



City Contact



A Quarterly Publication from the City of Mound

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

NOV DEC JAN
2017-2018

Dear Neighbors,

The Mound City Council discussed the 2018 Preliminary Budget and Levy at the August 22nd regular meeting. The Council approved a 2% increase to the total levy. The final levy and utility rates will be approved at the December 12th regular meeting, which is the final meeting of the year.

The Council discussed the investments in infrastructure that have impacted the property tax and utility rates. Since 2003, investments have included \$32.3M in street and retaining wall reconstruction; \$19M in water system improvements associated directly with those street repairs, a new water tower and pump houses, and improvements to the distribution network to improve service volume and capacity; \$9.8M in sanitary sewer system improvements including replacement of 19 of the 30 City lift stations, and lining of sewer pipes to reduce

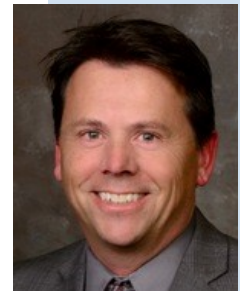
groundwater infiltration; \$5.9M in storm water improvements most generally linked to the street reconstruction efforts; and, an additional \$8.8M for redevelopment related activities in the Lost Lake/Harbor Districts.

The timely and substantial commitment to infrastructure repair and its significant cost necessitated a financing strategy that attempted to fairly balance tax and utility rates, and lump-sum assessments to cover the significant burden of the program when no reserves existed to get it started. Utility service rates under this philosophy hold higher base charges to reflect the higher proportion of annual operating costs attributed to repaying utility debt.

The total property tax levies for cities, schools and the counties are distributed among the tax base based on property values. Mound is considered a fully developed

community and the population is not expected to fluctuate much in the coming decades, so the City can't rely on growth to fund infrastructure investments, additional services, or inflation like many other cities may. Mound will continue to balance tax and utility rates with the need to complete remaining infrastructure improvements. Fortunately, the street projects will be completed in 2018 and the rate of investment will diminish. In addition, Mound will continue to focus on keeping operating expenses (non-capital/debt related) below average, maintaining the service levels our residents expect.

The entire 2018 Preliminary Budget and Levy can be found on the City website and questions can be directed to Catherine Pausche, Director of Finance and Admin Services, at 952-472-0633 or via email at catherinepausche@cityofmound.com. *MW*



Mayor
Mark Wegscheid

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Harbor
Wine & Spirits

952-472-0648 harborwinespirits.com
2135 Commerce Blvd Mound, MN 55364

"The Very Best Service & Selection Westonka Has To Offer"
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Docks and Commons Commissioner Rodney Beystrom has decided to retire both from his career at the City of Brooklyn Park and the Mound Dock Commission. Rodney has served many years on the commission and has always demonstrated impartiality and pragmatism as well as a true desire to make the dock program the best that it could be for all participants. The City and Staff thank Rodney for his service and wish him well in all the possibilities retirement has to offer! Enjoy!

The City would like to express great gratitude to Shawn Seiler for his service on the Parks and Open Spaces Commission from 2016 through 2017. His fresh ideas and forward thinking have been a great addition to the Commission and he will be missed.



Commissioner Candidates Sought to Fill Vacancies

The **Mound Parks and Open Spaces Commission** has one opening with a term expiring at the end of December 2018. The commission acts as a recommending body to the City Council, meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 pm, as needed, and considers all matters pertaining to parks, open spaces, and related amenities. Call City Manager Eric Hoversten 952-472-0609 for more info or email jillnorlander@cityofmound.com for an application. Submittal deadline is Wednesday, December 13th, at 11 am. Interviews will be held Thursday, January 11th, at 7 pm. You must be available for the interview to be considered. Appointments will be made by the City Council at the January 23rd Council Meeting. Prior candidates and participants are encouraged to apply. Candidates must be a resident of Mound.

The **Mound Docks and Commons Commission** has one opening with a term expiring at the end of December of 2020 for an Abutter in the Mound Dock Program. The Commission is comprised of 2 Abutters, 3 Non-Abutters and the Council Liaison and acts as a recommending body to the City Council. The commission meets the third Thursday of each month at 7 pm, as needed, and considers all matters pertaining to the Mound Dock Program. Call Catherine Pausche 952-472-0633 for more info or email jillnorlander@cityofmound.com for an application. Submittal deadline is Wednesday, December 13th, at 11 am. Interviews will be held Thursday, January 18th, at 7 pm. You must be available for the interview to be considered. Appointments will be made by the City Council at the February 13th Council Meeting. Prior candidates and participants who are Abutters in the program are encouraged to apply.



