



City Contact



A Quarterly Publication from the City of Mound

Thank you to outgoing Mayor and City Council Members

The City wishes to recognize our outgoing Mayor and Council Members and thank them for their leadership and dedication in advancing the strategic priorities and objectives of the City of Mound.

Mayor Mark Wegscheid was appointed to the Council in 2013 when David Osmek was elected State Senator. He was elected Mayor in 2014 and again in 2016 and has devoted countless hours to listening to concerned citizens, prospective developers, conducting outreach to neighboring city officials, recognizing the contributions of community volunteers and launching the Running of the Bays Half Marathon and 5K to raise money for local causes. Mayor Wegscheid's business acumen and problem solving abilities were vital to ensuring the successful completion of multiple infrastructure projects, a transition in the City Manager position and paving the way for a long-term vision for financing the next generation of improvements.

Council Member Kelli Gillispie has served two terms as a City Council Member since first being elected in 2010. Council Member Gillispie has been an active elected official serving on multiple committees, including: Personnel Committee, Docks and Commons Commission, Budget and Finance Committee, Met Council Task Force, and the Development Committee. Council Member Gillispie is also very active in the community as a small business owner and one-time president of Westonka Community and Commerce. She has brought energy and insight to multiple issues facing the city as well as fostered partnerships throughout the community.

Council Member Jennifer Peterson was elected in 2014 and has served on the Planning Commission, Personnel Committee, and Suburban Rate Authority. As a parent to young children in the Westonka School District, Council Member Peterson has been able to provide essential insights as she kept her finger on the pulse of the community as we faced multiple issues. Council Member Peterson also ensured the council and staff maintained focus on preserving Mound's image and holding ourselves to higher standards as we worked through changes to the City Code for exterior storage requirements, nuisances, and updating our Comprehensive Plan.

NOV DEC JAN
2018-2019



Mayor
Mark Wegscheid

Inside this issue:

SEWER BACKUP INFO ELECTION RESULTS	2
CANDIDATE OPENINGS	3
DEVELOPMENT UPDATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY	4
MOUND FIRE NEWS	5
POLICE CHIEF'S CORNER RECYCLING CITY HOURS/CONTACTS	6
TIDBITS	7
CALENDARS	8

WESTONKA 35TH ANNUAL

TREE LIGHTING

AT VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA
MOUND HARBOR DISTRICT

NOVEMBER 17TH 4:00PM - 6:00PM

PRESENTED BY Westonka
Community & Commerce

HONEYCREST • MOUND • MANAUL • SPRING PARK

Please join us . . .

Horse Drawn Wagon Rides

Santa & Mrs. Claus

Local Choirs & Holiday Music

Cookies~Hot Chocolate~Cider~Coffee



Sewer Back-Ups:



What Every Homeowner Should Know

Sewer back-ups are a problem any resident may face. The city does regular and recurring maintenance on our mains and pumping stations to minimize the chance of a back-up; but, there is no action that can completely eliminate them. Claims for damages to homes caused by sewer back-ups probably lead to more misunderstanding than any other single kind of claim. Because many homeowner insurance policies exclude damage resulting from sewer back-ups, owners sometimes look to the city for help to pay their damages when claims are denied; however, the city is not automatically liable for damages from a back-up. The city is only liable for those damages if the back-up was caused by the city's negligence. "Rider" coverage and third party vendors can offer stand-alone coverages for damage from blockage or back-up and sewer repairs in private sewer laterals. It is possible for homeowners to protect themselves against this risk – but read the contracts carefully.

Minnesota courts have ruled that cities can never guarantee that sewers will never back up. A sewer system is not a closed system and things dumped into the sewer by any of its users can clog the system unexpectedly. Grease, rags, soils, diapers, and root balls dislodged from private sewer laterals are the most frequent culprits. Sewers can also back up if clear-water inflow or infiltration following storm events exceeds their flow capacities. There is no way the city can completely prevent these things from happening.

There are two basic tests to determine any city responsibility: 1. Were programs to prevent, detect, and respond to typical failure or blockage scenarios not in place, or in place but not followed? 2. A direct linkage between the blockage and the damages must be determined. Conversely, if a city exercises reasonable care inspecting and maintaining its sewer, and if the city responds to problems in a reasonable time, the city is not liable.

