

Happy Holidays!



CITY OF HAWLEY Newsletter Dec '15

City of Hawley 305 6th St 218-483-3331 www.hawley.govoffice.com

City Hall & the Recycling Center will be closed:
at noon on Thursday, Dec 24th; Friday, Dec 25th for Christmas; & Friday, Jan 1st for New Years Day

City of Hawley 2015 year in review - Projects

Cost of Project

Completed River Remeandering Project North of Hwy 10 w/BRRWD & DNR Grant funds Total Cost	\$531,561.80
(City of Hawley Cost)	\$56,000.00
Remodeled & Moved into new police station on Front Street	\$300,000.00
Tuck point project to restore brick at city hall	\$50,000.00
Crack-fill and Seal coat the western third of the city	\$150,000.00
New North Door at community Center- Commercial Push bar Style	\$1,500.00
Airport paving project around Hangar #1 w/federal/state funds	\$389,316.00
(Local Airport Share)	\$46,788.61
Replaced large sections of deteriorated electrical underground in the NE Section of the city	\$200,000.00
Upgraded city street sweeper	\$30,000.00
2nd DNR GRANT to do Phase 2 River Remeandering project south of Hwy 10 involving the golf course & BRRWD (100% grant funds started in Nov 2015)	\$320,000.00
Jetted 1/3 of city sanitary sewer system	\$13,792.68
Fixed leaking water service lines—city side (3 repairs)	\$16,000.00
Zoning permits	
Total of residential zoning permits (includes 7 new homes & 1 Twin Home).....	\$3,021,300.00

City of Hawley would like to recognize the Hawley Businesses that employ the most workers. Thank you to all Hawley businesses for creating jobs in our community!

Hawley Public Schools	132
Rapat Corporation	100
Sellin Brothers	50
Cretex Concrete Products	50
Tony's Super Valu	40
RDO Equipment Co	38
Hawley Senior Living	35
Apple Tree Dental	30
Dairy Queen	30
Valley Premier Bank	21

of
Jobs
In
Hawley

Recycling Center Winter Hours
Monday & Thursday 4-7
Saturday 9-1

Cardboard Recycling Tips

- Prepare cardboard for recycling by removing all other materials in the box such as plastic wrap, polystyrene peanuts and other packing materials.
- Break down cardboard boxes to save storage space.
- Try to keep cardboard dry and free from food waste. Cardboard can get wet and still be recycled, but is more difficult to carry due to the added weight of the water.

Please note—there is a bin at the Recycling Center where you can dispose of old Christmas Lights!

Hawley Motor Vehicle

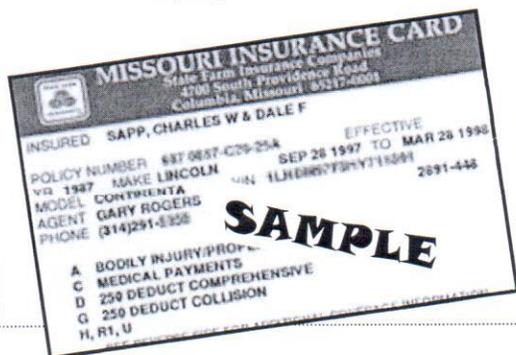
Mon.- Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**REMINDER: New State Rules Beginning January 1st

The State Legislature Changed the rules and will soon require every applicant to show proof of insurance on all motor vehicle transactions.

Please Bring Your Insurance Card to show:

- 1.) Insurance Company,
- 2.) Policy Number, and
- 3.) Expiration Date.



Clay County Household Hazardous Waste
Winter Hours Mon & Wed 8 am – 4 pm
2729 Highway 10 E. Moorhead, MN 56560

Clay County Household Hazardous Waste Facility is open all year round. Not only will the facility take in material, but the Product Exchange will still be open and free to Clay County residents. The materials offered to Clay County residents are paints, automotive supplies, cleaners and more. For more information please see our website <http://claycountymn.gov/403/Household-Hazardous-Waste> or contact our facility at 218-299-5077.

Check out the City website for information on rebates, monthly newsletters, ordinances and more.
www.hawley.govoffice.com

Remember to have your snowmobiles licensed with the City of Hawley—there is no charge for the license. Please bring your snowmobile & insurance information.

Upcoming events at the
Community Center:

Dec 5th
Breakfast with Santa

Dec 9th—Senior Santa Day

Dec 12th-Lions Bingo

Christmas Gift Suggestions

- To your enemy - forgiveness.
- To an opponent - tolerance.
- To a friend - your heart.
- To a customer - service.
- To all - charity.
- To every child - a good example & love.
- To yourself - respect.

