

CITY OF NEW YORK MILLS

Nov/Dec 2013
Volume 4 Issue 6



Truth in Taxation Hearing Set for 2014 Proposed Levy

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The City of New York Mills will hold its annual Truth in Taxation public meeting at 6:01 p.m. on Tuesday, December 10, 2013. The purpose of the meeting is to hear comments from the general public. The final 2014 levy will be set following the public meeting during the regular December

City Council meeting that evening, or at a later date in December. In September the Council passed a preliminary 2014 levy of \$389,000, which represents a flat levy, or a zero percent change, over the 2013 levy amount. The proposed levy includes \$169,000 for debt service on its twelve outstanding bonds and \$220,000 for the general operating levy. These amounts match those levied in 2013. The final 2014 levy cannot be higher than the preliminary levy of \$389,000, but it could be lower. The Council is continuing to review the pro-

posed 2014 budget. A final 2014 budget must be adopted and the final 2014 levy set on or before December 30th of 2013.

The City of New York Mills projects its total debt outstanding at year end 2013 to total \$6,352,000, which represents a reduction of \$709,000 from the prior year end. During 2014, debt reduction of \$721,000 is scheduled for a projected balance of debt currently outstanding of \$5,631,000 at year end 2014. The City's levy has been set at \$389,000 for 2012 and 2013, and will remain at this level

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"Sharing the Holidays" Theme for This Year's Tree Festival

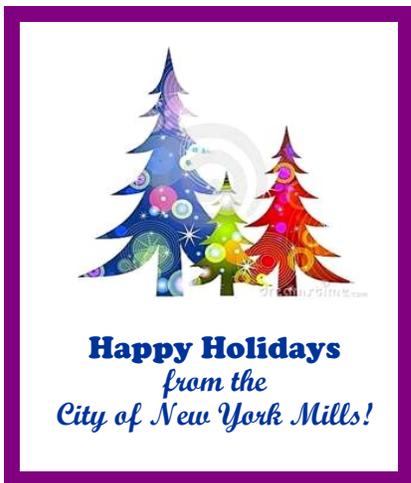
The 16th Annual Christmas Tree Festival is set for November 29th through December 7th in the New York Mills City Hall Ballroom.

This year's theme for the festival is "Sharing the Holidays".

The Festival kick-off will be held Friday, November 29th from 5—8 pm. Other highlights scheduled throughout the festival include a Community Nativity, Senior Day, Ballet Program, Beer and Wine Sampling, Cultural Center Silent Auction, and a Jazz Band Concert. Saturday,

December 7th will be the grand finale for the festival, with Santa and Movie Day from Noon to 3 pm. There will also be vendors present. The Community Christmas Party begins with social hour at 6 pm, Dinner at 7 pm and a dance to follow featuring the band "Switch". Tickets are \$20 at the door, or \$15 for early bird tickets purchased by November 15th. Check the New York Mills Dispatch for further information in the coming weeks.

Many of the trees and displays are donated to Santa Anonymous and sold during the Silent Auction. If you are interested in setting up a display, volunteering, or giving a cash donation, please call Kerry Steinbach at 218-385-3466 or Dolly Tumberg at 218-385-3691.



SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

NEW HORIZONS WOMEN'S CLUB
ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION
Fundraiser for the NYM Public Library
And Other Community Projects

Thursday, November 14, 2013 at 7:00 pm – 8:15 pm
New York Mills Regional Cultural Center



DOOR PRIZES
SNACKS & DESSERT
WINE
CIDER
COFFEE

Auction item donations may be dropped off at the NYM Public Library at anytime. Please mark them "New Horizons Auction". Items may also be dropped off at the Regional Cultural Center from 6-7 pm on the night of the auction or call Connie Warner at 385-3669 (evenings) or Sharon Imsande at 385-2719.



It's time to FALL back!!!

Just a friendly reminder to turn your clocks back Saturday night one hour!!!

Also, now is a great time to change the batteries in your smoke detector when you are "falling back!"

Enjoy the rest of this beautiful season!!

