

[COMMUNITYLINK NEWSLETTER]

21 SE SECOND STREET—CHATFIELD, MN 55923

507-867-3810

WWW.CI.CHATFIELD.MN.US

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Elected Officials

MAYOR

Russ Smith (507) 867-3810
mayorsmith@ci.chatfield.mn.us

COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Paul Novotny (507) 867-3549**
councilornovotny@ci.chatfield.mn.us
- Mike Urban (507) 867-2990**
councilorurban@ci.chatfield.mn.us
- Josh Broadwater (507) 272-8664**
councilorbroadwater@ci.chatfield.mn.us
- Pam Bluhm (507) 867-3870**
councilorbluhm@ci.chatfield.mn.us
- John McBroom (507) 319-2799**
councilormcbroom@ci.chatfield.mn.us

Winter Reminders

Sidewalks need to be cleared as quickly and completely as possible after a snowfall. **No parking on city streets when plows are operating.**

Parking tickets will be issued and cars may be towed if parked cars interfere with snowplowing or snow removal.

Also, **disconnect hoses** from your outside faucets and shut off the valve for the outside faucet that is inside your house.



The City's Tax Levy...Tax Base...and Tax Rate...

The City's tax levy is proposed to increase in 2020, primarily due to inflation and some new improvements. At the same time, the City's tax rate will decrease next year.

"How can it be, that a city's tax rate can go down when the tax levy is increasing?"

In very simple terms, the city's tax base reflects the value of all of the property within the city. The tax levy is how much tax money the city needs to collect in order to pay its bills. The tax rate is the result of a formula that compares the tax levy to the tax base. If a city's tax base grows at a faster rate than the city's tax levy, the tax rate will decline. The opposite can happen, too, however, at this time, Chatfield's tax base is growing faster than the city's budget so the tax rate is starting to decline.

"Does that mean that my taxes will go down, because the tax rate is going down?"

No, not necessarily, because the value of your property also helps determine how much tax you have to pay. If the value of your property didn't increase, or if it increased by a very small amount, your tax bill might actually go down.....and that will happen to a number of properties in Chatfield next year. However, most properties went up in value more than just a little, and those properties will get a bigger tax bill because of that value increase.

"Can't the City Council control all of the factors within the budget and tax levy?"

Technically, the city council has a lot of control over the budget. From a practical matter, though, some things are out of their control. For instance, when improvements are made, such as improving Main Street or constructing a swimming pool, bonds are issued and the tax levy has to be increased to pay those bonds.

"Will the final tax levy be the same as the preliminary tax levy that was adopted in September?"

No, the city council has made some budget adjustments so it is expected that the final tax levy will be less than the preliminary levy that was set in September.

In the areas of the budget where the city council can use their discretion, the tax levy will increase by about \$59,000. However, the city council doesn't have any choice when it comes to paying the bonds that were issued to improve Main Street or construct the swimming pool, so there is an additional increase to the tax levy of about \$71,000 for those improvements. In total, then, the tax levy is proposed to increase by \$130,000 instead of the \$172,000 increase proposed in September.

For those who prefer percentages, the \$59,000 increase that represents the city council's discretion is equal to a 2.9% increase. The \$71,000 increase that is required for the new improvements is equal to a 3.5% increase. The total increase, then, in percentage terms, would be 6.4%, which compares to the 8.5% discussed in September.

"Will my taxes go up exactly as it was stated in the notice I received from the county?"

They shouldn't. Since it is expected that the final tax levy will be less than the preliminary tax levy, the actual tax that anyone pays should be less than what was included in the notice.

Chatfield is a growing community, which is evidenced by the 64 homes that have been constructed in the last three plus years. Growth creates additional expenses and higher expectations but also provides a growing population and additional tax base to the community.

City of Chatfield

21 Southeast Second Street
Chatfield, MN 55923
Phone: 507-867-3810
Fax: 507-867-9093
www.ci.chatfield.mn.us

In Case of Emergency: 9-1-1

Ambulance Office (Non Emergency) 507-867-4446
Police Office (Non Emergency) 507-867-3331
Chatfield Public Library 507-867-3480



UPCOMING EVENTS

the chosen bean FALL 2019
WYATT EASTERLING
 Saturday, December 7



Multiplatinum songwriter and master storyteller with smooth vocals and gritty lyrics punctuated by intricate guitar work

All concerts at 7:30pm with Legion Room doors opening at 6:45pm.
 4-show subscription \$70; individual tickets \$20.

CHATFIELD CENTER FOR THE ARTS
 507.884.7676 | CHATFIELDARTS.ORG



CITIZEN ALERT SYSTEM

The City of Chatfield along with the Olmsted County Sheriff's Department are now able to provide you with notifications during emergency situations.

Enroll at <https://www.ci.chatfield.mn.us/citizenalert>

- Public Works Notifications - *Show Plowing, Water Breaks, Street Closings*
- Public Safety Notifications - *Suspicious Activity*
- General City Notifications - *General Notifications, Pool*



City Calendar December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Planning & Zoning Commission	3 Recycling - City Wide	4 Garbage - FC Residents	5 Garbage - OC Residents	6	7
8	9 City Council Meeting	10 Recycling - City Wide	11 Garbage - FC Residents Cable Access Board	12 Garbage - OC Residents	13	14
15	16	17 Recycling - City Wide	18 Garbage - FC Residents	19 Garbage - OC Residents	20	21
22	23 Economic Development Authority Board Meeting	24 Recycling - City Wide City Offices Close @ Noon	25 City Offices Closed	26 Garbage - OC Residents Garbage - FC Residents	27	28
29	30	31 Recycling - City Wide	1 New Year's Day - City Offices Closed	2 Garbage - FC Residents Garbage Pick Up - Olmsted County	3	4

Find calendar details at www.ci.chatfield.mn.us

The Chatfield Lions Club Annual
Senior Citizens' Christmas Dinner



For all area residents age 70 and over and their spouses.

No reservations needed
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2019, NOON

Contact:
 Root River State Bank
 867-4120 to arrange for a ride if needed.

CHATFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Serving turkey, dressing, potatoes, gravy, vegetables, cranberries, dessert and beverages.
 Entertainment and Door Prizes!




Chatfield Chill Fest 2020
 MINNESOTA

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25TH, 2020

Chatfield, MN 55923

Sponsored by Chosen Valley Community Foundation
 Questions: [Melissa Burnett mmcmannon@hotmail.com](mailto:Melissa.Burnett@mmcmannon.com) 507-421-5592

SAVE THE DATE

Any community organizations who would like to host an event :
 please contact Melissa Burnett
 507.421.5592 or mmcmannon@hotmail.com