



Dear Mosinee Resident:

November 2019

I hope this monthly update finds you well. It has been a busy fall season at the City of Mosinee as we work through our budget workshops both at the City and the Mosinee Fire District.

So far, the City has had two budget workshops, one of which included our public input session. The workshops have been an opportunity for the Common Council to consider anticipated revenues, expenses and capital projects. By November 4th, the Common Council will have made decisions on what to publish as a preliminary budget in the Mosinee Times. This version of the budget is not necessarily the budget that will ultimately be passed. The preliminary tax levy in the published budget may decrease when the budget is passed because City staff will continue to explore additional cuts and discussions on a final Fire District budget are expected to continue into mid-November. My directive to staff this year, as it was last year, is zero or no increase in City property taxes.

Some revenue and expense highlights from the budget workshops so far include transportation aid, road projects, library repairs, and parks and recreation. First, I am happy to report that the City is expecting to receive approximately \$50,000 in additional transportation aid this year to assist with road projects in the community. The amount of general transportation aid that the City receives is based on changes in funding to the program by the State Legislature as well as the rolling average historical amount of transportation expenditures by the City.

The City is also planning to apply for additional transportation aid under a competitive state grant program. This one time program allows municipalities throughout Wisconsin to apply for up to 70 percent of State assistance for local road projects. The City is targeting Rangeline Road as a project to submit for consideration under the program. It is unlikely that the City will know whether the project will be selected for funding under the program until next year.

In addition to trying to stay on top of our streets, the City is also responsible for maintaining the local public library. The building was in desperate need of roof repairs. We were able to accomplish roof repairs in 2018 thanks in part to generous contributions from area foundations. The library is also long overdue for new windows. Therefore, as part of the budget process we are considering whether to budget for the windows this year and how to fund the project.

Parks and recreation brings positive news for this year's budget. We sincerely thank the many people and entities in and around our community who worked to bring the beautiful addition of the new shelter to River Park. If you have not had an opportunity to view the shelter, I would encourage you to do so. Additions to River Park have historically been turned over to the City, which then manages rentals and retains income from rentals. We anticipate receiving several thousand dollars per year in new rental income, some or all of which will be reinvested into additional park improvements.

While the City budgets year-by-year, we must also continue to look further into the future at the City's long-term needs and objectives. For example, we continue to consider how we will utilize our tax incremental finance district revenue, particularly with our business park TIF district closing in 2025 and our downtown TIF district still in its infancy; we continue to consider how and when we can replace outdated public works equipment, including the purchase of a new snow plow; we continue to bear in mind the reality of rising utility costs as time goes on and the demands on our present infrastructure grow; and we continue to focus on a long, ever-changing, ever-evolving list of additional challenges that even a small community like Mosinee must face.

I continue to encourage you to take time to learn more about the 2020 budget by attending the public hearing on November 25th at 6:00pm. At that time, if you have comments to the Common Council, you will have the opportunity to make those comments. In advance of the public hearing, I encourage you to also review the preliminary budget that will be published in the Mosinee Times and to contact the Mayor's Office or the City Administrator's Office with any questions.

I hope you have an enjoyable conclusion to the fall season, and I look forward to updating you again next month.

Mayor Jacobson

City of Mosinee

November 2019



Winter Snowplowing Information

Snow season is here and along with snow comes slippery streets and icy sidewalks. The Public Works Department plows approximately 40 miles of streets, 10 miles of alleys, parking lots and sidewalks. It takes about 15 hours to clear the City of snow, although the time may vary due to the depth and type of snow. Due to the fact that the State of Wisconsin has significantly cut the amount of annual aid payments to the City and forced staff

reductions, the City will again be snowplowing with one less driver. **Similar to last year, it will take us approximately 4 hours longer to clear the City streets and alleys of snow.**

In order to make the job of snowplowing and snow removal easier for the Public Works Department, residents should keep the following in mind: City ordinances prohibit blowing or shoveling snow onto or pushing snow across any City street. Parking is also prohibited if a snow emergency is declared.

All sidewalks must be cleared of snow and ice within 24 hours after the snow has stopped falling. Failure to do so may result in fines to the property owner. Property owners are responsible for keeping sidewalks safe and clear.

The City is divided into five areas for plowing purposes. Each area has streets that are designated as Priority 1. Priority 1 routes are the City's major collector and arterial streets and have been laid out in such a manner that most residences are no more than four city blocks from a Priority 1 street. These streets are plowed first and are kept passable at all times, if possible. The City does have a Snow and Ice Removal Policy which addresses snow plowing issues. A copy of this policy, along with a map of plowing routes, can be viewed at City Hall.

Every snowfall or snowstorm is different but in general we begin to plow, salt and sand when snow accumulations are about 1 inch on hills and busy intersections and 2 inches elsewhere. During heavy snows, plows concentrate on the Priority 1 streets during the day. A night plowing operation is then scheduled to clean all City streets. If you have any questions or concerns relating to snow plowing operations, please call the Public Works Dept. at 715-693-3840.

