



THE CITY OF EXCELSIOR MINNESOTA

2017 FALL/WINTER NEWSLETTER



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

A Letter From The Mayor

This summer will be remembered by visitors, businesses, and residents as the summer of dust, noise, and inconvenience due to our continued street improvement projects on Second Street and Mill Street. I know that many businesses along Second Street have endured financial hardships during construction, most of which were unavoidable due to unknown conditions and the proverbial weather delays we experience in Minnesota during the summer months. We are hopeful that visitors will return to our businesses this fall with the improved roads and sidewalks that were desperately needed. The City is actively planning more street improvements over the next several years to repair sewer and water lines in our streets, some of which were installed in the 1930's. We realize the next round of street improvements will be challenging for residents and businesses, but if we don't address the infrastructure now, it will cost more in the long run.

The City Council established a building moratorium in November of 2016 for the City's east side as we believed there was a need to better control redevelopment. The east side planning effort includes 16 distinct properties covering 13 acres in Excelsior. The City hired a consultant to help develop a vision for the East side with a series of public open houses to gather input from residents and businesses. The final vision will help guide the City's effort for zoning and comprehensive plan updates. The City intends to redevelop the 810 Excelsior Boulevard property (the former police building) and we believe it will become the genesis for the long-term east side concept. The City has five redevelopment proposals for the 810 site and we will be considering a direction later this fall. This summer, the former Bayside property was sold to a local business. The new owners of Bayside will make minor changes to repurpose the event center building as their office, and are considering options for the restaurant, docks, and parking lots. The remaining private properties in East side will undoubtedly change ownership in the coming decades, and when they do, the City's zoning changes will help guide redevelopment.

Across town, we are planning for a new City Hall, installation of additional residential docks, and considering the expansion of paid parking. The City Council deferred development of City Hall in the old library until we determine how the revenue generated from redevelopment of the 810 Excelsior Boulevard property will pay for City Hall improvements. We think it's important to continue with our new City Hall as it will be ADA compliant, be more efficient and safe for City staff, and remain in the center of our City for easy access.

(Continued on back page)

= HOLIDAY HOURS =

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

Veteran's Day-

Thursday, November 9, 2017

(City Hall only)

Friday, November 10, 2017

(Public Works)

Thanksgiving Holiday-

Wednesday, November 22, 2017

(City Hall only)

Thursday, November 23, 2017

Friday, November 24, 2017

Christmas Holiday-

Thursday, December 21, 2017

Close at Noon (City Hall only)

Friday, December 23, 2017

Close at Noon (Public Works)

Monday, December 25, 2017

New Year's Holiday-

Thursday, December 28, 2017

Close at Noon (City Hall only)

Friday, December 29, 2017

Close at Noon (Public Works)

Monday— January 1, 2017

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday, January 15, 2017

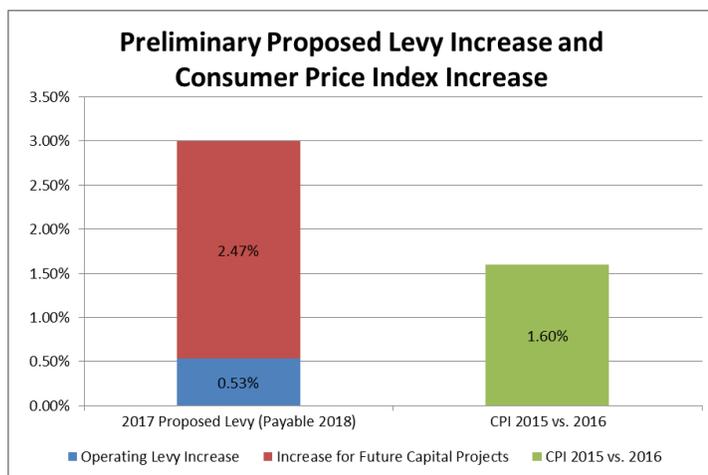
= CITY HALL HOURS =

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

2018 Preliminary Budget and Tax

The City Council has set the proposed 2018 tax levy at \$1,477,591, which is a \$43,051 or a 3.0% increase over the 2017 levy. By state law, the proposed tax levy is the maximum that the City Council may certify for the following year. The City Council may reduce the levy, but it cannot exceed the preliminary figure.

The 3.0% increase represents an increase in operating costs of \$7,646 or 0.53% and an increase of \$35,405 or 2.47% for a future debt service levy. The overall increase of 3.0% exceeds the Consumer Price Index – All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for Minneapolis-St. Paul increase of 1.60%. However, the operating increase of 0.53% is lower than the CPI-U.



The City Council has scheduled a public meeting regarding the 2018 Budget and Tax Levy for Monday, December 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. Residents are encouraged to attend this meeting and comment on the proposed budget and tax levy.

If you would like more information about the preliminary budget and tax levy please visit the City's website or contact the City's Finance Officer, Teah Malecha at (952) 653-3677 or email tmalecha@excelsiormn.org.

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.

Saturday, November 4, 2017

**** Fall Yard Waste Cleanup ****

ALL ITEMS MUST BE CURBSIDE BY 6:00 A.M.

Items picked up curbside on November 4th:

- Weeds, leaves, lawn clippings (bagged in a compostable bag, placed separate from other items)
 - Brush/limbs MUST be bundled in 4' lengths or less
- Any questions, contact City Hall at (952) 474-5233.



