



The Medicine Laker

Volume LXX Issue #9

September 2024

From Our Mayor

By Chris Heim, Mayor

Hello Neighbors!

As the cool morning air settles in, with fog drifting across the lake, and the trees starting to reveal their vibrant display, we bid farewell to a wonderful summer and welcome the fall season. With our road construction at its peak of activity, the changing of seasons is also an exciting transformation to our city, as we look forward to the completion of our new road—hopefully just in time for Halloween. This fall also brings the November elections, where we exercise our cherished freedom by voting for our city, state, and federal leaders. It's a time to reflect with gratitude on the many blessings we share.

Key Updates

We Have Fire Hydrants! I'm excited to announce that our first fire hydrants are now fully operational, and household hookups are about to begin! This marks a significant milestone, enhancing our city's fire protection and providing households with access to city water. The fire department will begin training with the new hydrants once the road installation is complete, and household water connections will follow in the coming weeks. If you've found a reliable plumber to do your city water connection, please share their information on the city's Facebook page to assist others. Additionally, once city water is officially available for household hookup—estimated around September 30th—the new ordinance will take effect, which requires connection upon property transfers, major remodels, or lot splits, and prohibits the digging of new wells.

2025 Preliminary Budget is Set: We have finalized the preliminary budget at \$662,284, a 5.0% increase from 2024. Despite rising costs from inflation, debt payments, and compensation for the city's leadership positions, we are proud that our annual increases remain among the lowest in the state and our neighboring cities. For reference, our budget grew by 5.8% in 2023, 5.3% in 2024, and now 5.0% in 2025. Considering the financial uncertainties we faced a few years ago with \$9M in road, sewer, and water capital projects, the fact that we've kept taxes low and implemented \$0 in assessments is an incredible achievement. Our city is now equipped with a solid financial foundation, which fortifies our forward-focused operations.

Election Clerk – Open Position: Please join me in thanking Josh Hauble for his years of service as our Election Clerk. Josh is ready to pass this important role to a new person by the end of the year.

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ELECTION NEWS!

The general election will be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024. Our **polling place for in-person voting on election day is Medicine Lake City Hall**. You can check your voter registration status or register to vote online via Minnesota's Secretary of State website at www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting.

Vote Early by Mail/Absentee Voting. 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/en/residents/elections/absentee-early-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.

New this year, voters may now sign up to be on the **permanent absentee voting list**. Voters on this list can sign up once to be automatically sent an absentee ballot before every election. All eligible voters can choose to join the permanent absentee voter list by checking the box on the interactive voter registration application. The online and paper application can be found at mnvotes.gov/register.

Vote Early In Person. You can vote early in person for the general election at the Hennepin County Government Center (skyway level), 300 South 6th St., Minneapolis, MN 55487, during the following dates and times:

September 20 – October 25: 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Monday – Friday)

October 26: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. (Saturday)

October 28: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. (Monday)

October 29: 8 a.m. – 7 p.m. (Tuesday)

October 30 – November 1: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. (Wednesday – Friday)

November 2: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. (Saturday)

November 3: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. (Sunday)

November 4: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. (Monday)

There are other methods of voting early. Information about those other options can be found at www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote.

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's website now has a page for posting upcoming election information. Be sure to check www.cityofmedicinelake.com/elections for important upcoming election information. Election notices and information will also be posted in the display cabinet outside the front door of City Hall by the mailboxes.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our city election clerk, Josh Hauble, at 651-283-1756 or by e-mail at jhauble@cityofmedicinelake.com.