Orono Police Department Reserves Program



The Orono Police Department Reserve Officer Program is a volunteer opportunity for community members interested in assisting the Police Department. New Reserve Officers attend 10 evening training sessions, sponsored by the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office, that provide a very good foundation of skills needed for reserve officers. Once reserves are done with their training they are integrated into the Orono Police Department and continue to build on those skills.

The Orono Police Department looks for individuals who are able to provide a certain amount of volunteer time a month. This time is flexible as we know most of our reserves have other responsibilities as well. We look for people who are willing to learn, handle conflict appropriately, are honest, and able to pass a thorough background examination. We welcome any future law enforcement officers who are looking for a great opportunity to obtain knowledge in this exciting field.

We are now looking for qualified candidates for the Orono Reserve Program and will be accepting applications. To obtain an application please stop by the police department or print one from the website ci.orono.mn.us. Please return the completed application to the Orono Police Department in person or by mail to 2750 Kelley Parkway, Orono, MN 55356. Questions? Call 952-249-4700.

Lawn Care for Lake Care - Easy Fall Clean-up Tips

There are a lot of public and private organizations working hard to improve the quality of our lakes, rivers, and streams for aesthetic, recreational, economic, and ecological purposes. Take a moment to get familiar with them, their technical expertise, and the services and resources they may offer to help you take better care of the lake right from your home.



Watershed District	minnehahacreek.org
Metro Watershed	cleanwatermn.org
Freshwater Society	freshwater.org
MN DNR	dnr.state.mn.us/backyard
Hennepin County	hennepin.us/residents#environment

1. Follow label instructions on winterizers, other fertilizers, and pesticides

Fall is a great time to control weeds for next summer, and ensure your lawn continues to grow through the winter months. The key is to not over-fertilize. For most of our lawns, the small bag is enough for a full fall application. Extra fertilizer just ends up in the lakes. Follow label instructions closely, and don't forget cleanup!

2. Aerate

Aerating your lawn helps your grass set stronger roots by ensuring the roots don't suffocate. Additionally, the holes you poke help draw water deeper into the topsoil so that it can absorb more rainfall and keep runoff from ending up in the lake. When done just prior to ground-freeze, aeration and frost action are a great one-two punch to help break up the hardpan that develops in the top few inches of soil that prevents percolation, or deep absorption of rainfall. Aeration will also lead to a greener, more drought-resistant stand of grass.

3. Rake leaves and shred, compost, or bag

Leaves from small ornamental or shrub trees may be OK to shred and mulch as you mow. With aeration, in-place composting will help break down the clay soils and help absorption even more. If you have larger trees and need to rake, please rake away from the street. Mound does not provide leaf pick-up, so you need to shred, compost, or bag them for proper disposal. Pick your compost area carefully, please do not compost or dump lawn clippings or debris on city right of way, natural swales, or watercourses that pick up storm water - higher ground is best. Mound residents can also drop off leaves at The Mulch Store in Minnetrista just East of County Road 92 and Highway 7 for free with Mound ID.

4. Direct mowing discharge and raking away from the street and keep drains clear

Discharging grass clippings and leaves onto the street allows organic material to wash into our storm drains that flow to the lakes. If you see a drain covered over in leaves this fall, please lend a hand and gather those leaves, adding them to your own compost or bag clippings. Clogged drains contribute to localized flooding. It is unlawful to dump any household, automotive, or other hazardous waste into the storm drain as it conveys it directly to the lake. Rain only, please!!!



5. Clean up after your pets

Pet droppings left on the ground to wash away, or obliterated with a water blast from a garden hose instead of being picked up, end up in our storm drains and the lakes. Cleaning up after our pets at home, not just when in public places, is essential to keeping organics and bacteria that can pollute our lakes away from the storm water system.

6. Plant a tree

Despite all the talk about our leaves and careful clean-up of them, trees are the workhorses of clean water initiatives. When well-placed and selected for the conditions of the site, they do it all. Not only do their roots hold the soil in place, they also help keep it loose and absorbent. Trees draw water out of the soil to evaporation so that the ground can absorb more water - all keeping dirt and water out of the lake. A win-win anyway you look at it!

