



The Medicine Laker

Volume LXX Issue #1

January 2024

From Our Mayor

By Chris Heim, Mayor

Hello neighbors! Due to the busy holiday season, this Laker combines December and January into a single publication. I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year's celebration!

As we enter 2024, I'm reflecting on two pivotal themes: Gratitude and Progress.

Gratitude: I'm brimming with gratitude for our incredible neighbors and external contributors who generously devote their time, skills, and resources to our amazing city. Thank you for volunteering, fostering kindness among neighbors, and supporting our CIP and Jevne projects.

Progress: I'm inspired by our city's major steps forward. In the span of just a few years, we've solidified funding for our \$7.4M capital project, raised \$400K for the Jevne Park project, improved road safety designs, and maintained tax rates well below state averages.

I encourage you to join us at the February 5th Council Meeting. We will be discussing a new Ordinance regarding connecting city water to households (see below), and final concepts for our Jevne Park Project.

Key updates in the city ...

Speed Humps

I appreciate everyone that came to the December council meeting to share your thoughts regarding the potential inclusion of speed humps in our road design. We had a comprehensive discussion with balanced inputs of support and concern. We will continue to gather insights to guide a final decision.

...continued on page 2

From the Mayor... *continued from Page 1*

Property Taxes

I'm pleased to report that our city's 5.6% tax increase in 2024 ranks among the lowest in the state! Cities averaged 6.8% and schools averaged 9.0%. However, most property taxes increased more than this due to the valuations of west-metro residences significantly outpacing the rest of Hennepin County.

Road/Water/Sewer – Ready to begin!

I'm thrilled to announce that VEIT, a highly regarded Midwest company, has been awarded the construction contract for our road/water/sewer project. With all funding secured, construction will begin this spring. We will have city water and be driving on our new road yet this year!

Jevne Park

I'm filled with gratitude to announce that we've raised over \$400K for the Jevne Park project and we've secured the necessary permits to proceed! Construction will start this spring. Also, a heartfelt thanks to Chris Klar for adorning the park with stunning winter lighting features. They truly add a delightful touch!

New City Water Ordinance – Open Forum Discussion

As we install our city's water infrastructure, we must align with Plymouth's city water codes. Also, our financial agreement necessitates 75% of households connect to city water within 10 years. To foster these connections, our forthcoming ordinance will require city water connections when our homeowners do a major remodel/rebuild, split a property, or sell a property. We welcome your questions during the Open Forum segment of the February 5th City Council Meeting. Please join us!

Happy New Year!

Chris Heim
Mayor, The City of Medicine Lake

Medicine Lake Scores the Goal

By Paul Sampson

We did it! We achieved our \$18,500 goal! My heartfelt “Thank you!” to all who generously donated to Medicine Lake Cares! our Medicine Lake Community Club (MLCC) fundraiser for Second Harvest Heartland. I’m grateful and amazed at the generosity of our community. The \$18,500 we raised will be matched by other generous donors so Second Harvest will receive \$37,000. That is enough money to provide 111,000 meals to our hungry neighbors. Thank you to Heidi Heim for keeping the community informed of the fundraiser via Facebook and MLCC emails and to Barry Warner for collecting donations made by check. Thank you and congratulations to Medicine Lake for helping to make this holiday season hunger free and for supporting Second Harvest's mission to End Hunger Together. We needed every single dollar donated to achieve our goal. This was a wonderful community effort.

Happy New Year!

Holes 4 Heroes Tournament Returns

Holes 4 Heroes takes place February 10, 2024 on Medicine Lake in Plymouth, MN. The tournament starts at 1:00 pm, but pregame festivities on the ice begin at 11:30 am. These include a cadet swearing in, posting of the colors, National Anthem, food for purchase, kids’ games, and more.

Veterans receive one free ticket,. Non-veterans pay \$20/Hole. Register online or at the door.



Got Laker News?

Submit to news@cityofmedicinelake.com
by the **15th of the month** to make the next issue!



2024 Presidential Nomination Primary

By Josh Hauble

A **Presidential Nomination Primary (the “PNP”)** will be held on March 5, 2024. The hours of voting on election day will be from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm at the designated polling place, Medicine Lake Town Hall, 10609 South Shore Drive, Medicine Lake, Minnesota.

A declaration of a voter’s party preference is required to participate in the PNP and that voter may only vote that party’s ballot in the PNP. The voter’s party preference data will only be shared with election officials and major party chairs, otherwise that data is private. After the PNP, the party preference data becomes part of that voter’s Vote History in the State Voter Registration System.

Further information regarding the Presidential Nomination Primary can be found on the Minnesota Secretary of State’s website, www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/how-elections-work/presidential-primary.

