



# Minnetrista Messenger

## 2024 Winter/Spring Edition

### Message from the Mayor

I hope you are all having a good start to 2024!

We held our first Holiday Tree Lighting event on November 30, 2023. If you missed it, you missed a very fun community event. It was a great way to kick off the holiday season and to get together with fellow neighbors and friends. The weather cooperated, and I enjoyed meeting and talking with many of you. Mark your calendars for next year's event on December 5, 2024. You won't want to miss Minnetrista's second annual Holiday Tree Lighting. It will be even bigger and better.

The City Council held its last meeting of the year on December 4, 2024. The agenda included passing the City's 2024 budget and levy. We are required to certify this amount to Hennepin County no later than December 30, 2023. After hearing from a few residents, the Council passed a reduced levy of 12% which was 3.1% lower than the preliminary levy certified back in September. Both Council and staff worked diligently to approve a levy that would meet the city's needs while considering the tax impacts to our residents. Keep in mind the city's portion of your property tax bill is only 20-25% of the total. You can find more information on the city's budget on our website.

We kicked off 2024 with our first meeting on January 8, 2024. At that meeting we approved the 2024 polling places which included a change in the location for precinct 3. Previously, residents in this precinct voted at the Freshwater Church in St. Bonifacius.

Beginning 2024, the new location for these residents is the Minnetrista Baptist Church. If you are uncertain which precinct you should vote at, please call City Hall, or go on our website. [minnetristamn.civicpluswebopen.com/elections/page/polling-locations](https://minnetristamn.civicpluswebopen.com/elections/page/polling-locations)

In 2024, the City will not be completing any street reconstructions. Instead, we will be concentrating on mill and overlay projects which include Hermitage Trail & Circle, Stonebridge Lane, Ambjor Lane, and Nike Road. See page 3 of this newsletter for more details. The Council recently approved a 10-year street capital improvement plan. If you're interested in finding out when your street will be improved, you can visit our website by clicking "Road Projects" on the home page to see the projected year in which your road is planned and what the scope entails.

We have recently had a few staffing changes at the City. Sergeant Justin Thompson accepted a position with the Hennepin County Sheriff's office earlier this year. We wish him the best in his new job. We filled the vacant position by promoting Police Officer Josh Brown as our

newest Sergeant. We also swore in and welcomed our newest Police Officer Tyler Anderson at the February 5, 2024 Council meeting. In our Public Works Department we promoted Carter Ostlie to Sewer Operator as well!

Recently, a resident shared a concern about their sewer charges. It was believed that they are increasing, because of the water infrastructure projects the city is undertaking. That is not the case. Sewer and water fees are separate and cannot be interchanged. The city is charged a fee by the Metropolitan Council for the wastewater that we send to their sewer treatment plant, and these fees are increased every year. We also have sewer projects that we pay for out of our sewer fund.

Mark your calendars for May 7, 2024 for our annual State of the City Address. This event will be held at the beautiful Burl Oaks Golf Club, there will be light refreshments and a cash bar. Registration will open in April, so keep an eye out on our website and Facebook for more information. There is limited seating so register early. Check out page 4 for dates of other upcoming community events.

As Always,  
Your Mayor

Lisa Whalen



## 2024 Water Rates

During the 2024 Budget process, the City Council approved increasing the residential water rates to help support water infrastructure needed in our community. The below rates are effective January 1, 2024.



Usage	2023	2024
Base Rate	\$33.89	\$36.26
0-25,000 gallons	\$4.77	\$5.10
25,001-65,000 gallons	\$6.63	\$7.09
Over 65,001 gallons	\$11.93	\$12.77

*\*per 1,000 gallons*

Outdoor watering and irrigation season is coming up. Here are a few reminders to help conserve water:

- Summer water restrictions are in effect from **May 1-September 30**. If you are on public water supply, you can not irrigate between **10am-6pm**.
- To further conserve water, odd/even restrictions are effective as well. Residents with an odd address can water on odd dates, even addresses can water on even dates.
- Check your irrigation system and adjust to conserve water
- Improve lawn care practices (see [www.extension.umn.edu/turfgrass](http://www.extension.umn.edu/turfgrass))
- Change your expectation to allow for temporary discoloration during drought periods

## New Commissioners & Staffing Changes

Congratulations to our Commissioners who were sworn in earlier this year. Planning Commissioners Zak Gangestad and Steve Livermore took their Oath of Office at the Planning Commission meeting held on January 29, 2024. Parks Commissioner Kelly Philipps took the Oath of Office at the Parks Commission Meeting on January 9, 2024.

