

and Issues

Problems, Needs,

Report

Quarterly

Quarter, 2014

Second

The following is a list of issues of community and public interest that the news department covered during the months of April, May and June, 2014. Included is a description of each issue and the news stories that were written and aired to inform local residents about each issue.....

1.) -- **Winona Bridge Project**...During the quarter preparations for the five-year, 175-million dollar project continued. Public meetings were held to gage citizen input on the project by the Minnesota Department of Transportation. MinnDOT thought the project would get started in June but high water oin the Mississippi River caused by heavy rains delayed the start until about mid-July at last report. See attached news stories.....

2.) -- **Hannon Retires--West Hired**...Winona Superintendent of Schools Scott Hannon retired from the school district at the end of June after 41 years with the district in different capacities. Hannon's replacement was chosen in March and Dr. Stephen West started his new job on July First after making several visits with constituents throughout the district. Also Winona State University hired a new Vice President for University Advancement. See attached news stories.....

3.) -- **Hebert Fired**....The Winona County Board of Commissioners in April fired County Administrator Duane Hebert for alleged malfeasance in office. Hebert was accused of lying to the board about his involvement in a solar wind company vying for a county project. Hebert had been with the county for five years and claimed that he was not guilty . By the end of the quarter Hebert had requested a hearing before the board to air his side of the story but no hearing had been granted yet. See attached news stories.....

4.) -- **Winona State Expansion**...Three issues involving Winona State University made the news during the second quarter. WSU's new floating classroom, a one million dollar boat, arrived in Winona in early

June to a special dedication and celebration...Winona State's request for construction of a new baseball diamond on city property in Lake Park went before the City Council...and WSU's request for state funding for phase one of its proposed Education Village was approved by the state legislature, a total of 5-point-9 million dollars. See attached news stories.....

5.) -- **Rushford New School** -- The Rushford-Peterson School District's chance of getting a new 33-million dollar k-through-12 school building got a boost from the state legislature in May. That's when the legislature approved a funding mechanism to help the district raise the money. By the end of the quarter the district had scheduled a November 4th, 2014 referendum vote for the school district residents to approve the additional needed funding,. See attached news stories.....

Submitted by:

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