

# The Arlington Report

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

Jim Kreft -- Mayor  
Ben Jaszewski -- Council Member  
Jennifer Nuesse -- Council Member  
Curt Reetz -- Council Member  
Jason Rueling -- 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)

## ELECTION RESULTS

### Mayor

Rich Nagel 603 votes (72.3%)  
Bruce Anderson 225 votes (26.9%)  
Write-ins 6 votes (0.7%)

### City Council (Top 2)

Jim Heiland 557 votes (38.9%)  
Michelle "Shelly" Battcher 452 votes (31.6%)  
Tom Hatlestad 412 votes (28.8%)  
Write-ins 8 votes (0.5%)

Congratulations to Rich, Jim, and Shelly for being elected to serve the City of Arlington and its residents. The City would like to thank outgoing members Jim Kreft, Curt Reetz and Jason Rueling for their years of service as mayor and councilmembers on the City Council, and for their dedication to the Arlington residents.

### 6TH ANNUAL ARLI-DAZZLE

Arlington's 6th Annual Arli-Dazzle Celebration is set for Saturday, December 6th. The day will be filled with many activities and attractions. Below are some of the day's events:

*Santa Day* — The event will be held at the Arlington Community Center from 10:00 am-1:00 pm. Lots of activities for the kids, including breakfast with the Claus' from 9:00 am—10:00 am

*Quilt Show* — 9:00 am-5:00 pm at the Public Library  
*Bethlehem Express*— Noon to 3:30 pm, St. Paul's Lutheran Church

*Dash Through the Snow 5K Run/Walk* — Race time 12:30 pm

*AFD Blacktop Fishing Derby* — 1:00 pm start, Main Street Parking Lot

*Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides* — 1:00 pm

*Interactive Sled Dogs*— 2:00 pm, Interact with a real dog sled team.

*Snowball Baseball Game* — 2:30 pm, Behind Sibley East High School.

*The Amazing Hoopsters* — 4:00 pm, Main Street  
*Arli-Dazzle Parade*— The Arli-Dazzle Parade will take place at 5:30 pm. The parade route will run along Main Street, starting at 1st Ave (near the railroad tracks) going west to 7 1/2 Ave.

For additional information, contact the Arlington Chamber of Commerce or visit their website at:  
[www.arlingtonmnchamber.com](http://www.arlingtonmnchamber.com).



## LIVING NATIVITY

The Drive-By Living Nativity will be held on Saturday, December 13th from 5:30-7:30 pm at the Sibley County Fairgrounds. Cash donations and non-perishable food items will be collected at the entrance for the Sibley County Food Shelf. This event is sponsored by The Christian Community Task Force. Listen to KNUJ or KDUZ for weather cancellation information.



Happy  
Holidays!

## SNOW NOTICE TO RESIDENTS

**Vehicles and Trailers**—The City of Arlington will be plowing and hauling snow anytime there is a snowfall of two (2) inches or more. We ask that all residents park all vehicle(s) and trailer(s) off the street and avenues until they are plowed curb to curb, or they will be ticketed and towed at the owners expense.

**Sidewalks**— Accumulation of snow or ice on public sidewalks constitutes a public nuisance. It is unlawful for any person to place snow or ice from private property onto public property.

**Business District Parking**— In the event of snow accumulation, vehicles are to park **PARALLEL** to the street until the street is plowed from curb to curb and is clear of all snow.

**Dumpsters**— No dumpster is allowed in the public right-of-way during the winter season, which is defined as the period from November 1– April 1.

**Snowmobiles & ATVs**— City ordinance states that snowmobiles and ATVs must use public roadways, streets, or alleys by the most direct route when entering or leaving town. Speed is not to exceed **15** miles per hour within city limits.

Additional information is available at the City Office.

## SKATING/WARMING HOUSE

A change this winter: the skating rink/ warming house will be staffed thru Sibley East Community Ed. Watch the local newspaper for information on the hours for the warming house. The making of ice and hours for the warming house are weather dependent. For additional information contact Jen Strack, Sibley East Community Ed at 507-237-3322.

