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News & Views

June 20, 2019

The City of New Hope's Employee Newsletter



Park/Pool Construction Update

The grading for the skatepark and theater locations has been completed. The future skating rink area and north loop trail are currently being graded. The surcharge stockpile is in place and is being monitored.

The excavation for the 50-meter pool is completed, the bottom of the pool stabilized and all of the helical piles in the 50-meter pool installed. The insulation and fabric base in the 50-meter pool is being installed in preparation for the drain tile. The bathhouse foundation beams are complete. Currently, the bathhouse block walls are being installed and the roughed in plumbing and electric has started.

The pre-construction meeting for the skate park was held on June 4 with Custom Builders, Inc. and the skate park construction is expected to start late June or July.

Phase 2 of the demolition contract will start the first part of July, once the city hall move is complete. This portion of the demolition will include disconnection of all services to the current city hall, asbestos abatement and demolition of the building. It is expected all of this will be completed by mid-August.

Police Station & City Hall Construction Update

The majority of the city hall and police station building is complete and staff are working on a punch list for the contractor to address. For the rest of this week and next week prior to the move, staff will be learning the new security and A/V systems so when the city hall opens the facility will be fully functional. Sunram will continue to work on the parking lot and landscaping in conjunction with the pool and park project.

Mark Your Calendar

June 21—Movies in the Park, “Trolls”

June 26—Wacky Wednesday

June 27/28 City Hall Move—Offices Closed

(Employees will not be able to return to city hall after Sunday, June 30).

July 4—City Hall Offices Closed for the Holiday

July 12-14—Duk Duk Daze

July 16—WMFRD Open House

July 19—Movies in the Park, “Little Big League”

July 24—Wellness: Ergonomics

City Project Updates

North Water Tower Repaint—The curtain that is in place will be raised and lowered depending on the construction activities planned each day. The contractor is currently sandblasting and applying the primer to the water tower. The sandblasting should be completed soon. The color is not indicative of the final paint color.

Winpark Drive 2019 Infrastructure Project—The contractor has completed installing the gravel roadway in phase 1. On June 7, work began on phase two with the removal of the remaining pavement. The installation of new water main has also been completed.

Jaycee Park—The old equipment and container have been removed. Last week, the contractor installed the new playground container, entrance ramp and trail from Independence Circle. New equipment and a picnic table with sun shade are being installed this week. A new park sign and blow mulch will be installed soon.

Windsor Ridge—This project near the ice arena (north of the railroad tracks) is moving along. The developer intends on applying for a building permit for a model home that can be showcased in the fall Parade of Homes. Their intent is to construct 8 - 12 homes within the first year.

Audit Report—The 2018 financial audit was completed and determined “clean.” The reports will be filed with the state auditor’s office and an application will be submitted for the 2018 Excellence in Achievement for Financial Reporting Certificate.

2020 Budget Process—The finance and management teams are well entrenched in the process of preparing for next year’s budget. Staff presented the preliminary goals to Council at Monday night’s work session. Staff’s goal is to keep the 2020 levy as low as possible taking into account some unavoidable costs including the 2020 elections and the opening of the new pool facility.

Staff Transitions/Recruitment Updates

Following two internal recruitment processes in community development, we have two promotions that were previously announced. Effective May 13, **Jeff Alger** has been promoted to community development specialist. Jeff has been with the city for a little over 5 years and in that time has held the titles of office specialist, community development assistant, and most recently, community development coordinator/management analyst. And more recently, **Brandon Bell** has been promoted to community development assistant. Brandon started with the city in March 2017 as an office specialist for community development. Since September of that year, he has been an administrative specialist for public works. He will start his new role on July 8. Congratulations Jeff and Brandon!

There was an internal recruitment for the administrative specialist position at public works, but the minimum requirement of two qualification applications was not met. The city will be announcing an external recruitment next week.

Welcome to the World!

Brooklyn Annette Wallace was born on May 28. Dad Aundrey, mom Amanda and big sister Lydia were happy to see her!



Congratulations!

