

# The Arlington Report

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

## February

### FEBRUARY COMMUNITY CENTER EVENTS

- ♥ **PHEASANTS FOREVER BANQUET**- Pheasants Forever will be hosting their 29th Anniversary Banquet on Saturday, February 10th at the Arlington Community Center. Doors open at 4:00 pm. Tickets are available from Jon Harbarth (507) 237-5679.
- ♥ **SCRAPBOOKING RETREAT**- The Rock'n 80's Relay for Life Team will be hosting their annual scrapbooking retreat on Saturday, February 17th at the Arlington Community Center. There will be make and takes, door prizes, great food, and various vendors. For more information on this event, contact Jeri Odenthal (612) 418-6880 or email her at jerodenthal@gmail.com.
- ♥ **FISH FRY**- The Arlington Lions will be hosting their annual Fish Fry at the Arlington Community Center on Friday, February 23th from 11:00 am to 7:30 pm or until the fish is gone. Please join Mayor Nagel and Nancy Mathwig, at 5:00 pm, in presenting the Darwin Mathwig Award to Lowell Nagel.
- ♥ **FARMERS MARKET VENDOR MEETING**- The Farmers Market Committee will be hosting a vendor information meeting on Monday, February 26th at 2:00 pm (a second meeting will be held in March) at the Arlington Community Center. They will go over all of the market rules, get vendors Cottage Food Law certified and answer any questions that vendors may have.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH METERS

Many households have radio-read water and electric meters, but if you know your house is still read manually, this message is for you! Please help the meter readers for the rest of the winter season. The City of Arlington is asking residents to assist by clearing a path to water and electric meters. Residents that have a fenced-in yard can also assist the City by making sure snow is removed from the gate to make access to the meters easier. This will help meter readers avoid walking on snow-covered landscaping and allow them to do their job more safely and efficiently. Thank You!



The City Offices will be closed on Monday, February 19th in observance of the Presidents' Day holiday.

### WARMING HOUSE

As long as temperatures stay cold enough for ice, the warming house will be open and available for ice skaters to use at Four Seasons Park. The warming house hours are Monday-Friday 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm and Saturday, Sunday & non-school days 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Skating is allowed at anytime, but lights and supervision are only during the posted hours.



### 2018 PET LICENSES ARE HERE!

All pet licenses issued in 2017 will expire on March 31, 2018. According to City Ordinance 283, all domesticated pets (dogs and cats) must be licensed. Residents are encouraged to stop by the City Office before April 1st to obtain a 2018 pet license. The cost for the license before April 1st is just \$5 per pet. Residents must also provide a health certificate showing that the pet is current on its rabies vaccination. Due to the spring vaccination schedule, your pet may not be due for vaccinations until after April 1st. You should still license your pet in February or March to avoid the late fees. You will be permitted to bring an updated health certificate in at a later date. Licensing your pet assures that it will be taken care of and returned safely if it gets loose and is picked up by the Police Department or a neighbor. Residents should also be aware that a total of only three (3) adult (includes spayed or neutered) pets are allowed per household. Also, if you have lost (ran away, given away or passed away) pets within the last year, please notify the City Office so we can remove that pet from our current listing. The City will be following up on our listing of pets again this year. **Residents should also remember that pets are not permitted to run at large within City limits. Pets must either be leashed or cabled/chained, kenneled or in a fenced yard, and are not allowed to roam freely. Please remember when walking your pet in town, to pick up after them.**

### FEBRUARY FUN FACTS

- February frequently occurs in lists of the most commonly misspelt words in the English language.
- February is the only month that can pass with no full moon. This will occur this year in 2018.
- February is the shortest month of the year.
- Every four years, is a leap year. February is the only month that has an extra day. The next leap year is 2020.

Source: <https://www.express.co.uk/life-style/top10facts/639723/Top-10-facts-February>

### 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

Pat Melvin -- City Administrator  
Lisa Tesch -- Deputy Clerk  
Annie Willmsen -- Asst. Deputy Clerk  
Kirby Weckworth -- Maint. Supervisor  
Michael Willmsen -- Maint. Worker  
John Petterson -- Police Chief  
Sara Jancoski -- Police Officer  
Vacant -- Police Officer  
Vicki Pomplun -- Admin Coord.

