

Deephaven News

Information for City Residents

www.cityofdeephaven.org

January, February and March 2004



reduced support from the State. Overall, Deephaven remains a City of which we all can be proud.

Best Wishes,
Mayor Tom L. Anderson



“Mayor’s Corner”

From all of us on the City Council and at City Hall, we hope your New Year is filled with Joy and Happiness. Now, just around the corner, is Spring time. That’s right, the days are getting longer and the potholes are starting to form. However, unlike the past, this time around the potholes will not be patched. This year, Minnetonka Blvd. will have a total overlay. I apologize in advance to those of you who have always considered the potholes to really be speed bumps in disguise but if we waited one more season, I would have had to install additional telephone lines at my home to accommodate the spring time ritual of “call the Mayor” to complain about the potholes!

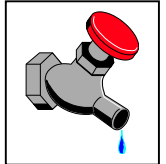
For those of you that travel past City Hall on occasion, you have probably noticed a lot of construction activity. As my father the house painter used to say “you can’t look it on”. The new East side fire station is under construction and should be ready for business in the Spring. Let’s all hope there isn’t any business. But in case there is we will be ready. Also, notice the new sand and salt shed just to the south of the trail. Public Works now has a first class building to store their equipment and supplies. Much thanks to our Fire Board representative Councilmember Skrede. He, with technical assistance from Councilmember Monson, did a terrific job representing the interests of the residents of Deephaven during this long process. We will have an excellent facility for the fire fighters to use in support of the communities of Deephaven, Greenwood, Excelsior, Tonka Bay and Shorewood. It came in way under budget!

Regarding taxes, Deephaven continues to have one of the lowest tax rates in the State of Minnesota. Once again we maintained our top fifty ranking out of 853 cities in terms of lowest city tax capacity rate. Although the property tax levy is scheduled to increase 5.8% due primarily to the added fire protection cost, the City’s share of your property taxes actually decreased by 1.45% from 20.113% in 2003 to 18.663% in 2004. This reflects the continued efficiency of your City Government. Our finances are in great shape unlike many other Cities in the State that have had to cut budgets and services to off-set

Water Rate Increase Planned for 2004

For the past twenty years, the City of Deephaven has had an agreement with the City of Minnetonka to provide water service to the residents of the Pines. As part of this agreement, Minnetonka required their water customers in the Pines to pay a \$15 per quarter trunk water charge for a period of twenty years. That twenty-year period is set to expire in January 2004.

On December 15, 2003, the Deephaven City Council passed an ordinance that will require a \$20 per quarter trunk water charge to those water customers in the Pines. The trunk water charge will be effective beginning in January 2004. The only difference between the old trunk water charge and the new charge is that those customers in the Pines will now be paying \$20 per quarter instead of \$15 per quarter and the trunk water charge will now be retained by the City of Deephaven rather than the City of Minnetonka. The reason for the trunk water charge is to provide sufficient revenue for the future repair and replacement of the water mains and fire hydrants in the Pines.



A Brief Word of Thanks & Farewell

On behalf of the City Council and Staff, we would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Barbara Sikorski for her 22 years and 3 months of service she has given to the City of Deephaven. Barb has given a lot of time, effort and devotion to residents of Deephaven. It is a rewarding, often frustrating, and almost always interesting job! We wish Barb and her family a bright and enjoyable future. Stop by City Hall and wish her the best on December 31st. This will be her last day at the office. Join us for cake and coffee.

We also would like to introduce you to Deborah Hicks who was just hired and is eagerly learning all there is to know about Deephaven. Stop in and welcome Deborah to our wonderful community.

Winter trail activities

The City will maintain the LRT trail for winter use from November 15 to March 31. Half the trail will be plowed for those who jog, walk or ride a bike. The other half will be left with snow for cross-country skiers.



Bus Stops

The City Council recently reviewed a request from Metro Transit for the installation of 28 new bus stop signs along Minnetonka Blvd. The Council declined their request with the concern that 28 new bus stop signs would be excessive and would only add to the proliferation of signs that already exists on Minnetonka Blvd. Instead, the Council offered to replace the existing bus stop signs that are currently located at Park Avenue, the bus shelter near Chowen's corner, the bus shelter near City Hall, and at the intersection of Minnetonka Blvd and Vine Hill Road.

