

CITY OF DELL RAPIDS

FALL 2020 CITY UPDATE

IMPORTANT NEWS, DATES AND INFORMATION FOR DELL RAPIDS RESIDENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR - BENEFITS OF SHOPPING LOCAL

Each September the City of Dell Rapids enacts the budget for the next calendar year. Our two major sources of revenue for the budget are the property taxes (about 28% of your property tax statement) paid by city property owners and the city sales tax collected by our businesses. The city request for property tax dollars can only increase based on the growth of the tax base and the rise in the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Sales Tax revenue for 2021 is a projection, based on the last 3 or 4 years of experience. We budget sales tax

revenue very conservatively in order to avoid forced budget cuts if revenue were to fall short of what was expected. Sales Tax Revenue for 2021 is budgeted at \$900,000. The last 4 years our average collection of sales taxes is \$1,202,000. This budgeting process year to year allows us to increase our cash reserves which in turn provides us the capability to fund significant projects. An example for 2021 is Old Highway 77 milling and overlay from 4th Street to 15th Street.

All these words about our budget and taxes leads us to where we are in September

2020. Six months ago, we anticipated a sizable reduction in sales tax revenue due to Covid-19 impact on business. To our surprise, since April, we have had significant increases each month in sales tax. One obvious answer is consumers are spending more of their money in Dell Rapids businesses. Unfortunately, not every business has benefited to the degree some have. Consumer spending priorities have changed somewhat and people have decided to spend more of their money in Dell Rapids. However, an unwanted and harmful pandemic has pointed out to us the great value of shop-



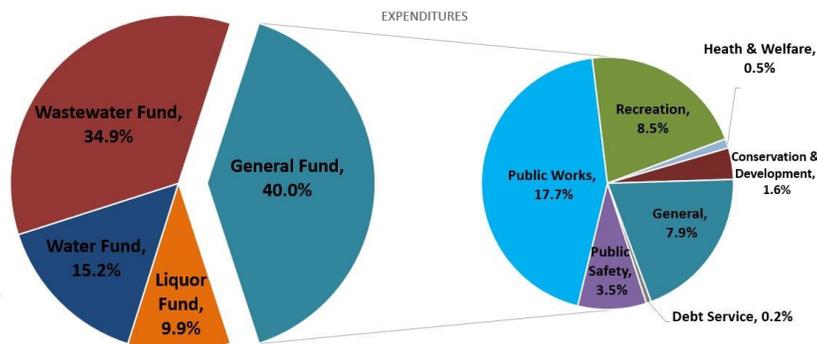
MAYOR, TOM EARLEY

CITY COUNCIL PASSES 2021 BUDGET

The City Council works together annually to prepare a budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The budget is considered the City's policy document that sets goals and demonstrates to residents the Council's commitment towards using tax dollars in ap-

propriate and effective ways. The 2021 budget reflects an investment in both infrastructure and

quality of life projects. The 2021 budget spending for all funds is \$12,188,462. *Continued page 2.*



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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR CONTINUED...



ping local, spending your money in Dell Rapids.

Shopping local does more than support an individual business. The history of sales tax collection in Dell Rapids provides the resources our City needs to meet improvements and do quality of life projects. Our small businesses provide employment for people who spend their money in Dell Rapids and pay taxes. Small businesses donate their money to help meet the emergency needs of people whom they know and who live in the Dell Rapids community. Businesses need ser-

vices provided by other businesses in Dell Rapids. A large percentage of money spent in Dell Rapids recycles back into our community. As a business grows due to local support, that can be the initiative for that business to expand and have a larger presence in our community. The strength of our local business can attract other types of business to our community.

We know that not all our spending will take place in Dell Rapids. But I do hope you have a better understanding of the impact you have

when you spend your money in our community. Your dollar enhances what city government can do. Your dollar supports the growth of local business. Your dollar supports your community needs. Your dollar supports the community you value and helps to ensure our growth. Thank you for what you do and how you support Dell Rapids! Thanks to all our businesses for the contributions they make to our city and community.

2021 BUDGET CONTINUED...

CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, OCTOBER 12TH IN OBSERVANCE OF NATIVE AMERICAN DAY

The mill levy will stay the same as the current rate of 4.75. The mill levy is the tax rate that is applied against assessed valuation. The 2021 budget focuses on the replacement of the City's old original infrastructure. The main infrastructure spending in 2021 will be dedicated towards the replacement of the water, sewer and storm sewer on 6th Street east of Garfield Ave-

nue. The City is also planning to mill and overlay Old 77 from 4th Street to 15th Street. To continue an emphasis on quality of life additions the City is planning to add a splash pad to the existing swimming pool. Other expenditures include police, fire and ambulance protection. The budget also reflects standard services of snow removal, street maintenance,

operation of our Carnegie Library, personnel staffing of departments as well as investments in technology. All expenditures are categorized into separate funds as dictated by the Government Accounting Standards Board. The 2021 budget is available for review on the City's website www.cityofdellrapids.com.

FREE RUBBLE SITE DAYS/TECHNOLOGY DROP OFF

The Leaf Drop is FREE and open in October and November.

The Leaf Drop is located just west of the north Hwy 115 Bridge.

The City Council has declared 3 days as Free Rubble Site Days. The City will also be again offering the free drop off of Technology items on Saturday, November 7th.

The free days are as follows: **Saturday - October 31** from 9 AM to 4 PM ; **Thursday - November 5** from 1 PM to 6 PM; **Saturday - November 7** from 9 AM to 4 PM (Technology Drop Off)

The Rubble Site is a restricted site. It doesn't accept household waste, recyclable materials or electronics. It is restricted to branches, yard waste, construction materials, furniture, mattresses etc... There is a \$10.00 fee for appliances.

