

The Arlington Report

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Rich Nagel -- Mayor
Michelle Batcher -- Council Member
Jim Heiland -- Council Member
Ben Jaszewski -- Council Member
Jennifer Nuesse -- Council Member
Galen Wills -- Council Member

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Liza Donabauer -- Administrator
Lisa Tesch -- Deputy Clerk
Vicki Pomplun -- Admin. Asst.
Annie Shotliff -- 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)

BUILDING PERMITS

With Spring right around the corner, homeowners may be thinking of home improvement projects. Many of those projects do need a permit, and to obtain the appropriate permit application form(s) for your next project. All permit applications are available online, go to www.arlingtonmn.com under City Departments/ Planning and Zoning, to find all building permit forms.



CITY RECYCLING
The City wants to remind everyone about the City recycling site at Main Street and 4th Ave SW (municipal parking lot). Every Tuesday during daylight hours, City residents may drop off their recycling. Recyclables that are accepted: newspaper, mixed paper, glass bottles, #1 & #2 plastic bottles, aluminum and tin cans, and cardboard.

Another option: Waste Management Recycling Center (located 4 miles south of Le Sueur) is open year round. They accept for a fee: car batteries, appliances, electronic equipment, and tires. *Electronic equipment includes computers, TVs, stereos, VCRs, copiers, printers, and FAX machines.* Call (800) 777-8408 for more details.

ASSESSMENT & CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the Open Book Meeting of the Board of Appeal and Equalization for Arlington City, Gaylord City, Gibbon City, Green Isle City, Winthrop City, Arlington Township, Kelso Township, Moltke Township, and Severance Township shall meet on Thursday, April 23, 2015 from 3 pm to 8 pm at the Sibley County Assessor's Office. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether taxable property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor, and to determine whether corrections need to be made. Please make an appointment by calling the Sibley County Assessor's Office at (507) 237-4078 or e-mail Assessor1@co.sibley.mn.us.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact the Assessor's Office to discuss your concerns. If you are still not satisfied with the valuation or classification after discussing it with the assessor, you may appear before the County Board of Appeal and Equalization. The Board shall review the valuation, classification, or both if necessary, and shall correct as needed.



COMMUNITY CENTER EVENTS

Tuesday, March 10— Arlington Blood Drive from 1-7 p.m.

Saturday, March 21— Rock'n 80's Quilting Retreat. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society.

Sunday, March 22— Arlington A's Wooden Bat Breakfast from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

MOWING HELP WANTED

The City of Arlington is accepting applications for the following seasonal position:

Mowing/Weed Trimming Positions— The season will start tentatively May 1st and run approximately 24 weeks, subject to growing season (dryness, wetness, early/late frost). The hours for lawn mowing/trimming are Monday - Friday, 8 am - 5 pm. Areas to be mowed/trimmed include the parks, public cemetery, and around City buildings. No weekend or evening mowing/trimming will be permitted. Approximately 32 hours per week will be spent mowing/trimming and maintaining equipment (oil changes, clean out decks, etc.). Seasonal part-time wage is \$9.00 per hour. Applicants must be 18 years or older to apply and have a valid drivers license. The City is preferably looking for individuals to mow/trim for the entire season. Applications will be accepted for backup mowers to help with the first half (April-May) and second half (August-October) of the season, as needed.

DEADLINE: All applications must be returned by **4:00 pm Friday, March 20, 2015.**

THANK YOU!

The City would like to thank the AGGW Cable Commission for a grant of \$488 for the installation of wireless internet throughout the Arlington City Office and Community Center. The City would also like to thank the VFW for their donation of \$1,500 towards continued field improvements at Sportsman's Park.

PET LICENSE

Don't forget to renew your pet license on or before April 1, 2015. Your 2014 pet license will expire on March 31st. The cost for the license is \$5.

