

City of Taylors Falls
 637 First Street
 Taylors Falls MN 55084
 651-465-5133
 tfclerk@frontiernet.net
 www.ci.taylors-falls.mn.us



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To Contact the City
 465-5133

Dial these Extensions:

City Hall	1	Mayor	5
Public Works	2	EDC	6
Police Dept.	3	PRC	7
Fire Dept.	4		

(Mayor, EDC & PRC will be message only)

City Representatives

City Council
 Mayor - Mike Buchite
 Council - Ross Rivard
 Council - Larry Julik-Heine
 Council - John Tangen
 Council - Zara Kinnunen

Library Board Members
 President - Melba Johnson
 Member - Dr. Bill Young
 Member - Marilyn Rimstead
 Member - Deb Julik-Heine
 Member - Leslie Johnson
 Librarian - Diane Dedon

Park & Rec Commission
 Chair - Lisa Thibodeau
 Member - Bill Davids
 Member - Liz Valleen
 Member - Diane Nelson
 Alternate - John Sander
 Member - Larry Julik-Heine
 Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

Planning Commission
 Chair - Irv Stolp
 Member - Joe Stein
 Member - Diane Sander
 Member - Robyn Beck
 Alternate - Lee Casperson
 Member - Ross Rivard
 Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

Heritage Preservation Commission
 Chair - Bill Scott
 Member - Betsy Bradley
 Member - Joanne Frank
 Member - Barbara Nelson
 Member - Brian Pigott
 Member - Weston Herman
 Alternate - John Larson
 Member - Zara Kinnunen
 Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

Economic Development Commission
 Chair - Wade Vitalis
 Member - Clarence Nelson
 Member - Sara Okstad
 Member - John Coffey
 Member - Beth Bantarr
 Member - Open Position
 Member - John Tangen
 Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

City Staff
 Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer
 Jayna Yeske, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
 Larry Phillips, ZA-Coordinator
 Jack Kramer, Building Official
 Eric Garner, PW Street Worker
 Bill Neska, PW Utility Worker
 Cleo Stomberg, Custodian
 Kevin & Carol Schumann, Custodians
 Kevin Rivard, Fire Chief
 Shane Carroll, Sheriff's Corporal
 Dustin Swenson, Sheriff's Deputy



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2007 - A YEAR TO REMEMBER

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- * Well #4 - City received low interest rate for financing of new well
- * Utility Rate Study Adopted
- * The City PW Department re-paved portions of Government and West Government Streets and First Street to Plateau Street
- * The TF Lion's acquired and installed new playground equipment donated by the City of Oakdale
- * The Kahbakong Cemetery was designated as a local Heritage Preservation site by the HPC
- * A moratorium was implemented to allow for the amendments to be made to the Comprehensive Plan and adopt a new Zoning Map, Fees and Development Code (Zoning Ordinances)
- * Riverwalk Dedication Ceremony held in July
- * 1st Annual Tug-O-War over the St. Croix River held during Wannigan Days
- * Hydroelectric Dam located on the St. Croix River celebrated its' 100th birthday
- * Chisago Lakes School Referendum Passed

Public Hearing

The Public Hearings for the new Development Code, Zoning Map and Zoning Fees originally scheduled for January 7, 2007 have been rescheduled for January 14, 2007 at 7:05 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall. All interested persons are invited to attend the hearing and be heard on the matters or submit written testimony on the matters.

The Development Code, Zoning Map and Fees are available for review on the City's website at www.ci.taylors-falls.mn.us or at City Hall by contacting Larry Phillips at 465-5133 ext. 24.

MAYOR'S FORUM

I'm not sure about the rest of you but it seems to me like winter arrived quickly this year! Temperatures have dropped and we have a thick blanket of snow already on the ground in time for a White Christmas.

