



MOUND COMPASS

A Quarterly Publication from the City of Mound

Feb/March/April • 2024

City Calendar

Important Dates

February 16th

Rare Whiskey Release Sale at Harbor Wine & Spirits

February 19th

City Offices Closed
President's Day Observed

February 29th

Dock License Renewal & Waitlist Application Deadline

March 10th

Daylight Savings Time

March 25th - 29th

Westonka School Spring Break

April 8th - 12th

Severe Weather Awareness Week
Tornado sirens sounding on April 11

April 24th

Hennepin County Assessor's Open Book Meeting from 3 - 7 PM
Council Chambers

Meeting Schedule

City Council

Meets the second & fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 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 for the most accurate dates and for agenda packet information.

A Message from the Mayor

I'm thrilled to announce exciting updates for our city!

New City Facebook Page & Enhanced Newsletter

Our quarterly city newsletter has a fresh new name "Mound Compass" which will replace the old name of "City Contact". The City Council agrees this name change will better reflect our city. To accommodate additional and important information, we also added another 4 pages to the newsletter. Additionally, in our commitment to enhance communications, we've launched an official City of Mound Facebook page! Follow "City of Mound, MN" on Facebook as another way to stay informed. Learn about upcoming council meetings, community events, updates and much more.

Planning Commission & City Council Meetings Now on Youtube

We are now hosting City Council meetings and Planning Commission meetings on a new City of Mound YouTube page. Visit cityofmound.com, and navigate to the social media tab to find a direct link to the YouTube page so you can view these recorded meetings.

Welcome, Jesse Dickson!

In other exciting news. I'm delighted to introduce our new City Manager, Jesse Dickson. Jesse comes from the City of Cologne where he was the City Administrator for 8.5 years. We are excited to have Jesse! He started on January 3rd, 2024.

Continue reading on page 2.

What's Inside

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of the Year**

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A Message from the Mayor

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Water Treatment Plant Funding Update

Next, I want to provide an update on the work that has been and is being done to secure funding for a new Water Treatment Plant. In 2023, the city was allocated \$10.3 million within the cash bonding bill for our water treatment plant needs. The city needs an additional \$26 million in funds and therefore has submitted a request for the 2024 legislative session in that amount.

You can help! Please reach out to Senator Kelly Morrison at 651-296-9261 or Sen.Kelly.Morrison@Senate.mn and Representative Andrew Myers at 651-296-9188 or Rep.Andrew.Myers@House.mn.gov and show your support for their efforts in securing this necessary additional funding. They have both been and continue to be supportive of our community needs and we thank them for representing the City of Mound.

Lastly, I want to thank you for your continued support as we work to 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

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Eli Hart Foundation Playground

This spring, changes are coming to the City of Mound's Surfside Park! The existing playground apparatus will be replaced with a new playground on behalf of the Eli Hart Foundation.

Planning for the new playground began in May of 2022 by the Eli Hart Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit, whose mission was to do something impactful within the City of Mound in dedication to the memory of Eli Hart. Eli Hart loved playgrounds and so the Foundation made this its effort to raise money for the new playground.

Continue reading on page 10.

Jesse Dickson, City Manager

Jesse Dickson started as Mound's City Manager on January 3rd, 2024!

Mr. Dickson started his public sector career in 2015 when he was hired to be city administrator of the City of Cologne and spent the last 8+ years in the role prior to being hired by Mound. He was raised in La Crescent, Minnesota, graduating from La Crescent High School. Following high school, he received a bachelor's degree in political science with a minor in public administration from Winona State University, and went on to receive his master's in public affairs from the University of Missouri – Columbia.

He has recently become engaged to his fiancé Mara, plays hockey year-round, and golfs as much as possible while the weather allows.

"I'm very excited and honored to be able to pick up on the projects currently underway as well as help create new ones. I welcome any opportunity to meet residents and business owners and look forward to immersing myself in the City of Mound to become part of the community."



