



THE CITY OF EXCELSIOR MINNESOTA

2018 SPRING NEWSLETTER



339 Third Street
Excelsior, MN 55331
Phone: (952) 474-5233
cityhall@excelsiormn.org

= HOLIDAY HOURS =

City Hall and Public Works will be closed for business on the following holidays:

Memorial Day -

Monday, May 28, 2018

Fourth of July -

Wednesday, July 4, 2018

Labor Day -

Monday, September 3, 2018

PLEASE NOTE: Refuse and Recycling will be picked up on the Tuesday following the Memorial Day and Labor Day Holidays.

= CITY HALL HOURS =

City Hall is open from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and closed on Fridays.

= NEWS AND EMERGENCY ALERTS =

Stay notified of news and receive emergency alerts by visiting the City of Excelsior online at www.excelsiormn.org and click on "Email Signup." Simply enter your email address and click on the notifications you would like to receive. Also check out the "In The News" section of our homepage for current news and calendar events.

A Letter From The Mayor

Welcome to spring! Our residential dock expansion is nearing completion and is a great example of how the City is using its resources effectively to financially offset the need to improve our city's aging infrastructure. A less visible example of how the City is working for you is completing the City's ten-year Comprehensive Plan for 2018. In late January, the City hosted an open house to gain insight from residents and commercial property owners for our Comprehensive Plan. The open house was well attended, and we received over 40 comment cards with detailed information on where the City should focus their efforts over the next decade.

The open house presentation and comment cards are available on the City's website, but I thought it would be helpful to address a few of the recurring themes in the comments. Over the past five years, our city has seen 25 residential teardowns and rebuilds and there is great concern from some of our residents for protecting the integrity of our housing stock. The City Council has enacted a moratorium for residential teardowns and rebuilds with the intent of making changes to our residential zoning to limit height, increase side yard setbacks, and reduce overall building mass before the moratorium expires in May. We have also established a committee of residents to study long-term solutions like a conservation district for the residential neighborhoods.

Another comment card theme was high taxation shouldered by our residents. Our effective tax rate is 27% of adjusted net tax capacity and is ranked 4th lowest out of the five cities in the South Lake Region, and 13th lowest out of the 45 cities in Hennepin County. The City Council is very concerned about keeping our tax levy consistently low and keeping our government efficient. While 20% of your property taxes stay in the city, approximately 39% goes to the school district, 34% to Hennepin County and the remaining 7% to special taxing districts (such as Metro Transit, Met Council, and the Watershed District).

It's also important for the City to keep our downtown business district vital as approximately 32% of our tax levy is paid by commercial property owners. In recent years, we have added more businesses by thoughtful deliberation and City Council actions. A great example is the redevelopment of a car dealership into Kowalski's. We need to continue to apply our disciplined approach to growth on the East Side with our recently adopted long range vision effort.

(Continued on back page)

Spring Cleanup Saturday, May 12, 2018

All items must be curbside by 6:45 a.m.

The City has contracted with Republic Services to pick up ALL items listed below at your curbside. Please note that the Public Works Facility is NOT accepting materials and will be closed on Cleanup Day.

Items Picked Up Curbside With Voucher Attached: Each item MUST have a special voucher attached to it— NO EXCEPTIONS.

- ◆ Appliances (washers, refrigerators, freezers, stoves, etc.) \$38.00 each
 - ◆ Tires \$12.00 each
 - ◆ TV's \$45.00 each
 - ◆ Small box of misc. electronics \$25.00 each
 - ◆ Electronics \$25.00 each
 - ◆ Window air conditioners \$40.00 each
 - ◆ Large bulky items \$35.00 each
- These include:
- Couch, loveseat, chairs, or bookcase
 - Mattress or boxspring
 - Carpet (8'x12' - must be rolled up and cut into 3'x3' pieces)

These special vouchers are available for purchase at City Hall during regular office hours, Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**PLEASE NOTE: CITY HALL WILL NOT BE OPEN ON
FRIDAY, MAY 11TH
FOR PURCHASING VOUCHERS.
PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY.**

Items NOT Accepted:

Motor oil, paint, cement, railroad ties, and hazardous materials.

Items Picked Up Curbside Without a Coupon:

- ◆ Household trash, small pieces of furniture, grills, toilets and sinks.
- ◆ Weeds, leaves, and lawn clippings (bagged in compostable bag and placed separate from other items)
- ◆ Brush and limbs MUST be bundled in lengths of 4 feet or less

If you have questions regarding the Spring Cleanup Day, please phone the City of Excelsior at 952-474-5233.



Green Disposal Guide



The Green Disposal Guide is Hennepin County's Online Resource to dispose of yard waste, mattresses, paint or fluorescent light bulbs. For more info, please visit the website: www.hennepin.us/greendisposal-guide

New Construction Hours

Construction hours for private property are between 7:30 am and 7:00 pm on weekdays, and 9:00 am and 6:00 pm on Saturdays. Construction is prohibited on Sundays and federal holidays.

What Needs a Building Permit?

A building permit is required any time you do work that is regulated by the Building Code. This includes work, such as siding, windows (if altered), roof, additions, garages, and decks. Work that is exempt from a permit includes: painting, wallpapering, flooring, kitchen cabinets, minor repairs and detached storage buildings not exceeding 120 square feet. All retaining walls and fences need a fence permit. If you have any questions on building permits, please contact Pat Smith, Planning Director, at (952)653-3674 or psmith@excelsiormn.org.

Tree Contractors and Refuse Haulers Require a License

City ordinance requires that any tree contractor or refuse hauler performing work in Excelsior retain and have a current license in their possession. The license requires that all contractors adhere to Excelsior's ordinances and perform to the City's expectations.

