Ramsey’s Special General Election - November 5, 2019

Election Day: A Special General Election to fill the vacant Ward 3 City Council seat will be held on Tuesday, November 5. On Election Day, voters in Ward 3, Precinct 1 will vote at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW and those in Ward 3, Precinct 2 will vote at Ramsey Fire Station No. 1, 15050 Armstrong Blvd. NW. Polls will be open from 7:00 am - 8:00 pm.

Early Voting: Ramsey residents may vote in-person absentee at the Ramsey Municipal Center or the Anoka County Government Center, Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. City Hall will also be open for absentee voting on Saturday, November 2, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm and on Monday, November 4, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. For more information please see the City’s Elections page at www.cityoframsey.com or contact Administrative Services Director Colleen Lasher at 763-433-9867 or at clasher@cityoframsey.com.

Anoka-Hennepin ISD 11 and Elk River ISD 728 Election - November 5, 2019

Anoka County Elections will administer Anoka Hennepin ISD 11’s school district election. Anoka County will be serving ISD 11 residents residing in Ward 2 at Ramsey City Hall, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, and those in Ward 4 will vote at Ramsey Fire Station No. 2, 5650 Alpine Drive NW.

Sherburne County Elections will administer Elk River ISD 728’s school district election, which covers a portion of Ward 2 and a very small portion of Ward 3. On Election Day, all Ward 3 voters will vote at their normal polling place in Ramsey. However, Sherburne County will be serving ISD 728 residents residing in Ward 2 at St. Andrews Church, 566 4th Street NW, Elk River. Residents in ISD 728 should contact Sherburne County for additional information, including information on in-person absentee voting.

See page 8 for a complete list of voting locations for the November 5 Election.
**City Council**

John LeTourneau, Mayor  
763-576-4367  
jlentourneau@cityoframsey.com

Chris Riley, Councilmember  
At-Large  
763-576-4368  
criley@cityoframsey.com

Jeff Menth, Councilmember  
At-Large  
763-576-4362  
jmenth@cityoframsey.com

Nadine Heinrich, Councilmember  
Ward 1  
763-576-4363  
nheinrich@cityoframsey.com

Mark Kuzma, Councilmember  
Ward 2  
763-576-4366  
mkuzma@cityoframsey.com

Vacant, Councilmember  
Ward 3  
763-576-4361  
@cityoframsey.com

Debra Musgrove, Councilmember  
Ward 4  
763-576-4360  
dmusgrove@cityoframsey.com

**Important Phone Numbers**

Kurt Ulrich, City Administrator  
763-433-9845  
kulrich@cityoframsey.com

Fire and Police Emergency  
911

Fire and Police Non-Emergency  
763-427-1212

City Hall  
763-427-1410

Parks/Streets/Utilities  
763-427-8254

TDD  
763-427-8591

**Your City Newsletter**

The *Ramsey Resident* is a newsletter partially paid for with revenues generated by advertising. This newsletter is intended to provide public information about community events and local government.

All inquiries and comments regarding the newsletter are welcome and should be directed to the Newsletter Coordinator at 763-433-9844. If you wish to advertise within the newsletter, please contact Scott Robinson at 763-443-2243.

All articles for publication in the *Ramsey Resident* should be emailed to kschmitz@cityoframsey.com by the first of the month prior to the edition or the following Monday if the first is on a weekend. The City of Ramsey reserves the right to determine what may appear in this newsletter.

This newsletter is read and obtained with the understanding that the information presented is from varied sources from which there can be no warranty or responsibility as to accuracy or completeness.

**QCTV Live Broadcasts & Replays and Video Streaming**

Quad Cities Community Television (QCTV) broadcasts regular City Council, Planning Commission, Park & Recreation Commission, Economic Development Authority and Environmental Policy Board meetings on Channel 16 with periodic replays. For more information visit www.qctv.org.

**Meeting Schedule**

All meetings are held at the Ramsey Municipal Center unless otherwise noted.

**City Council (2nd & 4th Tuesday)**

7:00 pm, Council Chambers  
November 12, 26 & December 10, TBD

**City Council Work Session (2nd & 4th Tuesday)**

5:30 pm, Lake Itasca Room  
November 12, 26 & December 10, TBD

**Economic Development Authority (2nd Thursday)**

7:30 am, Council Chambers  
November 14 & December 12

**Environmental Policy Board (3rd Monday)**

6:30 pm, Council Chambers  
November 18 & December 16

**Park & Rec. Commission (2nd Thursday)**

6:30 pm, Council Chambers  
November 14 & December 12

**Planning Commission (1st Thursday)**

7:00 pm, Council Chambers  
November 7 & December 5

**Public Works Committee (3rd Tuesday)**

5:30 pm, Lake Itasca Room  
November 19 & December 17

Additional City Council Work Sessions may be scheduled throughout the month. See the most current *Upcoming Meetings* calendar to confirm meeting dates, locations and times on the City’s website at www.cityoframsey.com.