Earlier this month, Officer Josh Brown was promoted to Sergeant. Brown has served Minnetrista for almost six years, and we are excited for this opportunity! Carter Ostlie was promoted to Sewer Operator after nearly seven years with the City. We would also like to welcome to newest Police Officer Tyler Anderson who began employment earlier this year as well.

## Best Practices for Snow Removal



Even though we have been lucky with little snow, please keep in mind some best practices! **Do not put snow on roadways.** It is against state law and city ordinance to plow, shovel, blow, or place snow onto public roadways. Depositing snow in any fashion onto a roadway is illegal and punishable as a misdemeanor

Every year our plow drivers have incidents with garbage and recycling cans being placed in the roadway. When there is snow expected, we would like to remind homeowners that it is difficult for our plow crew when garbage/recycling cans are placed too far into the road.

Public Works crews work as efficiently as possible during and after a snow storm. We appreciate the resident's patience and cooperation during these snow events. A big thank you to our team! They put in long hours in take pride in keeping our roads safe.

## 2024 Elections

The City of Minnetrista administers city, state and federal elections for its residents on even years. The City's next municipal election will appear on the November 5, 2024 General Election Ballot. The municipal officers on the ballot will be one Mayor and two Council Members (4 year terms,) which are at-large positions representing all Minnetrista Residents.

### Important 2024 Election Dates

March 5, 2024– Presidential Nomination Primary  
August 13, 2024- Primary Election  
November 5, 2024– General Election

**Absentee Voting** for all elections begins 46 days prior to the election and direct balloting begins 18 days prior to the election. All in-person absentee voting is held at Minnetrista City Hall.

### Polling Location Change

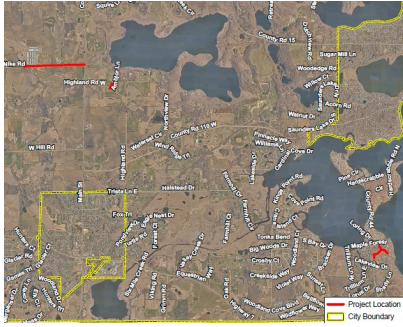
Due to the unavailability of Freshwater Church for Precinct 3 polling location, the new polling location is at the Minnetrista Baptist Church located at 4185 Highland Road. This change in polling location is effective for all 2024 elections. Residents impacted by this change will receive notice of polling location change in the mail prior to each election.

To confirm your polling place for an upcoming election, please visit the [Secretary of State's](http://www.sos.wisconsin.gov) website or contact City Hall.

## 2024 Street Projects

### Street Improvement Project

The proposed project includes the mill and overlay of Hermitage Trail, Hermitage Circle, Stonebridge Lane, Ambjor Lane and Nike Road (CR 92 to the end of the paved surface). The project entails milling the sides of the street and installing a new pavement surface across the entire street. Depending on the bid prices received the project may also include installing a new pavement surface on Hunters Trail between CR 92 and the Regional Trail.



Later this spring City Council will consider authorization of a pavement maintenance project that includes activities such as crack fill, fog seal, sealcoat and reclaimer at various locations throughout the city.

The City has a 10-year Capital Improvement Plan online map showing planned projects and maintenance activities for the next 10 years. The map is for planning purposes and is subject to change.

## 2024 Recycling Day

The City of Minnetrista will be hosting its annual city clean up and recycling day May 4, 2024 from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm at 7701 County Road 110 W Minnetrista. More information about collection day will be posted on the City's website in April. The City of Minnetrista and City of Mound co-op to make this day a success.

