

City of Willernie

Mayor's Letter

January, 2014

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. 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.



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.

2. Move cars off the streets and put your snow only in your own yard. We have had a goodly amount of snow for this time of year, but with all the fun snow brings, it also creates some problems. Please remember to remove your cars from the street when it is snowing because parked cars create a problem for plowing. Also bring in your recycle and trash cans. In addition, I appreciate that many of you have issues with where to put the snow when clearing your driveways and other areas of your yards. I have no front yard, living literally on the street, and have needed to get really creative with the snow blower since throwing or shoveling the snow onto the street creates a hazard and is in addition, against the law. The snow you shovel needs to remain in your yard, not back on the street, or on your neighbor's property.



3. 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.





4. 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.

Other items:

Salt and sand allotment: We have used over 50% of our allotment of salt and sand already so as the winter progresses, you may see our streets with a bit more snow on them even after Rick has plowed. Rick might only be salting or sanding intersections and steep hills to make sure we make it through the snow and ice season.



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.)
- f) When it is not a gazillion below zero as it is today, turn your heat down 5 degrees when you are at work and at night.



2nd Annual Golf Tournament: Watch for information on the 2nd Annual City of Willernie Golf Tournament to take place at the Applewood Golf Course in early August, 2014. 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.

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



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 extremely cold and snowy weather. Please make an extra effort to check on your neighbor and give a helping hand if needed.

Sincerely,
Barbara Parent, Mayor