CURBSIDE GARBAGE COLLECTION

Spring is just around the corner! With sustained warmer temperatures the gravel alleys will get soft and cannot handle the large garbage trucks driving on them. The City anticipates that sometime in March, we will be asking all residents and business owners to place their garbage cans and recycling containers curbside. Please keep watching the Arlington Enterprise for notice of when this change will actually take place.

2015 MAYORAL GOALS

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
Website: www.arlingtonmn.com



A Beautiful City Growing in Unity



1. Begin the Construction Phase of the 2015 Street and Utility Improvement Project.



After years of planning, 2015 should see the start of construction of a major infrastructure improvement project in the northwest quadrant of the city. The project will consist of major improvement to water, storm sewer, sanitary sewer, streets and where appropriate, new sidewalks and trees. The City Engineer will be working closely with the local Watershed Board to amicably determine the best method for increased discharge of storm water into the High Island Creek. Our City Engineer will also work closely with Sibley East School officials to address the impact that the school construction will have on this project, and vice-versa. We will need to be sensitive to the affected property owners concerns relating to sidewalk placement,

necessary tree removal, and planting of new trees on affected property. Construction is scheduled for completion in the summer of 2016. It will be a busy construction year in our community!

2. Explore Bringing New Employment Opportunities to Our Community.

When the unexpected shutdown of the Seneca Foods production plant in Arlington took place in October 2014, it was a definite wake-up call that nothing in the current work climate should be taken for granted. If, and when, the Seneca property becomes available, our Economic Development Authority will do all that it can to find a new occupant. The TC&W Railroad Company also has a sincere interest in finding a new rail shipping customer for this currently inactive site.

In the meantime the City will be vigilant in its effort to meet with current employers in the community, and remind them of their importance to the City of Arlington, and to explore any appropriate assistance that may be available for expansion interests.

3. Continue to Work toward Platting of the Industrial Park

With the acquisition of the 22 acre, Southwest Industrial Park by the EDA three years ago, it is now time to aggressively move to the platting of the property. This platting will heavily revolve around seeking the most feasible MNDOT approval for access directly, or indirectly, off of State Highway 5. In addition, optimal lot layout and utility routes need to be determined. The City of Arlington is always on the lookout for potential tenants to occupy parts of the Industrial Park.

4. Reduce the Presence of “Blighted Properties” Within the City of Arlington.

Blighted property comes under a variety of definitions depending on where property is located. In our community, I feel that blighted property is characterized by unsightly, trashed yards and unmaintained structures, as well as properties containing unlicensed motor vehicles, and other items that are reasonably prohibited by city ordinance. These unsightly properties take away from the beauty and pride that has been a hallmark of Arlington over the years.

With enforcement work of current ordinances by our Police Department, together with meaningful changes in any applicable ordinances, I am confident that noticeable improvements will result to assist Arlington residents with this goal. In addition, I would support the reinstatement of a City-Wide Cleanup Day.

5. Open Access to a “Renewed” Arlington Sportsman’s Park

The City of Arlington can be very proud of its park system. Recent emphasis involves user friendly access to Sportsman’s Park via a portion of the Sibley County Regional Trail System. This trail segment, connecting the City with Sportsman’s Park approximately one mile away, will be a 10’ wide paved surface and contain two bridges. The park itself should experience increased activity, especially use of the newly renamed Dan “Buck” Thomes Field. This softball/baseball field is being significantly improved, thanks to a “Fields for Kids” Grant from the Minnesota Twins, matching donations from local organizations and the work of our Parks Committee.

Access to Sportsman’s Park via the new trail should be completed in 2015. I anticipate that City residents will be excited with this new area for leisure-time activity.

6. Begin Phase One of the Sidewalk Rehabilitation/Construction Program

Part of the Ridgeview Sibley Medical Center lease revenue received by the City of Arlington each year has been designated to be used for sidewalk rehab/construction. In 2014, City staff surveyed and categorized sidewalks in the entire city. Based on these findings, serious consideration should be given to initiating the replacement of a portion of city sidewalks as appropriate in 2015.

-Mayor Richard Nagel (rnagel@arlingtonmn.com)