



# MOUND COMPASS

A Quarterly Publication from the City of Mound

Aug/Sept/Oct • 2024

## City Calendar

### Important Dates

#### August 8th

Music in the Park at Surfside Park  
Pandora's Other Box  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

#### August 13th

State Primary Election

#### September 2nd

City Offices Closed -Labor Day

#### September 3rd

Westonka Public Schools Start

#### September 13th-15th

Our Lady of the Lakes  
Incredible Festival

#### September 28th

Oktoberfest Bier Sale  
at Harbor Wine & Spirits

#### October 2nd

Fire Prevention Open House

#### November 5th

General Election

## Meeting Schedule

### City Council

Meets the second & fourth Tuesday  
of each month at 6:00 p.m.

### Planning Commission

Meets the first Tuesday of each  
month at 7:00 p.m.

### HRA\*

Meets before regular  
City Council meetings

### Parks & Open Space Commission\*

Meets the second Thursday of each  
month at 7:00 p.m.

### Docks & Commons Commission\*

Meets the third Thursday of each  
month at 7:00 p.m.

\* = Meets on an as-needed basis

Stay tuned online at [cityofmound.com](http://cityofmound.com)  
for the most accurate dates and for  
agenda packet information.

## A Message from the Mayor

This June, the City Council authorized the design, bid, and construction of integral watermain replacements, the design, bid, and construction of a new municipal well, the decommissioning and sealing of two current wells, and the design of a water treatment plant. In June of 2025, the water treatment plant design will be complete which will allow for the construction of the plant to start whenever the City receives additional funding. Starting in the summer of 2025, the construction of the CSAH 15 trunk watermain (already funded) will occur. This supportive infrastructure needs to be in place before the construction of the water treatment plant. As residents, you can continue to help by continuing to reach out to our State Representative and State Senator, as well as any other elected state or federal leaders, for funding support. As your local elected leaders, we continue to submit requests for state and federal funding opportunities, with the help of our City Engineer and staff, and are in constant contact with our state and federal elected leaders. The City Council and I are continually advocating for clean water and making this our number one priority.

The Spirit of the Lakes Festival was amazing again this year. I want to thank the Spirit of the Lakes Board as well as all of the volunteers that made the event happen! A special thanks to the Mound Public Works Department, the Mound Fire Department, and the Orono Police Department. Another big thank you to the generous sponsors that helped support this great event. According to the Minnesota permit office, the Fireworks show was tied for the largest permitted show in the state this year! We really do have the best fireworks display at the Spirit of the Lakes Festival!

*Continue reading on page 2.*

## What's Inside

### City Council 2024 Priorities

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### City Happenings

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### Mound Fire Open House

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### Election Reminders & Information

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## A Message from the Mayor

*Continued from pg. 1*

In other news, the City Council approved Phase I of the Harbor Park improvements which is located adjacent to the new Artesa building in downtown Mound. The park was recently formally given the name of "Lost Lake Commons." Phase I will be completed this Fall. Phase II will commence in the spring 2025, and will follow with the final Phase III thereafter.

The City of Mound is now on Instagram! Communication is an important goal and priority for the City. We want to reach residents where they are. We now have a presence on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. The City website and quarterly newsletter are also great ways to receive official City communications.

If you have not done so, please fill out your nomination for Mound Citizen of the Year! Thank you for your continued support as we ensure that Mound remains a safe and attractive place to live, work, retire and raise a family.

Respectfully,

*Jason R. Holt*

Mayor, City of Mound

Follow Us on Social Media!



“

We want to reach residents where they are. We now have a presence on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. The City website and quarterly newsletter are also great ways to receive official City communications.

”



## Now Accepting Mound Citizen of the Year Nominations

This is the first annual Mound Citizen of the Year Award!