**The City Office will be closing at noon on Wednesday, December 24th and closed Thursday, December 25th for the Christmas holiday. The Office will also be closed Thursday, January 1st for the New Year's Holiday.**

## CLEAN ENERGY CHOICE

Customers deserve a choice in their energy supply. We are excited to inform our electric customers that Arlington has been selected as a pilot community for rolling out a renewable energy product called "Clean Energy Choice". Arlington's supplier, MMPA, will provide 1 kWh from its Oak Glen Wind Farm, Hometown BioEnergy, or Hometown Wind to the power grid for each kWh you, as a customer, purchase.

Residential customers can purchase renewable, sustainable energy for a slightly increased premium. This premium is calculated on a customer's actual household usage. Participation in this program is voluntary and on a month-to-month basis. There are no contracts to sign, and there is no long-term commitment.

This product is similar to a product the City currently offers: GreenPower Choice. The GreenPower Choice program allows customers to purchase a specified number of blocks (100 kWh) of renewable energy for \$1.75/block. The Clean Energy Choice program will allow residential customers to buy 100% of their monthly electricity from renewable resources at a premium.

According to MMPA, "...The primary benefit of this program is satisfying customers who want a renewable product at a modest premium over their current retail rates."

See enclosed flyer for a sign-up form.

## 2015 STREET AND UTILITY PROJECT

Thank you to all who attended the 2015 Street & Utility Improvement Open House on November 17, 2014. The City Engineer commented that the residents affected by the 2015 Street & Utility Improvement project appeared to be highly engaged and gave constructive comments for moving forward with the project. Concerns raised at the Open House were common in theme: sidewalks, street width, drainage, curb and gutter, tree removal and assessment.

The following is a "tentative" proposed schedule for this project:

1. Hold Open House Meeting (4-6 pm).....11-17-14
2. City Council Approves Plans & Specifications and Authorizes Advertise for Bids.....2-16-15
3. Advertise in Arlington Enterprise & Finance Commerce.....  
.....2-19 - 3-5
4. Open Bids.....3-12-15
5. City Council to Review the Bids—Order Advertisement of Assessment Hearing.....3-16-15
6. Advertise Assessment Hearing in Arlington Enterprise.....  
.....3-19 — 3-26
7. Mail Assessment Notice to Affected Property Owners.....3-19-15
8. Hold Assessment Hearing.....4-6-15
  - City Council Approves the Final Assessment Roll
  - City Council Accepts the Low Bid and Awards Contract
9. Begin Construction.....April/May 2015
10. Substantial Completion.....10-1-15
11. Final Completion.....6-1-16

### 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*



### One of the most common questions received from property owners any time the City undergoes a street and utility improvement project is: What are my options for paying for the assessed improvement?

The City's bonding agent, Shannon Sweeney of David Drown Assoc., outlined the general process as follows:

During the Final Assessment Hearing, the City Council will set the terms, and the interest rate for the assessment. Typically the term of the assessment matches the term of the financing (15 year bond = 15 year assessment period). An average interest rate is 5%.

- The property owner can pre-pay their assessment without interest BEFORE the assessment is certified at the County.
- After certification, the property owner can pay the full assessment, but will be charged for a full year of interest.
- The property owner can pay the assessment, with interest, as part of their property tax bill (2x/year) for the life of the assessment.
- If the Council chooses to, they can adopt a deferment policy allowing senior citizens, veterans and current military personnel (overseas) to defer the payment of the assessment (deferred with interest). Shannon Sweeney noted that at the time of the sale of the property or death, the assessment must be paid in full (with interest.)

### NOTICE SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR CITY BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS

The Mayor and City Council of Arlington are seeking interested individuals (residents) to fill open positions on the following Committees/Boards/Commissions, which become effective January 2015: Cemetery Committee (2 yr. term), Community Center Committee (2 yr. term), Economic Development Authority (EDA) (6 yr. term), Library Committee (2 yr. term), Parks Committee (2 yr. term), Planning & Zoning Committee (3 yr. term), Shade Tree Committee (1 yr. term).

For individuals who are interested in one or more of the above Committees, please contact the City Office, 204 Shamrock Drive, Arlington, MN or call 507-964-2378 for an Application for Appointment to Advisory Boards/Commissions/Committees form. Forms are also available on the City's website at [www.arlingtonmn.com](http://www.arlingtonmn.com). All applications must be turned into the City Office by **Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm.**

