

# CITY CONTACT



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

**NOV DEC JAN  
2016/17**

*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.*

## **Redevelopment is Alive and Well in Mound!**

### **Indian Knoll Manor Revitalization**

Aeon, a leading nonprofit developer, owner and manager of high-quality affordable apartments and townhomes, serves more than 4,500 people in the Twin Cities area. For 30 years, Aeon has been committed to helping people create a home in a safe, secure environment and connect to the community around them. Aeon will take over ownership of Indian Knoll Manor at 2020 Commerce Boulevard in November. Construction to renovate the existing building and begin construction of 10 new townhomes on the adjacent site is expected to begin immediately. See more at [aeonmn.org](http://aeonmn.org).



### **Serenity Hill on Halsted Bay**

At its September 27, 2016 meeting, the City Council approved a rezoning and comprehensive plan amendment request, subject to conditions, for the "Serenity Hill on Halsted Bay" project proposed for the property at 6639 Bartlett Boulevard. The project, which includes construction of a 10-unit, senior condominium building in Mound, is part of a larger development project in Minnetrista that includes five additional condominium buildings. The applications were submitted by D. J. Andersen Design Group and Winsted Investments LLC. It is anticipated that the Major Subdivision-Preliminary Plat and related land use requests for Serenity Hill on Halsted Bay will be reviewed by the Planning Commission and City Council meetings in October/November.



### **Harrison Bay Senior Living**

At its July 11, 2016 meeting, the City Council approved the Major Subdivision-Preliminary Plat and land use applications for the "Harrison Bay Senior Living" project proposed for the property at 1861 Commerce Boulevard (former Anthony's Floral site). The project includes a 72-unit, senior assisted-living, memory care, and rental housing facility. The developer is Trident Development LLC and project is expected to begin after completion of the Major Subdivision-Final Plat process.

The property will be managed by Tealwood Care Centers, Inc. and will feature beautiful outdoor spaces and views and elegant community spaces for social events and relaxation.



# Winter Season Snow Removal Tips.....

In preparation for the upcoming winter season, the City of Mound is providing snow removal tips and driver etiquette. The City of Mound plows approximately 41 miles of streets and roads and is asking for everyone's cooperation, so that snow removal takes place in a timely manner.

The time required to clear snow and ice from roads varies depending on the following conditions:

- Snow Storm Intensity and Duration
- Water Content of Snow
- Temperature
- Traffic Conditions
- Time of Day



Because of these variables, the City may not be able to plow or salt roads at the same time each day or, on occasion, even during the same day of the storm.

## **Resident, Business Owner, and Snow Plowing Contractor Responsibilities**

- REMEMBER it is unlawful to push or throw snow onto or across roadways.
- Your snow must be deposited on your own property; it is unlawful to put snow on any public or private property or public right-of-way.
- Ask permission if you wish to place snow on a neighbor property. Upset property owners usually say, "If only they would have asked, I would have said yes".
- Trash carts should be placed in the driveway, 5 feet behind the front of the snow berm to minimize the possibility of being knocked over. Trash carts knocked over are the resident's responsibility.
- It is the resident's responsibility to remove the snow berm left at the end of their driveway from street plowing.
- **If you have an Emergency, CALL" 911".**



## **What Can You do to Help?**

- **Winter parking restrictions** are from Nov 15 to Apr 15, with no on-street parking 2am-6am.
- Do not attempt to stop a snowplow or obstruct its path. Plows must maintain speed for maximum efficiency.
- When approaching a plow from the rear, travel a safe distance behind the plow, allowing for scattering of salt and abrupt movements.
- Use EXTREME caution when passing snow removal equipment. Before you pass, please honk your horn and flash your lights to alert the operator you intend to pass.
- Equipment operators often work long hours under trying conditions. PLEASE be courteous and friendly as you drive around them. Help them Help YOU.
- Be patient. Be assured that during a snow storm, every reasonable effort will be made to keep roadways open. All available personnel will be on the road during major snow storms.



If you have questions or need assistance please call 952-472-0603.

Looking for a another way to volunteer?

Donate your time to  or  !!

**WeCAB** (Community Area Busing) drivers provide rides to medical appointments, shopping, and church. Volunteer dispatchers are also needed. Call 1-844-743-3932.

**WeCAN** (Western Communities Action Network) provides support programs such as emergency assistance, Meals-on-Wheels, and a Mobile Market food shelf. Call 952-472-0742.

