

CITY CONTACT



***A Quarterly Publication
from the City of Mound***

**AUG SEP OCT
2016**

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.

Mayor's Message

Dear Neighbors,

The face of Mound, what is that exactly? I suppose the answer will vary for each individual. To many it means the appearance of our town as reflected by how our private properties are maintained which ultimately makes up the community as a whole. It's kind of like those pictures you see, when you look up close, you only see a couple dots, but when you back up and look at the whole thing, all those dots come together to make an image, and in this case, our community.

While there are many challenges we face as a city, a consistent topic is what I refer to as "the face of our city." The great majority of the community has a lot of pride in their home sweet home. They spend time mowing the yard, keeping their property free of unsightly debris and keeping storage to an acceptable level; while others, well, not so much.

As with everything, there is a happy medium, and no one is asking for every yard to look like you live in a gated community for the famous, but the goal is to set a reasonable standard respectful of our community's "at-the-lake" origins. With that being said, this topic has been on the City Council's radar for some time and I know it causes a good deal of frustration for many of you.

The Council has recently reviewed an administrative fine process that would allow the City to fine individuals who do not comply with the City Code. While on the surface this sounds like an easy fix to some of our more challenging scenarios, there are complications that were enough to give the Council pause and take time to evaluate more options. The options being explored might result in a combination of several plans, but it remains a high priority of the Council.

In the meantime, I would ask that we have patience and respect for our neighbors. If your neighbor's yard is less than desirable, try having a conversation with them. I know that can be difficult sometimes and if that is the case, you can always call City Hall to speak with the Field Officer who can look into the case to see if there is a code violation that needs to be addressed. The City follows a complaints-based enforcement policy that strikes a good balance between rigid formulas, ordinances, and the unique characteristics of our Community; but this also means the staff is not going to actively solve an issue unless it is identified by you. So let us know when our help is needed.

On the other hand, if your neighbor's yard is clean, tidy, and has an acceptable amount of storage, you may want to look at your own yard and reflect on how you compare to your neighborhood. Offering patience and respect to our neighbors goes a long way for both sides, the face of the community and your own neighborhood.

I hope you are all enjoying the summer!

Respectfully,

Mark Wegscheid



Mayor Wegscheid



The 2016 Election Season is Here!

The Primary Election will be held on August 9 with the General Election on November 8.

The Primary Election on August 9 will only have one office on the ballot, the race for the Minnesota Supreme Court Associate Justice 6.

Judicial Offices
Supreme Court
Associate Justice 6 Vote for One
<input type="radio"/> Natalie Hudson Incumbent
<input type="radio"/> Michelle L. MacDonald
<input type="radio"/> Craig Foss

The General Election on November 8th will have the Municipal offices for Mayor and two City Council seats, in addition to Federal and State Offices. The Mayor’s office is a two-year term and City Council Member is a four-year term. If you are interested in running for a municipal office, the candidate filing period begins on August 2, and ends at 5:00 p.m. on August 16. The cost to file is \$2.00, with application materials available at City Hall.

Absentee Voting

Absentee Voting for the General Election begins on September 23. Residents who wish to vote absentee are encouraged to do so via mail by contacting Hennepin County Elections directly at (612) 348-5151 for an application or you can fill out your absentee ballot application on line at www.hennepin.us/residents/elections/absentee-voting. In person absentee voting is also available at City Hall.

If you are new to Mound or if you haven’t voted in over four years, you may need to re-register to vote. Registering to vote prior to Election Day makes voting a quicker and easier process. You can register online at <https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/VoterRegistration> or pick up a voter registration application at Mound City Hall.

Interested in being an Election Judge? The City is looking for Election Judges to serve at one of the four precincts in the City for both the Primary and General Election this year. If you would like further information, please contact Kevin at (952) 472-0613 or at asc@cityofmound.com.



Night to Unite ~~ August 2, 2016

Orono has been a strong partner in the Annual Night to Unite program. Sponsored by the Minnesota Crime Prevention Association, AAA of MN/ Iowa, and local law enforcement. Night to Unite is a time to celebrate and strengthen neighborhoods and communities.

On Night to Unite, residents across Minnesota are asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights, and spend the evening outside with neighbors. Many neighborhoods host block parties and cookouts, and our Police and Fire Departments are available to join in these events.

