A Quarterly Publication from the City of Mound

Feb/Mar/Apr • 2023

City Calendar

Important Dates

February 10

Rare Whiskey Release Sale

February 20

President's Day - City Offices Closed

February 28

Dock License Renewal & Waitlist Application Deadline

March 12

Daylight Savings Time

March 24 - 31

Westonka Schools Spring Break

April 26

Assessor's Open Book 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.

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 am humbled to be writing my first "Message from the Mayor". Since November, I have been busy working on the transition and I appreciate all of the support I've received from city staff. I want to acknowledge the residents that stepped up to fill essential election judge roles for the primary and general elections. I also want to congratulate Council member Pugh and Council member McEnaney on their election and look forward to working with them, as well as Council member Larson and recently appointed Council member Castellano.

Mound's Mission

The City's current mission is as follows: *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.

As your Mayor, I am committed to fulfilling this mission by working with my fellow council members, staff, community partners and our residents to develop a vision for our town that takes advantage of all the beauty and amenities the area has to offer, supports reinvestment in our properties and businesses and most importantly builds a greater sense of community and citizen involvement. I am very excited about Mound's potential and being entrusted to help further our common goals!

Continue reading on page 2.

Thank You to Our City Volunteers

The City of Mound will be hosting an event to recognize our current elected and appointed officials who volunteer their time and talents, including our Mayor and City Council, Planning Commissioners, Parks and Open Spaces Commissioners, Docks & Commons Commissioners and our representative on the board of the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District. Special thanks and recognition is planned for those who have recently stepped down as well. Invites have been mailed and RSVPs are requested by Friday, February 17 to catherinepausche@cityofmound.com.

What's Inside

2023 Budget Summary -Governmental Funds Firefighter of the Year Award

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Special Recognition

Congratulations to Harbor Wine & Spirits Manager Ron Gust and the entire team at our municipal liquor store for being the #1 performing municipal liquor store operation in the Twin Cities Metro area based on net profit margin in 2021! Our store outperformed much larger operations by their commitment to providing the best possible customer service and selection of wine, beer and spirits around!

A sincere thank you to Scotty B's Restaurant for being such a strong supporter of our community for over 32 years! Owners Scott Bjorlin and Scott Price reinvested in Mound by becoming a critical anchor in the new Mound Marketplace in 2003 and have continued to give back generously to our community partners and volunteer organizations who do so much to help others. Congratulations on running such a successful business for all these years; we will all miss the great food and company! I will personally miss the "Scotty B's Favorite" dish.

A special welcome is extended to Casa Amigos Mexican Restaurant who have moved into "Scotty B's" location. On behalf of Mound, we wish them all the best and much success!

Up & Coming Issues

I have been actively involved in the water treatment discussions since joining the Council in January of 2021, just as this issue was brought to light. Much discovery and study has taken place since then, most recently that resulted in the engineering cost estimate of a water treatment plant increasing from \$24M to \$36M due to inflation, supply chain, and market trends which would essentially double our outstanding debt. Therefore, this project is only feasible with assistance from the State of Minnesota.

We are actively working with Senator Kelly Morrison and Representative Andrew Myers who are both supportive of Mound's need for a water treatment plant. We won't know the outcome of the State's bonding bill until the end of the legislative session in May; but now is the time for all of us to directly engage our elected representatives to help them justify our request and the corresponding hardship while it works through Committee and full Chamber hearings and voting procedures.

Make sure your voice is heard by emailing, sending a letter, or making a phone call, or better yet do all 3! Contact Senator Kelly Morrison via email at sen.kelly. morrison@senate.mn or phone at 651-296-9261 and Representative Andrew Meyers via email at rep.Andrew.Myers@house.mn.gov or phone at 612-615-8444.

I am excited for the new year, new ideas and new members on the Council! I wish you all a joyful and successful 2023!



I am committed to fulfilling Mound's mission by working with my fellow council members, staff, community partners and our residents to develop a vision for our town that takes advantage of all the beauty and amenities the area has to offer.





Respectfully,

Jason R. Holt.