Don't Leaf the Lakes You Love

As you tend to your yard this fall, take a minute to sweep or rake leaves and grass clippings out of the street in front of your home. Left in the street, they can clog storm drains, contributing to localized flooding. When washed into nearby lakes and wetlands via storm drains or ditches, the leaves and clippings become a major source of phosphorus, the nutrient that feeds algae blooms in the summer. Dispose of leaves and grass clippings by composting them in your yard or take advantage of the upcoming Fall Yard Waste Cleanup event to ensure these organics are disposed of properly. For more information, check out the City's website at www.excelsiormn.org.

Sidewalk Regulations for Snow and Ice

City Ordinance requires that all sidewalks be kept clean of snow and ice. The owner/occupant of any property adjacent to a sidewalk shall use due diligence to keep sidewalks safe for pedestrians. Commercial properties are required to remove all snow and ice within 16 hours after it has been deposited. Residential properties are required to remove all snow and ice within 24 hours after it has been deposited, with the exception of Bell Street between Center and Courtland Streets and Oak Street between Beehrle Avenue and Water Street. Snow or ice shall be considered deposited on the sidewalk when the snow or other precipitation has ceased to fall, ice has formed, or more than two inches has accumulated (whichever occurs).

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. 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.

Winter Parking Regulations

Snow Emergencies are declared whenever there has been an occurrence of snowfall where snow has accumulated to a depth of two inches or more. Snow emergencies commence at 1:00 a.m. following the snowfall and remain in effect until 7:00 a.m. During a snow emergency, vehicles shall be parked on city streets in accordance with the following regulations from 1:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m.: (1) On all even-numbered calendar days, parking is permitted on the side of the street with even-numbered house numbers. (2) On all odd-numbered calendar days, parking is permitted on the side of the street with odd-numbered house numbers.

To receive emergency alerts and other notifications via text or email by simply signing up on the City's website at www.excelsiormn.org and click on "Email Signup."

Arctic Fever Celebration January 11-14, 2018

For up-to-date information or to volunteer for this event, visit www.arcticfever.net.



Leash Law for Pets

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.

Comprehensive Plan Update

The Comprehensive Plan guides growth and development in Excelsior and provides the basis for public facilities plans and budgets. A draft of the Comprehensive Plan should be available by November. The City will be hosting an open house for the public to review the draft Comprehensive Plan and provide comments. A postcard will be delivered to all residences announcing the date of the open house.

East Town Small Area Study

The East Town Steering Committee, Planning Commission and City Council have been working over the past year to develop a vision for the east side of Excelsior. This area currently consists mainly of one-story commercial buildings and surface parking lots. Developers have approached the City interested in redeveloping portions of this area. The East Town Study will help guide any redevelopment that may occur over the next 40 years. The East Town Study is not a redevelopment plan. With the exception of the City-owned site, 810 Excelsior Boulevard, the City is not actively trying to redevelop any portion of the east side. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Smith, Planning Director at 952-653-3674.



Firefighters Wanted

The Excelsior Fire District is looking for volunteer firefighters. The District currently operates out of two fire stations, Station #1 located in Shorewood and Station #2 is located in Deephaven.

The Fire District averages about 800 fire, medical, water, ice, vehicle crash and hazardous material related calls per year.

Ongoing training occurs on Thursday nights and the initial firefighter and medical training required to become a firefighter is paid for by the Fire District, as well as firefighter gear and uniforms.

If interested please contact Fire Chief,
Scott Gerber
952-962-1650 or
sgerber@excelsiorfire.org

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

*****ECRWSEDDM*****

Postal Customer
Excelsior, MN 55331

2017 FALL/WINTER NEWSLETTER

A Letter From The Mayor (Continued from Front Page)

This winter, our City residential dock system will undergo an expansion that will have over 100 dock slips for our residents and 14 dock slips for transient use and we expect this will generate new revenue over \$80,000. Our new parking kiosk system is expected to generate over \$265,000, which is an 80% increase, when combined with the dock expansion revenue. This revenue will be used for capital improvements and to directly offset our need to raise the tax levy; this is a good example of using our resources effectively for all of our taxpayers.

Living in Excelsior is wonderful, but there is a burden of planning and continual improvements. Excelsior voters approved a local sales tax referendum in 2014 to fund redevelopment of The Commons. Without a local sales tax, our residents will bear the burden of funding improvements to The Commons, even though it operates like a regional park and our neighbors benefit from our efforts. Each legislative session we have been working with MN State Senator Osmeck to pass legislation for a local sales tax, but each session our efforts have been blocked by the MN House. I hope we can put our collective efforts together and make the local sales tax work for all us. Please join us at our City Council meetings, or talk with a City Councilmember to help us make Excelsior a better place to live, work, and play.

Mark W. Gaylord, Mayor



Meeting Schedules

City Council

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

Park and Recreation Commission

2nd Tuesday, 6:15 p.m.

Charter Commission

On Call

Planning Commission

4th Monday, 7:00 p.m.

Heritage Preservation Commission

3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

2017 EXCELSIOR CITY COUNCIL

Mark Gaylord, Mayor

(612) 720-1547

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

(952) 474-7824

jencaron@earthlink.net

Greg Miller, Councilmember

(952) 474-2541

gmill17@msn.com

Watch City Council and Planning Commission Meetings

The Lake Minnetonka Communications Commission (LMCC) has a link on their website at www.lmcc-tv.org that allows you to watch the meetings on the internet. The LMCC also broadcasts the meetings on Mediacom Cable, Channel 8.