

November 2020

Dear Mosinee Resident:

I hope you are doing well and staying safe. November is here and that means the City is close to finalizing its 2021 Budget. A lot of work went into completing the Budget. I want to give a big thanks to our staff at City Hall and the Fire Department for all the time and effort they put in during the process.

The Common Council will hold a public hearing on the Budget on Monday, November 23, 2020 at 6:00pm. Residents interested in commenting on the Budget are welcome to attend as well as call in or attend online. Call in and Internet attendance information will be published with the meeting packet on the City's website ahead of the meeting. Here are some of the highlights from the proposed budget.

As one might imagine, property taxes are the City's largest source of revenue. Under the proposed budget, the tax rate will remain the same. Holding the tax rate steady was my top priority this year, and for the third year in a row we will have done so if the budget is passed as proposed. Due to new construction in the community, our levy will increase.

Our second and third largest sources of revenue, general state aid and general transportation aid, will remain within \$1,000 of last year. Personal property aid will be increasing due to the City's successful legal challenge over the Department of Revenue's prior calculation.

On the expense side of the budget, the City is not planning for any major vehicle replacements or road work aside from normal crack sealing and sealcoating. However, the State of Wisconsin will be repaving Highway 153 East next year.

Our tax incremental districts in the Central Wisconsin Business Park and downtown remain financially strong. Since 2015, those districts have been merged to share revenue. For 2021, we have budgeted to finance two new façade improvements downtown that were approved earlier this year. We are also planning ahead for the downtown hotel to become a reality. Under the City's development agreement with Cobblestone, the City will provide a development incentive from tax increment finance dollars upon completion, which must be on or before December 31, 2022.

At the Fire District, the staff is recommending replacing one of the fire trucks. However, that purchase will be reconsidered for the 2022 Budget. At that time, debt on a previous truck will be nearing retirement and could be committed to another truck. The Fire District Board will be forming a committee for the purpose of reviewing and recommending future vehicle replacement needs.

To close on a non-budget note, I want to once again thank all of staff members and poll workers who worked through the fall election season. It has been an extremely busy election year with an unanticipated special election and a presidential election.

Mayor Brent Jacobson



City of Mosinee

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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.

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.

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.



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City Awards 10 Year Refuse & Recycling Contract to Harters Fox Valley Disposal

The City Council recently approved a 10 year collection contract for refuse and recycling with Harters Fox Valley Disposal. Harters will start collecting January 1st, 2021.

Based upon the proposals submitted, moving to automated collection of refuse and recycling was the best option for the City.

City residents will be provided one 96 gallon refuse cart and one 96 gallon recycling cart per residential unit. These carts will be delivered sometime in December in the location of where they will be collected each week.

We anticipate the location of collection to stay the same as where you currently place your collection containers with the exception; your cart location may need to be relocated if your current collection site is near trees or electrical wires. A mechanical arm grips the cart and empties the contents without the driver leaving the truck.

Residents will not be charged for the carts but are expected to take care of the containers so they last. Please contact City Hall if you have any issues with your new cart.

All residential refuse and recycling will need to fit inside your 96 gallon cart with no overflow. If you have additional garbage you will need to contact Harters and pay an additional fee for refuse in excess of the 96 gallon cart.

We will be providing additional information on our City website and Facebook pages as we get closer to this transition and residents will also receive a packet of information on your new carts when they are delivered.

If you have any questions or need more information please call or email Bruce Jamroz, Clerk/Treasurer at: 715-693-2275 or bjamroz@mosinee.wi.us.