



621 W. Main St. PO Box 186 - Onamia, MN 56359

November 1, 2022

Don't Forget to Vote

Election Day is Tues. Nov. 8th. Polls will be open from 7 am to 8 pm at City Hall. Two city council positions and the mayor's office are on the ballot along with U.S. Representative, Governor & Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, State Auditor, Attorney General State Senator and State Representative. Be sure to bring proper ID with you as we have a computerized system that requires it. If you have not voted before, you can register on Election Day with proof of residency. Make your voice heard, vote!!

Fall Clean Up

The Maintenance Department would like to remind you that they will pick up **bags** of yard waste and brush that is less than 4' long and **bundled** if they are placed on the curb or road side. Or, you can take your leaves and branches to the city brush site located 1.5 miles west of Onamia. Only brush, branches and leaves are to be dumped there, NOTHING ELSE. Remember to **remove any trash or garbage** before setting it on the curb.

Due to rising expenses, there will be a \$20 per load fee for all un-bundled brush removed by the Maintenance Department. Loose leaf litter will not be picked up until it is placed in a bag. Please do not put garbage or any other non-biodegrading material in the yard waste bags.

Scams are on the rise!

When money is tight it seems that more scammers are out there trying to rip you off. You need to be very aware of the tricks that unlicensed, inexperienced, uninsured contractors use to get business, at any cost to the consumer. This is especially true when it comes to roofing, heating and tree trimming work. The result of picking the wrong or cheap contractor can be a threat to your home or your health and safety. Service scams all have the same target: your wallet.

Be cautious of repair businesses or individuals who:

- Solicit door-to-door,
- Arrive in unmarked vehicles,
- Have a post office box or temporary address,
- Claim that they were doing work in the area and noticed that your home needed repairs.

Follow these tips to protect yourself:

- Work with your insurance company to get an accurate estimate and references for a reliable contractor.
- Get an estimate from more than one contractor.

- Work only with known licensed and ensured contractors. Require references and check them all out.
- Don't be pushed or pressured into signing a contract right away. Never sign a contract with any blanks not filled in or sign a completion certificate until the work is complete.
- Get everything in writing, including cost, work to be done, schedule, and payment schedule.
- Ask to see the contractor's driver's license. Write down the number as well as the salesperson's license plate number.
- Never pay a contractor in cash or in full until the job is complete.

More tips about hiring a contractor, including an online license lookup tool, can be found on Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)'s website at www.hirelicensedmn.com.

If you believe that you have been the victim of a scam or fraud, please contact the Onamia Police Department.

Snow Plowing Season is Coming!

Snowflakes will be flying shortly I suspect, so here is a reminder of the Snow Removal/Plowing Rules. Whenever we get 2" of snow or more, the city automatically calls a "Snow Emergency" and NO motor vehicle should be parked on the streets or in the alleys of Onamia until the snow is plowed. Your vehicle will be ticketed and towed at your expense. Start planning now to avoid this unwanted expense. Please remind any house guests or tenants of these rules.

Also, you are responsible to clear snow and de-ice the sidewalks adjoining your property within 24hrs of a snow event. **When taking care of the snow in your yard, it is NEVER appropriate to shovel or blow your snow in the street or alley! Thanks!**

Finally, if the forecast is for 2 or more inches of snow, please wait to put your Garbage (Wednesdays) or recycling (Tuesday) out until after the street is plowed.

City Christmas Tree Lighting

Please join us for our annual lighting of the Onamia City Christmas Tree on Friday, November 25th. Meet us at 6:30 pm in front of City Hall for the tree lighting, carols and cookies. Got family in town for the Holidays? Bring them too. Everyone is Welcome.

Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Library

Mark your calendar! Santa will be at the Onamia Depot Library on Saturday, December 3 from 11 am to 2 pm. Children of all ages are invited to join Mrs. Claus for



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Storytime as they wait to get their picture taken with Santa. The library will also be hosting a bake & craft/knick-knack sale starting at 10 am. This event is sponsored by the Onamia Depot Library and the Onamia Area Civic Association.

Ice Skate Rink

The Ice Skating Rink on Main Street in the Skate Park will be flooded as soon as the weather allows. Warming house hours will be posted around town when the rink is ready. There are some ice skates available rent free when the Warming House is open. We could use more ice skates, women's size 7-9. As you are doing your Fall Cleaning, please consider donating any gently used skates to our Parks Dept. Donations can be dropped off at City Hall. Thanks!

Remember, you can skate anytime during park hours.

“Light Up Onamia”

The Onamia Area Civic Association is sponsoring a Holiday Decorating Contest again this year. It is free and open to all businesses and residents of the Onamia area. Registration forms are attached. Decorate and Light Up the exterior of your business or home by December 12th. Sign up or nominate a neighbor TODAY!!

Retirement Open House

City Clerk Kathy McCullum will be retiring in January 2023 after 22 ½ years of service to the City of Onamia. Please join us for a Farewell Open House on Thursday, January 12, from 1 – 4 pm at City Hall. Refreshments will be served. Kathy has been a great asset to the city and she will be sorely missed.

Phase 2 – Water Treatment Plant

The water treatment portion of the large USDA project is progressing as planned. The design of the new facility, located on the current City Park tennis courts, is complete and under review by the funding agency and the Minnesota Department of Health. Current timelines have final approval in place in January. Once the project is bid and approved, the contractor should be ready to break ground in April or May. The construction is expected to take nearly two years to complete. In the meantime, staff is working with the engineers to add a mixer to the water tower to improve water quality until the new treatment plant is operational in late 2024.

Red Willow Estates

Red Willow Estates is a 30- unit townhome community being constructed on Pony Farm Road. Construction began in the spring of 2022 and is

continuing through June of 2023. As of October 27th, 22 of the 30 townhome units were delivered and set on foundations, with additional townhome units being delivered and set on foundations weekly. It is anticipated that all units will be set by the end of the month. Additionally, the driveway (called Red Willow Drive) will have gravel and a base layer of pavement put down the week of October 31st. As of October 27th, electric and gas lines have been tied into units on site, multiple garages have been framed and shingling installed, and siding has been installed on multiple units. The MLCV team has indicated they are trending ahead of schedule and are optimistic the project will be completed by June 30, 2023.

Up-Coming Events

- Nov. 6: Daylight Savings time ends
- Nov. 8: Election Day
- Nov. 9: City Council 6 pm Everyone is Welcome
- Nov. 10: Veteran's Day (City Hall is Closed)
- Nov. 24 & 25: Thanksgiving (City Hall is Closed)
- Nov. 25: City Christmas Tree Lighting 6:30 pm
- Dec. 3: Santa Visits the Depot Library 11 am to 2pm
- Dec. 14: City Council 6 pm Everyone is Welcome
- Dec. 25 & 26: Christmas (City Hall Closed)
- Dec. 31 & Jan. 1: New Year's (City Hall Closed)
- Jan. 11: City Council 6 pm Everyone is Welcome
- Jan. 12: Retirement Open House for Kathy 1-4 pm
- Jan. 16: Martin Luther King Jr. Day (City Hall Closed)

Yes, We Are Open!

- City Hall – 8:00am – 4:00pm Phone 532-3311
- Police Dept. – 532-3131
- Maintenance Dept. – 532-5322
- Library Link – Tues 11:00am - 3:00 pm
-Thurs 2:00pm – 5:00pm
Phone – 532-5210
- City Parks – Daily until 30 minutes after sunset.

Your City Council:

- Mayor: Marge Agnew 532-4936
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- Council: Bill Hill 320 630-9452
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- Joe Boeringa 532-4449
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