## Planning Commissioner Candidates Sought to Fill Openings

The Mound Planning Commission currently has member openings. The Commission acts as a recommending body to the City Council, meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm and periodically on the 3rd Tuesday as needed, and considers all matters pertaining to planning and zoning, including Mound redevelopment land use considerations. Call Sarah at 952-472-0604 for more info. For an application see the city website "Government" tab or email [jillnorlander@cityofmound.com](mailto:jillnorlander@cityofmound.com) for an application. Submittal deadline is Monday, November 21, 2016 at 11:00 am. Interviews are Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at 7:00 pm. You must be available for the interview to be considered. Appointments will be made by the City Council at the December 13th Council Meeting. Prior candidates and participants are encouraged to apply. Candidate must be a resident of Mound.

**The City of Mound wishes to thank each of the following outgoing public servants for many hours of donated time and talent.**

Planning Commissioner Douglas Gawtry from 2011 to 2016  
Planning Commissioner Bill Stone from 2014 to 2016  
Planning Commissioner Pete Wiechert from 2011 to 2016  
Parks Commissioner Gina Nettle from 2012 to 2016  
City Council Member Heidi Gesch 2009 to 2016

**WE**   
**VOLUNTEERS**

## Employee Recognition

Congratulations and thanks to each of the following employees for their dedication and service, all of whom celebrated a significant employment anniversary with the city in 2016.

### 30 Years

Scott Kivisto - Public Works - Sanitary Sewer Department

### 20 Years

Daniel Grady - Public Works - Parks Department  
Frank Heitz - Public Works - Streets Department

### 15 Years

Jill Norlander - Planning & Inspections  
Sarah Smith - Community Development Director

### 10 Years

Ron Gust - Assistant Liquor Store Manager  
Catherine Pausche - Finance Director/Clerk/  
Treasurer

## 2017 Preliminary Budget and Levy Approved



At the August 23, 2016 regular meeting, the City Council approved a (3%) decrease to the General Fund levy and an overall levy increase of 0.54%. The city continues to benefit from reductions in staffing, low inflation/fuel prices, and being exempted from sales tax in 2014. General Fund expenditures are essentially flat at 0.2%. Savings from combining the City Manager and Public Works Director position and \$85K less in capital spending helped to offset the contractual increase in the police contract of \$42K and other miscellaneous increases. It should be noted that the liquor fund should be able to increase its contribution to the General Fund from \$50K to \$125K, therefore, the transfer to the seal coat fund was increased accordingly. Now that all of the neighborhood streets have been completely reconstructed, the crack and seal coat projects will ensure their longevity into the distant future.

As of 2015, 17 of the city's 30 lift stations have been reconstructed. The city will also need to continue work on mitigating inflow and infiltration in both city owned and private lines and cleaning/improving the over 100 storm water outfalls that flow into area lakes. The update to the capital improvement plan (CIP) will be presented at the November 1st special meeting workshop with the final budget, levy, and utility rates to be approved at the December 13th regular meeting. The preliminary budget is available on the City's website and questions can be directed to the Finance Director at 952-472-0633 or via email at [catherinepausche@cityofmound.com](mailto:catherinepausche@cityofmound.com).

# MOUND FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS!

## 2016 E-ONE HP78 Ladder Truck replaces obsolete 1980 Sutphen Ladder

The Mound Fire Department will soon take delivery of Ladder #44, which is a new 2016 E-One HP 78' Ladder Truck. This truck replaces two obsolete vehicles that were recently sold, a 1984 Custom Ford Engine and a 1980 100' Sutphen Ladder Truck. The new E-One ladder is a multi-purpose truck that will serve as both an engine and a ladder truck. The new ladder truck was manufactured by E-One, which is a well-known fire truck manufacturer based in Ocala, Florida.

The ladder truck purchase was approved by the Mound Fire Commission and the Mound City Council as part of the ongoing program for Apparatus Replacement and the fire departments overall Capital Improvement Plan. The Mound Fire Department serves a total of 5 communities including: Mound, Minnetrista, Spring Park, Minnetonka Beach, and Shorewood.

