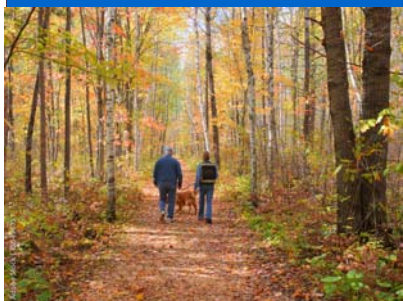




## Inside this Issue:

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- P. 4. Property Taxes

**City of Deephaven**  
20225 Cottagewood Rd.  
Deephaven, MN. 55331  
952.474.4755  
Web: [www.cityofdeephaven.org](http://www.cityofdeephaven.org)  
Email: [info@cityofdeephaven.org](mailto:info@cityofdeephaven.org)



**City Hall Hours:**  
**"Regular" Hours**  
Monday to Friday 8am to 4:30pm  
Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays.

**June 1 to September 6th**  
**"Summer Hours"**  
Mon to Thurs 8am to 4:30pm  
Fridays 8am to 12noon  
Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays.



## Annual Leaf and Yard Waste Collection – Saturday, November 5th

Autumn leaf and yard waste pick-up for Deephaven residents will be held on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. **This is curbside pick-up only and will begin at 7:00 a.m.** Please do not drop off any yard waste at City Hall!

### Please observe these requirements:

- Brush must be cut and bundled with string; branches cannot exceed four feet in length and four inches in diameter.
- Leaves and yard waste must be bagged in compostable bags.
- Bundles and bags cannot exceed 40 pounds.
- Please do not rake leaves into the street.



## Rake-A-Thon

If you are a senior, or cannot rake your lawn due to a disability, the Rake-A-Thon can help you! A team of volunteers will rake your lawn and bag your leaves.

This service is sponsored by Minnetonka Community Education and is FREE! The event is scheduled for Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>.

To register to have your yard raked or if you would be interested in volunteering your time to rake someone's yard, please visit [www.MinnetonkaCommunityEd.org](http://www.MinnetonkaCommunityEd.org).

## Warming House Hours

Weather permitting; the warming houses at Thorpe Park and City Hall will be open starting on Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. The warming house hours for the 2022-2023 seasons are as follows:

Monday – Friday	1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Sunday	Noon to 9:00 p.m.

## Thanks to the Garden Club!

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the many talented and dedicated members of the Cottagewood Garden Club who are directly responsible for the beautiful gardens at Thorpe Park, Burton Park, Children's Park and City Hall that are planted and tended to by this hardworking group of volunteers. Thank you for another great year! Please visit their tab on the City's webpage at [www.cityofdeephaven.org](http://www.cityofdeephaven.org).



**Primary Election**

The Primary Election was held on August 9<sup>th</sup> and a total of 630 Deephaven residents turned out to vote at our two precincts and another 60 residents voted by absentee ballot for a total of 690 voters. With 2,928 registered voters, this represents a voter turnout of 23.6%.

We would like to extend our deepest appreciation to our Election Judges, who did such a terrific job at the Primary Election. Without their help, conducting elections would not be possible.

We also would like to thank St. Therese Church for providing us with the use of their community room during the Primary Election and upcoming General Election!

**General Election – November 8, 2022**

Elections for local, state and federal offices will be held on Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. Precinct 1 residents vote at City Hall at 20225 Cottagewood Road and Precinct 2 residents vote at the St. Therese Community Room at 18323 Minnetonka Blvd. Voting begins at 7:00 a.m. and ends at 8:00 p.m.