...continued on page 5



2024 Presidential Nomination Primary

Continued from Page 4

Early/Absentee Voting in the PNP. Medicine Lake's absentee voting, whether in-person or by mail, is coordinated by Hennepin County. You can find information about voting early in-person or by mail, including when and how to request a ballot, at www.hennepin.us/residents/elections/absentee-voting. That website includes answers to frequently asked questions, important deadlines, options to return your absentee ballot, voting early in person, and a link to track the status of your mail-in ballot to confirm that it was received and counted.

If you have questions about absentee voting or voting early in-person you can contact the Hennepin County elections office directly at 612-348-5151 or by e-mail at hc.vote@hennepin.us.

Medicine Lake voters choosing to vote early in-person do so at the **Hennepin County Government Center**, 300 South 6th St, Minneapolis – Skyway Level.

The dates and times for in-person absentee voting at the Hennepin County Government Center are:

January 19 – February 26: 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Monday – Friday)

February 19: Closed (Presidents' Day)

February 26 – March 1: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

March 2: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

March 4: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

We need election judges to help run the Presidential Nomination Primary. If you are interested in serving as an election judge, for even as little as one hour on election day, please contact Josh Hauble at 651-283-1756 or by e-mail at jhauble@cityofmedicinelake.com.

Medicine Lake Ski Club Gears Up for New Season

By Kirstin Nielsen

Winter weather has been a bit slow to arrive, but the Medicine Lake Ski Club is looking forward to the upcoming ski season!

Is there a rock, buoy, dock post or anything else sticking out of the ice in front of your home that could damage grooming equipment? Please consider marking it so our groomers can avoid it when grooming the ski trail. Anything tall or reflective – such as a reflective driveway marker or a post with reflective tape – should be visible. Thank you for your help in keeping our equipment and our groomers safe!

The club depends on the community's generous financial support to help pay for gas, sled and groomer maintenance, and events. Please consider becoming a Friend of the Medicine Lake Ski Club. All who support and appreciate the trail are encouraged to participate. A suggested contribution of \$75 per family/\$40 per individual, or another amount of your choosing makes you a friend of the MLSC!

Contributions can be made via Venmo to Medicine Lake Ski Club, via Zelle to medicinelakeskiclub@gmail.com, or by check made out to Medicine Lake Ski Club and mailed to Justin Kirven, 216 Peninsula Road, Medicine Lake, MN 55441. The MLSC is a non-profit under IRS section 501(c)(3) and donations are tax deductible.

Here's to great snow and happy skiing!

***Save the Date—February 9 & 10
Medicine Lake 2nd Annual Winter Festival***

Due to unpredictable weather and ice conditions all winter festival activities will be communicated via MLCC email and City of Medicine Lake Facebook Page. Despite the crazy weather we hope to still hold fantastic and fun community activities.

City Council Votes

By Therese Polum, City Clerk

December 4, 2023 Council Votes

The following motions were passed with Mayor Heim, Councilmembers McNaughton, Shaffer, Hovey, Tomczik in favor.

- Agenda
- November 6, 2023 City Council Meeting minutes
- Resolution 23-32 approving construction services contract with SEH in the amount of \$483,896
- Resolution 23-33 approving expenditure for ash tree notification letters
- Resolution 23-34 accepting a monetary gift of \$11,080.26 from attached list to benefit the parks department for Jevne Park
- Resolution 23-35 adopting final tax levy for taxes payable in 2024, total levy amount \$631,054
- Adjourn



Building the Future Together

From left to right: Therese Polum, Gary Englert, Shannon Sweeney, Chris Klar, Ginny Klevorn, Kirstin Nielsen, Chris Heim, Bill McNaughton, David Hutton, Connie Shaffer, Ruth Hovey, Travis Carter, and Sam Straate

City Council Votes



By Therese Polum, City Clerk

January 8, 2024 Council Votes

The following motions were passed with Mayor Heim, Councilmembers McNaughton, Shaffer, Hovey in favor. Tomczik absent.

- Agenda
- December 4, 2024 City Council Meeting minutes
- Resolution 24-01 providing for the issuance, sale, and delivery of \$2,940,000 general obligation bonds, series 2024A, and awarding the sale thereof
- Resolution 24-02 awarding contract to the City of Medicine Lake for the street and utility improvements project
- Resolution 24-03 accepting a monetary gift of \$100,000 from Travis Carter to benefit the parks department for Jevne Park
- Resolution 24-04 appointing Clint Carlson as commissioner, Shaun Kennedy as board alternate, and Susan Wiese as technical advisory committee member
- Resolution 24-05 accepting a monetary gift of \$300 from various donors to benefit the parks department for Jevne Park
- Resolution 24-06 authorizing publication of Ordinance 141 by title and summary
- Resolution 24-07 appointing election judges for the March 5, 2024 presidential nomination primary
- Adjourn

Mark Your Calendar!



Event	Time and Day
City Council	6 pm, Monday, February 5
Medicine Lake Fire Department	7 pm, Tuesday, February 6 7 pm, Tuesday, February 20
Planning Commission	6 pm, Thursday, February 15