



# BIRCHWOOD VILLAGE NEWS



City of Birchwood Village, MN

Winter 2017

## CITY OF BIRCHWOOD VILLAGE BUDGET

The purpose of this report is to provide summary 2017 budget information concerning the City of Birchwood Village to interested citizens. The budget is published in accordance with Minnesota Statute Section 471.6965. This budget is not complete; the complete budget may be examined at Birchwood City Hall, 207 Birchwood Avenue, Birchwood Village, Minnesota 55110 during normal business hours.

Revenues:	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Property Taxes	325,339**	326,299
Total Revenues	325,339**	326,299
Expenditures:		
Current:		
General Govt	125,120*	127,820
Public Safety	72,100*	73,250
Streets and Hwys	46,000*	46,000
Sanitation	25,000*	25,000
Culture and Rec	12,900*	15,200*
Miscellaneous	13,294*	7,144
Trans to other funds	30,000	30,000
Total Expenditures	326,299	326,299
Excess (deficiency)	(960)**	0
Property Tax Levy to Fund This Budget	326,299**	326,299

\*These figures were incorrectly published in the previous summary budget statement. These corrections have no effect on the levy totals.

\*\* The City's \$960 bond levy was subtracted rather than added to the 2016 property tax levy. This created a \$960 deficiency for 2016.

### Our thanks to:

- Volunteer staffers: **Trilby White, Marilyn VanPelt, Gene and Shirley Ruehle, Michael Lien, Suzanne Donnell and Mary Wingfield** for stuffing the last newsletter. A good time was had by all.
- Mike Boerjan (aka Borj) for keeping the Cedar Hill well sanded in the winter. Again!

- Amy Johnson, Angie Churchill and Sara Nephew for putting on another great village Christmas party for everyone. Santa's stellar helpers were Kellen Johnson, Kaili Malvey and Eily DeMars.
- Scott Howe for volunteering and dedicating hundreds of hours to manage the warming house. Thanks Scott! And Sadie Korich for coordinating the lovely plaque in honor of Jeff Lutz, long time rink attendant.
- Mark Anderson for his work on the city council and Len Pratt for his participation on the Planning Commission.

### Residents who add a bright light to the community:

The Dwight Dupey (105 Cedar St) and David Erikson (3836 E County Line) families brightened the neighborhood with elaborate Christmas light displays. We enjoyed their work and joy it brought to our neighborhood. Thank you!

Do you know of someone who has gone the extra yard to make our community bright? Let me know and we will recognize them here! Send to [wingfield.mary@gmail.com](mailto:wingfield.mary@gmail.com)

\*If you would like to add your name to future volunteer activities opportunities, contact [mary.wingfield@juno.com](mailto:mary.wingfield@juno.com)

## CITY COUNCIL AND PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCIES

The City Council and Planning Commission each have a vacancy. The Council meets every second Tuesday of the month council. The Planning Commission meets the first Tuesday of the month when a variance has been requested. It also reviews zoning code ordinances at the request of the council. If you would like to be considered for either of these positions, please file a letter of interest including giving us some information about yourself and your experience or desire to be considered for the post. Letters must be sent to the city administrator and received by 4:30 p.m. February 7, 2017.

**COMMON TABLE POTLUCK RETURNS**

This year's edition is Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> and features speaker JB Andersen. JB has spoken at our event before. JB is a retired history teacher and former OLLI faculty member. This time the topic is the 2016 national election and what it portends for the future—kind of our own Almanac gig. Everyone is welcome!

**5:30 PM Social, 6 PM Supper, 7 PM Speaker**

Questions: [Mary.Wingfield@juno.com](mailto:Mary.Wingfield@juno.com) ; 653-1022

**POSTMAN TIM LESSARD OPEN HOUSE EVENT**

Tim has retired from the US Postal Service. He was out local postman for the past thirty years. Many of us knew him and his family as he had grown up in Birchwood and Mahtomedi. Tim was also the Birchwood Parade Grand Marshal a few years ago.

Come visit with Tim and share stories with him January 31, 2017 at 5-7 pm at the village hall. Cake and ice cream provided by the Birchwood Community Club. Questions: [wingfield.mary@gmail.com](mailto:wingfield.mary@gmail.com) or Colleen Jefferson 651-353-1164.

**WASTE BITS:**

Tennis Sanitation Company recently sent out a reminder what is recyclable and what is not. Tennis also came to our city council meeting this fall asking for help in keeping certain items out of the recycling bins. DIAPERS were the number one problem! Please make sure refuse is put in your garbage bin and CLEAN recyclables are put in the recycling bin. Your help is very much appreciated.

**MAYOR'S NOTES:**

Our new council is working though a number of issues. In order to help us be successful, we are scheduling an orientation to help with government procedure as well as a workshop to help us achieve our collective goals. We are very fortunate to have our city administrator Tobin Lay guide us through this process. Tobin is a law school graduate and has an MBA as well. He brings so much knowledge to our city. It is a pleasure to work with him as we navigate the coming years together. Feel free to contact Tobin, the council members or me on any issues you have. We strive to make 2017 a good year for all who enjoy our community. M

**ROAD BITS:**

The Roads Committee continues to meet regularly. Recently, the group heard from some that salt/sand barrels would be much appreciated at certain trouble spots around the village to assist residents with quick access to grit until the plow crew can come by again. If you and your neighbors would like a barrel and would help with tossing sand on the roads when the conditions are difficult, let the city administrator know and we will get on it.

**ICE RINK/WARMING HOUSE BITS:**

Open 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday – Friday  
And 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Saturday – Sunday.  
**\*\*WEATHER PERMITTING!\*\***  
Rink attendant openings! Please contact the city administrator for more information and to apply.

**POTENTIAL SEWER PROJECT AHEAD**

In 2005, 2006 and 2008, the city initiated sewer lining projects to repair our pipes. The projects were paid by special assessments and bonds. Five separate sections were not completed at the time. They include 25 feet in front of city hall, the ends of White Pine Lane, the last portion of Birchwood Courts, and the end of Oakridge Drive and the area around the Jay St/ Birchwood Av junction.

Now the city is faced with the challenge of deciding if it is more efficient to continue to monitor the pipes and hope that none of the pipes needs repair, or spend a significant sum to hire the contractor to come back and finish the project.

The council's decision could result in a special assessment to the neighboring properties which were not assessed previously. It is important to keep everyone apprised of the situation. The council will be discussing the matter at its March 14<sup>th</sup> council meeting and more information will be available at that time.

**NO MOTORIZED VEHICLES IN PARKS**

No motorized vehicles are allowed in the City parks or easements; this includes snowmobiles and ATV's. This means there are no access points to the lake for motorized vehicles within the city. The parks and easements are patrolled 24 hours a day and violators will be prosecuted with fines up to \$300.00. For lake access, please use the established access points in neighboring communities around the lake. Thank you for your cooperation.