



City Calendar

- MONDAY, JANUARY 2
New Year Holiday— Office Closed
- MONDAY, JANUARY 9
City Council Meeting
- TUESDAY, JANUARY 10
Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
- MONDAY, JANUARY 16
Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday—Office Closed
- TUESDAY, JANUARY 17
City Council Meeting
- MONDAY, JANUARY 23
Planning Commission Meeting
- TUESDAY, JANUARY 24
Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting
- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6
City Council Meeting
- TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14
Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20
Presidents Day Holiday - Office Closed
- TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21
City Council Meeting
- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27
Planning Commission Meeting
- TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28
Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting
- MONDAY, MARCH 6
City Council Meeting
- TUESDAY, MARCH 14
Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
- MONDAY, MARCH 20
City Council Meeting
- MONDAY, MARCH 27
Planning Commission Meeting
- TUESDAY, MARCH 28
Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting
- MONDAY, APRIL 3
City Council Meeting
- TUESDAY, APRIL 11
Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
- MONDAY, APRIL 17
City Council Meeting

A LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

“Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.” – William Arthur Ward

As we move into the holiday season, I am reminded of how grateful I am for this community and for the residents that contribute and give Excelsior it’s character and charm. What am I grateful for? Here are a few things that come to mind...

From a community perspective, I am grateful for the continued excellent work that is being done in The Commons. After a terrific summer of Concerts in the Commons (thank you Excelsior Morning Rotary), we are working hard on the “Concession project” and hope to have that open and ready to go in the spring. Thank you to all of the City Commissioners, City Staff, the Community for The Commons, and the many volunteers that have contributed time and money to help maintain and transform this 170 year old treasure. As a bonus, look for the two ice skating rinks on the shores of Lake Minnetonka this winter. Where else can you skate and enjoy the beautiful views of one of Minnesota’s largest lakes from your own backyard?

From an historic perspective, I am grateful for a community that still cares about preserving what we have. While I would argue that some change is inevitable, many within the community are working hard to help preserve and celebrate what we have. Our historic downtown was recently added to the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, we just earned national funding to help preserve the historic St. Alban’s Bay Bridge. Add in the recent designation of 106 Center Street, the restoration of the old Antiquity Rose building, the grass-roots community support to preserve the “Gazebo”, and the reimagination of the corner lot which was once Gary’s First Class Car Care, and Excelsior continues to reimagine and preserve what it has.

From a residential perspective, I am grateful for the patience exhibited by all of the residents that had to deal with a sewer, water or road project this past summer. From Hidden Lane to Wheeler Drive to Maple Street, the City of Excelsior continues to move forward with critical infrastructure improvements. These projects can be a major inconvenience, and we wouldn’t be able to accomplish them without everyone’s support. We have additional projects that we will be rolling out in 2023 – please stay tuned.

(Continued on the back)

WINTER PARKING REGULATIONS

Snow Emergencies are declared whenever there has been an occurrence of snowfall where snow has accumulated to a depth of two inches or more. During a snow emergency, vehicles shall be parked on city streets in accordance with the following regulations from 1:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m.:

- (1) On all even-numbered calendar days, parking is permitted on the side of the street with even-numbered house numbers.
- (2) On all odd-numbered calendar days, parking is permitted on the side of the street with odd-numbered house numbers.

Receive emergency alerts and other notifications via text or email by simply signing up on the City's website at www.excelsiormn.org and click on Notify Me, then News Flash, then Emergency Alert.

HALT THE SALT

As winter settles in, we will start to seek relief from salt to reduce the dangers of ice and snow on our driveways and sidewalks. While it's essential to keep safe in the wintertime, it's important to note that salt doesn't just disappear when the snow and ice eventually melts. Instead, it can cause irreversible damage as it washes into our lakes and streams.

Fortunately, you can help prevent salt pollution by limiting the amount of deicers you use on your driveways and sidewalks. Try to avoid using salt altogether, if possible. However, if safety concerns require you to control ice, follow these simple tips to limit your salt use:

- (1) Shovel. In order to limit the amount of deicer needed, try to keep your driveway and walkways free from snow when it first falls.
- (2) Skip the salt if temperatures are below 15 degrees. Most salts are not effective below this temperature. Instead, use sand for traction.
- (3) Use salt sparingly. Use no more than one pound of salt for 250 square feet. One heaping coffee mug is about one pound of salt and 250 square feet is roughly the size of two parking spaces.
- (4) Adding extra salt does not mean more melting. If salt or sand is visible on dry pavement, it is no longer working and will be washed away. Sweep it up and use it somewhere else.
- (5) Tell a neighbor! They could be over-salting their driveways or sidewalks.

SIDEWALK REGULATIONS FOR SNOW AND ICE

City Ordinance requires that all sidewalks be kept clean of snow and ice to keep sidewalks safe for pedestrians.

Commercial properties are required to remove all snow and ice within 16 hours after it has been deposited.

Residential properties are required to remove all snow and ice within 24 hours after it has been deposited, with the exception of Bell Street between Center and Courtland Streets and Oak Street between Beehrle Avenue and Water Street.



HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION VACANCIES

The Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) currently has vacancies.

The HPC is charged with identifying and recommending for preservation the important architectural elements of Excelsior's history.

If you are interested in serving on the commission contact City Hall at 952-474-5233 for a Citizen Inquiry application.