TBD - To be Determined

*Rescheduled Date

**Curbside Recycling Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>West Side Pick-up</th>
<th>East Side Pick-up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 4, 18</td>
<td>November 11, 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2, 16, 30</td>
<td>December 9, 23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ramsey Resident • November/December 2019
Multiple Developments Break Ground This Fall

The last few months have been extremely busy for new construction in Ramsey. The City has recently approved several major commercial and industrial projects such as M & G Trailer, Ramsey Storage Center, West Armstrong Retail Center, Name Brand Storage Center and Delta ModTech. The City has also approved multiple residential projects. Detailed development updates can be found online at www.cityoframsey.com/development. These reports are also available upon request by contacting the Community Development Department at 763-433-9824 or planning@cityoframsey.com.

Delta ModTech Adds 135 Jobs to Ramsey

Construction has started on a 230,000 square-foot office and manufacturing facility at 8445 Bunker Lake Boulevard, west of Armstrong Boulevard. This business will bring 135 high quality jobs to the community ranging from manufacturing, office and engineering staff. The City is excited to add daytime population to the community hoping to advance our retail goals.

West Armstrong Retail Breaks Ground on 15,000 Square Foot Multi-Tenant Retail Building

PSD, LLC has broken ground on a new retail center west of Armstrong Boulevard and north of Highway 10. The City is awaiting word on potential tenants of this retail center.

Multiple Developments Break Ground at Ramsey Boulevard and Bunker Lake Boulevard

There are two separate projects at this intersection. At the northeast corner of this intersection, a 3-story, indoor climate-controlled, self-storage facility is under construction. At the southwest corner of the intersection, a small-lot detached single-family neighborhood is being constructed by Centra Homes.

New Residential Neighborhood Leads to Environmental Cleanup

During a residential subdivision review several years ago, an unpermitted landfill was discovered along the Mississippi River at our border with the City of Anoka. It was determined that any development scenario required full cleanup and cleanup was not a warranted event without development due to its close proximity to the Mississippi River. The project has secured cleanup funding from the Metropolitan Council and Anoka County Housing and Redevelopment Authority to pave way for a new detached, single-family residential neighborhood along Rivlyn Avenue south of Highway 10.
Autumn is budget season for cities and counties across Minnesota. In September, city and county governing boards establish preliminary levies as one of the first steps in the budgeting process for the following year.

Like the autumn leaves, the City’s tax rate is projected to fall in 2020 based upon the proposed levy passed by the Ramsey City Council in September. This means, if your property value did not increase, your City portion of the property tax will go down.

However, do not expect your taxes to decrease. The great majority of properties increase in value each year due to market value inflation. In addition, if you remodeled or added-on to your home, the tax increase may be even more. Anoka County adjusts values each year due to market conditions. If you disagree with the market value assigned to your property, this matter may be appealed to the Anoka County Assessor’s office in the spring of 2020 for the upcoming tax year (2021). The county, school district, and special taxing districts also make up a portion of your total tax bill. The tax estimate that property owners receive in November includes a breakdown of each taxing jurisdiction.

Fortunately, the tax base in Ramsey is strong and continues to grow. Since 2007, the City’s tax base has nearly doubled with an 82.6 percent increase in the City’s tax capacity value. In fact, from just last year, the growth of the aggregate tax base in Ramsey was 8.3 percent, helping the City keep its tax rate relatively low compared to other Anoka County cities (see related budget article and chart in this issue). In order to keep service levels acceptable, the City adds police, fire, public works and administrative resources as necessary to provide quality municipal services to an increased population.

The proposed levy of $12,541,709 for 2020 reflects a $710,373 (6.00 percent increase) over the adopted levy in 2019 of $11,831,336, with most of the proposed increase attributed to personnel to account for 2020 cost-of-living-adjustments and health insurance premium increases. Some of the other increased expenditures the City needs to plan for include three elections in 2020, which for the first time in Minnesota, will include a Presidential National Primary.

Fiscal responsibility is one of the core values of the City of Ramsey and keeping the City financially stable is a key goal. Balancing the needs of the community while keeping expenditures in line with revenue projections is an important component of this effort.

A public hearing for the tax levy and budget is scheduled for the 7:00 pm, City Council meeting on December 10, 2019, at City Hall. All are welcome to attend or submit your comments to the City by that date. At that meeting, the Council may reduce the proposed levy or keep it the same. The Council may not increase the tax levy above the proposed preliminary levy.