Mayor, City of Mound

Common Crimes in the Community & How to Avoid Them



Property Crime

Property crime is an ongoing issue in our community. It is important for residents and businesses to remain vigilant. Remember to secure your homes, cars, garages, outbuildings and boats. Don't leave items of value or alcohol visible. Simple things like lighting your property, keeping sight lines open, and having someone pick up packages or ship them to a place you will be at during the day will help combat property crime.

For more information or to have a custom crime prevention analysis of your home or business, please contact Investigator Jay McCoy at 952 249 4700.



Digital Scams

Scams via phone, email or other digital media are becoming more common. If it seems too good to be true, it is! Very often, scammers will try to engage in a business transaction of some sort. A common one to watch for right now includes the suspect sending a check to the victim who then cashes the check. The money is immediately transferred multiple times before anything can be done. The local "victim" won't be out anything, but the check has been stolen or somehow forged, and someone else has been victimized. If someone is willing to pay more than fair value for goods or services, it's a scam.

For more information on scams please contact Investigator Kyle Kirschner at 952 249 4700.

New Program for High School Students

The police department is creating a new cadet program for high school aged kids who are interested in a career in law enforcement. This is a tool to combat the problem of a lack of police officer candidates and will be used to recruit the next generation of police officers. We anticipate volunteer and paid opportunities as the cadet transitions from high school to college and beyond. We also hope to offer some scholarships to help students pay for post-secondary education. For more information contact Sgt. Tim Sonnek at 952 249 4700.

Winter Parking Restrictions & Emergency Alerts

No overnight parking between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. November 15 - April 15 and no vehicle can be parked in any one place for a continuous 24-hour period to allow for thorough and efficient snow plowing and spring sweeping. Violators will be towed at the owner's expense. **Questions? Call the Orono Police Department at 952 249 4700.**

Sign up for Rave Mobile Safety Community Notification System! The system sends telephone calls, text messages, emails (based on user preferences) 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 RAVE is quick, easy, and FREE! Your RAVE subscription is protected data and will not be sold. **See cityofmound.com for details or call Field Officer Andy Drilling at 952 472 0605 to register.**

Canoe & Kayak Storage Racks

Spots are available at racks located in Avalon Park, Carlson Park, Centerview Park, and Twin Park in the Highlands. If you or a neighbor are interested in applying for a license, please contact Kevin Kelly at 952 -472-0613.

Cost: Mound Residents \$65 / Non-Residents \$90 per season.

Dock Program Applications are Due February 28

Applications to renew or apply to be on the Mound Dock Program Waitlist are available at **www.cityofmound.com/docks-commons-program**. Dock license renewals and waitlist applications are all due on or before Tuesday, February 28 th .

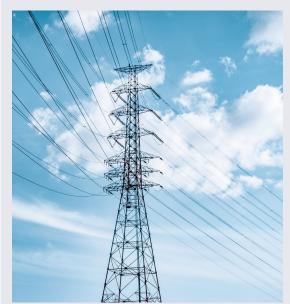
Questions? Call Kevin Kelly at 952 472 0613 or email asc@cityofmound.com.

Online Building Permits are Now Available!

Our partners at MNSPECT have been providing building official and inspection services for Mound for many years. In 2022, online permitting was implemented to increase the efficiency and transparency of the building permit process.

Any questions should be directed to MNSPECT at 952 442 7520 or moundinfo@mnspect.com

