



mandan messenger

December meetings

- City Commission**, Dec. 6 and 20, 5:30 p.m., City Hall
- School Board**, Dec. 5 and 19, 5:30 p.m., City Hall
- Park Board**, Dec. 12, 5:30 p.m., City Hall
- County Commission**, Dec. 13, 2 p.m., Morton County Courthouse
- City Planning and Zoning Commission**, Dec. 26, 5:15 p.m., City Hall

State of the City

Mayor Tim Helbling will present an update at the State of the Cities annual Chamber breakfast on Dec. 6. The event begins at 7:15 a.m. at the Radisson. To register, visit www.bismarckmandan.com or contact the Chamber at 223-5660.

Waiver needed for sump pump discharge to sanitary sewer

The wet cycle impacting the region in the last few years — heavy and frequent rains, numerous and accumulating snows — has increased the need for sump pumps. Mandan areas not previously impacted by high groundwater may now need sump pumps.

It is a violation of the municipal code to connect your sump pump to the sanitary sewer system, such as a floor drain, during summer months. To discharge to the sanitary sewer in the winter, property owners must have a waiver. This regulation is designed to protect your property and other homes in your neighborhood.

Illegal connections to the sanitary sewer system may overwhelm the City's lift stations during heavy rain and high groundwater conditions. Sanitary sewers are not designed to carry the additional flow and an overloaded sewer may create sewer backups in basements. Groundwater discharged to the sanitary sewer from a sump pump winds up being treated at the City's wastewater treatment facility. The additional flow uses up plant capacity and increases the costs of treatment.

Groundwater collected by sump pumps is properly discharged to the ground surface outside of the building to a storm drain or a natural outlet to prevent recycling of discharged water. Sump pumps which are discharged to city streets creates a nuisance with algae buildup in the warm months. The constant discharge of water to the street will reduce the life of the street surface, curb and gutter and increase maintenance costs. In winter months, the discharge may result in icy areas on the streets.

Seasonal waivers allow you to discharge your sump pump into the sanitary system from Oct. 1 to March 31. If you are interested in additional information or obtaining a seasonal waiver, contact the City of Mandan Engineering Office at 667-3225.

COMMUNITY

Santa's Arrival. Slated for Nov. 26, enjoy Breakfast with Santa from 8 to 10 a.m. at Central Market, a Santa Parade at 10:30 a.m. followed by Santa visits with kids.

Santa Shop Hop. Early bird shoppers who make purchases at 3 participating businesses by 11 a.m. will have a chance to win \$250 in Mandan Bucks. Another \$250 in Mandan Bucks will be awarded in a drawing for shoppers who become eligible by making purchases at 5 or more participating businesses by 3:30 p.m.

Merry Mondays. Retailers are encouraged to remain open until at least 7 p.m. between Nov. 28 and Dec. 19 and to offer more inviting sales. Customers may register at participating business for \$100 Mandan Bucks drawings.

For info about participating businesses, visit www.mandanprogress.org or call 75-2983.



Assisted living center planned for Mandan

A group of local investors, together with ICON Development Group, are proposing to build Acteva Assisted Living Center, a 50-unit, \$6.2 million facility in northwest Mandan.

Acteva lead partner Kirk Simmet explains the facility will offer studio, 1-bedroom, and 2-bedroom units. Services are to include 24-hour staffing with a professional nurse and nurse assistants, medication management, scheduled transportation, an emergency pendant system, laundry, housekeeping, and help for residents who need assistance with bathing, dressing, eating and toileting.

Future development phases and uses for the site and surrounding property, east of the middle school, may include independent senior apartments, townhomes and memory care units. These phases will depend on market demand and financing,

The need for assisted living in Mandan was noted during the 2009 Mandan Tomorrow community strategic visioning process. Its importance is expressed as a recommended action step: "Provide environments and developments that enable senior citizens to enjoy quality lifestyles." The strategic plan points to facilitating "age-in-place" developments such as assisted living centers.