Maggie Reisdorf, Deputy City Manager

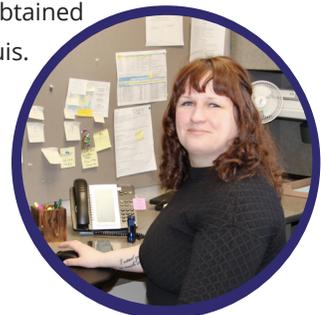
Maggie Reisdorf started as the Mound Deputy City Manager on August 14th, 2023.

Ms. Reisdorf has worked in municipal government since 2012 and brings experience from her previous municipal administrative roles which most recently include the Administrative Services Director with the City of Watertown and the City Administrator with the City of Mayer.

Ms. Reisdorf grew up in St. Cloud, Minnesota. She went to the College of Saint Benedict for her undergraduate degree. She moved to St. Louis, Missouri for four years where she obtained her Master's in Public Policy Administration from the University of Missouri – St. Louis. She returned to Minnesota in 2012 where she has since been working in municipal government in the western suburbs of the Twin Cities.

She has a 17-year-old daughter, Liesl, who attends Minnetonka High School. In her free time, she enjoys watching her daughter play basketball (for Minnetonka), spending time with family and friends, being outdoors, and finding fun new experiences. Most recent new fun experience: 2024 Mound Polar Plunge!

"I'm excited to be here and I am looking forward to continuing to get to know the community on a deeper level, getting involved, and serving the community of Mound."





Mayor for A Day

At the November 28th, 2023 City Council meeting, five Grandview Middle School sixth graders presented their short essays titled "Mayor for a Day". The students were tasked with explaining what they would do if they were the mayor for a day. The students did a wonderful job presenting their ideas to the City Council which included recommendations like adding more stop signs for safety, adding more green spaces, updating parks, repairing roads and more.

Pictured from left to right: Kate Kromenhoek, Addison Koeppe, Mayor Jason Holt, Thomas Gombola, and Sophia Denn.



DARE Graduation

On November 16th, 2023 Mayor Holt presented certificates to the top four students of the sixth grade class at Grandview Middle School. The four students were selected by Principal Christy Zachow based on each student's DARE presentation.

Thank you Officer Susie Shultz for coordinating and teaching the DARE program!



Westonka Annual Tree Lighting

The Westonka Chamber of Commerce held its Annual Tree Lighting at Veteran's Park on November 18th, 2023. Event goers enjoyed wonderful activities that included the "Santa Tour", tree lighting, hot cocoa, cookies, carolers, and more!"



Cub Scout's at City Council Meeting

At the January 9th, 2024 City Council meeting, Troop Leader, Andrew Cottingham, and Cub Scouts of Troop 285 led the Pledge of Allegiance at the first City Council meeting of 2024.



Resolution Recognizing Eric Hoversten

The City Council surprised City Manager, Eric Hoversten on December 12th, 2023 with a Resolution recognizing his exemplary service to the City of Mound. Mr. Hoversten had announced his retirement and his last official day was January 5th, 2024. Mr. Hoversten worked for the City of Mound for eight and a half years: About six months as Public Works Director and eight years as the City Manager/Public Works Director.

City Engineering Updates

Downtown Pavers Project

The City Engineer, Bolton and Menk, is working on final bid documents and a cooperative agreement between the City of Mound and Hennepin County that finalizes project cost sharing and other responsibilities. Construction is expected for early summer.

Dakota Trail Crossing

Hennepin County is coordinating final design and bid documents for the Dakota Trail Crossing project. There is a cooperative agreement between Hennepin County, Three Rivers Park District, and the City of Mound for funding the project. Construction is expected to occur late summer/early fall 2024, after the completion of Metropolitan Council sanitary sewer work is wrapped up.

Westonka Library Update - Hennepin County Libraries

The Westonka Library project is currently in the design development phase. There is a lot of planning still to come. For more information, please visit hclib.org/about/locations/westonka.

