

FISCAL YEAR 24 IS A WRAP!

Fiscal Year 24 is a wrap. FY25 starts July 1st. We had a good year financially and ended the year under budget, which is a great accomplishment. In addition to that, however, we wanted to share with you some of the other accomplishments of the city in this fiscal year.

There was a new roof put on the public restrooms in the park. The buildings had been painted the year before, and now the pavilion and park buildings all have a consistent look. We also bought new breakaway basketball hoops and nets that hopefully will stop the breaking problem we have had from kids hanging on the rims.

We purchased new generators for all the lift stations. This may not sound like a big deal, but when we have big rains or lots of snow melt it is a very big deal. This helps prevent backups and keeps our sewer drains running smoother. Previously we had one portable generator that had to be moved from site to site, refilled with gas and monitored. This is a permanent solution to a long time problem.

We bought a new city truck as our old one finally wore out. We got a good deal on the trade in and received a riverboat grant from Scott County Regional Authority to help with the cost.

We spent almost \$100,000 on street repairs earlier in the year and another \$30,000 in June. Streets are one of the biggest expenses we have, and we do not get enough money from the county and state to cover even the barest of maintenance. We have hired a consulting firm, Origin Design, to help us come up with a long term plan to improve our streets and keep on a good maintenance schedule. This is another long term problem that many councils have worked on. Watch for more street projects next fiscal year!

We bought new Christmas lights and electricity to all the poles so they can be lit. We are looking at updating our entry way signs for a more beautiful look as you come into town. A dog park is approved and getting put together this summer.

Our next planned project is to replace the storm drain system. The old system has collapsed and is basically not functional. This will be about a \$375,000 project. We are expecting some grant money to help pay for most of it. Once that comes in, we will keep you informed of the timeline for accomplishing the work.

This will affect people that live on Hughes St. and E. Gails St.

The website was updated this year with a new design. It is much more user friendly and has a self-booking feature for the community center and pavilion. You can pay your bill, subscribe for updates and easily find city documents.

If you see your council members out and about, please take a moment to thank them for all of their hard work. These kinds of project can't get accomplished without ALL the council working together! Your council members are Brian Holland, Mayor, Bill Gillespie, Mayor Pro-Tem and General Government and Finance, Lloyd Claussen, Parks and Recreation, Joe Schultz, Public Works, Jim Stewart, Public Safety and Katy Shipman, Community & Economic Development. Your staff is Sheila Bosworth, City Clerk, Jan Lewis, Deputy Clerk, Tony Dipple, Maintenance Department, John Ploog Sewer Department and Randy Mizaur, part time maintenance helper.

Labor Day is our next big event. As you can see it takes a lot of people to run a town. Volunteer help is imperative. We need volunteers for Labor Day and to resurrect the Park Board. If you would like to help in any manner, please contact one of the people listed above or send a message through our website.



SMALL TOWN, BIG HEART