New this year: **Donate unwanted building materials!** Have unwanted building materials or tools laying around? Don't throw them out – donate instead! A local nonprofit, Better Futures MN, will be at the Minnetrista/Mound Special Clean Up Day on Saturday, May 4, 2024 to take used building material donations from residents. Better Futures will vet all materials for quality and potential for resale. Learn more about Better Futures MN at [betterfuturesminnesota.com](https://betterfuturesminnesota.com).

## Take it To The Box

Do you have a need for medication disposal? Carver County has a medicine take back program called "Take It To The Box." The Take It To The Box program promotes the safe use, safe storage and safe disposal of unneeded prescription and over-the-counter medications. This includes both human and animal medications along with illegal drugs. For more information, visit their website: [www.carvercountymn.gov/departments/public-services/environmental-services/disposal/medicine-prescription-drugs](https://www.carvercountymn.gov/departments/public-services/environmental-services/disposal/medicine-prescription-drugs)

## Trista Day

Mark your calendars! 2024 Trista day will be held on **Saturday, May 18th from 11am-2pm**. This annual public safety awareness event is sponsored by the City of Minnetrista and features events for people of all ages including safety education displays, kids' activities, entertainment, product displays, promotional items, and free popcorn & water. This year we will also have food trucks with items for purchase.

It takes many volunteers, vendors and donors to make Trista Day a success. Trista Day is a great opportunity for your business or organization to promote itself to the area residents through a booth. It is a great way to serve your community, promote safety awareness and have fun!

If you are interested in helping make Trista Day a success by contributing as a vendor, entertainer, and/or booth-holder, please contact the Police Department at (952)446-1131 or [police@ci.minnetrista.mn.us](mailto:police@ci.minnetrista.mn.us). Visit our website for more information!

## Rain Barrel Sale

The City of Minnetrista is teaming up with the Harrison's Bay Association and Recycling Association of Minnesota to offer rain barrels for sale.

**What.** There will be 45- gallon rain barrels made from recycled plastic milk jugs available for purchase. These barrels retail for \$120, but will be made available through the Recycling Association of MN for **\$90 + tax (price subject to change)**, thanks to cosponsors City of Minnetrista and our engineering partner WSB! Be one of the first 72 Minnetrista residents to purchase a rain barrel.

**Why.** Barrels will provide an estimated 1,400 gallons of rainwater per season for irrigation. This rainwater will help reduce your water usage and save on our limited water resources!

**When.** Sale begins on March 1st. Supplies of rain barrels are limited.

**How.** To get your name on the interest list and receive an email when the sale goes live, visit the [harrisonsbay.org/home](https://harrisonsbay.org/home) or use the QR code above.





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Mound, MN

This newsletter was published in accordance with the City of Minnetrista's Publication Policy which may be viewed in its entirety on the City's website at [www.cityofminnetrista.com](http://www.cityofminnetrista.com) or during regular business hours at Minnetrista City Hall; 7701 Co. Rd 110 W; Minnetrista, MN 55364.

## Upcoming Community Events

### Recycle Day

**May 4 8am-3pm**

This event is held so residents and can up any items they wish to recycle. More information to come on our website and social media!

### State of the City Address

**May 7, 5:30-7:30pm**

This event is held to update residents on the important accomplishments in the past few years and the priorities for the next year. Registration will open for these event in April.

### Trista Day

**May 18 11am-2pm**

This community event will feature safety education displays, kids' activities, petting zoo & pony rides, product displays, promotional items, food trucks, and free popcorn & water.

### City Bus Tour

**June 4 5:30pm-8:30pm**

This is a great (and fun) way to get to know your city. A very comfortable coach-bus takes us through our entire city. More information to come on our website and social media!

## City Meetings and Dates

### City Council Meeting

**March 18 7:00 pm**

### Planning Commissioner Meeting

**March 25 7:00 pm**

### City Council Meeting

**April 1 7:00 pm**

### City Council Meeting

**April 15 7:00 pm**

### Planning Commission Meeting

**April 22 7:00 pm**

### City Council Meeting

**May 6 7:00 pm**

### City Council Meeting

**May 20 7:00 pm**

### Planning Commission Meeting

**May 28 7:00pm**



### City of Minnetrista

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### City Council

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