City of Hawley Proposed 2016 Property Tax Levy

The Hawley City Council has spent numerous hours working with the budget to find ways to provide the services you expect from the City and to keep the cost as low as possible. The services provided directly by the City of Hawley Property Tax Levy through the General Fund are: Police, Fire, Emergency Response, Street maintenance and snow removal, Parks, Library, Elections, Council, City Administration, Assessor, Attorney, General Government, Data Processing, City Hall Building, Animal Control, Vector Control, Community Center, Park Board Projects, Forestry/Boulevard Trees, Economic Development, and many other essential services.

The preliminary 2016 City Levy has \$408,500 for these General Fund expenditures. This is a 3.25% increase over the General Fund portion of the Tax Levy from 2015. The Police Department budget is increased to hire 1 additional Full Time Officer in 2016. This will bring the department to a total of 4 full time officers (1 Chief & 3 Officers).

Abatements have been granted as an Economic Development tool to encourage new housing growth. A portion of the taxes paid in by these new properties will be refunded to the property owners for a specific period of time. So even though these amounts show up on the City Tax Levy, they do not affect the actual taxes of the other City properties. They are paid in and later refund back out. The 2016 Abatement Amounts for the City of Hawley are: Housing Tax Abatement \$14,000 and AmericInn Tax Abatement \$15,000.

The remaining \$82,000 is Debt Service Levy - dedicated to bond payments for construction cost of 2011 Street Rebuilds and 2013 Hwy 10 & CSAH 31/33 project with traffic signal light on Hwy 10. The City will be paying off the debt on these projects for the next 11 years and 8 years respectively.

This adds up to the Total Proposed City of Hawley Property Tax Levy of \$519,500 in 2016.

The amount your property tax bill will change is dependent upon many factors, including the County, School, and Watershed District Levy amounts.

Truth in Taxation Public Hearing Monday, December 7th at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall

The public is invited and encouraged to attend our meeting to get information on the proposed City levy and to ask questions and give input to the Councilmembers. The final decision on the City Tax Levy will be made at the December 21st meeting.

Handouts from the meeting will be available at City Hall following the meeting.

Need Help Paying Your Utility Bill?

West Central Minnesota Communities

Action, Inc. administers the Minnesota Energy Assistance Program. They will have you complete an application and they can help you fill it out if you need help.

They also have Weatherization Assistance Programs you may be eligible for.

Contact them for more information at:

(218)685-4486 Toll Free: (800)492-4805
www.wcmca.org

Stock up on emergency supplies for communication, food, safety, heating, and vehicles in case a storm hits. Communication Checklist

Make sure you have at least one of the following in case there is a power failure: Cell phone, portable charger, and extra batteries. Battery-powered radio, with extra batteries. Listen to emergency broadcasts. Make a Family Communication Plan. Your family may not be together during an extreme winter event, so it is important to know how you will contact one another, how you will get back together, and what you will do during an emergency. Be sure to check on older neighbors and family members; assist as necessary. Know what winter storm warning terms mean:

Winter Weather Advisory: Expect winter weather condition (snow, freezing rain).

Frost/Freeze Warning: Expect below-freezing temperatures.

Winter Storm Watch: Be alert; a storm is likely.

Winter Storm Warning: Take action; the storm is in or entering the area.

Blizzard Warning: Seek refuge immediately! Snow and strong winds, near-zero visibility, deep snow drifts, and life-threatening wind chill.

Business Highlight

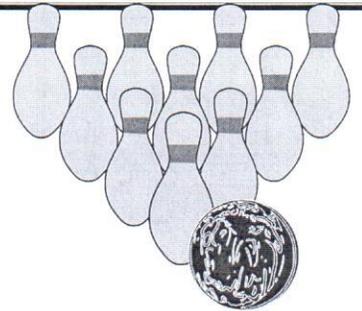
WHO: Hawley Lanes Bowling Alley
WHERE: 504 Main Street, Hawley, MN 56549
**WHEN: Open Bowling on Friday 5pm- 9pm
and Saturday 2pm-9pm
(League bowling on Wed and Thurs evenings)**

CONTACT: 218-483-4880 or 701-552-2311 (Jordan, Manager)

Jim Bortnem purchased Hawley Lanes in the spring of 2015 from Judy and Kevin Merkens. Following Jim's untimely passing his family decided to pursue his vision and is now operating Hawley Lanes.

The manager is Jordan Bortnem (grandson) and helping out is Sharon Bortnem (wife), Janis Softing (Sister), and Marcia Seley (family friend).

Hawley Lanes hosts league bowling on Wednesday and Thursday evenings and has open bowling on the weekends. We offer a birthday party package and look forward to seeing you soon!