Water Treatment Plant - Funding Update

The City of Mound was awarded \$10.3 Million by the Minnesota State Legislature in 2023. Those funds are currently on hold to spend until legislation verbiage is reviewed and amended. The City continues to work with State Representatives to secure the remaining funds necessary for the project. The City is optimistic that it will receive additional funding in upcoming sessions.

Artessa Mound Harbor

The Artessa Development Project is progressing quickly. Currently, construction includes building the walls, electrical and plumbing components. January work included garage floor placement and balcony framing. Final completion is expected in August 2024.

2040 Comprehensive Plan Amendment - City Planning

At the January 9th, 2024 City Council meeting, the City Council approved an amendment to the 2040 Comprehensive Plan that more clearly articulates the community's vision for growth and development. The amendment was sought in response to community discussions related to proposed development over the past few years. The revised planning vision acknowledges that the community is fully developed and that future growth will primarily come from infill development at a property owner's own initiative.

The primary amendment change was related to the mixed use land use category. The mixed use category supports a variety of land uses, including commercial, public, and residential. Currently, the City has almost 69 acres of designated mixed use land use, with the largest areas along Shoreline Drive and Commerce Blvd. The amendment now limits new residential density in the mixed use area to between 8 and 15 units per acre and guides the type of development to townhouses or rowhouses versus apartments. A recent project example in the city is the Villages of Island Park on Wilshire Boulevard.

Alex Erickson Named 2023 Mound Firefighter of the Year

Congratulations to Firefighter Alex Erickson, the recipient of the Mound Fire Department Firefighter of the Year Award for 2023.

The recipient of the award is determined by a nomination and evaluation process, which involves the entire team of Mound firefighters. The firefighters vote for staff members who have had an outstanding year and outstanding job performance. The result is one individual being selected as the department's Firefighter of the Year.

The award is based upon predetermined performance criteria including:

- Level of participation, involvement, and contribution to department
- Number of responses to emergency fire & rescue call-outs
- Attending and leading department training sessions
- Amount of time dedicated to Public Relations activities
- Support of teamwork environment, and a "Service to Excellence" approach



Firefighter Alex Erickson has been a volunteer with the department since joining the ranks in March of 2017. Alex is a second-generation Mound firefighter as his father, Steve Erickson is a retired Mound Fire Chief. We thank firefighter Alex Erickson for his commitment and dedication to the department and our community!

Mound Fire Department Staffing News

Mound Fire Administration is proud to announce the hiring of Shane Gardner on January 1st, 2024.

Firefighter Gardner is fully trained with 16 years of experience. Prior to joining Mound Fire, firefighter Gardner served with the Long Lake Fire department as an Assistant Chief. Welcome to MFD Firefighter Shane Gardner!

Assistant Fire Chief Greg Palm retired from Mound Fire on December 31st, 2023. Assistant Chief Palm was active with the fire department for 40 years. His wealth of knowledge, firefighter skills, and years of experience will be greatly missed. Congratulations to Assistant Chief Palm on his retirement. A BIG thank you to him and his wife Carrie for their years of dedicated service! Forty years of service is a huge commitment which requires support from a firefighter's entire family.



