



### Energy assistance may be available!

If you are receiving a low income or suffering from a temporary financial shortfall, the Northwest Community Action Agency may be able to assist you with your utility bills. The City urges you to contact NW Community Action Agency immediately to avoid disconnection if you feel you may be eligible for assistance.

Northwest Community Action PO Box 67; Badger, MN 56714 (218) 528-3258 or 800-568-5329 nwcaa.org

CITY OF ROSEAU

# Hometown Update

## MnDOT Planning Multiple Highway Projects Near Roseau

MnDOT District 2 planners are working on multiple highway projects for the Roseau area in the next few years.

The first project is the reconstruction of MN Highway 11 from the east side of Roseau to Warroad in 2025. This project involves pavement improvements and the addition of passing and turn lanes to improve pavement condition, traffic flow and safety. The project also includes the relocation of a segment of highway near the Roseau Airport to remove it from the airport's runway safety zone and to reconfigure the dangerous curves that exist near the airport.

The next project proposed for 2025 is the reconstruction of MN TH 11 through the city of Roseau from 11th Avenue NE to MN TH 89. East of the Roseau River, the

project will involve a pavement mill and overlay to improve the driving surface. The existing sidewalks will also be removed and replaced with fully accessible sidewalks. West of the Roseau River the highway will be slightly narrowed to allow for new accessible sidewalks. To narrow the highway all curb & gutter, storm sewer piping, and catch basins must be replaced, requiring the complete reconstruction of the corridor.

The final project, scheduled for 2026, is the MN TH 89 reconstruction from a rural highway to a curb and gutter street. This project also involves the construction of two roundabouts, one at Center Street, and one at 6th Street SW. There will also be a sidewalk installed on the east side of the highway and a new replacement trail reconstructed on the west side.

## Changes Proposed for Roseau PD



The Roseau Police Department has seen big changes this past year.

Three veteran officers Chief Ward Anderson, Sergeant Jeff Klein, and Patrol Officer Brian Demars, all retired from the Roseau PD over the year, representing 99-years of law enforcement experience. These retirements coupled with a police officer shortage is necessitating changes in how the department is planning to move forward.

The current department operation relies heavily on 2 part-time officers to fill out its 24-hour police coverage schedule. However, due to the shortage of police officers, it is extremely difficult to find any part-time officers

anymore, as there are too many full-time openings that are going unfilled in today's market. Currently over half of Minnesota's police departments are short officers and there are nearly 1,000 unfilled FT police openings.

Thus, the City Council authorized the Roseau PD to revise its patrol schedule from 2 shifts with 5 full-time officers to 3 shifts with 7 full-time officers, eliminating the two part-time officer positions. The proposal increases the operations budget by roughly the cost of one full-time officer. The new schedule allows the city to continue 24-hour coverage, if new officers can be found to take the newly created positions.

## Happy Retirement Supt. David Drown!



City Superintendent David Drown has announced he will be retiring from city service on December 31, 2023. Superintendent Drown has worked in the city's public works department for over 30 years as a public works operator, lineman, water & wastewater operator, assistant superintendent and for the last 20 years as City Superintendent. Superintendent Drown's leadership was instrumental in the city's reconstruction efforts following the flood of 2002. The City is grateful for the Superintendent Drown's many years of dedicated public service and wishes him the best in retirement!

## ASST. SUPT. GARY PRZEKwas TO LEAD CITY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

After conducting a wide candidate search, the Roseau City Council is pleased to announce the hiring of current Roseau Asst. Supt. Gary Przekwas as the next City Superintendent to succeed Superintendent David Drown. Mr. Przekwas is a 30+ year veteran of the Roseau Public Works Department and brings a wealth of existing knowledge and leadership to the position. Mr. Przekwas will take over on January 1, 2024.

## ATV Park & Trail Improvements

The Roseau Parks Department has been working with the Roseau Powersports Club on a plan to improve the Roseau ATV Park and adjacent off-highway trails within the East Diversion Flood Control Project located north and east of the Roseau city limits. The existing terrain park and trails were constructed as a recreational amenity to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers flood control project.



The Parks Department and the Powersports Club would like to see additional improvements to the existing facilities to increase the type of terrain available as well as providing better connection between the park and trails and other trail systems in Roseau County as well as providing ancillary facilities such as restrooms and shelters. These types of improvements can be costly, but the State of Minnesota has an OHV Trail Grant-in-Aid (GIA) program that can help fund a significant portion of these improvement costs. The City is currently in the process of getting the existing ATV park and trails enrolled in the GIA program. Once enrolled the State will assist the city in the on-going maintenance of the park and trails as well as providing resources to construct new terrain areas, trail connections, and support structures.