**Please nominate someone you know that you think embodies these qualities;**

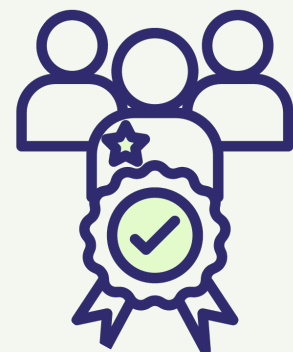
- A person who dedicates time and talent to making Mound a better place
- A person who helps others
- A person making a positive difference in the lives of fellow citizens
- A person with honesty and integrity

*Citizen of the Year recipient must be a Mound resident.*

### How to Nominate

- Nomination forms can be picked up at City Hall at 2415 Wilshire Blvd.
- Download the form at [cityofmound.com](http://cityofmound.com).
- Nomination forms must be filled out in order for the nomination to be complete.

For more information, email [maggiereisdorf@cityofmound.com](mailto:maggiereisdorf@cityofmound.com).



## 2024 City Council Priorities

At the beginning of the year, the Mound City Council set the following goals and priorities for the year. To date, most of the established goals and priorities have been met and/or remain in progress.

### Budget & Finance

- Finalize the Long-Range Financial Management Plan with financial advisor, Ehlers. ✓
- Finalize the Utility Rate Study with financial advisor, Ehlers. ✓
- Review current city contracts to ensure value and service needs are being met. ✓

✓ = Complete  
\* = In Progress

### Water Quality & Water Treatment

- Continue to establish relationships and partnerships with state representatives. \*
- Continue to apply for and secure state and federal funds for a new water treatment facility. \*
- Secured \$10.3 Million for the Water Treatment Plant Project (currently available to be spent). ✓
- Secured about \$1 Million in federal funding for the Water Treatment Plant Project. ✓
- Approved the use of the secured funds for the design of the Water Treatment Plant and supporting infrastructure. ✓

### Parks, Trails & Open Spaces

- Surfside Park – Eli Hart Memorial Playground installation. ✓
- Implementing Watercraft Rental Licensing for businesses wanting to operate within the City. ✓
- Enforcement of new licensing requirement. ✓
- Lost Lake Commons Park – Phase I starting construction in fall 2024. \*
- Wayfinding signs along the Dakota Trail \*
- Crosswalk safety and visibility upgrades.\*
- Increase coordination/enhance partnerships for community events. \*
- Continuing to work with Harrison's Bay Association with its annual rain barrel sales event. \*

### Code Enforcement

- Focusing on and working with property owners to clean up blight throughout the community. \*

### City Planning, Redevelopment & Development

- Continue to promote city assistance to property owners and/or potential property owners in the pursuit of redevelopment of underutilized and/or blighted spaces. \*
- Update the City's 2040 Comprehensive Plan for Mixed-Use Districts and Medium Density Development. ✓

### Communications

- Establish a social media presence on Facebook, Instagram, and Youtube. ✓
- Update City of Mound website (Tentative new website launch in winter 2024-2025). \*
- With new website, allow for push notifications on city news, events and an E-Newsletter. \*
- Update City Newsletter by adding more pages and more community information. ✓

### Resident Outreach & Customer Service

- Continue to focus on good customer service for residents, business owners, and community members. \*
- Recognize an outstanding citizen/group of citizens through "Mound Citizen of the Year". \*
- City Council having a booth at the Spirit of the Lakes Festival. ✓

### Other Initiatives & Accomplishments

- Changed City Council meetings from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. ✓
- Reviewed the City governmental structure. ✓
- Hiring a Public Works Director for the Public Works Department. ✓



### Eli Hart Park

The Eli Hart Memorial Playground, located at Surfside Park, officially opened to the public on June 13th, 2024 and has already been enjoyed by many visitors. The construction and installation of the playground and surrounding features was completed through a collaborative effort between the Eli Hart Foundation, the City of Mound, and many volunteers. A huge thank you to all those involved in supporting and making this new playground a reality!

Photo: Eli Hart Foundation Members, Mound Mayor Jason Holt and City of Mound Public Works Department.



### Spirit of the Lakes Festival

The Spirit of the Lakes Festival took place July 18th – 20th, 2024 at Surfside Beach and Park in Mound! This annual community event was coordinated by the Spirit of the Lakes Board and sponsored and supported by many local organizations and volunteers. A big thank you to those who made this wonderful event possible!