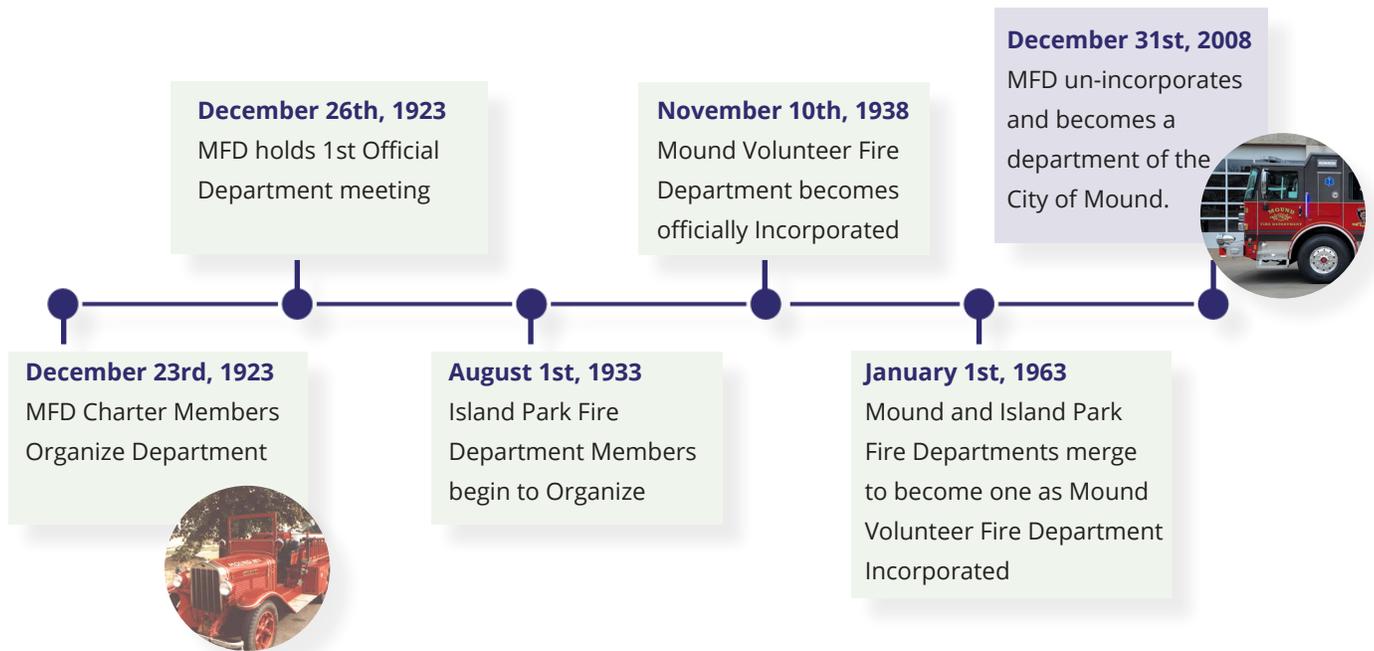
As of January 1st, 2024, the Mound Fire Staff of active firefighters is now at 39, which creates an outstanding response team for our community.

Interested in becoming a Firefighter? Print an application form by visiting our website at moundfire.com.

Questions? Call 952-472-3555 or stop by our administrative office at 2415 Wilshire Blvd Mound, MN 55364.

Mound Fire Department Centennial 1923-2023 - 100 Years of History

The Mound Fire Department was established in December 1923. Prior to 1923, the fire protection in greater Mound area was provided by the surrounding communities of St. Bonifacius, Excelsior, Wayzata, and even Hopkins. Prior to 1963, the areas of Mound and Island Park were protected by two independent fire departments. In 1963, they merged and became one department under the name of Mound Volunteer Fire Department Incorporated.



	Then	Now
Volunteer Firefighter Staff	21	40
Pumper Truck Cost	\$4,500	\$726,000
Diesel Fuel or Gasoline	\$0.17	\$3.56
Number of Fire Apparatus	2	15
Population Served	668	16,116
Emergency Calls Per Year	31	677

Since its establishment, the department has grown and evolved into a professional organization and today provides a vast array of fire protection and emergency response services. As the times and needs have changed over the years, the fire department apparatus fleet has grown from the meager beginnings of just one 1930 Diamond-T Pumper Truck, and now consists of a total of 15 specialized emergency response vehicles that are needed to protect four communities.

The Mound Public Safety Building which opened in 2004 has 33,000 square feet of space that houses the fire department, the City of Mound, and a small Orono police precinct. The “State of the Art” three story building is a far cry from the old tin shed or the old school building that housed the fire department from 1923 – 1956.

