



REFLECTIONS

OCTOBER | NOVEMBER |
DECEMBER 2024
VOLUME 20, ISSUE 3

**Coming Soon!
Emailed Utility Bills!**
Based on your feedback, we will be offering this
service. Stay tuned for details!

City Hall Notes

Tammy Pfaff, City Manager — (320) 983-3141

Empowering Small Minnesota Communities Program

The City of Milaca is excited to announce that we were chosen to participate in the Empowering Small Minnesota Communities Program through the University of Minnesota.

The Empowering Small Minnesota Communities (ESMC) program is a community-centered collaboration with the University of Minnesota to support small communities in becoming well-positioned to benefit from federal, state, and local investments. This is done by working together to creatively leverage community assets and ideas and strengthening projects and plans for resilient physical, social, and economic infrastructure. The goal is to lay the groundwork for competitive proposals that could be eligible for a wide range of funding opportunities. The first step has been collecting data from citizens through community events. We held an open house on August 30th and had a booth at the Homecoming Block Party. The information gathered will help with planning as we move forward with proposals and projects that will benefit Milaca. More information will be coming as the ESMC projects moves forward.



Voter Registration

Remember that you can register to vote by October 15, 2024 to save time on Election Day.

Who Can Vote In Minnesota

To vote you must be:

- A U.S. citizen
- At least 18 years old on Election Day (16 & 17 year olds can pre-register)
- A resident of Minnesota for 20 days
- Not currently incarcerated for a felony conviction
- Not under a court order that revokes your right to vote

The polling place for City of Milaca residents is Milaca City Hall, 255 1st Street East, Milaca. Polling hours are 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

Minnesota voting laws and information can be found on the Minnesota Secretary of State's website: <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/>



New Retail Area

In addition to Milaca Meats and the EV Charging stations, there is more opportunity for businesses to grow in Milaca! The land south of Milaca Off Sale is now zoned for retail development and will soon be available for sale. Interested parties can contact City Manager Tammy Pfaff at (320) 983-3141 or tpfaff@milacacity.com.



**MILACA JUNCTION
ADDITION**

**Build Your
Business
Here!**

SOON

RETAIL LOTS FOR SALE

CITY OF
MILACA

(320) 983-3141
TPFAFF@
MILACACITY.COM

Police Department Notes

Quinn Rasmussen, Chief of Police — (320) 983-6166

Winter Parking

November 1st marks the beginning of winter parking restrictions, ending April 1st. Per ordinance:

§ 71.36 PARKING RESTRICTIONS.

- (A) In order to facilitate snow removal from the public streets of the city from November 1 through April 1 of each year, no vehicle shall be parked upon any public street in the city between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.

Please note that failure to abide by this ordinance can result in fines. Overnight parking infraction fees include:

- City Administrative Citations \$15
- MN State Citations \$100
- Impound Fees \$200+



Liquor Store Notes

Vicki Jeys, Manager — (320) 983-6255

OktoberFiesta & Holidays

Come see us at Stones Throw Golf Course for the Rum River Community Foundation OktoberFiesta Fundraiser! Plan for a fun evening while enjoy responsibly unlimited samples from: Brookview Winery, Sunken Ship Brewing Company, Iron Street distillery, Yellow Belly, Indian Island, Maverick Wines, Bent Brewstillery, Lupulin, Stilly, Obink, & Milaca Liquor! Gift Certificates are available for all your gift needs including Christmas! There's also a fine selection of wine and liqueurs for any holiday party or hostess gift.

2024 Holiday Hours



Thursday, November 28, 2024 — Thanksgiving

Closed

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 — Christmas Eve

8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Wednesday, December 25, 2024 — Christmas Day

Closed

Tuesday, December 31, 2024 — New Year's Eve

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 1, 2025 — New Year's Day

Closed

A COMMUNITY EVENT & FUNDRAISER FOR THE RUM RIVER COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

OKTOBERFIESTA

18 OCTOBER 2024 | **5-9** O'CLOCK
STONES THROW
MILACA MN
\$20 BEFORE OR \$25 AT THE DOOR

BUY TICKETS NOW!

Rum River Community Foundation

A Partner Fund of the Initiative Foundation. As a 501c3 nonprofit organization, your Initiative Foundation contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Parks & Public Works Notes

PUBLIC WORKS

City Of Milaca Annual Hydrant Flushing October 2024

The City of Milaca’s annual flushing of fire hydrants removes minerals and sediment that build up over time and ensures that all fire hydrants are in good working order.

Please be advised that you may experience a temporary drop in water pressure as well as some discoloration of water during flushing. This can be cleared up by running cold water for several minutes. Water is safe to use during this time, but residents should refrain from doing laundry when water is discolored.

