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Truth in Taxation Hearing December 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

City Hall
20225 Cottagewood Road
Deephaven, MN 55331

The City Council will hold its Truth in Taxation Hearing as part of its regular meeting on Monday, December 8, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend this meeting to comment on the 2016 Budget and Levy. The City anticipates adopting the final 2016 Budget and Levy at this meeting. *Please turn to Page 2 of this newsletter for additional information on the City's Proposed 2016 General Fund Budget and Levy.*

The detailed preliminary budget is available for review on the City website at www.woodlandmn.org

A Reminder About Fire Alarm Fees

The City of Woodland has long assessed a fee for fire calls to a property where the incident occurred. The first call in a calendar year is \$250. The second call and all additional calls in a calendar year are \$500. *These fees cover only part of the cost of the City's fire protection.*

Woodland contracts with the Wayzata Fire Department for fire protection services. Woodland pays a portion of the Department's budget, based on the volume of our calls relative to total fire calls from communities served.

Fire Department has a duty to respond even though the fire alarm is canceled immediately and prior to the fire trucks arriving at your residence or even leaving the station.

Wayzata volunteer fire fighters are immediately paged and respond, leaving their homes or jobs at all hours of the day or night. The fire fighters are paid for responding even if the call is cancelled. Woodland residents are responsible for fire service fees, *whether the call is a false alarm or a real fire.* If your home is monitored by a private alarm company and that company initiates a fire alarm call, be prepared to pay the City's fire service fee.



Stolen Mail is a Leading Cause of Identity Theft!

Article by the Deephaven Police Chief

The Deephaven Police Department has responded to complaints regarding mail thefts over the past several months. This is not a new crime, as it has been an ongoing issue for the last ten years. However, the thieves are not looking through garbage anymore—they are now going through mailboxes. These thieves are not looking for birthday cards with money; they are looking to steal your identity. Thieves are looking for credit cards, account numbers, and anything with personal information. The risk of mail theft can be reduced. **We are asking residents to consider installing locking mailboxes.** Many of our residents have purchased locking mailboxes. Think of a locking mailbox as an insurance policy on your identity.

PROTECTING YOUR MAIL

Here's what you can do to protect your mail from thieves:

- Use official mailboxes, the letter slots inside your Post Office, or hand mail to a letter carrier. Do not use your personal mailbox to mail outgoing mail. The raised red flag is a sign for thieves.
- Pick up your mail promptly after delivery. Don't leave it in your mailbox overnight. If you're expecting checks, credit cards, or other negotiable items, ask a trusted friend or neighbor to pick up your mail. If you don't receive a check or other valuable mail you're expecting, contact the issuing agency immediately.
- If you change your address, immediately notify your Post Office and anyone with whom you do business via the mail.
- Tell your Post Office when you'll be out of town, so they can hold your mail until you return.
- Report all suspected mail theft to the Deephaven Police Department and the Postal Inspector.
- Consider exchanging work and vacation schedules with trusted friends and neighbors, you can watch each other's mailboxes (as well as homes).

Consult with your local Postmaster for the most up-to-date regulations on mailboxes. **If you believe your mail was stolen, call the Deephaven Police immediately, then call Postal Inspectors at 877-876-2455.**