In 2024, Mound Fire Department serves the Cities of Mound, Minnetrista, Spring Park and Shorewood and stands ready to respond to the challenges that the next 100 years brings.

Election Information

2024 Election Information - Important Dates

Election	Date
Presidential Nomination Primary Election	March 5th
Special Primary Election - Hennepin County Commissioner - District 6	April 30th
Special Election - Hennepin County Commissioner - District 6	May 14th
State Primary Election	August 13th
General Election	November 5th

Election Day Registration

ID with current name and address:

Valid Minnesota Driver's License, Learner's Permit or ID, or a receipt for any of those.

Photo ID and a document with current name and address:

Check online for a complete list of approved photo IDs and approved documents that can be used at: [MNVotes.org](https://mnvotes.org).

A registered voter who can confirm your address:

A registered voter from your precinct can go with you to the polling place to sign an oath confirming your address. This is known as "vouching". A registered voter can vouch for up to eight voters. You cannot vouch for others if someone vouches for you.

College student ID with housing list:

Colleges and universities send election officials a student housing list. If you are on the list, show your college photo ID to complete your registration.

Valid Registration in the same precinct:

If you are registered in a precinct but change names or moved within the same precinct, you only need to tell the election judge your previous name or address.

Notice of late registration:

If you registered to vote within 20 days of the election, you may get a *notice of late registration* in the mail. Bring that notice with you and use it as your proof of residence to register.

Absentee (Early) Voting

If you are unable to vote at the polls on Election Day, you can vote early either by mail or in person.

- To vote early by mail apply for an absentee ballot online: [MNVotes.gov/absentee](https://mnvotes.gov/absentee).
- Vote early in person at Mound City Hall: 2415 Wilshire Blvd, Mound, MN 55364.*

Absentee voting is available during early voting periods during regular business hours:

- Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 pm.

Absentee (Early) Voting Periods

Election	Date
Presidential Nomination Primary Election	January 19th -March 4th
Special Primary Election – Hennepin County Commissioner – District 6	April 12th - 29th
Special Election – Hennepin County Commissioner – District 6	May 6th - 13th
State Primary Election	June 28th - August 12th
General Election	September 20th - November 4th

What is the Presidential Nomination Primary?

In 2016, the legislature authorized a nomination primary to be conducted for the president of the United States, beginning with the 2020 presidential election cycle. The presidential nomination primary supplements the party caucus model that has been used in the State of Minnesota for many years.

The presidential nomination primary differs from other elections in that separate ballots are printed for each participating political party. Each voter will be required to indicate the political party they wish to vote for. They will then be provided with a ballot that corresponds to that party. The ballot will only list nominees for president for the party that is requested.

The voter's political party choice is classified as "private data" by state law and may not be disclosed to members of the general public or others in response to a data records request. However, under Minnesota Statute, the Secretary of State must provide the chair of each major political party the list of voters who selected that party.

Additional information can be found on the Secretary of State's website: [MNVotes.org](https://www.mnvotes.org).

To vote in Minnesota, you must be:

- A U.S. Citizen
- At least 18 years old on Election Day
- A resident of Minnesota for 20 days
- Not currently incarcerated for a felony conviction

Register online at [MNVotes.org](https://www.mnvotes.org) or:

- Download an application from [MNVotes.org](https://www.mnvotes.org) or pick up an application at Mound City Hall.
- Register at your polling place on Election Day

Check the online polling place finder at: pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us to find out where you vote.

Visit [cityofmound.com](https://www.cityofmound.com) for up to date election information or call City Hall at 952-472-0600.

Eli Hart Foundation Playground

Continued from pg. 2

Over the next year and a half, the Foundation will work with the City Council and Parks Commission to lay the groundwork for the project by coordinating the site plan and playground concept.

The Foundation was incredibly successful in fundraising by securing grants and donations in the amount of \$290,000. The playground will include many different play features for every age. The playground will be ADA Accessible.

