

~ things happening at City Hall ~

PARKING REMINDER

Just a reminder to please follow our parking ordinance. This helps keep our community safe, accessible, and enjoyable for everyone.

1. **General Parking Prohibition**. No motor vehicle shall be parked on any public street for more than 48 continuous hours.
2. **One of the following**: trailer, boat, recreational vehicle, or camper shall be allowed to be parked on any residential parcel provided it is not parked on a grass or surface composed of other plant material and is located behind the front yard building line. Any such item must be parked on a hard surface of a uniform nature that encompasses the entire length and width of the vehicle/boat/camper/trailer and not in the front yard.
3. **Winter Parking Restriction**. During the period of November 1st thru May 1st, no motor vehicle shall be parked on any City street during and/or after a snowfall, sleet or freezing rain where there has been any accumulation of snow, ice and similar debris until the street is cleared to its full width.
4. **Downtown Parking**. No parking is permitted year-round from the hours of 2 a.m. — 6 a.m. in the following areas:
 - ✓ Broadway from 4th Ave to 1st Ave;
 - ✓ 2nd Street from 4th Ave to 1st Ave;
 - ✓ 3rd Ave from Hwy 58 to the alley adjacent First Farmers and Merchants Bank;
 - ✓ 2nd Ave from Broadway to the alley adjacent to the Corner Bar.
5. **Impoundment and Citation**. The City's law enforcement agency is authorized to issue a citation for any motor vehicle parked in violation of the ordinance. If the vehicle is unoccupied it may be towed to a place of storage for safe keeping or impoundment. The City's law enforcement may request a private garage or towing service to tow the vehicle.
6. **Prohibition on Snow Removal from Private Property**. No person shall remove snow from private property and deposit the same on any public street or parking lot. Any snow deposited may be removed by the city and the cost of such removal shall be charged to the person in violation of this ordinance.
7. **Penalties**. Any person who violates the provision shall be guilty of a petty misdemeanor, and the costs of prosecution may be added. These offenses shall be cumulated daily during the snow season of November 1st of each year through May 1st of the successive year. Each day in which a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

WATER RATE INCREASE

At their December meeting, Council approved the 2026 fee schedule, which is now available in full on our website. One of the items reviewed was the water rate structure. Consistent with the recent adjustments to sewer rates, water rates have also been set three years in advance to help residents and the city plan accordingly. The approved water rates are as follows:

Base Rate - \$25.00			
	2026	2027	2028
1,000 to 4,000 Gallons	\$2.94/Gallon	\$3.09/Gallon	\$3.24/Gallon
4,001 and up Gallons	\$3.20/Gallon	\$3.36/Gallon	\$3.53/Gallon

AUTO PAYMENT FOR WATER-SEWER-GARBAGE BILL!

We are now able to accept ACH (auto bank deduction) for your Water-Sewer-Garbage bill from the city with **NO fees!** If you are interested in having your account set up for Automatic Payment, forms were sent with the bill last month and are available at City Hall and on the website. **The month we receive your authorization form, you will be setup for the next month's bill.** Make sure to pay the current month, so you are not past due on any payments. Also, if you have payment arrangements already set up using the online portal, make sure to stop that or you could have double payments. Payments are withdrawn on the 20th of each month.

LIMITATIONS OF SALT ON THE STREETS?

When the pavement temperature drops below 15° F the effectiveness of salt is decreased significantly. The minimum practical application range for salt is a pavement temperature of 15-20° F and above. While salt will melt snow and ice down to a pavement temperature of -6° F, it can melt over five times as much ice at 30° F as at 20° F. Public Works staff attempt to apply only the amount required for temperature, time and use. Too little and the roadway will refreeze, too much is a waste of money and resources.

SNOW PLOWING

This winter has certainly started more like a typical Minnesota winter. As with any snowfall in the city, our Public Works crew already has a plan in place to clear the streets. They start early, focus on making streets passable, and then return—if not the same day, then as time allows—to fine tune the clearing. Allowing them this time, with limited distractions, helps ensure they can work safely and effectively to clear the streets.

Empowering you with information that matters