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THE Ham Laker

Published by the City of Ham Lake, Minnesota

September 2023 ~ Volume 38, No. 9

City Seeks a Member for the Planning Commission

The City of Ham Lake is seeking a citizen interested in serving on the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission reviews, holds hearings and makes recommendations to the City Council on matters relating to growth and development in the City and conformance to City ordinances.

The Planning Commission meets at City Hall at 6:00 pm on the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

You must be a resident of Ham Lake to apply. If you are interested in serving on the Planning Commission, please submit a written statement to Dawnette Shimek no later than September 18 at 4:30 pm via mail or email:

- Mail it to the City of Ham Lake, 15544 Central Avenue NE, Ham Lake, MN 55304
- Email it to dshimek@ci.ham-lake.mn.us

Waste Management: Your Input is Needed

The MPCA prepares the Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Policy Plan every six years. The plan establishes a framework for managing waste in the seven-county metro area over a 20-year period and guides what will be in each of the Metro County's Solid Waste Management Plans (SWMP).

Anoka County is in the process of revising its SWMP. The 2024 SWMP will guide how the County works in partnership with our community and waste haulers to manage waste for the next six years to achieve the state-mandated goal of a 75% recycling rate by 2030.

The County is seeking input from community members to help create the most effective plan for its residents.

Please go to anokacounty-swmasterplan-wsbeng.hub.arcgis.com to take a short survey to provide information on how you currently dispose of recyclable items, food scraps, household hazardous waste, large bulky items (electronics, appliances, mattresses, furniture, etc.) and offer input on what would make it easier for you to recycle more in the future.

Reminder: Recycling Day September 9

Ham Lake's fall Citywide Recycling Day is Saturday, September 9th from 8:00 am to noon in the parking lot of Ham Lake City Hall.

Recycle electronics, bulbs/lamps/ballasts, appliances, tires, car batteries, propane tanks, mattresses and box springs, scrap metal, bikes and brush.

Secure containers will also be available for residents to deposit documents into for shredding. Shredding will be done off-site. The list of acceptable items and the vendors' fees were published in the August *Ham Laker*. You can also find the list at: www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us/services/recycle/events

Ham Lake's 3rd Annual BrewFest Coming in October

Come for the brews, stay for the fun! The third annual Ham Lake Brewfest will be held on Saturday, October 7th at the Ham Lake Lanes patio from 3:00-7:00 pm. Brewfest is an awesome way to socialize with your neighbors, play some yard games and give a hearty salute to the beginnings of fall!

This year's Brewfest will feature a variety of local breweries, distilleries and wineries serving over forty different samples while you enjoy the live music by original artist MoeDELL followed by the Rhythm & Harmony band. Admission also includes axe throwing by Nice Axe!

There will be food trucks outside the gate as well as delicious eats inside the Lanes available for purchase. Tickets and additional information are available on our website: www.hamlakeareacc.org/events/brewfest



October 7th, 2023 3:00pm-7:00pm
on the patio @ Ham Lake Lanes

EVENT SPONSORED BY:

DETAILS AND TICKETS:
WWW.HAMLAKEAREACC.ORG/EVENTS/BREWFESt



Successful Night to Unite

Night to Unite is always the first Tuesday in August. In 2023 it was August 1st.

N2U is intended to build unified and safe neighborhoods, raise crime prevention awareness and strengthen the relationships between the community and law enforcement.

Thanks to Ham Lake Fire Department member Dan Beane for the photos.

Articles and photos that appear in *The Ham Laker*, along with other useful information about the City, can be found on the City's website: www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us



Ham Lake City Council News

At its July 17, 2023 meeting the City Council took the following actions:

Approved items on the Consent Agenda included:

- Ordinance No. 23-05 rezoning Toby's Trails
- Resolution No. 23-32 for a request for Statement of Concurrence on proposed Boundary Changes between Coon Creek Watershed District and Sunrise River Watershed District Management Organization within the City of Ham Lake
- Resolution No. 23-33 for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding for Creek Valley Street Reconstruction Project and equipment for the City of Ham Lake's Fire Department
- Proclamation proclaiming October as *Domestic Violence Awareness Month*
- Accepting the CenterPoint Energy Community Safety Grant for purchasing multi-gas monitors for the Fire Department
- Approved Josh William's request for Commercial Site Plan approval to construct a 9,352-square foot office/warehouse building for H&H Contracting at 15454 Central Avenue NE, subject to requirements.
- Approved a Purchase Agreement and Temporary Construction Easement Agreement for 1360 Constance Blvd NE for the future service road, to be constructed by Dollar General.