339 THIRD STREET PROJECT UPDATE

On November 7th, the City Council approved a Preliminary Plan for a Planned Unit Development at 339 Third Street (the current site of City Hall and the West Parking Lot). The proposed plans include 39 apartments (a mix of studios, 1-bedrooms and 2-bedrooms), 11 rowhomes and a parking garage with 77 parking spaces for residents of the project and 249 parking spaces for the public. The development team, Red Leaf Partners and the City, plan to bring Final Plans to the Planning Commission in December and to the City Council in January. The public can provide comments at these meetings or can send comments to City Hall.

If you have questions about this project please call Julia Mullin at 952-653-3674.

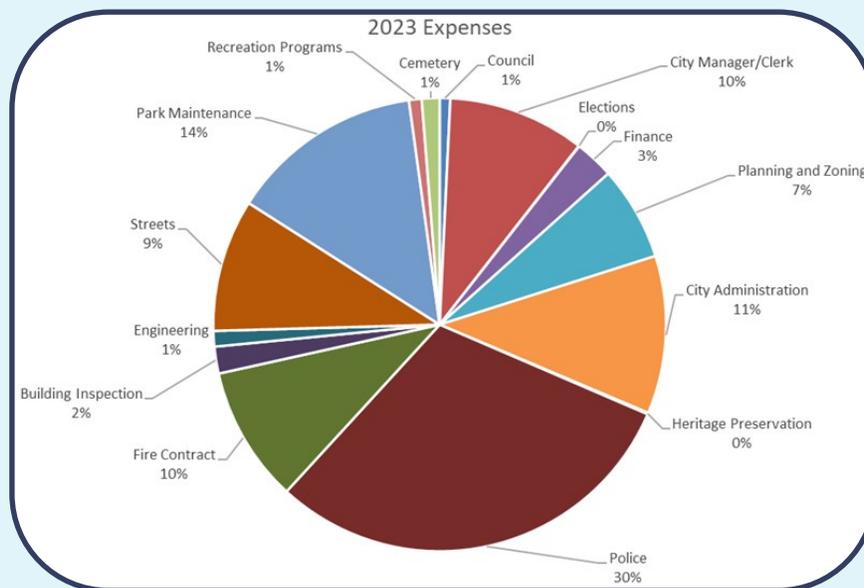
2023 BUDGET

The final 2023 budget was adopted at the December 19th, City Council meeting. After reviewing the budget over the last few months, the Council is projected to adopt a 6.49% levy increase over 2022, which equates to a (2.43%) decrease in the tax rate. This is down 8.51% over the preliminary budget that was approved in September at 15% over the 2022 levy.

Also included in the 2023 budget are increases in the water rates at 6%, sewer rates at 9.7% and surface water management rates at 8%. These are the recommended rates from the most current rate studies done by BakerTilly for the City of Excelsior.

If you are struggling to pay your water bill, the State of Minnesota has expanded their e-heat program for energy assistance to water customers. The City of Excelsior is participating in this program. For more information or to apply for this program, residents should request an application or find your local service provider: Call 800-657-3710 and press 1 or go online to mn.gov/commerce/eap.jsp search online for "Minnesota energy assistance".

Below is a graph showing where your tax dollars are applied.



EXCELSIOR FLATS, 690 EXCELSIOR BOULEVARD PROJECT UPDATE

On August 1st, the City Council approved a Preliminary Plan for Planned Unit Development at 690 Excelsior Boulevard, the property (currently a surface parking lot) located adjacent to the Minnetonka Regional Trail and across the street from the LoCorr Funds office building. The project is for 16-18 condominium units. The development team plans to bring Final Plans to the Planning Commission in January and the City Council in February. The public can provide comments at these meetings or can send comments to cityhall@excelsiormn.org



HOTEL PLANS FOR 10 WATER STREET

In August, the City Council reviewed conceptual plans for a hotel located at 10 Water Street. The plans included a four story building, to include a restaurant, with a plaza at the corner of Lake and Water, and street level retail space on Water Street. No formal plans have been submitted to the City at this time.



339 Third Street
Excelsior, MN 55331

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Excelsior, MN 55331

A LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

(CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

Lastly, on a personal note, I am grateful for the support of family, friends and the Excelsior community that rallied behind me this past summer and fall. As many of you know, and for those that don't, this past summer I was diagnosed with a rare form of head cancer. Faced with a difficult prognosis, I leaned on my faith, my family and the entire Excelsior community for support. Thank you for the many cards, letters and notes throughout my journey at the Mayo Clinic. While I am still on my road to recovery, your prayers, thoughts and support throughout my radiation and chemo treatments carried me through. Thank you!

As I have stated in each of my previous letters, the outstanding work that has taken place in Excelsior wouldn't be possible without the support of the Excelsior City Staff, Excelsior's Commissions and your City Council. On behalf of Councilmembers Caron, Dierking, Hersman, and Tyler, it is a privilege and a pleasure to continue to serve you. Should you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions for improvement, please reach out to City Hall at 952-474-5233, visit the City's website, or send me an email at tcarlson@excelsiormn.org.

Regardless of how or what you celebrate this time of year, I wish you peace and joy and send you my sincere thanks for being a valuable part of the Excelsior community. All my continued best to each of you as you prepare for 2023. Let's continue to move onward and upward together.

Todd Carlson
Mayor – City of Excelsior

CITY HALL IS MOVING!

City Hall will be moving to a new location in January 2023. The new location will be 350 Highway 7, Suite 230, Excelsior.

CONTACT US

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Fire	952-401- 8801

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