To streamline the procurement process, Fire Chief Greg Pederson created a truck committee that was led by Assistant Chief of Operations Tony Myers. Other truck committee members included: Capt. Jason Maas, Lt. Jason Rice, Firefighter Paul Jolicoeur, and Firefighter Mike Foley. The committee spent numerous hours evaluating our fire protection needs and our existing apparatus capabilities. The truck committee mission was to determine what specific truck would be the best option and most cost efficient for our entire service area. The committee members were involved in every step of the process to design and purchase this truck. The truck committee did a magnificent job.

The 2016E-One HP 78 will be a welcomed addition to our fleet of fire apparatus. The truck will be our 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Engine/Ladder out the door on many fire calls. The truck is expected to be in service and respond to calls in October 2016. The cost of the new truck is \$731,000 and is expected to be in service in our communities for 20+ years.



Fire Chief Greg Pederson

## Recycling Matters!

Today, recycling is easier than ever for Mound residents with our single-sort system of co-mingling in one container. Recycling keeps materials that can be



reused from incinerators and landfills. Call Republic Services directly at 952-941-5174 to arrange for delivery of a free larger size or second container.

## Green Disposal Guide

Learn how to get rid of yard waste, mattresses, paint, or fluorescent light bulbs and more - responsibly. The online Green Disposal Guide, available at [hennepin.us/greendisposalguide](http://hennepin.us/greendisposalguide) also has tips for shopping smarter, living greener and creating less waste. Many of us are familiar with the common materials that can be recycled, including paper, cartons, glass, plastic, and metal cans; but, consumers may be surprised to learn that materials such as Styrofoam (TM), plastic wrap, aluminum foil, and microwaveable food trays can't be recycled and may wish to reduce consumption of such materials.



It's as simple as [hennepin.us/green-disposal-guide](http://hennepin.us/green-disposal-guide)



# ORONO POLICE DEPARTMENT



## Traffic Stops 101

For the majority of us, a traffic stop is the only contact we will ever have with law enforcement. A traffic stop almost always begins with a police car flashing its lights, and, perhaps, giving you a short siren blast. Knowing how to respond in an appropriate and positive manner is likely to lead to a successful interaction.

When a traffic stop is made, the officer has no idea how you will react. Will you attempt to harm them? Do you have a weapon in the vehicle? The officer must be prepared for all scenarios and take all necessary precautions to ensure that the traffic stop does not lead to harm. The goal of every officer is to make it home to their family that day!

What's the first thing to do when you happen to be stopped by an officer? Pull over to the curb and stop immediately. Turn off the car and put on the emergency brake. Next, follow these steps:

1. Cooperate! Respectfully and courteously respond to all requests made by the officer.
2. Have your window down and your hands visible at 10 and 2 on the steering wheel when the officer approaches the car. The officer will want your hands visible at all times during the stop.
3. If the traffic stop occurs at night, turn on your interior light.
4. Tell the officer if you need to get into the glove box to retrieve your insurance information or other documents.
5. Tell the officer if you are going to take your wallet out of your pocket and which pocket you will be reaching into.



Following these simple rules will help the officer respond positively.

Simple politeness and cooperation can be the difference between a citation and a warning. You are unlikely to win an argument with an officer on the side of the road. However, you do have an opportunity to voice your justification or reason for the violation. If you are issued a citation and wish to contest it, the time for an argument is in a court room with a judge making the final determination.



## WESTONKA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The object of the society shall be the collection, preservation, and dissemination of knowledge about the history of the Westonka area and to relate it to the history of the State of Minnesota. The overall goal is to provide a continuous history of the Westonka area for those who follow after us.

The museum is located at **5341 Maywood Road, Mound** and open for the public every Saturday from 10 am - 2 pm and by appointment. Please call **952-472-9800** to make an appointment to bring friends and family, Scout Troops, school groups, day cares, or just yourself in for a fun hour of storytelling. The museum has a suggested admission of \$5 per visitor for pre-arranged tours, or \$3 on Saturdays.

Collection highlights include Tonka Toys, The Andrews Sisters, Kevin Sorbo, Native American connections, the communities of Minnetrista, Mound, Spring Park, Navarre (Orono), and Minnetonka Beach, plus the Westonka area schools!

The museum also features a Research & History Videos Room, where they have over 70 history videos available for viewing, and a place to do research on the community - people, places, businesses, churches, cities, events, organizations, transportation, hotels, etc.

Please consider becoming a member of the historical society or making a tax deductible contribution to keep this important mission going! See **[westonkahistoricalsociety.org](http://westonkahistoricalsociety.org)** for more information.