As the New Year begins, I would like to take the opportunity to give a warm thank you to our City Council members and City Staff for all of their hard work and dedication to our City. I also say thank you to our Commission members, Fire Dept., Sheriff's Dept., Tidbits staff and all the volunteers who have given countless hours in an effort to make our City a better place to live – and it is!



Well #4 has been drilled and tested and it looks like we have a great location as it will provide us with water for years to come. Our well-house should start taking shape soon and we expect to have everything up and running by Springtime. The area looks a little messy right now, but that will be resolved this Spring also. The well-house will look like a "Country out-building", and will be nicely landscaped as soon as weather permits.



Please remember, I am always available for questions, concerns or comments. Don't hesitate in calling or stopping me on the street when you see me!

As always, I wish each of you Good Health and God's Blessings.

MEETING SCHEUDLES

Council Meetings - 2nd & 4th Mondays

(Jan. 14 & 28th, Feb. 11th & 25th, Mar. 10th & 24th)

Planning Commission - 1st Mondays

(Jan. 7, Feb. 4, Mar. 3)

Economic Development Commission - 3rd Thursdays

(Jan. 17, Feb. 21, Mar. 21)

Park & Recreation Commission - 3rd Wednesdays

(Jan. 15, Feb. 20, Mar. 19)

Heritage Preservation Commission - 2nd Tuesdays

(Jan. 8, Feb. 12, Mar. 11)

COMMISSION MEETINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DEPENDING UPON PRESSING ISSUES AT HAND. PLEASE CALL CITY HALL TO CONFIRM DATES & TIMES.

CITY UPDATES WEBSITE

www.ci.taylors-falls.mn.us

Much work has been done recently on the City's new website. There you will find Council Minutes and Meeting Agendas, Ordinances, information on businesses in the City, valuable links to other sites on the internet. Eventually we will have various forms that can be completed on-line and returned, including building permits, animal licensing applications, zoning applications, citizen complaint forms, and others. There is a section that allows you to contact us. Please use it to notify us of a problem, or to comment on the website, or to give us suggestions for improvement. It is intended to help keep communication open between you & City Hall, between you and Council.



STUMBLIN' DOWN MEMORY LANE

by Jack Liljenberg

The Yuletide is coming to an end and ushering in the New Year in which there will be no less than four anniversaries for area residents to note. Three of those noteworthy anniversaries in 2008 will be sesquicentennials, commemorating foundation events of 150 years ago.

TAYLORS FALLS TOWN INCORPORATION SESQUICENTENNIAL

The Town/Village [now City] of Taylors Falls was first incorporated on Thursday, July 15, 1858. The first mayor of Taylors Falls was Patrick Fox [1817-1904] who served in that capacity from Jan. 3, 1859 to Jan. 2, 1860. Mr. Fox was born in Tipperary Co., Ireland and immigrated to the U.S.A. with his parents at the age of six. Mr. Fox and his wife, the former Miss Elizabeth Riley [who was also an Irish immigrant], were married in 1851 and had eight children. In December 1854 Mr. Fox was one of the organizers of the Kahbakong Cemetery Association, and he served as its first treasurer. In 1855 he was one of the organizers of the St. Croix Bridge Co. Mr. Fox also served in Minnesota's second legislative session that was held in 1859-'60.

TAYLORS FALLS/SHAHER TOWNSHIP SESQUICENTENNIAL

Patrick Fox, a popular and quite busy merchant and lumberman, also served as the first chairman of the township supervisors of Taylors Falls Township, which was organized on Monday, October 25, 1858. The name of the township was changed to Shafer Township in 1873.

