



# April 2016 - CITY OF HAWLEY NEWSLETTER

City of Hawley 305 6th St 218-483-3331 [www.hawley.govoffice.com](http://www.hawley.govoffice.com)  
Monday - Friday 8:00a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Motor Vehicle 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Hawley City Council meetings broadcast live On Local Cable Channel 14

April 4th & April 18th @ 5:30 p.m.  
ALSO: Board of Appeal & Equalization  
April 18th @ 4:30 - RE: Value & Classification of  
properties within the Hawley City Limits

Do you have a community announcement for  
Local Cable Channel 14?

Arvig can help get that information on Channel 14  
<http://www.arvig.com/community-connection>

The last day of Walking at the Community Center is  
March 31<sup>st</sup>. Thank you to Bryan Strand for opening the  
Community Center for walking this winter.

Upcoming events  
at the Hawley  
Community  
Center:

April 1<sup>st</sup>  
Ducks Unlimited  
Banquet

April 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>  
Hawley Art Show

## Did you know.....

### City Hall Staff provide notary services.

A Notary Public is an appointed and  
commissioned officer that serves the public  
by administering oaths and acting as an  
official witness to people who seek assistance in  
certifying or attesting to documents. To have a  
document notarized you will need to: ►Appear in  
Person. ►Provide a valid form of identification. ►Sign  
the document in the presence of the Notary. ►Pay the  
\$1.00 charge. We respect the privacy of each signer and  
do not divulge information disclosed during the execution of a  
notarial act for other than an official purpose.



**"Forget all the reasons  
it won't work and  
believe the one reason  
that it will." - Unknown**

## Arbor Day & Month Proclamation

WHEREAS, Trees and Forests provide a natural playground for people of all ages; and  
WHEREAS, Trees provide an unstructured play environment that encourages exploration,  
creativity, and activity; and

WHEREAS: Childhood exposure to forests and trees lays the foundation for responsible  
environmental behavior and conservation values as an adult; and

WHEREAS: Each year on the last Friday in April, Minnesotans pay special tribute to trees and all  
the natural resources they represent, and dedicate themselves to the continued  
vitality of our state's forests.

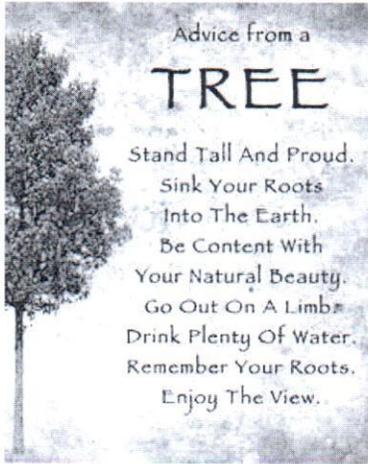
Now, THEREFORE, I, Gary E. Johnson, Mayor of the City of Hawley, do hereby proclaim Friday,  
April 29, 2016, as ARBOR DAY

and the month of May 2016, as Arbor Month in the City of Hawley.

FURTHER: I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the hearts and promote the well-being of  
present and future generations.

I, Gary E. Johnson, will start the Arbor Day Celebration by planting the first tree on April 29

**DID YOU KNOW?** Over the course of 50 years a single tree can generate \$31,250 of oxygen, provide \$62,000  
worth of air pollution control, recycle \$37,500 worth of water, and control \$31,500 worth of soil erosion.



## Boulevard Trees

If you would like a tree planted on your Boulevard,  
please fill out this coupon and return it to City Hall,  
305 6th St. **by May 3<sup>rd</sup>** so that trees can be ordered.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Location on boulevard you want the tree placed:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Which type of tree would you prefer:

\_\_\_ Linden \_\_\_ Maple \_\_\_ Elm

**NOTE:** If you have a damaged boulevard tree that needs  
to be checked or removed, call City Hall 483-3331.

## HAWLEY RODEO FEST JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup> TO 11<sup>TH</sup>

Barnes Rodeo & the Hawley Community Club are pleased to Announce:  
Rodeo Shows both Fri, June 10 & Sat, June 11  
Will Honor All American Military Veterans  
with Reduced Ticket Pricing for Veterans and their families both nights at the gate.  
Reduced Veterans Pricing at the Gate is: \$10 for Adults & \$5 for children  
(Please bring your military card with you.)

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE RODEO FEST EVENTS!**

## STREET SWEEPING — BENEFITS INCLUDE:

**Public safety** is the primary concern for the traveling public, and was the  
original impetus for municipal cleaning. Street gutters tend to be a resting  
place for a variety of debris. Removal of the debris lessens the opportunity of  
skids and collisions, and also allows drivers to safely judge distance to curbs  
and roadway edges.

