2012 Annual Report



City of Alexandria Building Department

Building Department Staff

Bruce Jaspersen, Building Official
Mike Schmidt, Building Inspector
Lynn Timm, Building Inspector
Brenda Johnson, Office Support





The new normal

Construction remained relatively stable throughout 2012, and ended with \$51,641,138.01 of permitted work within the City of Alexandria, as well as the code administration areas of Hudson, Lagrand and Lake Mary Townships. This level of construction has emerged as the new normal for our area. Since 2006, the annual valuation of construction within the code administration area has averaged slightly under \$52 million.

When one includes the contract area of Alexandria Township which is serviced by Building Department staff, 2012 permitted valuation totaled \$54,750,523.12.

During 2012 the Building Department reviewed, processed, and issued 1,030 permits within their jurisdiction. This compares to 1,214 in 2011. Of this total, 604 were building permits, 229 were plumbing permits and 197 were mechanical permits. During 2012 the valuation of permitted construction, including plumbing and mechanical work, within the City of Alexandria and its code administration area, totaled \$51,641,138.01. This compares to \$53,034,367.39 during 2011.

Seventeen building permits were issued by the City for <u>new</u> commercial projects during 2012. These permits totaled \$20,010,563 in valuation. This compares to eighteen permits for new commercial construction, with a valuation of \$13,231,031.99 during 2011. In addition to new commercial construction, 71 permits were issued for the remodel, repair, or renovation of commercial buildings. These projects added \$11,647,869.10 to the total valuation.

The top ten City permitted projects during 2012, according to estimated valuation include:

Independent School District 206

Address: 4300 Pioneer Road

Contractor: Kraus-Anderson Construction Company – Circle Pines, MN

Designer: Cuningham Group Architecture – Minneapolis, MN

Description: Footings/Foundation/Exterior Walls for New High School

Valuation: \$13,488,892.00

LBR Properties, LLC

Address: 4541 Arbor Crossing

Contractor: Lyon Contracting & Development – St. Cloud, MN

Designer: Cole Group Architects – St. Cloud, MN

Description: 83,289 Square-Foot 63 Unit Apartment Building

Valuation: \$5,040,000

Runestone Electric Association

Address: 6875 County Road 28

Contractor: Innovative Builders, Inc. – Alexandria, MN

Designer: Ringdahl Architects – Alexandria, MN

Description: 17,057 Square-Foot Office/Storage Addition/Interior

Remodel

Valuation: \$2,500,000

Northern Food & Dairy

Address: 601 3rd Avenue

Contractor: Innovative Builders, Inc. – Alexandria, MN
Designer: Widseth, Smith & Nolting – Alexandria, MN

Description: 31,950 Square-Foot Warehouse/Break Room Addition

Valuation: \$2,200,000

Joint Venture Properties, LLC

Address: 6600 State Highway 29 South

Contractor: Tradesmen Construction – Alexandria, MN

Designer: Ringdahl Architects – Alexandria, MN

Description: New Spine Center Office

Valuation: \$1,950,000

Runestone Electric Association

Address: 6841 County Road 28

Contractor: J Weiner Construction – Alexandria, MN
Designer: Ringdahl Architects – Alexandria, MN
Description: 17,220 Square-Foot Office, Shop/Storage

Valuation: \$1,693,070

Living Word Lutheran Church

Address: 1722 16th Avenue

Contractor: Innovative Builders, Inc – Alexandria, MN

Designer: JLG Architects – Alexandria, MN
Description: 26,094 Square-Foot New Church

Valuation: \$1,350,000

Shalom Lutheran Church

Address: 800 County Road 44

Contractor: ORB Management - Alexandria, MN

Designer: Widseth, Smith and Nolting – Alexandria, MN

Description 5,000 Square-Foot Church Addition

Valuation \$1,200,000

WM3D Properties

Address: 3181 Evergreen Lane

Contractor: Self

Designer: WM3D Properties – New London, MN

Description: Truckstop Interior Remodel, New Pumps, Scale and Canopy

Valuation: \$1,000,000

Cowing-Robards, Inc

Address: 1110 North Nokomis

Contractor: Morton Buildings – Alexandria, MN Designer: Morton Buildings – Alexandria, MN

Description Boomerang Sports Center

Valuation: \$900,000

New single-family dwelling construction matched a ten year low during 2012; with a total of twenty-two new single-family dwellings being constructed within the City's building code administration area. The estimated valuation of this construction totaled \$5,408,019.34. This is down 13 units from 2011, nearly a 37-percent decrease from 2011's numbers, and ties with 2008 for having the fewest new single-family dwellings permitted. Although there were fewer new homes permitted during 2012, those that were permitted were significantly larger; with an average valuation of \$245,819.