MINNESOTA STATEHOOD SESQUICENTENNIAL

Minnesota, which was established as a territory in 1849, was admitted as the 32nd state of the Union on Tuesday, May 11, 1858. Part of becoming a state was the writing of a state constitution. The four men who were elected to represent Chisago County at the 1857 Minnesota Constitutional Convention held in Saint Paul were: W.H.C. Folsom and Lucas K. Stannard, both of Taylors Falls; Charles F. Low of Sunrise and the Reverend Peter A. Cederstam who was then the minister at the Chisago Lakes Lutheran Church at Center City. The Reverend Peter Cederstam was later the minister at the First Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church in Taylors Falls from 1872 to '74. Two men elected to represent Washington County at the Constitutional Convention were Joseph R. Brown and Henry N. Setzer. Mr. Brown's logging crew cut the valley's first saw logs from what is now Taylors Falls in the winter of 1836-'37. Mr. Setzer, though living in Stillwater in 1857, was a lawyer and village officer who lived in Taylors Falls for about 25 years and is buried in Kahbakong Cemetery. Taylors Falls is fortunate to have had five of its historic figures among the framers of our state's constitution.

TAYLORS FALLS WANNIGAN DAYS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Reflecting the community's logging heritage and in observance of the Minnesota Statehood Centennial of 1958, the first Taylors Falls Wannigan Days celebration was a seven-day event held from Monday, August 4 to Sunday, August 10, 1958. Appropriately, the first Taylors Falls Wannigan Days button featured the Minnesota Statehood Centennial logo. Saint Croix Falls first became an active participant in the annual celebration in 1962.



HOW I SAVED BAMBI'S MOTHER

by Kari



Well, after some thinking (and some prodding by Larry) I decided to accompany Larry on a Saturday "hunt." I piled upon layers of clothing, with the final layer being a giant semi-smelly orange fleece jacket. At this point I reminded myself of the younger brother in "A Christmas Story" who falls over and can't get up because he is so bundled. I am even wearing a black face mask (which- oops- I put on upside down).

We trudge out in the wilderness, through the snow falling and gusts of wind (Larry sure does know how to pick great times for introducing me to new outdoor activities). I am warm enough though and have switched my face mask so it is on the correct way. I begin to note the beauty surrounding the outdoors, which is easy to do because of the snowfall and I have time to contemplate because talking is not allowed while hunting.

I even find myself eagerly anticipating the opportunity to see a deer. Then I notice Larry crouching down. At about the same time as he takes his first shot, I see a beautiful large doe. As the harsh sound of the muzzle loader resonates in my ears, tears fill my eyes. I don't want this deer dead! I cry out, "Larry, STOP!!!! STOP!" He looks at me like I am crazy and says "SHUSHHHHHHHHHH!" He lines up for another shot. I cry out again. He misses.

At this point he is furious, as am I. I declare that I am going back and head my way back home. Larry spends the next hour tracking the doe in case he did get a shot and the doe is wounded. He didn't. The doe is alive! (I assume). I learned that day I am not cut out to be a deer hunter. Larry learned a lesson too (never to bring me deer hunting).

After much debate, we agree to disagree on the doe that got away.

2008 ANIMAL LICENSES

Animal licenses are required for all cats & dogs 6 months or older & must be renewed on an annual basis. Licenses run from Jan 1st to Dec 31st. Licenses applied for after April 1st are subject to double the license fee. Please be sure that when you turn in your license application and fee that your rabies information is current. If unsure, please don't hesitate to call and ask. Licenses will not be completed if the rabies vaccination is not up to date or if we do not have a current copy. Kennel licenses are required for anyone harboring or boarding 3 or more dogs or cats. The kennel license has a one time fee of \$50.00 and must be approved by City Council.



Mayor Mike Buchite, 465-4152
Vice-Mayor Ross Rivard, 465-3035
Council Member John Tangen, 465-5705
Council Member Larry Julik-Heine, 465-3004
Council Member Zara Kinnunen, 465-6544



City Hall Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Fridays 7:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
closed from noon - 12:45 for lunch

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Happiness is like a butterfly. The more you chase it, the more it will elude you. But if you turn your attention to other things, it comes softly and sits on your shoulder.

Every passing day is one that is gone forever. Make sure it is one in which you have done something for others, especially those who cannot do for themselves.



The Winter Community



will be held on
Saturday, February 9
at 6:00 p.m. in the basement of the First Baptist Church.