### Westonka Robotics at City Council Meeting

The Mound Westonka High School Robotics Team, the Tonkabots, provided a demonstration of their robot at the May 15, 2024 City Council meeting. The team, that includes 41 members, competed on May 4, 2024 at the Minnesota State High School League's Robotics State Tournament! They took 1st place out of the 36 teams invited to participate. Congratulations on winning state!

### Follow Us on Social Media

All 2024 City Council and Planning Commission meetings are now on YouTube! The City of Mound YouTube page is City of Mound, Minnesota or @CityofMoundMinnesota. The City is also now on Instagram and Facebook! Follow our page, City of Mound, for updates, news, events and more.







## Engineering Update Cont.

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### Downtown Pavers Project

The downtown paver project was awarded to Create Construction and is expected to take place later this summer. This is the last phase of paver sidewalk replacements. The focus of this phase will be on the pedestrian crossings.

### Lead Project Update

A reminder to those who received a letter from the City of Mound regarding the Lead Service Line Inventory Project to please complete lead service line inventory survey or contact City Staff to schedule an inspection. There are approximately 1,600 properties that still need to complete an inventory. Staff must submit this information to the state by August 15, 2024. If you have received a notice or door hanger please visit [cityofmound.com](https://cityofmound.com) to complete the survey or for information on how to set up an appointment.

### Lift Stations - Highlights

The Lakewinds area lift station is now complete. With some punch list work to be completed and this fall the City will start on replacing the lift station at Sunset Road. A lift station is a pump system that moves wastewater from a lower elevation to a higher elevation. They are often used when gravity flow isn't possible. The City of Mound has been gradually replacing/updating all of the lift stations since 2007. The Sunset Road. station will be the 26th out of 30 stations the City has upgraded and replaced.



### Dakota Trail Crossing

The Dakota Trail Crossing Project is approved and slated to be completed this fall. It is being led by the Hennepin County Highway Department and will follow the completion of the Metropolitan Council sewer replacement project that is currently underway in the same area.



### Meet the New Public Works Director

Ryan Prich has been employed within the City's public works department since 2015. He started within the utility maintenance crew, was promoted to Lead Utility Worker in 2017, and again to Public Works Superintendent in 2020. His new position as the Public Works Director is the lead position within the Public Works Department and an important leadership role within the City. Ryan enjoys the day to day troubleshooting, problem solving, and proactive long term planning. He enjoys being outdoors and likes being able to split his time between his office and being out around the community! Ryan lives in the City of Victoria with his wife, Brenda, and two kids: Madison (9) and Carson (5). He enjoys camping, fishing, hunting, and doing BBQs with his family and neighbors and has enjoyed getting to know community members over the years. Ryan looks forward to continuing to serve the City and the community.

## Mound Fire Prevention Open House on October 2nd

Mound Fire will host the Annual Fire Prevention Open House at the fire station on Wednesday, October 2nd from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. This family fun event will include hands-on activities, fire safety displays, fire truck rides and more. Beverages and snacks will be provided.

Each year the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) develops a fire prevention campaign. The 2024 campaign is "Smoke Alarms, Make Them Work for You!" This year's focus on working smoke alarms comes in response to NFPA data, which shows that most U.S. home fire deaths continue to occur in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. The goal is to give people the tools and know-how to keep their smoke alarms in working order. Be sure to:



- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area (like a hallway).
- Install smoke alarms on each level (including the basement) of the home, be sure they meet the needs of all residents, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button.
- Change smoke alarm batteries once a year, minimum.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or don't respond when tested.

Stay Healthy and Be Safe! We hope to see you at our Fire Prevention Open House on October 2nd!

## Mound Fire 71st Fish Fry & Dance - A Huge Success!

On Saturday, June 1st, the Mound Fire Department (MFD) held its 71st Mound Fire Fish Fry and Dance. Once again, the community supported the event with a huge crowd for dinner and the dance, featuring two bands: The Selmer Effect, followed by headliner High and Mighty!