The Mayor (four-year term) and two City Council (four-year terms) seats for the City of Deephaven are open this year. The candidates for these offices are:

**Mayor (Vote for One)** Kent M. Carlson

**City Council (Vote for up to Two)** Tony Jewett, John Studer

**Meet the Candidates!****2022****Candidate Meet & Greet Event**

**Please join us as your local Candidates on the November ballot are invited to join us for time to meet with individual voters in person in an open house format. Those invited are below:**

- US House: Districts 3 and 6
- MN Senate: Districts 45 and 48
- MN House: Districts 45A and 48B
- Mayor: Deephaven, Excelsior and Tonka Bay
- City Council: Deephaven, Excelsior, Greenwood, Shorewood, Tonka Bay and Woodland

**Thursday, October 6, 2022 | 5 – 8 PM**  
**Shorewood Community and Event Center**  
**5735 Country Club Road | Excelsior, MN**

Visit [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org) to find out your voting options!

Sponsored by:

**Absentee Voting**

The most convenient way to vote is to apply for an absentee ballot. If you have a busy schedule on Election Day, health concerns, out of town, or if you just hate waiting in long lines, simply apply for an Absentee Ballot Application and the ballot will be sent to you with pre-paid postage to return the ballot.

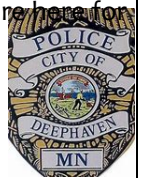
**To apply online for an absentee ballot:**

1. Go to [www.mnvotes.org](http://www.mnvotes.org)
2. Click on "OTHER WAYS TO VOTE"
3. Click on "Vote early by mail"
4. Go to online absentee application
5. Enter your County (Hennepin), City, State & Zip Code, and Election (11/08/22 General Election)
6. This will get you to a screen where you need to fill in your name, identification number, address & mailing address
7. Hit submit and your ballot will be mailed to you. Follow the instructions provided when your ballot arrives and mail it back to Hennepin County.

**Chief Cory's Corner**

Well that was fast, summer is over and we head into fall and early winter. Please continue to lock your vehicle's and homes. We had very few Thefts from vehicle's this summer, and I believe this is due to more residents locking vehicles. Please be aware of the scam phone calls residents are getting. The callers are using real phone numbers from Police Departments, saying they have a Warrant. The caller asks the resident to get money and send it to them. Some ask for Amazon gift cards, some ask for money transfers. If it sounds suspicious, it probably is. Always check with the Police Department before ever sending any money or gift cards. We have been hearing a lot about Facebook Marketplace sales too. The new scam is to send you a google code and they ask you to give them the code. Once they have that code, they hijack your phone number to help the scammer perpetuate more scams, including stealing your identity. **Please invest in a locking mailbox.** We have so many reports of Stolen Identities and Fraud that come from stolen mail in town. Having a locking mailbox is cheap insurance! Dealing with the aftermath of Identity Theft/Fraud is difficult and can take years to clear up. Please have a safe Fall and early Winter. If you need anything we are here for you.

Cory Johnson  
 Chief of Police



The Deephaven City Council certified the preliminary 2023 General Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, and Bonded Debt Fund levy on September 6<sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$3,318,265. The Fiscal Disparity Tax of \$34,265 is deducted from this amount, which leaves a total proposed 2023 levy of 3,284,000. This equates to a \$208,318 increase (6.8%) in the City's property tax levy from 2022. Please note that this doesn't necessarily mean your property taxes will increase by 6.8%. Your property taxes are determined by the estimated market value of your property and the combined property tax levies from the City, Hennepin County, the School District and nine other taxing jurisdictions.

The City's portion of your property tax equates to about 15% of your total property tax payment. The City's tax capacity rate, which is used to determine the City's portion of your property tax, is estimated to decrease from 17.740% this year to 15.099% in 2023 due to the significant increase in the overall market value of the city. Additional information on the 2023 Budget is available at [www.cityofdeephaven.org](http://www.cityofdeephaven.org) under Government.

The public is invited to comment on the 2023 Budget at the annual Truth in Taxation meeting on **Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** This is the meeting in which the public will have the opportunity to review and comment on the final 2023 Budget and Levy. The final 2023 Budget and levy will be adopted at this same meeting.

