



City of St. Francis



City Hall Phone: 763-753-2630

Fax: 763-753-9881

VISIT THE CITY WEBSITE AT www.stfrancismn.org TO GET THE LATEST UPDATES

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jerry Tveit, Mayor	763-235-2310
Chris McClish	763-235-2313
Jeff Sandoval	763-235-2311
Steve Kane	763-235-2312
Tim Brown	N/A



REMINDER
City offices closed
Labor Day, September 5
and Columbus Day, October 10

CITY OF ST. FRANCIS

23340 Cree Street
St. Francis, MN 55070
City Hall: 763-753-2630
Fax: 763-753-9881
Hours: 7:00 am - 5:30 pm
Monday -Thursday
(closed Fridays & Holidays)

Message from your Mayor

Dear Family and Friends,

There is so much information to share with you that I'll jump right in. Many of you know that council member Schaffer has resigned. For the past month we have been accepting applications to fill the vacant position on the council. On August 16 we interviewed 10 candidates and have selected Tim Brown to fill the open position. Tim is a former council member so expect that he will be able to "hit the ground running." If you see Tim around town please congratulate him and wish him good luck.

If you have traveled down Pederson Drive, you know that we have started building the Pederson Path. The bids came in about \$300,000 so they were right where we expected them. With the grant that the city received along with donations from the St. Francis Lions Club, the Motor Cycle Run, and other groups that donated; the city's share is a little over \$110,000. Not bad for a mile long path! We are still accepting donations at city hall, and don't forget that they are tax deductible. They plan to finish up the path in a month or so. I hope this makes it safer for the kids walking to school this year.

With all of the storms and rain that we have had this year, our Public Works department has been under the gun. They have been busy trying to get the blown down trees cleared and keep the storm sewers from getting clogged with debris. We are hoping that Mother Nature calms down enough to let us get thing under control. Because they have been busy elsewhere, they are getting a little behind on our mowing and other tasks that they need to do. We are trying to balance things out and prioritize the tasks so we don't pay overtime to get things caught up. If you do see something that needs immediate repair, please call the city and let us know. This will help us get on the right track.

We do have some preliminary plans for the new Public Works building/Public Safety building. They can be viewed at city hall and your input is always welcome. The staff at city hall along with the council members has been working extremely hard with our contract manager to make it cost effective and also make it efficient. We have downsized it numerous times and have looked for ways to share space and decrease the cost. Please don't be shy about expressing your opinions. Attend a council meeting or two. Get involved with some of the commissions (Economic Development, Park and Planning and Zoning commission) that we have. Make yourself be heard.

Thank You,
Jerry Tveit, Mayor

MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE:

City Council:

1st and 3rd Mon. of the Month at 6:00 pm
ISD #15 Central Services Center, 4115 Ambassador Blvd NW

Planning Commission:

3rd Wed. of the Month at 7:00 pm
ISD#15 Central Services Center, 4115 Ambassador Blvd. NW
To view Meeting Locations, Times, Agendas, Minutes and Packets, go to www.stfrancismn.org

Park Commission:

Currently there are vacancies on the Park Commission.
If interested in an application, contact city hall.
Must be a resident of St. Francis.

FREQUENTLY INQUIRED PHONE NUMBERS:

Electric Company:

Connexus Energy : 763-323-2600

Gas Company:

Centerpoint: 612-321-4939
Minnegasco

Water/Sewer Information:

OPUS 21 651-255-0980

Garbage & Curbside Recycling:

ACE Disposal: 763-427-3110
BFI: 763-784-2104
East Central 763-689-2171
Sanitation:

High Speed Internet:

Genesis
Toll Free 888-383-8837
Local 320-396-2990

Cable/Internet:

US Cable 800-783-2356

Telephone Service:

Qwest 800-244-1111



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

HELP US KEEP THE STREETS IN TOWN SAFE

Not all of the streets that are in St. Francis fall under the jurisdiction of the St. Francis Public Works Department. Streets such as Bridge Street, Ambassador Blvd., and Rum River Blvd north past the high school are examples of Anoka County roadways. St. Francis Blvd or Hwy 47 is an example of a State Roadway.

To report a pothole or any other street issues on a City Roadway just call City Hall @ 763-753-2630.



