



Hopkins Highlights

October
2009



Don't Forget: Vote on November 3

On November 3, 2009, Hopkins residents will elect a Mayor and two City Council members. The Mayor's position is a two-year term and the Council member positions are four-year terms. Hopkins residents will also be voting for members of the school board.

Absentee Voting

Absentee ballots will be available beginning October 2, 2009. To request an application, visit or call City Hall at 952-935-8474 (Monday-Friday, 8 am-4:30 pm) through November 2. You will receive your ballot upon completing the application and returning it to City Hall. Absentee voting can be done in person at City Hall or by mail. City Hall will be open from 10 am to 3 pm on Saturday, October 31 and until 5 pm on Monday, November 2 for absentee voting. Absentee ballots returned by mail will not be accepted after Election Day.

Candidate for mayor this year is incumbent Eugene Maxwell. Candidates for the two City Council positions are James Beauchene, Jason Gadd, Destiny Rose Holiday, Jeffrey Tarman and incumbents Kristi Halverson and Cheryl Youakim.

Polls will be open from 7 am to 8 pm on Election Day. Please call Hopkins City Hall at 952-935-8474 or visit www.hopkinsmn.com/elections for more information about where to vote and registration.

Council Sets 2010 Preliminary Budget & Levy

At its September 1 meeting, the City Council set a preliminary budget at \$10,194,000. The final 2010 budget will be an increase of approximately 0.5% from the 2009 budget. The proposed 2010 tax levy was set at \$9,925,685, a 3.9% increase over 2009. The Council also established December 1 as the meeting where input from the public regarding the 2010 budget and levy will be taken as it moves towards setting the final levy and budget at the December 15 meeting.

Although the preliminary budget represents only a slight increase in spending, mainly due to inflation, revenues are down significantly from 2009 due to unallotment of about \$300,000 in state aids, loss of revenue in building permits, and lower interest earnings. The proposed budget includes wage freezes, staff vacancies, cuts in capital items and other expenditures in order to balance the budget.

Rental License Renewals Due Before Oct 31

The City of Hopkins requires an annual license for all premises rented in whole or in part as a dwelling unit. This includes:

- all apartment complexes
- condos
- townhomes
- owner-occupied double bungalows
- rooming units
- single family homes
- double bungalows

Rental licenses must be renewed every year before October 31. For more information about rental licenses go to www.hopkinsmn.com/licenses or call Pam Hove at 952-548-6320.

Fire Open House Is Oct 10

In conjunction with Fire Prevention Week, the Hopkins Fire Department is holding an Open House on **Saturday, October 10**, from 10 am to 2 pm at the Hopkins Fire Station (101 17th Ave S). Stop by for a ride in the fire truck, free T-shirts and fire helmets for the kids, food and drink, plus valuable fire prevention tips.

NEW: Be sure to stop by the Public Works booth at the Open House and enter the drawing to win a 55-gallon rain barrel, an eco-friendly, BPA-free water bottle or a miniature recycling bin. You'll also get great information on recycling and other Public Works programs, including the new organics recycling initiative for City employees at their worksites.



Win a 55-gallon rain barrel!

Fall Festivities

at the Hopkins Activity Center

Fall Yard Clean-up

Senior citizens who need yard raking should call the Activity Center (952-939-1333) by Oct 19. Work done by the West Jr High Helping Hands Service Project students and chaperones. Limited number of spaces.

Technology Week

October 19-22

Technology is changing rapidly! Technology can make day-to-day tasks easier and even improve the quality of life. Join us for a chance to explore different aspects of our technology-oriented world. Topics will include the Wii, GPS, Kindle, hearing assistance, iPod, safe internet shopping, Twitter, blogging, Skype, Facebook and cell phones. Call for a schedule.

Live Well, Age Well Resource Fair

Monday, October 26, 12 - 3:30 pm

Learn educational and recreational opportunities for aging at this 55+ wellness & community resource fair. Visit with many exhibitors regarding health issues, future care, and fun & recreation. Sister Rosalind Gefre will speak about her life and offer insight about staying active and young. Gefre will have available her biography *Hands That Touch, Hands That Heal*. Free admission, refreshments and prizes, including a \$100 Target gift card.

