



ZIMCITY NEWS

Photo By Kyle-Koosman

2019 Budget and Levy

The City Council approved the preliminary 2019 General Fund budget and levy at the September 17th Council meeting, and it has been certified to the County Auditor/Treasurer’s office as required. Staff presented several options to the Council for the 2019 budget and levy. Ultimately, Council adopted a proposed budget of \$2,814,139 with revenues proposed at \$2,829,935. This budget includes a proposed levy of \$1,694,000 which is an increase of 6.3% from the 2018 levy amount. Council will spend the next three months working with staff to refine the budget and determine opportunities to reduce the levy and proposed expenditures.

2019 REVENUES

The 2019 preliminary revenue budget totals \$2,829,935, a proposed increase of \$134,186 or 6.3% over 2018. Revenues include general taxes, state aids, fees, lease revenues, and special levies. Certified Local Government Aid (LGA) for 2019 increases from \$532,649 to \$535,785, an increase of \$3,136 over the 2018 amount. Building permit revenues have been increased from \$100,000 to \$125,000 due to steady-to-increased development activity, with plan review, plumbing, and mechanical permits, and the state surcharge increasing a total of \$20,500. Existing special levies total \$68,999 for current Debt Service, (2nd Street East Reconstruction and the CH 45 Reconstruction Project), and \$237,000 for Capital Expenditures, which can be used for road improvements and large equipment purchases.

The Sherburne County Assessor will increase 2018 property values for taxes payable in 2019. Residential properties will increase by 6.7%, following an increase of 9.1% in 2017. Apartment values will increase 1.7%, and Commercial values will increase less than 1%. New construction will add \$10,242,700 in taxable market value. This new construction market value, and the increased property values as determined by the County Assessor, increase the City’s Total Estimated Market Value for taxable properties within the City to \$381,831,100, or a \$31,117,200 increase over 2018.

2019 EXPENSES

Preliminary 2019 expenses are proposed totaling \$2,814,139, an increase \$128,315 or 4.7% over 2018. This budget includes department operation expenses including personnel, anticipated expenditure of \$225,000 for a 2019 street preservation project, \$237,000 for future Capital Expenditures, and \$68,999 in current debt service payments for past reconstruction projects.

Notable changes in expenses can be attributed to the following items:

- A scheduled increase to the Sheriff’s Department contract of approximately \$19,000, with final expense to be determined upon completion of County union negotiations (could be less).
- Increase in Fire District Contract of \$8,000
- Increase in Building Inspection related expenses of \$9,300 due to increased permit activity and State surcharge fees
- Increase in General Engineering of \$5,000 due to increase development activity
- Increase in City Hall of \$7,500 for proposed building repairs and/or improvements
- Decrease of \$12,700 in Elections as 2019 is not an election year
- Decrease of \$10,000 in Council as Class/Comp Study will be completed in 2018
- A 10% increase for employee health insurance premiums, as suggested by the City’s insurance agent.
- Administration suggested 10% increase to employee wage budget, which includes a recommended 1-step wage increase and a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for employees, plus budgeted funds if the Classification/Compensation study recommends position increases, and Council subsequently adopts the recommendations effective January 1, 2019.

In November, residents will receive a Truth-in-Taxation statement from the County Auditor/Treasurer. This notice of proposed property taxes includes the amount of that each taxpayer is proposed to pay in 2019, based in the preliminary certified levy. The notice will also include a reminder of the time and date of the Public Comment Meeting regarding the 2019 budget and levy. Zimmerman’s Public Comment Meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 3, 2018 in the Council Chambers at City Hall. At that meeting, staff will review the proposed budget and levy with Council. Residents will have the opportunity to comment on the proposal. The levy will be formally adopted on December 17. Written comments will also be accepted. For more information, or questions regarding the proposed budget and levy, please contact Clerk/Treasurer Kary Tillmann at 763-856-4666, x. 22 or ktillmann@cityofzimmerman.com.

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CITY HALL HOURS OF OPERATION

- MONDAY**
7:00AM - 6:30PM
- TUESDAY - THURSDAY**
7:00AM - 5:30PM
- FRIDAY - CLOSED**

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WWW.ZIMMERMAN.GOVOFFICE.COM

Public Works Director Dave Johnson Retires!



On Tuesday, August 6th, Council celebrated the contributions and retirement of Public Works Director Dave Johnson. Council presented Johnson with a framed resolution acknowledging his nearly 26 years of service to the Public Works Department and the City of Zimmerman.