What to Know about Mound Utility Providers

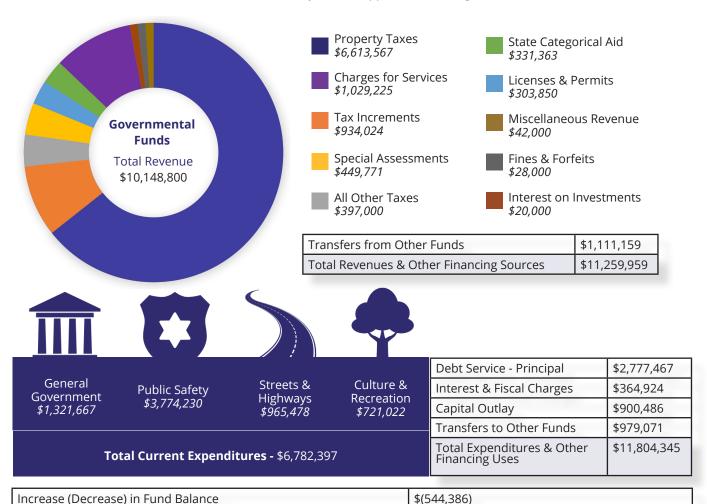


City Hall often gets general inquiries as to why we don't have more competition for certain services. While the City of Mound has franchise agreements with Xcel Energy (electric), CenterPoint Energy (gas), and Mediacom (Cable TV), the franchise agreements per state statute have to do with giving these entities permission to operate, repair and maintain facilities in, on, over, under, and across the public rights of ways and public grounds. Municipalities have no say over the prices charged, oversite of which is vested in the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission who regulate rates and service quality for energy and landline telephone services. Similarly, municipalities may elect to license tree trimmers and garbage haulers, but only to ensure they are properly insured and pay a license fee to help contribute to the maintenance of our city streets, not to regulate rates.

The City is encouraged by more service providers entering our market for home internet and share concern with our residents when there is consolidation and reduced competition in things like garbage hauling, but we do not endorse or regulate any provider. This free market system leaves it to up to the individuals to shop for the best rates and quality based on their needs and the City encourages people to do so on a periodic basis to keep a pulse on changes in the market and pricing.

City of Mound 2023 Summary Budget

The purpose of this report is to provide summary 2023 budget information concerning the City of Mound Governmental Funds to interested citizens. The budget is published in accordance with Minn. Stat. 471.6965. This budget is a summary document only; the complete budget may be examined at Mound City Hall, 2415 Wilshire Boulevard, Mound, MN or is available online. The City Council approved this budget on December 13, 2022.



Now Seeking Planning Commissioner Applicants

Net Unrealized Gain from Investments in 2022

The Planning Commission is a nine-member advisory commission responsible for review and recommendation of land use and subdivision applications as well as other planning and zoning related matters. Regular meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of every month with a second meeting reserved for the third Tuesday of the month. Serving on a commission is a great introduction to local government!

\$60,533

Applications to fill the remainder of Planning Commissioner Kevin Castellano's term ending December 31, 2024 are now available by calling 952-472-0603 or at **www.cityofmound.com**.

Applications are due Friday, March 3rd and applicants must be available for interviews at the Tuesday, March 21 st Planning Commission meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m.



Michael Jabs Receives Firefighter of the Year Award for 2022

The recipient of this award is determined by a nomination and evaluation process. Current Mound firefighters vote for staff members who have had an outstanding and consistent job performance. Criteria includes: Level of participation, involvement, and contribution to the department, number of responses to emergency fire and rescue call-outs, participation in/ leading of department training sessions and public relations activities. Michael Jabs has been a volunteer with the department since October 2020. His dedication, day to day job performance and participation in all fire department activities has earned him this honor. Congratulations, Michael!

Tyler Boos Hired as Probationary Firefighter

Tyler Boos was hired as a probationary firefighter on August 1, 2022. Tyler is currently attending the required classes to become certified in Firefighter I and II which brings the number of active firefighters back up to 39, which makes an outstanding response team! The MFD is always interested in talking to prospective members! Check out our website at **www.moundfire.com** or call 952 472 3555 with questions.

New Heavy Duty Rescue Pumper Truck Has Been Added to the MFD Fleet!



This new truck will become our "1st Out Engine" on fire related calls which amounts to more than 100 responses per year and replaces an obsolete 1996 pumper. Thanks to Assistant Chief of Operations Mike McCarville, who along with the rest of the truck committee, spent numerous hours evaluating our fire protection needs and existing apparatus capabilities to identify the best, most cost-effective option, which is the focus of our apparatus replacement plan. Look for this new truck to be placed in service in June or July of 2023, just as the department is celebrating its centennial!



Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries!