At its August 7, 2023 meeting the City Council took the following actions:

Approved items on the Consent Agenda included:

- Ordinance No. 23-06 regarding Article 6—Parking
- Resolution No. 23-34 for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding for Creek Valley Reconstruction Project and equipment for the Fire Department and Public Works Department
- Resolution No. 23-35 changing the name of Erbank Street NE to Urbank Street NE within the plat of Eagle Ridge Estates
- Resolution No. 23-36 accepting a \$5,000 donation from the Ham Laker Chamber of Commerce
- Resolution No. 23-37 accepting a Honda Portable Generator for the Fire Department
- Authorizing the completion of Draft Prospectus within the park dedicated with the Hidden Forest East Park Addition
- Maintenance Security reduction and Warranty Extension for Lund's Lakeview Forest Street Reconstruction Project

Visit the City's website to view Council and Planning meeting videos on-demand and agenda minutes of City Council and Planning Commission: www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us.

Sheriff's Report

Thefts & Damage to Property

07.19 178xx Central Ave—vandalism; golf balls and pellets shot at a business

07.19 17xx Constance Blvd NE—vandalism; screens cut, writing on doors at a school

07.19 12xx 157 Ave NE—3 vehicles had broken rear windows in a park; purse, earbuds, jewelry stolen; credit cards that were stolen were used in Coon Rapids less than an hour later

07.29 142xx London St NE—yard damaged by a golf cart driving through it

08.01 171xx Hwy 65 NE—broken windows and attempt to steal a vehicle at the location

Arrests

07.07 17xx 166 Ave NE—Warrant Arrest; a deputy went to the location looking for a woman with a warrant. She was taken into custody.

07.09 Crosstown/Kenyon St NE—Warrant Arrest; a deputy observed a female walking along the road and knew she had a warrant. She was arrested.

07.11 134xx Hwy 65 NE—Warrant Arrest; a deputy learned a male with multiple warrants was staying at the hotel. He was arrested.

07.13 154xx Hwy 65 NE—Domestic Assault; deputies responded to an ex-boyfriend/girlfriend physical altercation. After investigating, the ex-boyfriend was arrested.

07.14 14xx Constance Blvd NE—Warrant Arrest; a deputy saw a male driving and he knew he had no license and at least two warrants. He was arrested.

07.20 Lexington/133 Lane NE—DWI 3rd degree; a driver appeared impaired and failed field sobriety tests. She was arrested.

07.22 26xx 153 Ave NE—DWI 3rd degree; deputies responded to a two-vehicle crash. A male appeared impaired, failed field sobriety tests and was arrested.

08.01 Hwy 65/Constance Blvd NE—Warrant Arrest; a deputy stopped a suspicious vehicle. The male was identified and had a felony warrant. He was arrested.

08.02 14xx Constance Blvd NE—DWI 4th degree; a business reported a vehicle in their parking lot running for two hours. The female driver was identified and she did not have a driver's license. She admitted to using fentanyl and was arrested.

2024 Street Light Public Hearing Notice of Proposed Assessment

In 2022, the City went from third party billing to annual assessments on Street Light Fees. The 2024 Street Light fee will be \$45.00 for the year, as it has been since the start of assessing, for those in developments within the City's Street Lighting system.

The City will hold a Public Hearing during the Council Meeting Notice at **6:01 pm on September 18, 2023 at the Ham Lake City Hall, 15544 Central Avenue NE** for the proposed assessment.

Adoption by the City Council of the proposed assessment may occur at the hearing. Written or oral objections will be considered at the meeting. No appeal may be taken as to the amount unless a signed, written objection is filed with the Clerk prior to the hearing or presented to the presiding officer at the hearing. The Council may upon such notice consider any objection to the amount of a proposed individual assessment at an adjourned meeting upon such further notice to the affected property owners as it deems advisable.

Again, those in the Street Lighting system, will be assessed \$45.00 against your parcel. This assessment may be paid in full by November 15, 2023 to avoid certification and the amount being added to your property taxes. If you have questions, please call Susan Knouse at City Hall: 763-235-1667.

Are You Struggling to Pay Your Heat & Electric Bills?

