



## March meetings

**City Commission**, March 3 and 17, 5:30 p.m., City Hall

**School Board**, March 2 and 16, 5:30 p.m., City Hall

**Park Board**, March 9, 4:30 p.m., City Hall

**County Commission**, March 12 and 24, 5:30 p.m., Morton County Courthouse

**City Planning and Zoning Commission**, March 23, 5:15 p.m. City Hall



## Library hires assistant director

Sarah Warneke is the new assistant library director for the Morton-Mandan Public Library. Warneke came from the Northeast Library System in Nebraska. She holds a master's degree in Library Science from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

The assistant library director is responsible for assisting in directing library operations. Responsibilities include assisting in the development of the library's book collection, developing and maintaining public relations and coordinating community-based adult programming.

## Citizens asked to give input on City Hall options

Community members had an opportunity to provide input on options for a new or renovated City Hall and north area fire station at an informal open house and input session held on Jan. 27. The architectural firm conducting the facilities study for the City of Mandan presented four options to community members:

- Renovation of the existing building,
- Renovation of the former junior high building,
- Building on the south side of the 200 block of west Main Street, or
- Building on a greenfield site north of I-94.

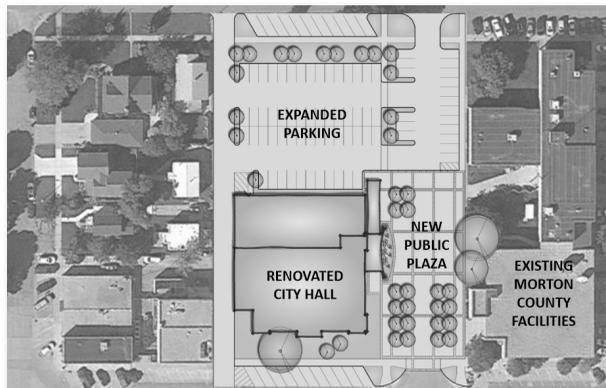
Options were selected based on a number of factors, including the proximity to county facilities, community accessibility, project cost, available parking, and highest and best use of property. Each plan accommodates for growth over the next 20 years.



Renovation of the existing building received the most support from community members in attendance. Some felt City Hall belonged in the center of the city. Others found the current location the most accessible. If chosen, the approximate \$11 million renovation could include the addition of a plaza between the City Hall and the courthouse.

The proposed location for the new fire station, estimated at \$2.4 million, is near the intersection of Old Red Trail and Hillside Road. Consulting architects will report on findings from the Jan. 27 meeting and further refine preferences for city facilities at a Feb. 16 meeting, planned for 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at City Hall. The presentation maps from the Jan. 27 meeting are available at [www.cityofmandan.com](http://www.cityofmandan.com).

The Park District and School District are separately studying their facility needs. A Joint Facilities Committee with representatives from each board is looking at a possible local sales tax initiative to fund capital improvements for the community.



MANDAN CITY HALL  
SITE OPTION 1: EXISTING CITY HALL  
JLG  
JANUARY 27, 2015 PUBLIC FORUM

Official City Commission action would be needed before any initiative can go to a formal election ballot for consideration by voters. Research and discussions are expected to continue through March to determine the type and scope of projects for possible inclusion with a public vote to potentially coincide with the June 9 election.





"WHERE THE WEST BEGINS"

## Video showcases Mandan's positive business environment

The newest project in Mandan's community marketing initiative is an online video in which local business people speak about their positive entrepreneurial experiences in Mandan.

The video's purpose is to share information about Mandan as place to do business with people looking to start or locate a business, including individuals who influence this process, like real estate agents and commercial lenders. The video is also intended to help strengthen Mandan's image and



to communicate the economic opportunity available in the growing city. It was created at the direction of the Mandan Business Development and Communications Department with guidance from the Mandan Tomorrow – Leadership, Pride and Image Committee, which helps execute a community marketing plan.

The video is available on the YouTube channel "Great Things: Made in Mandan." It is also linked on the city website, [www.cityofmandan.com](http://www.cityofmandan.com), and on Facebook pages for the City of Mandan and "Made in Mandan," a source of news about community progress, events, citizen achievements and sources of fun.

## City reduces length of remodeling exemptions

The City Commission in January approved a new policy for remodeling exemptions that sets the maximum length at three years, a reduction from the five years allowed under state law. The policy also indicates that a property owner must apply for the exemption and be approved by the City Commission prior to the commencement of the improvement. A property is only allowed one exemption per assessment year. A property designated as a Storefront Improvement project is not eligible.

A residential building must be 25 years old or older to qualify for the exemption. This provision does not apply to commercial buildings.

A remodeling exemption provides for a property tax exemption on the value of qualifying building improvements. The last assessment on the building or structure prior to commencement of the improvements remains for the duration of the exemption period, unless equalization or revaluation of building values is necessary. The exemption does not apply to land values, which may be changed whenever justified.

For more information and to download the application form, visit the Assessing Department section of [www.cityofmandan.com](http://www.cityofmandan.com) or call 667-3232.

## Clean sidewalks of snow and ice

Property owners are required to remove snow and ice from their sidewalk within 24 hours after its deposit. If not removed, the City may do so and charge the property owner. Report problems to City Engineering at (701) 667-3225. Please also clear the area around mailboxes and fire hydrants.

### ONLINE POLL RESULTS

## Majority of respondents are interested in e-mail newsletter

January's online poll asked readers if they would be interested in receiving an e-mail newsletter from the City. Of the 71 respondents, 80 percent expressed interest in receiving an e-newsletter, 13 percent were not interested and 7 percent were uncertain. The majority of respondents preferred to receive the newsletter on a monthly basis.

The Business Development and Communications Department is planning to develop an e-newsletter. More information on how to subscribe will be available in the March issue of the Mandan Messenger.

## City Contacts

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205 Second Avenue NW  
Phone 701-667-3215  
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[www.cityofmandan.com](http://www.cityofmandan.com)

Mandan City Commission  
Mayor Arlyn Van Beek  
Mike Braun  
Shauna Laber  
Dennis Rohr  
Sandra Tibke

### City Departments

Administration .....	667-3215
Airport Authority .....	663-0669
Assessing .....	667-3232
Building Inspection .....	667-3230
Business Development & Communications .....	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 .....	667-3250
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](http://www.cityofmandan.com). Meeting dates and agendas are available.

### QUESTION OF THE MONTH

## What is your preferred site for the City Hall?

Visit [www.cityofmandan.com](http://www.cityofmandan.com) by Feb. 26 to respond.