If the issue is on a County Roadway go to:

ww2.anokacounty.us/v3_highway/report-request.aspx

If the issue is on a State Roadway go to:

www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/maintenance/potholes.html

SNOW PLOW INFORMATION

The City does not assume liability for damages to obstacles in the road right-of-way (fences, vegetation, irrigation heads, landscaping, etc.). If possible, remove these obstacles from the right-of-way or mark them clearly to aid plow drivers. Mailboxes are repaired or replaced only if the plow makes direct contact (sometimes snow from the plow can dislodge the box from the post or bend a weak post). Make sure your mailbox post is solid and securely fastened to the box.

Often, plow drivers literally "feel" their way along streets because of conditions, and regrettably lawns are cut up. If this happens to you, please report it to City Hall at 763-753-2630 prior to May 1st. Damages are repaired each spring with black dirt and seed.

The City of St. Francis has implemented a policy to assist the snow plow drivers in finding the edge of the pavement. Wooden lathe are distributed to interested residents at City Hall before the first snow plow event. This lathe should be used to mark the edge of the pavement. Pay special attention when staking corners as they are difficult for the snow plow drivers to judge. (Special note: For safety reasons, use only wooden lathe to mark the edge of the pavement, and then only drive them into the ground about 6 inches because of utility lines. The lathe will break off after a couple of plowing operation, but will have served their purpose by helping to establish the curb line. **Please do not use metal fence posts. They will be removed by Public Works personnel due to the safety concerns that they represent.**

Reminder to make sure mailboxes are a MINIMUM 41" above street level, to allow for the plow wing to safely pass underneath.

CITY RECYCLE DAY—OCTOBER 15
Mark your calendar for city recycle day
8 a.m. - Noon
(more information coming in an upcoming newsletter)

RAKE TO SAVE OUR LAKES AND RIVERS

Tree leaves contain phosphorus, the nutrient that turns lakes and rivers green with algae. This fall protect our water by:

- ✓ Raking or sweeping leaves from your street and storm drains.
- ✓ Compost leaves and grass clippings on location or at a community yard waste collection site.
- ✓ Never dispose leaves in wetlands or water.
- ✓ Keep the street clean of other materials that contain phosphorus, such as grass clippings and eroded soil.

Anoka County Compost site location is:

Bunker Hills Compost site

13285 Hanson Blvd.

Coon Rapids, MN 55448



THE ODD/EVEN WATERING BAN IN EFFECT THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30

ODD addresses may water on ODD days.

EVEN addresses may water on EVEN days.

No watering between the hours of 10am—7pm.



WATER MAIN FLUSHING

The City's fire hydrants and water mains are scheduled to be flushed **the last week of September**. Flushing is performed to assure the hydrants are in good working order and to remove any dissolved minerals such as iron and manganese from the City's water mains. To avoid possible staining of white clothes it is recommended that you do not wash laundry during this period of time. If you should have any questions, please call City Hall at 763-753-2630 between the hours of 7:00 am & 5:30 pm Monday through Thursday.



We Need your Help!!

Minnesota State law requires that all septic systems be inspected and/or pumped every three years by a pumper licensed by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. (MPCA) A licensed pumper can be found by consulting a phone book or the MPCA's website at:

www.pca.state.mn.us

The City of St. Francis is required to keep the records of this inspection/pumping on file at City Hall.

**9th ANNUAL CITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE
SEPTEMBER 10**



The St. Francis Area Women of Today will be sponsoring the 9th Annual City-wide Garage Sale on Sept. 10 from 9am—6pm. Registration forms are available at County Market, St. Francis Foods, City Hall and Kids Country Childcare and also online at: www.sfawt.org Registration is only \$15 and includes advertising in local papers, sale signs at major intersections, maps and posters around town. For information contact Dana at 753-5010.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO REMOVE GARAGE SALE SIGNS AFTER THE SALE. THANK YOU (The City)

**OKTOBERFEST “BEER/BRAT”
WALK/RUN SEPTEMBER 17**



The 2nd Oktoberfest 5K “Beer/Brat” Walk/Run is being organized by the St. Francis Lions Club. It will be held on Saturday, September 17. Kids 1 Mile Fun Run—10:00 am
5K Walk/Run—11:00 am

The walk/run will start and finish at the St. Francis Community Park located just off Hwy 47 (under 21, root beer will be served). For questions, contact Mike Starr, Race Chair at 763-300-9110.



