

COUNCIL'S CORNER



October 19, 2020: City Council Actions & Updates

To view the entire City Council Packet, visit our website [here](#).

Construction Updates:

Final Payments for 2020 Projects:

- **Crack Fill Project:** This project included crack filling and sealing along Game Farm Rd E, Game Farm Rd N, Squire Ln, and Chateau way. The project has been completed and City Council approved a final payment in the amount of \$22,574.
- **Overlay Project:** This project included pavement overlay on Sterling Drive, Game Farm Rd, and Retreat Circle. The project has been completed, and City Council approved a final payment in the amount of \$138,972.24.

2021 Street Improvement Project Update: At the September 21st Council meeting, the Council authorized a services agreement, feasibility report, and preliminary design for improvements on Hardscrabble Circle, Hardscrabble Dr N, Loring Dr, Stonebridge Rd, and Minneapolis Ave. The scope of the project will include; reclamation and repaving, enhancements to storm water drainage, minor repairs to watermain and sanitary sewer systems, and replacement of sanitary forcemain along Hardscrabble Rd N. A neighborhood meeting was held on October 5, [click here](#) to view.

To be sent updates on this project, please sign up [here](#).

2020 Important Dates

- 10/26:** Planning Commission
- 11/03:** General Election
- 11/09:** City Council Meeting
- 11/10:** Parks Commission
- 11/11:** City Offices closed for Veteran's Day Holiday
- 11/13:** Special Council Meeting to canvass election results
- 11/23:** Planning Commission
- 11/26-11/27:** City Offices closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
- 12/7:** City Council Meeting
- 12/24-12/25:** City Offices closed for Christmas Holiday

The City of Minnetrista will deliver quality services in a cost effective and innovative manner and provide opportunities for a high quality of life while protecting natural resources and maintaining a rural character, while effectively managing growth.

Site Plan Review for Ground Mounted Solar Energy System

An application was received for a site plan review regarding a ground-mounted solar energy system at PID# 20-117-24-22-0002. An ordinance allowing for certain solar energy systems was approved by the Council in July of 2015.

At the meeting on September 28th, the Planning Commission recommended the City Council approve the requested site plan subject to conditions (view conditions in the packet [here](#).) The Commission also requested clarification of the ordinance. At the October 19th meeting, the Council reviewed the proposed site to determine whether it is consistent with the requirements of the City Code. Residents were present to comment on this agenda item. You can listen to the discussion [here](#).

The City Council directed staff to come back with a resolution including the findings of fact to deny the application for a plan review. They also directed staff to come back with an ordinance imposing a one year moratorium for solar gardens in the Agricultural Preserve Zoning District.

CARES Funds

The CARES Act provides assistance for state, local and tribal government to cover costs that have arisen from the COVID-19 pandemic. The City of Minnetrista was provided with \$579,517 in CARES funding to allocate in accordance to the Department of Treasury Office. At the September 21st meeting, City Council gave staff direction on how to allocate the City's CARES funds on eligible expenses.

The City Council approved the allocation of CARES fund at the October 19th meeting for the following amounts:

- Reimbursement for Eligible City Expenses- \$35,000
- Non-Profit Assistance Expenses- \$40,000
- Eligible Public Safety Expenses- Remaining amount after the expenses stated above.

2020 General Election

The General Election is taking place at your polling location on November 3, 2020. In-Person Absentee voting is available at City Hall. See our [website](#) for details!

Special Meeting

The City Council will be convening on November 13, 2020 to canvass the results of the 2020 election.

Contact Your Council:

[Lisa Whalen](#)
[Pam Mortenson](#)
[Shannon Bruce](#)
[Mike Molitor](#)
[John Tschumperlin](#)

Mayor Whalen's Blog

Beginning in 2020, Mayor Whalen introduced the Mayor's Blog in an effort to increase communication between the City and its residents. She blogs about City issues that the Council have discussed and issues that may be of interest to you. To keep up to date on her blogs, please visit the City's website.

Visit the City's website for more information: www.cityofminnetrista.com

