

The Arlington Report

October's Recycling Dates: October 14th & 28th 8:00 am -11:00 am

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Rich Nagel -- Mayor
Michelle Battcher -- Council Member
Adam Cowell -- Council Member
Tom Hatlestad -- Council Member
Jim Heiland -- Council Member
Ben Jaszewski -- Council Member

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Laura Elvebak -- Interim Administrator
Lisa Tesch -- Deputy Clerk
Annie Shotliff -- Asst. Deputy Clerk
Kirby Weckworth -- Maint. Supervisor
Vacant -- Maint. Worker
Pat Nienaber -- Interim Police Chief
Scott Sandquist -- Police Officer
Vacant -- Police Officer
Vicki Pomplun -- Admin Coord.

CONTRACTED SERVICES

Ross Arneson -- City Attorney
Holly Kreft -- EDA Consultant
Cynthia Smith-Strack -- 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)



CITY PAYMENT OPTIONS

City Office Staff would like to remind residents that the City offers several different options when it comes to paying your city bill.

Online— Residents can pay their city bill on the City's website, using their credit/debit card (2.5% convenience fee) or by electronic check (\$1.50 flat fee).

Automatic payment— The City offers automatic withdrawal from your checking or savings account (no additional fee). Automatic payments are set up to take place on the 4th of every month.

Over the phone— City Staff will take a payment over the phone by using your credit/debit card (2.5% convenience fee) or by electronic check (\$1.50 flat fee).

Drop-Off— Payments can be made in person at the City Office, or dropped off in the payment box located in the parking lot (any time of day) next to the City's mailbox. There is also a payment box inside the Arlington State Bank during their business hours.

Mail— Residents can always mail their payments to the City of Arlington, 204 Shamrock Drive, Arlington, MN 55307.

BOULEVARD TREE REMOVAL



When the City cuts down a boulevard tree, the wood is available on a first come first serve basis to anyone. After the tree is cut down, the wood is piled on the boulevard for the taking. If any wood remains after 3-5 days, the City will remove it. The City will grind out the stumps and reseed the area, as staff time permits.

JETTING THE SEWERS

Residents should be aware that PeopleService will be jetting sanitary sewers throughout October. During this time, residents may notice a sewer smell coming out of your drains. If you do, just run a little tap water down your drain, to refill the trap.

ARLI-DAZZLE REGISTRATIONS

Reminder to register your parade unit now! There is no fee for entering your unit. This year the Arli-Dazzle committee is encouraging people to register via their website: www.ArliDazzle.com. You may also pick up an application at the City Office or the Arlington State Bank. Please mail your application to Arli-Dazzle Parade c/o Chamber of Commerce PO Box 543 Arlington, MN 55307 or drop off at the Arlington State Bank. Any questions please contact Scott Sorenson at (507) 381-6113 or email sbsorenson@hotmail.com.

7TH ANNUAL FRIGHT NIGHT



Join Arlington Area Chamber of Commerce for their Halloween Fright Night on Tuesday, October 31st from 5:30-7:00 p.m. along Main Street, from East of Highway 5 to 1st Avenue. Come dressed for Trick or Treating and get a free hot dog and a sampling of Witch's Brew. Please contact Pam Maiers at pamelaarhea@outlook.com or (507) 351-8466 for more information or to volunteer.

COMPOST SITE IS STILL OPEN

Want to get rid of those fall leaves? The City's compost site is still open 7 days a week for residents in city limits. The site is located near the wastewater treatment plant on Freedom Drive (SE corner of town). **Allowable Compost:** lawn clippings, garden compost, and leaves (no plastic bags). **No garbage or construction material is allowed at the compost site.** **Small brush pile:** No stumps or logs. For larger quantities of brush, the City will do chipping on location, for a cost. Call the City Office to get the cost and to schedule for the chipping service.

GET THOSE LAWN METER READINGS IN!

City Staff is reminding residents with lawn meters to turn in their final readings for the year so their sewer charges can be credited. Staff would also like to remind lawn meter owners to bring their meters inside and store them in a non-freezing location to prevent damage to the meter. Damaged meters will be replaced at the owner's expense.

NO BURNING OF FALL LEAVES



With the fall season upon us, ideas for getting rid of leaves begin to surface. Residents should remember that burning leaves within city limits is prohibited. Fires are only permitted within city limits as long as they are for recreational purposes. *Recreational purposes* shall include only the cooking of food or providing heat and light for outdoor social gatherings. Only propane, charcoal bricks, or wood products may be used to fuel outdoor fires and shall be contained in an outdoor fire place, barbecue equipment, or a concrete-lined fire pit, sufficient to provide physical limitation to the spread of the fire.