EMERALD ASH BORER - WHAT TO KNOW

The emerald ash borer (EAB) is an invasive species that was discovered in Sioux Falls in 2018. The EAB has not yet been discovered in Dell Rapids. However, the City of Dell Rapids is taking a proactive approach to addressing EAB.

The City has decided to preemptively begin the removal of untreated ash trees within the city right of way or boulevard area between the sidewalk and curb. The removal of trees will occur over a multiple year phased period. The first round of trees will be removed starting in November of 2020. Trees slated for removal will be marked with a red "X". Property

owners will receive a letter prior to removal of a tree. Each property owner will be given an opportunity to treat the ash trees in the boulevard abutting their property. Treatment of an ash tree must be completed by a certified arborist and a treatment must occur every two years. The property owner will be responsible to notify the City of the professional treatment. All untreated boulevard ash trees will be cut down at NO cost to the property owner.

The tree removal process includes removal of the tree, grinding of the stump and removal the stump grindings. The City will place soil and seed on the stump area. The

City will ask the property owner to water and care for the grass.

In the case a property owner decides to treat a tree, that tree will then become the full responsibility of the property owner. If the tree later becomes infected with EAB it will be the responsibility of the property owner to remove the tree.

For additional information on EAB visit www.emeraldashborerinsouthdakota.sd.gov. For information regarding the City's Emerald Ash Borer plan, please contact City Administrator Justin Weiland at cityadmin@cityofdellrapids.com or (605) 428-3595.



City Hall Hours

Monday - Thursday:

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Friday:

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Library Hours

Monday:

8:30 AM - 6 PM

Tuesday - Friday:

8:30 AM - 4 PM

Saturday:

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

CLEAR SIDEWALKS AFTER SNOWFALL

All property owners are responsible to keep snow and ice clear from their public sidewalks following a snow event. Following a snow event the City provides a 24 hour grace period to have

snow removed from sidewalks. This 24 hour period starts at the end of a snowfall event. Following the 24 hour period, properties that have not cleared snow will have their sidewalks cleared by the

City. A bill will be sent to the owner with an additional \$50 fine. Please sign up for text messaging alerts to be informed when the City calls a Snow Emergency. Text "Dells" to (605) 206-2927.

LIBRARY SERVICES—UPDATE

The library is open for "Grab and Go" Services! Stop by the library to get some new books, movies or magazines! Computers, printing, copies and fax are all available! Storytime is every Tuesday morning through the month of October at 9:00 AM! Join

us outside on the library lawn or on Facebook! The library will also be hosting a "Book Walk" during the month of October! A book walk is a series of signs covered with the pages of a children's book placed along a pathway for all to read and enjoy!



Photo Courtesy of Sioux River Red Rock Trail Committee



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SIGN UP FOR CITY TEXT
MESSAGE ALERTS: TEXT "DELLS"
TO 605-206-2927

- ALERTS MAY INCLUDE SNOW
EMERGENCIES, MOSQUITO
SPRAYING, HYDRANT FLUSHING
AND OTHER IMPORTANT PUBLIC
INFORMATION

6TH STREET PROJECT - SPRING 2021

In 2021 the City will continue the South East Infrastructure project with the complete renovation of 6th Street. This project will replace the water, sewer storm sewer, curb and gutter and asphalt in the area east of Garfield Avenue. This project also includes the replacement of the culvert on 5th Street between Garfield Ave and State as well as the replacement of water and sewer utilities on Iowa Avenue between 9th and 10th Street. The property owners affected by the project will receive notice of upcoming project informational meetings prior to the end of 2020. The City plans to bid the project in March of 2021 with construction to begin in the Spring. This project reflects the City's commitment towards replacing the original infrastructure of our community

COVID 19 IN DELL RAPIDS

The State of South Dakota has seen an increase in Covid-19 cases over the past month, including within Dell Rapids. As we approach the cold and flu season, City leaders encourage our residents continue to be diligent about personal measures to keep our community safe. This includes the CDC's guidelines to wear a mask when around others, wash hands often, disinfect surfaces and practice physical distancing. This also includes monitoring symptoms, getting tested if you exhibit symptoms and quarantining if you test positive or were exposed to a positive case. These simple steps and responsible decisions will help to keep our local economy moving in a positive direction.

CITY TRANSIT NAMING CONTEST WINNER - BATA TRANSITION

The City of Dell Rapids is transitioning to Brookings Area Transit Authority (BATA) as the new management organization for the City Transit system, effective on October 1st. To schedule a ride please call BATA Dispatch toll-free at (855) 962-9120. Tokens to ride the bus can be purchased at City Hall during office hours or purchased directly from a bus driver.

The City congratulates Nancy Schmidt as the winner of the Name the Bus Contest! The City received 35 entries for the Name the Bus Contest. A committee reviewed several great name ideas and ultimately selected "DELLS XPRESS" as the new name of the Dell Rapids transit system. The City thanks everyone that took the time to submit their name ideas. Nancy Schmidt will receive 20 free bus tokens (\$40.00 value).

HYDRANT FLUSHING PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Dell Rapids Public Works Department will be flushing water hydrants during the months of October and November. Hydrants will be flushed throughout the City as weather and schedules allow. Because of the nature of the work it is difficult to determine when and where hydrants will be flushed. Flushing hydrants may stir up sediment that can end up in private service lines creating dirty and discolored water. It is recommended to run water for a short period prior to starting a load of laundry to avoid staining of clothing. The Public Works Department apologizes for any inconvenience and thanks you for your understanding.



CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE 1ST AND 3RD MONDAYS OF EVERY MONTH AT DELL RAPIDS CITY HALL. THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME TO ATTEND. MEETINGS ARE ALSO STREAMED ON THE CITY WEBSITE WWW.CITYOFDELLRAPIDS.COM