When you change your clocks for Daylight Savings Time on March 12, remember to also change the batteries in smoke and Carbon Monoxide alarms. It is recommended to have one in every bedroom, or directly outside each sleeping area, and on each level of the home, including the basement. Carbon Monoxide (CO) is known as the "Invisible Killer" because it is odorless, colorless and deadly! CO kills an estimated 400 Americans each year, so be sure to take precautions, including not leaving a vehicle running inside the garage, making sure dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace vents are clear of snow build-up, gas and charcoal grills and generators are only used outside away from windows, doors and vent openings.



Rain Barrel Sales & Clean Water Education

This spring the city of Mound is teaming up with the Harrisons Bay Association and Bolton & Menk to offer rain barrels for sale. These rain barrels are made of recycled milk bottles and reduce the amount of stormwater run-off into our lake which carries pollutants and provides an estimated 1,400 gallons of rainwater for use in gardening which is better, natural water for your plants and saves our precious water resources.

Supplies of rain barrels are limited! The ordering starts in March but you are able to sign up early using this QR code. People on the list will be sent early ordering priority. The cost of the rain barrels is estimated at \$100. All orders will receive a \$10 discount from Bolton & Menk and residents of Mound will receive another \$20 discount, bringing the total to around \$70 per rain barrel.



Along with distributing these rain barrels, an educational event will be held at Veteran's Memorial Park (next to Parking Ramp) on Saturday, June 3rd from 8am - 12:30 pm. We'll have a demonstration rain barrel so you can see how to install it and information on how to maintain it. Learn how to landscape your yard to keep polluted run-off out of the creeks and lakes. Questions? Contact harrisonsbayassoc@gmail.com or visit www.harrisonsbay.org.

Rare Bourbon Release and Anniversary Sale at Harbor Wine & Spirits

Harbor Wine & Spirits has been voted Best of the West Lakes every year from 2014 to 2022 and was recognized as having the #1 highest net profit margin of Minnesota municipal liquor stores in 2021, up from #3 in 2020! This is thanks to our amazing customers and their patronage and our team looks forward to serving you and contributing to property tax relief again in 2023! Please join us to celebrate at our February 10 Rare Bourbon Release & Anniversary Sale & Mound-Westonka Rotary Fundraiser where you will enjoy 15% off all beer, wine, spirits, seltzers. Register for the Rare Bourbon/Bottle Event in the store until 6:00 p.m. and then head to the Gillespie Center for the viewing of bottles and the drawing of registrations for the opportunity to purchase one of the bottles beginning at 7:00 p.m. This event broke records last year so don't miss out!!

Go to www.harborwinespirits.com for the list of rare Bourbons/bottles & full event details!

Subscribe to Receive Home Delivery of the The Laker Pioneer

Many local newspapers have turned to the USPS to deliver their papers but local residents must subscribe to get this free service. While the Laker Pioneer is also available at select retail locations and City Hall, home delivery is the best option. Local newspapers are the backbone of our democracy and are here to promote pride and support of our community, service organizations and awesome schools!

To Subscribe:

Call (763) 712-3544, visit www.hometownsource.com/laker_pioneer/ or email servicecenter@ecm- inc.com



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Meet the Council



Mayor Jason R. Holt

- **6**12 703 6738
- jasonholt@cityofmound.com



Sherrie Pugh

- 612 518 0287
- sherriepugh@cityofmound.com



Kathy McEnaney

- **6**12 655 2514
- kathymcenaney@cityofmound.com



Paula Larson

- 952 334 7911
- paulalarson@cityofmound.com



Kevin Castellano

- **6**12 749 7070
- kevincastellano@cityofmound.com

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.



Harbor Wine & Spirits Annual

Rare Bottle Release

Anniversary Sale & Fundraiser

15% off all beer, wine & spirits (excluding rare bottles)

Friday, February 10, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. www.harborwinespirits.com

Contact Us

General Information

952 472 0600

cityofmound.com

Planning & Building

952 472 0603

952 249 4700

Police Department

952 258 5321

After Hours Dispatch Emergency

Q 9-1-1

Public Works

After Hours Dispatch

952 472 0603

952 258 5321

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.