MFD Receives Grant from Firehouse Subs

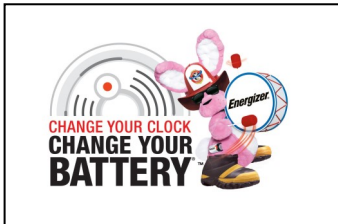
The Mound Fire Department (MFD) was recently awarded a grant in the amount of \$14,220 from Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation for the purchase of a Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) automated chest compression system. The MFD now has a new lifesaving tool called the AutoPulse System, which is a mechanical device designed to deliver consistent depth and effective rates of CPR on patients in sudden cardiac arrest.

Consistent CPR is difficult for even highly trained personal to sustain over time. On average, the MFD responds to 150 calls a year for heart related incidents. In a cardiac arrest incident, a Mound Firefighter would often ride in an ambulance with the patient to deliver CPR on the way to the emergency room. Mound firefighters are well trained and experts at CPR, however riding in an ambulance makes quality CPR very difficult. With the AutoPulse, a patient will no longer need to rely on hands-on manual compressions.



A BIG Thank You to Firehouse Subs and their commitment to support Public Safety!

Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery™!








Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery™! It could save your life!

Day light savings time ends on Sunday, November 5th and marks 30 years that Energizer® has partnered with the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) to keep families safe through the Change Your Clock Change Your Battery™ program to remind people to change batteries in all smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors when setting the clocks back for daylight saving time.

The National Fire Protection Association reports that 71% of smoke alarms which failed to operate had missing batteries, disconnected, or dead batteries. Partnering with *Energizer®*, we want to remind you to change your batteries in all of your connected home devices when you change your clocks back for Daylight Saving Time. The Mound Fire Department has free 9-volt batteries available. Quantities are limited. Beginning Monday, October 30th, 9-volt batteries can be picked up Monday through Friday between 8:00am and 4:30pm at the Mound Fire Station.

Mound Fire Accepting Applications for January Hire

-  Every firefighter plays a key role in the success of the fire department by protecting and saving lives and property through effective rescue and firefighter work!
-  Applicants must live in Mound, Minnetonka Beach, Minnetrista, Spring Park.
-  Firefighters are paid on-call and receive pay for fire response, training, and maintenance.
-  Firefighters have an excellent pension plan.
-  Applications can be found at moundfire.com or in person at the Mound Fire Station.

MOUND FIRE DEPARTMENT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



MOUND FIRE DEPARTMENT
2415 Wilshire Blvd, Mound, MN 55364
952-472-3555 moundfire.com



Critical Water Distribution Updates Completed

In September, the City put two new water mains in service to the Island Park area to address concerns by residents related to water pressure. This area had previously been served by a single 8-inch main and a local storage tank separate from the two main elevated towers. The addition of a 10-inch main under Seton Lake and a 16-inch main under the Cooks Bay Bridge increased the level of water service to Island Park residents that will increase flow volume available for in-home fixtures and fire protection as well as add system consistency and efficiency in flow volume to The Island. Removing the Island Park pumping station and storage tank along with improved circulation loops within the system will improve the freshness of water at the faucet and help reduce oxidation and staining common in our iron-rich city-wide water supply.

Island Park residents should inspect their in-home fixtures to ensure the increased flows have not resulted in drips or leaks in older fixtures, and homes with residential boost pumps may consider taking them off line.

Water Saving Tips

Did you know a running toilet can waste up to 8,000 gallons of water per day depending on the problem? Or a failed float-shutoff or flush flap allowing maximum refill flow can use up to 8,640 gallons per day (2 flush cycles per minute x 3 gallons/flush x 60 min/hour = 360 gallons per hour x 24 hours/day = 8640 gallons/day), which would add over \$100 per day to a "normal" bill?

Is Your Water Softener Pouring Money Into Your Floor Drain?

Your softener can use 30 -100 gallons of water per regeneration cycle depending on size and efficiency. Keeping the brine tank topped-off with salt reduces the water used each regeneration cycle up to 50%. Over-softening increases brine recycle frequency. Check the panel control for hardness. Mound water is 21-24 grains. Outdoor use of softened water adds demand to your softener increasing regeneration cycle frequency. Be sure your outside water is not treated.

Ways to Save Water Indoors

Check all faucets, pipes, and toilets for leaks. For toilets, drop a dye tablet or a teaspoon of food coloring (avoid red) in the tank. If color appears in the bowl after 15 minutes, you probably need to replace the "flapper" valve.

