

SPRING 2012

City of Isanti isantian

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A Community For Generations.
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 as needed

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.

This edition of the Isantian looks a little bit different due to my goal of adding greater transparency to our City Government. We have taken each City department and explained how your taxpayer dollars are being used to fund City services. Many duties are self-evident such as police stopping speeders or public works plowing streets. Many other state mandated duties and expenses are not such as our City Planner making sure we do not allow spot zoning which could cost the City significantly in legal and future development cost. Our HR person has to make sure we comply with comparable worth and a litany of other State mandates. Our Police Department is not only busy catching the bad guys but also helps with such things as infant car seat inspections and lockout assistance. I believe it is important each Citizen and Taxpayer has a complete view of what their City government is doing and how their money is being spent.

Another topic we need to discuss is the ever changing landscape of our City. Isanti has gone from 74% of our tax base being owner occupied homes in 2010, to 65% in 2011. This is a significant shift and shows the trend of our housing stock being converted into rental properties. This is a foreseen outcome of the foreclosure crisis our Nation has been plagued with. When I was elected Mayor in 2006 I made a rental and maintenance ordinance a high priority so Isanti would be well positioned to deal with the coming changes. Isanti may very well see 50% of our housing stock converted into rental properties. This will lead to many challenges, which we have seen in other communities where rental property owners try to force communities to lower their standards and increase their profits at the City's cost. Future Mayors and Councils must not allow an eroding of community standards to profit a few at the expense of families that invested so much in making Isanti a wonderful place to live.

On this same topic there is a trend occurring centering around the theme of 'times are tough, Isanti should take anything they can get'. This would be disastrous to the long term health and vitality of our community. Residential proposals allowing new tiny cheap homes in established neighborhoods would not only hurt existing property values but would never generate enough future property taxes to help pay for City services thus increasing the burden on existing homeowners. Only the developer would make money on this type of deal. We see it on the commercial property side as well. Proposals to build low value additions along TH 65 that would never provide decent paying jobs, tax base or service our community needs. Times are hard and will continue to be for years to come but we must not allow short term fear to drive long term policy. The approval of 'any type of growth proposal' is what got Isanti in such a mess to begin with and has left us paying millions in debt that we have inherited. Long term city planning is like planting trees - we do it for the generations to come.

2012 will see exciting events and changes in Isanti. Redistricting has placed our City in a new State Representative district as well as a new County Commissioner District. These changes highlight the need to have good representation for our community at each level of government. There is not one seat on the School Board or County Board occupied by a City resident.

We are hosting State tournaments for soccer and BMX, along with numerous weekly games and rides this summer. Our State Champion Redbirds will be playing in a tougher division this year and will continue to make us proud. These groups bring in tens of thousands of spectators and participants and highlight the great strengths of our community. Rodeo Jubilee Days along with other numerous events make Isanti such a wonderful community.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments please contact me at 763-442-8749 or email me at George@georgewimmer.com. You may also follow me on Twitter at twitter.com/mayorwimmer or my Facebook at facebook.com/GeorgeAWimmer or my blog at georgewimmer.blogspot.com



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City Offices & Staff Directory

City Staff

763-444-5512

Administration

City Administrator/City Clerk Donald Lorsung dlorsung@cityofisanti.us

Human Resources/Deputy City Clerk Karissa Henning..... khenning@cityofisanti.us

Building Department

Building Official Rick Sames..... building-inspections@cityofisanti.us

Finance

Finance Director (position vacant)

Economic Development

Economic Development Director Sean Sullivan..... ssullivan@cityofisanti.us

Municipal Liquor Store

Manager John Jacobi jjacobi@cityofisanti.us

Planning & Zoning/Park and Recreation

Planning & Park Director Lisa Wilson..... lwilson@cityofisanti.us

Public Works

Public Works Director Pat Meyer..... pmeyer@cityofisanti.us

Police Department

Police Chief Ron Sager ChiefSager@cityofisanti.us

City Council Members:

