



# Deephaven News

"Information for Residents"

Volume 1, Issue 37

October, November and December, 2014



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City of Deephaven  
 20225 Cottagewood Rd. Deephaven,  
 MN. 55331  
 952.474.4755  
[www.cityofdeephaven.org](http://www.cityofdeephaven.org)



**City Hall Hours:**  
*September 2nd to May 23rd*  
 Monday to Friday 8am to 4:30pm  
 Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays.

**"Summer" Hours**  
*May 27th to August 29th*  
 Mon to Thurs 8am to 5pm  
 Fridays 8am to 12noon  
 Closed Saturday, Sunday and  
 Holidays.



### Annual Leaf and Yard Waste Collection – Saturday, November 15th

Autumn leaf and yard waste pick-up for our residents is Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. This is for curbside pick-ups only and will begin at 7:00 a.m. Please do not drop off any yard waste at City Hall!

#### Please observe these requirements:

- ◆ Brush must be cut and bundled with string; branches cannot exceed four feet in length and four inches in diameter.
- ◆ Leaves and yard waste must be bagged **in compostable bags**.
- ◆ Bundles and bags cannot exceed 40 pounds.
- ◆ Please do not rake leaves into the street.



### Excelsior Christkindlsmarkt

An open air market featuring German Christmas music and traditions such as brats/ sausages, roasted almonds, gingerbread, Gluhwein ("glow wine", a warmed, sweet and spicy wine), Kindercocoa and beer garden. The market features unique gifts, Minnesota made, hand crafted and holiday decor. KinderWorld features fun festive activities for kids of all ages.



The NorthPole Trolley returns with Santa Claus on board, and Santa's live Reindeer offering photo ops. The event will be held **on Thanksgiving weekend from November 28-30<sup>th</sup>**, Friday & Saturday: 10 am – 10 pm, Sunday: 11am – 4 pm, 250 East Drive, Excelsior, MN 55331. For more information: contact [myrlemac@aol.com](mailto:myrlemac@aol.com) or 952-292-8898.

[www.excelsiorchristmas.com](http://www.excelsiorchristmas.com).

### 2014 Construction Project Wrap-up

We would like to thank all of our residents for your patience during our construction projects this year, particularly with the construction of the new Vine Hill Bridge. The following is a summary of the major projects undertaken this year:

- ◆ Sewer main cleaning & televising in the northern part of Deephaven was completed and the televised reports are currently under review.
- ◆ A Manhole Rehabilitation Project undertook the repair of damaged manholes throughout Deephaven.
- ◆ The construction of the new Vine Hill Bridge began on April 1st and was finally complete on August 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Primary Election**

**General Election—November 4th**

The Primary Election was held on August 12<sup>th</sup> and a total of 426 Deephaven residents turned out to vote at our two precincts. With 2,617 registered voters, this represents a voter turnout of 16.3%.

We would like to extend our deepest appreciation to our Election Judges, who do such a terrific job on Election Day both at the Primary Election and the upcoming General Election. Without their help, conducting elections would not be possible.

**Precinct 1**

Susan Jerutis, Head Judge  
 Susan Batchelder  
 Donna Berbee  
 Krystal Brown  
 John Dupont  
 Judy Forsmark  
 Robert Gerlicher  
 Patricia Irwin  
 Judy Kim  
 Regina Musech  
 Evangeline Nicklow  
 Charlotte Oliver  
 Jinny Pellizzer  
 Fred Schmeisser  
 Robin Westin Schmit  
 Cindy Simons  
 Mary Ann Tucker

**Precinct 2**

Sheila Laughlin, Head Judge  
 Mary Lou Bennis  
 Judy Davidson  
 Diane Foote  
 Gwen Ladner  
 Wiley H. Sharp III  
 Vicki Narveson  
 Kay Parkhurst  
 Karen Schmeiser  
 Barb Sikorski

We also would like to thank St. Therese Church for the use of their community room during the Primary Election and upcoming General Election!

Elections for local, state and federal offices will be held on Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. Precinct One residents vote at City Hall and Precinct Two residents vote at the St. Therese Community Room. The Mayor (two-year term) and two City Council (four-year terms) seats are open this year. The candidates for these offices include:

**Mayor**

Paul A. Skrede

**City Council**

Darel Gustafson  
 Tony Jewett  
 Dale Moe

**Deephaven City Council Candidate Forum**

**Thursday, October 16th, 7:00 pm**

**Deephaven City Hall**

Meet the Deephaven city council candidates, hear what they have to say, get your questions answered.  
 Be informed when you vote on November 4th.  
 Sponsored by League of Women Voters South Tonka

**Registering to Vote**

**To vote, you must be:**

- A citizen of the United States
- At least 18 years old on the day of the election
- A Minnesota resident for at least 20 days prior to the election
- Properly registered.

