

The Arlington Report

December's Recycling Dates: December 10th & 24th 8:00 am -11:00 am

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Rich Nagel -- Mayor
 Michelle Battecher -- 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
 Annie Shotliff -- Asst. Deputy Clerk
 Tony Voigt -- Maint. Supervisor
 Kirby Weckworth -- Maint. Worker
 Vacant-- Police Chief
 Jordan Voigt -- Interim Police Chief
 Bruce Rovinsky -- Police Officer
 Vicki Pomplun --Admin Coord.

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 (507-237-2274)

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 2017:

- 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 at 507-964-2378 for an application form, or to find them on the website, go to www.arlingtonmn.com under the news feed. All applications must be turned into the City Office.

SKATING/WARMING HOUSE

Sibley East Community Education is seeking individuals for a skating rink attendant in Arlington. Hours are after school, evenings and weekends during the months of December through February (weather permitting). Applications can be picked up at either the Arlington or Gaylord School Office or call the Community Education Office at 507-237-3322.

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 and staff dependent.

CITY OFFICES CLOSED

The City Offices will be closing at noon on Friday, December 23rd and will be closed all day on Monday, December 26th for the Christmas holiday. The Offices will also be closed on Monday, January 2nd for the New Year's Day holiday.



Arli-Dazzle is on December 3rd! Family friendly activities throughout the day, with the parade starting at 5:30 pm on Main Street. Fireworks will start immediately after parade (location to be determined).

ELECTION RESULTS

City Council (Top 3)

James 'Ben' Jaszewski	640 votes (27.8%)
Thomas Hatlestad	580 votes (25.2%)
Adam Cowell	554 votes (24.1%)
Jennifer Nuesse	508 votes (22.1%)
Write Ins	19 votes (0.8%)

Congratulations to Ben, Thomas, and Adam for being elected to serve the City of Arlington and its residents. The City would like to thank outgoing members Jennifer Nuesse and Galen Wills for their years of service as councilmembers and for their dedication to the Arlington residents.

RESIDENT HOUSE WATCH PROGRAM

Are you going away for the holidays or going on vacation this winter? Would you feel better knowing someone is watching over your house when you are gone? Now you can take that stress out of your vacation with the help of the Arlington Police Department. If you're interested, contact the APD at (507) 964-5200 for more information or go to the City's website to print out the application form. Please return completed forms to the Police Department at 108 4th Ave. NW.

LIVING NATIVITY



The Drive-By Living Nativity will be held on Sunday, December 11th 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. Listen to KNUJ or KDUZ for weather cancellation information.

GOOD SAMARITAN SOCIETY

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

The Arlington Good Samaritan Society would like to welcome the public to their Holiday Open House on Tuesday, December 15th from 5-7 pm. Punch and appetizers will be served! Sibley East choir students will also be singing Christmas carols. If you have any questions or would like to RSVP, please call Tiffany Brockhoff at 507-964-2251.

DECEMBER COMMUNITY CENTER EVENTS

- Thursday, Dec. 1– Dr. Bergseng's Retirement Party
- Saturday, Dec. 3– Santa Day
- Monday, Dec. 5– Truth-in-Taxation Hearing
- Tuesday, Dec. 27– Bloodmobile



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



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; or
- After certification, the property owner can pay the full assessment, but will be charged for a full year of interest; or
- 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.)



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>



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 owner's expense.

Sidewalks— Accumulation of snow or ice on public sidewalks constitutes a public nuisance. The owner or occupant of the abutting property has 12 hours to remove snow or ice that has been deposited upon the public sidewalk. Failure to remove the snow/ice accumulation within 24 hours, will be cause for the City to remove it, and bill the property owner accordingly. 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 during the day, all 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 or residential garbage cans are 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.

2017 STREET AND UTILITY PROJECT

The City Engineer presented the City Council with the plans for the 2017 Street and Utility Project on November 7, 2016. The affected property owners should have already received notice of the upcoming project. The project areas are West Brooks Street from 5th Ave. NW (State Hwy 5) to 3rd Ave. NW, West Alden Street from 5th Ave. NW (State Hwy 5) to 2nd Ave. NW, 4th Ave. NW from West Chandler St. to West Alden St. and 3rd Ave. NW from West Brooks St. to West Alden St.

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

1. Hold Open House Meeting (4-6 pm).....1-10-17
2. City Council Approves Plans & Specifications and Authorizes Advertise for Bids.....2-20-17
3. Advertise in Arlington Enterprise & Finance Commerce.....3-2 – 3-17
4. Open Bids (11:00 am).....3-17-17
5. City Council to Review the Bids—Order Advertisement of Assessment Hearing.....3-20-17
6. Advertise Assessment Hearing in Arlington Enterprise.....3-30 — 4-6
7. Mail Assessment Notice to Affected Property Owners.....3-30-17
8. Hold Assessment Hearing.....4-17-17
 - City Council Approves the Final Assessment Roll
 - City Council Accepts the Low Bid and Awards Contract
9. Begin Construction.....Start May 2017
10. Substantial Completion.....9-1-17
11. Final Completion.....6-1-18

