



Deephaven News

"Information for Residents"

Volume 1, Issue 73

October, November and December, 2023



Inside this Issue:

P. 2 2024 Election Calendar

P. 3 2024 City Budget

P. 4. 2024 Property Taxes

City of Deephaven

20225 Cottagewood Rd.

Deephaven, MN. 55331

952.474.4755

Web: www.cityofdeephaven.org

Email: info@cityofdeephaven.org



City Hall Hours:

"Regular" Hours

Monday to Friday 8am to 4:30pm

Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays.

May 28 to September 3rd

Mon to Thurs 8am to 4:30pm

Fridays 8am to 12noon

Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays.



Annual Leaf and Yard Waste Collection – Saturday, November 4th

Autumn leaf and yard waste pick-up for Deephaven residents will be held on **Saturday, November 4th**. 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, October 28th.

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.



Warming House Hours

Weather permitting; the warming houses at Thorpe Park and City Hall will be open starting on Saturday, December 16th. The warming house hours for the 2023-2024 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.



2024 Election Calendar

- March 5, 2024 – Presidential Nomination Primary
- March 26, 2024 – Hennepin County Commissioner District 6 Special Election Primary
- April 9, 2024 – Hennepin County Commissioner District 6 Special Election
- August 13, 2024 – State Primary Election
- November 5, 2024 – General & Municipal Election



Please contact City Hall at 952-474-4755 if you have an interest in serving as an Election Judge in 2024. Thank you!

Attention Seniors! Do you need help around the house?

Then the HOME program of Senior Community Services is the answer for you. HOME (Household and Outside Maintenance for Elderly) offers an array of services designed to help you stay in your home.

Our handymen can help with that dripping faucet that's just getting worse or with those other repairs that you just haven't taken care of.

Our homemakers can help with those cleaning tasks that are getting harder to do, as well as run errands for you.

This time of year, yard work might be on your mind as well. We have a large number of volunteers available every fall to help with raking.

One service we are offering is a Home Health and Safety assessment. During this one hour visit, we will identify safety issues in your home and work with you to make the corrective repairs.

Our goal is to help you stay safe in your home and avoid falls. As a non-profit, we offer our services on a sliding fee scale based on your income. Don't put off help any longer, call us today at 952-746-4046 or visit us on the web at www.seniorcommunity.org.

We also have an office conveniently located at Creekside Community Center so stop by for a visit. We look forward to hearing from you soon!



Deephaven Beach Restroom Project

The Deephaven Beach Restroom Project has been substantially completed in mid-September at a total cost of approximately \$300,000. The project has been fully funded through the use of Park Dedication fees.

The City Council greatly appreciates the work of Ebert Companies and their subcontractors for the construction of the restrooms and to Don Stodola's Well Drilling for the installation of the well. The restrooms will be open year-round.

Opening on the Lake Minnetonka Conservation Board

The City of Deephaven is looking for a resident who would be interested in representing the City on the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) beginning in January 2024. The LMCD Board of Directors is comprised of 14 area cities with the overall mission to protect, preserve, and enhance Lake Minnetonka's environment, economy, and vitality by overseeing regulations on boating, winter use, dock usage, winter de-icing, and special events and by providing short & long-term planning for comprehensive lake management. The LMCD Board meets bi-monthly, which includes a work session and formal Board meeting.

If you think you might be interested, please contact Deephaven City Hall at 952-474-4755.

Dog Licensing



Owners of dogs over six months of age must obtain a 2024-2025 dog license beginning January 1, 2024. **The 2024-2025 dog licenses will be available for purchase beginning December 1, 2023.** A two year dog license costs \$20.00. A dog license application can be downloaded from the City of Deephaven website at www.cityofdeephaven.org.

Please submit the dog license application and a certificate of rabies vaccination from your dog's veterinarian along with your \$20.00 fee to the City of Deephaven, 20225 Cottagewood Road, Deephaven, MN 55331.