IF YOU ENCOUNTER A SEWER BACK-UP, PLEASE:

Call your plumber immediately. Also, call City Hall at 952-472-0603 if during normal working hours or the police department during non-working hours at 952-258-5321. City crews will respond and examine the sewer systems in the street, but not your connection to the street main or any plumbing within the home. If the problem is with the city sewer line, the city will take care of it. If the city sewer line is not the problem, the responding utility worker will advise you and your plumber on their findings.



The 2018 Election Results

The *unofficial* results for Mound City Council elections are in and City Council will canvass the results at the November 13th regular council meeting, when they become the *official* results. Ray Salazar, current City Council member, was elected as Mayor for a 2-year term and Sherrie Pugh and Phil Velsor were elected to serve as Council Members for 4-year terms.

See page 3 for more information on how the vacancy will be filled by Council appointment. The results of other races on the Mound ballot for the November 6th General Election can be found on the Minnesota Secretary of State's website at electionresults.sos.state.mn.us.

Candidates Sought for City Positions

Mound City Council ~ With the election of Ray Salazar as Mayor, it is anticipated that there will be a vacancy on the City Council once he takes the Oath of Office for Mayor on January 8, 2019. Therefore, the City is seeking applications from residents interested in being appointed to the City Council to complete Mr. Salazar's council member term which expires December 31, 2020. The City of Mound is a Statutory Class B City, having a City Council/City Manager form of government. An elected City Council sets the policy and overall direction for Mound. City employees, under the direction of the City Manager, carry out council decisions and provide day-to-day city services.

The City Council meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in regular session. Special meetings are called as needed and council members serve on one or more of the advisory commissions or council subcommittees. The City of Mound is accepting applications for appointment to the City Council through 12 noon on Tuesday, January 15th, with interviews to be held at the January 22nd regular council meeting with a possible second round of interviews at a special meeting tentatively set for Tuesday, January 29th. See **cityofmound.com** or call 952-472-0607 for an application.



Mound Planning Commission ~ The City of Mound is accepting applications for the Planning Commission for terms beginning January 1, 2019. The Planning Commission acts as a recommending body to the Mound City Council, meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. and periodically on the 3rd Tuesday as needed. The commission considers all matters pertaining to planning and zoning, including Mound redevelopment land use considerations. Call Sarah at 952-472-0604 for more info. See the **cityofmound.com** under "Government" or email jillnorlander@cityofmound.com for an application. Submittal deadline 12:00 p.m. on Monday, November 26, 2018. Interviews will be held as part of the December 3, 2018 Planning Commission meeting at 7:00 pm. Appointments will be made by the City Council at the December 11th council meeting. Prior candidates and participants are encouraged to apply. Candidates for the Planning Commission must be a resident of Mound.

Lake Minnetonka Conservation District ~ The Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (lmcd.org) is governed by a voluntary Board of Directors composed of one member appointed by the city councils of the 14 municipalities that border Lake Minnetonka. The board provides direction for the organization, develops policies and initiatives, and helps build partnerships to carry out the mission of preserving and enhancing the "Lake Minnetonka experience". Serving on the board is a great way to guide the future of Lake Minnetonka, helping to protect the lake, the communities, and all those who enjoy it. The LMCD meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month (excluding the second meeting in November and December) at Wayzata City Hall, 600 Rice Street, at 7:00 p.m. Candidates must be a resident of Mound to apply. The City of Mound is accepting applications for appointment to the LMCD Board as Mound's representative through 12 noon on Tuesday, December 4th. Interviews will be held at the December 11th final council meeting of the year at 7:00 pm. See **cityofmound.com** or email jillnorlander@cityofmound.com for an application.



CodeRED Community Notification

The CodeRED system serves as the backbone of the city's emergency planning and communications outreach to both citizens and staff. The system sends telephone calls, text messages, emails and posts to social media channels to inform residents of road closures, watermain breaks, policies under consideration by the City Council, seasonal parking reminders and more!

Registering for CodeRED is quick, easy, and FREE! Your CodeRED subscription is protected data and will not be sold. Sign-up today by visiting the city website and clicking the CodeRED icon or by contacting Field Officer Andy Drilling at fieldops@cityofmound.com or 952-472-0605.



