

Quarterly Newsletter

October 2024

Photo Taken by Caitlin Cohill

Fall

CITY OF MAPLE PLAIN

Letter from the Mayor

Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske



It is hard to believe that the State Fair has come and gone already, that school buses are regularly in our neighborhoods, and that some leaves have already begun to change colors. The past quarter was filled with various community events and celebrations. The 35th Annual Polo Classic took place. It was a beautiful day, with over 1,800 people in attendance. I was one of the speakers at the Honor the Blue Event. Matt Birk was the special guest speaker. What a privilege to be able to thank and honor our police officers publicly. Haven Homes hosted a dedication and ribbon-cutting celebration for their new bus. What a blessing for the residents to go on adventures together. I enjoyed attending the National Night Out Parties in Maple Plain. It was such a joy to visit with neighbors, and I loved watching our first responders interact with the children and children at heart. The Museum hosted their annual pie and ice cream social. Cookies with the Council continue to happen regularly. What an excellent opportunity to interact with your elected officials in a casual setting. The annual Battle of the Badges softball game between our hometown heroes, West Hennepin Public Safety & Maple Plain Fire Department, took place. It was a beautiful night! A special thanks to Umpire BlueLou, AKA Spiderman, for joining us. I hope you enjoyed some of these and other things happening in and around town.

Your involvement is crucial to our community's success. The council has been diligently working on various budgets, including city, police, and fire. Look for a detailed account of where your city tax dollars go inside the newsletter. The street reconstruction projects are nearing completion for this season, and your feedback is invaluable as we plan for next year. The inside and outside of the water tower have been cleaned, thanks to the efforts of our community. Nominations are being accepted for the Good Neighbor Award, a testament to the positive impact each of us can make. The Citizens Advisory Group, the Economic Development Authority, and the Planning Commission are always open to new members, offering a great way to get involved in shaping our city's future.

As we look ahead, there are plenty of exciting opportunities to get involved. Mark your calendars and plan to attend the West Hennepin Chamber of Commerce Truck & Treat event, the Maple Plain Fire Department open house, and the community Veterans Day program. And who can forget the beloved View Santa event? Early voting has already started, and the polls will be open on November 5. Do your research and be an informed voter. Your ballot will have local, county, state, and federal officials, and your vote truly matters. More information about all these events can be found in the newsletter, so mark your calendars and hope to see you around town!

Together, we are better!

Mayor Julie

FOUR SEEK CITY COUNCIL SEATS IN UPCOMING ELECTION

Four residents will be on the ballot Nov. 5th for three Maple Plain City Council seats; Three are running for two City Council seats and one is running for the position of Mayor.

The four-year terms of Council members Mike DeLuca and John Fay are up Dec. 31, 2024, along with the four-year term of Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske. Mike DeLuca, John Fay, and Rochelle Arvizo are candidates for the two Council seats. Julie Maas-Kusske is the candidate for Mayor. More information about the candidates is available on the Minnesota Secretary of State website at HTTP://candidates.sos.mn.gov/ and at vote411.org.

Official election results will be posted on the Minnesota Secretary of State website as they become available after the polls close on Election Day.



Julie Maas-Kusske



Mike DeLuca



COMMUNITY VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

Please join us for a Veterans Day 2024 celebration. The Orono High School in partnership with the Rotary Club of Orono will be hosting a community Veterans Day program on Monday, November 11, 2024, from 8:45 - 9:30 am in the Orono High School gymnasium. The program will include speakers, patriotic music, the Paul Stinson VFW Post #514 Color Guard and the opportunity to meet and show your appreciation for our Service Veterans. Immediately following the program, all Veterans and their guests are invited to a reception. Be sure to check back periodically on the City's Website and or Facebook page for up-todate program information.



John Fay



Rochelle Arvizo



GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARD NOMINATION

The Maple Plain City Council is now accepting nominations for the 2024 Good Neighbor Award, the highest honor bestowed by the Council to an individual, organization, or business in Maple Plain.

The Good Neighbor Award recognizes a lifetime of service and dedication through volunteerism, virtue, civic engagement, and creative efforts to meet the needs of the community.

Submit nominations online at <u>www.mapleplain.com/good-neighbor-award</u> or at City Hall by Friday, October 11th.

