



# MNSPECT

HELPING YOU COMPLY WITH THE CODE

235 First Street West • Waconia, MN 55387-1302

## YOUR CODE PROFESSIONALS:

### Inspection Personnel:

- Scott Qualle, Designated Building Official
- Ty Turnquist, Operations Director, Senior Commercial Plans Examiner
- Kandis Hanson, Relationship Manager
- Nick Qualle, Senior Residential Plans Examiner/Field Inspector
- Derek Qualle, Rental/Field Inspector
- Dale Engelmann, Senior Plumbing Plans Examiner/Plumbing Inspector
- Steve Horsman, Field Inspector
- Steve Maki, Field Inspector
- Dean Mau, Senior Fire Plans Examiner
- Ermiias Mekonnen, Plans Examiner
- Tracy Montgomery, Office Manager
- Brandy Blauert, Operations Assistant
- Wendy Morrissey, Administrative Assistant
- Tamara Stuart, Administrative Assistant

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Stewart – 8 years; Lakeland – 1 year  
Sept. 1 – Building and Code Staff  
Appreciation Day

## Stay connected with the MNSPECT MINUTE

September 2016

### “Neither Rain Nor Snow Day” – September 7

September 7, 1914 is the anniversary of the opening of the New York Post Office. Inscribed on the building is the following quote: “Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night, stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds.” While we are not the post office or even a government office, we do strive to perform scheduled inspections even when the weather tries to stop us. If we postpone an inspection for any reason, it slows down your construction process or may inconvenience you in another way. While we do give a specific time for an inspection, please keep in mind that factors such as traffic, problems at an earlier inspection, weather, etc., could make our inspector a little late. Inspections are required to verify key parts of the construction process.

Required inspections are indicated on your permit card. By performing these required inspections, our goal is to verify that work completed up to that point has been done in compliance with the building code which could save you time and money correcting any violations before the project goes any further. For most of the construction project types, MNSPECT has informative handouts that include information regarding the required inspections and what we will be verifying at these inspections.

MN Rules, Section 1300.0210 states: “Construction or work for which a permit is required is subject to inspection by the building official and the construction or work shall remain accessible and exposed for inspection purposes until approved...It shall be the duty of the permit applicant to cause the work to remain accessible and exposed for inspection purposes.”

Our inspectors often times have the unwanted task of requiring a contractor or homeowner to make corrections. Some people do not like being told that they have to fix something or that they did something wrong. Keep in mind, our inspectors did not write the building code – they are just there to make sure it is being enforced. Similarly, your postal delivery person does not charge you for your electricity – he/she just brings you the bill. Don't shoot the messenger!

## WELCOME, CITY OF BAYPORT!

If you have a story idea, or would like to know if your project requires a permit, call us at 952-442-7520.

### Q&A OF THE DAY

Q. May building permit fees be a revenue source for a local government?

A. If a city adopts the building code, a building fee schedule must also be developed and adopted. Building permit fees are considered user fees, meaning only those who obtain permits pay a fee for that service, so there should be no tax burden on the other citizens in your community. According to the League of Minnesota Cities, building permit fees need to reflect the city's actual costs associated to administration and enforcement of the building code, which can include staffing, contracted inspection services, transportation, training, tools, equipment, etc. The League also specifies that fees listed in the Building Permit Fee Schedule are to be equal to the cost of services received. Per MN Rule 1300.0160 Fees, Subp.2: “Fees...must be fair, reasonable and proportionate to the ACTUAL cost of the service for which the fee is imposed.” Contrary to prevalent practice, building permit fees may not be a profit center for local governments.



MNSPECT is pleased to announce that Kandis Hanson has joined our team. As Relationship Manager, Kandis is charged with placing MNSPECT in the most positive position for client acquisition and retention. She is responsible for initiation, development, and cultivation of business relationships with Minnesota local governments.

Ms. Hanson comes with an AAS in marketing and a MA in local government management. She has 22 years of experience leading cities as city administrator/manager and brings expertise in human relations, promotions and communications. She comes by way of the City of Mound, where she was charged with relationship building that resulted in the redevelopment of the community over 15 years. Officials representing cities, townships and counties are invited to get to know Kandis by contacting her during business hours (8:00-4:30) at 952-442-7520 x 102 or [kandis@mnspect.com](mailto:kandis@mnspect.com).