

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



FIRST CLASS
 US POSTAGE PAID
 TAYLORS
 FALLS, MN
 PERMIT 20



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 ('10)
 Council - Ross Rivard ('10)
 Council - Zara Kinnunen ('10)
 Council - Larry Julik-Heine ('12)
 Council - John Tangen ('12)

Library Board Members
 President - Melba Johnson ('09)
 Member - open position ('09)
 Member - Dr. Bill Young ('10)
 Member - Deb Julik-Heine ('10)
 Member - Lesli Johnson ('11)
 Librarian - Diane Dedon

Park & Rec Commission
 Chair - Tana Havumaki ('10)
 Member - Bill Davids ('09)
 Member - Diane Nelson ('09)
 Member - Mary Murphy ('11)
 Alternate - open position
 Member - Larry Julik-Heine
 Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

Planning Commission
 Chair - Joe Stein ('09)
 Member - Diane Sander ('10)
 Member - Irv Stolp ('11)
 Member - Robyn Beck ('11)
 Alternate - Lee Caspersen
 Member - Ross Rivard
 Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

Heritage Preservation Commission
 Chair - Barb Nelson ('10)
 Member - Brian Pigott ('09)
 Member - Weston Herman ('09)
 Member - Julie Hildebrand ('10)
 Member - Bill Scott ('11)
 Member - Joanne Frank ('11)
 Alternate - John Larson
 Member - John Tangen
 Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

Economic Development Commission
 Chair - Wade Vitalis ('09)
 Member - Clarence Nelson ('09)
 Member - open position ('09)
 Member - Beth Bantarri ('10)
 Member - Jim Schoonmaker ('10)
 Member - open position ('11)
 Alternate - John Coffey
 Member - Zara Kinnunen
 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



Tidbits from Taylors Falls

January 2009

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

2008 - A YEAR TO REMEMBER

Inside this Issue:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 2008-A YEAR TO REMEMBER | 1 |
| NON-ESSENTIAL SPENDING | 1 |
| MAYOR'S FORUM | 2 |
| MEETING SCHEDULES | 2 |
| ELECTION RESULTS | 3 |
| CITY HALL OFFICE HOURS | 3 |
| WINTER COMMUNITY POTLUCK | 3 |
| 5-MINUTE CHOCOLATE MUG CAKE RECIPE | 3 |
| WINTER REMINDERS | 4-5 |
| COLD WEATHER RULE | 5 |
| WHAT TO DO BEFORE THE BURGLAR COMES | 5 |
| PROJECT UPDATES | 6 |
| UTILITY RATE INCREASE | 6 |
| LIBRARY NEWS | 7 |
| PARKING PERMITS | 7 |
| FRIENDLY PW REMINDERS | 7 |
| THANK YOU TO MARILYN RIMESTAD | 7 |
| COMMISSION MEMBERS WANTED | 7 |
| ROYAL LADY OF THE VILLAGE | 8 |
| 2009 ANIMAL LICENSES | 8 |
| STUMBLIN' DOWN MEMORY | 9 |
| CITY REPRESENTATIVES | 10 |

- © The City adopted several new ordinances: Identity Theft Program, Right-of-Way Ordinance, Pawnbroker Ordinance, a new Development Code (planning & zoning), & a Parks & Trails Master Plan
- © The City purchased Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping software
- © Mae Hofford turned 100 years on May 7th and was honored with "Mae Hofford Day"
- © TF Elementary constructed a new addition & crosswalks were installed for safety
- © Mitigation Fund Projects were completed...(see project updates on page 6)
 Community Center ... * Heritage Park ... * River Walk Trail ... * Lift Station ...
- © The TF & SCF Lion's Club Held the 2nd Annual Tug Across the St Croix River during Wannigan Days
- © Cherry Hill Park Improvements ~ construction of a pavilion and concrete slab
- © TF Library celebrated 120 years
- © Well #4 on-line and operating smoothly
- © Berg property located on Mulberry Street was donated to the Good Samaritan Society
- © The majority of Angel Hill was designated as a Local Historic Preservation District
- © St Croix River Valley Stewardship Award was presented to Andy & Geri Swenson for their dedication to the Lion's Parks for many years
- © There were many website improvements completed in 2008 - **log on, take a look!**

NON-ESSENTIAL SPENDING FREEZE

As you have probably heard and read, Governor Pawlenty's initial attempts to balance the State's current short term \$426 million dollar deficit, included cuts in state aid to cities, townships and counties. Taylors Falls was cut \$36,100 in Local Government Aid (LGA) in 2008. The Legislature and Governor have yet to announce what their plans are to eliminate the projected \$4.5 billion dollar deficit for the next biennium (June-July 2010-2011). Since this potential cut is unknown, and as a precautionary measure, the City Council chose to implement a non-essential spending freeze and wage freeze beginning January 1st for City Departments (Administrative, Public Works, Planning & Zoning, Fire Department) as well as for City Commissions (PC, EDC, PRC, HPC). All major projects will also be placed on hold. When the State announces how it intends to resolve their financial crisis, the City will have a better idea how it will impact our own 2009 (and 2010) budget. Until then, we will do everything possible to provide the same services to you that you have come to expect.