Well wishes can be sent to Dave Johnson, c/o City of Zimmerman, 12980 Fremont Avenue, Zimmerman, MN 55398.



Keith Koehler Appointed Public Works Director!

Keith Koehler was appointed Public Works Director by the Council effective July 29th. He was promoted from Public Works Operations Coordinator to fill the position after Dave Johnson's retirement.

Keith began working for the City in April 2015 as the second in command to the Public Works Director. He came to the City with 10 years of experience working for the Cities of Isanti, Freeport, and Princeton. He has obtained his water and waste water licensure through the State of Minnesota.

Keith is eager to work in this dynamic position to utilize both his strengths and past job experiences to serve the City of Zimmerman.



Voting Information!

The City of Zimmerman will conduct Municipal Elections in conjunction with the State General Election on Tuesday, November 6, 2018 for the purpose of electing the Mayor, one two year Council Member, and two four year Council Members. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The following individuals have filed for City offices: (listed in alphabetical order)

MAYOR 2 Year Term - David Brace - Dave Earenfight - Nick Stay

CITY COUNCIL 2 Year Term - Sheldon Shepard

CITY COUNCIL two - 4 Year Terms - Josh Bondhus - Tony Brisbin - Virginia R. Ellis
- Linda J. Frederick - Ron Mathison

For additional information or questions about the upcoming election, registering to vote, or voting by absentee ballot, contact Kary Tillmann, City Clerk/Treasurer at 763-856-4666 ext. 22 or ktillmann@cityofzimmerman.com.

Time to Clear the Streets

Zimmerman's snow plowing crews are gearing up for the upcoming winter season—tuning up the trucks and stocking up on sand and salt supplies. They're also asking residents to do their part by removing portable equipment, such as basketball hoops and skateboard ramps from streets and cul-de-sacs. Even if visible, these items block traffic movement and prevent a thorough plowing job. It's important to note that garbage cans left out for weekly garbage and recycling pickup should be placed at the end of the homeowners driveway, not out in the street.

Zimmerman's winter parking regulations banning on-street parking between 12:01 a.m. and 8 a.m. go into effect on November 1st. The parking restrictions, which are designed to facilitate plowing during the snow season, continue through May 1st. Residents who violate the ordinance could be ticketed by the Sherburne County Sheriff's Department.



**Winter Parking
Regulations**

Prevent Water Pollution & Protect Ground Water

Yard waste that sits around can easily wash into storm drains when it rains. Even if the waste doesn't contain chemicals such as herbicides and pesticides, the introduction of grass clippings, leaves and twigs can overwhelm the waterways with unhealthy quantities of phosphorous which negatively impact pond water quality and increase algae bloom. While it's almost impossible to eliminate this type of pollution, there are some ways to help minimize it.

- Use a mulching mower instead of a bagging grass clippings. Mulching mowers add a natural layer of compost to your lawn, and you don't have to deal with disposing of grass clippings.
- Dispose of yard waste properly. Yard waste, including trash, leaves or twigs cannot be burned in a backyard fire. The city operates a yard waste compost site to help residents who are unable to compost in their own backyard. Anyone wanting to access the site will need an electronic key-card which can be picked up at City Hall during regular business hours.
- Pick up litter and properly dispose of trash. Litter isn't just unsightly; it also contributes to water pollution. Just about every material, from paper to cigarette butts to aluminum cans contains chemicals that can leach out into the environment. Trash or junk sitting in your yard or driveway can be just as harmful as trash illegally dumped by the side of the road. It's also important to maintain your vehicles to prevent leaking fluids onto your driveway. If leaking occurs, don't use water to wash the fluids down your driveway and into the storm drains. Clean up drips with absorbents like kitty litter or sawdust and properly dispose of them.
- Clean up pet waste. Pet waste contains harmful bacteria and other pollutants. While a good rain storm may wash your dog or cat's poop away, it isn't really gone—it's in the water supply. Promptly pick up after your pet, and seal the waste before throwing it in the trash.

Think Before You Flush!

Think
before
you
flush

As much as we live in a disposable age, it's vital that you "Think Before You Flush". Items like wipes, disposable floor cleaning pads, sanitary products, and diapers don't just disappear and dissolve. They clump together and cause havoc in the sewer lift stations resulting in increased maintenance, mechanical failure, and sewer backups.

If there is a question of whether or not to flush something, stop and throw it in the trash!