Fire department improves public protection rating

The Mandan Fire Department improved its fire public protection classification from its current 5 rating to a 4 rating effective December 1, 2011.

Insurance Services Office (ISO) conducted an evaluation of fire suppression services for the City of Mandan earlier this year and recently notified the city that its public protection classification has improved from 5 to 4. The better rating is the result of a variety of improvements such as an additional fire station, firefighters and training as well as an enhanced water distribution and storage system for the city. Ratings range from 1 to 10 with 1 being the best. Only five communities in North Dakota currently have a class 4 rating, four have a class 3 rating and none are classified better than a 3.

Fire rating affects insurance premiums. The public protection classification plays an important role in the underwriting process of many insurance companies and ultimately affects premiums charged to policy holders. Not all insurance companies use the ISO rating to determine premiums, however, it is important to contact your insurance company for clarification on their methodology. It has been ISO's experience that communities with improved public protection ratings may receive lower insurance pricing.

Although the Mandan Fire Department is extremely pleased with the improved rating, citizens can be assured that work will continue over the next several years to achieve an even better rating.

City reviews urban roads list for federal funding

The City Commission at its Oct. 18 meeting reviewed a list of street construction projects eligible for 80 percent federal funding. The project list and timelines include Sunset Avenue in 2013, Ninth Avenue NE in 2014, Old Red Trail between Highland and Crown Point roads in 2015, Sixth Avenue SE in 2016, and reconstruction of the downtown core area from Sixth Avenue NW and Collins Avenue between Main and Second Street NW in 2017.

ON-LINE POLL RESULTS

Query on enforcement of speed limits produces varying input

The on-line poll for October asked, "Where in the city would you like to see more patrolling for enforcement of speed limits? There were 72 respondents. Responses were as follows: 35% chose "No where, patrolling for adherence to speed limits is fine as is;" 14% picked Sunset Avenue, 11% picked each Main Street and Old Red Trail, and 8% chose Memorial Highway. Another 21% selected "other" with several varying comments submitted and passed on to the Mandan Police Department.

MANDAN'S ECONOMY

As of Sept. 30, compared to the prior year to date.

Tax collections

- ~ 1% city sales tax· up 7% at \$1.25 million.
- ~ 1% restaurant and lodging tax· up 3% at \$232,257.
- ~ 2% hotel occupancy tax· up 18% at \$41,487.

Building permits

- Total permits · \$32.4 million, up from \$32 million for all of 2010.
- ~ Commercial and industrial permits for new construction and remodels · \$9 million, compared to \$5.1 million for all of 2010.
- ~ New residential units · 139, up from 136 for all of 2010.

Real estate sales

Includes single family, condos, twin homes and duplexes.

- ~ Average sales price · \$162,639, up 3% from 2010.
- ~ Units sold · 193 units, down 6% from 2010, but well above the 2009 pace of 168 units.
- ~ Days on market · 75.84 days, 11% ahead of 2010.

Source: Bismarck Mandan Board of Realtors.

Contact us

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Mandan City Commission

Mayor Tim Helbling
Dot Frank
Thomas Jackson
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Sandra Tibke

City Departments

Administration 667-3215
Airport Authority 663-0669
Assessing &
Building Inspection . 667-3230
Business
Development 667-3485
Cemetery 667-6044
Engineering, Planning &
Zoning 667-3225
Finance 667-3213
Fire 667-3288
Human Resources . 667-3217
Landfill 667-0184
Library 667-5365
Municipal Court 667-3270
Police 667-3455
Public Works 667-3240
Special
Assessments 667-3271
Utility Billing 667-3219
Waste Water
Treatment 667-3278
Water Treatment 667-3275

Receive E-mail Notices

Sign up to receive notice of city meetings and news in the "E-mail Updates" section of www.cityofmandan.com. Meeting dates and agendas are available.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What street would you most like to have reconstructed or repaired?

Visit www.cityofmandan.com by Dec. 1 to respond.