The Diversion OHV trails and terrain were created to allow OHV enthusiasts a public place to ride near town. The city respectfully asks for the safety of others and to maintain the certification of the flood control project, that ATV and motocross enthusiast stay on marked trails only and out of areas not specifically designated for OHV use. Motorized vehicles are prohibited on any paved recreational trails, unarmored diversion levee tops and sides, or in the diversion ditches and channel bottom (unless marked and armored). OHVs must also stay off paved trails in town and use designated routes only.

## Memorial Arena National Register Nomination

Last spring, the City of Roseau hired historian Daniel Hoisington of Hoisington Preservation Consultants to complete a National Register of Historic Places nomination for Roseau's Memorial Arena. Mr. Hoisington has extensive experience in writing National Register nominations having successfully written many nominations for buildings across the Midwest. This work was funded with a \$10,000 grant from the Minnesota Historical Society. Mr. Hoisington has spent the past eight months doing historical research on Memorial Arena and its history, along with the history of hockey in Roseau and Minnesota. The nomination was submitted to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in December and is currently under review. If Memorial Arena is deemed eligible, the nomination will then be submitted to the National Parks Service for possible listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

National Register listing not only provides notoriety for the facility, but more importantly it opens up additional resources for the on-going preservation of this historic facility from both the State and Federal government. Recently the State of Minnesota announced a State Grant-in-Aid program for historic preservation of public buildings listed, or deemed eligible to be listed, on the National Register of Historic Places. The funding program can provide up to \$1 million in cost-share funding to eligible preservation projects. If Memorial Arena is able to be listed on the National Register it is the goal of the city to apply for funding to repair the roof to eliminate water damages from leakage and condensation. Additionally, the existing ice plant needs to transition from a refrigerant the has been phased out due to environmental concerns. Both projects are potentially eligible for historic preservation funding. The city is hopeful these resources can help make the necessary

## Annual Notice to All Residential Utility Customers

Bills can pile up just like snow. But the Minnesota Cold Weather Rule is designed to protect people who may have trouble paying their utility bills in the winter. The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule applies from October 15 to April 15. The rule, established by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, means that your utility cannot disconnect your residential electric service during the winter if the customer meets the following requirement:

- Utility disconnection would affect the customer's primary heat source;
- The customer has declared inability to pay on forms provided by the utility (Note: customers receiving "any form of public assistance", including energy assistance, are deemed to have qualified for inability to pay status);
- The household income of the customer is less than 50 percent of the state median income level, as documented by the customer to the utility; and
- The customer enters into and makes reasonably timely payments under a payment agreement that considers the financial resources of the household.

If you have trouble paying your utility bill, local agencies may be able to provide payment assistance. The state Department of Human Services recommends you call the county in which you live.

If you know you are going to have trouble paying your utility bills, please contact the Roseau Utility Department at 463-2351 to try and work out a payment schedule. We will try to help.

## THE COLD WEATHER RULE DOES NOT FORBID ALL WINTER DISCONNECTION



Memorial Arena—Circa 1960

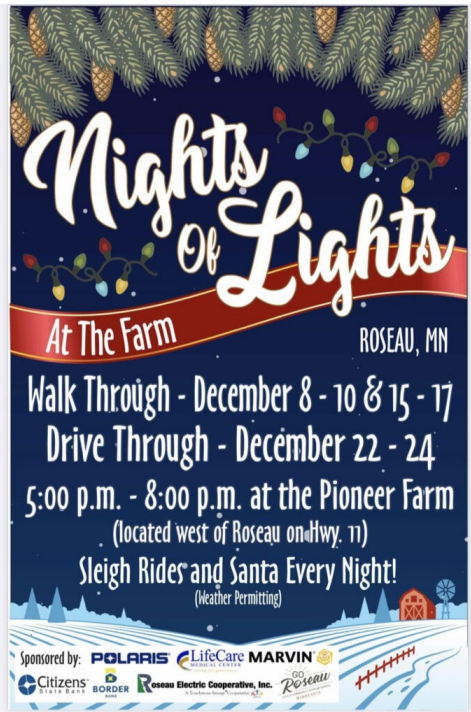
improvements and keep Memorial Arena preserved and operable for future generations of Minnesotans to appreciate.

# Do Not Plow Snow Back into Streets

Residents are reminded the when clearing snow from driveways and sidewalks it is illegal to plow, blow, shovel or otherwise place snow out onto public roadways. This is prohibited by State law and local ordinance. Violations are considered misdemeanors, but civil penalties can also apply if the placement of snow creates a hazard such as a slippery area, frozen rut or bump that contributes to a motor vehicle or pedestrian crash. The civil liability can extend to both the property owner and the person who placed the snow.