The Deephaven City Council certified the preliminary 2024 General Fund and Capital Improvement Fund levy on September 18th in the amount of \$3,883,635, which represents a 17.0% increase in the City's property tax levy from 2023. Please note that this doesn't necessarily mean your property taxes will increase by 17.0%. 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 16% 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 only estimated to increase from 15.099% this year to 15.962% in 2024. Additional information on the 2024 Budget is available at www.cityofdeephaven.org under Government.

The public is invited to comment on the 2024 Budget at the annual **Truth in Taxation meeting on Monday, December 4th at 7:00 p.m.** This is the meeting in which the public will have the opportunity to review and comment on the final 2024 Budget and Levy. The final 2024 Budget and levy will be adopted at this same meeting.

The following is a brief summary of the 2024 Budget:

General Fund Revenues – Total 2024 General Fund Revenues are budgeted at \$4,185,058 and consist of eight major budget categories:

2024 Revenue Highlights –

- 2024 General Fund Revenues are projected to increase \$512,394 or 14.0% over 2023 General Fund Revenues largely owing to projected increases in the property tax levy, building permit revenue, a new public works contract with the City of Greenwood, other contract revenue, and cell tower lease revenue.
- The property tax levy continues to be the major source of funding for the General Fund, constituting 71.8% of the 2024 General Fund Revenues.

Category	2024 Budget	% of Revenues
Taxes	3,003,635	71.8%
Licenses & Permits	403,750	9.6%
Intergovernmental	85,500	2.0%
Charges for Services	483,287	11.6%
Fines & Forfeits	30,000	0.7%
Miscellaneous Revenues	108,794	2.6%
Interest Income	25,000	0.6%
Fund Transfers	45,092	1.1%
Total 2024 Revenues	4,185,058	100.0%

General Fund Expenditures – Total 2024 General Fund Expenditures are budgeted at \$4,155,400 and consist of ten major departments:

2024 Expenditure Highlights –

- Total 2024 General Fund Expenditures increased \$488,213 or 13.3% over 2023 General Fund Expenditures primarily owing to a 5% salary increase for municipal employees, a Primary & General Election in 2024, the hiring of an additional public works employee, significant increases in worker's compensation insurance, increases in the assessment services contract, repair cost increases at City Hall, group health insurance cost increases, and street contract service increases.
- Public Safety Departments accounts for 51.7% of all expenditures in the 2024 General Fund.

Department	2024 Budget	% of Expenses
General Gov't / Elections	339,634	8.2%
Administration	369,541	8.9%
City Hall Buildings	60,400	1.6%
Zoning/Building Inspections	317,129	7.6%
Streets & Roads	175,000	4.2%
Public Works	604,439	14.5%
Parks & Recreation	133,800	3.2%
Police	1,544,706	37.2%
Fire Services	602,751	14.5%
Wildlife Management	8,000	0.1%
Total 2024 Expenditures	4,155,400	100.0%

Capital Improvement Fund

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 \$188,000 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 \$5.00 monthly franchise fee that appears on your monthly utility bill.

The second revenue source is through a \$700,000 property tax levy, which is a \$250,000 increase over the 2023 Capital Improvement Fund levy.

The principle reason for the significant levy increase is to support the increasing cost of street resurfacing projects.

The Capital Improvement Fund is also used to finance park projects, police equipment, and to replace aged street and police vehicles that are planned each year.

2024 Property Taxes

The property tax levy totals \$3,883,635 in 2024, which represents a \$565,370 or 17.0% increase over the 2023 property tax levy.

With the continued increase in the City's market value, the Tax Capacity Rate is expected to only increase from 15.099% to 15.962%, which is one of the lowest tax capacity rates in Hennepin County.

If you have any questions regarding the 2024 Budget, we hope you will attend the annual Truth-in-Taxation meeting at **7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 4th at Deephaven City Hall.**



2023 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 and stormwater improvements were completed on Dale Avenue, Ramsey Road, Sibley Avenue, Walden Lane, Walden Road, and Walden Trail.
- Resurfacing of the Thorpe Park walking path.
- 25% of all sewer mains in Deephaven were cleaned and televised.



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 Down the Toilet!