# Did you Know?



## General Election - Tuesday, November 8, 2016

Exercise your right to vote! See [mnvotes.org](http://mnvotes.org) to find your polling place and see the election results the night of the election! Polls are open 7 am to 8 pm on Election Day.

**Utility Billing** 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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](http://cityofmound.com) or by calling Customer Service at 651-255-0972.

**Mound Community Notification System** - Sign up 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.

**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 if you show your driver's license. Additional services are available for a fee. Hours are Monday through Friday 8 am to 5 pm & Saturday 9 am to 1 pm. Call 952-446-1056 for more info.

**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.

**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** 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, 2017 and February 28, 2017.



Matt Radde joined the City of Mound as a Public Works Utility Worker on June 20, coming to us from the Metropolitan Council where he worked for 11 years as a sewer

service worker. Prior to that, Matt served in the Marine Corps and did two tours of duty in Iraq. Matt grew up in Excelsior and currently lives in Silver Lake. He enjoys bird hunting, working out, and pretty much anything having to do with the outdoors!

*Welcome!*

Mark Lemen joined the City of Mound as a Public Works Streets Worker on August 1, coming to us from the City of Orono, where he was in the Public Works Department. Originally from Ohio, near the Cincinnati area, Mark, his wife and three kids live in Buffalo, where Mark is a Buffalo High School varsity football coach. Most of his free time is spent ferrying the kids to various sporting events, but Mark tries to fit in some hunting and fishing when he can!





# MOUND FIRE DEPARTMENT HAPPENINGS



## ***FIREFIGHTERS DAN BERENT, JOE BROWN, MIKE CATTON & CARTER PALM COMPLETE ONE YEAR PROBATIONARY PERIOD***

Mound firefighters Dan Berent, Joe Brown, Mike Catton and Carter Palm have completed the training and attendance requirements necessary to become State Certified Firefighter I & II, Hazmat and First Responders, a requirement of all firefighters employed by the Mound Fire Department. All four firefighters have now successfully completed their one year probationary period with the Mound Fire Department. Congratulations to Dan, Joe, Mike and Carter on all of their hard work. They are a welcome addition to our fire department staff!



Dan Berent, Joe Brown, Mike Catton & Carter Palm

## ***MOUND FIRE DEPARTMENT HIRES TWO FIREFIGHTERS AS PROBIES***

The Mound Fire Department recently hired two new probationary firefighters, Ryan de Vereaux and Douglas Gawtry, on September 12, 2016. The hiring was in response to recent firefighter retirements, along with implementation of the department staffing goals, which allow us to continue to have a fully trained staff and provide excellent service to our residents. Are you interested in becoming a firefighter with the MFD? We are accepting applications now. Application forms can be found at [moundfire.com](http://moundfire.com) or stop by our office. Call 952-472-3555 with questions.



Doug Gawtry & Ryan de Vereaux

## ***IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!***

### ***CHANGE YOUR CLOCK, CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES™!***

Day light savings time ends on November 6<sup>th</sup> and marks 29 years that Energizer® has partnered with the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) to keep families safe through the Change Your Clock Change Your Batteries™ program. Every fall, Energizer and the IAFC work to remind people of the simple, life-saving habit of changing and testing the batteries in 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, disconnected, or dead batteries.



The Mound Fire Department has a limited amount of free 9-volt batteries available to the public beginning Monday, October 31st. Stop by the Mound Fire Station anytime Monday through Friday between 8:00am and 4:30pm to get your free 9-volt batteries.

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

**PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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MOUND, MN**

### City Council Members

- Mark Wegscheid, Mayor 612-581-6710  
markwegscheid@cityofmound.com
- Heidi Gesch 952-472-5508  
heidigesch@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

**City Hall Hours**  
November through April  
Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



**Harbor**  
Wine & Spirits

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



**“The Very Best  
Service, Selection and  
Holiday Gifts”**



- ### 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
  - **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

- ### Dates To Remember
- Nov 8 General Election - VOTE!
  - Nov 11 Veterans’ Day - City Offices Closed
  - Nov 17 Tree Lighting
  - Nov 24/25 Thanksgiving - City Offices Closed
  - Dec 23 City Offices Close at Noon
  - Dec 26 City Offices Closed
  - Dec 30 City Offices Close at Noon
  - Jan 2 City Offices Closed
  - Jan 16 Martin Luther King Jr Day - City Offices Closed