



Deephaven News

"Information for Residents"

Volume 1, Issue 30

January, February and March, 2013



Inside this Issue:

- P. 2 Improvement Projects
- P. 3 Platform Tennis
- P. 4 Board of Review Meeting

City of Deephaven
 20225 Cottagewood Rd.
 Deephaven, MN. 55331
 952.474.4755
www.cityofdeephaven.org



City Hall Hours:

September 4th to May 27th
 Monday to Friday 8am to 4:30pm
 Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays.

"Summer" Hours

May 28th to September 3rd
 Mon to Thurs 8am to 5pm
 Fridays 8am to 12noon
 Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays.



Skate Late Event! Friday, February 1st

Minnetonka Community Education is hosting the Third Annual "Skate Late Event" on

Friday, February 1, 2013
Deephaven Village Hall Ice Rink
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

The event will include music, food and fun for the entire community, including a Bonfire, DJ Music, Heated Tent, Concessions for Sale! Come join us!

Snowplows are here!

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

- ◆ Please move your car off the street or from a public parking lot during or immediately after a **snowfall of two or more inches**. You may return your vehicle to the street or parking lot after they have been completely plowed. If you are in doubt about how much snow has fallen or is falling, we would strongly recommend that you move your vehicle. The Police are authorized to ticket vehicles in violation of this requirement.
- ◆ 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 situation.
- ◆ If your yard has experienced damage from a snowplow in the past, **please place stakes about 20 feet apart just off the road edge to mark the location of your lawn**.
- ◆ Please **do not allow your children or other children to play on snow banks** next to the street.

Winter Trail Activities

The City will maintain the LRT trail through the City of Deephaven for winter use from November 15th to March 15th for those who wish to continue to use the trail through the winter months.



Christmas Tree Disposal

Waste Management will collect all real trees the week of December 31st and the week of January 14th. The pickup 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 used for compost. Please note that wreaths and flocked or artificial trees cannot be composted. These items should be set out with your regular garbage.

To ensure your tree is collected and composted, please:

- ◆ Remove all decorations and wire;
- ◆ Do NOT wrap the tree in a plastic bag; and
- ◆ Place the tree at the end of your driveway by 7:00 a.m. the day of your garbage collection. Trees set out too early may get buried from passing snowplows, making it very difficult to free the tree from the snow.



The owner of a \$625,000 home in Deephaven will pay a total of \$8,391 in property taxes in 2013. Here's where your tax money ends up.

\$1,222 goes to the City of Deephaven – The City receives 14.6% of your property tax payment. A household with a home valued at \$625,000 pays \$102 per month to the City for the following array of services:

- ◆ 24-hour police and fire protection
- ◆ Prompt snowplowing of all city streets
- ◆ Full-service parks with 8 tennis courts, 3 ball fields, 4 ice rinks & 7 playground structures
- ◆ Six beaches – 3 with lifeguard services
- ◆ Three public trails
- ◆ Street maintenance, boulevard maintenance, street sweeping & street lighting
- ◆ Park maintenance
- ◆ Public tree maintenance
- ◆ Deer management
- ◆ Building & zoning code enforcement
- ◆ Office staff to assist residents and answer questions
- ◆ Municipal, State & National Elections

\$3,143 goes to the Minnetonka School District – The School District receives 37.4% of your property tax payment for public education through the property tax levy and a voter approved school levy. A household with a home valued at \$625,000 pays about \$262 per month to the School District.

\$3,239 goes to Hennepin County – Hennepin County receives 38.6% of your property tax payment. A household with a home valued at \$625,000 pays about \$270 per month to Hennepin County.

\$787 goes to other agencies such as the Watershed District, Metropolitan Council, Mosquito Control, Hennepin County Parks, Met Transit Debt, the Park Museum, Hennepin County HRA, and the Railroad Authority – These agencies receive about 9.4% of your property tax statement. A household with a home valued at \$625,000 pays about \$65 per month to these various agencies.

In comparison with the other 854 cities and townships in Minnesota, Deephaven ranks as follows:

- 46th lowest tax capacity rate in 2003
- 32nd lowest tax capacity rate in 2004
- 34th lowest tax capacity rate in 2005
- 33rd lowest tax capacity rate in 2006 & 2007
- 26th lowest tax capacity rate in 2008
- 25th lowest tax capacity rate in 2009
- 22nd lowest tax capacity rate in 2010
- 29th lowest tax capacity rate in 2011
- 23rd lowest tax capacity rate in 2012

2013 Improvement Projects

The schedule of projects planned for 2013 include:

Improvement Projects	Est. Cost
Vine Hill Bridge Engineering & Approach Work	\$300,000
Sewer Main Cleaning & Televising	\$ 30,000
Sewer Main Manhole Repairs	\$ 20,000
Rutledge / Azure Phase II Storm Sewer Rehabilitation	<u>\$205,000</u>
Total	\$555,000

Rental Property & Utility and Garbage Payments

If you are currently renting your home, please be aware that the Deephaven City Code requires all delinquent water, sewer and garbage/recycling bills to be assessed to the property owner. It can come as an unpleasant surprise to a property owner to learn that an assessment will be placed against their property because their renter hasn't been paying their quarterly utility bills or garbage/recycling bills. If you are renting your home, we strongly recommend that you take into account the fact that the property owner is ultimately responsible for payment of utility and garbage bills.

Don't trash fluorescent bulbs

With the increased popularity of compact fluorescent bulbs comes the need to recycle old fluorescent bulbs. Mercury in the fluorescent bulbs makes bulbs hazardous in a landfill or incinerator.

Many hardware stores take old bulbs, and all types of bulbs may be recycled at Ikea in Bloomington or at the Hennepin County Recycling Centers, in Brooklyn Park or Bloomington.

More information is available at www.hennepin.us or 612-348-3777.



Deephaven’s sanitary sewer system was constructed, in large part, in the 1970’s. Now that the system is 40 years old, the system requires additional maintenance on both the public and private sewer lines to ensure that the system continues to function as expected.

The City of Deephaven is responsible for the maintenance of over 30 miles of sanitary sewer main, hundreds of manholes, and 12 lift stations. The sanitary sewer mains are typically 8 inch pipes made of varying materials.

Most of these mains are located under City streets, although there are a number of sewer mains located within public easements on private property.

To keep the sewer system in working order, the City performs many inspections and routine maintenance activities.

In general, the purpose of this work is to identify and eliminate areas where ground water is allowed to enter the sewer system (commonly known as inflow and infiltration or I & I) and to remove obstructions that could lead to a sewer back up. Maintenance activities performed by the City include:

- Daily monitoring of lift station control panels that have been installed to monitor the condition of pumps and electrical systems in each lift station
- Monthly inspections of lift station pumps and electrical systems
- Annual manhole inspections
- Televising of sanitary sewer mains at least once every seven years
- Jet cleaning of sanitary sewer mains at least once every seven years

Sewer repairs to correct deficiencies identified during routine inspections are scheduled as soon as practical.

Apart from the public sanitary sewer system, it is also a good idea for homeowners to consider occasional maintenance of the private sewer line that extends from the sewer main to your house. Private sewer lines are typically 4 to 6 inch pipes that, over time, can build up with grease or be penetrated by roots. To ensure that your service line stays free from build up and obstructions, it is recommended that you consider having your sewer service cleaned at least once every five years.

If you have any questions about the City’s sanitary sewer system or measures you should take as a homeowner to maintain your portion of the system, please contact City Hall at (952) 474-4755.

Platform Tennis Anyone?

What is platform tennis? Platform tennis is played on a raised court, one-half the size of a normal tennis court, with heavy-duty screens on all four sides so you can play the ball off the walls. It is kind of a cross between tennis and racquetball played with a “paddle”. It is mostly played in the winter with a partner (doubles) and is a very social game. Because of the smaller court and fence, you don’t have to be an Olympic athlete to play and have a great time.

Deephaven is one of the few municipalities in Minnesota with a publicly owned court. Deephaven has owned and operated a platform court ever since an old wooden court was first donated to the City by a resident of Rochester, Minnesota in 1979.

Located next to City Hall at Haralson Park, the first and only significant upgrade of the old court occurred in 2008 when an aluminum floor was installed to replace the old wooden flooring.

To our surprise and delight, the usage of the existing platform court increased dramatically following the installation of the aluminum flooring to where there are now 50-60 active players that play regularly through the winter months.



This was a strong indication to the City that platform tennis enthusiasts throughout our area were ready to embrace this sport as soon as the court was made more playable.

The platform court was substantially upgraded in 2012. Last January, the Deephaven Park Committee was notified that Lifetime Fitness in Eden Prairie had two used platform tennis courts that they were offering to anyone free of charge simply to remove the courts. The courts were inspected and it was immediately apparent that these two used courts were in significantly better condition than our existing 33-year old court.