For more information about the City of Ramsey’s budget, tax levy and finances, please check out our web site at www.cityoframsey.com.
Employee Spotlight

Position & Department:
Abby Proulx, Recreation Specialist

Background:
Abby recently started working for the City of Ramsey this fall. As the Recreation Specialist, Abby creates a recreation opportunity for everyone and find ways to bring the community together through shared interests. Abby hit the ground running and began planning recreational programming such as Line Dancing, Starwatch Parties, Yoga Classes, the Summer Concert Series, Rum River Paddles and Art Classes, just to name a few!

This is Abby’s first position with the City of Ramsey, but she joins the team with lots of valuable experience in the governmental, nonprofit and private sectors. Some of the titles she has previously held: Canoe/Backcountry Guide, Events and Clinics Coordinator, SCUBA Camp Program Lead and Environmental Educator. Abby said she is more than excited to work in the area she grew up in and serve the residents of Ramsey.

Hobbies/Interests Outside of Work:
Outside of work, Abby can be found outside year round (yes, even in the Minnesota winter). She is an avid runner, climber, backpacker and canoeist.

Fun Fact:
Abby can stand on the very bow of a canoe and balance on one foot. She has yet to fall off!

Did You Know . . .

The City of Ramsey’s annual Holiday Tree Lighting event is Tuesday, December 3. Save the date and watch for details on our website at www.cityoframsey.com.

Charter Commission Vacancy

The City of Ramsey is looking for residents who are interested in serving on the Charter Commission.

Appointments to the Charter Commission are made by the Chief Judge of the Tenth Judicial District. Seats are open until filled. Charter Commission members volunteer their time and do not receive a stipend.

Additional information on the Charter Commission is available on the City’s website at www.cityoframsey.com by clicking on Government and then Boards and Commissions, or by contacting Jo Thieling, City Clerk at 763-433-9840 or jthieling@cityoframsey.com.

To complete an online application please visit: www.cityoframsey.com/FormCenter/Administration-7/Charter-Commission-Application-Form-82.

Ice Rink Attendants Needed

The City of Ramsey is seeking individuals to work part-time as ice rink attendants at Central Park and Ramsey Elementary School. Weather permitting, the warming houses are expected to open Friday, December 20, 2019 and remain open for approximately ten (10) weeks. Applicants must be at least 16 years old. All rink attendants are required to attend a mandatory orientation which will be held on, Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 6:00 pm at the Central Park Warming House. The rate of pay is $9.86 per hour.

The online application is now available, simply visit the “Job Opportunities” page at www.cityoframsey.com to complete the online application and read the entire job description. Applications will be accepted until 11:59 pm on Wednesday, November 13, 2019, with interviews being held the week of November 18, 2019. Questions can be directed to Sue Hurd in Human Resources at 763-433-9816 or shurd@cityoframsey.com.
2020 Proposed City Budget

The City Council adopted a 2020 preliminary levy and 2020 General Fund Budget at its regular meeting on September 24, 2019. Final approval of the budget and levy will take place after a public meeting scheduled for December 10, 2019. The preliminary levy may be reduced at that time, but not increased. Property owners will receive notice of the hearing and property tax impacts from Anoka County in mid to late November.

The 2020 budget and levy assumes continued levels of service. The City of Ramsey’s 2020 budget includes the following enhancements:

- Full-time Planning Technician. Position will coordinate land use applications and be the key contact for code enforcement management.
- Bi-Annual Community Survey. The City conducts a resident survey every two years to gather input from its residents on various City services: parks & trails, road and infrastructure, organizational direction, community events, property development and much more. This will be the fourth survey conducted.
- $325,000 – First year of two year funding for replacing Fire Engine #11 that was purchased in 1999.
- $92,000 – Replace a 2013 Large Area Mower for mowing of City parks.

The proposed property tax levy for 2020 is $12,541,709 as compared to $11,831,336 in 2019.

