



City of Taylors Falls
637 First Street
Taylors Falls MN 55084



To Call City Hall—651-465-5133 and dial these extensions:

City Clerk 21, Zoning Administrator 22, Public Works 25, Fire Department 27, PRC 33 (message only), EDC 34 (message only), Mayor 35 (message only)

CITY REPRESENTATIVES

City Council

Mayor - Mike Buchite - '16
Council - Ross Rivard - '18
Council - John Tangen - '16
Council - Larry Julik-Heine - '16
Council - Mary Murphy - '18

Planning Commission

Chair - Gene Andersen
Member - Fred Bechtold
Member - Brian Oman
Member - Lyle Johnson
Alternate - Irv Stolp
Member - Ross Rivard
Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

Park & Rec Commission

Chair - Tana Havumaki
Member - Leo Nelson
Member - Rick Stafford
Member - Donald Hobson
Member - Larry Julik-Heine
Mayor Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

Heritage Preservation Commission

Chair - Susan Heaven
Member - Julie Hildebrand
Member - Seth Matters
Member - Troy Annonsen
Member - Annie Bent
Member - Lesli Johnson
Alternate - Brian Pigott
Alternate - Joanne Frank
Member - John Tangen
Emeritus - John Larson
Emeritus - Bill Scott
Mayor Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

Economic Development Commission

Chair - Open Position
Member - Open Position
Member - Wade Vitalis
Member - Kelly Jorgensen
Member - Open Position
Member - Open Position
Alternate - Open Position
Member - Mary Murphy
Mayor Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

Library Board Members

President - Barb Anderson
Member - Melba Johnson - '19
Member - Lori Stolp - '19
Member - Marlys Breeden - '19
Member - Gerald Platzer - '18
Librarian - Diane Dedon

City Staff

Mary Tomnitz, Clerk-Treasurer
Adam Berklund, Coordinator-Zoning Admin
Jack Kramer, Building Official
Mike Kriz, PW Superintendent
Bill Neska, PW Maintenance Worker
Shailla Johnson, Custodian
Mike Erding, Fire Chief
Jake Reed, Assistant Chief
Kyle Rivard, Assistant Chief
Shane Carroll, County Sheriff's Sergeant



Tidbits from Taylors Falls

October 2016

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

TAYLORS FALLS ELECTIONS

The 2016 **General Election** will be held on Tuesday, November 8th. If you are not able to vote then you may request an absentee ballot from the Chisago County Auditor's Office (651-213-8500). In order to vote, you must be a resident of TF for 20 days, be able to prove your residency, and be at least 18 years of age.

For **Federal elections** we will be voting for President/Vice-President, US Senator and Representative offices. For State elections we will vote on a Representative office. For **County offices**, there will be County Commissioner. There will be 3 Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisors, 3 positions on the Chisago Lakes School District 2144 ballot, and there are 27 various Court/Judge positions. Taylors Falls will have three positions on the ballot - the Mayor and two Council Members. Please read the election information provided elsewhere in this newsletter. I have provided the link to the sample ballot. <http://www.chisagocounty.us/DocumentCenter/Home/View/7706>.

*Be informed and **VOTE!***

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Dates to Remember

Fall Community Potluck Supper

Saturday, October 29th, at 6:00pm in the basement of the First Baptist Church on West Street across from the school. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please bring a dish to share.

Holiday Office Hours

Wednesday Nov 23rd closed
Thursday Nov 24th closed
Thursday Dec 22nd closed at Noon
Monday Dec 26th closed
Thursday Dec 29th closed at Noon
Monday Jan 2nd closed

MAYOR'S FORUM



We have just about made it through another year of construction with all of the mess and challenges it brings. Our businesses, residents and even tourists have been extremely patient during this process. I know everyone, as well as myself, will be happy once it's done. I am thankful for those who have been understanding and careful during this inconvenience.

Our "Feasibility Study" has been completed and the findings state that a new modern hotel is possible. This new modern hotel designed within the "architectural standards" of the community will ultimately complement the ambiance of the city, including the luxury-level bed & breakfast inns and guest houses. Taylors Falls will not be using property tax dollars to assist in building a new hotel, as it will be completely up to investors. There are two possible locations for this building, the Springs Inn or the property that the City owns on Bench Street (former MnDot truck station).

Speaking of property taxes – we will be spending about 2 percent more than last year. Revenues are up about 5 percent, which means property taxes will be dropping about 3 percent. Keep in mind that our local newspaper doesn't always provide all the information, so make sure you check with City staff or myself for accurate details.