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 2024 boating season:

Space	2023 Fee	2024 Fee
Docks	\$1,400.00	\$1,600.00
Shore Space	\$100.00/ft.	\$115.00/ft.
B1 Slides	\$375.00	\$400.00
B2 Slides	\$250.00	\$275.00
Street Ends	\$250.00	\$275.00
Buoys	\$550.00	\$575.00

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 marinas. In 2023, the City of Deephaven charged the lowest dock slip fee for any municipal marina on Lake Minnetonka at \$1,400 per year.

The second lowest dock slip fee charged in 2023 is the City of Greenwood at \$1,675 - \$1,800 per year. The Council would like to continue to increase boating fees each year over the course of the next two 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.

With the hot summer days behind us and we transition to another beautiful fall here in Deephaven, I wanted to give you a quick update on a few upcoming events:

- With long-time City Administrator Dana Young retiring in early November after 22 years of service, we will be holding a retirement party for Dana from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. on Friday, November 3 at the St. Therese Community Room. We hope you will be able to come to say a fond farewell to Dana and to welcome new City Administrator Dan Madsen, formerly with the City of Rockford, who will start with the City on October 9.
- The Council has been approached by a number of very enthusiastic residents requesting that the Council allow chickens in Deephaven. The Council is very interested in obtaining everyone's opinion on this issue and we have enclosed a survey on backyard chickens with this newsletter and strongly encourage you to fill it out and return it to us with your opinions on the matter. A self-addressed stamp has been attached to the survey for your convenience or you can drop it off at City Hall.
- After many years of planning and putting aside the necessary funding, the new restrooms at Deephaven Beach have finally been completed. We are delighted to add this wonderful amenity at our main beach and want to extend our deepest appreciation to Councilmember John Studer who was instrumental in overseeing the design plans and construction.
- In concert with the Deephaven Park Committee, one of our more significant achievements this past year was the development of a Park Master Plan for Village Hall Park & Haralson Park. The Master Plan proposes an ambitious park redesign that we hope will create significant funding partnerships with the Hennepin County, the Metropolitan Council, Three Rivers Park District, and State and Federal agencies. The implementation of the redesign of Village Hall Park & Haralson Park will likely roll out over a number of years as these partnerships may take some time to develop.



All the Best,
Kent Carlson
Mayor, City of Deephaven

Staff Departures & Arrivals We would like to wish a fond farewell to City Administrator Dana Young (22 years of service), Building Permit Clerk Teresa Pendleton (24 years of service), and Finance Clerk Tracy Gustafson (4 years of service). Please welcome new City Administrator Dan Madsen, Public Works Employee Matt Morris, and Building Permit Clerk Diane Schwalbe to our staff. They are wonderful additions to our staff and the City!

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 or call 612-720-0713

City Office will be closed : November 10th, 23rd and 24th and December 25th.

City Hall "Regular" Hours:

Monday to Friday 8 to 4:30 /
Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays.

Your City Staff:

Dana Young, City Administrator
Tracy Gustafson, Deputy Clerk
Deborah Hicks, Utility Billing, Marina Operations
Patrick Smith, Planning & Zoning Coordinator
Diane Schwalbe, Bldg Permits & Public Works
Cory Johnson, Police Chief
Elizabeth McColl, Police Admin Assistant
Jeff Kask, Public Works Foreman

Summer Hours, May 28 to September 3rd

Monday to Thursday 8 to 4:30
Fridays 8—Noon / Closed Saturday, Sunday
and Holidays.



Your City Council:

Mayor: Kent Carlson
Council members:
Steve Erickson, Tony Jewett,
John Studer, Emily Scherschligt

Phone Numbers:

Administration & Public Works:

952-474-4755

Police Non-Emergency: 952-474-7555

24-Hour Police Dispatch: 952-258-5321

City of Deephaven

Website: www.cityofdeephaven.org

Email: info@cityofdeephaven.org

The Deephaven City Council normally meets twice a month on the first and third Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The Planning Commission meets at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. The Park Committee meets at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month.

Residents are welcome to attend any or all of these meetings. Council meetings are also televised on Cable Channel 8. Channel 8 televised dates and times for City of Deephaven meetings, as well as meeting minutes, are all available on our City website www.cityofdeephaven.org