MAYOR'S FORUM

As 2008 draws to an end, I look at what we have accomplished this year and it brings a smile to my face. We have a strong City Council, great City employees, four dedicated Commissions, and an awesome Library Board. We have an active Lions group, Women's Civic League, Historical Society, Chamber of Commerce and a group known as the Tidbits Crew who patiently assemble our City newsletter. Our relationship with the Sheriff's Department is strong and I know they care about our City. Bottom line – Our City is blessed with many gifted individuals and I thank each of you for your time & efforts.



We will be facing some difficult times in 2009, yet I am confident that we “will” work our way through them. Some projects and improvements will have to wait until we know more about our State's decisions on balancing their budget before we continue to move forward. Our City is in good shape financially and our City Council will do our best to make sure we remain that way!

I am always available for questions, concerns or comments. Don't hesitate in calling or stopping me on the street when you see me! Remember: Enjoy your family, friends & loved ones. As always, I wish each of you Good Health and God's Blessings.

MEETING SCHEDULES

Council Meetings - 2nd & 4th Mondays
(Jan 5, 12 & 26, Feb 9 & 23, Mar 9 & 23)

Planning Commission - 1st Mondays
(Jan 5, Feb 2, Mar 2)

Economic Development Commission - 3rd Thursdays
(Jan 15, Feb 19, Mar 19)

Park & Recreation Commission - 3rd Wednesdays
(Jan 21, Feb 18, Mar 18)

Heritage Preservation Commission - 2nd Tuesdays
(Jan 13, Feb 10, Mar 10)

Library Board - Last Wednesdays (Jan 28, Feb 25, Mar 25)

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

TODAY'S STOCK MARKET REPORT

Helium was up.
Feathers were down.
Paper was stationary.
Fluorescent tubing was dimmed in light trading.
Knives were up sharply.
Cows steered into a bull market.
Pencils lost a few points.
Hiking equipment was trailing.
Elevators rose while **escalators** continued their slow decline.
Weights were up in heavy trading.
Light switches were off.
Mining equipment hit rock bottom.
Diapers remained unchanged.
Shipping lines stayed at an even keel.
The market for **raisins** dried up.
Coca Cola fizzled.
Caterpillar stock inched up a bit.
Sun peaked at midday.
Balloon prices were inflated.
Scott tissue touched a new bottom
And **batteries** exploded in an attempt to recharge the market.



STUMBLIN' DOWN MEMORY LANE

by Jack Liljenberg

Fifty years have now passed since the removal of the building that housed the King Tut Inn, which was a full-menu, family restaurant. The King Tut Inn was operated only during the summer tourist seasons but it is still fondly remembered and inquired about by many. Its building was a one-story structure that if still standing would be located just east of the General Store near the bridge.

The King Tut Inn was built in early 1923 for Charles M. and Margaret Angle who were a childless couple originally from Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Angle had operated several hotels in Canada, before moving to Minneapolis in 1917. Just prior to coming to Taylors Falls, they operated a hotel at Excelsior, Minnesota. They named their new restaurant after King Tutankamon who was an Egyptian king [pharaoh] who died in 1357 B.C. at about eighteen years of age. The discovery of his tomb in 1922 was a worldwide media event, since his tomb was the first tomb of an Egyptian king discovered intact, with all of its treasures.

The King Tut Inn was opened with a dance on Thursday evening, May 3, 1923. An early photo of the main dining hall illustrates that it was modestly furnished with mostly four-guest, wooden tables and rounded-back, kitchen-style wooden chairs. There were also a few pieces of wicker furniture, some overstuffed club chairs and many elegantly painted Chinese lantern-type light fixtures hung from the ceiling. The King Tut Inn also sold beer, ice cream and souvenirs. In its pre-World War II years, it also had a small grocery store. Also in the early years, the main dining hall was sometimes used as a dancing pavilion and occasionally in the off-season for roller skating, turkey bingos and other social events.

Mr. and Mrs. Angle spent most of their winters in Orlando, Florida, which is where Mr. Angle died in December 1929. Mrs. Angle continued the operation of the King Tut Inn until the gasoline, tire and food rationing of World War II, as well as her declining health, prevented the opening the King Tut Inn for the summers of 1943, '44 and '45. Mrs. Angle died in Bremerton, Washington, at age 66, in November 1945.

