

# The Arlington Report

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

Jim Kreft -- Mayor  
Ben Jaszewski -- Council Member  
Jennifer Nuesse -- Council Member  
Curt Reetz -- Council Member  
Jason Ruehling -- Council Member  
Galen Wills -- Council Member

## APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Liza Donabauer -- Administrator  
Lisa Tesch -- Deputy Clerk  
Vicki Pomplun -- Admin. Asst.  
Annie Shottliff -- Community Center Coordinator  
Tony Voigt -- Maintenance Supervisor  
Kirby Weckworth -- Maintenance Worker  
Cory Danner -- Police Chief  
Bruce Rovinsky -- Police Officer  
**CONTRACTED SERVICES**  
Ross Arneson -- City Attorney  
Cynthia Smith-Strack -- EDA, Planning & Zoning Consultant  
Darin Haslip -- Building Inspector  
PeopleService -- Water/Wastewater  
Jason Femrite (Bolton & Menk) -- City Engineer

## PHONE NUMBERS

City Hall: 964-2378  
Fax Line: 964-5973  
After-Hours On-Call:  
507-327-6601  
Fire Garage: 964-2279  
Police Dept.: 964-5200  
Library: 964-2490  
Hospital: 964-2271  
S.E. School: 964-2292  
Post Office: 964-5503

## OTHER SERVICES

*Water/Sewer/Electric Services*  
City of Arlington (964-2378)  
*Gas Service*  
CenterPoint Energy (800-245-2377)  
*Cable Service*  
Mediacom (800-332-0245)  
*Internet/Phone Service*  
Frontier (800-435-1504)  
*Garbage Services*  
Waste Management (800-422-5785)  
Renville-Sibley Sanitation (866-800-6244)  
Gaylord Sanitation (888-613-2274)

## TRUTH-IN-TAXATION HEARING

Ever wonder exactly what your tax dollars pay for? Want to know what your City spends its money on? Is there wasted spending? To answer these questions, and many others, the City Council will be conducting its annual Truth-in-Taxation Hearing on Monday, December 1 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Community Center. City staff will review next year's proposed revenues and expenses. It is the Council's goal to bring down the proposed levy by the final levy date in December. City staff will explain the reason behind any proposed increase and will touch on how the 2015 budget will affect the City and its property owners. The public is invited to attend the hearing to ask questions regarding next year's budget and property tax levy. Can't attend the meeting and have questions on next year's budget? Contact the City Administrator at 964-2378. Written comments may also be sent to the City Administrator at City Hall.

## 2015 STREET IMPROVEMENT OPEN HOUSE

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of Arlington will hold an Open House at the Community Center, 204 Shamrock Drive, from 4-6 p.m. on Monday, November 17, 2014, for the 2015 Street Improvement Project. The size and scope of the project was determined by a few factors. Earlier televising results identified the areas of West Douglas, West Chandler, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave NW and a portion of 4<sup>th</sup> Ave NW (all are East and South of Hwy 5) as areas that were fatigued and under much needed improvement. The City Engineer recommended an improvement of the storm sewer outfall within the watershed area affecting the northwest quadrant of the city. This overall will provide for better storm water outfall into the High Island Creek. As part of the City's work with the auditor on a five-year budget plan, the auditor believes it is healthy for the City of Arlington to engage in a construction project every two years. He recommended \$1.5 million projects at 15-year bond terms. The Open House gives the public an opportunity to review the plans, ask questions, make comments and provide input. If you have any other questions or concerns, please contact the City Administrator.

## CITY OFFICE CLOSED



The City Office will be closed Tuesday, November 11 for Veterans' Day, and Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

## CITY STREET DEPARTMENT

The City's street department wants to extend their gratitude to the residents who have been keeping the leaves out of their gutter lines. They have noticed and they appreciate your work!

## COMMUNITY CENTER ATTENDANT WANTED

The City of Arlington is accepting applications for two (2) part-time Community Center Attendants. The City is looking to expand their "pool" of eligible employees who are willing to work weekend afternoons/evenings. The position is primarily responsible for monitoring a variety of activities at the Arlington Community Center including weddings, dances, and other events at a rate of \$10.00/ hour. Applicants must be over 18 years old, have a valid class "D" drivers license. Spanish speaking applicants are a plus but not required.

## SKATING RINK ATTENDANT

The City of Arlington is accepting applications for a part-time position of Warming House/Skating Rink Attendant for the 2014-2015 skating season. The hours are after school, evenings, and weekends during the months of December through February (weather permitting) at a rate of \$8.75/hour. Applicants must be 16 years of age or older to apply. Applications will be accepted until 4:00 pm, Monday, November 24, 2014.



## FALL & WINTER ENERGY SAVING TIPS

- \* **Take advantage of the sun-** Open curtains on your south-facing windows during the day to allow sunlight to naturally heat your home, and close them at night to reduce the chill you may feel from cold windows.
- \* **Cover drafty windows-** Use a heavy-duty, clear plastic sheet on a frame or tape clear plastic film to the inside of your window frames during the cold winter months. Make sure the plastic is sealed tightly to the frame to help reduce infiltration.
- \* **Adjust the temperature-** When you are home and awake, set your thermostat as low as is comfortable. When you are asleep or out of the house, for eight hours or more, turn your thermostat down 10° to 15° and save around 10% a year on your heating and cooling bills.
- \* **Lower water heating costs-** Water heating can account for 14% to 25% of the energy consumed in your home. Turn down the temperature of your water heater to the warm setting (120°F).
- \* **Lower holiday lighting costs-** Use light-emitting diode - or "LED" -- holiday light strings to reduce the cost of decorating your home for the winter holidays.