Mayor	George A. Wimmer	Cell 763-442-8749	e-mail: george@georgewimmer.com
Council Member	Jim Kennedy	Phone 763-444-4650	
Council Member	Steve Lundeen	Phone 612-203-8957	e-mail: sdlundeen@yahoo.com
Council Member	Sue Larson	Phone 763-286-9964	e-mail: larson2854@aol.com
Council Member	Ross Lorinser	Phone 651-285-2763	e-mail: 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
Emergency 911

MUNICIPAL LIQUOR STORE:

763-444-5063
www.isantiliquorstore.com

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 PARKS:

RIVERSIDE PARK

503 Rum River Drive NW
Corner of Rum River Drive NW & Hillock St.



RUM RIVER MEADOWS PARK

1108 South Passage SW
Along the north side of South Passage, just west of County Rd. 23.



MATTSON PARK

311 5th Avenue NW
Intersection of Main St. West & 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 SE
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



Municipal Liquor Store

763-444-5063



Shown (L to R): John Jacobi, Carla Golden, Angela Perkins, and Jean Benjamin. Not shown: Bonnie Grant, Ashley Levesseur, Jim Maloney, Jeanette Manore, Katie Matthews, and Patty Peterson.

City for an extended period of time; and are valuable and important to the successful operation of the Liquor Store.

The Municipal Liquor Store is staffed by the Liquor Store Manager, a part time Municipal Clerk II, two clerk III's and 6 part-time Municipal Clerks. The staff at the Municipal Liquor Store is responsible for the following:

- Provide regulated sale of alcoholic beverages and related products as a retail off-sale operation.
- Provide a revenue source for the City to contribute to reducing the cost of general fund projects, programs and services to City residents.

Each of the staff members at the Liquor Store bring with them knowledge and skills that are pertinent to their responsibilities. Many of the employees have been with the

Planning/Zoning & Parks/Recreation

763-444-5512



Shown: Lisa Wilson

The Planning and Parks Department is staffed by the Planning and Parks Director and the Community Service Officer. The Department is responsible for the following:

- Administer Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances.
- Administer City Comprehensive Land Use and Long Range Plans.
- Process land use applications, including Variances, Use Permits, Rezoning, Subdivision, Annexation Requests, etc.
- Staff the Planning Commission and Park and Recreation Board, prepare agendas, staff memos, proposed ordinances and policies.
- Oversee and coordinate Park Improvement Projects with the Public Works Director.
- Prepare Park and Planning related funding and grant applications.
- Administer the Flood Plain Land Use (FEMA) Program.
- Prepare and administer plans for park and recreation development, sidewalks, and trails.
- Oversee the Community Service Officer; who works to address nuisance and non-compliant property related matters, by advising property owners of code requirements and enforcement procedures to obtain compliance with City Code.

The staff that makes up the Planning and Parks Department has acquired knowledge and skills through past work experience and education; which enables them to perform the duties associated with their positions. Lisa Wilson, Director, has earned a Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration and Policy Analysis with a minor in Small City Analysis from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, a Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Hamline University. She is a member of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Planning Association; and has earned her professional credentials to be a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Mrs. Wilson has ten years of experience in the areas of planning, zoning, and land use; and continues to earn continuing education credits to maintain her professional credentials. As of the publication of this edition of the Isantian, the Community Service Officer position is in the process of being filled.

Business Visits – Isanti Welcomes New Businesses

Mayor Wimmer and Economic Development Director Sullivan make periodic visits to businesses in Isanti. The visits are informal and serve as an opportunity to learn more about what our businesses make, what services they provide, what their needs are, and what the City can do better to help them be more successful. Since January of 2011, 21 visits were conducted and a lot of positive and constructive feedback was received from businesses. The vast majority of the businesses that were visited expressed optimism for the upcoming year and were happy to call Isanti home. A sign of an improving economy for Isanti was the decision of sixteen new businesses choosing to locate to the City of Isanti in 2011-12. Welcome to Isanti!

Community Development

Economic Development/Building

763-444-5512



Shown (L to R): Sean Sullivan and Rick Sames.

The Economic Development Department and Building Department are staffed by the Economic Development Director and the Building Official. These two departments work closely together on development matters and each has varying duties. The Economic Development Director is responsible for the following:

- Direct supervision of Economic Development and Building Department staff.
- Support and initiate tax base and job creation/retention.
- Draft and administer EDA marketing and work plan.