If you are a regular patron of the Metro Transit bus system and are concerned that there is not a bus stop on Minnetonka Blvd. that is located a convenient distance from your home, please call City Hall at (952) 474-4755.

Waiting List For Boat Spaces

If you are currently on the waiting list for a dock slip, buoy, slide, shore space, street end slide or a canoe rack, the City will be sending you a letter in January requesting payment of a \$5.00 Administrative Fee for each waiting list that you are on and we will also be requesting a response to the following questions:

- ◆ Do you want to be considered for a sublet?
- ◆ Are you interested in participating in a joint lease arrangement with other permit holders?
- ◆ Do you currently use the launch ramp at Carson's Bay?
- ◆ Do you currently use the launch ramp at St. Louis Bay?
- ◆ Your email address?

Task Force Volunteers

Last fall, the City Council worked with a resident Task Force on various issues related to the City's boating resources including fees, term limits, the waiting list and the new dock proposal on St. Louis Bay. The Council is seeking further resident input in the New Year. If you would be interested in serving on such a Task Force, please call City Hall at (952) 474-4755.

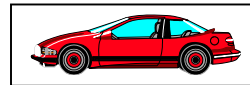


Christmas Tree Disposal

Waste Management will collect all real Christmas trees January 5th - 10th and January 19th - 23rd. Service will be on your normal collection day and is being provided at no additional charge. Trees collected as part of this program will be chipped and then used for compost. Please note that wreaths and flocked trees can not be composted. These should be set out with your regular garbage. To ensure that your tree is collected and composted, please:



- Remove all decorations and wire;
- Do not wrap it in a plastic bag, and
- Place the tree at the end of your driveway by 7 AM the day of your garbage collection. Trees set out too early may get buried by snow from passing snowplows, making it very difficult to free the tree from the snow.



Parking Alert!

No person may park or leave unattended any vehicle on any city street or city owned parking lot in the City after two or more inches of snow has fallen until the street has been completely plowed. The Police are authorized to remove any vehicles parked or left unattended in violation.

PLEASE NOTE

Council Meeting Dates Changed

The City Council will meet one time each in January and February. The January meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 7, 2004 at 7:00 PM. The February meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 2, at 7:00 PM. These changes are for these months only.

2004 Improvement Project	Est. Cost
Mill & Overlay Minnetonka Boulevard	374,000
Upgrade Thorpe & Village Park Ballfields	4,500
Repair East Side Tennis Courts at Thorpe Park	50,000
Sewer Main Televising	11,250
Sewer Main Repair	30,000
Dock & Slide Improvements	17,000

City property tax funds many services

At the 2004 tax rate, the owner of a \$250,000 home pays a total of \$2,919 in property taxes. Here's where your tax money ends up.

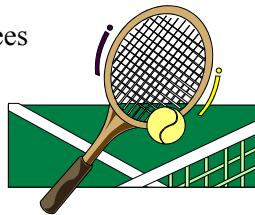
\$2,919 – Total property tax payment:

\$466.60 goes to the City of Deephaven



The City receives 18.664% of your property tax payment. A household with a home valued at \$250,000 pays about \$38.88 a month and receives services that can affect a family's safety and quality of life:

- 24-hour police and fire protection
- Prompt snowplowing of all city streets
- Flooding and resurfacing four outdoor ice rinks
- 24-hour emergency medical response (police are on the scene in the crucial minutes *before* the ambulance arrives)
- Office staffing to assist residents and answer questions
- Full-service parks with 10 tennis courts
- Six beaches
- Maintaining roads, park equipment and trails
- Street sweeping
- Care of public property trees
- Regular mowing of park lawns
- Maintaining street signs and streetlights



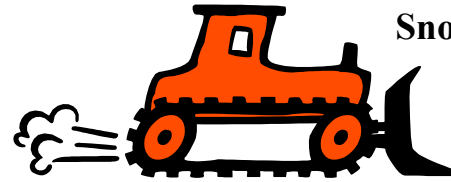
\$2,452 goes to other

government agencies

Minnetonka Schools and Hennepin County receive 78.710% of your property tax payment. Other agencies receiving property taxes are the Watershed District, Metropolitan Council, Mosquito Control District and vocational-technical schools.