The Park Committee then approached the Deephaven City Council last February with the proposal to remove our existing platform tennis court, replace it with the two used courts from Lifetime Fitness, and upgrade the two used courts as they were being reconstructed at Haralson Park in Deephaven. The Council approved the plan and further authorized the Park Committee to submit a grant application to the American Platform Tennis Association (APTA) to assist with the financing of this project. The APTA awarded a \$10,000 grant to the City of Deephaven last April to assist with the project. Shortly thereafter, local residents sponsored a platform tennis tournament last June & July, which raised another \$1,500 for this project. With a portion of the financing now in place, the City Council contracted with Total Platform Courts in the amount of \$55,000 to disassemble and reconstruct the used courts. The project began the week of October 22nd and was finally completed the week of November 26th.

If you would be interested in using the platform tennis court but don’t have any platform tennis paddles or balls, City Hall has a number of paddles that you can use free of charge. Platform balls are also available at a cost of \$5.36 each.

Board of Review Meeting scheduled for Monday, April 1 at 6:00 p.m.

When you review your property tax statements later this March, please note that your property tax is determined by four factors: the amount of money spent by each local taxing jurisdiction, the impact of the market value exclusion credit, the taxable market value of your property and your property classification.

The Deephaven Board of Review will address objections to the ***market value or property classification*** of your property on Monday, April 1st at 6:00 p.m. The Board's powers are limited to these two areas.

Steps to Appeal Your Property Value: What should you do if you believe the estimated market value of your property is higher than other comparable properties?

Step 1 – Meet with City Assessor Dan Distel. If you have reason to believe that the estimated market value of your property is higher than other comparable properties, we strongly recommend that your very first step should be to contact City Assessor Dan Distel at City Hall 952-474-4755 or at his Home Office 952-361-0566 to discuss this issue in greater detail. He may be able to answer your question without having to attend the Board of Review meeting.

Step 2 - If, after discussing this information with the assessor, you still feel you have good comparable sales and information to support an appeal, you should attend the Board of Review meeting on April 1st at 6:00 p.m. at Deephaven City Hall. Please remember that the property owner is responsible for presenting evidence to the Board as to why the market value as determined by the assessor is not fair and equitable.

Appeals at the April 1st Board of Review will be considered in the following order:

1. Those residents who have met with the Assessor but were unable to come to a mutual agreement on the estimated market value of your property.
 2. Those residents presenting their cases in advance of the meeting by letter or email.
 3. And lastly, those residents who have come directly to the board without advance notice or without contacting the assessor prior to the meeting.
- ◆ **Residents will be allowed five minutes to present their appeal to the Board.**
 - ◆ Residents will be notified by within three business days of the board's decision.
 - ◆ The board may decide to hold a reconvened meeting for the purpose of considering the appeals presented on April 1st. New appeals will not be heard at the reconvened meeting.

Snowplow Damage

The width of the street right-of-way is designed to provide room for snow storage, utilities, sidewalks and other public uses. However, certain private uses, such as mailboxes, are also often located in the right-of-way. If the street or grass boulevard is damaged by a snowplow, City crews will repair the damage in the spring. If your mailbox is physically hit and damaged by a plow, the City will repair or replace it immediately.

Please note, however, that the City will only repair those mailboxes or posts that were actually hit by the plow. It is not uncommon for posts to be damaged by snow or ice from the plow and it is the responsibility of the homeowner to ensure that their mailbox post is strong enough to withstand being hit periodically by snow and ice.

Unfortunately, it is not possible for the City crew to clear snow from around mailboxes with the size and type of equipment that the City operates to clear snow. The final cleaning around mailboxes is the responsibility of each resident.

City personnel do not clear private driveways nor do we intentionally plow more snow into your driveway than your neighbor. You may inadvertently receive more snow due to the angle of the plow blade or the angle of the street.



Solicitors, Peddlers, and Canvassers

Solicitors, peddlers and canvassers **are allowed** in Deephaven. For-profit sale of products or services requires a license from the city. Only licensed peddlers and solicitors will have a permit ID issued by the Deephaven Police Department. The city does not endorse any specific product or service by the issuing of this license.

Charitable organizations conducting door-to-door sales or solicitations do not need a license.

Every resident and business has the right to prohibit peddlers and solicitors from their property. If you post a sign on your home or business that prohibits solicitors, they are not permitted to approach your property or contact City Hall and your name and address will be included on the Do Not Solicit List.

If you have a complaint about a door-to-door salesperson or solicitors, immediately contact the Deephaven Police Department at 952-474-7555.

Snowmobile & ATV Prohibitions

Along with snowplows come snowmobiles and ATV's. If you are operating a snowmobile or ATV within the city limits, please be aware that Ordinance No. 705.03 prohibits the operation of snowmobiles and ATV's under any of the following circumstances:

- ◆ On a sidewalk or walkway used for pedestrian traffic,
- ◆ On private property without having in possession written consent from the property owner,
- ◆ On any public land or frozen waters including, but not limited to, school property, park property, public beaches, playgrounds and recreational areas except for areas authorized for such use (the Carson's Bay and St. Louis Bay boat launches, for example) when traveling to or from the approved snowmobile routes.
- ◆ Between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:30 a.m., except for travel to or from a final destination without delay, and
- ◆ On any street except when traveling to or from an approved area by the shortest legal route.