**Selected examples of estimated tax impact on Ramsey homes:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Market Value</th>
<th>City Taxes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019</strong></td>
<td><strong>2020</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home 1</td>
<td>$137,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home 2</td>
<td>$169,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home 3</td>
<td>$211,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home 4</td>
<td>$279,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home 5</td>
<td>$337,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home 6</td>
<td>$439,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Includes impact on properties due to increases in Market Value, Market Value exclusion levels and/or possible home improvements.*
Tax Capacity Value: “Tax Capacity Value” is determined by multiplying the taxable market value of properties by statutory percentage rates known as class rates. Class rates are set by statute and vary by property type. For example, a home that has a market value of $300,000 would have a tax capacity value of $3,000 ($300,000 Market value X 1 percent Class Rate). The City’s 2020 Tax Capacity Value of $26,906,121 is comprised of the total taxable market value of all properties in Ramsey times their respective class rates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>2018 Final Tax Rate</th>
<th>2019 Final Tax Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oak Grove</td>
<td>22.549%</td>
<td>21.026%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham Lake</td>
<td>25.007%</td>
<td>23.439%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nowthen</td>
<td>27.151%</td>
<td>24.165%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andover</td>
<td>34.628%</td>
<td>35.311%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blaine</td>
<td>35.989%</td>
<td>35.952%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anoka</td>
<td>37.792%</td>
<td>36.165%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramsey</td>
<td>41.730%</td>
<td>40.355%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coon Rapids</td>
<td>42.368%</td>
<td>41.232%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lino Lakes</td>
<td>42.826%</td>
<td>41.817%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Bethel</td>
<td>44.510%</td>
<td>43.204%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fridley</td>
<td>47.907%</td>
<td>45.382%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Lake Park</td>
<td>54.191%</td>
<td>48.812%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>51.706%</td>
<td>51.152%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Francis</td>
<td>53.997%</td>
<td>53.177%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethel</td>
<td>60.518%</td>
<td>54.394%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lexington</td>
<td>68.696%</td>
<td>54.920%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circle Pines</td>
<td>55.993%</td>
<td>56.434%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centerville</td>
<td>64.138%</td>
<td>57.483%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia Heights</td>
<td>67.645%</td>
<td>66.775%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilltop</td>
<td>96.001%</td>
<td>96.833%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tax Capacity Rate: The “Tax Capacity Rate” is the result of dividing the amount of property tax levied by the taxing authority by the tax capacity value.

City of Ramsey’s Five Key Strategic Goals:

- Financial Stability
- A Balance of Rural Character & Urban Growth
- An Active and Connected Community
- Smart Citizen-Focused Government
- An Effective Organization
Ramsey Police Department
Home Alone Safety Class

Children 8-10 years of age will learn the necessary skills and knowledge to be safe and responsible when home alone for short periods of time. Help them understand how to prevent problems, handle real-life situations, and keep them safe. The class will be offered January 3, 2020, in the Alexander Ramsey Room at City Hall, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey.

Friday, January 3
8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Ages 8-10

Register at cityoframsey.com/713

$20

We’ll discuss home safety, first aid, fire safety, basic phone skills/9-1-1, Internet and kitchen safety, healthy eating, and activities to do while home alone. Lunch is provided.

November 5, 2019
Voting Locations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward - Precinct - ISD</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ward 1</td>
<td>No Election</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precinct 1 and 2 ISD #11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 2</td>
<td>Ramsey City Hall - Alexander Ramsey Room</td>
<td>7550 Sunwood Drive NW Ramsey, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precinct 1 and 2 ISD #11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 2</td>
<td>St. Andrew’s Church</td>
<td>566 4th Street NW Elk River, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precinct 1 and 2 ISD #728</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 3</td>
<td>Ramsey City Hall - Lake Itasca Room</td>
<td>7550 Sunwood Drive NW Ramsey, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precinct 1 ISD #11 &amp; #728</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 3</td>
<td>Ramsey Fire Station #1</td>
<td>15050 Armstrong Boulevard NW Ramsey, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precinct 2 ISD #11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 4</td>
<td>Ramsey Fire Station #2</td>
<td>5650 Alpine Drive NW Ramsey, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precinct 1 and 2 ISD #11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you Happy Days sponsors!

**Platinum Sponsors**
- Cross of Hope Lutheran Church
- Lord of Life!
- InTech Industries, Inc.
- Phantom

**Gold Sponsors**
- Altron, Inc.
- Coborn’s
- Hakanson Anderson
- Hope Fellowship Church
- Jackie B Realty Group - Realty ONE Group Choice
- The Links at Northfork
- NAU Country Insurance
- Northern Starz Children’s Theatre
- One Hour Heating & Air Conditioning
- Parkplace Studio
- PSD, LLC.
- QCTV
- R & D Transportation
- Stone Brook Academy
- Village Bank
- Wendell’s
- Zero Zone, Inc.

**Silver Sponsors**
- All Season’s Garage Door
- The Bank of Elk River
- Boilermaker’s Local #647
- Casey’s General Store
- Chuck & Don’s Pet Food & Supplies
- Countryside Printing
- Dedicated Networks, Inc.
- Jumpn’ Gymnastics
- Katie McNally - Allina Health Community Engagement
- Pearson Farm
- Ramsey Bicycle
- Sharp & Associates
- Texas Roadhouse

**Silver Sponsors**
- ACE 
- CONNEXUS ENERGY 
- KITCHEN TABLE 
- St. Katharine Drexel 
- FLAGSHIP BANK 
- BOB 
- DO ALL PRINTING 
- northgate CHURCH 
- RAMSEY ROTARY 
- RAMSEY FIRE RELIEF ASSOCIATION 
- ACE 
- CONNEXUS ENERGY 
- KITCHEN TABLE 
- St. Katharine Drexel 
- FLAGSHIP BANK 
- BOB 
- DO ALL PRINTING 
- northgate CHURCH 
- RAMSEY ROTARY 
- RAMSEY FIRE RELIEF ASSOCIATION
Update on Manganese Levels in Municipal Water Supply

The City of Ramsey Utilities Department has been collecting and testing water samples each month for manganese concentrations. To date, all samples have fallen below the 100 parts per billion (ppb) set by the Minnesota Department of Health for bottle-fed infants 12 months or younger. This information may be viewed at www.cityoframsey.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=180.