**The following is a brief summary of the 2023 Budget:**

Category	2023 Budget	% of Revenues	<b>General Fund Revenues –</b> Total 2023 General Fund Revenues are budgeted at \$3,672,664 and consist of eight major budget categories:  <b>2023 Revenue Highlights –</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2023 General Fund Revenues are projected to increase \$246,244 or 7.2% over 2022 General Fund Revenues largely owing to projected increases in the property tax levy, building permit revenue, contract revenue, and cell tower lease revenue.</li> <li>The property tax levy continues to be the major source of funding for the General Fund, constituting 72.2% of the 2023 General Fund Revenues.</li> </ul>
Taxes	2,692,265	73.3%	
Licenses & Permits	384,250	10.5%	
Intergovernmental	81,000	2.2%	
Charges for Services	328,569	9.0%	
Fines & Forfeits	30,000	0.8%	
Miscellaneous Revenues	107,292	2.9%	
Interest Income	10,000	0.3%	
Fund Transfers	39,288	1.0%	
<b>Total 2023 Revenues</b>	<b>3,672,664</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	
<b>General Fund Expenditures –</b> Total 2023 General Fund Expenditures are budgeted at \$3,667,187 and consist of ten major departments:			<b>2023 Expenditure Highlights –</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total 2023 General Fund Expenditures increased \$254,880 or 7.5% over 2022 General Fund Expenditures primarily owing to salary increases for municipal employees, a 52% increase in worker's compensation premiums, gasoline increases, an increase in duty crew hours at the Excelsior Fire District, and contract &amp; professional service cost increases.</li> <li>With the ongoing difficulties in recruiting and retaining employees, particularly police officers, and with several employees considering retirement in 2023, the City Council authorized a 2022 Wage Study to ensure that the city's salary schedule was in-line with other comparable cities. The new wage schedule had a significant impact on the increase in 2023 expenditures as salaries increased by \$105,700 or 7.6% in 2023. The Council believes the new wage schedule will be a huge investment towards retaining existing employees and in the recruitment of new employees.</li> <li>Public Safety Departments accounts for 52.4% of all expenditures in the 2023 General Fund.</li> </ul>
Department	2023 Budget	% of Expenses	
General Gov't / Elections	265,391	7.2%	
Administration	395,576	10.8%	
City Hall Buildings	54,200	1.5%	
Zoning / Building Inspections	294,075	8.0%	
Streets & Roads	161,400	4.4%	
Public Works	446,798	12.2%	
Parks & Recreation	119,800	3.3%	
Police	1,324,629	36.1%	
Fire Services	597,318	16.3%	
Wildlife Management	8,000	0.2%	
<b>Total 2023 Expenditures</b>	<b>3,667,187</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	



The Capital Improvement Fund (CIF Fund) is a critical fund that finances all street improvement projects and the replacement of all street, police and park vehicles and equipment. The CIF Fund receives funding from two primary sources. The first is approximately \$94,000 each year in franchise fees that the City receives from Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy. Franchise fees are actually paid by Deephaven utility customers to Xcel and CenterPoint through a \$2.50 monthly franchise fee that appears on your monthly utility bill.

The second revenue source is through a \$450,000 property tax levy. These two revenues combine to provide \$544,000 per year in the CIF Fund – funds that are used to finance park projects, street improvement projects, and the replacement of aged vehicles and equipment that are planned each year.

### **2023 Property Taxes**

The total property tax levy totals \$3,284,000 in 2023, which represents a \$208,318 or 6.8% increase over the 2023 property tax levy. With the continued increase in the City's market value, the Tax Capacity Rate is expected to decrease from 17.740% to 15.099%, which is one of the lower tax capacity rates in Hennepin County.