**Pedestrians** Debris not only creates unsightly conditions, it can cause  
pedestrians, runners and cyclist to swerve into the roadway. This action may  
catch drivers unaware and cause accidents and major injuries.

**Environmental** The removal of metal particles and other hazardous waste  
products left by passing vehicles or discarded trash. These particles can be  
extremely harmful to fish and other wildlife if they reach our creeks, rivers,  
beaches and bays. **Stormwater runoff management** Debris in roadway gutters  
quickly clogs storm drains and blocks runoff pathways. Keeping these clear  
allows water to drain faster and more completely. This prevents water  
building on roadways due to storm drain backups.

**Wetlands preservation** Uncontrolled runoff damages local wetland areas,  
creating an unsuitable environment for inhabitants and plant life.

**SWEEPING WILL BE STARTED SOON** - please stay clear of the  
machinery and remove vehicles from the street. Thank you.

## From the Desk of Police Chief Joe Backlund:

As spring approaches after the long Minnesota winter we all have the urge to get out and enjoy the warm weather. It is helpful to be reminded of some tips to be safe when it comes to bicycle and pedestrian safety. In Minnesota, each year there is approximately 40 pedestrians and 10 bicyclists that are killed as result with collisions with motor vehicles. The following is some simple tips to keep in mind as you get out enjoying the outdoors.

### Bicycle Safety

- Bicyclists may ride on all Minnesota roads, except where restricted.
- Bicyclists should ride on the road, and must ride in the same direction as traffic.
- Motorists must at all times maintain a three-foot clearance when passing a bicyclist.
- Bicyclists must obey all traffic control signs and signals, just as motorists.
- Bicyclists must signal their turns and should ride in a predictable manner.
- Bicyclists must use a headlight and rear reflectors when it's dark. To increase visibility, add a rear flashing light.
- Drivers must drive at safe speeds and be attentive — look for bicyclists, check blind spots.
- Drivers should use caution and look twice for riders when turning.
- Drivers should use caution when opening door upon parking on side of road.

### Safety Tips for Drivers

- Scan the road and sidewalks ahead for pedestrians. Drive attentively and at safe speeds. Remember, pedestrians can be difficult to see, especially in bad weather or at night.
- Anticipate pedestrians especially in urban areas, around schools and colleges.
- Before making a turn, look in all directions for pedestrians.
- Look carefully behind your vehicle before backing up, especially for small children.
- Watch for people in wheelchairs and motorized carts, who may be below eye level.
- Stop for crossing pedestrians at every intersection, even those without crosswalks or stoplights. Stop far enough back so drivers in other lanes can also see the pedestrian in time to stop.
- Do not block crosswalks while stopped, and don't pass other vehicles stopped for pedestrians.

### Safety Tips for Pedestrians

- Cross streets at marked crosswalks or intersections; don't cross mid block and obey traffic signals.
- Make eye contact with drivers and ensure they see you and will stop.
- Clearly show your intentions to cross.
- Watch for turning and passing vehicles.
- Look across all lanes for moving vehicles before proceeding.
- Continue to be alert and watch for vehicles when walking in a crosswalk — drivers aren't always looking for pedestrians.
- Use sidewalks where provided — where no sidewalks are provided, it is usually safer to walk facing traffic.
- Make it easy for drivers to see you — dress in light colors and wear retro-reflective material. Carry a flashlight when it's dark.
- Alcohol and drugs can impair your ability to walk safely, just like they do a person's ability to drive.
  - Use extra caution when crossing multiple-lane, higher speed streets.



### Hawley Photo Identification Project

by Historical & Cultural Society of Clay County

Please stop by the Hawley Library, 422 Hartford St, to

View and hopefully help identify the people in the

photos dated between 1950 to 1980. The Photos will be

at the Hawley Library April 1st through April 15th.

Your help will make the photos much more valuable for the

history of Hawley and Clay County.

### BURNING IN CITY LIMITS

Burning/Camp Fires within city limits can be done in self-enclosed above ground burning units.

Please NO burning of GARBAGE.

### Recycling Center New Summer Hrs:

Mon. & Thurs.

4:00—8:00 p.m.

Saturday

8:30—2:00 p.m.

### IMPORTANT—TELEPHONE SCAM ALERT

In New Ulm, Minnesota a local business received a phone call identifying themselves as an employee of the City of New Ulm. The caller advised the business that its utility bill was overdue and requested an immediate payment be made via a Western Union or Money Gram Payment. This is not a new scam, but just a reminder that the City of Hawley does not conduct business in this manner and will never request via a money service - if you receive one of these calls please be vigilant and contact Hawley Public Utilities at City Hall (218)483-3331 or the Hawley Police if you have questions or concerns.