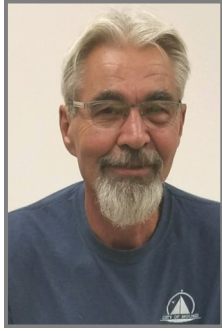


- * Install water saving showerheads and ultra-low-flush toilets.
- * Take shorter showers.
- * Never use your toilet as a wastebasket.
- * Turn off the water while brushing your teeth or shaving.
- * Defrost frozen food in the refrigerator.
- * Rinse vegetables in a full sink or pan of water.
- * Fully load your dishwasher.
- * Rinse dishes in a full sink or pan of water.
- * Wash full loads of clothes.

Ways to Save Water Outdoors

- * Don't over-water landscaping. Use drip irrigation systems.
- * Don't water on cool, rainy or windy days; set your controller, then turn it OFF until needed
- * Water potted plants from a can versus the hose - consider a rain barrel
- * Water your lawn or garden early in the morning or late in evening
- * Adjust sprinklers so that they don't water the sidewalk or street.
- * Equip all hoses with shut-off nozzles.
- * Plant drought-tolerant or low water-use plants and grasses.
- * Use shrubs and ground cover to reduce the amount of grass.
- * Place mulch around plants to reduce evaporation and discourage weeds.
- * Set mower blades one notch higher; longer grass = less evaporation.
- * Use a pool cover to cut down on water evaporation.
- * Use a bucket instead of a hose to wash your car.
- * Use a broom rather than a hose to clean sidewalks, driveways, loading docks and parking lots.





Best Wishes, Lee!

Lee Giese, Public Works Maintenance Worker, retired from the City of Mound on September 15th after more than 18 ½ years of dedicated service! Lee held positions in all three

Public Works divisions - streets, utilities and parks - and even accepted a special assignment serving the residents at Indian Knoll Manor during the time when the City managed the facility

in-house. Lee's quick wit and faithful service will be missed by his co-workers and we wish him much peace and happiness in a well deserved retirement! Thanks for everything, Lee. We'll miss you!

2040 Comprehensive Plan Open House



Comprehensive planning is a process that determines community goals and aspirations in terms of community development, primarily in the areas of transportation, utilities, land use, recreation, and housing.

The HKGi Consulting Team and City Staff have been collaborating with the Planning Commission, the Parks and Open Space Commission, and the City Council over the last few months to identify directions for the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Directions identified were based on community input, an analysis of existing conditions, and a general market analysis.

A community's land use is one of its most defining physical features, and in the case of Mound, is directly shaped by its natural resources and historical pattern of small residential lake lots, narrow street rights of way, and commons. Future

development and re-development is also shaped by regional and national market trends. The market analysis conducted found that the city will continue to attract residential growth and that there is interest in offering a variety of housing types to offer options for residents throughout their lives. The market analysis also concluded that the national trend of retail consolidation and increased online shopping will likely result in shrinking of the City's commercial footprint. The City will continue to be a location for day-to-day needs like groceries, pharmacy, eating and drinking, and professional and health services.

In looking to 2040, initial thoughts are that much of the community will retain a similar pattern as today. The city will continue to explore mixed use development along Shoreline Drive and Commerce Boulevard with the various mixed use areas having a different mix of commercial and

housing depending on its location. Future housing in the mixed-use areas is anticipated to be townhomes, row houses, apartments, and condominiums.

Parks, open space, and recreation play a critical role in the physical, social and natural environment of Mound. With the city's system generally in place, the focus for the future is on park maintenance and replacement, the addition of amenities, and the exploration of new facilities to respond to trends.

The next step in the planning process is to solicit community input on the plan's initial direction. Community members, property owners, and stakeholders are invited to attend an Open House to be held on Monday, November 20th from 6pm to 8pm at the Centennial Building Council Chambers located at 5341 Maywood Road. Everyone who has an interest in reviewing and discussing these ideas is welcome and encouraged to attend.



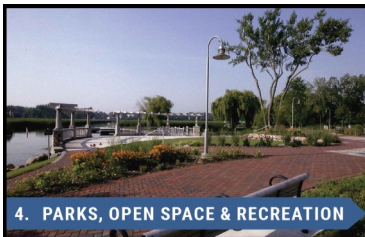
Monday,

November 20th

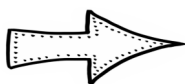
6pm - 8pm

Centennial Building

Council Chambers



Dakota Trail Restrooms



The City of Mound Public Restrooms located on the Dakota

Rail Trail by the Mound Transit Center will be closed for the winter

beginning November 1st through April 30th.