During 2012, 445 single-family dwellings were remodeled, repaired or underwent renovation. These projects totaled \$3,525,493.70 in valuation. This compares to 2011, when 501 building permits, with a valuation of \$4,754,485.04, were issued for this type of work.

Along with the City and its two-mile code administration area, Building Department staff provides contract building code administration services for all of Alexandria Township. Seventy-six building permits, 11 plumbing permits and 15 mechanical permits were issued in this area during 2012. The estimated valuation of this work totaled \$3,109,385.11. During 2012, eleven new single family homes were constructed, with an estimated total valuation of \$1,950,838.25; a per unit valuation of \$177,349. 55 single-family dwellings were remodeled, repaired or underwent renovation during 2012. The estimated valuation of this type of work was \$502,110.36. Eight new detached accessory buildings were constructed during 2012 and added \$152,641.50 to Alexandria Township's total estimated valuation. One new commercial building, with an estimated value of \$227,800, was also constructed during 2012. Fees in the amount of \$19,186 were collected from Alexandria Township for services provided.

Public nuisance resolution falls under the umbrella of Building Department duties. Public nuisances include noxious weeds, tall grass, garbage and debris accumulation, vehicle parking on non-paved residential surfaces and unsafe/hazardous building abatement. During 2012, approximately 97 such complaints were received, investigated and resolved. Although public nuisance abatement can be time consuming and contentious, it is an important piece in maintaining the high quality of life that we enjoy in Alexandria.

During 2012 Building Department staff conducted 2,971 inspections within the City of Alexandria and its surrounding code administration area. Of these inspections, 1,924 were building inspections, 541 were plumbing inspections, 351 were mechanical inspections and 155 were miscellaneous/public nuisance inspections.

The actual number of inspections conducted for any given project will depend upon its size and complexity, and is determined at the time of permit issuance. However at a minimum, inspection is mandated during the following stages of construction.

- Footing/Foundation
- Concrete Slab and Under-Floor
- Rough-In of Plumbing, Mechanical, Gas and Electrical Systems
- Framing/Masonry Construction
- Energy Efficiency
- Lath and Drywall
- Protection of Joints and Penetrations in Fire-Resistance-Rated Assemblies
- Installation of Manufactured Homes
- Fireplace Construction/Installation
- Special Inspections as Required by the Code
- Final Inspection

The 2012 Building Department budget was \$248,555. Permit fees, licensing fees, miscellaneous income, as well as fees collected for contract building code administration for Alexandria Township totaled \$472,637.35 for 2012. During 2012 the City of Alexandria remitted \$27,942.59 back to the State of Minnesota for building permit surcharges.

When one considers the geographic area, population, amount of construction activity, as well as the variety of miscellaneous tasks covered by the Building Department, it continues to demonstrate itself as an extremely efficient and cost effective City department.

Building Department staff is grateful for the opportunities they have been afforded during 2012 to continue their education, including attendance at the Annual Institute of Building Officials in St. Paul, International Code Council training in Egan, Construction Codes and Licensing Spring and Fall seminars, as well as their involvement in the Northwest Chapter of Minnesota Building Officials. Continuing education remains a key to fair and consistent code administration. Also of importance to Building Department staff is building and maintaining mutually respectful relationships with homeowners, suppliers, design professionals, contractors and others. To meet this goal, Building Department staff distributes a quarterly newsletter, maintains a departmental bulletin board, hosts an annual contractor training day and makes it a priority to always keep the lines of communication open.

During 2013 Building Department staff is looking to make online permit application/payment and online inspection scheduling a reality. The installation of a kiosk in the lobby at City Hall, which would allow homeowners/contractors to generate their own roofing, siding, window replacement, plumbing and mechanical change-out permits, is also being explored. Once in place, it will offer a timesaving option.

Codes continue to change and responsibilities continue to mount for Building Department staff. As code administration becomes more and more complicated, coupled with Building Official Bruce Jaspersen's upcoming June 2013 retirement, it is important that these challenges be recognized and understood for what they are. Hard work, personal commitment, continuous learning and resiliency will be integral in making this a successful transition.



CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

PERMITS ISSUED					<u>FEES</u>				
<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	Building	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
20	25	14	One/Two Family Dwellings	\$3,010,406.97	\$4,247,742.22	\$2,995,108.77	\$16,946.80	\$25,010.75	\$30,599.72
4	1	1	Multi-Family Dwellings (new)	17,082,415.00	5,122,858.47	5,040,000.00	57,120.41	16,032.85	48,597.09
4	13	7	Multi-Family Dwellings (remodeled)	3,104,300.00	287,250.00	130,380.00	10,954.01	2,275.99	1,860.00
318	295	291	Homes Remodeled & Repaired	1,995,045.13	2,793,625.87	2,217,928.33	18,843.03	22,399.88	27,171.21
12	13	13	Commercial Buildings (new)	4,827,305.85	6,410,609.52	16,288,767.00	23,437.21	27,069.67	82,168.43
			Commercial Buildings (remodeled &						
62	82	63	repaired)	7,369,386.44	19,084,966.17	5,590,069.10	41,717.18	90,381.09	67,015.61
0	0	0	Industrial Buildings (new)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	7	5	Industrial Building (remodeled)	1,807,700.00	2,163,934.00	3,263,000.00	8,638.01	10,682.86	29,962.64
0	0	0	Tax Exempt Buildings (new)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
			Tax Exempt Buildings (remodeled &						
0	0	0	repaired)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	10	10	Accessory Buildings (new)	247,812.50	139,557.77	246,202.02	3,133.33	1,901.47	5,444.48
2	4	4	Accessory Buildings (remodeled)	5,600.00	17,022.00	18,000.00	123.20	261.04	140.00
23	22	20	Relocation and Razing	406,385.54	274,650.00	333,400.00	2,257.43	2,213.82	5,204.47
0	0	0	Miscellaneous Structures	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	0	Institutional (New)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	1	0	Institutional (Remodeled)	52,000.00	70,000.00	0.00	650.56	470.39	0.00
464	473	428	TOTAL BUILDING PERMITS	\$39,908,357.43	\$40,612,216.02	\$36,122,855.22	*\$183,821.17	*\$198,699.81	\$298,163.65
189	263	201	Plumbing Permits	\$2,645,660.00	\$2,374,996.00	\$1,398,777.72	\$29,120.40	\$26,500.00	\$16,815.00
166	141	148	Mechanical Permits	3,576,599.96	3,764,045.31	2,417,552.33	37,619.85	37,082.50	21,565.00
819	877	777	TOTAL OF ALL PERMITS	\$46,130,617.39	\$46,751,257.33	\$39,939,185.27	\$250,561.42	\$262,282.31	\$336,543.65

Respectfully Submitted:

^{*}Includes \$18,417.99 Administration Fees

HUDSON TOWNSHIP

PERMITS ISSUED		<u>SUED</u>		EST	TIMATED COST	<u>FEES</u>			
<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	Building	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
0	0	0	One Family Dwellings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
0	0	0	Multi-Family Dwellings (new)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	0	Multi-Family Dwellings (remodeled)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	9	5	Homes Remodeled & Repaired	82,962.48	125,999.80	15,588.40	700.33	914.82	396.75
1	2	2	Commercial Buildings (new)	59,360.00	138,679.20	78,725.60	622.20	1,345.28	1,567.60
1	0	0	Commercial Buildings (remodeled & repaired)	1,100,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,090.23	0.00	0.00
0	0	0	Industrial Buildings (new)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,312.89
0	0	1	Industrial Building (remodeled)	0.00	0.00	280,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	0	Tax Exempt Buildings (new)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	0	Tax Exempt Buildings (remodeled & repaired)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	1	0	Accessory Buildings (new)	0.00	6,442.24	0.00	0.00	120.63	0.00
0	0	0	Accessory Buildings (remodeled)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	1	0	Relocation and Razing	0.00	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	51.97	0.00
0	0	0	Miscellaneous Structures	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	13	8	TOTAL BUILDING PERMITS	\$1,242,322.48	\$275,121.24	\$374,314.00	\$6,412.76	\$2,432.70	\$5,277.24
2	2	2	Plumbing Permits	\$2,800.00	\$5,787.00	\$13,314.00	\$65.00	\$85.00	\$125.00
7	1	3	Mechanical Permits	83,351.79	3,791.00	80,175.00	865.00	20.00	840.00
19	16	13	TOTAL OF ALL PERMITS	\$1,328,474.27	\$284,699.24	\$467,803.00	\$7,342.76	\$2,537.70	\$6,242.24