- Process and administer City Financial Assistance Programs (TIF, Abatement, Revolving Loan Fund) and coordinate other Local, Regional, and State assistance.
- Project management of new and existing commercial and industrial projects that need City assistance.
- Staff Economic Development Authority and Revolving Loan Fund Committee.
- Serve as staff liaison to the Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Committee and related groups, such as the Isanti County EDA and GPS 45:93.
- Attend community, county, and regional activities, meetings and functions to market Isanti and generate business leads.

- Business Retention and Expansion Visits

The Building Official is responsible for the following:

- Enforce State Building Codes as adopted by the City; regarding building, plumbing, and mechanical codes.
- Process building permits; perform plan reviews, collects fees.
- Review permits, designs, and inspects on-site sewage treatment systems.
- Assist with nuisance and zoning code compliance, including monitoring of foreclosed properties.
- Administer Rental Housing License Program.
- Maintenance Coordinator for City owned buildings/facilities.

Both of the staff members within each Department have acquired knowledge and skills through past work experience and education; which enables them to perform the duties associated with their positions. Sean Sullivan, Economic Development Director, is a National Development Council Certified Economic Development Finance Professional. He is a Board Member of GPS 45:93 and is a member of the Economic Development Association of Minnesota (EDAM). Mr. Sullivan graduated with Honors from Metropolitan State University with a B.S. in Business Administration and was a finalist for the Outstanding Student Award. Mr. Sullivan's experience includes: Nearly 18 years of experience working with the Minnesota State Property Tax System, Tax Increment Financing and other assistance programs at both the City and County levels, comprehensive knowledge in drafting legal descriptions, legal documents and tax abatement help keep costs down for projects that the City is involved in, creation and development of two Industrial Parks; and implementation and completion of redevelopment projects in blighted areas within the City of Ramsey. During his 10 year tenure with the City of Ramsey, Mr. Sullivan was instrumental in bringing in 40 new businesses, nearly 900,000 SF of new industrial construction and \$50,000,000 in new taxable value. Rick Sames, Building Official, is a licensed Building Official with the State of Minnesota for Building, Plumbing, Mechanical, Accessibility, Fire and Energy Codes; is certified with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for septic design and inspection, and attends yearly continuing education courses so as to maintain his credentials. He is a member of the International Code Council as well as a member of the East Central Building Officials Organization. Mr. Sames has taken college courses in architectural drafting, fire suppression, plumbing and inspections, mechanical systems and inspections, building inspections, and plan review. He has 10 years of experience as a carpenter, 18 years as a licensed contractor, 3 years as a building inspector, and 9 years as a building official.

Thinking About Building or Expanding in Isanti?

The City of Isanti has many Economic Development Assistance programs available to help new and/or expanding businesses. Low interest loans, industrial land for little, or no cost, and other tax incentives are available for qualifying businesses. Economic Development Director Sullivan will be happy to answer any questions you might have. Contact him at ssullivan@cityofisanti.us or 763.444.5512.

Other Isanti Area Recreational Sites

Soccer Complex
BMX Track
Isanti Ice Arena
Martin's Landing
(DNR Canoe Landing)
Redbirds Baseball Field

For links visit:
www.cityofisanti.us

Library Link

Through the efforts of the Friends of the Isanti Library, the East Central Regional Library now hosts a Library Link at City Hall. The Link Site is open on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Contact ECRL Librarian Lisa 763-689-7390.

Isantian Deadlines & Contact Info

The Isantian is published four times a year. The next edition of the Isantian newsletter will be sent out June 11th with an advertising deadline of May 25th.

If you would like to advertise in the Isantian, please contact Sue Beckman, 763-691-6035 or Dawn Tschumper 763-691-6011 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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If you dig a hole:

Please call Gopher State One Call at 1.800.252.1166 to Locate your utilities for Free!

Public Works/Engineering/Police Department

Flushing of Water Mains Starts May 7

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 the schedule and watch for ongoing updates as the schedule is subject to change daily.