Daylight Savings Time Ends Nov. 3rd



The colorful autumn leaves are falling which is a sign for the change of seasons. The city sealed some streets this summer and hopes to do more next year. It is very costly to maintain the infrastructure. The five year plan for New York Mills includes replacing the underground piping, curb and gutter, sidewalks, and pavement for certain sections of town where the piping is reaching beyond its life expectancy and needs replacement.

Brunswick Boat Company

Public Works Update

Roger Salo, Public Works Superintendent

and Industrial Finishing Services are adding significant square footage to their plants. That is great for this area with a probable addition of employment opportunities.

With the coming season of ice and snow, the Public Works Department would appreciate residents' cooperation in removing their cars and trucks from the streets when it time for snow removal, as it speeds up the removal process and a cleaner job can be accomplished. The City of New York Mills has ordinances in place requiring this.

We received an annual warning statement from the Minnesota Office of Pipeline Safety in

regards to ice and snow on gas meters and regulators. Please check the meter sets after snow or melting snow and clean them or at least let us know of any potential problems. Also remember the vents from your sewers and appliances should be kept clear. If you do not have one, please purchase a CO Detector/monitor for your home.

Carbon Monoxide gas can come from several sources: gas-fired appliances, charcoal grills, wood-burning furnaces or fireplaces, and of course from motor vehicles. CO gas is odorless, colorless, and tasteless. As CO is impossible to see, taste, or smell it can kill you before you are aware of it. At lower levels of exposure, CO causes mild effects

often mistaken for the flu. These symptoms include headaches, dizziness, nausea, fatigue, and disorientation. The effects can vary from person to person. Therefore it is important for a qualified heating specialist to check all appliances at least annually.

The telephone number for the City of New York Mills is 218-385-2213. The Public Works Department's normal hours are from 7AM to 4PM Monday through Friday. There is someone on call 24/7, but any non-emergency calls after hours are subject to an over time charge. I hope everyone has a great start to winter and blessings for the holidays that are coming.



Mayor's Corner

Julie Gerber, Mayor

With the holidays just around the corner, everyone is doing some kind of planning....where to go to find the big buck, what to make for a holiday meal, or what gifts to buy for everyone on your list.

That is just what our city is doing by planning ahead the next few years with possible street and infrastructure projects. Now, I know no one really wants to hear about a project coming on their street, but unfortunately, there are upgrades that need to be done to ensure our services work for years to come. As my two properties and those of 2 other council members are on these proposed streets, we understand the feel-

ing.

That is where a 5 year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) comes in. This plan provides us with information that identifies any aging or deficient infrastructure needs for city water, wastewater, or drainage, as well the proposed improvements to those systems. Now, we have done numerous projects over the years already which is great, but there are still streets throughout town that need upgrading. One of the engineers said he found a fire hydrant dated from the 1930's! By giving us an outline and timeframe guidelines, the CIP allows us to work on those areas that need attention first before we have a major failure. The CIP also gives us estimated project costs as well as possible funding sources for each improvement. By having the plan in place and

utilizing its components, we can be ready to apply for possible low interest loans and grant dollars that are only available to projects that are "shovel ready." Projects of this nature need to be planned up to 2 years in advance to ensure all details and necessary timelines are met, but it is a plan and like anything else...plans can change. If you have any questions about this, just ask.

Don't forget to take advantage some of the holiday events coming up in New York Mills! Here are a few:

- *11/22 NYM School Carnival
- *11/29 C&C Tree Festival
- *12/7 C&C Holiday Party
- *12/2 NYM Band Christmas Concert & Fundraiser

Please be Safe this Deer Hunting season! Remember there is always something to be thankful for! Have a wonderful Holiday Season with your family and friends!

"By giving us an outline and timeframe guidelines, the CIP allows us to work on those areas that need attention first before we have a major failure."

Truth In Taxation Cont from Pg. 1

or lower for 2014. Local government aid from the State of Minnesota is scheduled to be \$376,744. This represents an increase over the 2013 amount of \$342,150. LGA was flat for the years 2010 through 2013. During the years 2008 through 2011 the City experienced reductions in LGA awards totaling \$223,438.45 from the amounts originally certified for those years. During the past ten years, actual LGA reached a record high of \$426,303.11 in 2007. Other revenues include

service fees, franchise taxes, special assessments, and transfers between funds.