Source by: <http://energy.gov/energysaver/articles/fall-and-winter-energy-saving-tips>

## City of Arlington, Sibley County

Contact us at:  
204 Shamrock Drive  
Arlington, MN 55307

Phone: 507-964-2378  
Fax: 507-964-5973  
E-mail: [cityhall@arlingtonmn.com](mailto:cityhall@arlingtonmn.com)  
Website: [www.arlingtonmn.com](http://www.arlingtonmn.com)



*A Beautiful City Growing in Unity*



### SNOW EMERGENCY NOTICE -- VEHICLES & TRAILERS

Although we probably don't want to admit it, the Minnesota snow season is right around the corner. Residents and business owners should remember that the City of Arlington will be plowing and hauling snow anytime there is a snowfall of two (2) inches or more. The City asks that all residents park all vehicles and trailers off the streets and avenues until they are plowed from curb to curb or they will be ticketed and towed. Vehicles that interfere with City maintenance activity, such as snow removal, may be towed to a designated area at the expense of the owner. The vehicle may be impounded until all parking fines, towing and storage charges have been paid. Unclaimed vehicles will be sold and the proceeds applied first against such fines and charges. Repeat violators will be towed without additional notice.

### SNOW EMERGENCY NOTICE -- SIDEWALKS

Property owners should also remember that city ordinances require that all ice and snow must be removed from all public sidewalks within 12 hours after such snow or ice has ceased to be deposited upon such sidewalk. Failure to remove the snow or ice within 24 hours may be a cause for the City to do so itself. If the City, or an agent assigned by the City, has to remove the snow, the City will bill the property owner accordingly. Unpaid bills for snow removal will be a cause for a special assessment against the property.

### SNOW EMERGENCY NOTICE -- BUSINESS DISTRICT PARKING

In the event of snow accumulation, vehicles are to park parallel to the street in the business district (Main Street and side streets) until such time that the entire street (curb to curb) has been cleared of snow.



### SNOWMOBILE & ATV OPERATORS NOTICE

Snowmobile and ATV operators should be aware that city ordinance requires you to use public roadways/streets or alleys by the most direct route when entering or leaving town. Snowmobiles and ATVs are not allowed to be operated on sidewalks or boulevards, nor are they to be operated on private property without prior consent of the owner. Also, city ordinance prohibits the use of snowmobiles and ATVs on any cemetery land or city park/recreation area. Speed is not to exceed 15 miles per hour within city limits. Also, please be aware that the TC&W Railroad, Minnesota Prairie Line, and Minnesota Valley Rail Authority prohibit snowmobiles and ATVs to operate on or traverse its property.

### OTHER REMINDERS ON SNOW REMOVAL

The City would also like to remind residents that it is illegal to remove snow/ice from private property and deposit it upon a public street in such a manner as to cause a hazard to travel, without proper arrangements for the immediate removal thereof. Also, no garbage dumpster shall be placed in the public right-of-way during the winter snow season (November 1 - April 1).

### "ONE VOTE" - YOUR VOTE DOES COUNT!

In regards to the future of our City, State and Nation, the upcoming elections on November 4th are important for all eligible voters. The decisions you make on November 4th will have a lasting outcome on what takes place in the near future and for generations to come. No matter where you stand on the issues facing the City of Arlington, the State of Minnesota and the United States, voters need to know it is important that they exercise the enormous power of their constitutional right to vote. Voting is a privilege and people need to understand that it is not granted to everyone. Most people throughout the world do not get to vote for people to represent them and make decisions for them in their government. But if voting is such a wonderful tool to selecting who leads our City, State and Nation, why do so few vote? The United States has one of the lowest voter turnout rates in the world (for free voting nations) at about 50% annually. In 2012, the voter turnout rate was a lower 58% (75% for Minnesota) of eligible voters. Which fell from the 2008 Presidential Election, which saw the highest voter turnout rate since 1968, but there was still only 62% of eligible voters who voted (78% in Minnesota). The 2006 Elections saw only 44% of eligible voters (60% in Minnesota). The 2004 Presidential Elections saw 55% of eligible voters who voted (78% in Minnesota). Can you imagine the effects on America with a voter turnout rate of 90%-95%? Many citizens do not vote because they believe their one vote isn't

going to make a difference. Quite the contrary. California, Idaho, Texas, and Washington were all admitted to the union by just one single vote. Rutherford B. Hayes and Thomas Jefferson were elected President by just one single Electoral College vote. The Thomas Jefferson vote prevented Aaron Burr, who would later be charged with treason, from becoming President. President George W. Bush received 271 Electoral College votes in 2000, one more than needed to win. In 1845, President Andrew Johnson's impeachment was defeated by just one vote. In 1920, women in the United States gained the right to vote by just one single vote when Tennessee became the 36th State to adopt the 19th Amendment. John F. Kennedy's margin of victory over Richard Nixon in the 1960 Presidential Election was less than one vote per precinct in four states (Illinois, Missouri, New Jersey, and Texas). Do you think your one vote does not count? Will you be the one that makes a difference this year? To exercise your free right, please remember to vote at the upcoming election on Tuesday, November 4th. The polls will be open at 7:00 a.m. and will close at 8:00 p.m. For the City of Arlington and Arlington Township residents, voting will be conducted in the Arlington Community Center, 204 Shamrock Drive. For more information on elections and voting, visit the Minnesota Secretary of State's website at [www.sos.state.mn.us](http://www.sos.state.mn.us) or contact Arlington City Office.