From the Mayor - continued from page 1

Election Clerk — Open Position cont: The Election Clerk plays a vital role in overseeing the election process, and without someone stepping into this position, we risk losing the ability to administer our own elections. Ideally, the new clerk will sign up now to have the opportunity to shadow Josh during the November election and ensure a smooth transition. We need your help—this is a key time for someone to step up. Please consider serving in this critical role for our city. If interested, contact Josh at jhauble@cityofmedicinelake.com

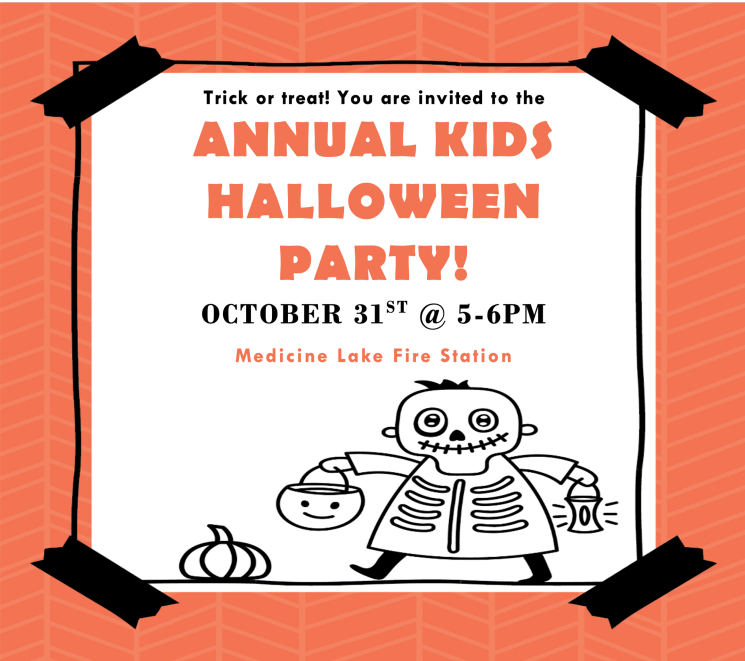
Enjoy the transition in seasons and improvements in our city’s infrastructure!

2024 GENERAL ELECTION NOTICES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a general election will be conducted on November 5, 2024. The hours of voting at the designated polling place, Medicine Lake Town Hall, 10609 South Shore Drive, Medicine Lake, Minnesota, will be from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. See the sample portion of the November ballot containing the Medicine Lake city offices:

A public test of the voting systems used in the general election will be held on **Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at 5:30 pm** at Medicine Lake Town Hall.

City Offices
Mayor City of Medicine Lake Vote for One
<input type="radio"/> Chris Heim
<input type="radio"/>
write-in, if any
Council Member City of Medicine Lake Vote for One
<input type="radio"/> Ruth Hovey
<input type="radio"/>
write-in, if any
Special Election for Council Member City of Medicine Lake To fill vacancy in term expiring January 4, 2027 Vote for One
<input type="radio"/> Nina Zelazny
<input type="radio"/>
write-in, if any
Special Election for Council Member City of Medicine Lake To fill vacancy in term expiring January 8, 2029 Vote for One
<input type="radio"/> William McNaughton
<input type="radio"/>
write-in, if any



Grateful thanks to our Medicine Lake friends and neighbors for the beautiful orchids delivered to us recently in memory of our mother, LeWonne Larson, who passed away recently at the age of 97. Hers was a life well-lived, and we are grateful for the time we had with her.

Linda Berger and Janet Larson

City Council Votes



By *Therese Polum, City Clerk*

September 9, 2024 Council Votes

The following motions were approved with Mayor Heim, Councilmembers McNaughton, Hovey, Tomczik and Jones in favor.

- Agenda
- August 5, 2024 City Council Meeting minutes.
- Approval of Veit pay application No 5
- Approval city does not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability
- Rejection of Bulk Water City Connectoin Program bids
- Approval of 2025 preliminary budget
- Resolution 24-39 adopting the 2025 preliminary tax levy
- Resolution 24-40 appointing election judges for the Nov. 5 election
- Summary spending, receipts and cash balances through August 31, 2024.
- Adjourn

Got Laker News?

Send to: news@cityofmedicinelake.com

Submit by the **15th of the month** to make the next issue!



The Medicine Laker will be going digital at the end of 2024.

Don't Forget to Subscribe: cityofmedicinelake.com



Mark Your Calendar!

MEETING	DATE & TIME
City Council	6pm, Monday, October 7
Medicine Lake Fire Department	7pm, Tuesday, October 1 7pm, Tuesday, October 15
Planning Commission	6pm, Thursday, October 17