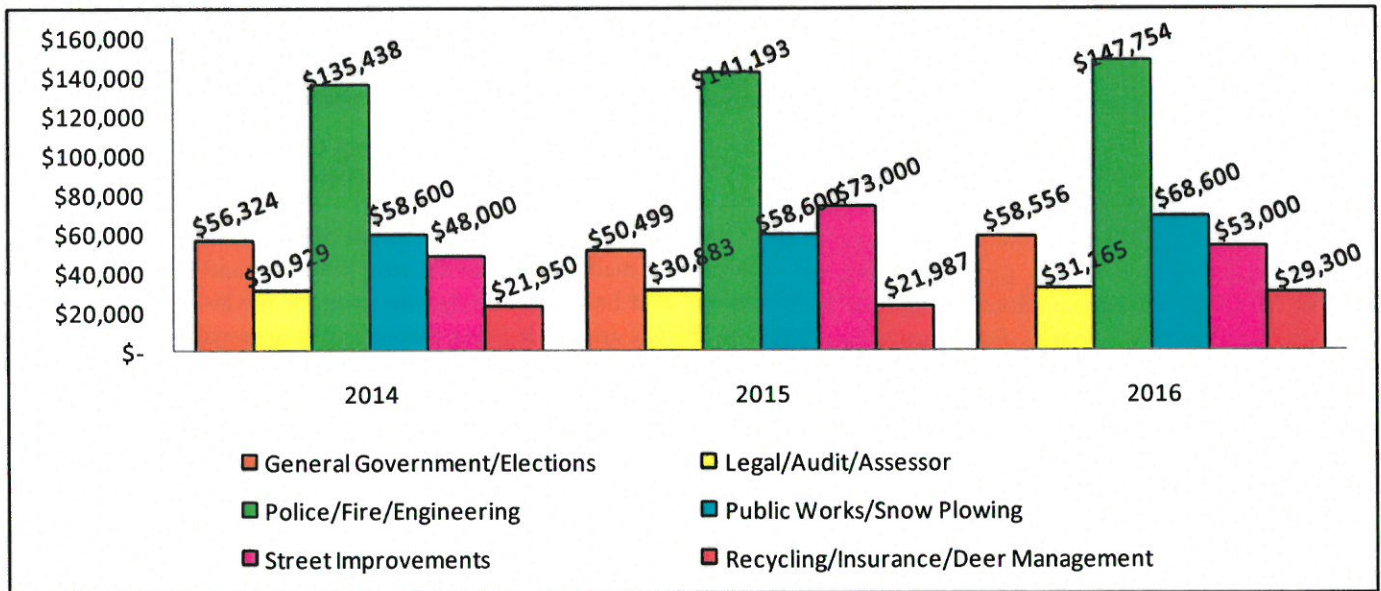


Spotlight on the City of Woodland 2016 Budget and Levy

2016 General Fund Budget

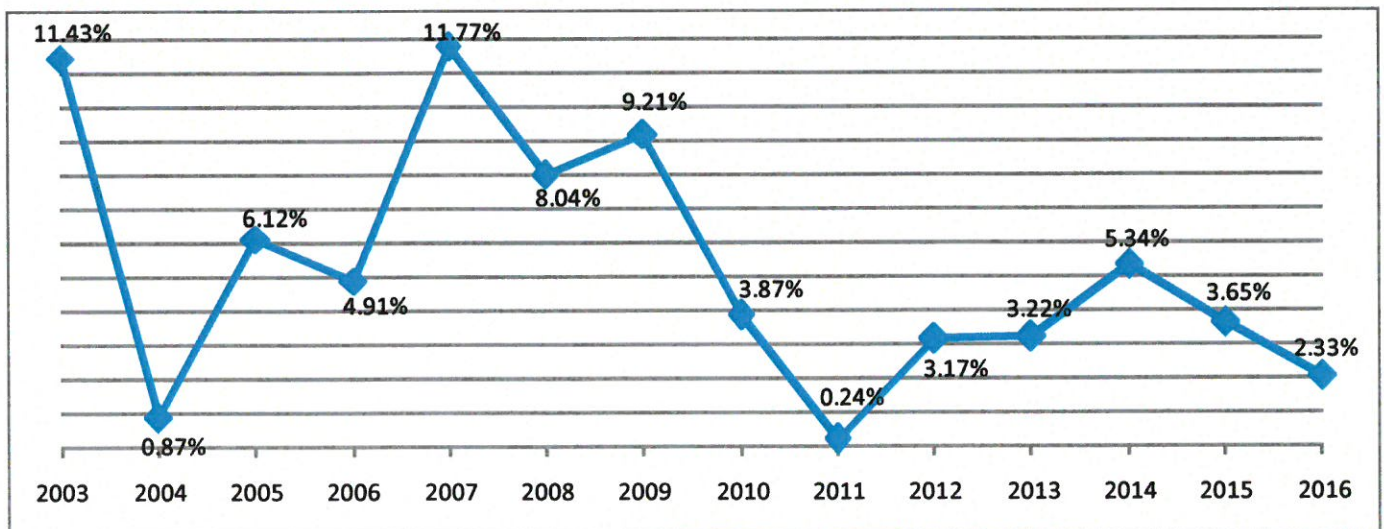
The Woodland City Council adopted the 2016 preliminary budget and property tax levy on September 14th. In 2016, we expect to experience modest inflation in maintenance, personnel, and operating expenses. Our contribution to the City's Street Improvement Fund will decline somewhat, after major funding in 2015 for the renovation of Breezy Point Road and other major repairs. In 2016 General Fund expenditures are estimated to be \$388,375, an increase of \$3,512, or 0.9% from the 2015 budget, but a 2.77% decrease from \$399,443 projected for 2015.

