



Mayor's Message

Greetings!

As we enter “the most wonderful time of the year” I'd like to share some brief updates to keep you in the loop about what's going on this month in Carver:

2023 Budget – In September we set the Preliminary 2023 Levy at \$3,851,980. The Preliminary Levy is a ceiling/“not to exceed” amount. Carver's 2023 budget is a 6.9% increase over the 2022 budget, but the City's tax rate is anticipated to drop by more than 10%, from 48.40% to 37.12%, based on preliminary projections. On December 5, the Truth in Taxation public hearing will take place at 7:00 p.m. during the City Council meeting. Residents are invited to comment on the proposed budget and their property taxes. Then, on December 19, City Council will consider adoption of the 2023 Budget and Property Tax Levy during the City Council meeting. For all the details on Carver's 2023 Budget check out cityofcarver.com/277/Resident-Budget-Guide.

Glen Henry – After serving for 12 years on City Council, Glen Henry will be finishing up his third term this month. I'm appreciative of Glen's service and the impact he's had on the City of Carver and wish him well in his future endeavors.

6th Street West – As promised, 6th Street West opened back up to traffic last month, just before Thanksgiving. While the majority of the 6th Street Improvement Project is complete, the remaining landscaping and final layer of pavement will be completed in the spring.

I wish you all the best this holiday season. May it be a delightful time of celebration with family and friends. As always, if you have questions or comments about any of the items listed above or any other topic, please don't hesitate to reach out. I look forward to hearing from you!

Mayor Courtney Johnson

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Council Member Glen Henry



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Key Contacts

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2023 Proposed Utility Rates

The City annually reviews a Long-Term Financial Plan, which identifies future capital equipment, infrastructure projects, staffing, operations, and maintenance needs. The Plan assesses the financial impact of these identified needs, along with the corresponding utility rate impact these investments have in the General, Water, Sanitary Sewer, and Storm Water Funds. The planning process has been essential as the City just completed a \$12 million water treatment plant expansion project.

In conjunction with the Long-Term Financial Plan and the identified infrastructure needs in the areas of water, sanitary sewer, and storm water, rate and fee adjustments are now being proposed for 2023. The City Council will consider the 2023 proposed rates at their meeting on **Monday, December 5, at 7 p.m.**

Utility Usage Charge	2022 Rates	2023 Proposed Rates
Water		
0 - 5,000 Gallons	\$4.67	\$4.81
5,001 - 10,000 Gallons	\$6.42	\$6.61
10,001 Gallons +	\$9.34	\$9.62
Water Testing Fee	\$9.72 annually	0.81 per month
Base Fee	\$11.68	\$12.03
Sanitary Sewer		
Per 1,000 Gallons	\$7.68	\$7.91
Storm Water		
Base Fee - Residential	\$10.32	\$10.84
Base Fee - C/I	\$35.31	\$37.08
Utility Connection Charge	2022 Fee	2023 Proposed Fee
Water *connection fees are for new construction only		
Connection Fee / Unit	\$8,900	\$9,167
Sanitary Sewer		
Local Connection Fee / Unit	\$980	\$1,009
MCES Connection Fee / Unit	\$2,485	\$2,485

The proposed 2023 utility rates are estimated to increase a monthly utility bill by \$3.93 for a household using 8,000 gallons of water a month. That is an overall 3% increase from their 2022 bill of \$126.05 to \$129.98 for 2023.

If you have questions or comments related to the 2023 proposed utility rates, please contact Lynn Tschudi, Finance Director, at (952) 448-8744 or by email at ltschudi@cityofcarver.com.



City Council Rundown – November

The City Council Rundown is intended to be used as an informal summary of regular meeting highlights. For complete details on all agenda items, official meeting minutes, or to watch a video of the meeting, please visit www.cityofcarver.com. To ask questions or share comments related to City Council meeting actions, contact Brent Mareck, City Manager, at (952) 448-8737 or by email at bmareck@cityofcarver.com.