### CONTRACTED SERVICES

Ross Arneson -- City Attorney  
Amy Newsom -- 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 (507-834-6168)  
Gaylord Sanitation (507-237-2274)

## 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*



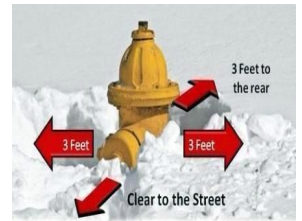
## 2018 CITY COUNCIL GOALS

In 2018 Mayor Nagel took a fresh approach to his 2018 Mayoral goals. He has asked each City Council member to help brainstorm goals that as a full City Council they can achieve together. Here is the listing of the 2018 City Council Goals:

1. **Economic development**
  - a. Acquire access to the south Industrial Park.
  - b. Conduct a housing study to identify the type of housing needed within the City.
  - c. Take steps to improve business retention and attraction.
2. **Communications**
  - a. Work to resolve the limited emergency radio reception throughout the City.
  - b. Research options for replacing existing City phone system.
  - c. Review Information Technology Services based on customer service and functionality.
3. **Strategic management**
  - a. Conduct a strategic planning process with input from the public.
  - b. Update the existing Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).
  - c. Develop a five year budget process.
4. **Organizational effectiveness**
  - a. Develop a staff and management team.
  - b. Scan documents for retention in a management system and discard hard copy records.
  - c. Streamline departments through updating job descriptions and cross-training.

## FIRE HYDRANTS & STORM DRAINS

The City of Arlington and the Arlington Fire Department want to remind everyone that if there is a fire hydrant or near your property, please take a few moments to shovel the snow away. Clearing the snow away from a hydrant increases its visibility and can save precious time when firefighters need to hook up to the hydrant in an emergency. The City is also asking residents to help prevent street flooding and icing by clearing snow away from storm sewer catch basins. When the weather turns warmer and snow begins to melt, it's important that the runoff water is able to get into the storm sewer. If the catch basin is covered by a build-up of snow and ice, street flooding can occur. Be a good neighbor and adopt a hydrant and/or storm drain!



## PROTECT YOUR PIPES



It has been brought to our attention, that materials such as diapers, rags, mop heads, and personal cleaning wipes are being flushed down the toilet, causing wastewater equipment to clog up. These materials should not be flushed down the toilet as they don't break down properly. **THE ONLY ITEMS YOU SHOULD FLUSH DOWN THE TOILET ARE:** bodily wastes & toilet paper. Everything else should go in the trash.

## WATER METER REPLACEMENT IS STILL UNDERWAY

The City and PeopleService personnel are continuing the process of changing out old water meters to the newer radio-read technology meters. The City is nearly 90% of the way to our goal of having our entire customer base switched over. The new meters are fitted with a radio device that allow utility workers to get meter readings using a walk-by or drive-by reading technology, and allow for a speedier and more accurate way to measure consumption.

If your house still has an old water meter, contact the City Office to schedule an appointment to have it changed out, as soon as possible. In most cases, the meter replacement should only take 30-45 minutes and there is no cost to replace the meters. Please contact the City Office at 507-964-2378 with any questions and to schedule an appointment. Thank you for your cooperation in finally completing this process!

## DOES YOUR WATER BILL SEEM HIGH?

The average American uses about 90 gallons of water each day in their home and each household uses approximately 107,000 gallons of water each year.

- EPA estimates that the average U.S. citizen wastes 2 gallons daily on oral hygiene. That might amount to 600 million gallons daily! Don't run the faucet when you aren't using it.
- A silent leak in your toilet can waste several thousand gallons of water each year, so check toilets regularly. Replace old toilets with new models that use 1.6 gallons or less per flush.
- Fix leaky faucets immediately. A leaky faucet that drips at a rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year.



## COMPARE COSTS

- One gallon of heating oil (natural gas) \$2.65
  - One gallon of gasoline \$2.52
  - One gallon soda pop \$3.58
  - One gallon milk \$3.29
  - One gallon orange juice \$5.00
  - One gallon beer \$12.00
- One gallon of water delivered to your home costs less than \$.01.

**It's important for each of us to save water, every day. Shutting off the faucet will help with water conservation. For more easy tips to save water in Minnesota, visit: [www.mrwa.com](http://www.mrwa.com).**