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.

2017 PROPOSED BUDGET & TAX RATE

The Taylors Falls City Council will conduct its **Truth in Taxation Hearing** on **December 12th beginning at 7:05 p.m.** This is an opportunity for the taxpayers to comment on the proposed 2017 tax levy and the 2017 budget. The Taylors Falls tax rate for 2017 has been reduced from 71.707 to 69.438.

Often times we hear the question "how can you say the tax rate has been reduced when my property taxes have increased?". Minnesota has one of the most complicated taxation system's in the US. The answer to this question depends upon several factors. Has the estimated market value of your property increased (as determined by the County Assessor)? If it has, then your property taxes would increase as well (however, there are circumstances when the increase in value does not automatically increase the property tax). Another reason your taxes may have increased is that one (or more) of the other Taxing Entities (Chisago County, Chisago Lakes School, HRA/EDA, ECRDC) have increased their levy. The City Council can only control what the tax rate for Taylors Falls will be, and that is dependent upon its budgets and the amount of tax levy necessary to meet those budgets, then determined by the property values in the City. Taylors Falls's rate has been reduced or held steady for twelve (12) years.

The proposed 2017 budget is available for viewing on the City's web site: <http://www.ci.taylors-falls.mn.us>.

B-I-N-G-O

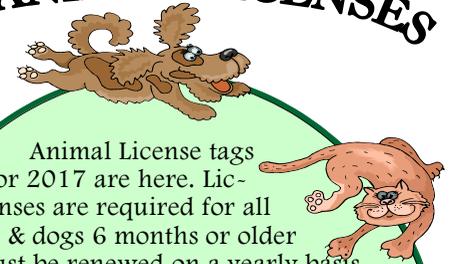
at the
TF Memorial Community Center

FRIDAY, November 18th
sponsored by the TF Lions Club
6:30 pm TURKEY/HAM BINGO

SATURDAY, November 26th
sponsored by the Lighting Festival Committee
6:30 pm CASH BINGO
\$15/pgk; \$1 ea additional
Refreshments available.



2017 ANIMAL LICENSES



Animal License tags for 2017 are here. Licenses are required for all cats & dogs 6 months or older and must be renewed on a yearly basis (Jan 1st to Dec 31st). Please complete the application form found below in this newsletter, attach the required fee and return it to City Hall with a copy of their vaccination record. Licenses applied for after April 1st are subject to double the license fee.

Kennel licenses are required for anyone who owns or keeps 3 or more dogs or cats. A kennel license is a one time fee of \$50.00 in addition to the annual licensing fee.

2017 ANIMAL LICENSE APPLICATION

FEE DOUBLES IF LICENSE IS NOT RENEWED BY APRIL 1ST
Expires December 31st, 2017

Owner(s) _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Animal DOG CAT (circle one) Sex F M Neutered/Spayed

Markings & Breed _____

Rabies Tag # & Expiration Date _____
(must attach a copy of vaccination information if not already on file)

Include the following fee: Dog \$10.00 Spayed or neutered \$5.00 = Cat \$5.00 Spayed or neutered \$3.00

CERT NEWS



Taylors Falls CERT Program has been in existence for 3 years. Today it is comprised of 12 persons, 9 of which have been certified by FEMA for Citizen's Emergency Response. Currently we also have 3 new members who have also begun the 20 hour training sequence. This team is NOT designed to be primary responders to disaster scenes, but rather to assist those agencies in their duties. It is a volunteer opportunity for local citizens to assist their community in times of need.



This year our mission has been enhanced with the addition of a trailer to help mobilize this group if the need should arise. The trailer was supplied to the group by the Chisago

County Emergency Manager (Scott Sellman) for the Taylors Falls CERT team. Mobilization of this group is something we all hope never occurs, however we stand ready to assist should that need arise.

Recently we have continued to receive support from Chisago County, St. Croix Regional Medical Center (SCRMC), and the city of Taylors Falls in the outfitting of the trailer. All of the above agencies either donated supplies or provided fiscal support for the purchase of supplies. SCRMC made a large donation of consumable medical supplies that may be needed at a disaster site.

This group meets the 3rd Monday of every month in the basement conference room at Taylors Falls City Hall for training. We would welcome any able bodied citizen of this community who may be interested in joining our group. For more information, please contact Adam Berklund at TF City hall 651-465-5133 Ext 22. All members are given a complete background check before being trained.

