

# CITY OF ST. BONI

## WINTER NEWSLETTER

### JANUARY 2024

### CITY OF ST. BONIFACIUS 2024 BUDGET SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide summary 2024 budget information concerning the City of St. Bonifacius to interested citizens. The budget is posted and published in the city newsletter and on-line in accordance with Minn. Stat. Sec. 471.6965. This budget is not complete; the 2024 Budget does not include water/sewer/storm sewer budgets. The complete budget may be examined at the St. Bonifacius City Office located at 8535 Kennedy Memorial Drive. The City Council approved this budget on 12/20/2023.

	2023	2024		2023	2024
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>
Property Taxes	873,715	960,935	General Government	419,464	446,101
Special Assessments	33,783	119,656	Public Safety	618,543	614,604
Licenses and Permits	105,847	156,078	Streets and Highways	383,259	458,370
State General Purpose Aid	374,355	428,286	Debt Service - Principal	329,735	318,346
State Categorical Aid (state aid for fire aid)	50,000	60,000	Interest and Fiscal Charges	36,425	244,491
Grants from County & Other Local Gov.	11,000	14,700	Capital Outlay	219,500	243,760
Charges for Services	343,379	381,370	Transfers to Other Funds	0	
Fines and Forfeits	6,600	8,000			
Interest on Investments	5,000	8,000			
Transfers from Other Funds	142,870	179,503			
<b>Total Revenues &amp; Other Financing Sources</b>	<b>1,946,549</b>	<b>2,316,528</b>	<b>Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses</b>	<b>2,006,926</b>	<b>2,325,672</b>

### **2024 TAX LEVY APPROVED**

The St. Bonifacius City Council on December 20, 2023, passed a resolution to approve the FINAL 2024 tax levy for \$960,935. This is a 10.0% increase from 2023, reduced from the PROPOSED 20% as described on taxpayer's notices received in November. The last five years of levies were as follows: 2023 - +6.4 %, 2022 - +12.9%, 2021 - +3.6%, 2020 - +2.1%, 2019 - +3.7%

### **COUNCIL ADOPTS 2024 UTILITY RATES**

The City Council has adopted the 2024 Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges. These rates represent the fees charged for city services including utility services for water and sewer. The following chart outlines the new 2024 utility rates in comparison to the 2023 rates. These new rates went into effect January 1, 2024. Residents will see the rate change for applicable services on the utility statement distributed in February 2024.

UTILITY	2023 RATE	2023 RATE	CHANGE
All stated rates are billed monthly.			
<b>Water Rates</b>			
Base Unit Charge per Month	\$8.00	\$8.40	+\$0.40
Use Rate Charge per 1,000 gallons	\$6.80	\$7.14	+\$0.34
<b>Sewer Rates</b>			
Base Unit Charge per Month	\$8.35	\$8.77	+\$0.76
Use Rate Charge per 1,000 gallons	\$4.50	\$4.73	+\$0.23
June, July, August & September based on April's water reading			
<b>Storm Water</b>			
Maintenance Fee	\$7.75	\$8.00	+\$0.25
<b>Other Fees</b>			
Penalty/Late Payment	2%	2%	No Change
Curb Stop Turn Off or On Labor	\$25.00/visit	\$26.25/visit	+1.25
Water Meter/Radio Non-compliance	\$50.00/month	\$52.50/month	+2.50

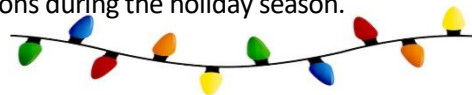
**SAVE TIME AND MONEY:** Consider enrolling in Auto Pay for your city water bill utility account. The Auto Pay Program is the most convenient way to pay your bill. With this option, you can automatically pay your utility bill through your checking or savings account. The funds are withdrawn from your account on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. No more checks to write or stamps to buy. The program is free and only requires a one-time setup. Forms are available on the city website at [www.ci.st-bonifacius.mn.us](http://www.ci.st-bonifacius.mn.us). Use the RESIDENTS tab at the top right of page and go into WATER & SEWER UTILITY BILLING or stop at city hall for a form. Setup is quick and easy!

### **LOCAL BOARD OF REVIEW IS APRIL 3**

Property owners who do not agree with their current property values established by the County Assessor are invited to attend the Local Board of Review meeting, to be held at 6:30 p.m. on April 3<sup>rd</sup> in the City Council Chambers. You are encouraged to first call or e-mail the County Assessor at (612) 802-7532 or [kevin.wynn@hennepin.us](mailto:kevin.wynn@hennepin.us) as he may be able to answer your questions.