Left to Right: Councilor Joy McKnight, Councilor Kristy Mock, Mayor Courtney Johnson, Councilor Glen Henry, & Councilor Laurie Sayre

Fire Department Retirement Plan: The City Council, with support from the Carver Fire Relief Association, approved a new retirement program for the Fire Department. The current retirement plan is managed by the Carver Fire Relief Association, an independent non-profit organization with member Firefighters, managed by a third-party investment advisor. The program will now transition to the Statewide Volunteer Firefighter (SVF) Plan, which is managed by the State of Minnesota's Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA).

Panhandling Regulations – Work Session: The City Attorney provided an overview of the authority cities have regarding the regulation of panhandling activities in the public street right-of-way. No additional action is planned at this time.

Draft of 2023 Fee Schedule – Work Session: The Finance Director provided a draft of the 2023 Fee schedule, which includes proposed fees for City facility rentals, building permits, utility rates, and charges for various other services, licenses, and permits. The City Council will consider adopting the 2023 Fee Schedule at the December 5 City Council meeting.

2023 Budget – Work Session: The Finance Director reviewed the 2023 Budget with the City Council and presented a draft of the Truth In Taxation presentation that will be shared at the December 5 meeting. Truth In Taxation is an opportunity for property owners, residents, businesses, and all other interested stakeholders to learn more about and share perspectives with the City Council on the proposed budget and property tax levy for 2023.

CSAH 40 Turn Back Project – Work Session: The City Engineer updated the City Council on agreement negotiations with Carver County, which would result in the City of Carver maintaining and controlling CSAH 40, which includes parts of Old Carver Road, 4th St. E., Broadway, and Main St., from CSAH 61 to CSAH 11 (Jonathan Carver Parkway).

Delinquent Bills: The City Council certified delinquent bills and acted to specially assess unpaid amounts to the property owner's property taxes.

Upcoming Events



December 3	Carver Village Christmas – Saturday, December 3, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Santa arrives by fire truck at 1:30 p.m. Carver Village Hall, 316 Broadway Treats, crafts, and coloring contest. Bring your camera to take pictures with Santa. Please bring a non-perishable food item for donation. Sponsored by the Carver Lions and the Carver Fire Department
December 5	Tot Time Art in Carver – Monday, December 5, 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Free drop-in event for toddlers at Carver Village Hall, 316 Broadway
December 8	Coffee, Cards & Conversation – Second Thursdays of the month, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. December 8, January 12, February 9, and March 9 Free drop-in event at Carver Village Hall, 316 Broadway Play games and enjoy conversations and refreshments. Stop in for a fun afternoon!
December 10	SouthWest Metro Holiday Market – Saturday, December 10, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Carver Village Hall, 316 Broadway Enjoy your holiday shopping with 20 vendors offering local foods, arts, and crafts.
December 14	Carver Lions Senior Luncheon – Wednesday, December 14 Social at 11:30 a.m., Lunch served at 12:00 p.m. FREE! Carver Village Hall, 316 Broadway Ages 65+ Reservations required by December 4; call Sandy at 952-856-2655 to RSVP

Winter Weather Reminders

Parking: Following two inches or more of snow accumulation, no parking is allowed on City streets until the street has been plowed curb to curb.

Sidewalk: Property owners and occupants are responsible for keeping public sidewalks adjacent to their property clear of snow and ice. This should be done within 48 hours after a snow event.

The City maintains a Snow Plowing and Ice Control Policy, which can be found at cityofcarver.com/179.

Fire Hydrants: Clear at least a three-foot radius around your neighborhood fire hydrants. During a fire, seconds count and the extra time spent removing snow from around fire hydrants may save your neighbor's home or your own.

Lock Your Car!

CARVER COUNTY SHERIFF

THEFT FROM A VEHICLE IS A CRIME OF OPPORTUNITY. MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT BY DOING YOUR PART. LOCK YOUR DOORS. CLOSE ALL WINDOWS. REMOVE VALUABLES FROM SIGHT.

SHERIFF NON-EMERGENCY: (952) 361-1231
EMERGENCY: 911

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[HTTPS://WWW.CO.CARVER.MN.US/DEPARTMENTS/COUNTY-SHERIFF](https://www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/county-sheriff)