Night to Unite is Minnesota’s largest crime prevention event. The fact is that neighborhoods where neighbors look out for each other are safer.

Join neighbors across Mound on Tuesday, August 2, 2016. It’s a great opportunity for residents to band together, enjoy a summer evening, and strengthen relationships.

If you plan on hosting a block party, please register early with the Orono Police Department. Early registration will guarantee a visit from the Orono Police Department and Mound Fire Department. To register, please contact Patrol Officer Mike Fournier at 952-249-4731 for more information.



Mayor's Award for Excellence in Civic Engagement



3rd Quarter, 2016

Kim Phan

The Mayor's Award for Excellence in Civic Engagement was started with several purposes in mind. One is recognition, the people highlighted in these awards are humble and not looking for attention but deserve recognition. Another reason is simply to share the good in our community in hopes of handing inspiration to others. It is a small effort to remind people that, in spite of the ten o'clock news, the world is a great place and it is filled with many wonderful people doing good every day, especially right here in Mound.

A few months ago, my jacket needed a tailor's love. My wife said that Kim Phan at Magic Tailor and Cleaners was a really talented tailor and suggested I go see her. In casual conversations with other people over the following weeks, Kim's name kept coming up. Every time it came up, it was followed by an example of how she had donated her skills to help a group or someone in the community.

When the fire department had an event requiring all firefighters to wear their uniforms, they discovered they had been slightly neglected and were in need of repair. The Fire Chief brought the uniforms to Kim for repair. Kim poured over the uniforms, and the Chief and all the fire department volunteers were able to attend the event and proudly represent the Mound Fire Department wearing their finest. Not only did Kim do great work in a short time frame, she refused to charge the department for her services. The Orono Police Department and Westonka School District can also share similar stories that reflect Kim's generosity in the donation of her time and talents.

I asked Kim why she donates her talent to help the community. She softly laughed as though the answer was ridiculously obvious. In Kim's sweet little voice, and through a big smile, she spoke four simple words "to share the happiness."

Kim said she does not always have time to attend school events, so she shows support to the parents and faculty by periodically donating her tailoring skills to help the children's groups at school that occasionally need it. She feels indebted to the community for their kindness and patronage because it allows her to provide for her children, Tiffany and Brian.

Please don't rush into Magic Tailor and Cleaners looking for free services, but if you should find yourself in need of her services and you are drawn to her store, please remember how she has quietly been a supporter of our community for many years and let her know she is appreciated.

Kim's comment "to share the happiness" will stay with me forever.

The above statements are just a few of the reasons why Kim Phan is the next recipient of the Mayor's Award for Excellence in Civic Engagement. You can learn more about Kim Phan in an upcoming edition of the Laker.

From the community to you Kim, thank you!

Kim can be reached at Magic Tailor and Cleaners at (952) 472-0837



ADOPT A GREEN SPACE



Adopt a Green Space is a partnership between the City of Mound and Mound residents. The program encourages groups and individuals to commit to the beautification of one of the City's green spaces such as a park, beach, flower box, or trail.

Anyone can adopt a green space. It is a great activity for community groups, clubs, churches, businesses, families, neighborhoods, and individuals.



To learn more about the Adopt A Green Space program contact Mary at 952-472-0603 or email admin@cityofmound.com.

"The greatest service which can be rendered any country is to add a useful plant to its culture." - Thomas Jefferson

HYDRANT FLUSHING

Q. Why is the City flushing hydrants? **A.** The goal of the program is to ensure water quality is properly maintained in the City's water distribution lines. Flushing is a process by which water is moved through a water pipe at high velocity so that a scouring action is created. Water is then discharged through a hydrant which, in turn, removes any material buildup from the pipe. The material removed from this process is harmless and requires no special treatment. Use of this flushing technique is critical to the maintenance of water quality and your private water system. This type of program is widely used by other cities and has resulted in few complaints. Complaints about water quality are monitored, so please notify the City of your concerns.

Q. How will I be affected? **A.** Typically all neighborhoods are flushed during a two week period, two times each year, May and September. These dates are published in The Laker. Water service should not be interrupted during this time. Flushing is conducted between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Select hydrants are opened for water pipe flushing and the residents on that block may experience discolored water or a drop in water pressure. If you have no water pressure, please notify City Hall at 952-472-0600 as soon as possible.