If you have any questions regarding the 2023 Budget, we hope you will attend the annual Truth-in-Taxation meeting at **7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at Deephaven City Hall.**



### **2022 Construction Project Wrap-up**

We would like to thank all of our residents for your patience during our construction projects this year. A summary of the more notable projects undertaken this year is as follows:

- Street resurfacing was completed on all or portions of Lake Avenue, Monaltrie Avenue, Maple Ridge Road, Hooper Lake Road, Highland Avenue, Leroy Street, Lowell Street, Jericho Road, and Therese Street (\$541,410).
- A new sewer forcemain was installed under Lake Avenue prior to the resurfacing of the street (\$254,202).
- Storm sewer repairs were completed on both Lake Avenue (\$228,518) and Cottagewood Road.
- New rings & castings were installed on 13 sewer manholes (\$36,934).

### **What is Illicit Discharge?**

Discharge to any part of the city's storm water sewer system (roads, catch basins, curbs, ditches, etc.) that is not composed entirely of stormwater is considered **illicit discharge**. Illicit discharge that enters the storm water system contaminates stormwater and flows directly to nearby waterbodies, degrading water quality and harming local flora and fauna.

#### **Common Pollutants Include:**

- Soil, Dirt, and Sediment
- Concrete compounds
- Paints and Solvents
- Asphalt compounds
- Pesticides and Herbicides
- Petroleum products (fuel, oil, grease)
- Fertilizers
- Hazardous chemicals (acids, lime, glue, adhesives)
- Detergents
- Plaster

### **Please Do Not Flush Disposable Wipe Products**

We would like to caution everyone to NOT flush disposable wipe products in the sewer system.

Unfortunately, many of these products are not only mislabeled as disposable, but also as flushable. However, unlike toilet paper, these products don't break down once they are flushed.

This type of material tends to plug the pumps in our lift stations, which could potentially cause a sewer backup in your house or your neighbor's house.

Please remember that this type of material should be thrown away in the garbage and never flushed down the toilet.



## Snowmobile & ATV Regulations

City Ordinance No. 705.03 prohibits the operation of snowmobiles and ATVs under any of the following circumstances:

- On a sidewalk or walkway provided or used for pedestrian traffic.
- On private property without the operator having in possession written consent from the property owner.
- On any public land or frozen waters including, but not limited to, school property, park property, playgrounds and recreational areas, except for areas authorized for such use by proper authority when traveling to or from approved snowmobile routes.

## Snowplows are coming!

Winter is right around the corner and we want to give you some useful information that will help us clear snow from your streets and make winter driving safer.

- Please move your car off the street or a city parking lot during or immediately after a snowfall of two or more inches. You may return your vehicle to the street or parking lot after it has been completely plowed.
- Please move your vehicle if you have any doubt about how much snow has fallen or is falling. The police are required to tow vehicles parked in violation of this regulation.

- Allow plenty of space between your vehicle and the snowplow. Snow dust from a snowplow can obstruct your vision while driving, creating hazardous conditions.
- If you experienced yard damage from a snowplow in the past, please install stakes just off the road every 20-25 feet to mark its edge.
- Please do not allow your children or other children to play in snow banks near the street.
- Lower your driving speed and be extra cautious during unexpected winter conditions.



## Sidewalk Maintenance

Although we don't have many sidewalks in Deephaven, please remember that property owners with a public sidewalk abutting their property have the additional responsibility to ensure that all snow and ice is removed from the abutting public sidewalk 12 hours after the snow or other precipitation has stopped falling.

This is a thankless task so please take the time to occasionally thank your neighbors for their time and effort to maintain the public sidewalk during our long and cold winters.



## Boat Fee Increase

The Council approved the following fee increases that will be in effect later this year for the 2023 boating season:

Space	2022 Fee	2023 Fee
Docks	\$1,200.00	\$1,400.00
Shore Space	\$85.00/ft.	\$100.00/ft.
B1 Slides	\$350.00	\$375.00
Buoys	\$525.00	\$550.00
B2 Slides	\$225.00	\$250.00
Street Ends	\$225.00	\$250.00

There are two primary reasons why the Council has again approved an increase in watercraft space fees.

