The Bridge—Volume 126

CITY OF ROCKFORD

City Hall

6031 Main Street
Rockford, MN 55373
phone: 763-477-6565
fax: 763-477-4393
Email: cityhall@cityofrockford.org
Web Site: www.cityofrockford.org

City Hall Office Hours

Mon-Fri 8am—4:30pm

Mayor

Renee Hafften

City Council

Deb Buoy
Jeannette Graner
Ted Hill
Rick Martinson

City Council Meetings

Second & fourth Tuesday of each month at 6pm

Planning Commission Meetings

Second Thursday (fourth Thursday Apr-Oct if needed) of each month at 7pm

Park Commission Meetings

First Monday of every other month at 6pm

To receive the newsletter and city updates via email, send your email address to:
audrae@cityofrockford.org

"Like" The City of Rockford on Facebook

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

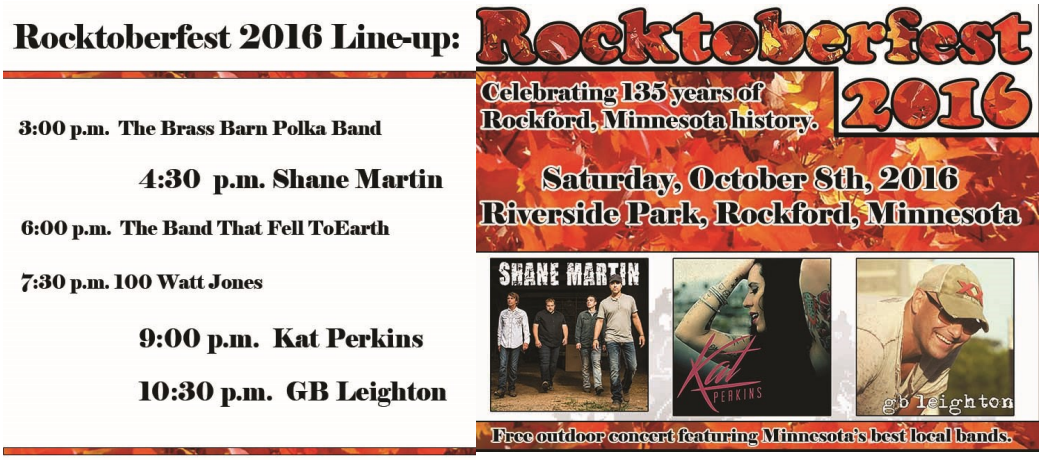
On behalf of the City Council, I would like to thank everyone for being patient this year during our downtown construction project. Our efforts seem to have paid off based on the overwhelming positive comments we have received from our community and neighboring cities. It makes me very proud when people who have driven through our city say "You live in Rockford. Your downtown looks awesome!".

It was wonderful to see so many people at River Days enjoying the events this year. All the hard work the committee and volunteers contribute makes this community event a huge success. Thank you to everyone who supports or attends River Days because we couldn't have this event without you!

City Staff and Council continue to discuss new opportunities with residential, commercial and retail developers. We have a couple purchase agreements with local developers and expect to see more growth over the next year.

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, October 8th, 2016 for Rocktoberfest,** celebrating Rockford's 135th anniversary! Rocktoberfest is a free community event featuring some of the best local bands in Minnesota; including Shane Martin, Kat Perkins and GB Leighton. The concert will start at 3:00 p.m. in Riverside Park, with six bands, a beer garden, food and drinks. Please come down to Riverside park and celebrate our city's anniversary with your neighbors and friends.

Mayor Renee Hafften



Riverside Park—8220 Elm Street
Rockford, MN 55373

Administrator's Report

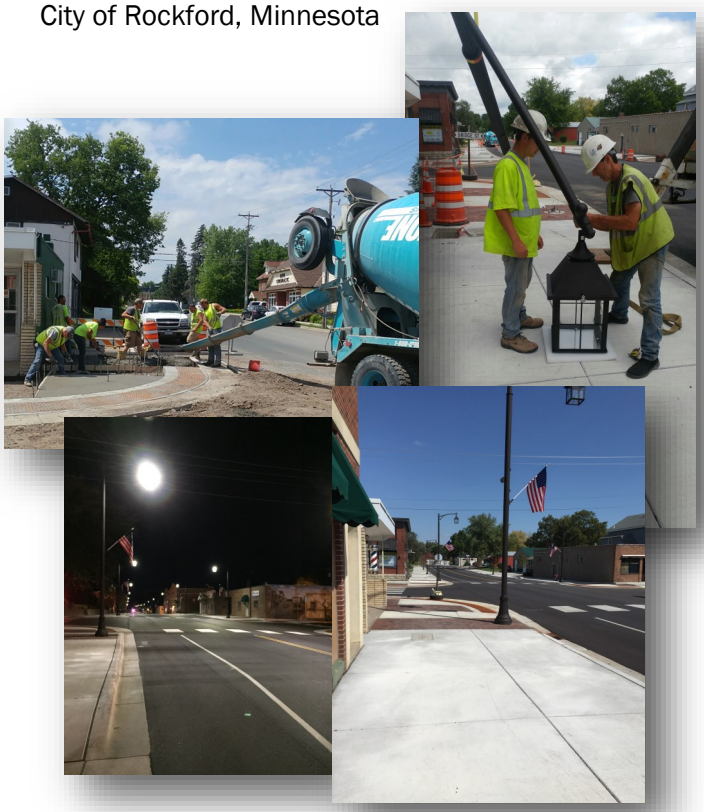
As the summer heat subsides to cooler temperatures, we prepare to welcome the Fall Season to the City of Rockford. With the Main Street project completed, we are turning our attention to new projects and opportunities. The City is currently working with a couple of new developers to bring projects forward in our community. The Tavern on the Crow planning process continues to move forward, with potential construction commencing in the Spring of 2017. We are also working with residential housing developers to help them prepare for potential new construction under consideration for 2017.