The City continues to utilize only City wells with the lowest concentration of manganese. Timely rains have helped lower daily demands for water and our odd/even sprinkling ban also contributes to lower demand. If you have any questions about manganese levels or our municipal water supply, please contact our Utilities Supervisor John Nelson at 763-433-9861 or jnelson@cityoframsey.com.

Ramsey Parks & Recreation

November and December 2019 Program Sampler

Want to learn more about current offerings or register?
Visit: CityofRamsey.com/ParkEvents

2019 Photo Contest

The City is searching for photos that highlight our residents’ talents and the beauty right in our own backyards. Think you have the perfect picture? Visit our website for more information or email us at photocontest@cityoframsey.com. Show off what you love about Ramsey.

Bingo

Hosted by Anoka Women of Today. Bingo is a fun and engaging game to get involved with. Bring your friends and family members for a great night of fun and excitement. The cost is $0.50 per card to play. The winner gets half of the total collected. The other half of the money will be donated to a local charity!

Line Dancing

Line dancing is a great way to meet new friends and pencil in some exercise. Learn popular patterns of steps to a variety of music. This class is suitable for all ages and levels. No partner required. Free to attend! The class will be instructed by Karen Ann Stark. She has over 15 years of experience teaching dance and is the former developer and choreographer of the Bootscooter Dance Team.

All dates and times are subject to change. Not all current offers are listed. Visit cityoframsey.com/parksevents for all offerings. For more information contact Abby Proulx, Recreation Specialist, at 763-433-9883 or aproulx@cityoframsey.com.
Salt and Ice Control

To help answer some questions citizens have about ice control and what methods the City uses to provide traction on streets in the community, we first must have some basic knowledge of the materials used in the process.

Sand on its own does not have ice-melting capability. Sand is primarily used as an abrasive to provide temporary traction. Sand works best on hard packed snow where it can embed itself into the snow and remain there. When used on ice, sand has a tendency to “bounce” when it comes out of the truck and end up at the side of the road. The City uses a salt/sand mixture of approximately 15 percent salt and 85 percent sand. The salt prevents the sand from freezing in the pile and provides some ice-melting capability to the mixture. This salt/sand mixture is only used in extreme cold weather or freezing rain.

Pure salt is used on all of Ramsey’s primary roads and intersections to help control ice. Salt has a practical working temperature of 15 to 20 degrees F. Water normally freezes at 32 degrees, but with the introduction of salt, the freezing temperature is lowered to the 15 to 20 degree range. The surface temperature of the road determines the amount of de-icing chemical needed and how effectively the chemical will work. As temperatures go down, the amount of deicer needed to melt a given quantity of ice increases significantly. Salt is five times more effective at 30 degrees than at 20 degrees.

Before a dry de-icing chemical can act, it must dissolve into a brine solution. Brine is the term used to describe the salt and water mixture. The necessary moisture needed to accomplish this can come from snow on the road surface or from water vapor in the air (humidity)... heat is required to create this moisture. Sources for this heat include the air, the sun, the pavement or traffic friction. At extremely low temperatures many of these sources are not available.

Ramsey, like many communities, are now “pre-wetting” their salt. This is accomplished by placing a brine tank on the rear of the sanding truck to wet the salt when it comes off the spinner. Wetting provides moisture to make brine and speeds up the melting process. In addition, the wet salt has less of a tendency to bounce or be blown off the road by traffic. An overall savings in lost or wasted salt can be as high as 20 to 30 percent with the use of pre-wetting.

With over 183 miles of roadway and some 860 plus intersections, the City relies on the Police Department and phone calls from citizens to alert the Public Works Department to problem areas that may occur because of extremely cold temperatures. Traffic can also cause slippery areas by tracking the salt out of an intersection or by packing down the snow before the salt has a chance to work. Maintenance crews do initial salting as they are plowing the City roads after a storm and sometimes problem areas occur before they can get back to complete the salting operation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Public Works Superintendent Grant Riemer at 763-433-9863 or email griemer@cityoframsey.com.

Fire Hydrants

Please help keep snow away from fire hydrants. Snow piled or shoveled close to hydrants restricts operation during a fire emergency. After a snowfall, the Public Works Department is responsible for clearing snow from City streets. Depending on the amount and type of snow, this could take several days. The City is requesting your help in keeping our fire hydrants accessible. Please clear a four-foot circle around the hydrant near your home to ensure easy access for our Fire Department.