Tidbits

Mound Community Notification System

Sign up for Code RED on the City website or call 952-472-0603 to receive text messages

and/or emails regarding important community events: road closures, utility emergencies,

seasonal parking reminders, severe weather notifications, and special event news.

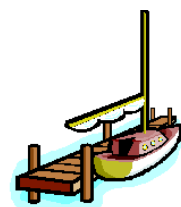


Dock Program Deadlines

Dock applications will be sent to existing license holders the last week of December. Wait list applications to

renew your spot or to sign up for the first time will be posted on the website. All applications, including

those for the Lost Lake Slips, must be returned between January 1, 2018 and February 28, 2018.



Homestead Market Value Exclusion

Residential property that is classified as "HOMESTEAD" may be eligible for a reduction in taxable market value, thereby reducing the property taxes payable. For a homestead valued at \$76,000 or less, the exclusion is 40 percent of market value,

yielding a maximum exclusion of \$30,400 at \$76,000 of market value. For a homestead valued between \$76,000 and \$413,800, the exclusion is \$30,400 minus nine percent of the valuation over \$76,000. For a homestead valued at \$413,800 or more,

there is no exclusion. The Proposed Property Tax Statement mailed in November should show the classification and exclusion amount. Questions on classification and valuation can be directed to the Assessor's Office at 952-472-0619.

"HOMESTEAD" PROPERTIES MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A REDUCTION IN TAXABLE MARKET VALUE = LOWER TAXES

Fall Cleanup - Leaf Dumping

Mound residents can bring grass clippings, milfoil, and leaves to the compost site called "The Mulch Store" located at 4275 Creekview Circle in

Minnetrista now through November 30th. This is a free service for Mound residents if you show a Mound ID. Additional services are available

for a fee. Hours are Monday thru Friday 8am to 5pm & Saturday 9am to 1pm. Call 952-446-1056 for more information.



Energy Assistance Program

To apply for help, call Community Action Partnership of Suburban Hennepin at 952-930-3541 or visit

the web site at capsh.org. CAPSH offers services to individuals through outreach, energy

assistance programs, food support, home ownership services, and financial counseling.



Utility Billing Options

Residents are strongly encouraged to sign-up for the **Auto Pay Plan**, where amounts can be deducted from your checking or savings account on the due

date or on the next business day if the 15th falls on a weekend or holiday. **E-bill** forms are available as well. Please help the City be more efficient by

signing up for these services! Find forms on our website at cityofmound.com or by calling Customer Service at 651-255-0972.





City of Mound
2415 Wilshire Blvd
Mound, MN 55364

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City Council Members



Mark Wegscheid, Mayor
612-581-6710
markwegscheid@cityofmound.com



Jeff Bergquist
612-968-1234
jeffbergquist@cityofmound.com



Kelli Gillispie
507-382-2191
kelligillispie@cityofmound.com



Jennifer Peterson
612-518-4003
jenniferpeterson@cityofmound.com



Ray Salazar
952-472-7383
raysalazar@cityofmound.com

Dates to Remember

Nov 7 Election Day
Nov 11 Veterans' Day
Nov 18 **NEW DATE** Tree Lighting - Harbor District
5:30pm - Santa, Bonfire, Music!!
Nov 23-24 Thanksgiving - City Offices Closed
Nov 24-Dec 3 23rd Annual Gillespie Holiday Boutique
Dec 9 Gillespie Santa's Hidden Treasures
Dec 18 Mound Westonka Blood Drive at OLL
Dec 22 City Offices Closed
Dec 25 Christmas Day - City Offices Closed
Dec 29 City Offices Closed
Jan 1 New Year's Day - City Offices Closed
Jan 15 MLK Jr. Day - City Offices Closed

ECRWSS

POSTAL CUSTOMER

Mound Meeting Calendar

- **City Council** meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 pm
- **HRA** meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month usually beginning at 6:55 pm on an as-needed basis
- **Planning Commission** meets the first Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 pm
- **Parks and Open Space Commission** meets the second Thursday of the month beginning at 7 pm on an as-needed basis
- **Docks and Commons Commission** meets the third Thursday of the month beginning at 7 pm on an as-needed basis

City Contacts

General Information	952-472-0600
Cityofmound.com	
Planning & Building	952-472-0607
Police Department	952-249-4700
After Hours Dispatch	952-258-5321
911 Emergency	
Public Works	952-472-0603
After Hours Dispatch	952-258-5321
Utility Billing	651-255-0972

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.