### Did you know?

- The Mound Fire Department has hosted a fundraising event for over 72 years!
- In the early years, the Mound firefighters caught all of the fish for the fish fry! It is now purchased and totals approximately 2,000 lbs. of Certified Alaskan Pollack!
- Since 1986, Mound firefighters have served 140,842 fish meals
- The MFD Kitchen Crew can fry about 700 lbs. of fish per hour.
- The entire event is staffed by Mound firefighters and family members equaling about 1,660 total hours worked.
- Between the years 2015-2023, over \$122,700.00 has been raised to purchase fire equipment.



Revenue from fundraising events allows the fire department to purchase needed tools and equipment. This year, 3,068 dinners were served at the Fish Fry and Dance. The firefighters greatly appreciate the support from the residents, community, and local businesses. See you in 2025!



### Farmers' Market

The Mound Farmers' Market started in May and continues every Saturday until October 12th, 2024! The hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and it is located at 5515 Shoreline Drive, Mound, MN. The market has a wide variety of vendors who sell locally grown produce, meats, jellies, jams, salsas, coffee, art, soaps, lotions, flowers, and more!

For more information, visit their Facebook Page: The New Mound Farmers' Market & More.

### Orono Police Department Receives Grant from Office of Traffic Safety

The Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety has identified the need for more vehicles throughout the State that would better assist Officers in observing and enforcing violations by way of an unmarked squad vehicle that fits in with day-to-day traffic. In May of 2024, the Orono Police Department was one of nine police agencies in the State of Minnesota to receive a grant from the Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety that will allow for the purchase of a vehicle and the equipment within vehicle for 20 percent of the cost. The Office of Public Safety will cover the remaining 80 percent.



*Image: Richfield Police Department F-150 Vehicle  
(Bring Me the News)*

The vehicle will also be made available to partnered agencies within the west Lake Minnetonka area for their enforcement of distractive driving, seatbelt enforcement, DWI and other violations. The Office of Traffic Safety and the Officers that work the awareness campaigns and targeted enforcement for areas such as distractive driving, have seen drivers falling back into old habits by operating a vehicle while using their cell phones. According to the Office of Traffic Safety, regarding the grant, despite public awareness campaigns and targeted enforcement, distracted driving is still to blame for roughly 1 in 11 crashes.

The Orono Police Department is excited about being selected for this grant and the opportunity to work with other agencies in the Lake Minnetonka region to continue to enforce traffic laws and educate drivers on operating a vehicle safely. The Orono Police Department is hoping the new vehicle will be on the road as early as September.



## 2024 Election Day Reminders

State Primary Election – Tuesday, August 13th, 2024.

General Election – Tuesday November 5th, 2024

**Polls will be open on Election Day from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the following locations:**

- Precinct 1 – The Gillespie Center, 2590 Commerce Blvd.
- Precinct 2 – Bethel United Methodist Church, 2116 Commerce Blvd.
- Precinct 3 – Centennial Building, 5341 Maywood Road
- Precinct 4 – St. John's Lutheran Church, 2451 Fairview Lane

# VOTE MOUND

Hear directly from local candidates and make informed choices!

MOUND - AREA Candidate Forum Schedule			
DATE	OFFICE(S)	VENUE	TIME
Tuesday Sept. 3	State Senate District 45 Special Election	Minnetonka Community Center 14600 Minnetonka Blvd	7:00 pm
Wednesday Sept. 11	Hennepin County Commissioner District 6 (North Mound)	Minnetonka City Hall 14600 Minnetonka Blvd	7:00 pm
Wednesday Sept. 18	Mound Mayor/City Council	Mound Council Chambers 5341 Maywood Road, Mound	6:30 pm
Wednesday Sept. 18	MN House District 45A	Mound Council Chamber 5341 Maywood Rd, Mound	8:00 pm
Monday Sept. 23	Hennepin County Commissioner District 7 (South Mound)	Plymouth City Hall 3400 Plymouth Blvd	7:45 pm