**First**, fees for watercraft spaces are well below the dock slip fees charged by any other municipal marina. In 2022, the City of Deephaven charged the lowest dock slip fee for any municipal marina on Lake Minnetonka at \$1,200 per year.

The second lowest dock slip fee charged in 2022 is the City of Greenwood at \$1,625 - \$1,750 per year. The Council would like to continue to increase boating fees each year over the course of the next three years to at least equal the dock slip fee of our neighboring city and to more accurately reflect the value of this resource.

**And second**, the Council has decided that a significant portion of the additional revenue generated by the rate increase should be used to augment the funding of capital projects for our parks and beaches, which are currently underfunded through our Capital Improvement Fund levy.

I admit that it is hard to not feel a touch of melancholy as I write this article, knowing that it will be my last note to the residents of Deephaven. We are coming up on election season in which a new mayor will be elected to serve the City starting in 2023; therefore the next Mayor's Corner that you see in January will be an introduction from our newest leader. I know with certainty that the City will be in great hands, as everyone that serves the City does so out of great love and respect for where we live.

I would like to take a brief moment to thank you for affording me the privilege of serving as Mayor. As many of you know, it is a wonderful experience to serve on our local boards, commissions, and clubs that focus on singular or similar issues. However, being elected to the City Council with 4 other completely differently-minded individuals, and then to lead the group as Mayor, has been something entirely different. Every single one of us strives to repair, maintain, and enhance a town with untold facets of daily operation that must work cohesively. With the very best staff, colleagues, and friends, I feel we were able to achieve quite a bit in my short time in this role.

As I've mentioned in past newsletters, everyone that works with and works for the City of Deephaven has pulled together and worked so very hard this past year on some very heavy lifts. Here are just a few highlights:

- The City completed its first wage study since the late 1990's, finding that we needed to make some improvements. As a result, we were able to increase salaries for our dedicated employees to rates that more closely match comparable communities in today's economy.
- In hiring a new City Engineering firm for 2022, we have undertaken 11 studies/project assessments to address various issues in town related to a host of concerns such as storm water management, traffic control, safe routes to school, and more. This is a 1000% increase in engineering assessments over the last 15 years combined. What a great start!
- The City has engaged in exploring grant possibilities to help us look into future planning for sidewalks, crosswalks, water management, park improvements, and bathrooms at Deephaven Beach just to name a few. This represents a 300% increase in grant writing over past years.
- We have invested in IT infrastructure and system improvements for City systems and staff to lay the groundwork for eventual acceptance of electronic payments and forms.
- Website upgrades are continuing, allowing for faster real-time updates and push notifications, with more improvements to come.
- Jeff Kask has been promoted to the role of Public Works Foreman. Jeff first started with the City of Deephaven 16 years ago, and we are lucky that he has stuck with us through it all. Give him a friendly "hello" and "congratulations" when you see him around town!

Hopefully my involvement has made a positive difference. I know full well that I did nothing alone but rather as part of a team. I was honored to serve with dedicated and energetic elected officials. I was privileged to be associated with dynamic City staff. I had a seat on many county commissions and committees alongside other jurisdictions with similar challenges and have always come away a bit smarter with an even greater appreciation for where we all live.

In closing, allow me to express a sentiment that many of you have heard from me in both open and private discussions over the last few years. There is no issue important enough to pit neighbors against one another. There is no idea not worth a civil debate, no challenge that cannot be met with mutual understanding and consideration. If a few homes are replaced with new ones or the tennis courts seem to take forever to resurface, believe me, the sky is not falling.

Here is hoping that we all have a chance to slow down, enjoy our spectacular Fall colors, and take a moment to appreciate all that we've made it through so far and to look forward to the exciting road ahead of us.

Melissa McNeill  
Mayor, City of Deephaven



### ***Excelsior Fire District Looking for Recruits!***

The Excelsior Fire District is actively seeking recruits. For more information, please visit our webpage at [www.excelsiorfire.org](http://www.excelsiorfire.org) or call 612-720-0713.