We thank you for your assistance in this matter.



Sidewalk Maintenance

Although we don't have many sidewalks in Deephaven, please remember that property owners with a public sidewalk abutting their property have the additional responsibility to ensure that all snow and ice is removed from the abutting public sidewalk 12 hours after the snow or other precipitation has stopped falling.

This is a thankless task so please take the time to occasionally thank your neighbors for their time and effort to maintain the public sidewalk during our long winters.



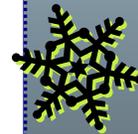
Warming House Hours

The warming house hours at both Village Park and Thorpe Park for the 2012—2013 season are as follows:



Monday—Fridays:	1:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.
Saturdays:	9:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m.
Sundays:	1:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.
School Holiday:	9:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve	9:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m.
New Year's Eve	9:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m.

Christmas Day and New Years Day
9:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m.



The warming houses will be open through February 17, 2013 or later if the weather permits.



Staff Milestones in 2012

Deephaven is very fortunate to be served by a talented and dedicated staff. Please join us in thanking the following employees for their valuable contributions to our community:

Over 10 years of service - Cory Johnson, Dana Young, Mary Courtney, Dick Jeurissen, Mark Westgard, Gus Karpas, Pat Thiede, Teresa Pendleton, and John Menzel.

Over 5 years of service - Matt Case, Randy Clay, Deborah Hicks, Shelley Souers, and Chris Whiteside.

Less than 5 years of service – David Klisczc, Joshua Heasley, Jeff Kask, and Eric Finnvik

Mayor's Corner

Thank you for the confidence you have shown in re-electing Keith and me. Thank you, also, for sending Steve Erickson to the Council through the write-in balloting process. I believe we have a good team in place and I am eager to get started on the New Year.

As Dana has stated, we have certified the levy for 2013. He has created a budget that will allow us to spend your money frugally without skimping on the services you have come to expect, and truly deserve. Thanks, Dana!

We are planning on replacing the bridge on Vine Hill Road this coming year. At this time, we are planning three lanes so we can accommodate a northbound left turn lane in addition to a north and southbound lane, but we will be having Public Comment periods as time progresses on the project in order to hear from you. This will be a big endeavor and will require some logistical creativity, but I am confident we can get the job done.

The golf clubs are in storage, but my platform tennis paddles are ready. Hope to see you on the new courts this winter. They look good, and according to some who have already used them ... the balls really bounce off the screens!

That's all I have at the moment. Happy New Year, my friends!

Paul

Please Note Changes to 2013 Council Meeting Dates

Due to conflicts with three holidays next year, the dates of three Council meetings have been changed as follows:

<u>Holiday</u>	<u>Original Meeting Date</u>	<u>New Meeting Date</u>
Martin Luther King Day	Monday, January 21 st	Cancelled
President's Day	Monday, February 18 th	Cancelled
Labor Day	Monday, September 2 nd	Tuesday, September 3 rd

City Hall Hours, "Summer Hours" May 28th to September 3rd

Monday to Thursday 8 to 5:00 / Friday 8 to Noon / Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays.

City Hall Hours, September 4th to May 27th

Monday to Friday 8 to 4:30 / Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays.

Your City Staff:

Dana Young, City Administrator

Mary Courtney, Deputy Clerk

Deborah Hicks, Utility Billing, Marina Operations

Gus Karpas, Zoning Coordinator

Teresa Pendleton, Building Permits

Cory Johnson, Police Chief

Pat Thiede, Police Admin Assistant

John Menzel, Public Works Foreman



City Office will be closed :

January 1, January 21, February 18, and March 29, 2013

Your City Council:

Mayor : Paul Skrede

Council members:

Keith Kask, John Wheaton

Darel Gustafson, Josh Hackney

Phone Numbers:

City Hall Administration & Public Works:

Front Desk: 952-474-4755

Fax: 952-474-1274

Police Non-Emergency: 952-474-7555

24-Hour Police Dispatch: 763-525-6210

The Deephaven City Council normally meets twice a month on the first and third Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The Planning Commission meets at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. The Park Committee meets at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month. The Boat Committee meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month.

Residents are welcome to attend any or all of these meetings. Council meetings are also televised on Cable Channel 8. Channel 8 televised dates and times for City of Deephaven meetings, as well as meeting minutes, are all available on our City website www.cityofdeephaven.org