

at Home

NORTH ST. PAUL



JANUARY ISSUE 2019

Positive Changes Ahead

It's Renaissance-time in North St. Paul

You could say the City is in a renaissance period. Economic development is booming. North St. Paul Suite Living Care, a 32-unit assisted living development at Commerce Park is well underway and will be completed this spring.

Here are other recent redevelopments:

- **Anchor Block South:** The first phase of MI Home's 100 unit townhome development was approved by the City Council at their December 4th meeting. Next April MI Homes plans to begin site work and start construction on half of the townhome units.
- **Margaret Street Project:** Thor Living is proposing to develop a mixed-use project on the properties directly west of City Hall. Thor is looking at constructing approximately 75-unit market rate apartment units, along with some limited commercial space on the first floor.
- **Old City Hall Site:** A group of local investors has partnered with Amcon Construction to develop a 87-unit market rate apartment complex on the site. The proposal envisions needing some of the surrounding properties to make the project feasible. Once they have control of the entire site they plan to move forward with the project.
- **Polar Plaza:** The owners of Polar Plaza are contemplating adding approximately 7,000 sq. ft. of additional commercial space on the south side of their property. The proposed concept would include two new buildings to house a variety of potential commercial / retail users.

2019 Budgets are Set

The City Council, City Manager, Finance Director and department heads worked hard reviewing and balancing the 2019 budget. Six workshops and two council meetings were held.

Originally, the preliminary levy of the proposed tax statements that the county sent in November, 2018 was at 15%. Staff was able to decrease it to 8.81%.

At the December 4, 2018 City Council meeting, the City Council approved the 2019 General Fund Budget, General Property Tax Levy and Debt Levy in the current amounts:

- **General Fund Budget:** \$6,843,543 (Increase of \$320,958 from 2018 and includes an 8.81% levy increase).
- **Property Tax Levy:** 8.81% (Increase is down from the 15% preliminary levy of the proposed property tax statements the county sent in November).
- **Debt Service Levy:** \$94,072 (Increased for the 2018 bond issue of \$243,325 being added less smaller issues that have been completed).

A copy of the City budgets can be found at City Hall or at: northstpaul.org/budgets.

Doing Some Energy Improvements?

Loans are available through the Center for Energy and Environment. For many homeowners, including seniors and those living on a fixed income, expensive utility bills and heating system repairs can be a difficult financial burden.

To help, the Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) has partnered with Ramsey County to offer an Energy Conservation Deferred Loan.

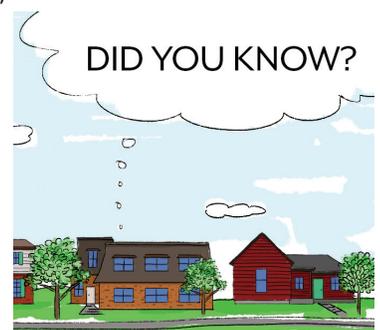
The loan is 0% interest, has no monthly payments, and is forgiven if the homeowner stays in their home for 10 years. Income limits apply.

Eligible projects include: Furnace/boiler replacement, water heater replacement, and attic and/or wall insulation.

To learn more or to get started call CEE's residential loan specialists at (651) 789-5706.

In addition to this program, CEE offers a wide variety of financing options for your home improvement needs. To learn more visit mnlendingcenter.org.

The Center for Energy and Environment is a Minnesota non-profit that has been helping homeowners for over 40 years.





News & Notes

Serving the Community

This year the City welcomes Scott Duddeck as Interim City Manager. Duddeck was appointed by council after Manager Craig Waldron announced his retirement. The City also welcomes Officer Miles Wakumoto and Officer Dominic Jara. Congratulations to Officer Jesse Barnes who was recently promoted to Sergeant.

The City said good-bye to Paul Ammerman, Economic Development Director who retired on December 7, 2018. Ammerman worked for the City for seven years. The City also said good-bye to Community Service Officers Lauren Pack and Josh Fick. Thank you for your hard work and dedicated service to North St. Paul.

A friendly reminder about City ordinances...

- **Shovel your Sidewalk:** Sidewalks adjacent to your property need to be cleared of snow and ice within 12 hours after the snow and ice has ceased. It is illegal to deposit snow or ice on public streets or right-of-ways.
- **Storage of trash containers:** There shall be no front yard storage of trash or trash containers except in the 24-hour period prior to a scheduled pickup in residential districts.
- **Pet Care:** All domestic animals kept, harbored or maintained by their owners in the City are required to be licensed and registered. When your pet is out in public streets and right-of-ways, please keep your pet on a leash and bring a waste bag in order to pick up after your pet.

Hause Park Renovation Complete

The Hause Park Facility renovation is complete. The facility updates include: new flooring, windows, doors, siding, electrical, furnace, restrooms, kitchenette, furnishings and walkway to the shelter.

For more information regarding rental of the shelter, visit our website or email parkrentals@northstpaul.org. You may also call the Parks and Recreation line at (651) 747-2411.



History, Our Story

Enjoy history? Be part of the Historical Society's monthly gathering featuring guest speakers on the 4th Tuesday of the month starting at 7:00 pm. **Upcoming dates:**

Tuesday, January 22

Rick Hill: History Reflection of Hockey in North St Paul

Join hockey coach Rick Hill as he enlightens you on the beginning of North High School boys hockey, including state tournaments, olympians, youth hockey and girls high school hockey.

Tuesday, February 26

Little Eddie: Story of a North End Boy

See into the life and mind of North St. Paul's favorite blind guy, Ed Riege. From his time as a local business owner, civic servant and community character, learn about little known facts about Ed including his famous wave. Ed's daughter Susan will entertain you with the Ed Riege chronicles.

A special exhibit about Ed will be on display.

City Seeks Nominations

Again this year, the City is accepting nominations for the Community Service Award Program honoring outstanding achievements by citizens in the following categories:

Legacy Award - a person who possesses a record of notable achievements and has demonstrated community leadership.

Community Service Youth and Adult Awards

This award recognizes volunteer service activities which positively impact the enrichment and needs of the community. Two awards will be given out under this category: Youth Individual or Youth Group, and Adult Individual or Adult Group.

Good Neighbor Award - recognizes citizens who take pride in where they live; creating a sense of community.

Nominations open February 1 through April 10, 2019.

A nomination form can be found online or by contacting: debra.gustafson@northstpaul.org or (651) 747-2423.

55+ Driver Class Offered

The Minnesota Highway Safety Center is offering a 55+ Driver Refresher Course at City Hall on:

- **Tuesday, February 26, 2019 (4-hour refresher course)**
1:00 - 5:00 pm or 5:30 - 9:30 pm
- **Fee: \$22**

Persons age 55 and older who complete the course qualify for a 10% discount on their auto insurance premiums for three years, according to Minnesota law. Pre-registration is required. To register, visit www.mnsafetycenter.org or call toll free at (888) 234-1294.

