

THE PORTAL

WAYZATA NEWSLETTER
JANUARY 2026

City Calendar

January

- 1 City Offices Closed for Holiday
- 5 Planning Commission Meeting
- 6 City Council Meeting
- 10 Klapprich Park Opening Celebration
- 19 City Offices Closed for Holiday
- 20 City Council Meeting
- 21 Parks & Trails Board Meeting
- 21 Heritage Preservation Board Meeting
- 26 Planning Commission Meeting
- 27 Energy & Environment Committee Meeting

For up-to-date meeting & event information, visit wayzata.org/calendar.

A Message from Mayor Mullin

Dear Neighbors,

There is a unique, quiet beauty to Lake Minnetonka in January. As the ice settles in and a new year begins, I want to wish every resident a healthy and prosperous 2026.

Looking back, 2025 was a year of transition. We welcomed newly appointed Council Member Dan Koch and are working diligently to name a new City Manager early this year to ensure our city services remain top-notch.

I invite you to join me for my second annual State of the City address, where we will discuss the exciting opportunities ahead for Wayzata.

- **Date:** Thursday, February 26th
- **Location:** City Hall Community Room
- **Time:** 6:30 PM (Coffee & Cookies) | 7:00 PM (Program)

It is an honor to serve as your Mayor. Thank you for your engagement and your passion for making Wayzata a wonderful place to live, work, and play.



- 952-404-5327
- amullin@wayzata.org
- facebook.com/mullinforwayzata
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Contact the City Council

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Council Approves 2026 Budget

On December 2, the City Council approved the Final 2026 Budget of \$23 million. The General Fund Budget was set at \$9.8 million, a 7.15% increase, with a property tax levy increase of 4.90% over 2025.

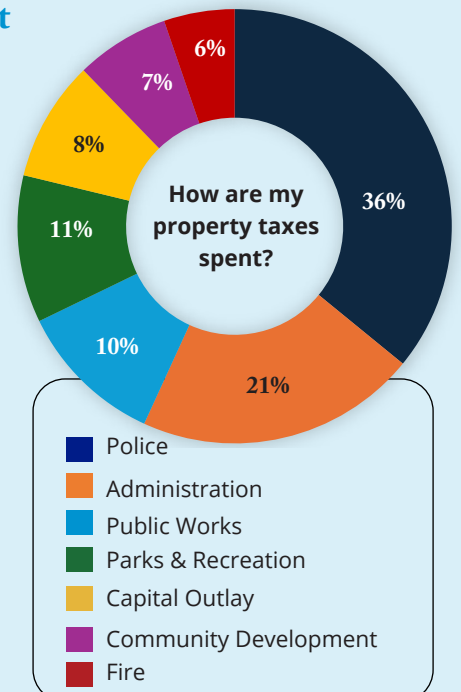
Budget Drivers

Some of the main drivers of the increase include adding a Full-Time Fire Chief (starting 2Q) and investing in employee compensation for a 3% cost of living adjustment and market increases for Police Officers.

Impact on Homeowners

The tax levy's impact on residents will vary depending on a property's value and change in value compared to 2025. Learn more at wayzata.org/finance.

View the chart on the right to see how your property taxes are spent.



Administration



Public Works



Community Development



Police



Fire



Liquor



Bar & Grill

Help Keep Our Community Safe: Adopt a Fire Hydrant

When fire strikes in winter, every second counts. But firefighters can lose precious time searching for hydrants buried in snow.

You can help prevent this by “adopting” a fire hydrant near your home and keeping its snow cleared throughout winter. This ensures hydrants remain visible and accessible, which can dramatically reduce emergency response time.

This is an informal volunteer program, there’s no need to register or notify the City. Simply choose a hydrant in your neighborhood and keep it clear after each snowfall.

Your efforts could make the difference in protecting lives and property. Your help is greatly appreciated!



Protect the Lake: Right Size Your Salt Use

When snow and ice melt from roofs and driveways, the runoff flows into storm drains that lead directly to lakes and wetlands. Any salt used on these areas travels with this runoff into Lake Minnetonka. Excess salt pollutes the lake and also harms soil, increases erosion, and can contribute to high chloride levels that are toxic to fish and other aquatic life.

How to salt smart:

- **Clear snow** early and often; only use salt when necessary
- **Scatter** the salt; granules work best 2-3 inches apart
- **Sweep** up extra salt on bare pavement for reuse
- **Pay attention to temperature**; most salt isn’t effective below 15 degrees F
- **Measure salt with a mug**; 12 oz is enough for a 20 ft driveway (about 1,000 sq. ft.)

Winter Driving Tips

When snow is falling, here’s how to stay safe out there:

- Clear all snow and ice from your vehicles windows, hood, lights, and turn signals
- Slow down and drive at speeds safe for the current conditions
- Leave plenty of room between you and the car ahead for stopping
- Keep at least 10 car-lengths behind snowplows
- Turn on your headlights when its snowing or sleeting
- Don’t use cruise control on snow, icy, or wet roads
- Allow extra travel time

Attend the Klapprich Park Opening Celebration

To mark the completion of Klapprich Park, the community is invited to celebrate the reopening on **Saturday, January 10, from 1:00-3:00 p.m.**

Enjoy an afternoon of skating, hot chocolate, snacks, and music. We look forward to celebrating with you soon!

In the event of poor ice conditions, the event may be rescheduled.

Questions? Contact Nick Kieser at 952-404-5313 or nkieser@wayzata.org



Think Twice Before Going on the Ice

Before you step out on the ice be sure to practice ice safety because that solid-looking surface can be deceiving. In truth, there’s no such thing as 100% safe ice. Ice strength isn’t something you can just see with your eyes. Its a complex mix of factors including thickness, the water depth below it, the size of the lake, water chemistry, currents, snow cover, temperature fluctuations, and even how your weight is distributed when you step onto it.

Be sure to check ice thickness before you step out onto it and follow DNR guidelines. Learn more about ice safety at dnr.state.mn.us/safety/ice

ICE IS NEVER 100% SAFE! Recommended Minimum Ice Thickness

(Guidelines for New, Clear Ice Only)



Contact Us

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Public Works 952-404-5360
Police 911
Fire 952-404-5337

DMV 952-404-5320
Bar & Grill 952-473-5286
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wayzata.org
 wayzata.org/notifyme

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