**Who needs to register to vote?**

- Individuals who have never registered to vote.
- Individuals who have moved or changed their name since they last registered.
- Individuals who have not voted at least once in the last four years.

**Where to pre-register?**

- City Hall, 20225 Cottagewood Road
- All Hennepin County Libraries
- Hennepin County Service Centers
- Hennepin County Government Center, 300 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Minneapolis
- The Secretary of State's Office

**Deadline to pre-register:**

October 14, 2014 for the General Election

**Election Day Registration – Proof of Residence**

If you choose not to pre-register, you can register on Election Day. To do so, you must provide election judges at your polling location with certain acceptable forms of identification to prove your eligibility, such as:

- A Minnesota Driver's License, Learner's Permit, or State ID Card with your current name and address.
- A "Notice of Late Registration" received from your city clerk or Hennepin County if your voter registration application was received after the last day to pre-register.
- One of the following documents that contains your name and photo but does not have your current address: Minnesota driver's license, identification card, US passport, US military identification card or student identification card from a Minnesota college AND a bill for electric, water, gas, telephone, cell phone, rent or lease agreement, cable TV, sewer or solid waste services with a due date within 30 days of the election that contains your name and current address.
- Another registered voter living in your precinct who will come to the polling location with you to vouch for your residency.



General Election Absentee Ballots are available from September 19<sup>th</sup> – November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please note that beginning with the 2014 Election, voters no longer need a reason to vote absentee.

**Absentee voters have the following options:**

- Absentee voting is scheduled to begin on September 19<sup>th</sup> at City Hall. In addition to the regular City Hall hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday, you may also vote absentee on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and on Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please call City Hall at 952-474-4755 if you have any questions.
- Complete the entire process by mail – download an **Absentee Ballot Application** and mail or fax the completed application to the City of Deephaven, 20225 Cottagewood Road, Deephaven, MN 55331 or fax it to us at (952) 474-1274.

**Campaign Sign Regulations**

One of the more contentious issues surrounding elections is the placement of political signs. Many of the regulations regarding political signs are governed by Section 211B.045 of Minnesota State Statutes:

“In any municipality, whether or not the municipality has an ordinance that regulates the size or number of noncommercial signs, all noncommercial signs of any size may be posted in any number from 46 days before the state primary in a state general election year until ten days following the state general election.”



In summary:

- Political signs may be posted from June 27, 2014 – November 14, 2014.
- Signs must be located off of the public right-of-way and permission obtained from the property owner before you post any political sign on their property. If you are uncertain about where the public right-of-way ends, utility poles are typically located just within the public right-of-way.
- On Election Day, political signs must be at least 100 feet away from a building containing a polling place.
- Elections are also notorious for the theft of political signs. Please be aware that anyone apprehended for the theft of a political sign could face 90 days in jail and/or a fine up to \$1,000.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding political signs, please call the City at 952-474-4755.

**Snowplows are coming!**

Winter is right around the corner and we want to give you some useful information that will help us clear snow from your streets and make winter driving safer.

- Please move your car off the street or a city 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 it has been completely plowed. Please move your vehicle if you have any doubt about how much snow has fallen or is falling. The police are required to tow vehicles parked in violation of this regulation.
- Allow plenty of space between your vehicle and the snowplow. Snow dust from a snowplow can obstruct your vision while driving, creating hazardous conditions.
- If you experienced yard damage from a snowplow in the past, please install stakes just off the road every 20-25 feet to mark its edge.
- Please do not allow your children or other children to play in snow banks near the street.
- Lower your driving speed and be extra cautious during unexpected winter conditions.



**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 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 unimaginably long winters.



**Snowmobile & ATV Regulations**

City Ordinance No. 705.03 prohibits the operation of snowmobiles and ATVs under any of the following 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 property, park property, playgrounds and recreational areas, except for areas authorized for such use by proper authority when traveling to or from approved snowmobile routes.

The Deephaven City Council certified the preliminary 2015 General Fund and Capital Improvement Fund levy on September 2nd in the amount of \$2,034,878, which represents a 2.9% increase in the property tax levy from 2014. The public is invited to comment on the 2015 Budget at the annual Truth in Taxation meeting on Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. This is the meeting in which the public will have the opportunity to review and comment on the final 2015 Budget and Levy. The final 2015 Budget and levy will be adopted at this same meeting. The following is a brief summary of the 2015 Budget:

**General Fund Revenues** – Total 2015 General Fund Revenues are budgeted at \$2,769,660 and consist of eight major budget categories:

Category	2015 Budget	% of Revenues
Taxes	1,810,878	65.4%
Licenses & Permits	197,275	7.1%
Intergovernmental	195,201	7.0%
Charges for Services	357,418	12.9%
Fines & Forfeits	75,000	2.7%
Miscellaneous Revenues	76,145	2.8%
Interest Income	30,000	1.1%
Fund Transfers	27,743	1.0%
<b>Total 2014 Revenues</b>	<b>2,769,660</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