Planning and Development Update

2040 Mound Comprehensive Plan Update

On March 13th the City Council approved Mound's 2040 Comprehensive Plan for distribution to adjacent and affected jurisdictions for a six-month review and comment period. The required six-month review period ended on Friday, September 28, 2018. The City received comments from the City of Minnetrista, Hennepin County, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and the Three Rivers Park District; additionally, the City of Orono and the Minnesota Department of Transportation sent responses that they had no official comment. The city also received comments from the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District and Metropolitan Council Environmental Services specifically on the Surface Water Management Plan, which is an appendix of the Comprehensive Plan. All comments have been reviewed and needed changes were included in the final draft of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. This draft went before the Mound Planning Commission for a public hearing on October 30th and must be authorized by the City Council for submission to the Metropolitan Council for review by December 31, 2018.

The link to the 2040 Comprehensive Plan can be found on the city's website at cityofmound.com. Questions or comments can be directed to Community Development Director Sarah Smith at sarahsmith@cityofmound.com or call her at 952-472-0604.

New Regulations that Prohibit Short-Term Home Rentals

As of August 5, 2018, short-term home rentals are prohibited in Mound. The prohibition means that it is unlawful to offer rental of a dwelling unit, or any other portion of a property, for short-term rental if it is in a residential zoning district. The new City Code Section 129-330 defines short-term rental as any temporary occupancy of a dwelling unit that is offered for rent for fewer than 30 consecutive days.

For those who may be affected by this new regulation, it should be noted that City Code Section 129-35(b) provides the ability for a property owner to lawfully use a property for a use prohibited by the code if that use was lawfully in existence prior to the effective date of an ordinance prohibiting the use. Such a lawful pre-existing use, called a nonconforming use, may continue at the size and manner existing prior to the prohibition, but it may not be expanded, enlarged, or intensified.

In response to requests from owners for information on whether they may continue to offer their homes for short-term rentals, the City has established a process for determining the extent of the nonconforming short-term rental use of a property. This process involves the property owner providing information and documentation about the short-term rental use of their property. The City will then review the information provided, check it against any other information available on the past use of the property, and then issue a letter identifying the permissible extent to which the property may be used for short-term rentals in the future.

Questions regarding short-term home rental use and determination and evaluation of lawful, nonconforming use that previously existed prior to the enactment of the new regulations that prohibit short-term home rental use may be directed to Community Development Director Sarah Smith by telephone at 952-472-0604 or by email at Sarahsmith@cityofmound.com.



What's new at the Westonka History Museum? Come in and see our new interpretive display about the Native American earthworks that are so important to the history of the Westonka area. And we're not just talking about Mound! We have lots of fun events and programs coming up this fall and winter. Be sure to check out our events schedule on the museum website westonkahistoricalsociety.com. Looking for something to do on a rainy day? Stop in at the museum any Saturday 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM and chat with one of our knowledgeable docents or dive into the archives in our research room. We have videos on all sorts

of local history subjects. Browse the revamped gift shop or play with some Tonka Toys. There's always something fun and interesting at the Westonka History Museum!



Retirees Honored

On Saturday, September 29, 2018 the Mound Fire Department hosted a retirement party to honor nine firefighters, spouses, and their families for their many years of dedicated service. Each of the honored firefighters retired from the fire department at various times since 2015.

The honored retirees were Assistant Chief Tony Myers with 20 years of service, Firefighter Mark Lee with 12 years of service, Firefighter Bruce "Gus" Gustafson with 20 years of service, Firefighter Derak Anding with 10 years of service, Captain Kevin Flaig with 17 years of service, Firefighter Roger Kryck with 20 years of service, Lieutenant Rich Rogers with 20 years of service, Firefighter Josh Clemons with 10 years of service, and Lieutenant John Larson with 20 years of service.

Cumulatively these hard working and dedicated individuals provided 149 years of exemplary service to the fire department, responded to 41,513 emergency calls, participated in 3,669 training drills, and attended 2,448 department meetings including many special events.

A **Big Thank You** to these firefighters for their many years of dedicated service!

Health and Safety Grant from FEMA Awarded

The Mound Fire Department (MFD) was recently awarded a federal grant in the amount of \$61,880 from the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program that focuses on firefighter health and safety.

The proceeds will be used to purchase and install a new 6000 PSI High Pressure Breathing Air System, including the air compressor and the cascade bottle fill station, for the self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) bottles that the firefighters wear on their back when entering a hazardous or smoky environment. The new system replaces an obsolete 25-year-old air compressor and is compliant with the current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Safety Standards.

The Mound Fire Department administrative staff frequently applies for grant funding to assist in budget relief, and has received \$336,712 from various grant sources since 2003!