YARD WASTE, BRUSH, & CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

Yard Waste: Through Republic Services, yard waste and brush are collected free of charge on garbage collection day, Monday, through November 25, 2024, weather permitting. Like refuse, yard waste must be placed in compostable bags (paper bags) and set out for collection by 6:00 am.

Christmas Trees: Non-artificial (live) Christmas trees are collected free of charge on the first two weeks of January 6th and 13th. Trees need to be set out curbside without bags and must be free of all ornaments, tinsel, garland, and lights. Trees longer than 8 feet must be cut into sections.

>>> PUBLIC SAFETY <<<

The Battle of the Badges



BATTLE OF THE BADGES SOFTBALL GAME

BATTLE OF THE BADGES SOFTBALL GAME RECAP

On August 19th, the annual Battle of the Badges softball game brought together the West Hennepin Public Safety and Maple Plain Fire Department for a spirited competition at Don Timpe Field. This year's game drew the largest crowd to date, creating an energetic and supportive atmosphere for both teams.

Despite a valiant effort by the Maple Plain Fire Department, West Hennepin Public Safety ultimately prevailed, securing the Battle of the Badges trophy and bragging rights for the third consecutive year.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who came out to support our first responders. Your enthusiasm, along with the efforts of our dedicated volunteers, made this event a success. Save the date. Next year's Battle of the Badges is on August 18, 2025. We look forward to seeing you again next year!

MICAH VORDERBRUGGEN



West Hennepin Public Safety is proud to introduce the newest member of the team, Micah Vorderbruggen, as our new Patrol Officer. Micah recently graduated with a Law Enforcement degree from the Hennepin Technical College in 2024. Micah previously worked at West Hennepin Public Safety Department as a Community Service Officer and a Reserve Officer.

Chief Kroells expressed his confidence in Micah, stating, "Our agency is honored that Micah joined our team. Finding such a well-rounded law enforcement candidate with a passion for serving is hard to find. Officer Vorderbruggen is a top candidate who will undoubtedly have an immediate impact on our agency and the citizens we serve."

Officer Vorderbruggen stated, "I am honored to start my Law Enforcement career at West Hennepin Public Safety Department. I am excited to serve and make a difference in Maple Plain and Independence."

WHPS NEW PATROL OFFICER

LEAGUE OF MN CITIES ELECTS MAYOR JULIE MAAS-KUSSKE TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Rochester, MN - June 27, 2024 - The League of Minnesota Cities proudly announces the election of new members and officers to its Board of Directors for the 2024-2027 three year term. This momentous decision was made during the Annual Conference business meeting held in Rochester.

The Board of Directors plays a crucial role in steering the statewide organization, ensuring that it operates strategically, responsibly, and in a manner that represents the interests of all 853 member cities across Minnesota.

We are especially pleased to share that our esteemed Mayor, Julie Maas-Kusske, has been elected to serve on the League's Board of Directors. Mayor Maas-Kusske's dedication and leadership will be instrumental in advancing the League of Minnesota Cities' mission and advocating for the needs of our community at the state level.

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE WEST HENNEPIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, WHCC



Businesses, individuals and non-profits are encouraged to join WHCC. Benefits of membership include; various networking opportunities, ribbon cutting for new business and or new members, exposure in business directory, business resources from the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, and exclusive sponsorship opportunities are some of the benefits. For more information visit Placeholder for the chamber and or contact WHCC President Shannon Strom at sstrom@kainsurance or (952)707-8293 or http://www.whcc-mn.org/

CENTERPOINT GRANT

CenterPoint Energy helps cities in its service area with matching grants through the Community Safety Grant Program. In 2024, the program gave out grants of up to \$2,500, mainly for safety equipment and similar projects. The City of Maple Plain requested a grant to buy a Vivax-Metrotech cLoc3Pro Utility Locator.



This utility locator is important because it helps find underground utilities accurately. This helps prevent accidents during digging, makes work more efficient, and saves money by avoiding costly repairs and fines. It also helps meet safety regulations. The cLoc3Pro is a reliable tool with advanced technology that works well for various construction and maintenance jobs. In July, CenterPoint Energy presented the City of Maple Plain with the \$2,500 grant for the Community Safety Grant Program.

NIGHT TO UNITE



West Hennepin Public Safety Department would like to thank our citizens for making Night to Unite a tremendous event for Independence and Maple Plain this year.