City Ordinances – Fall & Winter

As the end of the year approaches, it’s time for your annual reminder of street and sidewalk safety. No overnight parking begins November 1st, raking/blowing of leaves into the street is prohibited, and snow removal from the sidewalks on your property is required.

§ 71.36 PARKING RESTRICTIONS.

- (A) In order to facilitate snow removal from the public streets of the city from November 1 through April 1 of each year, no vehicle shall be parked upon any public street in the city between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.



§ 94.18 PUBLIC NUISANCES AFFECTING PEACE AND SAFETY.

The following are declared to be nuisances affecting public peace and safety:

- (A) All snow and ice not removed from public sidewalks 24 hours after the snow or other precipitation causing the condition has ceased to fall;
 - (R) Obstruction to the free flow of water in a natural waterway or a public street drain, gutter, or ditch with trash or other materials;
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Deputy Registrar Notes



Minnesota Driver and Vehicle Services

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 Fridays 7:30 am – 12 pm. If you have a transaction that is going to take longer, 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 M-Thursdays and after 11 am on Fridays. The knowledge test is offered here on a computer in the office. It can get a bit noisy in 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!

The state offers road test appointments on Thursdays. Appointments can only be made online at <http://www.drive.mn.gov> or if you need assistance you can call State at [\(651\) 284-1234](tel:6512841234). Be aware that appointments are limited, so it may say no availability. 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 in to 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 appreciate all of our customers, so thank you for trusting us to serve you! Have a wonderful fall and upcoming holiday season!



— **Amy, Audra, Julie, and Myla**

*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!*

Fire Department Notes

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

FALL & HOLIDAY FIRE RISKS



Trick-or-Treat Tips



Space Heater Safety Tips

Follow these portable heater tips to help prevent winter fires and to stay safe this winter season.

Place space heaters on a solid, flat surface. Keep them at least three feet from things that can burn.



Check your space heater for cracked or damaged cords and plugs. Plug space heaters directly into wall outlets, don't use an extension cord or power strip.



Christmas Tree Safety

Decorating homes and businesses is a long-standing tradition around the holiday season. Unfortunately, these same decorations may increase your community's chances of a fire.

- Consider using battery-operated flameless candles, which can look, smell and feel like real candles.
- Inspect holiday lights each year before you put them up. Throw away light strands with frayed or pinched wires.
- Read manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands to connect.
- Water your Christmas tree every day. A dry Christmas tree can burn very hot and very fast.
- Make sure your tree is at least 3 feet away from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, candles or heat vents. Also, make sure your tree does not block exits.
- Get rid of your tree after Christmas or when it is dry.



Milaca Fire & Rescue Annual Open House

Saturday, October 12, 2024

11 AM - 2 PM

1005 Central Avenue N

- Meet the Firefighters!
- Jaws of Life Demo!
- Pumpkins, Bounce House, and Bike Giveaway!
- Burgers and Hot Dogs from Backroads Meats!

Food and pumpkins while supplies last



EVENTS CALENDAR

*Please remember this schedule is subject to change or cancellation. *All Open City Council Meetings are live streamed on our Facebook page*

October 2024

City Council Meeting*

Thursday, October 17, 2024 at 6:30 PM

Daytime Trick or Treat

Thursday, October 31, 2024 at 1:00 – 4:00 PM

November 2024

City Offices Closed - Veterans Day

Monday, November 11, 2024

City Council Meeting*

Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 6:30 PM

City Offices Close Early - Thanksgiving

Wednesday, November 27, 2024 at 1:30 PM

City Offices Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday

Thursday & Friday, November 28 – 29, 2024

Community Tree Lighting

Friday, November 29, 2024 at 5:00 PM

MAC the Halls

Friday, November 29, 2024 at 4:00 PM

December 2024

City Council Meeting*

Wednesday, December 18, 2024 at 6:30 PM

City Offices Close Early – Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 at 12:00 PM

City Offices Closed - Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25, 2024



ADMINISTRATION ☐ (320) 983-3141

City Manager Tammy Pfaff tpfaff@milacacity.com
Elizabeth Nealley, City Treasurer treasurer@milacacity.com
Assistant City Clerk / Accounts Payable
Deloris Katke dkatke@milacacity.com
Administrative Communications Specialist
Mary Mickelson (320) 982-1099 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 Mike Barros mbarros@milacacity.com
Officer Henry Harris hharris@milacacity.com
Officer Andrew Sammis asammis@milacacity.com
Records Technician 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) 983-3204 |
| Councilmember Norris Johnson | (320) 983-6837 |
| Councilmember Lindsee Larsen | (320) 982-1088 |
| Councilmember Ken Muller | (320) 630-5064 |
| Councilmember Laurie Gahm | (320) 982-2347 |



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 January 2025.

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MILACA MN 56353

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(320) 983-3142 FAX

cityofmilaca.org



YouTube

LinkedIn