History of General Fund Budget Expenditures



History of the City of Woodland Tax Levy

The total tax levy required to fund the 2016 budget is \$357,775. This represents a 2.33% increase over the 2015 levy. The City's tax levy accounts for approximately 1/10 of a typical Woodland property's total tax bill and reflects one of the lowest municipal tax rates in Minnesota. The bulk of residents' tax bills represents levies by Hennepin County, the School District, and other various taxing authorities.



Health Alert

Two Silent but Potentially Fatal Gases Carbon Monoxide (CO) and Radon (RA)

Both carbon monoxide and radon carry a potential threat to residents. Newer homes with the most modern furnaces and air exchange systems (specified by Minnesota State Law) will likely protect a homeowner from carbon monoxide accumulation. Older homes with the potential for furnace systems in disrepair or simply "a bit worn" may be sources of carbon monoxide being ventilated into living spaces. However, all new and older homes are vulnerable to exposure to radon with subsequent development of lung cancers which are attributed to long-term (10 years or more) exposure to modest-to-high levels of radon. Fortunately, these risks to residents can be greatly reduced if the homeowner pursues proper assessment and subsequent repair and mitigation techniques.

Carbon Monoxide—CO is an odorless, colorless gas formed in the process of incomplete combustion of natural gas that is widely used for heating by Woodland residents. Common sources of CO include furnaces, water heaters, clothes driers, stoves/ovens, and wood burning stoves and fireplaces. Dangerous concentrations accumulate when the devices are not properly vented, operated or maintained. The Minnesota Department of Health reported 14 deaths attributed to carbon monoxide in 2013. Hundreds of CO poisoning cases are treated in Minnesota's hospitals each year.

Bottom Line for Detection from CO Poisoning—Below are some ways to protect you and your family from CO poisoning:

1. Minnesota State law (Statute 299F.50) requires single family dwellings to contain one operational CO alarm within 10 feet of all rooms used for sleeping. It is also recommended that a CO detector AND at least one natural gas detector (often in combination with a CO detector) be located in each furnace room (explosions from the accumulation of natural gas do occur in the best of homes).
2. Carbon monoxide can be detected by inexpensive, properly functioning monitors that are available at hardware and home improvement stores.
3. The signs and symptoms of CO poisoning start with headache and breathlessness followed by flu-like symptoms of dizziness, nausea, and somberness and ending in confusion, loss of coordination, and unconsciousness. When one is asleep, all the symptoms are absent except unconsciousness (coma) which proceeds to cessation of respiration (the silent killer).
4. Have your fuel-burning appliances, including your functioning fireplaces and chimney flue, inspected and serviced by a qualified heating contractor or chimney sweep in the fall of each year.



Radon—RA is a radioactive gas and is the product of radioactive decay of uranium which is found in most soils in the State of Minnesota. The gas is in the air we breath and it is concentrated in lung tissue. The emission of beta and gamma rays to the lung tissue over an extended time evokes DNA changes which may produce cancer in the lung tissue.

Discussion with Angela Tin, MS from The American Lung Association, revealed that radon induced lung cancer constitutes 10-14% of all lung cancer with a death rate of 22,000 to 24,000 people per year in the United States and 287-382 deaths per year in Minnesota.

A comparison of the estimated 287-382 yearly deaths in Minnesota from radon-induced lung cancer to other well known death rates emphasizes the gravity of elevated levels of radon in your home:

1. 134 assaults resulting in homicide
2. 287-382 deaths from radon
3. 464 motor vehicle accidents
4. 506 prostate cancer
5. 683 suicide

The gas is odorless and tasteless. It is found in soils and rocks in our State with documented amounts in the soil in the City of Woodland. The gas seeps through the structure cracks and gaps of foundation walls or through the concrete floors in basement and crawl spaces.

The best approach to minimize the radon in your home is to have your home tested. Radon testing is easy and can be carried out by the homeowner. Test kits are available at your local hardware or home improvement stores. Test kits are also available through the State of Minnesota website at www.health.state.mn.us. The website also provides a list of Minnesota certified radon test professionals. If radon is found in your home, the range of costs for a mitigation system is \$1,000 to \$3,500, depending upon the degree of difficulty to the installer.