Restrictive Watering Ban in Force

City Code Chapter §325-2. Annual sprinkling restrictions. During the period from May 1 through September 1 annually, all property with addresses that end with an odd number may be sprinkled on odd-numbered days, and property with addresses that end with an even number may be sprinkled on even-numbered days. **During this time period, no sprinkling shall be allowed from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day.**

This provision shall automatically apply unless superseded by action of the City Administrator. If the City Administrator determines that a water shortage exists, the City Administrator is authorized under City Code §325-1 to restrict the sprinkling of lawns by posting a notice at City Hall setting forth the restrictions.

A new property owner may request an exemption of the restrictions for the sprinkling of new sod. To request an exemption please contact Rick Sames, Building Official.

For a complete copy of the Code visit our web site at www.cityofisanti.us.

Police Department

763-444-4761



BACK ROW (L to R): Linda Goldben, Lt. Gene Hill, Officer Lowell Schwieger, Officer Daniel Vandenheuvel, Officer Cory Spencer. **Front row (L to R):** Penny Anderson, Officer Dusten Noreen, Officer Valerie Zeman, Officer Adam Gau. **Not pictured:** Chief Ron Sager, Officer Steve Callahan, Officer Roderick Barrows. **Part-time Officers not pictured:** Mike Vogel, Brandon Oliver, Nick Steiger, Jason Cederberg, Noah Buecksler.

The Police Department is staffed by a Police Chief, Police Lieutenant, Full and Part-time Police Officers, Police Secretary, Part-time Records Clerk, and Police Reserve Officers. The staff at the Police Department is responsible for:

- Provide 24-hour police protection – respond to Police and 911 emergencies, including businesses, residences, public facilities, schools, and road emergencies.
- Provide police patrols in City, perform special or concentrated patrols when necessary.
- Work with area law enforcement agencies on special enforcement projects and mutual aid requests.
- Provide Emergency Management Response

– participate in administration, planning, and training.

- Provide a School Resource Officer to work in local schools.
- Work with the Prosecuting Attorney on all court and prosecution related activities; including investigations, writing tickets/citations, apprehend offenders, and enforce court orders.
- Administration of dog licenses and dog control services.
- Participate in Crime Prevention and Community Events.
- Provide other community services, which include but are not limited to: infant car seat inspections, lock-out assistance, training on crime prevention, check fraud, and drug awareness; fingerprint services, provide background checks, etc.

The staff within the Police Department has each acquired knowledge and skills that enable them to effectively perform the duties assigned to their positions within the department. Each officer is required to complete a professional peace officer educational program and take a state board licensing examination prior to acquiring employment as a police officer. The officers are required to complete 48 hours of continuing education within a three year licensing term. The officers within the Isanti Police Department have the following certificates and special training: advanced child forensic interview, clandestine lab removal, use of force instructor, firearms instructor, taser instructor, advanced narcotics investigation, hostage negotiator, and arson investigation.

City Water System Improvements Completed

Improvements to the City's Water System, which began in the summer of 2011, have been substantially completed. These system improvements include the replacement of Well House No. 1, the replacement of all water meters in the City and completion of a watermain loop located in Bluebird Park.

Well House No. 1 went through a successful start-up in mid-February and is now again available to be used in rotation with the City's two other wells. Site work will be completed around the building in the spring.

All of the water system improvements were funded with a grant and low-interest loan obtained through the State of Minnesota's Public Facilities Authority. These improvements will enhance the water system's operational and economic efficiency and continue to ensure that the City has a reliable and safe water system for its residents and businesses. Please contact City Engineer Brad DeWolf P.E. at 612-756-1032 if you have any questions.



Public Works/Engineering/Police Department

Public Works Department

763-444-0459



BACK ROW (L to R): Vic Fanth, Josh Becker, Mike Harris, Jim Mager; **FRONT ROW (L to R):** Scot Klersy, Matt Sylvester, Pat Meyer.

The Isanti Public Works Department is staffed by the Public Works Director and six Maintenance Technicians; which are responsible for:

- Streets – removal of snow and debris, street sweeping, apply street markings, maintain signage, pothole repair, patching and crack sealing.
- Sidewalks and Trails – remove school route sidewalk/trail snow and debris; and maintain the sidewalk and trail system.
- Parks and Public Buildings – remove snow and debris from parking areas, apply parking markings, maintain park equipment, mow grass and maintain sprinkler systems, building maintenance and tree

trimming.