West Hennepin Public Safety, Maple Plain Fire Department, and West Suburban Fire District will continue to work with our communities and its neighborhoods to promote crime prevention using National Night to Unite. By getting our neighbors together we can proactively prevent crime from occurring in our communities. Together we are a safer community

DELANO SENIOR CENTER

The Delano Senior Center is open to everyone, regardless of age or where you live! They offer a wide variety of services designed to enrich your life and connect you with others. Our programs include educational workshops, daily lunch served at noon, exercise classes to help you stay active, and special-interest groups where you can explore hobbies and passions. We also have games and activities for social fun, as well as day trips around the region to keep things exciting. Looking to give back? There are plenty of volunteer opportunities available. Whether you're here to learn, socialize, or get involved in the community, we have something for everyone. Stop by today to discover how you can join in, or call us at (763) 972-0574 for more information!



The City Council held a budget work session on September 9, 2024, to discuss its priorities. After much discussion, the Council will set the preliminary levy at \$1,886,434, which is an increase of \$132,233 or 7.54% from 2024.

Since the budget process started in May, city staff has reviewed each line item in the budget and adjusted several line items accordingly. The main factor for the increase in the levy is the 2024A G.O. Bond issued for the 2024 Street Project.

The City Council is required to certify a preliminary levy to Hennepin County by September 30, 2024. When the preliminary levy is certified, it cannot increase. Throughout October and November, the City Council will work through the budget to prepare for the Truth-in-Taxation meeting, which will be held on December 16, 2024 at 7:00 pm. The final certification of the levy must be sent to Hennepin County no later than December 31, 2024.

ORGANIC RECYCLING

Hennepin County is now enforcing rules under Ordinance 13 for handling organic waste. Cities must offer organics recycling to all households that have curbside recycling services. These rules were part of changes made to the county's recycling ordinance in November 2018.

The goal of the recycling ordinance is to help the environment by reducing waste and recycling as much as possible. Diverting organic materials, like food scraps and yard waste, is one of the best ways to cut down on trash. A waste study by Hennepin County found that organic materials make up 25-35% of what we throw away.

Increasing organic waste collection is a major step toward reaching the county's zero-waste and climate action goals, which aim to keep 90% of waste out of landfills or incinerators. Cities are required to offer organics recycling, and state law mandates that all residents have access to this service.

Although households are not required to participate in organics recycling, starting January 1st, Maple Plain will comply with Ordinance 13 and set up a public organics drop-off site with a dumpster provided by Republic Services near the Public Works building (1645 Pioneer Ave.).



MAKE A PLAN TO VOTE! YOU HAVE OPTIONS!

In Minnesota, you can vote early with an absentee ballot starting Sept. 20th to Nov 4th. You can request an absentee ballot online or in-person for federal, state, and county elections.

VOTE ON ELECTION DAY NOV. 5TH

In Maple Plain, there is only one polling precinct, located at City Hall. The polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM on Election Day. A sample ballot will be posted at City Hall, or you can visit the Secretary of State's website (https://myballotmn.sos.mn.gov/) to view your precinct ballot and prepare ahead of time.



SAVE THE DATE!!!

The West Hennepin Public Safety reserves are sponsoring the 43rd annual "View Santa" program, which will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2024. The reserves will also collect nonperishable food donations for local food shelves.

Come to the Independence City Hall atrium (1920 County Road 90) from 3:30 to 4:15 p.m. or to Maple Plain Veterans Memorial Park (5190 Independence Street) from 4:45 to 5:30 p.m. to meet Santa and take photos or see Santa on his route through town.



Saturday, October 26th in the Parking Lot of Iron Exchange/Forkless from 11-1pm Food Trucks, Trunk-n-Treat, Family Fun!

Bouncy House sponsored by American Family, Anne Rothstein Agency and MJT & Associates

Food trucks will offer a variety of lunch options, plus local restaurants will offer specials

Purchase tickets to win a wide variety of Baskets from local businesses

WEAR YOUR COSTUME.

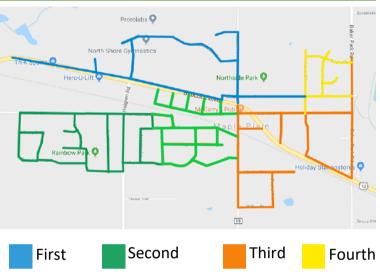
Trunks will be decorated and treats will be given out!