FROM THE OFFICE OF CHIEF BACKLUND
Predatory Offenders 100% Compliant in Hawley

Hawley currently has NO Level 3 predatory offenders. During the month of October, officers from the Hawley Police Department completed compliance checks on the predatory offenders living within the City of Hawley. All registered offenders were found to be compliant with their current registration. Chief Backlund's goal will be to have offenders checked on quarterly throughout each year. The State of Minnesota requires local law enforcement to complete at least a yearly compliance check with these individuals, but allows for law enforcement to be stricter than the current guidelines. For more information and frequently asked questions regarding the predatory offender registry in the State of Minnesota residents can follow the following link:<https://por.state.mn.us/Home.aspx>

UTILITY METERS -

The utilities staff needs to access your meters on a monthly basis to read meters and in case of emergencies.

Please ensure all fences that enclose utility meters have a gate to allow meter reading. Also keep the snow shoveled from around the meter and also the gate so that it will open freely at anytime that access is needed.

Please remove dogs from around the utility meters during meter reading (17th to 21st of each month).

Please remove the snow from around your natural gas meter so it can vent.

If you have a plow on the front of your pickup or on a 4-wheeler please remember:

#1) No vehicles are allowed to push snow across a City Street.

#2) You must follow all driving rules of the State of Minnesota and the City of Hawley.

*Crossing movements against the flow of traffic are a danger to all vehicles on the street.

*Could be hit by a plow.

*Can cause an accident.

*If involved in an accident the vehicle at fault will be the one making an illegal movement across a public street.

#3) These vehicles typically do not have proper emergency lighting or reflectors.

*Cannot be seen because of snow fog.

#4) Pushed snow becomes rock hard and can damage the City plow wing when it hits the pile on the boulevard.

Please do NOT push snow on to or across any City Street.

What should I do if someone tells me they are thinking about suicide?

When someone is considering suicide, even though you may wish you could talk them out of it, that is not the best way to help. Avoid saying things like, "You have so much to live for," or "Think about how this will hurt your family." Instead, show concern and compassion by saying, "Things must really be awful for you to be feeling that way."

Let them know you are there to listen. Encourage them to share what they are feeling. Let them know that people sometimes feel like there is no answer, but that treatment can help them to feel better. Tell them you will support them to find help. Ask if they have a specific suicide plan. If they do, do not leave them alone, and take away any firearms, drugs, or objects they could use to hurt themselves.

Take them to a doctor, mental health professional, or hospital emergency room, or call 911 or the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 for help.



Attention Snowbirds:
Before you leave town for an extended period of time

- Please fill out the Water Shut Off Request Form available at City Hall. If you are gone 30 consecutive days or more, and have your water shut off at the curb— it will save on your utility bills!
 - Stop in at City Hall and renew your Motor Vehicle Licenses. You can purchase them in advance so that you do not have to worry about car renewals when you are away.
 - Fill out the Police Vacation watch registration form on the city website: www.hawley.govoffice.com
- Travel safely and we will see you in the spring!**

In an era when senseless killing seems to be far too common, the question is, "if you are the victim of an Active Shooter, will you know what to do?"

How would you defend yourself against an Active Shooter?

Run

- Have an escape route and plan in mind
- Leave your belongings behind
- Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow
- Help others escape, if possible
- Do not attempt to move wounded people
- Prevent others from entering an area where the active shooter may be
- Keep your hands visible

Hide

- Hide in an area out of the shooter's view
- Lock the door or block the entry to your hiding place
- Silence your cell phone and remain quiet

Fight

- Fight as a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger
- Attempt to incapacitate the shooter
- Commit to your actions—your life depends on it

When law enforcement arrives

- Remain Calm and follow instructions
- Put down any items in your hands
- Raise hands and spread fingers
- Keep hands visible at all times
- Avoid quick movements toward officers
- Avoid pointing, screaming or yelling
- Do not stop to ask officers for help when evacuating

Information to provide 911 operators

- Location of the active shooter
- Number of shooters
- Physical description of shooters
- Number & type of weapons in possession of shooters
- Number of potential victims at the location

