

WINTER 2017-2018

CITY OF RICE NEWSLETTER

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Financial Outlook for the City of Rice

The City of Rice will comply with all Federal, State or local legal requirements pertaining to the operating budget, including the adoption of a balanced budget. A balanced budget is achieved when the amounts available from taxation and other sources, including amounts carried over from prior fiscal years, equals the total appropriations for expenditures and reserves.

At the direction of the Mayor, the Finance Board prepares the annual budget with input from each department. The annual budget is approved by Council. The Council is responsible for overseeing the annual budget and approving the final levy.

The 2018 final levy was approved at \$441,386.00 which was an increase of 4% or a \$17,000 increase.

The Truth & Taxation meeting was held on December 4th, 2017 at 7pm.

The 2018 Revenues are estimated at \$1,264,490.00

The 2018 Expenditures are estimated at \$1,232,711.00

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

BOARD OF APPEALS	2
PARKING REMINDER	2
RICE RECREATION	3
CLEAN-UP DAY	3
CITY HALL CLOSED DATES	3
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS	4

Monthly Meetings

- RICE CITY COUNCIL - MEETS THE 1ST AND 3RD MONDAYS OF THE MONTH 7PM
- PLANNING COMMISSION - MEETS THE LAST MONDAY OF THE MONTH 7PM
- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE--MEETS THE 2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH 5:15PM

2018 Rice Board of Appeals and

The Rice City Council has set the Annual Appeals and Equalization Meeting for Monday April 9th at 6 pm. The meeting will be held at Rice City Hall 205 Main St E. The purpose of the Appeals and Equalization Meeting is to allow property owners a time to appeal the valuation or classification for Property Taxes that will be payable in 2019. Benton County Assessor's Office staff will be coming to properties throughout Rice to review the current assessed market value. These visits are part of the on-going program required by State Law and should only take about 10 minutes. To set an appointment for an appeal contact the Benton County Assessor's Office at 968-5019.

WINTER REMINDERS!

Snow Removal: When shoveling or blowing snow from driveways, sidewalk, crosswalks, or parking lots do not move it onto public streets. According to MN Statute 160.2715 this is a misdemeanor and is subject to a fine.

Parking Restrictions: **No parking is allowed on the streets from November 1st—March 31st between the hours of 2 a.m. and 7 a.m.** Those parking on the street are subject to ticketing and/or towing at owners expense.

Sidewalk /Crosswalk Maintenance: It is the property owners responsibility to remove snow, ice, and any debris from the sidewalk or any crosswalk that is adjacent to your property.

Mailboxes: Residents are responsible for removing or clearing snow and ice from the mailbox area to avoid delay in mail delivery.

Garbage and Recycling Containers: Please remember to place these receptacles at the edge of your driveway for collection during the snow season to allow plows to remove the snow all the way to the curb.

Rice Recreation

Adult Volleyball: All are welcome to come and play recreational volleyball
Join other adults (18 and older) for an evening of fun

Tuesday and Thursday evenings 7:30 p.m.- 9:30 p.m. Rice Elementary Gym.
\$2.00 per person per night. Tennis shoes are required. Child care is not available - no children please.

Rice Ice Rinks : There is an ice skating rink, a hockey rink and a warming house.
The Rice Ice Rinks are located at West Side Park 101 4th Ave NW just behind the Lions Building. Rink hours Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday 4-8, Friday 4-9, Saturday-Sunday 12-8 (all times weather permitting) School holidays open 12-8.

Youth Programs: March—Dodgeball
 April—Kickball
 May—Soccer

Watch for information regarding the youth programs on the website and the Sauk Rapids—Rice Community Education Brochure.



City Hall will be Closed:

- Monday January 15, 2018
- Martin Luther King Day
- Monday February 19, 2017
- President’s Day

City of Rice Annual Clean –Up Day

Again this year residents of the city of Rice and the residents of Langola, Graham, and Watab townships will be able to dispose of certain items at our annual clean up. Watch the city website and Benton Cable Channel 3 for more information as it becomes available.

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Daylight Savings March 11th, 2018

The Rice City Council would like to take this opportunity to remind residents to set their clocks 1 hour ahead on Sunday March 11th, 2018.

City of Rice Utility Reminders

Please DO NOT flush disposable wipes, cloth towels, sanitary napkins etc. into the sewer system. This causes an increase in back-ups in the system. Back-ups result in increased costs and maintenance, and ultimately higher sewer rates.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Water /Sewer Payments Due

Water/Sewer payments are due on the 25th of each month by 4:00 pm to avoid a late charge to your account. Should the 25th fall on a holiday or weekend payments must be received by 4:00 pm on the next business day. Next months bill will include a \$3.00 increase on water and a \$3.00 increase to sewer, a 10% increase in tier two and three, the city added a fourth tier of 18,000 gallons and over, with an estimated 10% increase.

****Attention ACH payments through www.GovPayNow.com may take up to three days to post to the city bank account.***