FORUMS OPEN TO THE PUBIC - SUBMIT CANDIDATE QUESTIONS TO: [LWVwpa@LWVmn.ORG](mailto:LWVwpa@LWVmn.ORG)

### Important Election Dates

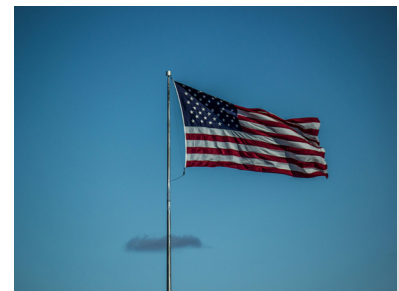
- June 28th – August 12th: Primary Election Absentee Voting Period at City Hall (2415 Wilshire Blvd.)
- August 10th: Extended Absentee Voting from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at City Hall (2415 Wilshire Blvd.)
- July 30th – August 13th: Mayor and City Council Candidate Filing Period
- August 13th: Primary Election Day
- August 14th & 15th- Candidate Withdrawal from Candidacy dates (*until 5:00 p.m. on the 15th*)
- September 20th – November 4th: General Election Absentee Voting Period at City Hall (2415 Wilshire Blvd.)
- Saturday, October 26th: Extended Absentee Voting from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at City Hall
- Saturday, November 2nd & Sunday, November 3rd: Extended Absentee Voting from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at City Hall
- November 5th: General Election Day

### Guides For Political Signs - June 21 – November 15:

Election Signs Posting Period Minnesota law allows every resident the right to display yard signs supporting their candidate(s) starting 46 days before the Primary Election to 10 days following the General Election.

*If you choose to display a campaign sign, please make certain that:*

- Signs are removed by November 15, 2024.
- Signs are not placed in the public right-of-way or within the sight triangle.
- Signs are not placed within 100 feet of any polling location.
- Signs are located on private property with the permission of the property owner.
- Signs are located at least 10 feet inside the property line.
- The sign contains the name of the person responsible for the sign and its removal.



The City does have the right to remove any sign that violates these guidelines. Campaign signs are allowed in all zoning districts within the city, and no permit is required. Find your polling place: [pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us](https://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us)

Questions? Visit [cityofmound.com/elections](https://cityofmound.com/elections) or call 952-472-0600.





### Street Sweeping: Fall

The City of Mound will be sweeping the streets again this fall! The City does this in the spring and the fall to protect surrounding natural resources and to prevent flooding during storm events. Protecting waterways is important and a priority. The storm water grates within the street corridors are part of a larger system that ultimately drains into local ponds, lakes, and streams.

Streets carry a lot of traffic and require maintenance at times. During the winter months, treating the streets tends to create pile ups of salts, sands, and other debris. During the summer and fall months, falling leaves and freshly cut grasses often build up as well. Regular street sweeping picks up as much of these materials as possible before getting into the local waterways to harm aquatic plants and fish habitats. A big thank you to Mound Public Works Department for their hard work to prevent these materials from entering the waterways, as well as maintaining clear and open stormways to prevent water build up and flooding during storm events.

### The Mulch Store is Now Open

Mound residents are still able to drop off leaves, weeds, garden waste, milfoil, and grass/lawn clippings for free at the Mulch Store in Minnetrista. This site serves as a compost site option for residents and is located at 4275 Creekview Circle. Please note Mound residents must show a valid Driver's License with their address on it to be able to use the site for free.

#### The site is available:

- April 1st, 2024 - November 30th, 2024
- Monday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Call 952-446-1056 for pricing on brush and other accepted items.

### Managing Pet Waste: Reminder

Picking up pet waste (from public and private property) keeps our city clean and beautiful. It also prevents harmful nutrients from entering nearby waterways, and keeps pets and people healthy. Please dispose of pet waste in a designated pet container or trash receptacle. A reminder to never dispose of pet waste in storm drains, waterways, and/or the compost drop-off site, as this results in environmental contamination and damage. Let's work together to keep our city clean.