CEMETERY REMINDER

City Staff wants to remind our residents and their families that the Cemetery is not a place for play. It is the goal of the City of Arlington to maintain the Public Cemetery, which affords a quiet and attractive resting place for the dearly departed members of the community. Thank you!

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



PRELIMINARY TAX LEVY SET

At the September 18th meeting, the Arlington City Council approved a 5.98% preliminary tax levy increase for 2018. The Council, in partnership with its committees, departments and staff, will continue to review and revise the proposed budget in anticipation of reductions to the levy amount by December, when the Council adopts the final levy for 2018. As always, once the preliminary tax levy has been set, it cannot be increased, only decreased. The preliminary tax levy as proposed:

General Fund	\$587,634
Fire Pumper Loan	\$35,000
Comm. Ctr. Building Bond	\$61,000
2009 G.O. RF Bonds (Street & Utility)	\$47,000
2012 G.O. Bonds (Street & Utility)	\$5,000
2015 G.O. Bonds (Street & Utility)	\$70,000
2017 G.O. Bonds (Street & Utility)	\$51,800
Other Levies (Tax Abatement)	\$2,500

TOTAL PRELIMINARY TAX LEVY: \$859,934



The proposed increase in the General fund levy reflects an increase in services and fees in a few departments, additional transfers, and anticipated health insurance premium and wage increases. The debt service portion of the preliminary levy reflects amounts sufficient to meet debt repayment requirements. The City Council will hold a Truth-in-Taxation hearing on Monday, December 4th to provide an overview of the proposed 2018 budget and take public comment prior to approving the final budget and tax levy.



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK IS OCTOBER 8-14



This year's Fire Prevention Week will be held from October 8th-14th. Fire Prevention Week is a good reminder to everyone to check and replace the batteries in their smoke detectors. Smoke alarms that are properly installed and maintained play a vital role in reducing fire injuries and deaths. During the week, the Arlington Fire Dept. will join the Gaylord Fire Dept. for a joint fire safety presentation with the students at the Sibley East Elementary School in Gaylord. On Wednesday, October 11th the AFD will be delivering takeout orders from local businesses from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Participating businesses include Arlington Haus, Cenex, Double Tap Bowling Alley & Sports Bar, Godfather's, Otto's Café and Quick Shop-Subway. When they deliver your order to your home, they will also change the batteries in your smoke detectors, with a limit of two per household.

To end the week, the Arlington Fire Department Relief Association invites you to their 2nd annual Fall Block Party. The event will be held at the Arlington Fire Hall, 310 West Alden Street, with a Boneless Pork Chop Dinner running from 5:30-7:30 p.m. During the dinner the first band of the evening Rhythm Kings will be performing. Then starting at 8:00 p.m. the band IV Play will perform. Tickets are \$20 for meal and entertainment (in advance), or \$15 at the gate (no meal). Dinner tickets will not be sold at the door, so please plan ahead and purchase your tickets in advance, from any active firefighter, Haggemiller Lumber, Ottomotive Tire & Repair, Y-Not Plumbing & Heating, and Steve's Copy Shop. In case of inclement weather, IV Play will perform at Main Street Hall, 310 West Main Street.

DO YOU NEED FLOOD INSURANCE?

The City of Arlington participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The National Flood Insurance Program aims to reduce the impact of flooding on private and public structures. It does so by providing affordable insurance to property owners and by encouraging communities to adopt and enforce floodplain management regulations. These efforts help mitigate the effects of flooding on new and improved structures.

FACT: Floods are the nation's most common and costly natural disaster and cause millions of dollars in damage every year.

FACT: Homeowners and renters insurance does not typically cover flood damage.

FACT: The damage from just one inch of water can cost more than \$20,000.

FACT: Floods can happen anywhere--More than 20 percent of flood claims come from properties outside the high risk flood zone.

FACT: Flood insurance can pay regardless of whether or not there is a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

FACT: Most federal disaster assistance comes in the form of low-interest disaster loans from U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and you have to pay them back. FEMA offers disaster grants that don't need to be paid back, but this amount is often much less than what is needed to recover. A claim against your flood insurance policy could and often does, provide more funds for recovery than those you could qualify for from FEMA or the SBA--and you don't have to pay it back.

FACT: Congress has mandated federally regulated or insured lenders to require flood insurance on mortgaged properties that are located in areas at high risk of flooding. But even if your property is not in a high risk flood area, your mortgage lender may still require you to have flood insurance.