Respectfully Submitted:_____

LAGRAND TOWNSHIP

PERMITS ISSUED		SUED		<u>FEES</u>					
<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	Building	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
5	8	8	One Family Dwellings	\$1,094,346.97	\$1,398,217.11	\$2,412,910.57	\$6,534.58	\$8,334.55	\$26,441.51
0	0	0	Multi-Family Dwellings (new)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	0	Multi-Family Dwellings (remodeled)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
89	143	139	Homes Remodeled & Repaired	735,004.55	1,347,528.28	1,174,854.15	6,656.57	11,016.00	11,275.39
0	1	0	Commercial Buildings (new)	0.00	1,235,244.80	0.00	0.00	6,875.52	0.00
			Commercial Buildings (remodeled &						
1	2	1	repaired)	5,000.00	34,000.00	14,800.00	97.73	351.98	251.25
0	0	0	Industrial Buildings (new)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	0	Industrial Building (remodeled)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	0	Tax Exempt Buildings (new)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
			Tax Exempt Buildings (remodeled &						
0	0	0	repaired)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	3	5	Accessory Buildings (new)	145,853.95	89,722.48	271,019.16	1,758.27	1,004.50	4,385.74
1	0	1	Accessory Buildings (remodeled)	11,317.42	0.00	3,500.00	165.08	0.00	70.00
2	0	1	Relocation and Razing	750.00	0.00	10,871.28	47.10	0.00	195.25
0	0	0	Miscellaneous Structures	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
			TOTAL BUILDING PERMITS				*\$15,259.3	*\$27,582.5	
104	157	155		\$1,992,272.89	\$4,104,712.67	\$3,887,955.16	3	5	\$42,619.14
21	30	23	Plumbing Permits	\$85,499.00	\$122,438.00	\$133,449.00	\$1,136.50	\$1,515.00	\$1,655.00
36	43	41	Mechanical Permits	222,500.00	192,504.00	303,876.36	2,355.00	2,175.00	2,812.50
161	230	219	TOTAL OF ALL PERMITS	\$2,300,271.89	\$4,419,654.67	\$4,325,280.52	\$18,750.83	\$31,272.55	\$47,086.64

Respectfully Submitted:_	
Respectivity Submitted	

^{*}Includes \$1,386.53 Administration Fees

LAKE MARY TOWNSHIP

PERMITS ISSUED		SUED		ES	STIMATED COS	<u>FEES</u>			
<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	Building	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
0	1	0	One Family Dwellings	\$0.00	\$357,006.02	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,910.70	\$0.00
0	0	0	Multi-Family Dwellings (new)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	0	Multi-Family Dwellings (remodeled)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	6	10	Homes Remodeled & Repaired	47,500.00	32,600.00	117,122.82	210.00	275.13	1,819.39
0	1	2	Commercial Buildings (new)	0.00	323,640.00	3,643,070.40	0.00	1,938.07	27,063.56
0	1	1	Commercial Buildings (remodeled & repaired)	0.00	43,750.00	2,500,000.00	0.00	305.51	17,060.69
0	0	0	Industrial Buildings (new)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	0	Industrial Building (remodeled)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	0	Tax Exempt Buildings (new)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	0	Tax Exempt Buildings (remodeled & repaired)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	0	Accessory Buildings (new)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	476.25	0.00
0	1	0	Accessory Buildings (remodeled)	0.00	44,805.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	0	Relocation and Razing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	0	Miscellaneous Structures	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	10	13	TOTAL BUILDING PERMITS	\$47,500.00	\$801,801.02	\$6,260,193.22	\$210.00	\$4,905.66	\$45,943.64
0	1	3	Plumbing Permits	\$0.00	\$12,000.00	\$191,707.00	\$0.00	\$135.00	\$1,942.50
4	2	5	Mechanical Permits	17,999.00	17,800.00	456,969.00	100.00	155.00	4,540.00
10	13	21	TOTAL OF ALL PERMITS	\$65,499.00	\$831,601.02	\$6,908,869.22	\$310.00	\$5,195.66	\$52,426.14

Respectfully Submitted:	

SUMMARY OF ALL BUILDING, PLUMBING, & MECHANICAL PERMITS ISSUED WITHIN THE ENTIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT AREA