## Parks for Smaller Children: Sorbo Park

*Adopted by: Michelle Herrick and neighbors*

The beautiful autumn days are a perfect time to help the toddlers and preschoolers in our lives get some energy out at playgrounds that are sized correctly for their play needs. Sorbo Park is located next to the iconic blue water tower, close to the intersection of Evergreen Road and County Road 44. It has a basketball court, swing set, a large grassy area, and a playset. The swing-set has a fun and unique tandem swing, which has a seat for both an adult and a child, allowing for the ability to swing together for some intergenerational fun. The playset has several slides, with only a few stairs! The few steps allow littler legs to easily climb to the top. The sizeable grassy open space backs up to a patch of woods, which gives kids room to run and explore. In the fall, visitors can savor the colorful changing leaves of the woodsy backdrop, and kids can enjoy time outdoors before they have to start bundling up. **Fun Fact:** This park is named after the actor Kevin Sorbo who grew up in Mound. He is best known for his role as Hercules in the television series Hercules (1995 – 1999).

### Other playgrounds sized for smaller kids:

**Seton Park:** Visible from the Dakota Trail on the east edge of town.

**Chester Park:** Bring some sand toys to extend your visit.

**Belmont Park:** Multiple playsets for a variety of ages.

**Avon Park:** Classic wooden playset (to be replaced in 2026).

**Wychwood:** Amazing summer sunsets.



## Dutch Lake Fishing Pier

A new fishing pier was installed on Dutch Lake this July on the southeast shoreline. Westonka Schools wished to expand on and offer a more engaged learning experience for its students. The goal was to create an on-lake ecology observation and classroom environment that would enhance curriculum and learning, as well as be a recreation activity for students and the community.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) provides pier facilities to municipalities via grant/cooperative agreements. Since Westonka Schools did not qualify for the program independently, the City of Mound agreed to be a project partner to bring the project to completion. The actual construction and installation of the pier occurred with the collaboration of the Mound Public Works Department and the DNR. A special thanks to the many partners that made this project a reality and a great new learning and recreational amenity for Westonka Schools and the community.



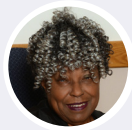
**City of Mound**  
2415 Wilshire Blvd  
Mound, MN 55364

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
MOUND, MN  
PERMIT NO. 87

## Meet the Council



**Mayor Jason R. Holt**  
☎ 612-703-6738  
✉ jasonholt@cityofmound.com



**Sherrie Pugh**  
☎ 612-518-0287  
✉ sherriepugh@cityofmound.com



**Paula Larson**  
☎ 952-334-7911  
✉ paulalarson@cityofmound.com



**Kathy McEnaney**  
☎ 612-655-2514  
✉ kathymcenaney@cityofmound.com



**Kevin Castellano**  
☎ 612-749-7070  
✉ kevincastellano@cityofmound.com

## Shop Local in Mound

By shopping local at Mound Businesses you are Keeping It Local. Show your support by picking up a free Shop Local vehicle decal at City Hall!

### Benefits of shopping local include:

- Creation of local jobs
- Encourages prosperity and is an investment in the community



*Show your pride in Mound by shopping local!*

\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*

**POSTAL CUSTOMER**

## City Hall Hours

**November - April**

**Monday - Friday**  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**May - October**

**Monday - Thursday**  
7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
**Friday**  
7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

## Contact Us

### General Information

☎ 952-472-0600  
🌐 cityofmound.com

### Planning & Building

☎ 952-472-0603

### Police Department

*After Hours Dispatch*  
*Emergency*

☎ 952-249-4700  
☎ 952-258-5321  
☎ 9-1-1

### Public Works

*After Hours Dispatch*

☎ 952-472-0603  
☎ 952-258-5321

### Social Media



## Our Mission

*The City of Mound, through teamwork and cooperation, provides, at a reasonable cost, quality services that respond to the needs of all citizens, fostering a safe, attractive, and flourishing community.*