- Water System – maintain water distribution system (i.e. mains, valves, hydrants, and meters). Maintain wells, pumps, and the Water Plant. Perform tests and prepare reports.
- Wastewater System – maintain wastewater collection system, lift stations, and Wastewater Treatment Plant. Perform tests and prepare reports.
- Storm Water System – maintain storm water system and public storm water ponds.
- Community Events – assists as directed with set-up of equipment; and clean-up activities on streets and public grounds.
- Equipment maintenance – includes routine maintenance on city vehicles.
- Daily Inspections – routine daily City wide inspection of community infrastructure and services as well as 24-hour on-call service provided to City residents.

The Public Works Director and Maintenance Technicians earned and maintain credentials that provide them with the knowledge and skills that are essential to the duties that they perform each day. Pat Meyer, Director, has a Class "B" Water and Wastewater Operator Certificate, Type IV Biosolids Certificate, and a Class "A" CDL license. Mike Harris has a Class "C" Water and Wastewater Operator certificate, a Certificate in Auto Mechanics, and a Class "B" CDL license. Matt Sylvester has a Class "C" Water and Wastewater Operator certificate, a Certificate in Diesel Mechanics, and a Class "B" CDL license. Jim Mager has a Class "C" Water and Wastewater Operator certificate, has attended courses on Computerized Machining, and has a Class "B" CDL license. Vic Fanth has a Class "D" Water and Wastewater Operator certificate, an Associate of Arts degree, and a Class "B" CDL license. Josh Becker has a Class "D" Wastewater Operator certificate, is studying to earn his Water Operator certificate, and has a Class "A" CDL license. Scot Klersy is studying to earn his operator's certificates, holds a Certificate in Auto Mechanics, and has a Class "B" CDL license.

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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

Tracy Neifert
 763-444-7368

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

Edie Frison
 763-689-5992

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Susi McCune
 763-444-4585

VFW

Kim - Manager
 763-444-1787

ISANTI LIONS

Joe Mau - 763-444-4107

If your organization is not listed, please contact City Hall at 763-444-5512 or www.cityofisanti.us



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Public Works/Engineering/Police Department

Burning in the City

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.



Attention Dog Owners

Please be reminded that dog licenses are due April 30, 2012. 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 the deadline. Dog licenses may be obtained through the Police Department located at 401 First Avenue NW. Applications are available on the City website at www.cityofisanti.us. City Code does require that any property owner who has more than two (2) dogs must obtain a residential kennel permit. Please contact Planning and Parks Director Lisa Wilson to obtain information regarding a residential kennel permit at (763) 444-5512 or at: lwilson@cityofisanti.us

City Wide Clean Up Day

Saturday, April 28, 2012

8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Public Works Garage • 100 Isanti Parkway NW, 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, Furnaces, Microwave Ovens, Water Heaters, Dishwashers, Garbage Disposals, Refrigerators, Washers, Dryers, Dehumidifiers, Trash Compactors, Vacuum Cleaners, Freezers, Ovens, Stoves, Gas Grill.

Air Conditioning Units & Water Softeners \$20 each.

Commercial & gas/ammonia appliance fees will vary. NO LP tanks will be accepted.

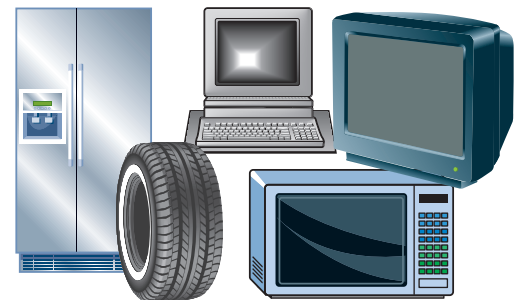
TIRES:

Passenger Car/ATV	\$5/Tire
Truck	\$10/Tire
Bicycle	\$1/Tire
Motorcycle.....	\$2/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	\$15.00
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; Laptop Computers \$10.00; Scanner \$10.00; Copier \$25.00; Printers \$10.00; DVD/VCR \$5.00

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.