For 2014, the preliminary budgeted expenditures in the City's general fund total \$1,065,439. This fund covers multiple departments, including the Mayor/Council, City Administration, City Hall/Ballroom/Buildings, Elections, Police, Streets, Ice & Snow Removal, Storm Drainage, Street Lighting, Swimming Pool, City Parks, and EDA. Other funds include the Library

with a budget of \$121,534; Fire Department budgeted at \$125,500; Park Board fund at \$6,540; Revolving Loan Fund at \$46,100; 12 separate debt service funds with budgets totaling \$839,053; and finally several other funds including a Capital reserve fund, TIF district funds, and four Enterprise Funds (water, sewer, gas, and liquor store).

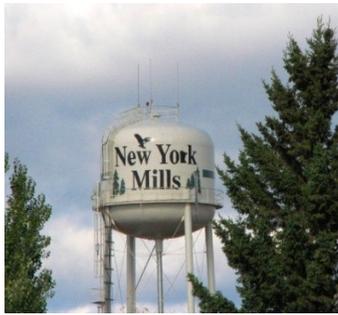
In 2009, the outstanding indebtedness of the City reached a ten-year high at \$8,374,194. This occurred following the

completion of the wastewater expansion project completed that year. Although there have been a couple of major street/utility rehabilitation projects, namely in 2009 and 2010, total indebtedness has been reduced each year since 2009 to its current projected year end 2013 level of \$6,352,000.

If you want to hear more about the City's 2014 proposed budget and levy, attend the public meeting on December 10, 2013, at 6:01 p.m.

CITY OF New York Mills

M I N N E S O T A



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CAN'T MAKE IT INTO PAY YOUR BILL DURING OFFICE HOURS?

You can now pay your monthly utility bill by automatic withdrawal from your bank account! For more information, contact Jenny at the City of New York Mills!

We're on the Web! Visit us at
www.newyorkmills.govoffice2.com

facebook Visit our Facebook Pages:
Nymills Minnesota
New York Mills Public Library
Mills Liquors
City of New York Mills

City Council

Mayor:
Julie Gerber [juliegerber70@gmail.com](mailto:juliergerber70@gmail.com)

Council Members:
Marsha Maki marshamaki@gmail.com
Jason Schik jason.schik@gmail.com
Betsy Roder betsyroder25@gmail.com
Josh Hoaby nymhoaby@gmail.com

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month in the Council Chambers of the City Hall at 4:30 pm. Public Forum begins at 5 pm

Hours

City Office: Phone 385-2213
Monday –Friday: 8 am—5 pm

NYM Public Library: Phone 385-2436
Mondays..... 10 am-6 pm
Tuesdays.....10 am-6 pm
Wednesdays.....10 am-7 pm
Thursdays.....10 am-7 pm
Fridays.....10 am-5 pm
Saturdays.....10 am-2 pm

Mills Liquors: Phone 385-2004
On Sale:
Weekdays.....9 am-12 Midnight
Friday - Saturdays.....9 am-1 am
Off Sale:
Monday—Saturday.....9 am-10 pm

Legried Community Pool: Phone 385-3200
Summer Hours:
Monday-Fridays.....1-5 pm Open Swim
6-6:30 pm Family Swim
6:30-8 pm Open Swim
Saturdays.....1-5 pm
Closed Sundays

City Staff

City Clerk:
Darla Berry darlanymcity@arvig.net Phone 385-2213

Public Works Director:
Roger Salo nymrsgas@gmail.com Phone 385-4505

Librarian:
Julie Adams jadams@newyorkmills.lib.mn.us Phone 385-2436

Liquor Store Manager:
Kim Hoban millsliquors@arvig.net Phone 385-2004

Chief of Police:
Jim Van Schaick police.nym@gmail.com Phone 385-2600

Pool Director:
Heidi Van Dyke Phone 385-3200

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