Improvement Projects Planned for 2004

The only significant project planned for 2004 is the mill and overlay of Minnetonka Blvd. The portion of Minnetonka Blvd to be overlaid extends from the Minnetonka City border to the northeast to the intersection of Vine Hill Road and Ridgewood Road. The schedule of projects planned for 2004 include:



Snowplows are here!

Winter is upon us and we want to give you some information that will help us clear snow from your streets and make winter driving safer for all of us.

- Move your car off the street or from a city parking lot during or immediately after a snowfall of two or more inches. You may return your vehicle to the street or lot after it has been completely plowed. If you are in doubt about how much snow has or is falling, move your vehicle. The police are authorized to ticket vehicles parked in violation of this regulation.
- When driving behind a snowplow, stay back at least four car lengths. Snow dust from a snowplow can obstruct your vision while driving, creating a hazardous condition.
- If your yard experienced damage from a snowplow in the past, please place stakes about 20 - 25 feet apart just off the road edge to mark the location of your lawn.
- Do not allow your children or other children to play on snow banks next to the street.

Snowplow Damage

It is the Public Work's Department's goal to have the entire street system cleaned after a "typical" snowfall in approximately 10 hours, assuming a general plowing operation beginning at 4 AM and snowfall ending by 8AM.

The width of the street right-of-way is designed to provide room for snow storage, utilities, sidewalks and



other City uses. However, certain private items such as mailboxes, are often located within this area.

If the street or boulevard is damaged by a snowplow, City crews will repair it in the spring. If your mailbox is physically hit and damaged by a plow, the City will

repair or replace it immediately.

City personnel do not provide driveway cleaning. Possible exceptions are at the discretion of the Supervisor for emergency situations.

It is not possible to provide perfect conditions and minimize damage to mailboxes with the size and type of equipment the City operates. Therefore, the final cleaning adjacent to mailboxes is the responsibility of each resident.

and recycling out in plain view of the street by 7:00 AM!

If you have any questions regarding your service needs please call Waste Management at 952-890-1100.



Reserve Police Officer “C.E.R.T.”

The Deephaven Police Department is always looking for volunteers. The Deephaven Police Department has a variety of jobs for talented people wishing to donate some time to their community.

Soon the Deephaven Police Department will be starting a Community Emergency Response Team “CERT.” The CERT Team will be our first Reponse team for disasters such as storms, neighborhood medical, etc.

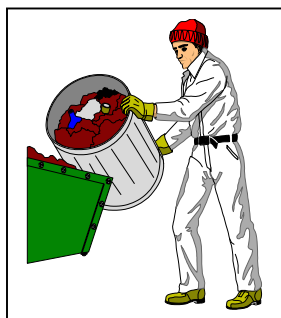
The Deephaven Police Department is receiving a grant to cover the cost of training and equipping volunteers to the Team. Interested men and women should contact Officer Matt Carns for more information.

SNOWMOBILE PROHIBITIONS

City Ordinance 705.03

prohibits the operation of snowmobiles under any of these circumstances:

- On a sidewalk or walkway provided or used for pedestrian traffic,
- On private property without the operator having in possession written consent from the property owner,
- On any public land or frozen waters including, but not limited to, school grounds, park property, playgrounds and recreational areas except for areas authorized for such use by proper authority when traversing to or from approved snowmobile areas by the shortest legal route,
- Between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., except to travel to or from a final destination without delay, and
- On any street except when traversing to or from an approved area by the shortest legal route.