§216-2 (H) states that all noxious weeds and other rank growths of vegetation upon public or private property are considered a public nuisance affecting health. In accordance with the notification requirements of §216-6 of this chapter, 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.

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. Any unpaid charges will be assessed to the property.

The costs associated with this are billed on a time spent basis. A \$25.00 non-compliance fee is charged in addition to the cost.

For complete copies of the Code and fee schedule visit our web site at www.cityofisanti.us.

Administrative/Finance

Administration

763-444-5512



SHOWN (L to R): Don Lorsung and Karissa Henning.

The Administration Department is staffed by the City Administrator/City Clerk as well as the Human Resources/Deputy City Clerk. The Department is responsible for a wide range of duties, which include:

- Provide day to day administration over all City Departments. Assist department heads with projects, policy development and as needed assist in their absence with department administration.
- Develop draft procedures, policies, and programs to improve the health, safety, and welfare of the City, to respond to organizational needs and governmental mandates.
- Coordinate consultant services and assists with projects, as necessary.
- Execute governmental functions as City Clerk, as required by State Statute (Plan A).
- Keep all records and filings of municipal documents and records.
- Administer the Election process.
- Responsible for licensing and contracted services.
- Responsible for City insurance programs, claims, and administration.
- Administer human resources and City safety programs.
- Share Website administration and updates.
- Work with department heads and staff to administer community development programs, assistance with planning and development matters as well as financial matters and budget preparation.

The duties and responsibilities assigned to those in the Administration Department require a broad knowledge and skill set. Don Lorsung, City Administrator/City Clerk, has earned a Bachelor's Degree in History from Minnesota State University – Moorhead and a Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Studies from Minnesota State University-Mankato. He is a Credentialed Manager through the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and continues to pursue certification maintenance credits to maintain his credentials. Mr. Lorsung is a long term member of ICMA and the American Planning Association. Mr. Lorsung has over 27 years of experience in local government in Minnesota and Iowa. Karissa Henning, Human Resources/Deputy City Clerk, has earned a Bachelor's Degree in Human Resource Development with a minor in Human Resources and Industrial Relations from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. Miss Henning will continue to attend classes and seminars to keep aware of issues affecting local government.

Finance

763-444-5512



SHOWN: Anna Wegwerth. NOT SHOWN: JoAnn Welcome

The Finance Department is staffed by the Finance Director, Accounting Clerk, and Receptionist/Utility Billing Clerk. The individuals of this Department are responsible for the day to day financial management of the City that includes:

- Accounts payable/receipts.
- Payroll.
- Financial reporting and annual audit.
- Administration of utility and nuisance billing.
- Bond and special assessment administration.
- Preparation of the annual budget.
- Respond to citizen inquiries.

JoAnn Welcome has been employed with the City of Isanti for 12 years; and Anna Wegwerth has been employed with the City for 4 years. Their knowledge and experience in their positions make them valuable assets to the City. As of the publication of this edition of the Isantian, the Finance Director position is in the process of being filled.

City Offices Closed

Monday, May 28
Memorial Day

Wednesday, July 4
Independence Day

City Service Billings

If you would like to sign up for paying via ACH or to receive your statement via e-mail please complete the form available on the City's web site, www.cityofisanti.us and mail to City of Isanti, PO Box 251340, St. Paul, MN 55125. Forms are also available at City Hall.

If you have any questions regarding your City Services bill please contact Customer Service at 651-255-0993.

In the future we will be exploring options such as online billing and online payments.

Fee Schedule

Isanti City Council approved Resolution 2011-292 authorizing the 2012 Fee Schedule.

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

Elections

In 2012, there will be 2 seats on the City Council up for election. If you are interested, the first day for filing affidavits for candidacy is Tuesday, May 22nd. Tuesday, June 5th is the last day for filing affidavits of candidacy. The affidavits will be available at City Hall and the fee for filing is \$2.00.

If there are more than 2 people per seat filing for City Council, the City will hold a primary election. This will be held in conjunction with the regular primary election on Tuesday, August 14th. The regular general election will be held on Tuesday, November 6th.

For additional information on local elections, please contact HR/Deputy Clerk Karissa Henning.