Energy Assistance may be able to help. The Energy Assistance program is available October 1, 2023-May 31, 2024.

Contact ACCAP at 763-783-4747 or visit our website at www.accap.org for more information. Program guidelines and applications will become available in September 2023.

Fire Department Calls

The Ham Lake Fire Department responded to 36 calls during the month of July: 19 during the day and 17 at night. The department spent just over 67 hours on calls with total personnel time adding up to 509 hours. Year-to-date, the department has answered 232 calls compared with 248 calls at the same time last year.

Oak Wilt Inspections and Vibratory Plowing

Tree Inspectors for the City of Ham Lake have been inspecting oak trees within the city over the last few weeks. If the tree inspector noticed signs of oak wilt, a notice will be mailed to the property owner.

Property owners that are interested in having their trees more closely inspected may grant the City Tree Inspectors permission to come onto their property. Property owners can also request vibratory plowing at no charge. This is for root graft severing to help prevent the fungus that causes oak wilt from moving from an infected tree to healthy trees via root systems. Vibratory plowing is usually done in October.

If you would like to grant the City permission to inspect trees and/or plow roots on your property, please complete and return the *Permission to Inspect* and/or *Vibratory Release Form* to the City by Friday, September 15. You will find the forms online at: www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us/departments/parks or by emailing trees@ci.ham-lake.mn.us. Or you can call City Hall at 763-434-9555.

If you notice orange paint on oak trees in your neighbor's yard, you are welcome to request vibratory plowing on your property to attempt to control the spread of the disease.

July Building Permits

The City of Ham Lake issued 135 permits in July with a valuation of \$2,918,611.00.

The issued permits are as follows: one commercial new construction, one commercial remodel, one commercial fence, three commercial signs, three residential new construction, one residential addition, three residential remodel, two residential garage, six residential accessory building, seven residential deck, three residential pool, two residential solar panel, one residential window and 39 roofing/siding.

Other permits include 31 mechanical, 23 plumbing and 8 septic installations.

October Issue Deadline: Wed., September 13 @ noon

Please send all Ham Laker correspondence, articles and ideas to:

City of Ham Lake
15544 Central Ave NE
Ham Lake, MN 55304

Email: HamLaker@ci.ham-lake.mn.us

For advertising information please contact City Hall at 763-434-9555

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Ham Lake Contacts

City Hall: 763-434-9555
To report emergencies after office hours call 911.
City Hall Hours: Monday-Thursday: 7:00-4:30
Friday: 7:00-11:00

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Jim Doyle (Council)
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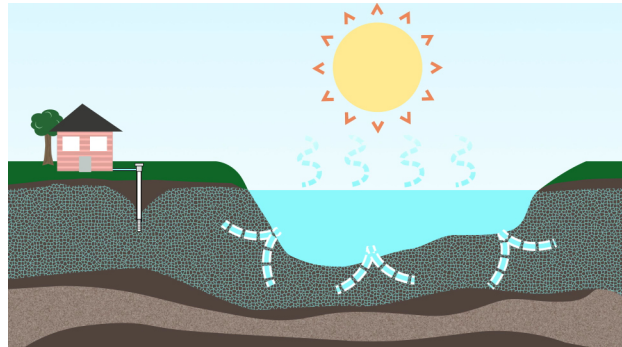
If a Solicitor Comes to Your Door...

Ham Lake City Code Article 7-1100 requires any canvasser, peddler, transient merchant or solicitor to have a license to operate in the City. License holders must have their City-issued license on their person and available to view.

If you see activity in your area and they do not possess a City-issued license, please contact the Non-Emergency Anoka County Sheriff's Office at 763-427-1212 or Ham Lake City Hall at 763-434-9555.

Groundwater: A Growing Concern

With three years of droughty summers, please conserve groundwater! You can help with your lawn care in two basic ways: infiltrate and irrigate.



Infiltrate: A healthy, aerated lawn with good soil can help soak in water.

- Aerate in early September so the water can get to the roots.
- If you belong to a Home Owners Association, find out if the landscape contractor aerates the turf annually.
- Make sure downspouts go to your yard or flower gardens, not your driveway.
- Let the grass grow three inches tall before mowing so the roots will grow deeper and they take moisture down deeper.
- Mulch tree leaves with your mower to help feed plant roots and soil organisms for healthier soil that can hold more water. This prevents runoff pollution in two ways.

