

MOUNDS VIEW MATTERS

SUMMER 2022 | VOLUME 50 | ISSUE 2

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Citizen of the Year



Congratulations to Chuck Howard, the Mounds View 2021 Citizen of the Year. Mr. Howard has assisted the Public Works Department by regularly walking the Greenfield Park grounds and trail, keeping the area safe and clean for the community. Mr. Howard reports signs of vandalism, and last year recovered a ball bag worth over \$300 of equipment, and stayed with it until Public Works was able to secure the bag.

Nominations open for Citizen of the Year

If you would like to nominate someone for Citizen of the Year, please click on the following link and complete the nomination form <https://bit.ly/3EPI44S>.

Festival in the Park



The 2022 Mounds View Festival in the Park will start Friday evening, August 19th, at 6:00 p.m. with the annual parade and Family Fun Night immediately following at City Hall Park. The traditional community celebration continues on Saturday, August 20th, with your favorite activities and will close with fireworks after the band on Saturday night. If you have questions or would like to volunteer see the website at www.mvfestivalinthepark.com.

Save the Date!

Fall Clean-Up

Saturday, September 24th
From 9:00 a.m. – Noon
Mounds View Public Works
2466 Bronson Drive



A flyer will be sent to all residents in mid-August. For more details, please refer to the City's website at www.moundsviewmn.org

Mayor's Message



Dear neighbors & friends,

Summer, my favorite time of year, is almost here!

Our Public Works, Parks, Forestry, and Recreation teams are busy gearing up for all the activities summer brings to Mounds View. Our City parks are open from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily. Splashdown, our splash pad at City Hall Park, is open from 10:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Splashdown has two pavilions available for rent in four-hour blocks. Contact our Community Center at 763-717-4040 for more information on any of the summer programs offered in Mounds View.

The 2022-2023 street project has begun for Pleasantview and Spring Lake Road north of Mounds View Boulevard. Please be mindful of pedestrians and laborers, and use caution as you travel through this area.

Summer brings more community outreach events by MVPD. Watch the City website for dates of upcoming events, including Night to Unite and the Second Annual MVPD vs. SBM Fire softball game.

Summer is our busiest time for issuing licenses and permits and we are on track to surpass 2019 numbers. Our Community Development team is working hard to bring more amenities to the City.

Development of the former Skyline property has started. The first project is an affordable Senior Living building with anticipated occupancy in early 2024. There are also a few residential development opportunities, including some single family lots for sale. Contact the Community Development Director or our Assistant City Administrator at 763-717-4000 for more information.

I would like to take a moment to thank this City Council and the heads of all of our Departments for the hard work they have done on our 2023-2025 Strategic Plan. Our City Council will use the Strategic Plan to guide policy and budgetary decisions over the next three years. Our top priorities remain public health and safety, and funding of essential City services. We now expect completion of the fresh water infrastructure project we started in 2019 to occur in 2023.

Summer is the perfect time to shake off the isolation of a snowy winter and spring, and to reacquaint ourselves with our beautiful City. Visit a park. Walk a trail. Enjoy our shops and restaurants. Get to know your neighbors and keep in contact. I firmly believe close neighborhoods make our City safer and stronger.

Stay safe, be well,
Carol A Mueller



City Charter – Levy Restriction Petition - Property Taxes

Some of you are aware the City of Mounds View has a charter and I suspect there are some who are not. And some may be aware there is a property tax levy restriction in our Charter – which limits the Council’s levy authority. And some of you may be aware of a recent petition related to the Charter Commission’s resolution that “eases” that levy language. As to property taxes, I am pretty sure almost all of you are aware of property taxes!

The following recaps what has transpired to date with respect to the Charter resolution and subsequent petition, along with what drove the change.

Mounds View has had a charter since 1979. In 2008, a property tax levy restriction was added capping the annual levy at 2% plus inflation or 5%, whichever is less. Out of 872 cities in Minnesota, 101 have a charter. Mounds View and Fridley are the only two with property tax levy restrictions. Mounds View’s provision is the most restrictive. Fridley can levy 5% and can go up to 8% with a 4/5th Council Vote.

In calendar year 2021, the Charter Commission spent the vast majority of their time, including a workshop with Council, on “easing” this provision. In September of 2021 the Charter Commission adopted resolutions to increase the limit to 6.5% with a possibility of going to 9% with 4 out of 5 council members supporting. The motion was adopted 6-3 and included a similar motion to send the resolution to Council for adoption by ordinance. The ordinance process is specifically detailed in state law and required a publication, public hearing, unanimous council vote (singular issue in all of state statute that requires a unanimous vote of a city council), and a 90 day waiting period after the council vote before the change becomes effective. This 90 day period provides for residents to share their views and/or to allow opponents to petition.