If you have any questions or comments, please call Utilities Supervisor John Nelson at 763-433-9861 or jnelson@cityoframsey.com. Thank you for your efforts!

Garbage & Recycling Containers - Basketball Hoops

The City would like to remind you that garbage and recycling containers should be kept off the street. Placing them in the driveway or behind the curb allows snowplow drivers to plow curb-to-curb and lessens the chance of tipping over containers. Basketball hoops should also be kept out of cul-de-sacs.
Do Not Push or Dump Snow or Ice onto Roadway

As Old Man Winter tightens his hold on Ramsey, there’s an increasing temptation to push driveway snow and ice into the street. Unfortunately, this is very hazardous to other residents walking or driving on our streets.

MN Statute 160.2715 prohibits the deposit of items, including snow and ice, in the right-of-way. In an effort to enforce this, Ramsey Officers will issue a citation to homeowners if they see snow deposited onto the roadway. Violators will be charged with a misdemeanor, with a second offense having a minimum fine of $400.00. Help us keep our streets safe for everyone.

For more information, please contact Public Works Administrative Assistant Mary Jo Warner at 763-433-9820 or mwarner@cityoframsey.com.

Wooden Stakes Available For Marking Easement/Curb Line

The City will provide wooden stakes for homeowners to install along the easement. The stakes should be spaced every 20 to 30 feet along the easement to help plow drivers identify the edge of the road early in the season.

The wooden stakes are available in a barrel outside of the Public Works Building located at 14100 Jaspar Street NW, during regular business hours. There is a maximum limit of six stakes per household.

Please remember the Boulevard Staking Policy prohibits the use of metal fence posts and other non-breakaway material in the public right-of-way. Small fiberglass poles and aluminum poles with reflectors may be used.

For more information, please contact Public Works Administrative Assistant Mary Jo Warner at 763-433-9820 or mwarner@cityoframsey.com.

No Parking on Public Streets

Parking is not allowed on any public street between the hours of 2:00 am – 6:00 am year round. Vehicles in violation will be cited and may be towed.

Snowplowing Answers and Information

Information on the City Policy for Snow Removal, Ice Control and Boulevard Staking can be found on the City website at www.cityoframsey.com/ramsey-streets-snowplowing.

The City of Ramsey also has an after-hours snowplow information line at 763-433-9852, which is updated and monitored during the snowplow season. During regular business hours you can contact the Public Works Department directly at 763-433-9820.

Free Car Seat Inspections for Anoka County Residents

Safe Kids Anoka County offers several car seat clinics throughout the year for Anoka County residents to have their children evaluated and car seats inspected by trained technicians. Four out of five car seats are installed wrong! Get yours checked. Appointments are required.

November 19, 2019
4:00 - 7:00 pm
Blaine Fire Station #3
11920 Ulysses St. NE
Blaine, MN
Appointments:
763-785-6186

December 9, 2019
4:00 - 7:00 pm
Coon Rapids Police Department
11155 Robinson Drive
Coon Rapids, MN
Appointments:
763-767-4680 ext. 680

Online appointments can be made at www.safekidsanoka.org/Online-Appointments.html.

For more information, contact Safe Kids at 763-455-9811 or safekidsanokacounty@gmail.com.
Fatal Crash Reminds Residents to Drive Safely

On Friday, April 6, 2018 Ramsey Police, Fire and Allina Paramedics responded to an accident on Highway 47 in Ramsey, where it was reported one vehicle rolled over. The Minnesota State Patrol, Anoka County Sheriff’s Office and Anoka Police Department also responded to assist.

Officers arrived and found the driver, Joey Anderson, had been ejected from the vehicle and had died at the scene. He was not wearing a seat belt. A passenger in the vehicle who had been wearing his seat belt survived and was treated for minor injuries. Speed, alcohol, distracted driving and no seat belt were factors related to this fatal crash.

Joey’s father, Wade Anderson, later came to the Ramsey Police Department and expressed how he and his family wanted to use the crashed car Joey had been driving to help make others aware of the reality of these types of incidents, and the importance of driving sober, not speeding, not driving distracted and wearing a seat belt.

Joey always wore his seat belt, but for some reason which will be forever unknown, he was not wearing it during this trip.

Local Ramsey business, M & G Trailer, donated a trailer to transport the vehicle to different locations. Anoka business, North Star Towing, donated their time and the equipment to permanently attach the vehicle to the trailer, so it can be safely transported to various locations. Wade Anderson, and the Anderson family, donated the vehicle, a 2007 silver BMW. Carrie Dubbelde, a family member of Joey, created the safety banners which will be on display around the vehicle, as well as the plaques which were given in appreciation to M & G Trailer, North Star Towing and the Anderson Family. The wrap-around banner serves many purposes; it lists facts to educate the public, it conveys a personal message and is a memorial to Joey. It also creates a physical barrier to keep the public safe from the vehicle’s sharp edges. Donations were made by the Anderson family to pay for the banner and plaques.