### Gopher State One Call -

Gopher State One Call (GSOC) is the one-call notification system established to inform Minnesota underground facility operators of intended excavation. GSOC serves as a communication link between the party conducting excavation and the underground facility operator. GSOC transmits the information from the excavator to the facility operator. This allows the facility operator to locate its underground facilities. GSOC is a non-profit organization, was formed at the direction of the Minnesota Legislature in 1987 with the adoption of Minnesota Statute Chapter 216D. Chapter 216D requires anyone who engages in any type of excavation anywhere in Minnesota to provide notice at least 48 hours in advance (excluding weekends and holidays). An excavator may notify GSOC up to 14 calendar days prior to excavation. The service provided by GSOC to excavators is free of charge.



Remember To  
**Call Before You Dig - it's the law!**

Contact GSOC by calling: 651-454-0002 or  
1-800-252-1166 or 811

### HAWLEY CITY LOCATION:

Township: # 139N

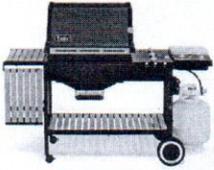
Range: # 45W

Section: 1 or 2

(1=NE & 2=NW)

*Spring  
is  
when  
life's  
alive  
in  
everything*

*Christina Rossetti*



## **BBQ GRILL FIRES ...**

### **Did you know?**

◊Most grill fires start because something that could burn was too close to the grill.

◊Most home fires involving grills are started by gas grills, not charcoal grills.

◊You should check the gas tank hose on propane grills for leaks before using them for the first time.

## **Solid waste disclosure**

The City of Hawley is required by the State of Minnesota to inform you that your garbage is hauled to the Clay County Landfill under Landfill Permit #34.

You may be responsible for any liability that results from contamination at a facility where your waste has been deposited. Minnesota believes that its waste management system provides substantially more financial and environmental protection than depositing waste in landfills in other states. Managing your waste in Minnesota may minimize your potential liability. Hawley's waste management is provided by Fuchs Sanitation of Glyndon, MN.

## **Prepare your Home for the Spring Season**

Spring is right around the corner, and for most home owners it's an exciting time to get your home ready. In the winter time, many portions of your home are neglected or aren't used as often because of home owners staying inside their homes. From the interiors of your home to the exterior, getting your home ready for spring will ensure you'll be ready to enjoy the warmer weather once it hits. Space out your maintenance tasks and by the time spring is here, you will be able to enjoy the season!

Start on your exterior: The outside of your home has taken more wear and tear from the harsh winter, than the interior so start here. Walk around your home and examine caulking around windows and doors, as well as open windows and doors and look at weather stripping. Replace old or cracking caulk and replace weather stripping. Inspect the roof for broken or missing shingles and clean out gutters and downspouts at the same time.

Landscaping tips: While it may not be time for you to start planting flowers and watering your lawn, it isn't too early to ensure you will have ready your garden hoses, walkways, and adjacent areas to your landscaping. Replace cracked or old garden hoses, and rake away leaves, tree limbs and debris from sidewalks, plant beds and surrounding areas. If you no longer have snow in your area, now is a good time to start planning out your spring landscaping ideas and lawn care maintenance regimen. Pressure wash concrete and paver areas that have become dirty and power wash vinyl siding, brick walls and vertical surfaces on your home if need be.

Check your interior systems: The fall and spring are the two most important times to review your home's major HVAC – heating, ventilation, air conditioning systems. Right before the harsh climatic changes are going to occur. Ensure air filters have been replaced or cleaned and stock up on new air filters if you use disposable one. Check your air conditioner before the summer to ensure it is in good working order. If you need to have a service person look at it now, it will be a lot less expensive than 3 months from now.

Interior spring cleaning: By now your windows – inside and out could use a cleaning. You will be surprised how much you can see out your windows, once they are cleaned. Clean off ceiling fans, and clean out fireplaces from use over the winter. Test your emergency systems in your home: home alarm, smoke fire alarm, fire extinguisher, and carbon monoxide alarms to ensure they are working properly. Most home owners forget to test these regularly; fall and spring maintenance time is a perfect opportunity to ensure they're in good working order.

Preparing your home for the spring is rewarding now, and 3 months from now. Your home goes through changes as it ages, and climatic conditions change. Spring maintenance is a good idea for everyone, and even more important if you're considering putting your home on the market soon. Home buyers want to ensure that all systems have been well attended and taken care of before buying a home. What are you waiting for? Get started, the warm weather is on its way!

