



THE CITY OF EXCELSIOR MINNESOTA

2017 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 29, 2017

Fourth of July -

Tuesday, July 4, 2017

Labor Day -

Monday, September 4, 2017

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, or road repair, depending on how you look at life. Excelsior is a small city with a large demand on our infrastructure, including roads, from the surrounding South Lake communities and beyond. A recent post on social media caught my eye regarding streets and potholes in Excelsior. While the road conditions are poor where the sign was placed, the sign did illuminate the reality of making improvements to our Infrastructure. Currently, the City is following a street improvement plan that balances modernizing our infrastructure with our financial constraints. Since 2009, we have been setting aside money to pay for street improvements. We completed phase 1 (1st, 2nd, Bell, Lake, and West Lake) street improvements in 2010 and 2011, phase 2 (Excelsior, Morse, George, and Beehrle) street improvements in 2015, and phase 3 (2nd, 3rd, and School) street improvements are scheduled Summer of 2017, with more planned in the future. For the past three years, all our tax levy increases (2.0%, 2.0%, 2.6% respectively) have been set aside for future street improvements. This is remarkable in two ways: first, we have successfully minimized increases in our operating budget; second, our deliberate planning from our City staff is successfully improving our City without large swings in our tax levy.

Keeping our tax levy consistently low and making our government efficient is a top priority for our City Council. The City's tax levy is about 23% of your property tax, with the majority of property taxes going to the school and the county. I'm confident the City is keeping our share of tax increases to a minimum, but our property taxes are ever increasing by demands of other taxing authorities. The 2018 property valuations were recently released and I've heard from many of you that we need to stop the skyrocketing valuations. I share your concerns about the long-term sustainability of living in Excelsior. The underlying reason for rising market valuations is the high cost of acquiring land by buyers wanting to live in a fantastic setting near Lake Minnetonka; who can blame them, that's why we all live here. It's important to me that the City guides redevelopment so we retain our historic charm and livability, while allowing measured reinvestment of our housing. The City Council is taking steps by changing our residential zoning to control the mass and scale of buildings to promote reasonable redevelopment.

(Continued on back page)

THE CITY OF EXCELSIOR, MINNESOTA

Spring Cleanup Saturday, May 20, 2017

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 20TH,
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:

- ◆ Weeds, leaves, 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/greendisposalguide

Opportunities for Involvement

The Lake Minnetonka Cable Commission and the Planning Commission have vacancies to fill. To apply, please fill out a Citizen Inquiry Form, which is on the City's website at www.excelsiormn.org. If you would like a form mailed or emailed to you, please contact the City Offices at (952) 474-5233 or email cityhall@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 2017 please contact the City Offices at (952)474-5233 or email cityhall@excelsiormn.org.

Construction Hours

Construction hours are between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm on weekdays, and 8:00 am and 6:00 pm on Saturdays. Construction is prohibited on Sundays and Federal holidays.

Leash Laws for Dogs

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

Protecting Our Waters

According to the National Water Quality Inventory, stormwater runoff from developed areas is the leading source of water pollution. In an effort to protect our waters, the City is required to obtain a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit, which is administered by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The MS4 permit requires that the City, as an *owner* of a storm sewer system, to develop and implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to reduce the discharge of pollutants from its storm sewer system to our local waters to the maximum extent possible. For information on the City's SWPPP and MS4 program, visit: www.excelsiormn.org or contact Public Works at (952) 653-3676.

Concerts in The Commons

May 24th *The Brute Squad*
June 21st *Hitchville*
July 19th *Lamont Cranston Band*
August 16th *Power Tap*

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and come enjoy the concerts! Concerts are from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Bandshell in The Commons. There will be food for sale and beer/wine for sale to those over 21 years old at all concerts.

New Park Maintenance Log

If you notice a problem in a City park that requires maintenance, simply contact the City Clerk at aorlofsky@excelsiormn.org or (952)653-3675 who will add the issue to the Park Maintenance Log. The log will be reviewed monthly by the Park and Recreation Commission and Public Works who will determine a resolution, as well as an estimate of the timing of repairs. The updated log will then be posted on the City's website as part of the Park Commission meeting minutes.

Open House on East Town Planning Study & Comprehensive Plan 2018 On April 27th

The City is holding an open house on April 27 to receive community feedback on options for a vision for the East Town planning study area. In addition, information will be provided on revising the City's Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan guides development in the City, and identifies key issues in Excelsior and how to deal with them. As the diagram demonstrates, community input is important as it will ultimately lead to City actions. The open house will be from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the old library, 343 Third Street. Those attending will have the opportunity to view exhibits, ask questions and provide feedback on the vision for the City and on three concept plans for the East Town study area. A final open house will be held on June 1st.



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. The first parking sticker is \$12.00, the second is \$17.00, and the third is \$22.00. Permits may be purchased at City Hall during regular office hours and you **MUST** bring the Temporary 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 2017

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.

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, 2016. The results can be found at www.excelsiormn.org or contact City Hall at (952) 474-5233.

2017 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 2017 Financial Calendar can be found on the City's website or by contacting Teah Malecha, Finance Officer at (952)653-3677 or tmalecha@excelsiormn.org

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)

The proposed zoning changes include provisions to incent buyers to remodel existing structures instead of tearing down and, when building new, the zoning changes allow redevelopment that is more in line with what people have come to expect as appropriate scale for our City.

The East Town plan, covers an area from the Oak Hill Cemetery to the Gables, which comprise 15 distinct properties covering approximately 18 acres or 6% of the total buildable land area in Excelsior. The City Council believes this area needs to be properly planned as redevelopment will have lasting consequences on our City. The newly formed Minnehaha committee will study lake access and winter storage for the steamboat, which has become an icon on Lake Minnetonka and provides a link to Excelsior's past. The current lake access for the Minnehaha is across private land that might not be available in the near future; therefore, we must find a location in Excelsior. Otherwise, the Minnehaha may be swept up in the lake effect of another city a few bays to our East. Which leads me to a final thought, what is your vision of Excelsior at the bicentennial of our City's founding? Please join us at our City Council meetings, or talk with a City Council member to help us make Excelsior a better place to live, work, and play.

Hope to see you around town!

Mark W. Gaylord, Mayor



Meeting Schedules

City Council

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

Planning Commission

4th Monday, 7:00 p.m.

Park and Recreation Commission

2nd Tuesday, 6:15 p.m.

Heritage Preservation Commission

3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

Charter Commission

On call

2017 EXCELSIOR CITY COUNCIL

Mark Gaylord, Mayor
mgaylord@excelsiormn.org

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

Todd Carlson, Councilmember
(707) 738-9903
toddr Carlson@aol.com

Jennifer Caron, Councilmember
(612) 812-3695
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Greg Miller, Councilmember
(952) 474-2541
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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.