Q. What do I do if I am experiencing discolored water? **A.** Should a yellow, brown, or reddish tint appear in the water, do not be alarmed. **Do not** do laundry for about two hours. After that time, run your **cold** water for a few minutes to make sure the water is clear. Try to refrain from using hot water until your cold water is clear. When the cold water runs clear, you may resume normal water use. Tinted water use for drinking, bathing, and watering plants is not harmful. The City encourages residents to invest in water filters and water softeners that help to mitigate the effects of minerals in water.

Q. What can I do if I washed clothes and they are now discolored? **A.** To remove rust from clothing, use a formula of 4 teaspoons cream of tartar to 1 pint of clear water and include in your wash water. There are also products available commercially to remove the discoloration from clothing.

SPRINKLER RESTRICTIONS IN EFFECT

Just a reminder that, per Mound City Code 610.50, Subd 12, sprinkling restrictions are in effect May 15 to September 1 each year. Properties with even-numbered addresses may sprinkle only on days with even-numbered dates. Properties with odd-numbered addresses may sprinkle only on days with odd-numbered dates. A one (1) month exception from the odd/even sprinkling restriction may be granted for newly planted sod, grass, or landscaping upon registering for exemption and approval by the Public Works Superintendent. Other exemptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Questions? Call City Hall at 952-472-0600.

Westonka History Museum ~ ~ ~ a Destination in 2016!

One hundred visitors celebrated the Grand Re-Opening of the expanded displays on Saturday, June 4 at our location in the Centennial Building, 5341 Maywood Road in Mound.

Have you seen the 3-D display of Lake Minnetonka burial mounds? Or watched any of the 70+ history videos, now available on-site and on-line? Tour groups have seen these displays, and more! Do you have a group which might enjoy a history tour?

The collections continue to grow, with donations monthly of Tonka trucks, high school yearbooks, and residents' family treasures. The museum is open Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and history talks take place one Saturday a month from 11 a.m. to noon at Lake Minnetonka Shores in Spring Park.

The 4th Annual House of Moy Dinner joint fundraiser of the Westonka Historical Society and the Gillespie Center will be held Saturday, September 17. Tickets go on sale August 10, for seating at 4:30, 5:30, and 6:30. This event always sells out!! For more information, call 952-472-9800 or find us on Facebook and on our website at westonkahistoricalsociety.org.



Does the financial burden of the gap left between medical bills and Medicare keep you or a loved one from getting critical medical care needed to stay healthy? Stop worrying, there's a solution! Let Senior Partners Care (SPC) help you. SPC is a statewide program, which began in 1973, that helps low to moderate income Medicare beneficiaries limit their out of pocket medical expenses.

SPC has partnered with many of the major healthcare systems and clinics who agree to accept Medicare as full payment on Medicare covered services for SPC members.



Senior Community Services

Senior Partners Care members must be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B, cannot have a supplemental medical insurance policy (though they can have a Part D Drug only policy), are not on Medical Assistance, and meet our program's financial guidelines: \$1,961.00 in gross income per month for a single person and \$2,655.00 per month for a couple, and liquid assets of under \$48,500 per household regardless of size. This excludes a house you live in and one car.

For program details and applications call (952) 767-0665 or visit www.seniorcommunity.org/programs.



The City wishes to thank the Westonka Jaycees for their generous donation of \$18,000 to be used to improve the amenities in our parks. Thanks also go to Carbone's and Al and Alma's for their participation in the pull-tab games. The Jaycee's donation comes directly from pull-tabs sold at those locations.

The Jaycees are a community organization that raises funds through charitable gambling and other fundraising events all for the benefit of the communities in which they reside. Please support their causes!





Tidbits



A Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event will be held by Hennepin County in Shorewood October 13-15 at their Public Works facility, 2420 Smithtown Road, Shorewood. See www.hennepin.us/residents for more information.

Utility Billing customers are encouraged to visit the city website for an application to sign up for the Utility Billing Automatic Payment plan, E-bill, and other valuable information!

Mound City Council meetings may be viewed on cable television or on your computer. Mound meetings have recently moved to Channel 20. You can find the schedule at www.lmcc-tv.org, as well as links to the meetings that are "on demand."

Grass clippings, milfoil, and leaves may be taken to the compost site located at 4275 Creekview Circle in Minnetrista, now through November. This is free for Mound residents if you show your driver's license. Additional services are available for a fee. Hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. & Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 952-446-1056 for more information.

