



## MAYORS UPDATE

August 2020

Park Improvement - The Recreation District and City crews have been working together on major improvements in our park. The tennis courts have been cut in half to make room for the playground equipment the Rec District secured from Fairchild AFB last year. The remaining court will be resurfaced for basketball, skateboards, etc. This will make the park in the middle of our town look awesome! The plan is to take the existing playground equipment down to the Merrill Park gazebo.

The City, with Rob Davis's help, is working with the Fire Department to get water and sewer to our new building. Concrete has been poured. Building project is looking good.

We had a great 4<sup>th</sup> of July! Our businesses did very well. Clearwater Sheriff's Department did a great job. Councilwoman Diana Olson and her husband Dave put on their "Support our law enforcement two day luncheon" again and was very much appreciated by the Deputies and Forest Service. She will be providing it again over Elk River Days. Thank you Diana! All of us appreciate and support this effort!

Upper Basin road is closed until August 8<sup>th</sup> for bridgework. It is open to campsite #18. Highway 8 will have road construction from Bovill to Ruby Creek for 4 weeks beginning August 3<sup>rd</sup>. One lane traffic in some places with up to 15 minute delays. Sometime at the end of August/first half of September, Diamond-Gold Creek road at about marker 10 will be closed for around 2 weeks while they install a bridge.

In January 2019, I appointed a committee to examine the noise issue and suggest a solution. They came back with a common sense approach versus a hard, fast ordinance. This would involve neighbors working with neighbors and understanding that there are several holidays that involve our bars with bands. We have just a few residents with complaints that tend to have Clearwater Deputies running up here to mediate a dispute with little ability to enforce short of having noise meters and a strict big city ordinance. Can't we proceed with the thought that we live here for our freedoms with as few strict big city rules as possible? Just get along...

The City has applied for a grant to bring Broadband Internet to Elk River. With Chris St Germain at CCED's help, we feel that we have a good shot at this grant. We should hear more on this within the next week. Thank you everyone who submitted letters of support! We received over 80 letters.

The virus and us! Having gone through a Fun Run, Memorial Day and 4<sup>th</sup> of July we are thankfully holding steady. Having been swamped by out of state campers, we have had a close eye on the virus numbers. Please continue to socially distance, sanitize often and play outdoors. Whenever you leave our little paradise, please wear a mask.

Thanks for listening!

Mayor Dave