

**APRIL
2023**

CITY OF



NEWS

For the latest City News on the web, visit:

www.ci.new-prague.mn.us

City Hall/Utilities
(952) 758-4401

General E-mail
info@ci.new-prague.mn.us

-City Council-

Duane J. Jirik, Mayor
952-758-4885

djirik@ci.new-prague.mn.us
(Term: January 2023 – December 2024)

Rik Seiler,
Council Member

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(Term: January 2023 – December 2026)

Maggie Bass,
Council Member

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(Term: January 2023 – December 2026)

Shawn Ryan,
Council Member

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(Term: January 2021 – December 2024)

Bruce Wolf,
Council Member

952-758-2874
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(Term: January 2021 – December 2024)

City Government Boards &
Commissions:
EDA Board,
Golf Club Board,
Park Board,
Planning Commission, and
Utilities Commission

Chat with your City Administrator

By Josh Tetzlaff



If there is one thing that can't be said about this year, it's that we didn't get much snow. The snow fall to this point has been borderline incredible, and we still have spring ahead of us! If your driveway and sidewalk look anything like mine, with mountains of snow on each side, backing out safely is a challenge as I try to look around snowbanks and hope that no one is sneaking in where I can't see them. While my kids would disagree heartily with this next statement, there may be such a thing as too much snow. Through all the snow that we have had, the City staff have been working phenomenally to keep our streets and main designated sidewalks open for travel. Some of the multi-day storm events this year have required staff to work continuous hours, take breaks for sleep and rest, and then jump back into trucks to keep plowing. Staff have had to give up family time, work through weekends and holidays, and generally disrupt their lives to keep our streets clear and passable. For that, I cannot thank them enough. I know that some people may get frustrated when it feels like City plows should be out clearing snow when they are not. There are a lot of variables the City takes into account for when we send our crews out. Some of those variables include the length of the storm (and when it may stop snowing), the time of day (and when the busiest commute times are), and the amount and density of the fallen snow, just to name a few. Just know that the City is closely watching conditions, trying to keep primary routes open continually, and trying to maximize the efficiency with which we are able to clean streets.

I want to thank all of you for helping to keep our streets and sidewalks clean while following City ordinances. Ordinances such as getting your sidewalks clean within 24 hours of a storm (or 8 hours in the downtown) and not pushing snow from sidewalks and driveways into streets, all helps to keep sidewalks and streets passable. Following these ordinances, also helps make the snow more manageable for everyone. Now if you'll excuse me, it looks like it's going to start snowing again. Time to get my shovel back out...



2023 STREET AND UTILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The City's 2023 Street and Utility Improvements project opened bids on February 24th with nine contractors responding. The lowest bid, received from Holtmeier Construction, Inc. out of Mankato, was approximately 5% below the Engineer's Estimate of cost. If awarded on March 6th, construction will start up in late April or early May and last through the end of October with final paving in June of 2024. Property owners within the project area will receive an invitation to a neighborhood meeting to be held in April before construction starts. Interested residents and property owners are encouraged to contact Julie Brinkman at jbrinkman@sehinc.com to be included on the emailed Neighborhood Update newsletter that will be released weekly once construction starts.

Questions about the project can be directed to City Engineer, Chris Knutson at cknutson@sehinc.com or 507-327-3812, or to Public Works Director, Matt Rynda at mrynda@ci.new-prague.mn.us or 952-758-1144.

2023 AT NEW PRAGUE GOLF CLUB

- 2023 Memberships available and Gift Certificates, too!
- Check out the website for the latest updates at <https://www.newpraguegolf.com>

For information, contact operations manager Kurt Ruehling at info@newpraguegolf.com, 952-758-5326, or stop in.

CITY ADOPT-A-PARK

The City of New Prague welcomes you and your group to participate in the Adopt-A-Park program. The main focus of this program is for you and your organization to help us keep our city parks clean. Your group can select an available park for adoption and sign an agreement with the City to begin participating in the program. For more information, visit the City of New Prague's website under Departments/Parks.