If you are interested in joining the CERT team, contact Team Leader Gene Andersen at 651-465-3001.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Council Liaison, Mary Murphy

The EDC is looking for 4 members and 1 alternate to join their team. The mission is to help promote economic development within the city. If you are interested email City Coordinator Adam Berklund at tfzoningadmin@frontiernet.net, or 651-465-5133 ext. 22.

Thanksgiving Day Dinner at the Taylors Falls Memorial Community Center Thank you Ned & Connie Souder.

The past 3 years Ned and Connie have graciously organized the Thanksgiving Day Dinner for the Taylors Falls community. Opening the doors of the Community Center and welcoming in others on this thankful day. This year Ned and Connie are unable to facilitate this gathering.

Anyone willing to step up and organize this event please contact Ned & Connie Souder at 651-465-6534. They would love to share their experience and recipes to keep this gathering moving forward.



PARKS

Council Liaison, Larry Juilik-Heine

I hope all residents notice improvements to the Parks in general. First of all the general maintenance that took place all summer. All the rain has made the lawns look spectacular. The City has placed Porta Potties at The Overlook/Heritage Park and Cherry Hill Park. We recently completed the repairs to the split rail fence and have completed the benches inside the pavilion at Cherry Hill Park. Look for more improvements as we get into next Spring. Thanks to the hard working volunteers of the Parks and Recreation Commission: Chair Tana Havumaki, members Leo Nelson, Donald Hobson and Rick Stafford.

Highway 8 Project

Since the beginning of April, MnDot has been hard at work with the reconstruction of Hwy. 8 and the construction of the round-about at the intersection of Hwy 8 and Hwy 95. The crew has had to deal with a few obstacles along the way. Most serious of these being the catastrophic slope failure before the project began. Due to the seriousness of the landslide, an overhaul of the original project schedule was called for. It was decided to begin work on the upper part of the Highway from the round-about to the entrance to the campgrounds first then do the lower part from the campgrounds to the intersection in town second, reversing the original plan. All the while, constructing the round-about and fixing the slope failure.

As you look at the project you can see that the lower part of Hwy 8 is under construction, the round-about is just about to be opened to traffic and work continues on the landslide. MnDot is on schedule to reopen Hwy.8 to traffic by the middle of November.

This has been a monumental task for all concerned and at the end of the day we can all look forward to a brand new road into our City.

Minnesota Safe Route to School

You may have noticed the roadways around our school aren't safe for pedestrian traffic. There are no sidewalks, bike lanes, or shoulders for pedestrians to walk or ride bikes. I believe the safety of our children is one of my most important roles as principal; I wanted to do something to improve our community. Earlier this winter we applied for a planning grant through the MN Dept. of Transportation called Safe Routes to School. I'm happy to report I've received notification we were approved for the grant in April of 2016.

We have assembled a team under the guidance of an individual from the East Central Regional Development Commission. The team consists of individuals from Chisago County, the Chisago County Sheriff's Department, the City of TF, our school district, parents, and community members. While this process may literally take years and occur in phases, I am hopeful we can improve the infrastructure around our school for the benefit of our kids and our community. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Jason Riebe
TF Principle, 651-213-2101

Taylors Falls 32nd Annual Lighting Festival November 25-27

This year's Lighting Festival ornament will be a 24-karat gold sugar maple leaf made from a real maple leaf. Taylors Falls has a special affinity toward sugar maples. The Folsom's planted a number of maples on Angel Hill in 1857 (one still survives) and Taylors Falls' own, Don Hansen, has been processing maple syrup with the help of the First Evangelical Lutheran Church Youth Group since 2001. The limited edition \$12 ornament is a fundraiser for the Lighting Festival and will be available at numerous downtown businesses and at Lighting Festival events.



GRAND LIGHTING OF THE VILLAGE & SANTA PARADE

Friday, November 25th



Beginning at 6 pm

Family activities until 8 pm, including Santa at the Santa Land (Timber Box) and Mrs. Claus at the library 5-6pm.



Annual Family Favorites



Artists at the Depot

(Memorial Community Center)
All day Friday until 8 pm
Crafters all day Saturday,
With real Swedish Food!

Free Wagon Rides

Friday night after the Santa Parade
Outside of Coffee Talk

Medallion Hunt

Saturday starting at 10 am.
Clues will be posted on the bulletin board (in the parking lot) & on the Lighting Festival FB page.
A new clue every 1/2 hr.
\$100 prize

Folsom House Christmas & 1847 McKusick Holiday House on Angle Hill.

will be decorated for the holidays and open to the public!

8-9-11-9-0

Look for information on page 11 in this newsletter!

