

City of Willernie

Mayor's Letter

January 2022

Dear Residents,

2021 showed some bright spots and it looked like our world was loosening up. Unfortunately, new variants of COVID19 have caused us to become more cautious once again with no real end in sight. We can continue to help each other out by wearing a mask and maintain social distance while in public places.



City hall will continue to be closed except by appointment. If you need anything, our city clerk is available by phone (651) 429-2977). If you do need to pick something up from city hall (9:00 to noon, Monday through Thursday), knock on the front door or call ahead. Please wear a mask. City Council meetings may be held at City Hall depending on the COVID virus protocols. 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, or on property not your own.

Building and Grounds Good News

Thanks to our state legislators Senator Chuck Wiger and Representative Peter Fisher who worked tirelessly on a portion of the bonding bill to provide funds for the City of Willernie. Hopefully this spring we will be able to tear down our old and falling apart maintenance building, rebuild it, and reequip it.

City Hall has a new roof. For an old building, the roof on City Hall is in good shape and only needed new shingles and some trim.

Thanks to a generous donation from the American Legion, we now have signs for Willernie Park, Millner Park, and Willernie Beach.



Paying your Water, Sewer, Trash and Recycle Bill



We get our water from Mahtomedi 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.

Support Local Businesses



The COVID-19 virus pandemic continues to have an impact on local businesses, so please support them if you can. Support your local restaurants, dry cleaners, liquor store, flower shop, and other business which are opening as they are able.

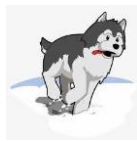


Looking out for each other

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.



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.)



Sincerely,
Barbara Parent, Mayor



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