**ST. FRANCIS FIRE DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL FRENCH TOAST BREAKFAST
OCTOBER 15**

The St. Francis Fire Department will be sponsoring their annual **FRENCH TOAST BREAKFAST** (free will donations) on Sat. October 15 from 8am-Noon at the St. Francis Fire Department, 3740 Bridge Street (across from Subway). This event is sponsored by the St. Francis & Oak Grove Lions. There will be lots to do! The Red Cross and the Bloodmobile will be there from 8am-1pm. For more Information, contact Kimberly Swenson, Lead Fire Inspector at 763-753-2334.



From the ... St. Francis Bottle Shop

FOOD DRIVE—October is the time of year for the St. Francis Bottle Shops’ annual food drive. The Bottle Shop, located at 23307 St. Francis Blvd. (Hwy 47) will be the local point for non-perishable food donations from October 1-31. With help from Miller/Coors, we work with our local food shelf in efforts to help those in need. Monetary donations will also be accepted. For more information, call John at 763-753-2660.



WINE CLUB—Stop into the Bottle Shop and sign up for the Wine Club. It’s **FREE** and we meet about 5 times per year. Discounts are offered wines tasted that evening. We cater to everyone, wine novices to avid wine drinkers. Inquire today by calling John at 763-753-2660.



CITY TAX RATES

THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOW A COMPARISON OF CITY TAX RATES WITH OTHER ANOKA CITIES.

The table below shows a comparison of our tax rate for taxes payable 2011 with other cities in Anoka County. These figures include City tax levies plus Market Value Referendums, but do not include special levies, such as HRA or EDA.

<u>CITY</u>	<u>TAX RATE PAYABLE 2011</u>
Nowthen	22.172
Ham Lake	25.797
Linwood	30.149
Blaine	32.804
Oak Grove	36.328
Fridley	37.027
Columbus	38.229
Andover	38.805
Coon Rapids	39.231
Ramsey	39.801
Lino Lakes	42.041
Anoka	43.02
East Bethel	43.925
St. Francis	47.139
Circle Pines	51.505
Spring Lake Park	54.49
Lexington	56.161
Centerville	58.654
Bethel	61.544
Columbia Heights	61.82
Hilltop	98.531
Average	45.675

Reminders:

There is a payment drop box available for your water/sewer payments inside the lobby of the Police department at 3740 Bridge St. It is open 24/7. Automatic bank withdraw is also an option for paying your utility bill. City hall does not accept credit or debit cards, but OPUS, the city’s billing vendor, can accept VISA and MASTERCARD. Please contact OPUS at 651-255-0980 or 1-888-262-1018 for any water and sewer billing questions.



What your Monthly Tax \$ Pays for:

Median Home Value in 2011 is \$156,500 would pay about \$645.00/year in City Taxes, or \$54.00 per month. This would mean if you wrote a monthly check, it would be broken down like this:

General Government	\$ 9.78
Public Safety	\$22.17
Streets & Recycling	\$11.03
Parks & Trails	\$ 3.76
Community Development	\$ 1.95
All other services	\$ 5.31

The City’s General Fund Tax Levy over the last 5 years is as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Levy</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
2011	2,852,260.00	0.00%
2010	2,852,260.00	5.22%
2009	2,710,666.00	0.75%
2008	2,690,415.00	12.00%
2007	2,402,157.00	10.84%
5 Year Average		5.76%

website: www.stfrancismn.org
city@stfrancismn.org

ERCWSSPOSTAL PATRON

St. Francis, MN 55070
23340 Cree Street NW



**Fall Newsletter
2011**

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CITY OF ST. FRANCIS WEBSITE: www.stfrancismn.org

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN

Schools Starts Sept. 6

City-Wide Garage Sale Sept. 10

Movie in the Park Sept. 16
"Old Yeller" (at dusk—bring a blanket or chair)

Oktoberfest Sept. 17

City Recycle Day Oct. 15

FD French Toast Breakfast Oct. 15

**THIS IS THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER
OF THE CITY OF ST. FRANCIS**

It is distributed to all residents and businesses in the city. Past copies of the city newsletters are available on the website.

As always, feel free to communicate issues that you would like the City Council to observe.

Comments may be directed to:
city@stfrancismn.org or by calling
city hall at 763-753-2630.

BE INVOLVED AND MAKE YOURSELF HEARD!

Check the City website regularly for updates
at: www.stfrancismn.org

