



# NEWS FROM THE CITY

City of Ashton



## Getting Ready!

Not ready to start thinking about snow? Well, if we start now, we will be prepared! The City has ordinances in place to help both the citizens and city snow removal team to keep the streets open.

Here is a list of reminders to make/keep winter plowing better for everyone.

1. Cars, trucks, boats, trailers and other misc. items need to be removed from the city right-of-way. The City right-of-way extends from the center of the road 40 feet to each side on most streets. On Spruce, Walnut & Maple Leaf Drive the right-of-way is 30 feet from the center and on

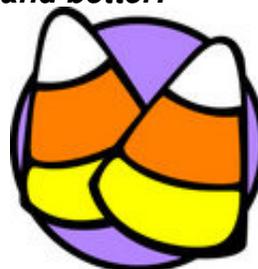
Main Street it is 50 feet. City code allows for the towing of such items without notification if they are not removed. There will be towing of vehicles in the right of way. Please make sure and move your vehicles!

2. Any personal items (including mail-boxes) in the City right-of-way need to be removed. Also, any items left in the right-of-way are left there at your own risk and could be struck by a snow plow during plowing. In the event that damage to a snow plow or other City equipment caused by items that you have left in the right-of-way, you could be sub-

ject to reimbursing the City for the cost of that damage.

- 3. Garbage cans need to be removed from the street as soon as possible after being dumped.
- 4. When removing snow from your driveway, do not blow or plow snow onto the City Street. **Citations will be given.**
- 5. The City of Ashton is not liable for damage of any sort to your personal property when left in the City right-of-way.

**Thank you in advance for making winter plowing easier and better!**



VOLUME 6, ISSUE 10



OCTOBER 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

NOVEMBER 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

DECEMBER 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### Calendar Key

City Council Meeting	Yellow
City P & Z Meeting	Cyan
Utility Bill Payment Due Date	Red
Utility Bill Mailing Date	Green
City Building Closed	Orange



## NEWS FROM THE CITY

# City Bond Election



In April 2014, the City's new NPDES Permit became effective. This permit regulates discharge of treated wastewater during the winter. The permit was issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, carries the weight of law and is enforceable by fines of up to \$37,500 per day for each violation. The new permit included lower ammonia limits which the City cannot meet with its current wastewater lagoons. The NPDES Permit also sets an aggressive schedule for implementing improvements that will enable the City to comply with the new permit limits.

The City has been taking the appropriate steps to meet the required schedule, including a study to evaluate alternatives and determine the best path forward. The study is nearing completion with recommendations to construct a storage facility to store treated wastewater through the winter and then use it for irri-

gation during the summer. Other wastewater system improvements are also being recommended such as repair or replacement of collection lines within the City's system that have been determined to be well past their useful lifespan.

The estimated cost of the recommended improvements is \$5.4-million. The City is evaluating funding options which include low interest loans and grants. The loans will need to be repaid through increases in monthly user rates. It is anticipated that monthly sewer rates will need to increase by as much as \$19 per month per connection in order to pay for the improvements. Average monthly sewer rates would be approximately \$58 per month with the increase. This could be reduced if the City is successful in receiving grant funds to help pay for the project.

These improvements are necessary for the City to comply with its new permit requirements. Authorization to borrow the money for the improvements must be by either judicial confirmation—where a

judge determines the project costs are ordinary and necessary to protect public health and authorizes the City to borrow the money - or by bond election—with more than 50 percent of the citizens voting to authorize the indebtedness.

Although the City must move forward with the improvements or face fines from EPA, the City Council has decided to put the issue to the voters in a bond election which will be November 8, 2016. Public information meetings will be held at 7:00 PM September 28, 2016 and November 2, 2016 to explain the alternatives that were evaluated, the recommendations that were made, and the user rate impacts of the proposed improvements. A public hearing will be held October 12, 2016 at 7:00 PM in City Council meeting where formal public comment will be accepted.





# MAYOR'S CORNER



*Mayor Stronks*

I feel like summer has flown by and now harvest and fall is upon us.

I would admonish you to go to the open house we are going to have on September 28th. The subject is the ammonia problem we have at the lagoon.

The more you know the better you will understand the situation.

I hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

*Mayor Teddy Stronks*



The City contracts with PSI Environmental Services, Inc. for the City garbage service. Residential customers as well as some commercial customers have 90 gallon garbage bins.

On Friday morning, the bins are

## Garbage Cans

emptied by PSI garbage trucks. Bins (garbage cans) should be placed with the opening side of the lid facing the street where the truck stops to pick it up. The wheels should be in the back — away from where the garbage truck would run.

Thank you for having your cans

out and ready when the truck is at your location. If you have any questions, please call the City Building at 652-3987.



## Arbor Day Celebration

Ashton's Arbor Day will be held on October 27th at 1 PM at the Ashton City Building courtyard.

There will be a short pro-

gram followed by a tree planting and harvest treats.

Please come and enjoy Arbor Day in Ashton!





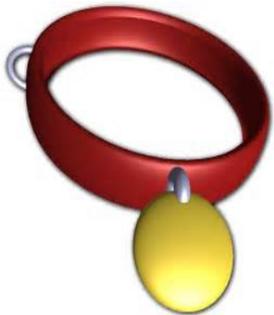
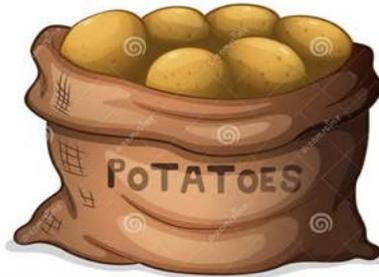
## CITY OF ASHTON

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### UPCOMING MEETINGS

Regular City Council meetings are held each month on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. For specific dates & other meeting information please refer to our website: [www.cityofashton.com](http://www.cityofashton.com)



The City is having a **DOG LICENSE SALE!** City Residents may purchase their 2017 dog licenses at the City Building for

**\$ 7.50.**

# 2017

Buy now and get the next **3 MONTHS FREE**

## Rate Increase

On October 1st, 2016, City water & sewer rates will raise by 3%. For residential customers water rates will raise from \$41.38 to \$42.62 base rate with \$1.15 per 1000 gallons. Sewer rates will raise from \$39.13 to \$40.30.



# Bond Election Information Meeting

Date : September 28th

Time: 7 pm

Place: City Building