<b>Business Highlight</b>	<b>Who:</b> Sellin Brothers, Inc.	 <b>SELLIN BROTHERS, INC.</b> HAWLEY, MN
	<b>Where:</b> 1204 Hobart St	
	<b>When:</b> Office hours: Mon - Fri 8:00am to 5:00pm	
	Sellin Brothers, Inc. was established in 1947 by brothers Harold and Roy Sellin. SBI is a small, progressive, second generation construction company growing in a very competitive industry. SBI has highway and underground divisions, with a typical construction season running from April through November. SBI's projects are primarily located in west Central Minnesota and eastern North Dakota and are generally funded by federal, state, and local agencies. During the off season, SBI provides snow removal to local businesses and residents. SBI proudly supports the Hawley community and are also a proud corporate partner of Hawley High School.	

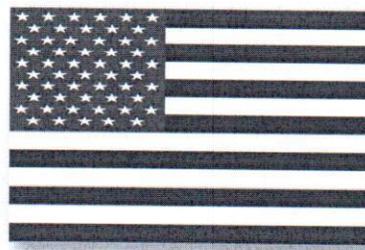
**Thirty-one words**....We learned them as kids when we were too small and too naïve to understand them. We simply committed them to memory with no regard for their significance. We recited them morning after morning, year after year, never realizing the price that the proud revolutionists paid to make them real and the price our brave contemporaries would pay to keep them real. We've become so familiar with them that we seldom stop to consider what they should mean to us now....now that we're grown...now that we are the ones responsible for sustaining their legacy.

Whether we were aware of it or not, these thirty-one words carved out a place in our hearts — in the shape of a true patriot: a lover of liberty, a defender of faith, a promoter of unity, a champion of peace, a protector of democracy, and a guardian of all things sacred to life.

Perhaps it's time we all recommit to America - to her values, her traditions, her history, her heritage, her majesty, her nobility, her compassion, her humility, and her holy awe. Regardless of our party preference or political stance, regardless of which presidential candidate we supported or which amendments we opposed, we are - in all of our diversity - one people with one heart and one mind. We are the benefactors and beneficiaries of a powerful democracy - the strongest republic in the civilized world. We are the most liberated, most prosperous, and most blessed people on the face of the earth. And we owe it all to a sovereign God, to our American citizenship, and in part, to these thirty-one words.

**What thirty-one words? You know them. I'll say the first three, and you can take it from there—the last twenty-eight are a piece of cake!**

***I pledge allegiance...***  
**to the flag of the United States of America**  
**and to the Republic for which it stands,**  
**one Nation under God,**  
**indivisible,**  
**with liberty**  
**and justice for all.**



The above is an excerpt from the book "I Pledge Allegiance" by D. K. Webb—A Recommitment to America.

**UTILITY BUDGET BILLING**

Utility customers that have a large difference in their utility bills from summer to winter may benefit from "averaging" their bills with Budget Billing.

If you are interested on being on the budget billing program:

- \*Sign up by contacting City Hall, and
- \*pay your utility bill in full by **May 10th.**

The new Budget Billing Cycle starts with the June 1st billing.

***If you are already on budget you do not need to sign up again.***

**RESIDING YOUR HOUSE?**

If you plan to put siding on your house this summer please contact us so we can make sure the meters & remote water meter are protected during the project.



**Zoning Permits**

If you are thinking about a house addition, adding a garage, replacing a step or deck, or putting up a garden shed, please stop into City Hall to get a Zoning Permit.

We would be happy to help you fill out the forms.

**Thank you!**

***Hawley Public Utilities***



**OWNED by CUSTOMERS**—At Hawley Public Utilities, governance begins at the ballot box and is carried out through the City Council and Utility Commission. Business is conducted in the open and citizens know where their power comes from and how and why decisions affecting their utility bills are made.



**HOMETOWN JOBS**—Hawley Public Utilities is headquartered in Hawley and creates local jobs. Each dollar of a public power employee's paycheck circulates through the local economy an estimated four to five times.



**AFFORDABLE RATES**—Hawley Public Utilities serve their customer owners, not remote shareholders. With no profit motive and only the community's best interests at heart, they keep electricity rates reasonable through a transparent process.



**FUEL for the ECONOMY**—City officials and Utility Commissioners work together to create economic development programs.



**TOP QUALITY SERVICE**-When customers need help, their calls are answered by a real live person, locally and the utility can respond to questions and outages faster. (No AUTOMATED PHONE SYSTEM or ANSWERING MACHINE here.) Providing the highest quality service to our customer has always been the No.1 priority.



**Subsidized City Services**—Cities with successful public power utilities subsidize their community by providing Street lighting and paying for staff and facilities that benefit the entire community. This money comes from the utilities profitable, smart services. Funds are used to constantly upgrade the utilities and reinvest into the community.