

LOCALNEWS

SNOW PLACE LIKE HOME



STAFF PHOTO BY EMILY GEDDE

Tanner Mortenson is the architect who created a snow fort which stands several feet tall on County Road 115. This season’s snow and temperatures appear to have combined to make for good fort-building conditions.

Program provides for engine replacements

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

A program from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is inviting owners of 2006 and older heavy-duty diesel engine vehicles to apply for grants to upgrade or replace their engines. The MPCA program, funded through a \$150,000 federal grant, provides funding for installing pollution controls and idle reduction devices, or for replacing engines, vehicles or equipment. According to an MPCA news release, diesel engines power Minnesota’s economy, but older diesel engines are infamous for creating air pollution, and vehicles are responsible for

30 percent of the air pollution in Minnesota. Older diesel engines create a higher proportion of fine particulate and nitrogen oxide pollution than gasoline engines. Both fine particle pollution and ozone can trigger respiratory and heart problems. The EPA estimates every dollar spent on diesel emission reduction nets \$13 in health benefits. Over the last seven years the MPCA’s clean diesel grant efforts have helped to directly fund emission-reducing improvements on 2,746 diesel engines in Minnesota including nearly 1,900 school buses. In recent years, the MPCA has awarded grants to replace heavy duty engines

on construction equipment, garbage trucks, delivery trucks, and retrofitted several long-haul trucks with diesel particulate filters. “These grants usually provide around 40-50 percent of the cost, except vehicle replacement projects which would be funded up to 25 percent,” MPCA clean diesel grants manager, Mark Sulzbach, said in a release. “New diesel engine emissions are 90 percent cleaner than pre-2007 engines. The problem is old diesels last forever. Clean diesel grants contribute directly to improving public health including the engine operator’s health, while helping the owner’s bottom line through improved performance and or efficiency.”

Owners of older heavy duty diesel engines are encouraged to take the opportunity to improve their fleet through a variety of EPA approved technologies including:

- Idle reduction
- Pollution controls
- Engine replacements
- New vehicle /equipment replacements

Vehicles and equipment generally must be 2006 and older and trucks must be class 6 or larger to qualify. Vehicles and equipment must also be fully operational and not backup equipment. Applications are due by March 31. Visit www.pca.state.mn.us/cleandiesel for more information.

Civil War experience comes to local library

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

A Civil War experience is coming to International Falls Public Library. The Arrowhead Library System will present Historical Experiences – Minnesota’s Civil War Experience, a free program being offered at the International Falls Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Monday. This year is the final year of the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War, according to a news release. Arn Kind will visit libraries across the Arrowhead region to share information about the events that threatened to break up the nation. The American Civil War was

America’s bloodiest conflict, with 620,000 Americans losing their lives over the four years of the struggle. Through drama, role-playing and living history experiences, Kind’s presentation will give participants an understanding of this turbulent time and bring history alive. What caused this horrific conflict? What events led to the war? What motivated young men to sign up and fight as soldiers for the Union? Was it just patriotism or were there other, more selfish motivations for enlisting? What was the everyday soldier’s experience? What were his uniform, equipment, weapons, and food like? What were his

chances of surviving his 3-year term of enlistment? Kind dresses in the uniform of a Union soldier and goes through the uniform, equipment, and weapons used by soldiers in the American Civil War. A very important part of Kind’s presentations, the release said, are the artifacts, uniforms and equipment participants observe, handle, and interact with as part of this hands-on history experience. At the end, audience members may choose to play an active role in historical events by becoming recruits in the Union Army as they are sworn in and learn some of the basics of Hardee’s Light Infantry Tactics Drill Manual while handling wooden replicas of Civil War muskets.

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This is Northwoods Eating

Breakfast Specials
Mon.-Sat. \$6.29 • Sunday \$7.29

Mon.	Big Moose Skillet with hashbrowns	
Tues.	Breakfast Sandwich with hashbrowns	
Wed.	French Toast w/eggs & sausage or bacon	
Thurs.	Blueberry Pancakes w/eggs & sausage or bacon	
Fri.	Biscuits & Gravy w/eggs & hashbrowns	
Sat.	Cinnamon Swirl French Toast with ham & eggs	
Sun.	Blueberry Cream Cheese Crepes with eggs & ham	

Dinner Specials

Mon.	Half Chicken Dinner	\$10.99
Tues.	Full Rack of BBQ Ribs	\$17.99
Wed.	Pan Fried Walleye	\$14.99
Thurs.	Mozzarella Girsale w/Marinara Sauce	\$10.99
Fri.	Fishermen’s Catch	\$16.99
Sat.	Rib Eye Steak	\$17.99
Sun.	Chicken Kiev	\$11.99

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ARROWHEAD TRANSIT

If you’re looking for a mindless job with no stress where you do the same thing day after day, please do not apply for the position of part-time driver at Arrowhead Transit. We expect a lot out of our drivers. Starting pay is \$12.19, with regular pay increases. All drivers must be 21 years old and have a CDL license with a passenger endorsement. If you do not have your CDL, we provide the training if your application is accepted. This training is provided for you at no cost.

