

Delano Digest

January 2025 | Monthly Newsletter | City of Delano, MN



The Delano Digest is a monthly newsletter that shares important announcements, upcoming meetings, and summaries of the previous month's commission and council meetings.

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Happy New Year

City Calendar: Jan.

City Council & City Hall

1/1: City Offices Closed - New Year's Day
1/7: City Council Meeting - 7 PM
1/20: City Offices Closed - MLK Jr. Day
1/21: City Council Meeting - 7 PM
1/28: City Council Meeting - 7 PM

Commissions & School Board

1/6: Public Safety - 7 PM
1/13: Planning Commission - 7 PM
1/14: Spirit of Community - 7 PM
1/22: Park & Recreation - 5 PM
1/27: School Board - 5:45 PM

Commission Openings - Apply Online by January 17, 2025

Is one of your New Year's resolutions to become more involved in your community? The City of Delano has vacancies on the following commissions beginning March 1, 2025. This is a great opportunity to contribute to the community and make a positive impact!

Park and Recreation Commission: Two (2) vacancies

Planning Commission: Two (2) vacancies

Public Safety Commission: Three (3) vacancies

Spirit of Community Commission: One (1) vacancy

SCAN



If you would like to serve your community and work with the City of Delano on any of the above commissions, please visit our website at www.delanomn.gov/532/Commission-Openings-Application-Form for more information and to apply online. Applications will be accepted until Friday, January 17, 2025. For questions, please contact Administrative Services Director, Paula Bauman, by email at pbauman@delanomn.gov or by phone at (763) 972-4420.

Snow Removal: Friendly Reminders

- During the snow season, please ensure that garbage bins are placed behind the curb or on your cleared driveway, not in the street or on the curbside. This allows our plows to have the necessary space to clear the roads efficiently.
- The City of Delano asks residents to shovel out fire hydrants near their homes. Keeping hydrants clear of snow can substantially reduce the time it takes firefighters to put out a fire. Your assistance could save your life and your property!
- City streets will generally be plowed within twenty-four (24) hours from the start of a 2-inch or more snowfall. This requires 10 to 12 hours of operations for a normal snowfall of 2 - 6 inches. Thank you for your patience!

City Council Recognizes Jeremiah Hawkins & Alan Brixius

At the December 17 City Council meeting, council members took a moment to recognize two individuals who have made significant contributions to the City of Delano.

First, the Council recognized outgoing Councilmember Jeremiah Hawkins for his dedicated 18 months of service on the City Council, thanking him for his time, talent, and efforts in support of the community.



Additionally, a heartfelt thank you was extended to Al Brixius, our City Planner who is retiring after over 40 years of dedicated service to the city. His long tenure and expertise have been invaluable in shaping Delano's development. These two individuals have played key roles in the growth and success of our community, and the City is grateful for their contributions!

Delano City Council & Commission Meetings Recap

This section offers a brief summary of what was discussed during the previous month's Council and Commission meetings and is not an official documentation of meeting minutes. Official minutes will be posted at www.delanomn.gov/agendacenter upon approval.

Public Safety Commission - Met on December 2, 2024

The Public Safety Commission addressed speeding concerns around Stahlke Park and motioned to relocate the speed sign to gather data for future solutions. A Wright County Sheriff representative reported 18 stops on Tiger Dr. over the past three months. A motion to explore traffic speed mitigation on Tiger Dr. was approved. The commission also discussed enhancing security at Central Park due to recent vandalism, with city staff exploring options for increased monitoring. Updates included new turnout gear for the Fire Department, OSHA's new emergency response standard, and the Fire Department's building feasibility study. The meeting concluded with a brief discussion on Public Safety's role in new marijuana dispensary legislation.

Park and Recreation Commission - Met on December 4, 2024

The Park and Recreation Commission discussed the Art Council's plans for additions to the sculpture park located off of Highway 12, including the Art Council's personalized brick fundraiser and potential path designs and materials to connect permanent and temporary sculptures. The commission selected a path design and gave their approval of the fundraiser plan. City Administrator Phil Kern presented on the Parks Capital Plan and reviewed the schedule needed to accomplish the planned Central Park improvements in time for the Sesquicentennial Celebration.

Planning Commission - Met on December 9, 2024

The Planning Commission reviewed a purchase request in the West Metro Business Park from Doboszenski and Sons, an excavating contractor. The commission approved amendments to the PUD/1-2 Industrial Planned Unit Development Zoning District and Zoning Map, as well as the preliminary and final plat with specified conditions. Additionally, Kim Lindquist, the new City Planner for Delano, was introduced to the commission. She will begin her role in 2025.

Spirit of Community Commission - December 10, 2024 meeting canceled

City Council - Met on December 3, 10, & 17, 2024

December 3, 2024 (Regular Meeting): The City Council held a public hearing regarding the Crow River Villa Capital Plan, followed by the approval of 2023 and 2024 budget allocations for the plan. Additionally, Council received a comprehensive update from City staff on growth and infrastructure within the City of Delano. Staff also presented the proposed 2025 Capital Improvement Plan, Tax Levy, and Budget, all of which were adopted by the Council.

December 10, 2024 (DMU/City Council Joint Meeting): The City Council and City staff shared updates with the Water, Light and Power Commission including a development update, the status of ongoing infrastructure projects, and a partnership with Ridgewater College. The Water, Light and Power Commission and Delano Municipal Utilities staff shared updates with the City Council including the status of a new substation and generator.

December 17, 2024 (Special Meeting): The City Council conducted a year-end review with City staff, covering a summary of 2024 and acknowledging goals for 2025. The Council also received an overview of ongoing projects and discussed strategies for maintaining strong, collaborative relationships between elected officials and City staff.

December 17, 2024 (Regular Meeting): The City Council approved several consent items, including an event license for Puck in the Park, pay requests for ongoing projects, contingent employment offers for three new firefighters, amendments to the City Fee Schedule for Water and Sewer Access charges, the River Waters 2nd Addition development agreement, and a gambling license for the Delano Area Youth Hockey Association. The Council also approved a 3.5% engineering rate increase for 2025, authorization for City offices to close at 3 PM on New Year's Eve (December 31, 2024), and an ordinance regulating cannabis businesses, limiting active licenses to two with future discretion to modify this limit. The Doboszenski PUD concept site plan for Lot 1, Block 1 in the West Metro Business Park and amendments to the Shoreland District Zoning Ordinance were approved. The City Council also approved a resolution, allowing City staff to apply for two MnDOT grants to create pedestrian crossings over Highway 12 and the Crow River, starting in the 2028-2029 funding cycle. The new firefighter compensation package was approved, and outgoing Councilmember Jeremiah Hawkins and retiring City Planner Al Brixius were recognized for their service to the City of Delano.