Attention Multiple Slip Holders - All watercraft must be removed by October 15, 2016. In order to manage the removal of the multiple slip docks, the City requires all boats to be removed by October 15th of each year. Failure to do so can lead to fines and possible impounding of watercraft. Thank you for your cooperation.

Looking for a another way to volunteer?

Donate your time to **WeCAB** or **WeCAN!**

WeCAB (Community Area Busing) drivers provide rides to medical appointments, shopping, and church. Volunteer dispatchers are also needed. **WeCAN** (Western Communities Action Network) provides support programs such as emergency assistance, Meals-on-Wheels, and a Mobile Market food shelf.



1-844-743-3932



952-472-0742

Welcome!



David Rahn has been hired as the Dock Inspector for the 2016 boating season. David comes with a wealth of knowledge in code enforcement and wanted to use his passion for Lake Minnetonka in a new way.

Dock inspections are conducted to ensure compliance with the dock program requirements contained in Chapter 78 of the Mound City Code. Welcome, David!



Harbor
Wine & Spirits

(952) 472-0648

**2135 Commerce Blvd.
Mound, MN 55364**

"The Very Best Service & Selection Westonka Has To Offer"



ORONO POLICE DEPARTMENT



State Farm Safe Driving Grant

Cody Christenson and Collin Carlson, State Farm Representatives, presented a grant check in the amount of \$16,660 to the Orono Police Department in recognition of their efforts on behalf of the Highway 12 Safety Coalition. The grant will fund the purchase of a speed trailer and mobile message board. Police Chief Farniok stated the speed trailer and message board will be used by the Highway 12 Coalition and other communities along the Highway 12 corridor. Local schools will also share in using this new equipment.

Highway 12 Barrier Project

MNDot will be erecting a center barrier on the Highway 12 bypass through Orono. The work is tentatively scheduled to begin the first week of September. The project is expected to take place over two weekends, with night-time closures. Project updates and closures will be published on the Orono website at www.ci.orono.mn.us.

Contact us

2730 Kelley Parkway, Orono, MN 55356
952-249-4700



MOUND FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OPEN HOUSE Thursday, October 13th

Mark your calendars for The Mound Fire Department Open House on Thursday, October 13, 2016 from 6:00pm-8:00pm at the Mound Fire Station. We'll have hands-on activities, including fire displays, fire truck rides and more. This will be a family fun event for all ages!

National Fire Prevention Week is observed in the United States and Canada the week in which October 9th falls. In the United States, the first presidential proclamation of Fire Prevention Week was made in 1925 by President Calvin Coolidge. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) continues to be the international sponsor of the week.



Learn Hands-On CPR and AED

DATE: Thursday, August 25, 2016

TIME: 7:00pm-8:30pm

WHERE: Mound Fire Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd

RSVP: by August 19th - Ages 15+
moundfire@moundfire.com or 952-472-3555

**Training is offered by the
Lakes Area HEARTSafe Group at no cost!**



The Mound Fire Department recently put Rescue #43, a 2016 Chevrolet Suburban, into service. This is the first truck sent out for most medical fire calls, which occur about 275 times per year.

This truck is fully equipped to handle most medical and personal injury calls while providing greater efficiency and cost savings for the department.

City of Mound
2415 Wilshire Boulevard
Mound, MN 55364
952-472-0600
www.cityofmound.com

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

ECRWSS

POSTAL CUSTOMER



**Summer Fun For Pets
& Their People
Saturday
August 6, 2016
9 am to 1 pm**

Westonka Community & Commerce announces the 6th Annual "Dog Days Westonka" event and invites all animal-lovers and their pets to attend. A great day for a great cause! **The event is free but a pet food donation is requested.** Pet food donation boxes will be located at local sponsor locations around town prior to the event and at the main tent on event day.

**Pet Expo & Parade
Blessing of the Animals
Dog Agility Demonstration
Cutest Puppy Contest
"Splash for Cash" Longest Jump**

Mound Meeting Calendar

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

Dates To Remember

Aug 2 Night to Unite!
Aug 9 Primary Election - VOTE!
Sep 5 Labor Day - City Offices Closed
Oct 10 Columbus Day
Oct 31 Halloween
Nov 8 General Election - VOTE!

City Hall Seasonal Hours

May through October
Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.