The first use of the vehicle and trailer display was at the Family Fun Experience at Adrenaline Sports Center on Thursday, September 5. It was also on display at the 2019 Happy Days festival and will be on display at area schools to serve as a reminder to students and adults to drive safely.

Going out of town? Want to have your home checked on while you are away? You can now request a vacation house check on our city website at www.ci.ramsey.mn.us/664/Vacation-House-Checks. More information can be found on the city website or by calling 763-427-6812.
Holiday Safety Tips

If you are traveling
- Set an automatic timer for your lights.
- Ask your neighbor to watch your home, shovel the walks, pick up newspapers, collect mail and park in the driveway from time to time to make the house look lived in.
- Be sure to keep any gifts that may be left in the house out of sight while you are gone.

If you are out for the evening
- Turn on lights and a radio or television so that it appears that someone is home.
- Lock all doors and windows while you are out, even if it’s just a few minutes.
- Do not place packages or gifts near windows or in other high-visibility sites.

If you are shopping
- Do not let your guard down just because you are rushing.
- Stay alert and be aware of everything around you at all times.
- Report suspicious activity by calling 911. The police need your eyes and ears to assist them.
- Park in well-lit spaces and as close to the store as possible, lock your car doors, and hide packages in the trunk or under the seat. Be certain to hide items each time you return to the car.
- Do not carry large amounts of cash, pay with a check or credit card if possible. Do not discard your receipts until you get home (Thieves like to collect receipts and use them to return items that were stolen from store).
- Carry your purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Put a wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket. Do not leave your purse in cart and walk away.
- If you take your children shopping, teach them to go to a police officer or a store security guard if they are separated or lost.

If you are at home
- Turn on outside lights to deter burglars.
- Report any suspicious behavior to the police by calling 763-427-1212 or 911.
- Make sure your homeowners (or renters) insurance is up-to-date and everything is inventoried properly.

If a stranger comes to the door
- Stay alert to suspicious-looking couriers delivering packages to you or your neighbors.
- Many con artists take advantage of holiday generosity by going door-to-door. Ask for identification and get specifics to how and where the donations will be spent/used.
- If you feel uncomfortable, just say “no thank you” and shut the door.

For more information, contact the Ramsey Police Department at 763-427-6812.
To Get Help or to Give Help

Articles contained on this page are for the purpose of providing information about events or initiatives occurring in or bordering the Ramsey community. The City does not necessarily endorse nor subscribe to the beliefs, values, or political affiliations of any of the organizations that may present information in this document.

Alcoholics Anonymous: Meets Mondays at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Youth Center, 14501 Nowthen Boulevard NW, Ramsey, at 7:00 pm. Please call 763-427-1100 for more information.

Alexandra House, Inc.: Business Office hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Alexandra House Community Program Office, 2150 - 3rd Avenue, Suite 100, Anoka, MN. Phone: 763-576-9999 24-Hour Emergency Shelter Service & Hotline: 763-780-2330.

Andover/Ramsey Moms Club: Visit our website momsclubar.wixsite.com/andoverramsey to find a chapter near you.

Anoka Area Early Intervention/Help Me Grow: Serves young children (birth-5) with developmental delays. To find out more or schedule an evaluation, call 763-506-6101 or email anoka.hmg@anoka.k12.mn.us.

Anoka Women of Today: Meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month at Anoka City Hall, 2015 1st Ave N, Anoka, at 7:00 pm. For more information visit www.anokawomenoftoday.weebly.com.

Anoka County Family Caregiver Connection: We provide comprehensive services for family caregivers. We offer 1:1 coaching/counseling, information & referral, support groups, caregiver training and family meeting facilitation. We also provide group respite care entitled “The Gathering” which meets at Zion Lutheran Church in Anoka. Call Jill at 763-324-1608.

The Arc Minnesota: Offers services and support for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. For more information call 952-920-0855 or www.arcminnesota.org.

Chores & More Program: Helps seniors with housekeeping, minor home repairs and seasonal chores. Call 763-783-4767 to request service or to volunteer.

Family Promise in Anoka County: Works with families experiencing homelessness to tailor individualized plans to help them take the necessary steps toward lasting independence. For more information or to volunteer, please visit www.familypromiseanoka.org.

Family Table Meal: Sponsored by Lord of Life Church and Hosted at First Congregational Church, 1923 N 3rd Avenue, Anoka, 4th Monday of each month, 5:00 pm. Everyone is welcome. Please call 763-427-1100 for more information.

Free Breast Cancer Screening: Is available for qualifying women who are over 40, meet the income requirements, and are either under insured or have no insurance to cover the cost of testing. Call MN Department of Health Sage Program at 1-888-643-2584 for more information.