This October, the City will be partnering with the Rockford Greenfield Chamber of Commerce, the Rockford Area Historical Society and the Rockford Fire Department Auxiliary to bring a free concert to our community called "Rocktoberfest 2016, Celebrating 135 Years of Rockford History." This event will showcase six live bands, featuring local legends Shane Martin, Kat Perkins and G.B. Leighton.

City Staff are also working on improvements to the Riverside Park Hockey Rink, which includes installation of permanent boards, re-grading the lot for better ice quality, installation of fencing above the hockey boards and installation of lights to allow for evening use of the rink.

On behalf of all of us who work for the City of Rockford, we would like to thank you for your patience and support this past Summer during construction, and also for your continued support for our efforts and initiatives. As always, feel free to stop by City Hall if you have questions or would like to share any thoughts you may have.

Dan Madsen
City Administrator, Special Counsel
City of Rockford, Minnesota



Rockford Fire Department—Open House

Open House—Monday, September 19th (5pm-8pm)
Location: Rockford Fire Department, 6700 Main Street, Rockford MN 55373

ALL AGES WELCOME TO ATTEND!

*****Volunteer Recruitment Drive—Fire Fighters & Auxiliary Members*****

Stop in to learn more about your local Fire Department
- Explore Fire Station
- Truck Displays
- Spray the Hose
- Equipment Demonstrations
- Fire Prevention Information

Complimentary

Hamburgers
Hotdogs
Chips & Water

Always accepting new or gently used toys for local Toy Drive!

The Rockford Fire Department is looking for NEW members. Paid on call. No experience needed. Training will be provided. Applications are available at City Hall or online at: www.cityofrockford.org

Beginning at dust on Halloween October 31st, the Rockford Fire Fighters will be driving through Rockford to hand out free glow sticks to the "Trick or Treaters".

Rockford-Greenfield Area Chamber of Commerce

October 13th Chamber Coffee Meeting at BANKWEST 7:30am

The R-G Chamber will be held on **November 10th** at Wright-Hennepin Electric located at 6800 Electric Drive, Rockford. Networking starts at 11:30am with lunch and program at noon.

The chamber invites all the businesses from the surrounding area to join them at their gatherings.
www.rgchamber.com

Rockford Library

Located at **8220 Cedar Street** (763) 477-4216
For more information see their website: **www.griver.org**

EVENTS:
Friends of the Library Book and Media Sale—9/12 to 9/17 during library hours. Donations accepted year round.
Tech Tutor—9/26 & 10/24 (3-5pm)
Allina Health Hands Only CPR/AED Training—October 5th (6:15-7:15pm). Registration required.
Ferdig Fridays: Music Recital—10/7, 11/4 and 12/2 (3:30-4pm) Showcases the talents of local school-age musicians from Mr. Ferdig's Rockford School District music classes.
Rockford Tween & Teen Scene—10/3, 11/7 & 12/5 (6-7pm) Ages 10-18
Flute Duet—10/17 (6:30-7pm) Two local musicians
Raptor Center Event for MEA Break—10/20 (4-4:45pm)
Crafts from the Recipe Box—11/5 (10:30-noon) Registration required.

Snow Season Parking

During the period from **November 1st to April 1st** it shall be unlawful for any person to **park a vehicle** on or **within six feet of the roadway between the hours of 2 a.m. to 6 a.m.** and anytime after there has been ice accumulation, continuous or intermittent snow fall during which there has been **accumulation of two inches or more** of snow on any street until plowed or removed the whole width of the roadway. Vehicles parked in violation of this ordinance will be towed and stored at the owner's expense. **At NO TIME shall a vehicle be parked on ANY street for more than twelve (12) hours.**

SNOW PLOWING—It is unlawful to deposit snow onto ANY city, township, county or state road. Doing so is a violation of state statue and you will be fined.

Election Information

The local elections in Rockford this year include two council members and the mayors seat. The terms for each of these positions are 4 years.