Everyone is welcome –
Come and enjoy!

NEW SKATING RINK AT TAYLORS FALLS ELEMENTARY



The Taylors Falls Elementary School will be getting a new ice skating rink thanks to donations. The City agreed to match \$1,500 raised and the rink is well on its way towards being completed. The ice rink will be erected next to the ball field and the school has already donated a shed to be converted and used as a warming house. A fire hydrant is readily available to fill the rink, which will be approximately 60 feet by 100 feet by 150 feet (1/2 the size of a regular hockey rink). The primary cost of the project will be the excavation, renovations to the warming house and the rubber lining for the rink.

Winter Reminders



Is your sidewalk clear of snow and ice?

Residential and business sidewalks must be shoveled within 24 hours of a snowfall as required by City Ordinance, Section 503.

What does this mean?

When the snow stops falling... you will have 24 hours to shovel your sidewalk. If it is not shoveled, the Public Works Department will do it, and we will invoice you \$50.00 for it. If unpaid at the end of the year, the charge will be assessed to your property taxes.

Snow Plowing Routes

Priority Routes:

- * First Street hill (County Road 20 and 37)
- * Government Street hill
- * Basil Street hill
- * West Street hill
- * Grove Street hill
- * Walnut Street hill



What does this mean?

These are streets with hills that connect major sections of the City and provide essential access for emergency fire, police and medical services. They will be plowed & maintained before other City streets.

Other Streets by Priority:

- * 2nd Priority ~ Streets that provide access to schools & commercial businesses
- * 3rd Priority ~ Residential streets
- * 4th Priority ~ Alleys and City parking lots
- * 5th Priority ~ Contract plowing, sanding and snow removal for entities other than the City

City Sidewalks are cleared only AFTER the priority streets have been plowed. The City of Taylors Falls does not guarantee bare pavement.

What are the parking restrictions in the winter?

There is no parking of motor vehicles, equipment or structures on any street or alley in the City between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. between November 1st and April 15th.

What does this mean?

This is required by City Ordinance Section 600.07. If you are in violation, you risk a costly tag & and/or a costly tow.

Mail Box Damage - The City will repair or replace a mail box only if it is directly hit by the snowplow.

What does this mean?

Heavy snow thrown by the snow plow may damage a mailbox, but the City will not be responsible for this damage.



PARKING PERMITS

Please contact City Hall for renewals of your parking permits. There is no charge for the permit, but you must park in the designated lot on First Street (behind the Riverview gas station). Without a permit you risk a citation from the Chisago County Sheriff's Department. Permits are NOT issued to park in the Marmon Parkway (Bench Street Parking Lot) for more than the 3-hour limit. This rule applies to every business owner as well as their employees. Regardless of the time of year, this lot is designated for visitor or patron parking only.



FRIENDLY REMINDERS FROM PW



Please remember that there is no riding of snowmobiles allowed on City sidewalks or lawns. Snowmobiles are allowed very limited use unless it is to the gas station or to gain access to a trail.



The compost site will be open again the 2nd weekend in January to dispose of Christmas trees and garland.



City Ordinance prohibits the feeding of deer. It is often tempting to want to enjoy watching as they feed, but deer cause significant damage in TF. We have a higher ratio of deer in this area to begin with. Attracting more by feeding will only intensify the problem.



Please remember that building snow forts near the right-of-way can be very dangerous when the snow plows are on the roads. Please be sure to allow adequate space.



The City is not responsible for damages to property in the right-of-way.

Ten ways to add gentleness to your life:

1. Speak more slowly and softly.
2. Look with kindness on those you love.
3. Slow down your movements in social interaction.
4. Take time to appreciate nature.
5. Spend time in silence.
6. Surround yourself with softness.
7. Look for kindness in others.
8. Spend time listening to relaxing, beautiful music.
9. Ask yourself, is this the person I want to be with?
10. Seek peace from within.