Weekly Recycling & Garbage

If your collection day falls on Christmas Day and New Year’s Day, pick-up is one day later. Please put your garbage

Plastic Bag Recycling Collection Sites

“It’s in the Bag” collection bins can be found throughout the metropolitan area at all Twin Cities Byerly’s, Cub Foods, Lunds and Kowalski’s Markets.

Acceptable Materials Include:

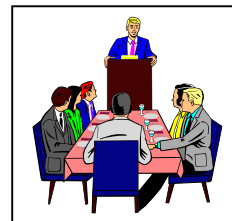
Plastic grocery bags, plastic dry cleaning bags, plastic newspaper bags, stretch wrap, plastic retail bags w/hard plastic or string handles removed.

Unacceptable Materials Include:

Sandwich bags or other plastic food packaging, bubble wrap and plastic bread bags.

Southshore Community Center

The center is open daily from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Noon meals are served at the center on



Monday, Tuesday and Friday. Reservations are needed two days in advance. To make a reservation call (952) 474-7635. Transportation is available by calling dial-a-ride at (952) 474-7441. The center is located at

5735 Country Club Road in Shorewood.

Rental of the Center

The Southshore Center has available for rent: rooms for meetings, parties, weddings and other special events. For more information call JoAnn Kvern at 952-541-1019.

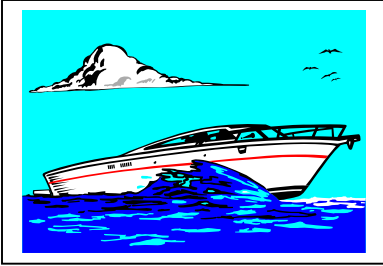
Your City Council:

Mayor Tom Anderson, Councilmembers Nancy Middleton, Kim Crockett, Paul Skrede and Jon Monson

Dana Young, City Administrator
Sandy Langley, City Clerk
Harlan Johnson, Police Chief
Jerry Hudlow, Public Works Foreman

The Deephaven City Council normally meets twice a month on the first and third Mondays at 7:00 PM the Council Chambers. The Planning Commission meets at 7:00 PM on the third Tuesday of each month. Residents are welcome to attend these meetings.

Marina Issues



City owned marina resources were a hot topic for your Council in 2003. While Deephaven offers many ways to enjoy Lake Minnetonka, the demand for docks, buoys, slides and canoe racks (called boat storage units or “BSU’s”) far exceeds the supply. What follows is a brief summary of Council actions, as well as topics under review. The Council has been ably assisted by the Boat Committee, a Task Force and hundreds of residents at several town hall meetings.

The Council amended the watercraft ordinance as follows:

- Residency requirement from May 15-Oct. 1; 60 day usage requirement increased to 90 days
- Residents are eligible for only one permit/BSU, except buoy permit holders*
- Residents are required to enter into a Mooring Lease Agreement (requires proof of boat residency and boat ownership)
- Allow joint leasing of a dock slip, buoy, shore space and slide by residents sharing a boat if both sign Mooring Lease
- Allow partial season leases so that several residents can share a BSU
- Charge a one-time Administrative Fee of \$5.00 for each waiting list (to be invoiced in 2004 for those currently on lists)
- BSU and Administrative Fees:

Boat Storage Unit	2003 Rate	2004 Rate
Dock Slip	\$400	\$500
Buoy	\$225	\$350
Shore Space	\$22/ft	\$30/ft
Slides & Street Slides	\$75	\$150
Canoe Racks	\$75	\$100
Administrative Fee	N/A	\$5
Per Diem Holdover Fee	N/A	\$25

The City staff will be implementing new procedures that should improve the administration of our marina resources (e.g. fill or sublet open spaces faster).

The Council will continue to look at the “big picture” to insure that the City is making the best use of our lakeshore; balancing the desire to get on the lake while protecting our natural resources, including the Main Beach. The Council does not plan to pursue the application for 24 additional docks south of the Main Beach.

The Council will also continue to consider such issues as *how to get sailors to buoys so as to free up slides for other residents, defining what type of craft belong at each BSU, what is a “seaworthy” boat, whether we have the right “mix” and location of BSU’s and how long residents should enjoy a city lease.