community at the same time? Please see below for some options. They can use your help and can be satisfying at the same time!

FAMILY PATHWAYS

Lori Damann
763-444-9551

ISANTI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Jan Peterson
763-444-8515

ISANTI COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT TEAM

Sue Larson
763-286-9964

ISANTI COUNTY PARKS

Barry Wendorf
763-689-8220

ISANTI COUNTY TRAIL & GREENSPACE

Bill Carlson
763-689-1442

ISANTI SOCCER ASSOCIATION

763-552-GOAL (4625)
cambridgeisantisoccer.net

ISANTI HOCKEY

David Englund
763-444-6432

MEALS ON WHEELS/ SENIOR DINING

Glenda Reynolds
763-444-6320

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Susi McCune
763-444-4585

VFW

Steve Anderson
763-444-7185

If your organization is not listed, please contact Isanti Community Involvement Team, Sue Larson 763-286-9964



Isanti Chapel - 409 E. Broadway - 444-5212
Cambridge Chapel - 720 1st Avenue E. - 689-2070
Hugo and Brian Strike, Directors and Owners
www.strikefuneral.com

**Isanti County
Equipment**



763-444-8873 JOHN DEERE

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City of Isanti
110 1st Ave NW
PO Box 428
Isanti, MN 55040

Phone: 763.444.5512

Fax: 763.444.5560

Email: isanti@cityofisanti.us

Website: www.cityofisanti.us

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Bradley DeWolf, P.E.

City of Isanti City Engineer

7533 Sunwood Drive NW
Ramsey, MN 55303
763-433-2851
612-756-1032 (cell)