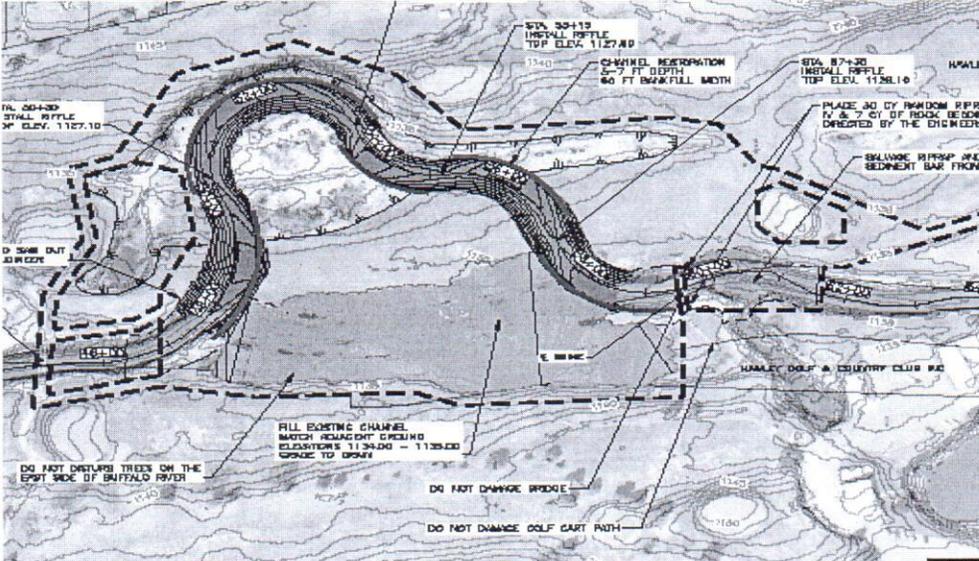
Additional Safety instructions:

- The first officers to arrive at the scene will not stop to help injured persons
- Expect rescue teams to follow the initial officers
- These rescue teams will treat and remove the injured
- Do not leave the area until you are instructed to do so

Buffalo River Remeandering project

- Phase 2 Funded by 2nd DNR Grant

The City of Hawley is working in cooperation with the Buffalo Red River Watershed District and the Hawley Golf Course, to complete Phase 2 of the remeandering project that is South of Highway 10. Additional Grant funds have been awarded from the DNR to do Phase 2 - the south part of Buffalo River. This will restore the natural habitat and flow of the river. Work will include removing the south-most, deteriorated bridge in Riverbend Park and adding rock riffles to direct the water flow. Below is a picture of a portion of the project that was started in November 2015 and will be complete by June 2016. This area is just west of the Club House.



Local Cable Channel 14 – community announcements:

Email to:
announcements@arvig.com

Mail to: Locallink
 831 S. Main St.
 Sauk Centre, MN 56378

Or go to Arvig.net—click on television, then Community Connection

Please fill out the form in its entirety. This will help Arvig display your message accurately and in a timely manner. All details about the event and contact information should be included, you will also be able to indicate how long you'd like the announcement to run. You also have the option to upload a flyer about your event.

Sidewalk safety

Please remember you are responsible for keeping your sidewalk clear of snow and ice during the winter months.

The City has designated the sidewalk on the north side of Joseph Street from 1st Street to 8th Street as a safe path to the school.

The City and your neighbors thank you for your continued effort in keeping the sidewalks clear and ice free!

Holiday Safety Tips

- 1. Inspect electrical decorations for damage before use.**
Cracked or damaged sockets, loose or bare wires, and loose connections may cause a serious shock or start a fire.
- 2. Do not overload electrical outlets.**
Overloaded electrical outlets and faulty wires are a common cause of holiday fires. Avoid overloading outlets and plug only one high-wattage appliance into each outlet at a time.
- 3. Never connect more than three strings of incandescent lights.**
More than three strands may not only blow a fuse, but can also cause a fire.
- 4. Keep tree fresh by watering daily.**
Dry trees are a serious fire hazard.
- 5. Use battery-operated candles.**
Candles start almost half of home decoration fires (NFPA).
- 6. Keep combustibles at least three feet from heat sources.**
A heat source that was too close to the decoration was a factor in half of home fires that began with decorations. (NFPA).
- 7. Protect cords from damage.**
To avoid shock or fire hazards, cords should never be pinched by furniture, forced into small spaces such as doors or windows, placed under rugs, located near heat sources, or attached by nails or staples.
- 8. Check decorations for certification label.**
Decorations not bearing a label from an independent testing laboratory such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL), Canadian Standards Association (CSA) or Intertek (ETL) have not been tested for safety and could be hazardous.
- 9. Stay in the kitchen when something is cooking.**
Unattended cooking equipment is the leading cause of home cooking fires (NFPA).

- 10. Turn off, unplug, and extinguish all decorations when going to sleep or leaving the house.**
Unattended candles are the cause of one in five home candle fires. Half of home fire deaths occur between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. (NFPA)



Fire Hydrants

City Staff clears snow around fire hydrants as time allows.

HELP US TO HELP YOU...

PLEASE clear the snow around fire hydrants in your neighborhood.

Upcoming City Council meetings (Broadcast on Channel 14)

December
 7th & 21st

January
 4th & 18th

Have a Safe and
 Happy Holiday
 Season
 From all of us at the
 City of Hawley!