A petition was received by the City after the unanimous council vote on December 13th but was determined to be insufficient by our City Attorney and thus, on March 22, 2022 the “amendment” became effective; essentially updating the charter. That said, state law allows residents, at any time, to petition the Charter Commission/Council to change the language. There are timelines and a process to follow, all of which are detailed in Minnesota Statute 410.12.



Why the Change:

The City has been deficit spending, drawing down reserves from the sale of the golf course, those reserves will run out, dramatic cuts in services would have been required. To put it in “service delivery” terms, the choices/options for the council would be elimination of the entire Park and Recreation program (thus begging the question whether to sell the Community Center), or laying off nearly 1/5 or 20% of the Public Works Department (3 workers), or laying off 12% of patrol officers (2 Officers).

At the current deficit spending, about \$238,000 a year, in 5 to 7 years we will no longer have sufficient cash flows to pay our bills as we only receive property tax collections twice a year, thus requiring reserves to bridge the gap. Those reserves are being depleted due to the years of deficit spending and rising costs.

To “restore” the property tax levy so it balances our budget – specific to a median priced home in Mounds View (\$270,500), would require a one-time increase of 4% which equates to \$46 per year additional property tax. The previous levy restriction would not allow the City Council to make that common sense decision. That said, there is no urgency – assuming we can act now, to phase the 4% in over several years versus all at once.

You will also find in this edition, an article showing what happens to your tax dollar, specifically to the 26.26 cents of that dollar that comes to the City. As the illustration shows, police and fire/public safety is the number one priority – utilizing 55.17% of every dollar. Public Works (Park and Recreation Maintenance, PW Building Debt Service, Street Construction) consumes 27.76% and the Community Center 4.90%.

It is very difficult to “condense” the complexities of the budget challenges and Charter in an 800 word article and for those interested in more information/discussion I would welcome the conversation. Please reach out to me at nyle.zikmund@moundsviewmn.org or call 612-860-7442 if you wish to discuss further or would like additional information.



Free energy consulting and rebates for Mounds Views Businesses

Mounds View businesses can receive free lighting and HVAC assessments and rebates covering up to 60% of projects costs through the **One-Stop Efficiency Shop**, sponsored by Xcel Energy. Starting with a free, no commitment assessment, a One-Stop consultant will provide your business with a customized report including recommendations, energy savings, estimated rebates, and payback periods. One-Stop consultants can help you find qualified contractors and



review bids, provide technical guidance throughout the project, help you access **low interest** financing and grants, and complete all rebate paperwork when the project is finished. Get started by signing up for a free lighting or HVAC assessment at mncee.org/onestop.

The One-Stop team can also help you gain control of your business's HVAC system by installing smart thermostats for free. Smart thermostats allow you to optimize your energy use and adjust your

heating and cooling settings from anywhere using your phone. Plus, you'll earn annual electric bill credits for each thermostat installed. Learn more and request your free installation at mncee.org/smart-thermostat.

Mounds View joins International Code Council for the celebration of Building Safety Month 2022

In May 2022, The City of Mounds



View Community Development Department will participate in the 42nd annual Building Safety Month, a worldwide campaign presented by the International Code Council, its members and partners to promote building safety. This year's campaign, "Safety for All: Building Codes in Action," raises awareness about the importance of building codes in ensuring safety in the spaces in which we live, work and learn.

Homes and buildings that are built in compliance with building safety codes and the officials who enforce the codes are essential to helping communities remain affordable, resilient, and energy and water-efficient. Building Safety Month provides homeowners, government officials, and the public with the necessary information and resources to prepare and protect our built environment.

This year's campaign themes are: Week One, May 1-8, Planning for a Safe & Sustainable Tomorrow; Week Two, May 9-15, Exploring Careers in Building Safety; Week Three, May 16-22, Understanding Disaster Mitigation; May 23-31, Creating a Safe & Abundant Water Supply

Learn more about Building Safety Month at www.buildingsafetymonth.org or join the conversation on social media using #BuildingSafety365.

Please visit the City of Mounds View's website and see the Building Information section for safety information, building handouts, permitting, etc. www.moundsviewmn.org



Coach of the Year

The 2021 Coach of the Year was Bobby Hurt! Mr. Hurt coached first and second grade baseball for the Mounds View Recreation league and was able to break down the fundamentals of the sport for the participants. Mr. Hurt coached with calmness and a high level of enthusiasm which allowed the players to improve and grow, while still enjoying and learning the game of baseball.