Parks with a View: Spotlight on Ridgewood Shore



Ridgewood Shore is a park that likely only its neighbors know about. Turn onto Ridgewood off of Westedge Boulevard, pass Priest Lane, and park on the right, next to the black park sign announcing Ridgewood Shore Park. It's small, with just a picnic bench, trash receptacle, grass (or snow) and a memorial bench. But the size isn't the draw; the up close and personal view of Priest Bay is the main attraction. A small island is just offshore, which means bringing along some binoculars might help you spot some winter bird life. In summer, enjoy watching the boaters. In quieter seasons, like now, enjoy the peace and quiet of the snow and ice. Ridgewood shore is the perfect spot to take a detour with your dog or your coffee and enjoy the open space, the bare trees, a stretch of the ice, and some private time with your thoughts.

Other parks with a view:

- Crescent Park (Harrison Bay; eye level view of lake life)
- Veteran's Park (Lake Langdon; great for birding)
- Bluffs Beach Park (Halstead Bay; ideal for solitude)
- Highland End Park (Priest Bay; perfect for a picnic)

Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries!

Daylight Savings begins March 10th, 2024. A reminder to change your clocks! Remember to change your batteries as well! Please change the batteries in your Smoke Detector and Carbon Monoxide alarms. Devices that require batteries to operate should have their batteries replaced at least once each year. It is also essential to check the manufacture date of your Smoke Detector and Carbon Monoxide alarm devices and replace any that are 10+ years old.

NOTE: Some newer smoke alarms have 10-year lithium batteries that do not need to be changed.



Dock Program Applications are Due February 29th, 2024

Applications to renew or apply to be on the Mound Dock Program Waitlist are available on cityofmound.com. Dock license renewals and waitlist applications are due on or before Thursday, February 29, 2024.

Canoe & Kayak Storage Racks

Canoe and kayak storage rack spots are available at Twin Park, Carlson Park, Avalon Park and Centerview Park. Contact City Hall if you are interested in applying for a license. Fees per season are \$65 for residents and \$90 for non-residents. **Questions?** Call Kevin Kelly at 952-472-0613 or email kevinkelly@cityofmound.com.

Purchase a Rain Barrel to Reduce Stormwater Run-Off in the Lake

The City of Mound is teaming up again with the Harrisons Bay Association and the Recycling Association of Minnesota to offer rain barrels for sale. These barrels retail for \$120, but will be made available through the Recycling Association of Minnesota for \$90 + tax (price subject to change). Be one of the first 72 Mound residents to purchase a rain barrel and receive a \$30 credit thanks to the following co-sponsors: City of Mound (\$20/barrel) and city engineering firm, Bolton and Menk (\$10/barrel).



Rain Barrel benefits:

- Rain Barrels reduce the amount of stormwater run-off that enters the lakes. Stormwater often picks up, captures, and carries pollutants like road salt and fertilizers as it travels.
- Barrels provide an estimated 1,400 gallons of rainwater per season! Often, people use this fresh water source for things like gardening and other outside activities. This rainwater can help reduce your city water supply usage and preserve our precious water resources!

Sale begins on March 1st, 2024. Rain barrel supplies are limited. To get your name on a list and to receive an email when the sale goes live, visit harrisonsbay.org or use the QR code above. The Harrisons Bay Association will coordinate orders and hold a pick-up event in late April or early May at the Mound Public Parking Ramp. Homeowners will receive information about how to install and maintain the rain barrels, as well as other landscaping techniques that can help keep polluted run-off out of creeks and lakes.



Thank You for Shopping Local

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
- Ensures sales taxes are reinvested in our community



City of Mound
2415 Wilshire Blvd
Mound, MN 55364

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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

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



HARBOR WINE & SPIRITS ANNUAL
**RARE
BOTTLE
RELEASE**

Anniversary Sale & Westonka Rotary Fundraiser

February 16 | 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

15% off all beer, wine, cider, seltzer & spirits

rare bottles not included in sale

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.