Community Events

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 17

Isanti Area Community Expo
Isanti Intermediate School
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

March 19

Isanti Blood Pressure Checks
(3rd Mon. of each month)
Isanti Community Center

March 21

Isanti Senior Topsy Turvy Day
Isanti Community Center
Edie Frison 763-689-5992

March 31

Isanti VFW Ladies Auxiliary
Children's Easter Egg Hunt
Registration: 12:30 p.m.
Hunt: 1:00 p.m.

April (To Be Determined)

Prime Time Singers
Isanti Community Center
Edie Frison 763-689-5992

April 28

Spring Fling • 6 p.m.
Spirit River Community Center
For tickets/info 763-444-8515

April 28

City Wide Clean Up Day
Public Works Garage
8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Pet Clinic
Get your pet's shots or obtain
your dog license. Clinic
sponsored by East Central
Veterinarians

May 2

Redbirds Baseball Starts
Check schedule on website

May 5

City-Wide Garage Sales
Hannah 763-444-5083

May 10

Isanti Ambassador Candidate
Sign-Up 5:00 p.m.
Community Pride Bank

May 18 & 19

Buddy Poppy Sales Days
Show your support for veterans

Isanti City Wide Garage Sale

The Isanti City Wide garage sale is set for Saturday, May 5, 2012. Please place an ad with the Scotsman and get on the map. The more people on the map makes the City Wide Sale look bigger. The ad is 15 words for \$15.00. Deadline to the Scotsman is April 24, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. The Scotsman is at 234 South Main Street, Cambridge, MN. Any questions please call Hannah, 763-444-5083.



Bike Rodeo June 2nd at Isanti VFW



On June 2nd the Isanti VFW will be holding a Bike Rodeo for our local children. The goal of the Bike Rodeo is to teach children the importance of seeing, being seen, and remaining in control, at all times when riding their bike. There will be multiple stations set up that riders will learn the proper operation and safety rules when riding their bikes. The goal is to empower our youth with basic skills and rules of the road to keep them safe! There will be prizes, snacks and fun for all! Please be sure to watch for more information on the Bike Rodeo so we can all work together to keep our children safe while they are riding!

Isanti Area Community Expo

Mark your calendars for March 17th...St. Patrick's Day! Come see our local businesses and other direct sales people such as Avon, Beauticontrol and Mary Kay. The Isanti Area Chamber of Commerce will be giving away \$100 prizes at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. with a GRAND PRIZE of \$500 at 3:30 p.m.! All vendors will also be giving away door prizes at every booth! See what's new and meet the people who run businesses in your town. Food will be available all day. Girl Scouts will be selling cookies!



Isanti Area Chamber of Commerce Spring Fling



Has it been awhile since you've seen a good Western? Are you missing simpler times? Does the mention of John Wayne give you goose bumps? Then you need to come to the "Wild, Wild West Spring Fling". We will have wonderful catering by Spectacular Events. There will be a silent auction with great items, western theme games and many chances to win prizes. We are looking forward to seeing many of our local residents, business

owners and their employees. Please join us April 28th, 2012 at Spirit River Community Center. Social hour will start at 6:00 p.m., and dinner is at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$35.00 in advance and \$40.00 at the door. For more information, please call the Chamber office at 763-444-8515.

MN State Cup and State BMX Finals Return to Isanti for 2012

The City of Isanti has been selected for the 2012 US Youth Soccer Minnesota State Cup for the second consecutive year at the Isanti Soccer Complex. Isanti was also selected for the State BMX Finals at the Rum River BMX track in 2012. Together, these Spring/Summer events will bring over 10,000 participants and spectators to Isanti.



Mayor's Employer Appreciation Luncheon

The Mayor's Employer Appreciation Luncheon will be held in June 2012. This event is held to recognize Isanti businesses and their role in making our community strong. Invites will be going out to all Isanti business in May.

Community Events



The Isanti Redbirds have a very hard act to follow this year. They had an extremely successful 2011 season, where they were the Class C State Champions of Amateur Baseball in Minnesota! Yes, that's right, number one out of over 300 teams in the State! In fact, because they were so successful, the Minnesota Baseball Association (MBA) has moved the 'Birds up to the Class B division. This move forced the 'Birds to transfer from the Eastern Minny League to the Metro Minny League. The Metro Minny League has all Class B teams, including the following: Anoka, Big Lake, Blaine, Champlin, Coon Rapids, East Bethel, Forest Lake, Hamel, St. Francis and now Isanti. You can follow Metro Minny League and the 'Birds via their web site which is located at: www.metrominny.com.

