



CITY OF  
CHATFIELD

# COMMUNITY LINK

DECEMBER 2007

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## The City Budget... The Tax Levy... The Services...

### Elements of the City Budget:

The operations of the City of Chatfield can be separated in many ways, depending on what type of analysis is desired. For the most part, though, the general taxpayer likes to know how their money is being spent, what kind of value is being generated and that sort of thing. For that purpose, it's fair to separate the city operations into the fairly broad categories of "Administration", "Culture & Recreation", "Public Safety, Streets-Sidewalks & General Government", and "Debt Service."

Administration covers those indirect costs, such as the Clerk's Dept., City Council & other Commission activity, elections and the like. Culture & Recreation refers to the Library, swimming pool, parks, summer recreation, band concerts, etc.

Public Safety includes the police, fire & ambulance but also includes building code enforcement, animal control and civil defense sirens. Streets—General Government would include street & sidewalk maintenance, storm water management, the Thurber Building and so forth.

### Where does the money go??

Categorically, the City expense side of the 2008 City Budget looks something like:

- \$295,000 Administration
- \$415,000 Culture & Recreation
- \$858,000 Public Safety
- \$558,000 Streets, Muni Bldng & Gen.
- \$195,000 Debt Service
- \$ 83,000 Capital/Fund Balance Mgmt

### Where does the money come from??

Some of the activities listed above do generate revenues but the bulk of these services are paid for by local property taxes and aids to local governments. Categorically, the revenue side looks something like:

- \$848,000 Property Tax
- \$794,000 Local Government Aid
- \$362,000 Fines, Licenses & Fees
- \$143,000 Intergovernmental contracts
- \$ 113,000 Market Value Credit Aid
- \$ 69,000 Donations
- \$ 64,000 Transfer from Reserve Fund

### The Tax Levy:

The 2008 City tax levy totals \$961,412 (not including the Market Value Credit Aid adjustment), which is 5.69% higher than in 2007. The increase is due to higher fuel, energy, personnel, insurance and other costs. In 2008, a home valued at \$163,000 will pay about \$2.39 per day for city services.

### Services Provided— A Sample:

- 2,100 hours of Library Services
- 9,500 hours of Police Services.
- 330+ Ambulance Responses + 24/7
- 50+ Fire Responses + 24/7 Access
- Street Sealcoating/Overlay Program
- Sidewalk Replacement Program
- 65 acres of parkland
- Ballparks, playgrounds & paths.
- Snowplowing & Streetsweeping
- Spring Clean-up
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection
- 552 hours of Swimming Pool Access
- 200+ locally produced programs via CCTV
- Brush & Leaf Dump
- Building Code Enforcement
- Webstreaming & Podcasting

The City makes every attempt to get the maximum value possible for each dollar it spends. It is hoped that each resident finds a good value for the City Services that they support.

## 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

## Etcetera

**Brush & Leaf Dump**  
**Closed for the season.**

### **Community Link** **the TV Show**

See the televised version of the newsletter on CCTV Channel 11—  
Mondays, at 5:30 pm  
Tuesdays, at 11:30 am  
or Thursdays at 7:00 pm.

### **Reading Meters**

Please keep the meter readers in mind when tying your dogs out. Leave a clear path to the meter pad (black box on the outside of your house) that is outside of the dog's range.

# CHILL FEST 2008!

Reserve

**Saturday, January 26th, 2008**

for a full day of activities with the Chill Fest Celebration.

An **organizational meeting** is being held by the Chatfield Lions Club, who are hosting this year's celebration. The meeting will be **Wednesday, December 5th at 7:00 p.m.** in the Training Room at the Thurber Building. Any person, organization or business interested in sponsoring and hosting a Chill Fest event is encouraged to attend.

The chairpersons for the event are Lion members Matt Opat (867-4080) or Mike Martin (867-3134). Publicity Chairperson is Kelly Wagner [kelmichele1976@msn.com](mailto:kelmichele1976@msn.com)



**Take the plunge!!!**

## Connecting with the Public.... Electronically

## CITY OFFICIALS

### **MAYOR**

Curt Sorenson (507) 867-3810  
[csorenso@amfam.com](mailto:csorenso@amfam.com)

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Brenda Johnson (507) 867-4650  
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[paulcti@qwestoffice.net](mailto:paulcti@qwestoffice.net)

Ken Jacobson (507) 867-4759  
[chatfieldjake@yahoo.com](mailto:chatfieldjake@yahoo.com)

Ginny Engle (507) 867-4701  
[gineng2@aol.com](mailto:gineng2@aol.com)



You can now have the Community Link Newsletter, The Chief's Rap Sheet and Winter Parking/Snow Emergency Alerts sent to you electronically, as soon as they are published on the City's website.

Thanks to the technology of Really Simple Syndication (RSS), you can now get updates from the City of Chatfield delivered directly to your desktop! RSS feeds are available on the City of Chatfield website for the following services—The Community Link Newsletter, The Chief's Rap Sheet, and Winter Parking / Snow Emergency Alerts.

If you are familiar with using the RSS feed, you already know the benefits but, if you haven't done so, you might want to try it. This is an easy and safe way to get up-to-date information. Go to the [www.ci.chatfield.mn.us](http://www.ci.chatfield.mn.us), click on the RSS icon and follow the simple instructions. If you have trouble, though, call the City Clerk's office and we will help out.



**Podcasting:** All of the videos on the City's website are now down-loadable with the click of a button! You can choose between an audio version or the video version—your choice! If you don't have time to watch the games or meetings on your computer, just take them with you!!

You can even combine this podcast feature with the RSS feature so that these meetings and events can be automatically downloaded into your iPod, MP3 player, mobile phone or computer just as soon as they are webcast. We're trying to make it easy to be informed—enjoy!!

## DECEMBER 2007

Mon Dec 3 — Truth-in-Taxation Hearing 6:30 pm

Mon Dec 3 — Planning & Zoning 7:00 pm

Mon Dec 10— City Council 7:00 pm

Wed Dec 12 — Cable TV Board 7:00 am

Mon Dec 17- Heritage Pres. Comm 7:00 pm

Thu Dec 28— EDA 5:30 pm