STREET PARKING RESTRICTED

Parking is not allowed during the hours of 2:00a.m. and 6:00a.m. on any street or highway from November 1 to April 1 in the City of Mosinee. For more information please contact the Mosinee Police Department – 715-693-2000

SIDEWALKS – SNOW REMOVAL ORDINANCE

The owner, occupant or person in charge of each and every building or structure or unoccupied lot in the city fronting or abutting any street shall clean or cause to be cleaned the sidewalk in front of or adjoining each such home, building or unoccupied lot, as the case may be of snow or ice to the width of such sidewalk within 24 hours after the snow has ceased to fall and shall cause the sidewalk to be kept clear from ice and snow, provided that when the ice has formed on any sidewalk so that it cannot be immediately removed, the persons referred to in this section shall keep the sidewalk sprinkled with salt, sawdust or sand.

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Recycle Christmas Lights

Habitat for Humanity of Wausau is collecting Christmas lights. Every year tons of light strings are thrown away and end up in landfills across the country. Habitat for Humanities collects all kinds of light strings – old or new, working or not. Worn out extension cords are also collected. Habitat for Humanities recycles the copper and plastic from the strings and uses the proceeds to assist low-income families in our community. **A drop box is available @ City Hall, 225 Main Street.** For more information please call City Hall or HFH @ 715-848-5042.

Christmas Craft Show, Festival and Parade

Saturday, December 7, 2019

Admission: Free

Location: Mosinee High School and Downtown Mosinee

9:00 am-3:00 pm: At the Mosinee High School you will find a Family festival with an Artisan, Craft and Small Business Show (annually over 140 vendors within two gyms and the hallways). The Chamber's Candy Cane Raffle to benefit our Mosinee High School Chamber Scholarship. Mrs. Klaus's Cafe with food and refreshments. And don't forget to bring the kids to visit Santa. The Mosinee High School Choir will also host their Annual Bake Sale with lots of great Christmas treats.

Register online or download and print the **2019 Exhibitor Rules & Contract**

9:00 am-11 am: Pancake Breakfast with Santa & Live musician in the Mosinee High School Cafeteria. The Children's area has craft activities for children while they wait to visit Santa.

9:00 am-11 am: Photos with Santa will also take place in the Mosinee High School Cafeteria. Have your picture taken with Santa for a minimal fee or bring your own camera.

5:45 pm: Make sure to head to Downtown Mosinee for the Annual Christmas Parade and Downtown Tree Lighting with the Mayor.

5:30 pm: Line-up for Parade

6:00 pm: Parade starts. Sponsored by Advantage Community Bank & Kronenwetter Veterinary Clinic **Register your float online** below or **download and print the Parade Registration form.** Registration Deadline is Nov 25. Line-up is at 5:30.

For more information on the Christmas Craft Show, Festival and Parade contact the Mosinee Chamber of Commerce at 715-693-4330.



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SECURE YOUR MAILBOX

Reminder to Check Your Mailbox Before Snowplowing Season *Please inspect your mailbox and post to insure that it is installed properly.* Just a reminder to make sure mail boxes are sturdy and able to withstand the force of plowed snow. Make sure the posts are solid in the ground, and boxes will not pop off if a pile of snow is pushed against it. Rotted wood posts and rusted steel posts will not withstand the weight of snow being pushed against them. Plow Operators are instructed to be cautious near mail boxes. In most cases a properly installed mail box will permit a snow plow to clear snow around it. Most cases of damaged mail boxes are caused by heavy snow hitting the box. The mail boxes are not usually hit by the plow. A mailbox with alleged damage from a direct hit by a City snow plow must be reported immediately and will be visually inspected by City staff. It is the policy of the City to only reimburse the owner for mail boxes broken from coming in direct contact with the plow.

OPEN ICE SKATING HOURS – MOSINEE REC CENTER

The City of Mosinee and Mosinee Hockey work together to provide Open Skate hours at the indoor ice rink at the Mosinee Recreation Center located at 701 11th Street. This month's open skate hours are:

November 16th - 8:00a.m. to 11:00p.m.

For the complete open skate schedule please visit: www.mosineehockey.com and click on the Open Skate tab. If you have additional questions please call City Hall at 715-693-2275.

AUTO-PAY YOUR WATER/SEWER BILL

Customers of the Mosinee Water and Sewer Utility have the option to have their water and sewer bills directly deducted from their checking or savings accounts on the due date of each billing. We currently have over 400 customers using this option.

Customers will still receive a bill from the Utility, but it will be marked for Direct Payment. The ACH – Payment Authorization form is available on our website at www.mosinee.wi.us or at City Hall.

Completed forms can be dropped off or mailed to: City Hall – attn: Water and Sewer Utility – 225 Main Street, Mosinee, WI 54455.