The 'Birds will probably play between, 35 to 40 games again this year. This includes participating in two tournaments Sartell-St. Stephens (June 1, 2 and 3) and the Isanti Classic (June 15, 16 and 17). At the end of the season, the 'Birds will enter Section 2 (a new section) for sectional playoffs.

The team will be made up of many veteran players and a handful of younger up-and-coming 'Birds of the future. The 'Birds pitching staff is lead by veterans Wade Reichmann, Adam West, Joe Ramberg, Dallas Nelson and Cole Bakke. The 'Birds will have a lot of offense provided by the bats of veterans Bud Heifort, Kyle Johnson, Tyler Schaff, BJ Samuelson, Eric Rysdam, Wyatt Soderquist, Jake Maros while Packy Lind, Matt Duong, Garrett Hedberg and Brian Schultz helps hold the defense together. There is going to be a real battle for playing time in both the infield and the outfield and for the remaining spots on the pitching staff.

Yes, the 'Birds had a great 2011 season; however, it will be even tougher this year with everyone trying to beat the "defending State Champs"! If you're interested in trying out for the 'Birds, they will be having their annual tryout session on Sunday, April 15th at 2:00 PM at the Redbird field in Isanti. For more information, contact Steve Allen at (763) 689-4055.

Isanti Ambassadors

The Isanti Ambassadors have been busy this winter! From hometown ATV parades to a weekend stay at Winter Carnival, the ambassadors have been at it all. Winter carnival provided the ambassadors with a weekend of networking, laughter, and learning from traditions. Each ambassador was roomed with other ambassadors from throughout MN, and they were able to share information about each hometown festival and community. The ambassadors have also spent time volunteering locally and look forward to finishing out their year. In the upcoming months, look for the ambassadors at the Business Expo, School Carnival, and other local events. Soon, it will be time for new candidates and the program wants YOU to participate. Candidates must be at least 17 years of age, exhibit responsibility, positive attitude and a desire to become involved in the community. If you are interested or know of someone who may be interested in the summer candidacy, please contact isantiambassador@yahoo.com for more information. The ambassadors have stated several times how quickly their year has been passing by, and they appreciate all the opportunities they have been given. Thank you to all that help contribute to the program each year.



May 19

Rum River BMX Spring Open House/Beginners Class
BMX Track - 763-444-5429
Armed Forces Day
Military personnel & family Appreciation Day at VFW

May 28

Memorial Day
Ceremonies at local cemeteries; lunch at Isanti VFW

May 29

Tribute to Veterans Race
BMX Track, 763-444-5429

June 2

Bike Rodeo, Isanti VFW

June 14

Family Practice Night
BMX Track, 763-444-5429

June 16

Royal BBQ, 5:00-10:00 p.m.
Isanti Community Center

June 24

Rum River Float, 12:00 p.m.
Country Camping

July 5

Jubilee Day Parade 6:30 p.m.

July 7

Jubilee Kids Day 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Outhouse Races on Main St., 2 p.m.

July 8

Isanti Ambassador Coronation
Isanti Middle School, 4 p.m.

July 10

Race for Life Charity Race
BMX Track, 763-444-5429

2nd Saturday every month

VFW Fundraiser Pancake Breakfast 9 a.m.-Noon

Every Wednesday

\$1,000 Progressive Bingo Event
6:00 p.m. at VFW



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Baptist Church

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*Elim exists to know and love God and
to help others know and love Him.*

PO Box 96, 114 N. Dahlin Ave.,
Isanti, MN 55040

763-444-9221

www.elimisanti.org

Ryan O'Leary, Senior Pastor

Peter Talbot, Associate Pastor

Worship Time: 9:30 a.m.

(Nursery Provided)



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



Isanti City Flower: Rudbeckia



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Bradley DeWolf, P.E.
City of Isanti City Engineer
612-756-1032 (cell)