### **THANK YOU**

The Parks/Planning Commission and the City Council would like to thank the businesses and residents for displaying lights and/or decorations during the holiday season.





It is going to be a busy and important year for elections in 2024. Cities will be responsible for running three elections in 2024; the Presidential Primary on March 5, the Primary Election on August 13, and the General Election on November 5. The City will be operating during normal polling hours (7:00 a.m. to 8:00

p.m.) for all three elections in 2024. Early Voting for the Presidential Primary began Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. Early Voting can be done via the County by mail or at City Hall.

See [www.hennepin.us/residents/elections/prepare-vote](http://www.hennepin.us/residents/elections/prepare-vote) for more information on early voting or the MN Secretary of State website for more information regarding the Presidential Primary: <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/how-elections-work/presidential-primary> or call City Hall at 952-446-1061.

Municipal elections are on the November 5<sup>th</sup> ballot and will include the Mayor and two City Council Member seats. Candidate filing for municipal offices opens July 30<sup>th</sup>.

If you are new to St. Bonifacius or if you have not voted in the past four years, you may need to register to vote. Registering to vote prior to Election Day makes voting a quicker and easier process. You can register online at <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote> or you can pick up a voter registration application at City Hall.

IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES - 2024	
Date	Details
Jan. 19	Presidential Primary Absentee Voting Begins
Feb. 16	Direct Balloting for Presidential Primary Begins
Mar. 2	Early voting held on Saturday before the General Election Day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
<b>March 5</b>	<b>Presidential Primary Election Day (polls open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.)</b>
Jun. 28	State Primary Absentee Voting Begins
Jul. 30	Filings begin for mayor and council member seats
Jul. 26	Direct Balloting Period for Primary Begins
Aug. 10	Early voting held on Saturday before the State Primary Election Day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
<b>August 13</b>	<b>State Primary Election Day (polls open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.)</b>
Aug. 13	Last day to file as candidate
Aug. 15	Last day to withdraw as candidate
Sep. 20	Absentee voting for General Election begins
Oct. 18	Direct Balloting Period for General Election Begins
Nov. 2	Early voting held on Saturday before the General Election Day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
<b>November 5</b>	<b>General Election Day (polls open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.)</b>

### CANDIDATES FOR CITY COUNCIL - 2024

The following seats are open for the 2024 Election. Mayor (2-year term) and Council Members (2 – 4-year seats). Stop in at city hall between Jul. 30 and Aug. 13 to complete form and pay \$2.00 filing fee.

### CITY REQUIRES RENTAL LICENSES

The City of St. Boni reminds all property owners, who rent their property as living quarters, are required to register, and obtain a rental license. This includes property occupied by the owner with rooms rented to unrelated boarders. The following types of rented units must be registered:

- Single family homes
- Condo/Townhome
- Duplex/Twin home
- Multi-Family
- Sleeping Rooms
- Rental properties in which all renters are related to the property owner (owner must file an Affidavit of Exemption with the City stating that each renter is a relative) – No Registration Fee



The purpose of the license is to assure both the renter and property owner that the dwelling is safe and up to code. An inspection by the building official is required to obtain a license. Two-year license renewals are due June 1. Current registered rental properties will be receiving renewal notices in March. If you are a lessor and have not applied for a license or are a renter and want to verify that your landlord is registered, please call the city office at 952-446-1061.

### COMMUNITY ROOM AVAILABLE TO RENT FOR FAMILY & GROUP GATHERINGS



The St. Boni Community Room is available for rental. As you make plans for upcoming graduation parties, weddings, birthday parties and family reunions, consider the Community Room. Spring and summer dates are on the calendar, so make plans now! The city rental fees for both the Community

Room and the City Council Chambers are as follows:

Class 1 - Non-profit groups located within St. Bonifacius can use either venue at no charge any day of the week.

Class 2 - Businesses and residents of the community (defined as within the Fire Service Contract Area) can use the Council Chambers two times per month at a rate of \$50 per day between the hours of 9: a.m. and 4:00 p.m. when the city office is open.

Class 3 Businesses and residents of the community (defined as within the Fire Service Contract Area) can use the Community Room at \$75 Monday through Thursday and \$150 for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The Community Room is also available to this group Monday through Thursday mornings for \$30 per day.