Music at the Lighting Festival: Ecumenical Vespers, Sat. 4:30pm, Methodist Church.

NEW - Green Fire Irish Dancers and Ceili, Sun. 1-3, Community Center

St. Croix Valley Orchestra, Sun. 3-5, Methodist Church

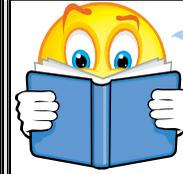
The Royal Lady

of the Village will be announced in the local newspapers Thanksgiving week.

Decorate your Home!

The annual residential & commercial judging will take place on Friday. No need to sign up. Prizes for residential 1st \$75, 2nd \$25, 3rd \$25 & Best use of the theme (Drifting into the Season) \$25. Commercial winners of Best Outside Decorating & Best Window will receive certificates. The judges are not from TF, & drive every street in town & 1/2 mile on County Rd. 37, 20, & 16, north on Hwy. 95 & Vista Road. Winners will be posted on Facebook and on the website www.lightingfestival.com and a sign will be placed in the yard.

LIBRARY NEWS



The days are getting shorter, the nights are getting longer. Time to have a good book to read. New books arrive often and many are on the New York Times Bestsellers List. Come in and check to see what we have on the shelves. Magazines and access to a high-speed computer are available. Hope to see you at the Library!

HOURS: Wednesdays from 2 pm - 5 pm & 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm. Saturdays 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday November 5
9:30am—12:30pm

Celebrating the 145th Anniversary of the Taylors Falls Library Association
Join us for coffee and treats at the library.

VETERANS COFFEE & LUNCH

The Taylors Falls Elementary School, the TF Fire Department, and the Chisago Lakes School District Food Service are sponsoring a morning coffee and lunch on FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH for Veterans in the Taylors Falls and Shafer Areas.

Please come to the school for coffee and cookies at 10:00 am in the Cafeteria. Students from different classes will be greeting and visiting with Veterans at that time. At 11:00 am lunch will be served at the Fire Hall. Spouses are also welcome.

Students, staff, and Fire Fighters look forward to the event and extend a thank you to local Veterans for all they have done. Please call the school at 213-2100 by November 5th if you plan to attend.

Happy Veterans Day!



Don't forget to set your clocks back on November 6th.

STUMBLIN' DOWN MEMORY LANE

by Jack Liljenberg

Sometimes it seems the present U.S. Presidential election cycle will never come to an end! Also, Washington, D.C. seems so far away, with no association to Taylors Falls. Yet, during much of the eras of the Great Depression and World War II, there was a tie between Taylors Falls and Washington, D.C. – and to the doorstep of the White House. That tie was U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Henry Agard Wallace (1888-1965) who also served as U.S. Vice-President during most of World War II.

On Thursday, June 29, 1933, the *Taylors Falls Journal* reported, "*Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture, spent four days at the Roos Studios last week.*" That visit to his close friends in Taylors Falls, Charlie and Juanita Roos, was less than four months after Henry became the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture on March 4, 1933.

Henry was an occasional visitor to Taylors Falls where he owned several parcels of undeveloped land. He had purchased those parcels in the early 1930s and still owned them when he died in 1965. Those parcels are still undeveloped and are parts of Blocks 61, 62 and 63 that lie a short distance south and south-southeast of the east end of the Rolling Ridge Addition.

Henry served as the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture from 1933 to 1940 under Democratic U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt (FDR). He subsequently served as U.S. Vice-President during FDR's third administration, from 1941 to 1945.

FDR died early in his fourth administration so Henry missed becoming President by only 82 days. Instead, FDR's last Vice-President, Harry S Truman, succeeded FDR.

Henry then served as U.S. Secretary of Commerce from 1945 to 1946, and he unsuccessfully ran for President in 1948 on the Progressive Party ticket.

Henry was originally from Iowa and was associated with the production of many agricultural publications. He also was a corn breeder who founded what later became the agricultural corporation of Pioneer Hi-Bred, which is now DuPont Pioneer.

It is of special note that the world's largest agricultural research complex is named after him – the Henry A. Wallace Beltsville Agricultural Research Center that is located in Beltsville, Maryland. It is a part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Henry even introduced a breed of chicken that for a time produced the majority of the world's eggs. That might be considered quite fitting, since there are some who would say that he laid more than his share of political eggs.