Flu Shot Clinic

Monday, October 26, 1-3 pm

\$24.99/flu shot or free to seniors with Medicare Part B. Bring your Medicare card, insurance card and any vouchers received in the mail. Pneumonia shots are available for \$57. Refreshments provided by Golden Living Center Hillcrest.



Hopkins Highlights



Refuse & Recycling
Refuse collection will take place Monday through Thursday.

Recycling collection is Oct 12-15 and 26-29.

October 2009

City Council Calendar

October 6, 7:30 pm
Meeting

October 13, 6:30 pm
Work Session

October 20, 7:30 pm
Meeting

October 27, 6:30 pm
Work Session

November 4, 7:30 pm (Wed)
Meeting

Agendas and minutes can be found at www.hopkinsmn.com/cityhall/citycouncil/.

Boards & Commissions Calendar

October 5, 7 pm
Human Rights Commission

October 6, 7 pm
Housing & Redevelopment Authority

October 19, 6:30 pm
Park Board

October 27, 6:30 pm
Zoning & Planning Commission

November 2, 7 pm
Human Rights Commission

November 4, 7 pm (Wed)
Housing & Redevelopment Authority

Agendas and minutes can be found at www.hopkinsmn.com/cityhall/boards/.

Cable Channel 16

City Council and Zoning & Planning Commission meetings can be seen on cable channel 16 live and are replayed on:

Monday & Wednesday
7:30 pm

Thursday Sunday
2:00 pm 1:00 pm

Elected Officials

Mayor
Gene Maxwell
(952-935-5270)

City Council
Rick Brausen Bruce Rowan
Kristi Halverson Cheryl Youakim

City Considers Online Utility Billing: What Do You Think?



In an effort to go green, the City of Hopkins is considering online billing for utility bills. Hopkins annually sends out nearly 40,000 paper bills. That's a lot of paper! Plus online billing can be an easy and convenient way for you to pay bills.

Please take our online billing survey at hopkinsbilling.questionpro.com and let us know what you think—it only takes 5 minutes and would help out a lot. 🍷

Free Leaf & Yard Waste Pick Up

The City will be picking up leaf and yard waste free of charge for a limited time this fall. Locate your neighborhood below to plan for your free pick up.

Bellgrove, Hobby Acres, Park Ridge, and Interlachen Park Residents

The City provides **free** street leaf and yard waste pick-up in your area using front-end loaders and dump trucks. Pick up in these areas will be October 26-29. Refer to the schedule below for your neighborhood's pick up day.

Bellgrove: Monday, October 26

Interlachen Park: Tuesday, October 27 (*Meadowbrook Rd up to and including Interlachen Rd*)

Park Ridge: Wednesday, October 28

Hobby Acres: Wednesday, October 28

Interlachen Park: Thursday, October 29 (*Interlachen Rd to Blake Rd*)

Place leaves in loose piles (unbagged) in the street along the curb line. Leaves should be placed on the street no later than 7:00 am on your scheduled pick up day and no earlier than the day before your scheduled pick up day. There will not be free bagged yard waste pick up in these neighborhoods. Collection of bags with stickers will resume November 2 through November 25 (weather permitting).

5th Ave N, County Roads 73 and 5, and Blake Road Residents

Due to county restrictions and high traffic levels, residents will have free leaf and yard waste bag pick up October 12 through November 13. Collection of bags with stickers will resume November 16 through November 25, weather permitting.

Yard Waste/Brush Drop Off

The free yard waste and brush drop off site (3100 Hopkins Crossroads) will remain open through November 28, weather permitting. Please note hours of operation below:

Through October 31:
Wed, 2-7 pm & Sat, 9-3 pm

November 1-14:
Wed, 1-5 pm & Sat, 9-3 pm

November 15-28:
Sat, 9-3 pm

All Other City Service Area Residents

Free fall leaf/yard waste bag pick-up will be October 12 through November 13. Collection of bags with stickers will resume November 16 through November 25, weather permitting.

Note: Bags of leaf and yard waste in all City service areas are collected on the same day as regular refuse. 🍷

Yard Waste Stickers

Before or after the free pick up dates, yard waste stickers must be affixed to bags and be visible from the street or alley. Stickers are \$2 each and may be purchased at City Hall or Public Works. A minimum of ten stickers must be ordered to purchase stickers by phone (952-939-1382). Stickers will be sent via mail and the fee will be added to your utility bill.