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October, 2024

>>> PUBLIC WORKS <<</td>

STARTING OCTOBER 14TH



Maple Plain Public Works will be starting fall hydrant flushing on Monday, October 14th. Work will continue through the City by section as shown on the map. Each section may take a day or two.

>>>HYDRANT FLUSHING

Hydrant flushing is a controlled procedure that is vital to the general maintenance of the City's water distribution system. It ensures adequate water flow is available to fire fighters, residents, and businesses.

This process may cause discolored water, pressure changes, and/or an increased chlorine odor. Sediment present in the water is not a health issue, but it may impact your water as described above.

More information on hydrant flushing, including when to run your water and what to do in the event that your water is discolored during the hydrant flushing, may be found on our website at the following address:

www.mapleplain.com/departments/PublicWorks/hydrant flushing

STREET SWEEPING

The Fall Street Sweeping Program focuses on clearing leaves from streets to prevent catch basins from clogging, which can lead to flooding and other drainage issues. The main goal is to remove as many leaves as possible before snow arrives, ensuring that streets and drainage systems are clear for winter.

At the beginning of the fall, sweepers can be less effective due to the large accumulation of leaves, but as the season progresses, they become crucial in managing leaf removal. The city plans to begin fall cleanup on October 23, 2024. However, it's important to note that weather conditions play a significant role in how much sweeping can be completed, as rain, snow, and cold temperatures can impact the process.

<<< STARTING OCTOBER 23RD



STARTING DECEMBER 1ST



>>> ONLINE PAYMENTS CHANGE

The City of Maple Plain has switched payment processing companies to lower city costs and create efficiencies. Customers will need to set up new accounts with MuniciPAY to continue making payments for Utility Bills, Permits & Licenses. Payments via PSN (Payment Service Network) will no longer be accepted as of December 1, 2024. There are no fees to customers unless there is a returned payment. The fee for a returned payment will be the amount allowed by MN state statute. We apologize for any inconvenience and appreciate your understanding.

For more information, visit: www.mapleplain.com/OnlinePhonePayments(MUNICIPAY)

2024 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING STREET & INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The City of Maple Plain continues to advance its 2024 Street & Infrastructure Improvement Project, which focuses on reconstructing essential city infrastructure, including water and sewer lines, streets, storm sewers, and curbs in key areas. As part of this ongoing project, a Special Assessment Public Hearing will be held on November 18, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the Maple Plain City Council Chambers.

This project covers Independence Street (between Budd Avenue and Howard Avenue), Bryant Street, Wyman Avenue, and other areas. Improvements include full street reconstruction, sanitary sewer and water main replacements, storm sewer extensions, and enhancements to curb and gutter systems.

The City Council will review the proposed assessments for the benefiting properties along the project route at the hearing. Property owners will receive mailed notices with detailed information about the assessment amounts and how they are calculated. All affected property owners are strongly encouraged to attend to learn more about the project, ask questions, and give feedback.

The project, which has an estimated total cost of \$5.7 million, will be funded in part through special assessments and various city funds. The public hearing is an important opportunity for residents to participate in the process and understand how these improvements will enhance the community.

For more information, please contact Maple Plain City Hall. We look forward to your participation in improving the infrastructure that serves Maple Plain.

AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE 326 SUMP PUMP ORDINANCE AMENDMENT & DRAIN TILE CONNECTION PERMITTING

The City Council will be holding a public hearing on October 14th, 2024 at 6:45 pm to review an amendment to ordinance 326. The amendment to Maple Plain City Code Chapter 9, Article 5, introduces updated regulations regarding the connection of private sump pump lines to the City's stormwater system. This amendment outlines several important changes aimed at improving clarity and enforcement:

- 1. Installation Requirements: Property owners are now required to follow the City's guidelines for sump pump line connections, ensuring proper installation. These guidelines may be updated in the future, and property owners are responsible for complying with all current regulations.
- 2. Permitting and Fees: Property owners must obtain the necessary permits before beginning any work. In addition to permit fees, they are responsible for all costs associated with the installation, including restoring any streets or sidewalks that are impacted during the process.
- 3. Inspection and Approval: All connections must be inspected and approved by the City or its designated representative before backfilling the work. Failure to have the connection inspected may result in the property owner having to uncover the work at their own expense.
- 4. Drain Tile System Freezing Limitation: Clarifications have been made regarding the operation of the system during freezing months, with the expectation that the system may not always be fully operational during this period.