City of Mounds View 2022 Budget Calendar for Preparation of the 2023 Budget

May 23, 2022

Operating budget requests due from departments.

May 26, 2022

Summary of operating budget requests due to City Administrator.

May 30 – June 2, 2022

Administrator reviews operating budget requests and capital projects.

June 2, 2022

Summary of operating budget requests due to City Council.

June 6, 2022

City Council reviews Draft General Fund budget at a work session.

August 22, 2022

City Council adopts preliminary 2023 property tax levy or defers to September 12th meeting and sets date for the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing.

September 6, 2022

City Council reviews other funds and utility rate study at work session and additional General Fund review if needed.

October 10 – November 28, 2022

Additional City Council work sessions as needed.

November 7, 2022

City Council considers utility rates for 2023.

December 5, 2022

Truth in Taxation Public Hearing

December 12, 2022

Continuation hearing and adoption of 2023 Budget and tax levy.

Development Updates

Caribou Cabin, 2404 Mounds View Boulevard (next to Moe's), opened in May, featuring drive-thru and walk-up ordering. **Kusina** ("kitchen"), 2408 Co Rd I (inside Filipino Village), is a restaurant serving lunch and dinner of traditional Filipino flavors, Thursday thru Sunday. Opening early summer. The owners also operate Inday's Kitchen food truck, and plan a monthly fiesta in the Filipino Village parking lot, featuring Filipino street food. **MKG North Martial Arts**, (Mounds View Plaza), opened in 2021, and is doubling in size to offer concurrent self-defense classes. **Belden River View**, County Road I & Pleasant View Drive, is a three lot subdivision. Construction began in April. **H2 Flats** (formerly Scotland Green) will begin construction this summer on a Club House, featuring administrative offices, co-working space, and fitness center for use by its residents. **Villas of Mounds View**, 4889 Old Highway 8 (formerly Skyline Motel), will begin construction in June of a 120-unit senior (55+) apartment building. The project is planned to be completed in fall, 2023. The former Fedor's Market, 5491 Adams Street, has been remodeled into three new businesses; **RSTO Auto Parts**, retailer of bumpers, hoods, headlights, and other non-mechanical auto parts, opening in May. **E-Z Grocery**, specializing in halal meats and groceries from east Africa and the Middle East. Opening in May. And a beauty salon also opening in May.



City Property Taxes

Out of every property tax dollar only 26.26 cents goes to the City, 73.74 cents goes to Ramsey County, the School District, or Other Taxing Districts.



This is what your City tax dollars buy.

Median Market Valued Home in Mounds View		\$270,500
City Tax on Median Valued Home		\$979.24
Public Safety - Police	440.1	44.94%
Street Maintenance, Snow Plowing, and Vehicle Maintenance	109.76	11.21%
Fire Protection	100.14	10.23%
Park and Recreation Maintenance	84.44	8.62%
Administration, Elections, Finance	73.12	7.47%
PW Building Debt Service	57.08	5.83%
Community Development	46.11	4.71%
Community Center	47.94	4.90%
Street Construction	20.55	2.10%
	\$979.24	100.00%



Lawn Watering Restrictions in Effect - Tier 2

Restrictions for watering lawns in Mounds View began May 1st and will last through September 30th and includes no watering between 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. For additional information please refer to the City’s website.

Keep the Toilet Bowl Lid Down!

Summer is the season for sewer cleaning. The sanitary sewer lines are cleaned using high pressure sewer cleaning equipment. During cleaning of sanitary sewer lines, air occasionally vents back into a home through the sanitary sewer service line; when this happens, water in the toilet bowl can bubble, surge or, in rare cases, splash out of the bowl. So, to minimize water splashing out of your toilet bowl, make it a habit to “keep the lid down”.



2021 Water Quality Report

Once again, the City is proud to report that your drinking water meets all state and federal standards! Beginning July 1, 2022 you can view the 2021 Consumer Confidence Report online at the following weblink: <http://bit.ly/3mKJQLM>. Please contact the Public Works Department if you would like a copy of the report mailed to you.



Sewer Backups

If you have a sewer backup you should contact Public Works before contacting a drain cleaning company. You may be able to avoid an unnecessary charge if the problem is in the City’s sewer line rather than in your property’s service line. A Public Works employee will show up to determine if the problem is in the City’s line

or in your property’s service line.