PONDERISMS

- * I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned that most people die of natural causes.
- * The easiest way to find something around the house is to buy a replacement.
- * Never take life too seriously. Nobody gets out alive anyway.
- * How is it one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?
- * Who was the first person to look at a cow and say, "I think I'll squeeze these dangly things here and drink whatever comes out of it?"
- * Who was the first person to say, "See that chicken there? I'm gonna eat the next thing that comes out of it's butt."
- * If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, then what is baby oil made from?
- * Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?
- * In the 60's, people took acid to make the world weird. Now the world is weird and people take Prozac to make it normal.
- * Why is there a light in the fridge and not in the freezer?
- * If the Professor on Gilligan's island could make a radio out of a coconut, how come he couldn't fix a hole in the boat?

LIBRARY HOURS

**Wednesdays 2:00 pm
to 5:00 pm**

↳ 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

&

**Saturdays 9:30 am to
12:30 pm**

Winter has again arrived with the cold and snow. A good book and a warm blanket will help to pass the time. Come to the library and find that thriller, heart-warming story, adventure, or light reading that you haven't yet read. New books arrive often. Or maybe one of the oldies that you have read before. Magazines are also available. Come in and find that reading material.

The Library Board would like to start a collection of audio books. If you have an audio book that you would like to donate, please bring it into the Library. Do not put them in the drop box. It is necessary for the Librarian to look at the audio book and determine if it will fit in our collection.





Mattress recycling is now available in Chisago County!

Recycling for Wildlife has recently begun recycling mattresses and box springs at their facility, located one-half mile south of Harris on County 30. Chisago County residents may drop off clean and dry mattresses for recycling every Saturday between 8 a.m. and noon at a cost of \$10/mattress. The ECSWC charges \$18 to dispose of a mattress at their landfill or transfer stations. Mattresses to be recycled will be loaded and hauled to Goodwill Industries in Duluth, where workers will disassemble the mattresses and sort the marketable by-products: steel, cotton, foam, and wood.

...Winter reminders (continued)



Other Winter Tidbits

- * Don't deposit snow from your driveway onto the street, alley or sidewalk.
- * Don't plow snow across a street or alley to be stored in the right-of-way; a windrow of snow can be dangerous.
- * Don't place garbage cans in the street for pickup; they belong in the driveway.
- * Please prevent children from building snow forts within 10 feet of the street edge since the wing of the plow truck extends into the boulevard.
- * Keep children and their toys away from the street when plows are operating.
- * Objects thrown by the snowplow become missiles which can injure severely.
- * Maintain a safe driving distance behind snow removal equipment. Equipment operators appreciate any courtesy you extend them during snow removal & sanding operations.
- * Advise out-of-town visitors of our snow removal policies (please contact City Hall for a copy).

Information: Questions or comments regarding snow removal should be directed to the Public Works Department at 465-5133 ext 25.



**I hope you find this communication helpful.
Please drive carefully during the snow and ice season!**

COLD WEATHER RULE

Bills can pile up just like snow. The MN Cold Weather Rule is designed to protect people who may have trouble paying their utility bills during winter months. The Cold Weather Rule applies from October 15th through April 15th. The rule means that you are allowed an additional 10 days to pay your utility bill. If you'd like further informa-



What we must decide is perhaps
how we are valuable, rather than
how valuable we are!

Ever wonder...

- Why the sun lightens our hair but darkens our skin?
- Why don't you ever see the headline "Psychic wins lottery"?
- Why is 'abbreviated' such a long word?
- Why is it that doctors call what they do 'practice'?
- Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavor and dishwashing liquid made from real lemons?
- Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?
- Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called rush hour?
- Why isn't there mouse-flavored cat food?
- Why didn't Noah swat those two mosquitoes?
- Why to they sterilize the needle for lethal injections?
- You know that indestructible black box that is used on airplane? Why don't they make the whole plane out of that stuff?
- Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?