Running of the Bays \$2,406 Donation

The Mound Fire Department and the Lakes Area Heart Safe Initiative recently received a donation of \$2,406.00 from proceeds raised at the Running of the Bays Half Marathon & 5K Race held on September 8th. The cash donation was used to purchase 2 Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) which have been positioned in public locations in our community as part of the Heart Safe Community initiative. An AED is an important tool to use in the event of a person having a sudden cardiac arrest. Effective CPR with chest compressions and an available AED can save a life! Thank you to the organizers and participants of the Running of Bays for making this possible!

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

Day light savings time ends on Sunday, November 4th and marks 31 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. This program was created to encourage 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, were disconnected, or had dead batteries. Partnering with *Energizer*®, we want to remind you to change your batteries in all of your smoke alarm and carbon monoxide devices when you change your clocks back for Daylight Saving Time. The Mound Fire Department has 9-volt batteries available for residents for free. Quantities supplied by *Energizer* are limited.



Beginning Monday, October 29th, 9-volt batteries can be picked up Monday through Friday between 8:00am and 4:30pm at the Mound Fire Station.

With the coming winter weather, we wanted to share some safe driving tips from our partners at AAA:

Police Chief's Corner



- * Have your vehicle inspected to ensure it is in condition for winter driving
- * Watch weather reports and conditions before driving in isolated areas and delay trip when poor weather is expected
- * If you are stuck in the snow, stay with your vehicle unless you are absolutely sure you are able to safely walk to nearby shelter
- * Accelerate and decelerate slowly for best traction
- * Reduce speeds when roads are wet, icy or snow covered
- * The normal safe distance between vehicles should double when roads are not clear and dry
- * If you don't need to travel during inclement weather or fail to have the confidence to drive safely, STAY HOME

Maximizing recyclables – what you need to know

Did you know milk, juice, wine and soup cartons are now accepted for recycling? Add them to your recycling container with other accepted recycling items such as plastic, paper, metal and glass!

Please note that it is imperative that recycled items are **Empty, Clean & Dry** as contaminated materials are not recyclable! Items should be placed individually in your single-sort container, never in a plastic bag or even a paper bag. Separate lids if they are not the same material. Another development is that some collected materials are recyclable, but lack end markets, or have a negative recycling value. Aluminum has the highest value, whereas it costs money to recycle glass and it is no longer accepted in some markets. Think about what packaging you are buying, in addition to the product itself to ensure the focus is on the overall sustainability.

Help keep unaccepted and problematic items out of the recycling process. These unrecyclable items include Styrofoam, plastic wrap, plastic bags, gift wrap and paper soiled with food, including paper plates, towels and pizza boxes. In addition, cans or bottles that held hazardous products (such as paint thinners and motor oil), glasses or dishes, and mirrors or window glass are not recyclable. Learn more at hennepin.us/recycling.



City Hall Hours

November 5th through April

Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

May through October

Monday - Thursday 7:30 am - 5 pm

Friday 7:30 am - 11:30 am

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

Tidbits

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, homeownership services and financial counseling.



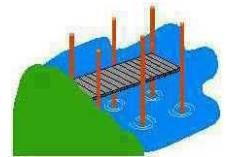
Homestead Market Value Exclusion

Homestead Market Value Exclusion – Residential property that is classified as “HOMESTEAD” may be eligible for a reduction to the 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 valuation exclusion. The Proposed Property Tax Statement mailed in November should show the classification and exclusion amount, if applicable. Questions on classification and valuation can be directed to the Hennepin County Assessor’s Office at 952-472-0619.



Dock Program

Dock Program 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, 2019 and February 28, 2019.



Grass Clippings, Milfoil,

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 your driver’s license. Additional services are available for a fee. Hours are Monday–Friday 8am–5pm & Saturday 9am–1pm. Call 952-446-1056 for more information.



Utility Billing Options

Customers 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.



Dakota Rail Trail

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.





City of Mound
2415 Wilshire Blvd
Mound, MN 55364

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

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

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



Harbor
Wine & Spirits

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



**"The Very Best
Service, Selection and
Holiday Gifts"**



Nov 12 Veterans' Day - City Offices Closed
Nov 13 Mound Fire Auxiliary Fall Bingo
Nov 17 Downtown Tree Lighting
Nov 22/23 Thanksgiving - City Offices Closed
Dec 24/25 Christmas - City Offices Closed
Dec 31/Jan 1 New Years - City Offices Closed
Jan 21 M L King Day - City Offices Closed

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.