Annual Public Information Meeting for Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program



Public Works will hold its annual storm water public information meeting on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Mounds View City Hall (2401 Mounds View Boulevard). The meeting will be conducted as part of the regular City Council meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Public Works



Who Do I Call?

Mounds View Public Works:

763-717-4050
Monday - Friday: 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
publicworks@moundsviewmn.org

Ramsey County Dispatch:

651-484-9155
For City emergencies outside normal business hours

Ramsey County Public Works:

651-266-7100
For all concerns with the following roadways

- Mounds View Blvd
- County Road H
- Silver Lake Road
- County Road I (Silver Lake Rd. to I-35W)
- Long Lake Road
- Old Highway 8

Xcel Energy:

To report a street light outage
1-800-960-6235

To report a power outage
1-800-895-1999

To report a gas leak
1-800-895-2999
xcelenergy.com

Water/Sewer

Utility Billing: 763-717-4014

Follow the Mounds View Police Department on

Instagram @moundsview_pd

Nextdoor.com

Twitter @MoundsView_PD



Bike Rodeo

Join MVPD Officer Dison on Monday June 27th from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Colonial Village (2075 Rustad Lane) to learn about bicycle safety and participate in a fun obstacle course. This course is free and open to children ages 6-14 years old who live in Mounds View. Please bring your own bicycle to participate. Helmets are also recommended. Pizza and refreshments will be provided. Registration will be available day of but pre-registration is requested. To pre-register call or text Officer Le Voir at 763-294-0666.



Public Safety

Welcome to the team: New Additions

Officer Nina Katzenmaier joins the Mounds View Police Department after 4 years with the Minnesota State Patrol. Officer Katzenmaier is currently in the Field Training process and is excited to work with the citizens of Mounds View.



K9 Officer Ace and his handler Officer Alex Aase are currently in their 8 weeks of training and set to graduate in June of 2022. Ace is a 1 year old purebred German Sheppard and came to us from Slovakia. After graduation Ace will be certified in tracking, apprehension, evidence detection and obedience. In the fall of 2022 Officer Aase and Ace will return to school to be certified in narcotic detection. Keep an eye out for K9 Ace at his first Festival in the Park this August!



2022 BIKE HELMET FITTING & SALE



SATURDAY, MAY 21 • 9 AM - 12 PM



SBM FIRE #3

11920 ULYSSES ST NE BLAINE, MN 55434



BIKE HELMETS PRICED AT \$10 EACH.

CASH OR CHECK ACCEPTED.

VARIOUS COLORS AND SIZES AVAILABLE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

BRING HELMETS FROM HOME TO HAVE THEM ADJUSTED FOR FREE.

For more information: 763-767-4003



Night to Unite 2022

Night to Unite will be Tuesday, August 2nd this year. For questions and to register your neighborhood block party email Officer Le Voir at sarah.levoir@moundsviewmn.org.



2401 Mounds View Boulevard
Mounds View, MN 55112

**Dated Material Postmaster:
Time Sensitive Mail**

City Hall

763-717-4000
Monday-Thursday, 7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
moundsview@moundsviewmn.org

City Website: moundsviewmn.org

Police Department

Main Line: 763-717-4070
Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Dispatch: 651-484-9155,
After Hours & Weekends
911 Emergencies

Parks and Recreation

5394 Edgewood Drive
Main Line: 763-717-4040
Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
parksandrec@moundsviewmn.org

Public Works

2466 Bronson Drive
Main Line: 763-717-4050
Monday-Friday, 7:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
publicworks@moundsviewmn.org



City Council 2021

Council Member: Bill Bergeron

City Hall: 763-717-4003
Home: 763-780-2937

Council Member: Theresa Cermak

City Hall: 763-717-4005
Mobile: 763-786-7051

Council Member: Al Hull

City Hall: 763-717-4004
Home: 763-600-1102

Council Member: Gary Meehlhause

City Hall: 763-717-4007
Home: 763-780-9695

Mayor: Carol Mueller

City Hall: 763-717-4006
Mobile: 763-458-2719



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Grilling Safety

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), on average, 10,600 home fires are started by grills each year. July is the peak month for grill fires, but these incidents occur throughout the year.

To safely enjoy outdoor cooking, it is important to only use charcoal barbecue grills outdoors, position the grill well away from siding, deck railings, and out from under hanging trees, and keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.

To reduce the risk for a fire, never leave your grill unattended. Always stay and look when you cook!

To prevent fires, keep grills clean. Remove grease or fat buildup from grills and in trays below the grill after use. Roughly one of every five grill fires occur due to improper cleaning.

For more information, call 763-767-4003 or visit sbmfire.org.