Class 4 - Businesses and residents who live outside of the fire service contract area. Rental fees are \$100 for the Community Room Monday through Thursday, and \$200 for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Damage deposits and key deposits are also required.

The Community Room can seat up to 160 people. Please contact city hall at 952-446-1061 if you are interested in renting either the Community Room or the City Council Chambers for your special event. This city revenue reduces the property tax levy!

Spread the word of the community room rental availability to your co-workers, employers, family, and friends, and consider renting the space for your next gathering!



## SAFETY FIRST!

Plows are big trucks and sight lines can be limited at times. These trucks do not stop or swerve as quickly as cars, and they need extra room to turn. **It is VERY IMPORTANT to keep children at a safe distance.** No matter how tempting those big snow piles

are, do not allow kids to build forts or play in the snow drifts near or on the street. We do not want anyone to get hurt.

### HALT THE SALT

As winter settles in, we will start to see relief from salt to reduce the dangers of ice and snow on our driveways and sidewalks. While it is essential to keep safe in the wintertime, it is important to note that salt does not just disappear when the snow and ice eventually melts. Instead, it can cause irreversible damage as it washes into our lakes and streams.

Fortunately, you can help prevent salt pollution by limiting the amount of deicers you use on your driveways and sidewalks. Try to avoid using salt altogether, if possible. However, if safety concerns require you to control ice, follow these simple tips to limit your salt use:

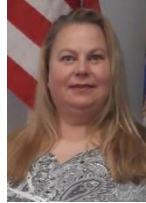
- 1) Shovel. To limit the amount of deicers needed, try to keep your driveway and walkways free from snow when it first falls.
- 2) Skip the salt if temperatures are below 15 degrees. Most salts are not effective below this temperature. Instead, use sand for traction.
- 3) Use salt sparingly. Use no more than one pound of salt for 250 square feet. One heaping coffee mug is about one pound of salt and 250 square feet is roughly the size of two parking spaces.
- 4) Adding extra salt does not mean more melting. If salt or sand is visible on dry pavement, it is no longer working and will be washed away. Sweep it up and use it somewhere else.
- 5) Tell a neighbor! They could be over-salting their driveways or sidewalks.

## CITY WIDE CLEAN-UP – MAY 4



When you begin your spring cleaning this year, keep the May 4<sup>th</sup> City-Wide Clean-Up Day in mind. The event will be held from 8 a.m. to noon. Watch for details in the next newsletter

## HELLO FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS –



### MAYOR KERRY TAYLOR!

Happy new year to you all. Now that winter has finally arrived, remember not to park on city streets to allow for the snowplows.

Last year was a busy one here in St. Boni.

Felt like we had construction in the whole south side of town. Just one more layer of pavement for Steiner Street and the water meter on Glacier Road and those projects are done. Thank you to all the residents for their patience during that lengthy process.

We are now in the planning stage for the next big project, Wildwood Avenue. Construction will be 2025 or 2026. Bit by bit we will fix our infrastructure and maintain those investments.

We also have plans to make some updates to the playground at Memorial Park. Broken equipment has been removed over the years with no replacements, so this park needs a bit of attention.

**THANK YOU** to the residents of St. Boni. Public Safety picked up 4 exceptionally large bags full of toys from City Hall and delivered them to Toys for Tots. Thank you so much for your generosity!



## City Council Recap

The City Council meets twice a month. Highlighted are items the City Council has acted on over the past three months:

- Sign Permit approved for Mackenthun's Meat and Deli at 4275 Main Street
- Sign Permit approved for Local Nutrition at 4080 Tower Street Suite 1120
- Approved Bargaen quote of \$1,715 for thermal patching repair of manholes
- MN Public Employee's Insurance renewal reflected a 1.4% decrease in premiums from 2023.
- James Vanderlinde and Jason Menzel hired for seasonal part-time on-call snow removal part-position
- Approved new snow policy with changes of damaged mailbox replacement with addition that owners take pictures and submit them of the damage to the city and city will replace equivalent mailbox and post up to \$500 per structure.
- Approved liquor license to new owner of St. Boni Bistro, Molly Krinhop
- Approved a Fire Relief per year of service pension increase from \$5200 to \$5700.
- Approved firefighter 8% fire call and drill wage increase and a firefighter administrative positions average increase of 4% as individually listed in proposed budget submitted in September for the 2024 budget. Our brave firefighters are rewarded with a pension after 10 years of service. Their 2024 hourly wage when attending a drill or call is \$13.60.
- Approved Resolution 2023-39 closing of the 2008 Street Improvement project Fund #307 and transferring \$59,272 to the Parks Capital Outlay fund.
- Approved Gregg Floor Covering quote of \$2,685 to replace the carpet in the city office.
- Approved liquor licenses for Holiday Non-Intoxicating Off-sale; Kwik Trip Non-Intoxicating Off-sale and St. Bonifacius Lions Club On-sale.
- Approved the 3-Year labor agreement between the City and International Union of Operating Engineers Local No. 49 with pay increases of 2024 6%, 2025 4.5% and 2026 4.0%.
- Approved 6% wage increases for Secretary/Receptionist and Admin/Clerk/Treasurer (both non-union) for 2024.