We presently have one opening for a part-time bus driver in International Falls.

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AEOA
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Authority

AGENDA

City of International Falls – City Council Regular Meeting
4:30 P.M., Monday, March 2, 2015
Council Chamber, 600 Fourth Street

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVE AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA (only by unanimous consent).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
1. Minutes of the Tuesday, February 17, 2015 regular City Council meeting (Council action-motion)

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS AND APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
1. Adopt Resolution No. __-15, Approving Payment of Claims and Accounts Payable (Council action-motion)

AUDIENCE – OPEN FORUM (The Open Forum is an opportunity for the audience to address the City Council on any matter not listed on the agenda. Please limit your comments to five minutes.)

PUBLIC HEARING – ACTION ITEMS

OPENING BIDS (AND/OR QUOTES)

OLD BUSINESS
1. North Koochiching Area Sanitary District - Request for reimbursement of the \$10,000 donation to the City to build and relocate the animal shelter for use by the Borderland Humane Society, NKASD Executive Director McBride and appointed Board (Council action-motion)

CONSENT AGENDA: The Consent Agenda allows the City Council to take action on routine matters by one motion that shall not be debated and shall be adopted by unanimous vote of those present. Any individual council member may remove an item from the Consent Agenda for discussion on the regular agenda. (Council action – motion)

1. Approve registration and travel expenses for Councilor attendance at the Joint Legislative Conference on March 4-5, 2015, St. Paul, MN

2. Year 2015 license renewal – Ralinda Grover, Individual Massage

NEW BUSINESS
1. Request to display a Relay for Life T-shirt on Smokey Bear - Teresa Rom, American Cancer Society, Koochiching County (Council action-motion)
2. Use of Smokey Bear Park and Kerry Park facilities on National Walk Day for the Angelman’s Syndrome Foundation, May 16, 2015, Rebecca Kimball (Council action-motion)
3. Resolution No. __-15, Approving Temporary On-Sale Liquor License for the Knight of Columbus Council 1540 (Council action-motion)
4. Resolution No. __-15, Approving application to Conduct Excluded Bingo for the Friends Against Abuse (Council action-motion)
5. Resolution No. __-15, Approving Building Permit fee schedule (Council action-motion)
6. Reviewing fee schedule for Ambulance Services (Council action-information)
7. Approve proposal to install upgrades to the Civil Defense sirens by contractor up to \$15,299 payable from the Fire Department reserve for capital outlay (Council action-motion)
8. Approve proposal to install upgrades to the Fire Department office radio by DSC Communications for approximately \$6,541.20 payable from the Fire and Ambulance Department communications line item (Council action-motion)
9. Approve revision to Firefighter Engineer job description regarding EMT requirement (Council action-motion)
10. Approve job description, salary, and appointment of two Casual Paramedics (Council action-motion)
11. Review/set fee and rate schedule for use of City equipment to deliver water upon request (Council action-motion)
12. Any other business

REPORTS OF ALL BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENT HEADS
1. **Reports of the Administrator, Attorney, and Department Heads**
a. Police Monthly Report, February 2015 (Council information)
b. Fire/Rescue/EMS Monthly Report, February 2015 (Council information)
2. **Reports of the Mayor, Council Committees, Boards and Commissions**

AUDIENCE – OPEN FORUM

CORRESPONDENCE
1. January 12, 2015 – Housing & Redevelopment Authority of International Falls meeting minutes
2. January 14, 2015 – International Falls Public Library meeting minutes
3. January 22, 2015 – Convention and Visitors Bureau meeting minutes
4. January 28, 2015 – International Falls-Koochiching County Airport Commission meeting minutes
5. February 18, 2015 – International Falls Recreation Department meeting minutes

REMINDERS
1. Next regular City Council meeting is Monday, March 16, 2015 at 4:30 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT
Note: Matters inappropriate for consideration at the meeting or not in the order specified shall not be considered except 1) with the unanimous consent of the members of the City Council, or 2) scheduled public hearings or bid lettings, but not before the time stated in the notice. The City of International Falls complies with the Americans with Disability Act. Individuals with disabilities requiring special aids should contact the City Administrator, 600 Fourth Street, International Falls, MN, 56649, 218-283-9484, at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.