

City of Willernie

Mayor's Letter

January, 2015

Dear Residents,

Happy New Year. As we begin a new year it is often good to make resolutions. Here are some that would help our city:



1. We have had some beautiful snowfalls so far this winter and certainly can expect more before spring. Just a few reminders: Please have your vehicles off the street to make plowing easier. When clearing snow off your driveways, the snow you shovel needs to remain in your yard, not back on the street, or on your neighbor's property. If you throw it in the street, it creates a hazard. Also bring in your recycle and trash cans in as soon as possible.

2. If you have a fire hydrant on your property, please take responsibility for it and make sure it is dug out after a snow fall and snow plowing. The house you save from fire could be yours.



3. Snowmobiling is permitted on Willernie only on the roads. Snowmobiles need to follow the same rules as cars; stopping at stop signs, following the speed limit, etc. Snowmobiling is not allowed on private property or in the city parks or green spaces.

4. We get our water from Mahtomedi (they intend to raise the cost 5% each year for the next 3 years.) They require us to pay within 30 days. In order for us to meet our obligation, you folks need to pay your water, trash, recycle, sewer bill on time. Your bill is due in 30 days. After 30 days, if the bill is not paid, there is a 10% fine. So if your bill is \$170 and it is not paid in 30 days, you now owe \$17 more. The City is aware that times can be hard for some and we are willing to work with you. You can make arrangements to pay your bill in three installments per quarter. Please note, you can now pay online through your bank and the money will be sent to the Willernie City Office. The city does not take credit or debit cards due to the added expense.



If you are still reading your own meter or have an very old meter, it might be to your advantage to purchase a new water meter. Cost is \$160 not including insulation..



5. License your dog or cat. A reminder to those of you who have dogs or cats, they need to be licensed. The cost is \$3.00 per animal and the license is good for two years. Also there is a limit as to how many cats and dogs are allowed for each household. A household is allowed 2 dogs and 2 cats only, equaling 4 pets. If you would want, say 3 cats, you need to approach the City Council and get permission for the third cat. That would then limit you to 1 dog or vice versa.

ABOUT CATS: Please be advised that Willernie has a leash law for cats. Cats are not allowed to roam free in the city.





6. Clean up your yard and after your pets. Spring will eventually come, so please be prepared to clean up as soon as possible so things we do not want to end up in our snow melt run-off do not end up in our watershed.

7. Speaking of spring, please remember that you need a permit for any project that costs \$300 or more.



Some ideas for the coming year to reduce expenses:

- a) Recycle to reduce the amount of garbage you put out each week and then possibly you can go to the next size down on your garbage can and save some money. (Contact Vickie at City Hall if you want a smaller garbage can.)
- b) Reduce the amount of water you use for showers and baths. Turn off your water when you are brushing your teeth. Do not have the water running while you are washing dishes. Rinse the dishes when you have finished washing.
- c) Wash larger loads of wash rather than a number of smaller loads.
- d) Become conscious of how often you leave a room and do not turn the lights off. Only have lights on in the room you are in.
- e) If you are not using all that high tech gear we all seem to need and rely on, when not in use, unplug it so it does not continue to draw electricity. (Or turn off at the power strip.)



3rd Annual Golf Tournament: Watch for information on the 3rd Annual City of Willernie Golf Tournament to take place at the Applewood Golf Course in August 8, 2015. The tournament will be a best ball scramble and the money raised will go towards replacing fire hydrants. More information will be available in the April Mayor's letter.

For information about the City of Willernie, you can go to the Willernie website: Enter www.willernie.org for information, meeting minutes, ordinances, licenses, permits, and how to contact us.



Sincerely,
Barbara Parent, Mayor