			,								
	PERMITS ISSU	<u>ED</u>	E	STIMATED COST	STIMATED COST				PERMIT FEES		
<u>2010</u> 644	<u>Building</u> <u>2011</u> 707	<u>2012</u> 604	<u>2010</u> \$44,019,204.63	Building 2011 \$46,469,207.08	<u>2012</u> \$46,645,317.60		<u>2010</u> \$212,349.18	Building 2011 \$238,648.28	<u>2012</u> \$392,003.67		
2010 220	Plumbing 2010 308	2012 229	<u>2010</u> \$2,767,778.00	Plumbing 2011 \$2,535,321.00	<u>2012</u> \$1,737,247.72		<u>2010</u> \$30,719.40	Plumbing 2011 \$28,620.00	<u>2012</u> \$20,537.50		
<u>2010</u> 225	<u>Mechanical</u> <u>2011</u> 199	<u>2012</u> 197	<u>2010</u> \$3,986,758.74	Mechanical 2011 \$4,029,839.31	<u>2012</u> \$3,258,572.69		<u>2010</u> \$41,829.85	Mechancial 2011 \$39,982.50	2012 \$29,757.50		
2010 1089	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>2011</u> 1214	2012 1030	<u>2010</u> \$50,773,741.38	TOTAL 2011 \$53,034,367.39	<u>2012</u> \$51,641,138.01		<u>2010</u> \$284,898.43	TOTAL 2011 \$307,250.78	<u>2012</u> \$442,298.60		
				Other Building De	partment Revenue						
	Contract Code A	dministratio	n with Alexandria Township	J	N/A	\$19,186.00					
	Mechanical Cont	ractor Licer	nses		50	\$5,000.00					
	Mechanical Com	petency Ca	rds		149	\$2,235.00					

Grading & Filling Permits	4	\$1,093.75
On-Site Sewage Tratment System Permits	2	\$200.00
Contractor Training	N/A	\$2,624.00
Total Of Other Fees Collected	N/A	\$30,338.75
TOTAL FEES COLLECTED BY BUILDING DEPARTMENT DURING 2012:		\$472,637.35

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY WITHIN THE ENTIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT AREA

	PERMITS ISSUED			ESTIMATED COST			PERMIT FEES	
<u>2010</u> 819	City of Alexandria 2011 877	<u>2012</u> 777	<u>2010</u> \$46,130,617.39	City of Alexandria 2011 \$46,751,257.33	<u>2012</u> \$39,939,185.27	<u>2010</u> \$236,840.28	City of Alexandria 2011 \$262,282.31	<u>2012</u> \$336,543.65
<u>2010</u> 80	Alexandria Township 2011 78	2012 Annexed	<u>2010</u> \$948,878.83	Alexandria Township 2011 \$747,155.13	<u>2012</u> Annexed	<u>2010</u> \$7,933.75	Alexandria Township 2011 \$5,962.56	<u>2012</u> Annexed
<u>2010</u> 19	Hudson Township 2011 16	<u>2012</u> 13	<u>2010</u> \$1,328,474.27	<u>Hudson Township</u> <u>2011</u> \$284,699.24	<u>2012</u> \$467,803.00	<u>2010</u> \$7,342.43	Hudson Township 2011 \$2,537.70	<u>2012</u> \$6,242.24
<u>2010</u> 161	LaGrande Township 2011 230	<u>2012</u> 219	<u>2010</u> \$2,300,271.89	<u>LaGrande Township</u> <u>2011</u> \$4,419,654.67	<u>2012</u> \$4,325,280.52	<u>2010</u> \$18,750.83	<u>LaGrande Township</u> <u>2011</u> \$31,272.55	<u>2012</u> \$47,086.64
<u>2010</u> 10	<u>Lake Mary Township</u> <u>2011</u> 13	<u>2012</u> 21	<u>2010</u> \$65,499.00	<u>Lake Mary Township</u> <u>2011</u> \$831,601.02	<u>2012</u> \$6,908,869.22	<u>2010</u> \$310.00	<u>Lake Mary Township</u> <u>2011</u> \$5,195.66	<u>2012</u> \$52,426.14
2010 1089	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>2011</u> 1214	<u>2012</u> 1030	<u>2010</u> \$50,773,741.38	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>2011</u> \$53,034,367.39	<u>2012</u> \$51,641,138.01	<u>2010</u> \$284,898.43	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>2011</u> \$307,250.78	2012 \$442,298.67*

^{*}See "Other Building Department Revenue" for additional fees collected by Building Department.



City of Alexandria Building Department 704 Broadway Alexandria, MN 56308