



REFLECTIONS

JANUARY | FEBRUARY | MARCH

2025

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 1

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City Hall Notes

Final 2025 City of Milaca Budget

As voted upon at the December 18, 2024 Milaca City Council meeting, the 2025 Budget is approved.

CITY OF MILACA 2025 FINAL BUDGET

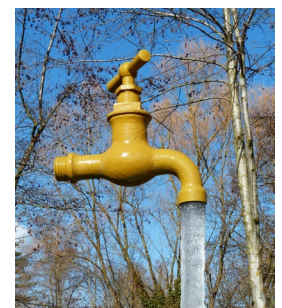
SUMMARY ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Debt Service Funds	Enterprise Funds	Custodial Funds Deputy Registrar	Total 2025 Budget	Total 2024 Budget
REVENUES							
Taxes	\$ 706,070.00		302,244.00			\$ 1,008,314.00	975,179.00
Tax Increment			42,000.00			\$ 42,000.00	42,000.00
Taxes Other	7,900.00	27,000.00				\$ 34,900.00	48,050.00
Franchise Taxes	\$ 8,825.00					\$ 8,825.00	8,825.00
Special Assessments	\$ 3,275.00					\$ 3,275.00	7,300.00
Licenses, Permits and Fees	\$ 68,800.00					\$ 68,800.00	62,450.00
Intergovernmental	\$ 1,286,863.00					\$ 1,286,863.00	1,526,751.00
Charges for Services	\$ 263,662.00			1,055,492.00		\$ 1,319,154.00	1,166,871.00
Fines	\$ 16,010.00					\$ 16,010.00	15,900.00
Interest Income	105,125.00	8,175.00		42,000.00	185.00	\$ 155,485.00	131,805.00
Contributions/Donations		101,000.00				\$ 101,000.00	100,000.00
Miscellaneous	241,000.00			74,850.00	2,000.00	\$ 317,850.00	91,500.00
Sales	45,000.00			3,391,511.00	271,650.00	\$ 3,708,161.00	4,470,775.00
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 2,752,530.00	\$ 136,175.00	\$ 344,244.00	\$ 4,563,853.00	\$ 273,835.00	\$ 8,070,637.00	\$ 8,647,406.00
TOTAL TRANSFERS IN	\$ 408,000.00	\$ 11,500.00	\$ 31,316.00			\$ 450,816.00	450,816.00
GRAND TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 3,160,530.00	\$ 147,675.00	\$ 375,560.00	\$ 4,563,853.00	\$ 273,835.00	\$ 8,521,453.00	\$ 9,098,222.00
EXPENDITURES							
General Government	740,009.00					\$ 740,009.00	613,686.00
Public Safety	1,230,152.00					\$ 1,230,152.00	1,108,032.00
Public Works	639,843.00					\$ 639,843.00	356,759.00
Parks and Recreation	178,793.00					\$ 178,793.00	187,763.00
Library	27,200.00					\$ 27,200.00	26,950.00
Airport	130,555.00					\$ 130,555.00	92,879.00
Capital Outlay	169,662.00			516,878.00		\$ 686,540.00	2,001,495.00
Debt Principal/Lease			215,252.00	244,000.00		\$ 459,252.00	461,104.00
Debt Interest & Other Charges			97,566.00	12,440.00		\$ 110,006.00	71,082.00
Miscellaneous			2,650.00			\$ 2,650.00	37,156.00
Operating Expenses		37,675.00	40,000.00	4,133,847.00	273,835.00	\$ 4,485,357.00	4,318,412.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,116,214.00	37,675.00	355,468.00	4,907,165.00	273,835.00	\$ 8,690,357.00	\$ 9,275,318.00
TOTAL TRANSFERS OUT	31,316.00	119,500.00		300,000.00		450,816.00	450,816.00
GRAND TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 3,147,530.00	\$ 157,175.00	\$ 355,468.00	\$ 5,207,165.00	\$ 273,835.00	\$ 9,141,173.00	\$ 9,726,134.00
EXCESS (DEFICIT)	13,000.00	(9,500.00)	20,092.00	(643,312.00)	-	(619,720.00)	(627,912.00)

UTILITY BILLING UPDATES

Water & Sewer Rates Increase

The Milaca City Council passed an increase to water rates. The base increased \$4.03 and the rate increased \$1.63 per 1,000 gallons of water. The sewer base rate will increase \$3.09; actual usage will increase to \$3.79. These increases will take effect on the February statements.



Auto Pay Sign-Up

No more late fees and no more credit card surcharge fees. Find the form at our website <https://www.cityofmilaca.org/water-utilities> or come into City Hall.

Utility Bill Email

If you would like to start receiving your water/sewer utility bill via email, please sign up via the link at <https://www.cityofmilaca.org/water-utilities>. Emailed bills will be received prior to the end of the month. Remember that only property owners receive utility bills.

POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Mini Truck / UTV / Golf Cart Permits

To operate a mini truck, UTV, or Golf Cart within city limits, you will need a Police Department issued permit. These permits are good for three years, and have a fee of \$50. Permits are purchased at the Milaca Police Department, located inside City Hall; the application can be downloaded at <https://www.cityofmilaca.org/police-department>. Call (320) 983-6166 with any questions.



Winter Parking

Please remember that winter parking rules are in effect until April 1st, regardless of the snow cover. These rules prohibit on-street parking on any city street November through April 1st from 1:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. and/or during a snow event. A snow event occurs when snowfall is two inches or more and ends when the roads have been cleared to full width.

Liquor Store Notes

Vicki Jeys, Manager —
(320) 983-6255

Discount Days

Military Monday: 7% Off

Tuesday Discount Day: Shake Your Discount!

Senior Wednesday: 7% Off

Toking Thursday: 20% Off All THC Items



Parks & Public Works Notes

WINTER PARKING AND SNOW REMOVAL REMINDERS

- Do NOT blow, shovel or push snow from your driveway into the street. It is illegal and the City will be issuing code enforcement violations on residents who violate this law (Minnesota Statute 160.2715).
- When shoveling your driveway apron, shovel the snow to the right of your driveway. If you are looking at the street, it will reduce the amount of snow in your driveway when the plow comes by.
- Do NOT park your vehicle in the street. (No parking is allowed on any city street November through April 1st from 1:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. and/or during a snow event. A snow event occurs when snowfall is two inches or more and ends when the roads have been cleared to full width.)
- Please help keep fire hydrants clear next to your home.
- Do not place your garbage cans in the street. Ensure they have a spot at the edge of your driveway.
- Keep the area around and behind your mailbox clear of snow. It allows room for more snow without it piling up.

PARKS

- Cross country ski, fat bike, and snowshoe trails will be groomed as soon as snow conditions allow thanks to volunteers. Keep an eye on the Milaca Trails Initiative Facebook page for trail conditions.
- The freeskate and hockey rink are open. The parks crew will continue making ice as weather conditions improve. The warming house schedule will be posted weekly on the City of Milaca Facebook (facebook.com/cityofmilacamn) and on the website (cityofmilaca.org/ice-rink). The warming house is closed if the temperature is below 0 degrees.



Deputy Registrar Notes

Amy Cain, Deputy Registrar — (320) 983-3143

The Deputy Registrar is open to the public Monday through Thursday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm, and 7:30 am – 12:00 pm on Fridays. If you have a transaction that is going to take longer, please try to be here at least 15 minutes before we close. Initial or change of address for Real or Enhanced Driver's licenses will not be processed after 3:30 pm Monday – Thursday and after 11:00 am on Fridays. The knowledge test is offered here on a computer in the office. It can get a bit noisy here, so if you need to bring ear plugs, they are allowed. The test is by appointment only and the fee is \$10.

Knowledge test appointments can be made on our website cityofmilaca.org/registrar. We try very hard to help everyone, so please be patient with us!

New changes to DNR are coming hopefully in March!! We may be able to start doing fishing and hunting licenses, so that will be a new change, as well as a brand new DNR system! We will put notices up once those changes happen to inform everyone.

State offers road test appointments on Thursdays. Appointments can only be made online at drive.mn.gov or if you need assistance, you can call the state at (651) 284-1234. Be aware that appointments are limited, so it may say no availability. We have been told that midnight is the best time to try.

Any questions about the road tests need to be answered by state, as we have nothing to do with them.

If you need a question answered right away, please email us at depreg@milacacity.com and we can answer your questions. If you need anything looked up that is not public information, you do have to come into the office due to data privacy. We also welcome everyone to utilize the drop box for tab renewals, DNR transactions, and even title transfers if completed! We check the box every day and do the work in between customers. Please fill out the provided form to go with the paperwork dropped off.

We appreciate all of our customers, so thank you for trusting us to serve you! Stay safe on those snowy roads!

— Amy, Audra, Julie, and Myla



Minnesota Driver and Vehicle Services



Fire Department Notes

Chris Ehlen & Jesse Gerads, Fire Chiefs — (320) 983-3465

WINTER HOME SAFETY TIPS

Heating

The high cost of heating fuels and utilities have caused many Americans to search for alternative methods of home heating. Wood burning stoves are growing in popularity and space heaters are selling rapidly, or coming out of storage. Fireplaces are burning wood and man-made logs. All these methods of heating may be acceptable but without caution, they're a major contributing factor in residential fires.

Cooking

Families and guests tend to gather in the kitchen, but it can be the most hazardous room in the house if you don't practice safe cooking behavior. Careless use of cooking equipment, usually a range or stovetop, is the leading cause of home fires and home-fire injuries in the United States. ALWAYS have someone watching the stove!

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Carbon Monoxide (CO) poisoning can happen at any time of the year, but the danger is greater during the winter when doors and windows stay closed and fireplaces, gas heaters, or other fuel burning appliances are in use. In addition, people can also be exposed to deadly CO levels when "warming up" their cars in garages or keeping them running when stuck in snow.