Learn more at: www.pca.state.mn.us/business-with-us/turf-grass-maintenance-training

Irrigate: Efficiency is key.

Remember, you are using drinking water on your lawn when you water it.

- A professional tip: Limit your lawn watering to 1.5 inches once per week on sandy soils. Watering often with smaller amounts is bad for turf roots.
- Make sure irrigation systems are working properly and that no water lands on the driveway or sidewalks.
- Use soil moisture sensors instead of “setting and forgetting” timers.

You'll find more tips at: extension.umn.edu/lawn-care/water-saving-strategies-home-lawns

Information by Coon Creek Watershed District.

Hole-in-One Hall of Fame

Congratulations to the following golfers at Majestic Oaks Golf Club who got a hole-in-one recently:

- Zach Milligan from Ham Lake • 188 yards on Signature Course #4 with a 4-Iron
- Greg McCready from Blaine • 137 yards on Crossroads Course #5 with a 9-Iron
- Joannie Anderson from Andover • 95 yards on Signature Course #8 with a 7-Iron

Happenings at the Senior Center

Open Monday-Thursday 8:00 am - 3:30 pm
15544 Central Ave NE in Ham Lake
763-434-0455

THE SENIOR CENTER IS OPEN for all activities and meals (Mondays and Wednesdays). Please spread the word to everyone as some people didn't renew their membership last year and may not be getting the newsletter.

City Hall collection box for flexible plastics. Everything must be clean. Grocery bags, bread bags, bubble wrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, plastic shipping envelopes, re-closable food storage bags, cereal bags, water bottle case overwrap, salt bags, pallet wrap and stretch film, wood pellet bags and produce bags.

Senior Dining on Mondays and Wednesdays each week at noon. **Reservations needed!** Meals are \$7 for those 55+ and \$10 for those younger than 55.

Senior Center Activities include vet coffee, fitness class, fun cribbage, wood carving, Bingo, 500 cards and Dominoes.

Watch for upcoming trips to the Casino (open to the public), Jam Sessions during the day and evening (open to the public), health insurance counseling, scheduled shopping trips for those who need transportation and a birthday lunch.

Call the Senior Center to find out about the dates, times and details of these and other special events.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSES for 2023 are held by MHSRC (Minnesota Highway Safety Research Center) for those 55 and older. Registration is required. Call 1-888-234-1294 for information and to register. Or go online: www.stcloudstate.edu/continuingstudies/mhsrc/55-plus

4-Hour Refresher Course: You need to take this every three years. Time flies, so make sure you are current! The fee is \$24 for the 4-hour class:

Friday, September 15th: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm
 Friday, November 10th: 12:00 - 4:00 pm

8-Hour Course for “First Timers”

There are none scheduled at this time.

Did you know? If you are 55 years or older, state law requires your insurance company to give you a 10% discount after taking an 8-hour Defensive Driving Course and attending a 4-hour refresher course every three years.

NOTE: The Ham Lake Senior Center is NOT available for rent!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

ANOKA CITY HALL PLAZA | 9 AM - 1 PM

Family-Friendly Event:

- Vendor/Exhibitor Fair
- The Bones Brothers BBQ
- Games & Prizes
- Bounce Houses
- KS95 Music
- Balloon Twisters
- Face Painters
- Dog Friendly
- Kidz Dash
- 1+ Mile Walk

Early Bird Prices (by 8/31):

- \$30—Adults (14+)
- \$10—Youth (Age 3-13)
- Free—Kids (Ages 0-2)

Paid admission includes a HopeFest wristband for games and activities, meal ticket for all you can eat BBQ, option to participate in the Walk and/or Kidz Dash (Ages 3-10), and a HopeFest t-shirt.

alexandrahouse.org





H&H Contractors broke ground for their new building on July 26th. Located just south of Ham Lake City Hall, they expect it to be completed January 2024.

Recycle Smart: No Hazardous Materials!

The Household Hazardous Waste Facility (3230 101st Avenue NE in Blaine) accepts many materials that should not be put in your curbside trash or recycling cart. Besides pesticides, painting and refinishing products, you may not realize that the following materials are also accepted at the HHWF:

- Automotive Products (antifreeze, gasoline, used motor oil and used oil filters)
- Fluorescent Bulbs (including HID and CFL's)
- Household Batteries (including alkaline, lithium ion, cell phone, power tool, button and rechargeable batteries)
- Lead tackle
- Sharps (syringes, lancets, used EpiPens®, hypodermic needles, pen needles and IV needles)
Sharps must be placed in a rigid, puncture-resistant plastic container.