City Council meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and are open to the public. You are encouraged to attend the meetings or watch them on LMCC Channel 8 or from LMCC website which is available on the city website. All meeting minutes and council packets are also available on the city website.

Or Current Resident

# 2024 WINTER NEWSLETTER

## CITY CALENDAR

Feb. 6 ..... Public Safety Advisory Committee 9:00 a.m.  
 Feb. 7 ..... City Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
 Feb. 15 ..... Utility Bills Due  
 Feb. 19 ..... City Office Closed - President's Day  
 Feb. 21 ..... City Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
 Mar. 6 ..... City Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
 Mar. 15 ..... Utility Bills Due  
 Mar. 20 ..... City Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
 Apr. 3 ..... Local Board of Review 6:30 p.m.  
 Apr. 3 ..... City Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
 Apr. 8 ..... Fire Relief Meeting (Fire Station) 6:00 p.m.  
 Apr. 11 ..... Council/Consult/Staff Quarterly Workshop 7:00 p.m.  
 Apr. 15 ..... Utility Bills Due  
 Apr. 17 ..... City Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
 May 1 ..... City Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
 May 4 ..... City Cleanup Day 8:00 am til noon  
 May 15 ..... City Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
 May 15 ..... Utility Bills Due  
 May 16 ..... Fire Dept. Advisory Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
 May 27 ..... City Office Closed for Memorial Day

## MEETING SCHEDULES

<b><u>City Council</u></b> 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.	<b><u>Parks/Planning Commission</u></b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> and last Tuesday 6:00 p.m. (if there is an agenda)
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Contact City Hall at least 4 business days before council or planning commission meeting if you have an item for the agenda.



### Check Out the City Website!

[www.ci.st-bonifacius.mn.us](http://www.ci.st-bonifacius.mn.us)

The City website provides information about your local government, answers to frequently asked questions, and links to frequently used city forms including building permits and licenses. The City also posts Council meeting packets, Council meeting videos, public notices, ordinance changes, policies in effect, and current events.

follow us on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/cityofstboni/>

## 2023-2024 ST. BONI CITY COUNCIL

**Kerry Taylor, Mayor**

[mayor@st-bonifacius.mn.us](mailto:mayor@st-bonifacius.mn.us)

952-913-8240

**Terrill Anderson, Councilmember**

[tglaanderson@yahoo.com](mailto:tglaanderson@yahoo.com)

952-446-8843

**Robert Smestad, Jr., Councilmember**

[sfcinc@frontiernet.net](mailto:sfcinc@frontiernet.net)

612-382-5954

**Carolyn Brooks, Councilmember**

[carolyn@misslakeshore.com](mailto:carolyn@misslakeshore.com)

612-965-8474

**Randy Ebert, Councilmember**

[randvebert14@yahoo.com](mailto:randvebert14@yahoo.com)

612-685-8085

Watch the City Council Meetings:  
Lake Minnetonka Communications Commission  
(LMCC) broadcasts meetings on  
Mediacom Cable, Ch. 8,  
and also on their website at [www.lmcc-tv.org](http://www.lmcc-tv.org).

## CONTACT CITY HALL

8535 Kennedy Memorial Drive

St. Bonifacius, MN 55375

952-446-1061

[assistantclerk@st-bonifacius.mn.us](mailto:assistantclerk@st-bonifacius.mn.us)

Mon-Fri 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Public Works On-Call: 952-446-8193

**Brenda Fisk**

Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

**Kristine DeBoer**

Assistant Clerk

**Tania Duke**

Secretary/Receptionist

**Bruce Meuleners**

Parks/Streets Supervisor

**Pete Hilgers**

Public Utilities Supervisor

For after hours Public Works emergencies, please contact the Minnetrista Police Department at 952-446-1131.