

City of Willernie

Mayor's Letter

January, 2021

Dear Residents,

2020 has been long and difficult year. COVID19 has thrown a monkey wrench into so much of our lives and it looks like there will be more of the same in 2021. Hopefully we will all get through this together. As we await a vaccine, we can help each other out by continuing to wear a mask, stay at least 6 feet apart, and continue to wash our hands.



City hall will continue to be closed except by appointment. If you need anything, our city clerk is available by phone. If you do need to pick something up from city hall, please wear a mask. Council meetings will continue to be held on zoom. Meeting information can be found on the city website.

Actions Needed during the Snowy Months



1. Please keep your garbage and recycle cans off the street. The garbage and recycle trucks have an arm that can reach into the beginning of your driveway. Garbage and recycle cans on the street create a problem should it snow and the streets need to be plowed.
2. Remember that your motor vehicles need to be off the street if it snows.
3. **Do not shovel or snow blow snow onto the street.** That means piling it onto the edge of the road for it can freeze there and cause a hazard for the snowplow.
4. **Do not shovel snow onto your neighbor's property.**
5. If you have a fire hydrant on your property, please be kind enough to make sure it is shoveled out after a snowstorm. The house you save in case of fire may be yours.



Snowmobiling



Snowmobiling is permitted on Willernie roads provided the driver follows the rules of the road. Snowmobiling is not allowed in the city parks or green spaces.

When out and About at Dawn or Dusk

If you are out walking your dog(s), biking, or just walking, early morning or towards late afternoon, or at night, note that you are difficult to see until one is almost upon you. Willernie streets are narrow and become even more so with the snow. It is often difficult for drivers of cars to see you in the dim light. It would be helpful if you could wear something reflective or flashing to mark that you are on the road.



Support Local Businesses



The COVID-19 virus pandemic has really hurt local businesses, so please support them if you can. The restaurants have take-out and some indoor and outdoor seating, as do the bars as they are able. Support your local dry cleaners, liquor store, flower shop, and other business which are opening as they are able.



Dog and Cat Licenses



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.



Some ideas for the coming year to reduce expenses:

1. 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.)
2. 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.
3. Wash larger loads of wash rather than a number of smaller loads.
4. 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.
5. 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.)



Looking out for each other

One of the reasons I like living in Willernie is the fact that though we are a suburb of St. Paul and part of the greater metro area, we still maintain many of the good qualities of a small village where neighbors know each other and look after each other. That has become especially important in this very cold, damp, and sometimes snowy weather. Please make an extra effort to check on your neighbor and give a helping hand if needed.



A grateful thank you goes out to Patrick Miller for his 20 years of service to the City of Willernie as a member of the city council. He will be missed but promises to continue to organize the golf tournament when we can safely hold it again.

Sincerely,
Barbara Parent, Mayor

Willernie website: Enter www.willernie.org for information, meeting minutes, ordinances, licenses, permits, and how to contact us.