If you are a new resident to the City of Rockford, recently turned 18 or have not voted in the last four years, we encourage you to go online to www.sos.state.mn.us and complete a Voter Registration Application. You may also register to vote on Election Day, but make sure you have ID such as a current driver's license or MN ID card with your correct address. If you have not changed your driver's license you must have a current utility bill and your license. Last day to pre-register before the General Election is **October 18, 2016**.

Absentee voting begins **September 23, 2016** for the General Election. Absentee ballots will NOT be available at City Hall to vote in person. Applications are available on-line on the City website (Election tab), at City Hall, 6031 Main Street, or in person at the county where you live:

Hennepin County Government Center
300 South 6th Street PSL 012
Minneapolis, MN 55487-0012
Fax: 612-348-2151 / Phone: 612-348-5151

Wright County Government Center
10 2nd Street NW, Room 230
Buffalo, MN 55313-1195
Fax: 763-682-7873 / Phone: 763-682-7578

All Rockford residents in Hennepin County and Wright County vote at the Rockford Community Center, 7600 County Road 50 (Rebecca Park Trail), Door 11, Rockford. The polls will be open at 7:00 am until 8:00 pm.

General Election, Tuesday—November 8, 2016

Compost Site

The compost site on Elm Street/CR 33 is scheduled to close early November until about April 15th, *depending on the weather*. **You do not need to check out a key at city hall.**

Hours of operation:
Monday—Friday 7:30am-3pm
Wednesday Evenings 4:30pm-dusk
Saturday 8am-noon

Items accepted: grass clippings, leaves and brush no larger than 3" in diameter. All bags used to transport composting must be removed.
NO OTHER DUMPING IS ALLOWED.

CITY OF ROCKFORD

Upcoming Events

September 17th—*Crow River Clean* Up starting at 8am
September 23rd—*Absentee Voting Begins for the General Election*
October 8th—*Rocktoberfest* 3pm-midnight at Riverside Park
October 9th—October 15th—*Fire Prevention Week*
October 10th—*Rockford Senior Citizen's* 11:30 am at the Delano Senior Center
October 13th— *R-G Area Chamber of Commerce Meeting* 7:30am at BANKWEST
October 15th– *RiverWorks Steak Fry* 5:30pm at Rockford Township Hall
October 18th—Last Day to *Preregister for the General Election* City Hall open until 5pm
October 29th—Harvest Celebration 3pm-5pm at the Stork House
November 8th—*General Election* 7am-8pm at the Rockford Community Center
November 10th—*R-G Area Chamber of Commerce Meeting* 11:30am at Wright-Hennepin Electric
November 11th—*City Hall Closed* in observance of Veteran's Day
November 14th—*Rockford Senior Citizen's* 11:30 am at Riverside Park
November 24th and 25th—*City Hall Closed* in observance of the Thanksgiving Day Holiday
December 3rd—*Crow River Christmas*

RECYCLING

Waste Management **collects recycling every other Wednesday**. The 2016 calendar is available on the City website or at City Hall.

Recyclables must be set out at the curb by 7 a.m.

The City of Rockford supports residential recycling in the general fund budget. Recycling was state mandated by legislature. The more everyone can recycle the bigger the county rebates, reducing the tax burden.

September 14, 2016	November 23, 2016
September 28, 2016	December 7, 2016
October 12, 2016	December 21, 2016
October 26, 2016	*January 5, 2017**
November 9, 2016	**Thursday pick-up*

Rockford Farmers Market
Fridays (June-October) 3pm—6:30pm
Rockford City Center Mall Parking Lot
8900 Walnut Street (north side of State Hwy 55)
Website: http://rockfordmarketweebly.com

Crow River Clean-Up Day
Saturday, September 17, 2016
Starting at 8am-noon

For more information and/or to volunteer contact:
Diane Sander at 763-682-1933 Ext. 112
C.R.O.W.
Crow River Organization of Water

Rockford Coordinator – Linda Althoff 952-210-7151

AMES-FLORIDA-STORK HOUSE

The Ames-Florida-Stork House is located at:
8131 Bridge Street
(763) 477-5383 Email: storkhouse@cityofrockford.org
www.rockfordmnhistory.org

Open for Tours by Appointment: Tuesdays, Thursday, and Fridays (11am-5pm)

Upcoming Events:

- Rocktoberfest—10/08 (3pm-midnight)

The Rockford Area Senior Citizens meet the 2nd Monday of each month at different locations. Call Bonnie Pool (763) 477-4468 for information or to sign-up. Membership is $10 per year. Upcoming meetings:

- **October 10th**—Delano Senior Center
- **November 14th**—Riverside Park-8220 Elm Street
- **December 12th**—Riverside Park-8220 Elm Street

RiverWorks—Community Helping Community!

RiverWorks is looking for volunteers to help at the food shelf and the thrift store. If you are interested, complete a volunteer application: www.riverworksonline.org

Annual Steak Fry & Auction—**Saturday, October 15, 2016**. 100% of the proceeds benefit RiverWorks Community Development.

For more information contact Denise Kesanen
(763) 477-9803 or dkesanen@riverworksonline.org