Keep your alarms ready!

- Carbon monoxide alarms should be installed within 10 feet of each sleeping room or inside each sleeping room.
- Test CO alarms monthly.
- If a CO alarm sounds and you feel ill, call 911 immediately. If you feel fine, open windows and doors and call your utility company.
- Clear snow and debris from furnace, dryer, fireplace or oven vents around your home to prevent a CO buildup.

Radon

Radon is a colorless and odorless gas that comes from the soil. The gas can accumulate in the home. Radon gas decays into fine particles that are radioactive. When inhaled, these fine particles can damage the lungs. Exposure to radon over a long period of time can lead to lung cancer.

It is estimated that 21,000 people die each year in the United States from lung cancer due to radon exposure. A radon test is the only way to know how much radon is in your home. Radon can be reduced with a mitigation system.

[Click to learn more on how to protect your home from Radon.](#)

Mold

Several factors lead to increased concerns about mold during the winter months. Moisture conditions indoors can lead to the growth of molds and mildews. While forced air heating systems make indoor air drier overall during the winter months, certain areas of the home may experience intensified levels of humidity because of a lack of ventilation.



Milaca Chamber of Commerce Notes

milacachamber.com — (320) 983-3140

SUPPORTING MILACA, PEASE, BOCK, AND FORESTON

Follow the Milaca Area Chamber of Commerce on social media to stay up-to-date on their activities. Their Facebook page can be found at facebook.com/MilacaAreaChamberOfCommerce and their Instagram page at instagram.com/milacaareachamberofcommerce/. The latest Chamber event information can also be found on their website at milacachamber.com/events. If you would like to host one of their events for the year and showcase your business, please contact the Chamber to learn more about this excellent promotional opportunity. Volunteers are welcome to get in touch with them to support and promote their community events.



Milaca Area Chamber of Commerce
Helping the Milaca Area Grow and Prosper all Seasons

CITY CALENDAR*

**Please remember this schedule is subject to change or cancellation.*

February 17, 2025

City Offices Closed – President’s Day

February 20, 2025

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.*

March 20, 2025

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.*

**All Open City Council Meetings are live streamed on our Facebook page. Please note the time has changed from 6:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.*

Save The Date

City-Wide Garage Sale – 05/10/2025

Rhythm on the Rum Parade – 06/24/2025 *Tuesday following Juneteenth Holiday

Music in the Park – 06/26/2025, 07/10/2025, 07/17/2025

RecFest – 07/24/2025 – 07/27/2025

Need to let your out-of-town friends & family know what’s going on in Milaca?

DiscoverMilaca.com

MILACA AREA
TOURISM BUREAU



DiscoverMilaca.com has all the info on local events, dining, drinking, and shopping!

ADMINISTRATION ☐ (320)983-3141

City Manager Tammy Pfaff tpfaff@milacacity.com
 City Treasurer Elizabeth Nealley treasurer@milacacity.com
 Assistant City Clerk / Accounts Payable
 Deloris Katke dkatke@milacacity.com
 Administrative Communications Specialist
 Mary Mickelson mmickelson@milacacity.com
 Utility Billing / Front Desk Clerk
 Mary Beth Niedzielski mniedzielski@milacacity.com

DEPUTY REGISTRAR ☐ (320)983-3143

Motor Vehicle Supervisor Amy Cain depreg@milacacity.com
 Audra Wiener
 Julie David
 Myla Tolmie

MILACA OFF SALE ☐ (320)983-6255

Manager Vicki Jeys liquor@frontiernet.net

POLICE DEPARTMENT ☐ (320)983-6166

Chief Quinn Rasmussen qrasmussen@milacacity.com
 Officer Jeff Shaw jshaw@milacacity.com
 Officer Jake Isaacson jisaacson@milacacity.com
 Officer Henry Harris hharris@milacacity.com
 Officer Andrew Sammis asammis@milacacity.com
 Officer Michael Barros mbarros@milacacity.com
 Office Administration Holly Runyon-Martinson hmartinson@milacacity.com

PUBLIC WORKS & PARKS ☐ (320)983-6547

Public Works Supervisor Gary Kirkeby gkirkeby@milacacity.com

John Oldenburg
 Warne Johnson
 Troy Roelofs
 Zach Pelarski

CITY COUNCIL DIRECTORY

Mayor Dave Dillan	(320) 761-1301
Councilmember Norris Johnson	(320) 983-6837
Councilmember Lindsee Larsen	(763) 234-6934
Councilmember Ken Muller	(320) 630-5064
Councilmember Tim Poorker	(320) 309-6483



Reflections is produced every three months.

If you would like to be added to the distribution list for a pdf version of **Reflections**, email mmickelson@milacacity.com with your request.

You may also go to our website to view the newsletter:

www.cityofmilaca.org/newsletter

Next issue will be available in April 2025.

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