In 1946 and '47, the King Tut Inn was operated by one of Mrs. Angle's nephews, Ted Domning of Bremerton, Washington. In 1948, '49 and '50 [?], it was operated by the "Christenson Brothers" of Amery, Wis., and in 1951 it was operated by the Ernest Christenson family. In 1952, which was the last season the name of King Tut Inn was used, it was operated by Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Moochy of Balsam Lake. Johnny Moochy was a professional wrestler of some regional notoriety. In 1953 the restaurant was known as Gamer's Bungalow Cafe, operated by George Gamer. It was not open in 1954, and in 1955, the restaurant's last season, it was again operated by the Ernest Christenson family but under the name of Christenson's Cafe. The property on which the building stood was then purchased by the Minnesota Highway Department, which wanted to eventually make improvements to the approach to the present, 1955 bridge.

An auction of the building's contents was held on Saturday, May 26, 1956. The building then stood vacant until it was torn down nearly two years later, in April of 1958. None of those who operated the King Tut Inn owned the property on which it stood. In the 1920s the property was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Gustaf Danielson and later by Mr. and Mrs. Bert Nelson. Mr. Danielson and Mr. Nelson operated automotive service garages next door west where now stands the 1956 Standard Oil gas station that is now the General Store.

King Tut didn't do anything memorable as a king of Egypt but in Taylors Falls he made chicken dinners well worth remembering.
(photo of the King Tut Inn on page 8)

2008 ROYAL LADY OF THE VILLAGE

Congratulations to Jeanette Dahlquist who was chosen 2008 Royal Lady of the Village. Her certificate reads:



Royal Lady of the Village

The Taylors Falls 24th Annual Lighting Festival
Herewith Proudly Honors

Jeanette Dahlquist

as our Year 2008 Royal Lady of the Village pro-
claimed this 28th day of November, 2008,

IN RECOGNITION OF HER

lifelong service to our community including schools, scouts, Taylors Falls Civic League, election judge, Library Board, Taylors Falls Historical Society, and city newsletter staff, as well as her role of showing the spirit of a true ambassador of our village as a greeter and information source to many tourists.

The Lighting Festival Committee would like to thank everyone who helped with the Festival and who came to enjoy it. Each event in the three-day festival was well attended. 2009 will be our 25th celebration!

Lighting Festival Winners in the residential category: 1st Place goes to the home of Charlie and Shirley Jackson at 366 Colby Street for its elegant, yet fairytale impression of lights; 2nd Place goes to the home

of Steve and Diana Gall, 400 Military Road, for home and yard decorating; 3rd place goes to the house and yard display of Santa, reindeer and carolers of the Michael Bent family at 637 River Street. Honorable mention goes to Dr. Bill & Barbara Young's house, on the corner of Basil and Plateau Streets, with their familiar figures on the side porch and front yard and house lights.

The Chisago House Restaurant receives 1st Place in the Commercial category. The elf figures and many lights on the building welcome all who come to Taylors Falls. Rocky River Bakery takes Best Commercial Window.

2009 ANIMAL LICENSES

Included in this newsletter is your annual animal license application (also available on our website). 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. 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 who owns or boards 3 or more dogs or cats. The kennel license has a one time fee of \$50.00 and must be approved by City Council.



The King Tut Inn about 1940.

Read its story on page 9.



DINING ROOM, KING TUT INN TAYLORS FALLS, MINN. 20

Mayor Mike Buchite, 465-4152

Vice-Mayor Ross Rjvard, 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.
closed from noon - 12:45 for lunch
Fridays
7:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

ELECTION RESULTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO MAYOR MIKE BUCHITE AND COUNCIL MEMBERS JOHN TANGEN AND LARRY JULIK-HEINE ON THEIR RE-ELECTIONS TO OFFICE.

EVERY DAY
BRINGS A CHANCE
FOR YOU TO DRAW
IN A BREATH, KICK
OFF YOUR SHOES,
AND DANCE!!!

ACTION IS
WORRY'S
WORST
ENEMY!



The Winter Community



will be held on

Saturday, February 7

at 6:00 p.m. in the
basement of the First
Baptist Church.

~Everyone is
welcome ~

Come and enjoy!



5 Minute Chocolate Mug Cake

4 TBLS Flour ~ 3 TBLS Milk ~ 4 TBLS Sugar ~ 3 TBLS Oil ~ 2 TBLS Cocoa
3 TBLS Chocolate Chips (optional) ~ 1 Egg ~ Dash of Vanilla Extract
1 Large Coffee Mug

Add dry ingredients to mug and mix well. Add egg and mix thoroughly. Pour in the milk and oil and mix well. Add the chocolate chips, vanilla and mix again. Put your mug in the microwave and cook for 3 minutes. The cake will rise over the top of the mug, but don't be alarmed! Allow to cool a little and tip out onto a plate if desired. ENJOY!