To see a copy of the approved companies for 2018, please contact the City Offices at (952)474-5233 or email cityhall@excelsiormn.org.



Leash Law for Pets

Per the Excelsior City Code Sec. 6-9. No owner of any animal shall permit such animal to run or move at large at any time within the City.

Consumer Confidence Report

To advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources, the City is issuing the results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period January 1-December 31, 2017. The results can be found at www.excelsiormn.org or contact City Hall at (952) 474-5233.



2018 ELECTIONS

Primary Election—

Tuesday, August 14, 2018

General Election—

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

New Polling Place for Residents:

Former Excelsior Library

343 Third Street

(Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.)

Election Judges Needed

If you are interested in serving as an Election Judge, please contact Ann Orlofsky, City Clerk, at (952) 653 - 3675 or aorlofsky@excelsiormn.org

Prevent Stormwater Pollution Report Illicit Discharges

As a community member, you play a large part in detecting illicit discharges in our City. An “illicit discharge” is the illegal act of disposing, dumping, spilling, or other discharge of any substance other than rainwater into the streets, gutters, ditches, and ponds that make up our stormwater drainage system, or directly into streams or lakes themselves. What can you do about illicit discharges? If you see anyone releasing any material other than rainwater into the street or storm drains, please report it to Public Works at (952)474-3464. For potentially hazardous materials, call 9-1-1 FIRST when there is an immediate threat to life or property.



Photo Credit: MPCA

Parking Permits & Restrictions

Each household is allowed to purchase parking stickers for vehicles registered to the household address. A parking permit allows residents to park at the meters in Excelsior without having to pay the meter. Each parking sticker is \$10.00. Permits may be purchased at City Hall during regular office hours and you MUST bring the registration (annual renewal for your license tabs) for each vehicle. No vehicle shall be parked continuously at any public place for a period of more than 48 consecutive hours.

Residents of the City may park on public streets within the City for unlimited time periods if their vehicle displays the annual City parking sticker.

Step To It Challenge May 1–28 2018

The Step To It Challenge is a fun way to get moving after a long winter. Twenty-three communities will compete to see which one has the most active residents. Participants record their activities during the challenge and have a chance to win Twins tickets and other prizes. To register, or for more information, go to steptoit.org or contact Kristi Luger at kluger@excelsiormn.org or (952)653-3672.

2018 Financial Calendar

Each year, the City puts together a calendar of important finance-related dates so that citizens may be involved in the budgeting and long-term planning process. The 2018 Financial Calendar can be found on the City’s website or by contacting Kelly Horn, Finance Officer, at (952)653-3677 at khorn@excelsiormn.org.

Long Term Financial Plan Goals and Objectives

2018— Continue to Line Old Sanitary Sewer Pipe	\$120,000
2018 — Extend Docks	\$157,500
2018 — Replace 2000 Sewer –Vac Truck	\$175,000
2018 — Replace Mill Street Trail Crossing	\$375,000
2018 — Enhance Water Street Trail Crossing	\$ 75,000

339 Third Street
Excelsior, MN 55331

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

*****ECRWSEDDM*****

Postal Customer
Excelsior, MN 55331

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A Letter From The Mayor (Continued from Front Page)

It's important that the City commits to selling the 810 Excelsior Boulevard property (former Police building) with a proposal that is best for the overall vitality and continuity of the City. We are hopeful that the 810 site will take hold and act as a catalyst for redevelopment of the former BayView parking lots, Bayside Grille, and its lakeshore. It's important for the City to influence redevelopment of the lakeshore as it's a vehicle for economic growth and public access.

As we update the Comprehensive Plan, we must embrace a holistic view of the City from a visual and financial perspective. While the City is in great shape financially, the ongoing need to improve our roads, utilities, and parks will ultimately outpace the City's revenue in the future. The local sales tax referendum voters approved in 2014 has not been successful in the state legislation, primarily due to our local State House Representative unwilling to support our voters. Without the local sales tax, the City has few financial options in paying for improvements: raise the tax levy, allow controlled growth to increase tax capacity, utilize our assets to create more revenue, or keep the status quo and do minimal improvements. We would be doing a disservice to our residents if we substantially raised the tax levy or do nothing, and we are already utilizing our assets, as I mentioned earlier with the dock expansion, so that leaves us with embracing controlled growth of our business and residences. We need to remain open to new proposals brought forward by commercial and residential developers and balance the need to retain our historic charm.

Please join us at our City Council meetings or talk with a City Council member to help us make Excelsior a great place to live, work, and play.

Hope to see you around town!

Mark W. Gaylor, Mayor



2018 EXCELSIOR CITY COUNCIL

Mark Gaylor, Mayor
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(612) 720-1547

John Beattie, Councilmember
198 Third Street
(612) 220-1589
jbeattie@messerlikramer.com

Todd Carlson, Councilmember
(707) 738-9903
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Jennifer Caron, Councilmember
(612) 812-3695
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Greg Miller, Councilmember
(952) 474-2541
gmliller17@msn.com

Watch City Council and
Planning Commission Meetings

The Lake Minnetonka
Communications Commission
(LMCC) broadcasts meetings on
Mediacom Cable, Ch. 8,
and also on their website
at lmcc-tv.org.

Meeting Schedules

City Council
1st and 3rd Mondays,
7:00 p.m.

Charter Commission
On call

Planning Commission
4th Monday, 7:00 p.m.

Park & Recreation
Commission
2nd Tuesday, 6:15 p.m.

Heritage Preservation
Commission
3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.