Go to AnokaCountyMN.gov/HHW for hours, the complete list of materials accepted and transportation guidelines.

Prescription and over-the-counter medication (pills, powder, liquids, creams and sprays), pet medications, IV bags, inhalers and vials can be disposed of in a drop box at the Anoka County Sheriff's Office (13301 Hanson Blvd NW in Andover). Keep medications in their original containers and black out your name on any prescriptions. Go to AnokaCountyMN.gov/RecyclingDirectory and type *Prescription Medications* in the search bar.



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Ham Lake Business Spotlight: InteGrand & GrandMat

InteGrand and GrandMat are two separate Ham Lake businesses that are owned by longtime Ham Lake resident Mike Harris and operate out of the same building.

Mike and his partners started InteGrand in 2005 in Minneapolis. Over the years and a couple of moves, he became sole owner in 2009 and was able to move its headquarters to Ham Lake in September 2020.

InteGrand is a business services company. Like other businesses in their industry, they sell office furniture and supplies. But what sets them apart are a few distinct services they provide their customers with more efficiencies at less cost.

Their most successful unique service is the Grand-Laser Program. Customers that purchase and use their GrandToner laser cartridges get free printer service, including parts and labor, within a response time of just six business hours. If needed, they can also get a new or refurbished printer free with a qualified cartridge purchase. No monthly contracts are involved.

Mike and his team keep an open mind when it comes to developing other new programs his customers ask for as well. One of them is a licensed and secure paper shredding service that is, again, offered with no monthly contract. Once a customer's secured shredder bin is full, InteGrand picks it up and brings it to Anoka-based non-profit Achieve Services to be processed.

InteGrand's fast turnaround time on services, commitment to no monthly contracts and money-saving ideas have won them many loyal fans.

"Whether it's across town or across the country we deliver within 24-48 hours. Our fill rates are solid because our vendors are solid," said Mike. "We work closely with our strategic vendors because we expect a lot from them. They help us drive a high level of service quality. We also have a great support team. Our model is quite simple and we have a lot of fun with it: "I (or sales) make the promises to our customers and Jenna, Chuck and Trevor are tasked to keep them!"

GrandMat is the newest business Mike started with the help of his team, which also has included his daughter Joslyn Harris Gates.

GrandMats are heavy-duty and high-quality EDPM rubber containment mats with a 2.5-inch lip designed to be placed on the floor of a garage, pole barn or business to protect the concrete floor from the snow, salt, water and dirt picked up by vehicles.

The mats are easy to install, easy to clean and easy to store. The full-sized models are 8.5 feet wide and come in lengths from 16-24 feet, making them suitable for a standard residential garage or a company's dock bay. The team also makes Cave Series GrandMats to fit UTVs, ATVs, snowblowers, trailers and more. One of the biggest benefits? "Not bringing all that outdoor crud into the house from the garage," said Mike.



The InteGrand and GrandMat team: Owner Mike Harris (left) with Jenna, Joslyn, Chuck and Trevor

All the mats are made at GrandMat's Ham Lake headquarters. While more expensive than their competitors, it's the best mat produced. "We have mats in use now for over five years and they will last many more years after that. Should you find a way to damage your GrandMat, in most cases it's repairable."

Learn more about InteGrand and its business services on the website: integrandmn.com.

For more information about GrandMat, see that website: grandmat.com.

Our Saviour's Preschool: Openings for 2023/24

Our Saviour's Preschool currently has openings in their younger and older preschool classes for the 2023/24 school year. They offer morning classes with an option of an extended day. They are a Parent Aware 4-star rated program that offers a quality Christian education with smaller class sizes.

For more details about Our Savior's Preschool, including cost, please visit: www.oursavioursclc.org/preschool or call Lissa at 763-434-6117.

Community Calendar

- Sept 4: City Offices closed in observance of Labor Day
- Sept 5: City Council mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm
- Sept 9: Recycling Day
- Sept 11: Planning Commission mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm
- Sept 13: *The Ham Laker* ads and articles deadline for the October issue @ noon
- Sept 18: City Council mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm
- Sept 25: Planning Commission mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm

SEPTEMBER 2023

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