Angel Trees—Help Children in Need

It will soon be that time of year—time to shop 'til you drop! While out shopping for gifts for loved ones, it's important to remember those in need. Neighbors Helping Neighbors is doing their part by setting up Angel Trees at local Zimmerman businesses. Angel Trees provide holiday assistance to children in the Zimmerman area in need of new toys and clothing. Individuals wanting to contribute will select the angel of a child they'd like to help, purchase the items, and drop them back off to the business for distribution. If you are a family in need of assistance, applications are due by November 20th. For more information, or an application, please contact Jenny Manthey at 763-241-3505, ext. 2813.



Hunger in a Community Affects Us All

If you or someone you know needs help supplementing their food budget, you can turn to two community food distributions for assistance.

PASSING THE BREAD FOOD DISTRIBUTION - Held the 4th Saturday of each month from 9 to 11 am at UMA Precision Machining located at 26833 5th Street W. For more information on volunteering or making a donation, contact Dave 612-226-2779 or Dana 763-568-5114. You may also access the website for Passing the Bread at www.passingthebread.com.

FAITH PANTRY - Held every Thursday with donuts and coffee from 8:15 to 9:00 am. Food distribution is from 9 am until gone at Faith Community Lutheran Church, located at 12266 255th Ave NW. Food is limited, so plan to arrive early. To learn more, contact Lisa Brix at 763-772-5288.

Annual Notice To All Residential Customers

Bills can pile up just like snow. The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule is designed to protect people who may have trouble paying their utility bills in winter. The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule applies from October 15 to April 15. The rule, established by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, means that your utility provider cannot disconnect your residential utility service during the winter if the customer meets the following requirement:

- 1) Utility disconnection would affect the customer's primary heat source;
- 2) The customer has declared inability to pay on forms provided by the utility (Note: customers receiving "any form of public assistance," including energy assistance, are deemed to have qualified for inability to pay status);
- 3) The household income of the customer is less than 50 percent of the state median income level, as documented by the customer to the utility, and
- 4) The customer enters into and makes timely payments under a payment agreement that considers the financial resources of the household.

If you have trouble paying your utility bill, local agencies may be able to provide payment assistance. The State Department of Human Services recommends that you call Sherburne County Health and Human Services at 763-765-4000 for additional information.

If you know you're going to have trouble paying your water and sewer bill, please contact Teri Grote in Utility Billing at 763-856-4666, ext. 23, to work out a payment schedule.



Minnesota Cold Weather Rule

City Offices will be Closed

November 22-23, 2018

In observation of Thanksgiving

December 24, 2018

Closed at Noon in observation of Christmas Eve

December 25, 2018

In observation of Christmas

Upcoming Events

OCTOBER

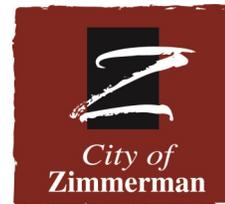
City Council Meeting	Oct 1	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
Park Board Meeting	Oct 2	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
Fire Prevention Week	Oct 7-13		All Week
COW Meeting	Oct 8	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
City Council Meeting	Oct 15	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
Passing the Bread Food Distribution	Oct 27	9-11 a.m.	UMA Precision Mach

NOVEMBER

Winter Parking Regulations	Nov 1		City Wide
City Council Meeting	Nov 5	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
Elections	Nov 6	7 am - 8 pm	
Veteran's Day	Nov 12	Closed	City Offices
Park Board Meeting	Nov 13	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
Passing the Bread Food Distribution	Nov 17	9-11 a.m.	UMA Precision Mach
City Council Meeting	Nov 19	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
Thanksgiving Holiday Observed	Nov 22-23	Closed	City Offices

DECEMBER

Celebrate the Season	Dec 1	10-4 p.m.	City Wide
Breakfast with Santa	Dec 2	8:30 a.m. - Noon	Civic Building
City Council Meeting	Dec 3	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
Public Comment Meeting	Dec 3	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
Park Board Meeting	Dec 4	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
Polar Express Train for Tots	Dec 4-5	9:00 a.m. - Noon	Civic Building
COW Meeting	Dec 10	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
Passing the Bread Food Distribution	Dec 15	9-11 a.m.	UMA Precision Mach
City Council Meeting	Dec 17	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
Christmas Eve	Dec 24	Closed at Noon	City Offices
Christmas Day Holiday Observed	Dec 25	Closed	City Offices



MAYOR

DAVE EARENFIGHT
612-226-2779

COUNCIL MEMBERS

TONY BRISBIN
763-238-8197

RON MATHISON
763-856-2969

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612-940-4105