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2023 HYDRANT FLUSHING

The New Prague Utilities Water Department will be flushing hydrants the week of April 24th through April 28th. Water mains are routinely flushed to clean out the distribution system. Rusty water may be evident during the procedure. If discoloration of the water exists after flushing is completed, residents are urged to run the cold water tap until the water runs clear again. Residents can contact the New Prague Utilities Commission (NPUC) with any questions at: 952-758-4401.



VACANCIES ON CITY OF NEW PRAGUE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

The New Prague City Council is looking for interested City of New Prague residents to serve on various appointed boards and commissions. These boards and commissions provide citizen participation which is necessary for effective government. Volunteers provide a valuable contribution to the community.

If you are interested in serving on any of these boards and commissions or would like further information, contact the Administration Office at 952-758-4401. Applications are also available on the City's website home page, www.ci.new-prague.mn.us or can be picked up at the City Hall Utilities Counter.

Board or Commission	No. of Vacancies	Term	Term Expires
EDA Board	1	6 yrs.	5-31-2029
Golf Board	1	3 yrs.	5-31-2026
Park Board	1	4 yrs.	5-31-2027
Park Board Youth	1	1 year	5-31-2024
Planning Commission	1	4 yrs.	5-31-2027
Utility Commission	1	4 yrs.	5-31-2027

Deadline for applications is April 7, 2023 – All terms begin effective 6-1-2023

TREE GIVEAWAY EVENT!

The City is partnering with Scott County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) to host a Tree Giveaway event on Saturday, April 29th! Three different tree species will be offered: Eastern White Pine, Bur Oak, and Common Hackberry. Must be a City resident to participate in this event. One tree per household. Residents can pick up their tree at the Memorial Park pavilion from 10 am to 12 pm. Free mulch and planting demonstrations will also be provided. For additional details, and for the form, go to the [City's website's homepage](#).

SMART THERMOSTAT REBATES

The average household spends more than \$900/year on heating and cooling costs. Controlling your temperature settings with a smart thermostat will help save money while staying comfortable. Plus, we offer rebates of \$10 to \$100 for ENERGY STAR® certified Smart Thermostats to help save even more! Please visit the [City's Website](#) under Utilities/Rebates & Programs for rebate information and more ways to save energy and money.



GENERAL REMINDERS FOR RESIDENTS

The City would like residents to please note the following reminders:

- **CITY-WIDE CLEAN-UP DAY** is coming on Saturday May 20th from 6:30 am to Noon at 401 Lexington Ave S (same location as last year), Memorial Park Baseball stadium parking lot.
- **PLEASE CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR PET** - Thank you to those neighbors who remember to bring their pet waste bags with every time pet(s) are walked along any sidewalk, trail, or within city parks. It is a city code violation to leave droppings on public or private property. This includes dogs, cats, or other domesticated animals. Please help keep our community clean by picking up after your pet! Thank you!
- **DOG LICENSES** - Own a dog in the City of New Prague? Make sure your dog is licensed with the City of New Prague. Licenses are available at New Prague City Hall. You are required to show proof of your dog's rabies vaccination and pay \$10 for a one-year tag, \$20 for a two-year tag or \$30 for a three-year tag. For more information, please visit the [City's website](#): click on the Permits & Licenses tab and scroll down to Dog License application, or you can pick-up information at City Hall.
- **GOLF, ATV, AND UTV FEES**
All motorized golf carts, Class 2 All-Terrain Vehicles, or Utility Task Vehicles operated within the City Limits require an annual permit, along with a fee of **\$30** for Golf Carts and **\$40** for ATV/UTV's. The application and additional details are located on the [City's website](#), click on the Police tab, and scroll down to Golf Cart/ATV or UTV Operators application. Or, you can pick up at the City Hall, Utilities Counter.