Other hazards created by improper placement of snow on or near public roadways or boulevards include drainage problems, drifting, sight obstructions and safe accessibility. Packed snow pushed out of driveways across into boulevards also create hazards for city snow removal equipment. A city plow truck or road grader can be violently stopped or thrown off course when it hits areas of packed snow and ice.

All snow should be moved from driveways into yards and not back into the street or across the street onto the boulevard. Thank you for your cooperation.



**Nights of Lights**  
At The Farm ROSEAU, MN  
Walk Through - December 8 - 10 & 15 - 17  
Drive Through - December 22 - 24  
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the Pioneer Farm  
(located west of Roseau on Hwy. 11)  
Sleigh Rides and Santa Every Night!  
(Weather Permitting)

Sponsored by: POLARIS, LifeCare, MARVIN, Citizens, BORDER, Roseau Electric Cooperative, Inc., GO Roseau

# Pickleball



The Roseau Parks Department recently purchased two portable pickleball nets that will be set up this coming summer on one of the city's joint tennis courts located at the Roseau School. The goal is to introduce the community to the sport and generate interest. If there is enough interest in the sport the city may look into constructing dedicated pickleball courts somewhere in the community.

For those who are not familiar with pick-

leball. It is one of the fastest growing sports worldwide because it can be played by people of all ages and skill levels. Pickleball is similar to tennis, but is played on a much smaller court, the size of a badminton court, using a wiffle ball and paddles rather than a tennis ball and racquets. Pickleball is a fun and social activity. The rules are simple and the game is easy for beginners to learn, but can become very fast and competitive as skill levels increase.

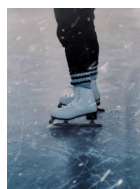
Follow the Parks and Recreation Facebook page for more information on pickleball.



# Winter Activities



The Roseau Parks & Recreation Department encourages everyone to embrace winter by getting outside and enjoying some fun winter activities this year. The Parks Department will again, weather permitting, construct an outdoor ice rink at South Riverview Park for public enjoyment. The Parks Department will also be grooming the South Riverview Park sledding hill for winter sledding. The South Riverview Park warming house will be open during the winter to warm up while spending a day skating and sledding. The Parks Department will



also be grooming cross country ski trails on the Oak Crest Golf Course and City Park for the winter. Snowmobilers are asked to please stay off of all



groomed ski trails. Check the Parks Facebook page for more information.

All of Roseau's indoor arenas also offer daily free open skating and open hockey opportunities for the public. Check arena schedules for times.



# CITY OF ROSEAU

City Hall  
121 Center Street E, Suite 202  
PO Box 307  
Roseau, MN 56751  
Phone 463-1542

City Utilities  
1198 Center Street West  
Roseau, MN 56751  
Phone 463-2351

## CITY COUNCIL

Dan Fabian -Mayor

Mary Hayes Pat Novacek

Brady Johnson Amy Bassingthwaite

## CITY DEPARTMENT HEADS

Todd Peterson-Community Dev. Coord.

David Drown-City Superintendent

Marc Hodge -Chief of Police

Nicole Johnson-Liquor Store Manager

Leon Huot-Fire Chief

Current Resident

Roseau, MN 56751

PRESORTED STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 61  
ROSEAU, MN 56751



Our Website:  
[www.city.roseau.mn.us](http://www.city.roseau.mn.us)

## SNOW REMOVAL SEASON IS HERE!

**Any vehicles left on the street during snow removal periods will be ticketed and towed without warning.**

The City recommends that all residents identify off-street parking areas for their own use and any visitors throughout the winter, but especially during snowfall events and other winter conditions that make snow removal activities necessary, such a strong winds with blowing snow. Please use caution around snow removal machinery as these machines have very limited visibility, ability to stop, or maneuver around obstacles and vehicles.



## Lead Pipe Inventory

The Roseau Water Department needs your help to comply with the U.S. EPA's Lead and Copper Rule. By October 16, 2024 the Roseau Water Department must develop an inventory of all water service line materials in the community, so that it can develop an action plan for addressing any lead service lines in the city's water distribution system.

How can you help? Each resident is asked to submit an electronic photo of their water meter connection (see below) and the address of the connection photo to: [lead@city.roseau.mn.us](mailto:lead@city.roseau.mn.us).



## Pet Regulations



**The City of Roseau reminds all residents of local pet regulations requiring the licensing of all dogs and cats in the city. A lifetime tag can be obtained from the Roseau PD for \$5.**

**In addition, the city maintains leash laws for all animals not contained within a home or fenced yard.**

**When walking your pets please keep them on a leash and never allow pets to roam freely. Pet owners are also asked to clean up your pet's waste and control barking and whining. Not everyone loves your pet, please be courteous to those around you.**

**Pet waste stations are provided around the city, in parks, and along trails, please use them!**