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. Your best bet is not to park on the street if at all possible!



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?

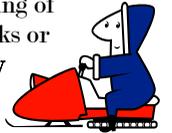
PARKING PERMITS

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.**



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 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.

LIBRARY HOURS

Wednesdays
2:00 pm to 5:00 pm
4:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Saturdays
9:30 am to 12:30 pm

Winter weather means more time for reading. Come in and find a good book. There are lots to choose from - mystery, fiction, new and old. We also have 10 different magazines and the use of our high-speed computer. Don't forget that the children in your family would enjoy our many books too. Snuggling up with a good book will make the cold days and nights go by faster. **See you at the Library!**



THANK YOU

to Marilyn Rimestad for 21 years of service as Librarian and 7 years on the Library Board of the Taylors Falls Library.

WANTED

The City currently has two positions open on the Economic Development Commission and an alternate position open on the Park & Recreation Commission. If you are interested in either of these positions, please contact Larry Phillips at 465-5133, extension 24.

PROJECT UPDATES

The City of Taylors Falls received \$150,000 in mitigation funds as agreed to in the September 2002 Chisago Project Settlement Agreement between NSP, Dairyland Power Company, and the cities of St. Croix Falls and Taylors Falls. It was required that the money be used to fund projects that will enhance the St. Croix River valley and benefit the entire community. Here is an update on the projects that were funded by the mitigation funds.

PROJECT #1: Work for “phase 1” at the Taylors Falls Memorial Community Center has been completed. “Phase 1” included raising the building, removing the old foundation, excavating previously unusable space, pouring a new foundation and roughing in the lower level. The next phase of work will include framing the lower level; the labor for this work will be provided by Sentence to Serve. Subsequent work to complete the interior, as well as site work outside, will be done as the budget permits and is expected to be completed in the next few years.

PROJECT #2: At the Heritage Park, commonly referred to as the “Overlook,” a viewing deck was constructed. The deck cantilevers over the bluff offering spectacular views of the St. Croix River valley. Since the completion of the deck in October it has been a very popular attraction.

PROJECT #3: Another deck was constructed at the River Walk Trail near downtown. This deck was completed in September. The deck cantilevers over the river’s edge and provides a beautiful view of the river, particularly of the rapids under the Highway 8 bridge and rocky shallows to the north.

PROJECT #4: The sewer lift station #1 is located along the River Walk Trail only 200’ from the river. In July a wood façade was constructed around the lift station to improve the appearance. The façade looks like a historic building very fitting for Taylors Falls.

UTILITY RATE INCREASE

In 2007 the City sent a letter explaining the proposed increases in the water and sewer base charge, which were implemented in 2008. In that letter we also explained that the “per gallon” rates would not increase for five years, even though there have not been any changes since 1998. However, the base rates would need to increase on an annual basis to keep up with inflation. The 2009 increases in your base rates will be:

Water - from \$5.04 to \$5.19
 Sewer - from \$13.74 to \$14.15

Your actual dollar increase will be 56¢, which is 2.97%. You will see these increases on your February bill.

Future Base Rate Increases:

2010 - Water ^ \$0.16 Sewer ^ \$0.43
 2011 - Water ^ \$0.16 Sewer ^ \$0.43
 2012 - Water ^ \$0.17 Sewer ^ \$0.45

...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.

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 information, please call City Hall.

Bon Voyage **Love's beauty lives within us.
 Love is a gypsy dance on a sailing ship of dreams.**



WHAT TO DO BEFORE THE BURGLAR COMES

Ask yourself these questions. If you can't answer yes to them you need to increase your security.

- ✓ Do exterior lights illuminate your home?
- ✓ Is shrubbery trimmed so a burglar can't hide near windows and doors?
- ✓ Are garage doors closed and locked when not in use?
- ✓ Are exterior doors made of solid hardwood?
- ✓ Is there a 180° viewer in the front door?
- ✓ Are sliding glass doors pinned or secured with auxiliary locks?
- ✓ Are sheet metal screws inserted through the upper track of the sliding glass door frame to prevent removal of the doors?
- ✓ Are deadbolt locks with a minimum one-inch throw installed on exterior doors?
- ✓ Are heavy duty strike plates mounted on exterior door frames?
- ✓ Are windows secured with auxiliary locks or pinned with a nail?
- ✓ Do you report suspicious persons or activity to the police?