#### 2015 Revenue Highlights –

- 2015 General Fund Revenues are projected to increase \$85,604 or 3.2% over 2014 General Fund Revenues largely owing to projected increases in the property tax levy, Building Permit Fees, State Fire Aid, and Fine Revenues.
- Service contracts with the cities of Woodland and Greenwood and the Excelsior Fire District combine to equal 10.7% of 2015 General Fund Revenues.
- Interest Income has declined significantly over the last few years due to declining investment rates. Interest Income has dropped from \$101,025 in 2007 to a projected \$30,000 in the 2015 Budget.
- The property tax levy continues to be the major source of funding for the General Fund, constituting 63.9% of the 2015 General Fund Revenues.

**General Fund Expenditures** – Total 2015 General Fund Expenditures are budgeted at \$2,767,087 and consist of ten major departments:

Department	2015 Budget	% of Expenses
General Gov't / Elections	175,177	6.3%
Administration	284,269	10.3%
City Hall Buildings	45,650	1.7%
Zoning/Building Inspections	197,409	7.1%
Streets & Roads	108,300	3.9%
Public Works	348,668	12.6%
Parks & Recreation	68,100	2.5%
Police	950,919	34.4%
Fire Services	576,545	20.8%
Animal Management	12,050	0.4%
<b>Total 2014 Expenditures</b>	<b>2,767,087</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

#### 2015 Expenditure Highlights –

- Total 2015 General Fund Expenditures increased \$83,211 or 3.1% over 2014 General Fund Expenditures primarily owing to a 2.5% salary increase for municipal employees, a projected 10% increase in group health premiums, and a 39.4% increase in State Fire Aid Reimbursements.
- A 2.5% increase in salary & benefits increases 2015 General Fund expenditures by \$31,737. The 2.5% employee wage increase in 2015 follows a 2% increase in 2014 & 2013, a 1% increase in 2012, a 2% increase in 2011, and a 0% increase in 2010.
- Group health insurance premiums are projected to increase 10% or \$9,765 in 2015.
- Public Safety Departments accounts for 55.2% of all expenditures in the 2015 General Fund.

**Capital Improvement Fund** – The Capital Improvement Fund (CIF Fund) is a critical fund that finances the replacement of all police and park vehicles and equipment and all street improvement projects. The CIF Fund receives funding from two separate sources. The first is approximately \$93,000 each year in franchise fees that the City receives from Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy. Franchise fees are actually paid by Deephaven utility customers to Xcel and CenterPoint through a \$2.50 monthly franchise fee that appears on your monthly utility bill.

The second revenue source is through a \$240,000 property tax levy. These two revenues combine to provide \$333,000 per year in the CIF Fund – funds that are used to finance park projects, street improvement projects, and the replacement of aged vehicles and equipment.

### 2015 Property Taxes

The property tax levy totals \$2,034,878 in 2015, which represents a \$57,643 or 2.9% increase over the 2014 property tax levy. With the first projected increase in the market values of properties in Deephaven since 2009, the tax capacity rate is expected to decrease in 2015. If you have any questions regarding the 2015 Budget, we hope you will attend the annual **Truth-in-Taxation meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at Deephaven City Hall.**

### Take the Great Hennepin County Recycle Half Challenge

Could you recycle half of all your waste? Hennepin County residents, businesses and organizations create enough waste each year to fill Target Field 11 times, but only 38 percent of that waste is recycled. Help us reach our goal of recycling half of all the waste produced in Hennepin County by 2015.

To help you get to half, we've made recycling easier than ever. You can now recycle more of what you buy - including plastic cups and containers (like cottage cheese containers, yogurt cups and party cups), milk and broth cartons, and juice boxes.

Ready to take the challenge? Visit [www.RecycleHalf.com](http://www.RecycleHalf.com) to sign up for the Great Hennepin County Recycle Half Challenge. You can also watch a "recycling intervention," test your recycling knowledge, challenge your friends and learn how to reduce, reuse and recycle more at home, work and play.



### Being a Respectful Neighbor

There are many different ways to establishing a polite & cordial relationship with your neighbors. Here are some Good Neighbor Practices that go a long way towards being a respectful neighbor:

- Well-maintained lawns, control of invasive weeds
- Garbage cans stored out of sight except on pickup day
- Trees, branches & brush properly trimmed
- The storage of vehicles, boats, trailers, RV's, snowmobiles, and ATV's such that they are not visible to adjoining properties or the street
- Operable and currently licensed vehicles
- Removal of discarded items from yard and along property lines
- Clearing your driveway by keeping your snow on your own property



### Boating News & Notes

We would like to thank everyone for your patience with the high water levels throughout much of the boating season. Fortunately, as our docks slowly reappeared once again from the high water, we were able to experience some beautiful boating weather in much of July and August. The only other item of note is that there will be no Boating Fee increases for the 2015 Boating Season. Boat fees have not been increased since 2006.