WINTER REMINDERS

parking

Winter parking regulations will be in effect beginning Nov 1st-April 15th. There will be no parking of any cars, equipment or structures (including garbage cans & children's sporting equipment) on any street or alley between the hours of **2:00 am & 6:00 am**. Parking is allowed during all other hours of the day **ONLY** if it does not interfere with snow plowing. Violators may be ticketed & towed by order of the Chisago County Sheriff's Department.

sidewalks

Remember that all sidewalks must be shoveled clean of snow and ice within 24 hours after a snowfall subsides. So if it is a 2-day snowstorm, the 24 hours begins at the end of the storm. The City reserves the right to hire someone to remove any snow or ice if it is not cleared after that time period. You should also take steps to eliminate slippery sidewalks by using sand and/or salt. If sidewalks are to be cleaned by the City, the property owner will be billed \$150.00.

JAMMERS STILL JAMMING

A group of musicians calling themselves the Taylors Falls Log Jam Jammers, have a musical "jam" with their instruments of choice every Monday night at the Taylors Falls Memorial Community Center. They have done this for the past 5+ years, and have donated money every week for the use of the Center. These donations have paid for 200 new chairs and chair racks, and for repairs to the entrance doors at the Center. Help us extend our appreciation to this group, by attending and enjoying (or joining) the Taylors Falls Log Jam Jam! They meet at 6:00 pm every Monday night!

Come watch the musical show! It is free to the public!

TF HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

The TF Historical Society's Annual Meeting is Thursday, November 3rd and will be held at the Visitor Center. The program details what downtown Taylors Falls looked like before the 1902 fire.



The Visitor Center will be open during the Lighting Festival with many Christmas items for sale.

Santa will be at the Folsom House on Saturday December 3rd. Connect with us on facebook for more information.

COLD WEATHER RULE

Bills can pile up just like snow. The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule is designed to protect people who may have trouble paying their utility bills during winter months. The Rule applies from October 15th through April 15th and allows an additional ten (10) days to pay your utility bill. If you'd like further information, please call City Hall.



YOUR CANDIDATE MAYOR (VOTE FOR 1)



My name is Mike Buchite and I have served as your Mayor for the last fourteen years. With the support and encouragement of my wife Vicki and family, I have filed for re-election. I appreciate your trust in allowing me the opportunity to serve this community. Taylors Falls has always been a great place to raise a family and is one of the most beautiful places in the world.

We continue to have interest in our Business Park. Your City Council has stood firm when it comes to the size and appearance of new buildings. Sometimes this means saying "no" to potential businesses. This will benefit us when the right business comes along and builds that classy looking building, which meets the architectural standards

of our City. New businesses means, new jobs for our community and with it - new revenue!

My promise to you is: I will continue to do my best to attract businesses to our Business Park, which will lower our tax rate, increase our revenues and allow us to improve our City.

I would like to continue to be your Mayor. I am asking for your vote on Nov 8th. If you have questions, call me at City Hall, my home office (651-465-0505), or e-mail me at bucky@scc.net.

FIRE DEPARTMENT



DONATE YOUR CAR TODAY!

The Taylors Falls Fire department is accepting car donations for training. A tax right off for this year's taxes is available.



Fire Prevention Week is October 9 - 15, 2016

Don't Wait * Check your Date!

Smoke detectors should be replaced every 10 years.

The Taylors Falls Fire Department would like to have everyone be safe and use best practices in the upcoming winter season.

December, January and February are the leading months in the U.S. for home fires. Cooking, heating, holiday decorations and candles all contribute to an increased risk of fire during the winter months. Check your furnaces and chimneys to reduce the risk of Carbon Monoxide poisoning.

Have a safe winter!

Members of the TF Fire Department



YOUR CANDIDATES FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS (VOTE FOR 2)



My name is Larry Julik-Heine and this is why I want to serve a third term on the Taylors Falls City Council.

This is a fantastic place to live. We are lucky to have the natural beauty of the St Croix River as the backdrop to our daily lives. I believe that each generation that is lucky enough to live here has the responsibility to give something back, to maintain the great quality of life and to leave the City in better shape for those who will come after us.



My name is John Tangen, and I have filed for re-election as a member of the Taylors Falls City Council.

Since becoming a member of the Taylor Falls City Council in 1999, I have enjoyed the opportunity to help with the decisions that affect the way we, as citizens; continue to improve our City. We move forward with growth potential while maintaining the historical and small town character that makes our City such a wonderful place to live and raise a family. A sometimes difficult balancing act which requires careful consideration and planning to insure that our City is always mindful of our past while looking to our future. I believe we have a Mayor and City Council true to this mission.

I respectfully request your vote on November 8th allowing me to continue as a member of the Taylors Falls City Council.

Thank you for your trust and support.