Hospice Volunteers Needed: Allina Home Care & Fairview Home Care are looking for hospice volunteers; people who can give a few hours a week visiting, running errands for, and supporting patients & their families. Contact Allina Home Care, & Palliative Care at 612-262-7108, or Fairview Home Care & Hospice at 612-728-2455.

Inside Walking: Meets Monday through Thursday at 8:00 am at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 14501 Nowthen Boulevard NW, Ramsey, Main Entrance. Call 763-427-1100 for more information.

Mediation Services for Anoka County: A non-profit organization for all residents in Anoka County, offering ways to work through disputes using positive and respectful skills. Mediation is free or offered at a modest fee. Call 763-422-8878 or email info@mediationservice.org.

Metro North Adult Basic Education (ABE) Program: The volunteers at Metro North Adult Basic Education encourage, inspire, and mentor learners to achieve their fullest potential. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering or learning more about our classes, call 763-433-4221 or email matthew.miller@ahschool.us.

Northern Star Juvenile Diversion Program: Offers first-time youth offenders a positive alternative to juvenile court. The goal is to hold youth accountable for their actions while giving them the tools to ensure they do not re-offend. For more information or to volunteer, call 763-231-7242, email JD@nsbsa.org or visit our website at www.juvenilediversion.org.

Nutrition Program: Newly expanded guidelines will allow pregnant/nursing women, infants and children up to age five to participate in the Anoka County Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). Call the Anoka County WIC Program at 763-324-4230 to apply and find out about WIC locations.

Ramsey Lions Club: Please visit our website at www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/ramsseyrn for information about our club.

Ramsey Rotary Club: Meets every Wednesday at noon at The Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey. Rotary International is an organization of community and business leaders focused on service to the community, both locally and abroad. For more information about the Ramsey Rotary, please visit the Rotary International website at www.rotary.org.

Recovery Group: Meets Tuesday at 7:00 pm at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Library, 14501 Nowthen Boulevard NW, Ramsey. Please call 763-427-1100 for more information.

Senior Companion Program: Senior (60+) volunteers make weekly visits to homebound/isolated seniors in their homes. Volunteers receive mileage reimbursement and if income eligible, they may also receive a stipend. If interested in having a Senior Companion or becoming a Senior Companion, call 763-783-4717.

Senior Information Line: is a phone service specifically designed to connect older adults or their family members to community services and resources. If you have any questions, please call 763-783-4707.

Senior Linkage Line: On Medicare, Medicare Supplemental Insurance and assistance filing insurance claims, call 1-800-333-2433.

Youth First: Promotes positive youth development in the communities of Anoka, Andover and Ramsey. Call 763-421-8530 or visit our website at www.youth1st.net.
**Community Events**

**Holiday Bazaar**
Saturday, November 9
9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Lord of Life Church
14501 Nowthen Blvd NW

**Cross of Hope Annual Craft Boutique**
Saturday, November 16
9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Cross of Hope Lutheran Church
5730 179th Lane NW

**Bake Sale & Craft Boutique**
Saturday, November 16
9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Children of Hope Preschool
5730 179th Ln NW

**Tree Lighting** -
Count down to the lighting of the tree and enjoy cookies and hot cocoa with Santa.
Tuesday, December 3
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Ramsey City Hall
7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey
call: 763-427-1410

**Ramsey Seniors**

The Ramsey Seniors Club is a community group that meets regularly on the fourth Thursday of each month, at 11:00 am, at Ramsey Fire Station #1, 15050 Armstrong Boulevard NW, in Ramsey. Meetings feature a variety of interesting programs, as well as a potluck lunch.

The Ramsey Seniors met September 26, 2019 at 12:00 pm with 20 members present. The members enjoyed a pot luck followed by bingo and prizes by The Women of Today.

The group will meet again on October 24 and will host an instructor from the Rum River Art Center.

The Ramsey Seniors Club would like to thank everyone who helps make their meetings a success and to remind all seniors that everyone is welcome at the meetings. You do not have to be a resident of Ramsey. Please call 763-421-5793 for more information.

President, Lucie Eisenreich

**Open to Business**

Open to Business is a free, confidential, and non-profit program to assist entrepreneurs with the Creation, Growth, and Success of their business.

We provide assistance in many areas, including:
- Business plans and projections
- Bookkeeping and accounting set-up and training
- Financial and cash flow management
- Funding and loan packaging
- Commercial real estate purchasing and leasing analysis
- Profitability
- Staffing
- Strategic planning
- Professional referrals and additional support

We want to help you succeed! To learn more about a personalized plan for your business, please contact cmikkonen@opentobusinessmn.org to talk with a local Business Advisor or see www.opentobusinessmn.org for more information.

**Become a Certified Minnesota Master Naturalist Volunteer**

Are you an adult who’s curious about the natural world? If so, learn more at www.cityoframsey.com/ParkEvents.

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