### Please Do Not Flush Disposable Wipe Products Down the Toilet!

We would like to caution everyone to NOT flush disposable wipe products in the sewer system. Unfortunately, many of these products are not only labeled as disposable, but also flushable, but unlike toilet paper these products don't break down once they are flushed.

This type of material tends to plug the pumps in our lift stations, which could potentially cause a sewer backup in your house or your neighbor's house. Please remember that this type of material should be thrown away in the garbage and never flushed down the toilet.



### HOME Program Expands to Serve Deephaven Seniors

Seniors living at home enjoy their independence, but in time, aging reduces their ability to handle some household chores. Older adults may need help with routine tasks like housekeeping, painting, snow-shoveling, leaf-raking, and other yard duties. If you are a senior who needs assistance with chores around your house, help is now available through the Household and Outside Maintenance for Elderly (HOME), a program of nonprofit Senior Community Services.

Services include handyman tasks such as changing light bulbs, installing grab bars, repairing faucets, checking carbon monoxide and smoke detectors, changing furnace filters, and hanging wall décor. Other services include housekeeping such as dusting, sweeping, mopping, cleaning kitchen and bathroom surfaces, laundry and grocery shopping.

The program also helps with yard work including snow removal, lawn mowing, window washing, and seasonal leaf raking and yard maintenance.

Residents contribute to the cost of the service based on their monthly income and ability to pay. HOME is the only program serving suburban Hennepin County that provides these services on a sliding fee scale. If you are a senior, a caregiver, or know someone who could use a little help with household chores, yard work, or minor maintenance repairs, call the HOME program at 952-746-4046.

Senior Community Services knows that most people prefer to age in place at home. That's why their goal is to support independence as long as possible with services like the Household and Outside Maintenance for Elderly (HOME) program that help make life manageable. To find out more about Senior Community Services, visit [www.seniorcommunity.org](http://www.seniorcommunity.org).

While walking through the woods this morning, thankful that Nature had not yet changed her season, the words to describe my joy washed over me, "Yes! That IS my golf ball!"

The bridge project is completed. I can see why we only do these deals every fifty years! Thank you for your patience during the detours, and thanks to all who were involved in the construction. For you paddle tennis fans, I really think we might have heat for the courts this year. And our new website is almost ready to go live, for those of you who prefer to get your information online versus on the phone.

November is just around the corner and, as we prepare for the upcoming elections, I want to say 'thank you' to Josh Hackney, who will be retiring after serving for four years on the Council. Nice job, kid!

For years now, I have felt that Autumn changing into Winter is one of the prettiest seasons in Deephaven. The trees are on fire with their magnificent colors, only to be followed by a blanket of the whitest snow. The lake turns gray as it slowly freezes and ovens everywhere emit their holiday aromas. We pause and reflect on years long passed, and we remember conversations like, "Are you going to get those leaves raked up ... before we'll need a snow shovel?"

If you finish your job jar early this Fall, could you please help a neighbor get ready for Winter? Thanks very much!

Paul

### Warming House Hours

Weather permitting, the Thorpe Park and City Hall warming house will be open starting on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. The warming house hours for the 2014-2015 seasons are as follows:

◆ **Monday – Friday** 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., **Saturday** 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and **Sunday** Noon to 9:00 p.m.



**Thanks to the Garden Club!** We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the many talented and dedicated members of the Cottagewood Garden Club who are directly responsible for the beautiful gardens at Thorpe Park, Burton Park, Children's Park and City Hall that are planted and tended to by this hardworking group of volunteers. Thank you for another great year! Please visit their tab on the City's webpage at [www.cityofdeephaven.org](http://www.cityofdeephaven.org).

#### City Hall Hours-Summer Hours May 26th, 2015 to September 4th, 2015

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

#### City Hall Hours -Regular Hours September 2nd, 2014 to May 22nd 2015

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

#### City Office will be closed :

November 11, November 27 and 28  
December 25th, 2014

#### 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  
Kathy McCullum, Woodland Deputy Clerk



#### Your City Council:

**Mayor :** Paul Skrede

#### Council members:

Keith Kask, Steve Erickson  
Darel Gustafson, Josh Hackney

#### Phone Numbers:

#### Administration & Public Works:

952-474-4755

**Police Non-Emergency:** 952-474-7555

**24-Hour Police Dispatch:** 763-525-6210

#### City of Deephaven Website:

[www.cityofdeephaven.org](http://www.cityofdeephaven.org)

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](http://www.cityofdeephaven.org)