**Thank you to the City of
Woodland Medical Officer,
Dr. Bruce Shilling, for providing
Health Alert articles.**

Disposing of Fall Yard Waste

Yard and tree waste includes brush, garden debris, grass clippings, leaves, plants (indoor and outdoor), compost, mulch and wood chips. It is illegal to put yard and tree waste in your household garbage.

Disposal Options

Some yard waste materials can be picked up at the curb by your private waste hauler. Contact your private hauler to learn if this option is available to you.

Local Waste Haulers:

- Waste Management—952-860-1100
- Allied Waste—952-941-8394
- Randy's Sanitation—763-972-3335
- Vintage Waste—952-472-0401

Snow Removal

City snow plow operations begin in the early morning hours to facilitate morning work traffic after two inches or more of snow have accumulated. If there is an accumulation of drifting snow, or if ice and/or freezing rain affects road conditions, the vehicles will be on the roads plowing and sanding.

Snow Plow Etiquette

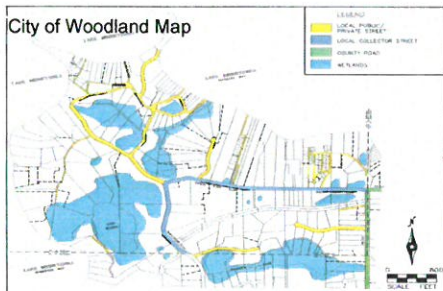
- Never pass a snow plow by driving on the shoulder.
- Plows frequently stop and back up. The driver has a "blind zone" and may not see your vehicle if you are following too closely.
- Never drive into the "cloud" a snow plow kicks up. The cloud can create a "white out" and cause complete loss of visibility.

Plowing all streets requires several hours.

Please be patient.

Please don't push snow into or across the street

The removal of snow or ice from private property and placing it in the roadway of any street or private road is not only not allowed, it's prohibited by State Statute.



What's New in Recycling?

Tips and tricks to Recycle Everywhere in your home—Remembering to recycle everything from every room in your house can sometimes be challenging, especially when you're just trying to get the laundry done or get ready for work. About half of home recyclables never make it to the recycling bin. We do well recycling kitchen items, but our bathrooms, laundry rooms, and home offices have lots of recyclables we throw out. Expand your recycling habit by using convenient recycling bins and signage and mix in a little education and fun. Recycle everywhere in your home with these tips and tricks.

Make recycling easy—Start by putting a recycling bin, bag or box next to every garbage can in your house. Then label your bins with signs so that everyone knows how to sort their recycling and trash. If you have limited space, get creative. Hang a bag on the doorknob of your bathroom, laundry room or office for recyclables. Put a divider in your wastebasket to make it trash on one side and recycling on the other. You could also hang a recycling container inside a cabinet or mount them on a wall.

Recycle in every room—Did you know there are more than 20 items in the bathroom alone that are recyclable? Find more items to recycle by reviewing this list:

Bathroom: Shampoo, soap, lotion, mouthwash and contact lens cleaner bottles, boxes from toothpaste, medication and other toiletries, empty medicine bottles, empty toilet paper rolls, plastic containers from baby wipes and cleaning wipes

Laundry room: Laundry detergent and fabric softener bottles, stain remover and other cleaner bottles, cat litter jugs and boxes, dryer sheet and laundry detergent boxes

Office: Paper, mail, catalogs, magazines and newspaper, office supply boxes, paper file folders, soft cover books, and tissue boxes

Make it fun!

Involve the entire family in recycling by making it fun. Have kids make a "please recycle" sign that shows what items can go in the recycling bin. Place a basketball rim above the recycling bin so your family can slam dunk their recyclables. Make it a challenge: try to generate only one bag of trash a week, and once you've conquered that, get a smaller trash can.

Christmas Tree Disposal Reminder

The City does **not** have a city-wide pick-up of Christmas trees. Please arrange with your trash hauler for the proper disposal of your Christmas tree.

Woodland Facts

The area of Woodland is approximately 0.8 square miles. Approximately 3.6 miles of public roads and 5.9 miles of shoreline on Lake Minnetonka.

Mayor

Jim Doak..... 952-473-1308

Council Members

Sliv Carlson..... 952-475-0586
John Massie..... 612-889-1333
Tom Newberry..... 651-642-4242
Elizabeth Weiner..... 612-616-8050

City Hall—20225 Cottagewood Road, Deephaven

City Hall 952-474-4755
Police 952-474-7555