On May 31, McKenna Charlie Ryan was welcomed to the world by dad Jason, mom Kathryn and big sister Lucy.



Father's Day Babe!

Arriving one day early, Emmaline Elizabeth Thelen arrived on Father's Day (6/16) much to the delight of dad Aaron and mom Amy.



Happenings

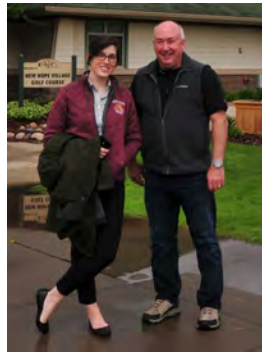
Police Explorer State Conf. — April 25-28

A special congratulations to our NHPD explorers! At the end of April, they took 2nd place in Bomb Scene Search and Impaired Driving Academic at the Explorer State Conference in Rochester! Sgt. Marty Williams; Officer Britni Austin; Explorers Riley Reed, Gerald Ihner, Will Krey & Jack Olson; Officers Jason Ryan & Kaitlyn Baker and CSO Andrew Nickelson.



Staff Appreciation Picnic—May 22

On May 22, the management team served up picnic fare for the enjoyment of staff in appreciation for all of their work. It was a rainy day, so the food was enjoyed inside. It was greatly appreciated by the 50+ employees that were able to attend. Top left: Carissa Hoyt, Officers Jason Ryan, Todd Black & Jared Kuyper. Bottom left: Matt Rowedder & Dave Lemke, Bottom center: Kate Croteau & Captain Scott Slawson, Bottom right: Sgt. Pete Stanley & Officer Katilyn Baker



Vehicle Fair—June 1

More than 1,200 people attended the 2019 Vehicle Fair at the Crystal Community Center. The star of the show was the police department's new modified MRAP (Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected) vehicle which has many features to ensure the safety of city officers and citizens alike.



2nd Annual Young Mudder—June 8

The 2nd Annual Young Mudder took place on June 8 at Lions Valley Place Park in Crystal. 185 youth took part in this year's unique obstacle course which included a mud pit, slip n' slide, hay bales, climbing wall, balance beam, foam pit and more. The event is made possible through donations and volunteers by many organizations. However, a special thanks to Public Works for building several of the obstacles and to the Police Department and West Metro Fire for volunteering along the course.





Wellness Program

Past Events

Healthy Grilling with Hy-Vee—June 18, 2019

25 employees listened and watched as Hy-Vee Dietitian Caity Nienow provided guidance on choosing healthy grilling options on the golf course patio. Grill Masters Dave Lemke and Mic Rusk demonstrated their mastery of the flame during the presentation. Caity provided recipes for the delicious food the group enjoyed including Italian marinated turkey cutlets, seasoned sirloin, angel food cake with fruit, and Thai Wild Rice Salad.



Upcoming Events

Well-Adjusted: Ergonomics for Back and Neck Health—July 24, 2019

Join Dr. Tom Bomberg, of Bomberg Chiropractic, as he presents on preventing/caring for neck and back pain. His presentation will include information on how to maintain good posture while working in both sitting and standing positions.



Following lunch, Dr. Bomberg will tour city offices offering personalized at-your-workstation/site tips. All employees are encouraged to sign up for the at-your-workstation/site tips by going to I:\Wellness or seeing Carissa at public works.

Lunch will be a fresh summer buffet of cold cuts, cheeses, buns, fresh veggies, tortellini salad, fruit pizza and water (\$5 per employee). You are welcome to bring your lunch as well, or join just for the presentation at 11:45 a.m.

Annual Picnic and Summers Games in the Park—August 2019

Date and details to be announced in July.



Wacky Wednesday/Food Pantry Donations

Thus far in 2019 staff has delivered 402 pounds and \$410 to NEAR. The next Wacky Wednesday is June 26—jeans or shorts!

Employee of the Quarter Nominations Sought

Reminder...nominate one of your outstanding co-workers for Employee of the Quarter today. The deadline is Sunday, June 30 by end of day. Forms can be found at I:\Forms (EOQ Nomination Form) or by contacting Human Resources.