These changes aim to improve the proper installation and ongoing maintenance of private sump pump connections to protect the City's infrastructure.



STREET MAINTENANCE DUE TO SURFACE DISTRESS

To help preserve and extend the lifespan of local streets until the next scheduled reconstruction project, the City recently completed a detailed assessment of several important roadways. The streets evaluated include Independence St. west of Budd Ave., Main St. W. between Halgren Rd. and Spring Ave., Pioneer Ave. between Bryant St. and W. Main St., and Spring Ave. between Bryant St. and W. Main St. The assessment revealed significant signs of surface damage, wear, and distress in several areas. Left untreated, these issues could lead to more costly repairs or complete road failure. As a result, the City has prioritized maintenance on Independence St., W. Main St., Pioneer Ave., and Spring Ave. to prevent further damage, improve safety for residents and drivers, and reduce the need for ongoing repairs until the next major reconstruction effort.

Fall Maintenance Plan:

- Independence St.: This section was found to be in particularly poor condition, showing advanced deterioration. As a result, it will undergo a
 full reclamation process, followed by an asphalt overlay. This will restore the road's foundation and extend its usability for several more
 years.
- W. Main St., Pioneer Ave., and Spring Ave.: These streets will receive an asphalt overlay to address surface issues, smooth out any rough patches, and improve overall road quality.

While these repairs will extend the life of the streets, a full reconstruction project is being planned. For the proposed time you can review the street CIP at City Hall or on-line at mapleplain.com.

CITY COUNCIL APPROVES ARPA FUNDS FOR KEY IMPROVEMENTS

On September 23rd, the City Council approved Resolution 24-0923-02, finalizing the allocation of the remaining 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. These funds, provided in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, will support a variety of projects aimed at improving city services and infrastructure, ensuring the community benefits from these resources.

One major initiative is the move towards a paperless system, with funds being used to create online forms through Laserfiche. This will streamline operations, reduce waste, and increase efficiency across city departments. In addition, the downtown well will be sealed to protect the city's water supply, and new cameras will be purchased to inspect sewer and storm lines, helping to maintain and improve essential infrastructure.

The council also approved several upgrades to the council chambers. A modern sound and microphone system will be installed to enhance the quality of meeting recordings and ensure clear audio for all participants. A new conference room table will provide a more professional and functional environment for city meetings, fostering better collaboration and decision-making. Furthermore, the construction of a dedicated dais will improve the layout and functionality of the chambers, ensuring meetings are conducted in a safer and more organized manner.

These investments reflect the City Council's commitment to improving both the efficiency of city operations and the quality of services provided to residents. By using the ARPA funds wisely, the council aims to support long-term improvements that will benefit the entire community. Stay tuned for more updates on these exciting projects!

October

		1 Art in the Park - Orono Community Education American Legion Meeting	2	3 Cookies with Councilmember Francis Planning Commission Meeting	4	5
6	7 MDFD Open House	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Hydrant Flushing Begins Fire Commission Meeting City Council Workshop Special Meeting- Public Hearing Economic Development Authority (EDA)	15 Special City Council Workshop - Strategic Planning	16	17	18	19
20	21 MPFD Trustee Meeting	22	23 Street Sweeping Begins	24	25	26 WHCC Truck & Treat
27	28 City Council Workshop City Council Business Meeting	29	30	31		
					1	2
3	4	5 General Election	6	7 Planning Commission Meeting	8	9
10	11 Veteran's Day (City Offices Closed) COMMUNITY VETERANS DAY PROGRAM	12 City Council Workshop Economic Development Authority (EDA)	13	14	15	16
17	18 2024 Special Assessment Hearing	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Last Day of Yard Waste City Council Workshop City Council Business Meeting	26	27	28 Thanksgiving (City Offices Closed)	29 Thanksgiving (City Offices Closed)	30
1 City Online Payment Change to MuniciPAY	2	3	4	5 Planning Commission Meeting	6	7 View Santa
8	9 City Council Workshop Economic Development Authority (EDA)	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 City Council Workshop 2025 Budget & Levy Truth in Taxation Hearing City Council Business Meeting	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Christmas Eve (City Offices Closed)	25 Christmas (City Offices Closed)	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November December

Quarterly Newsletter

October, 2024

Fall

City News is the official newsletter for the city of Maple Plain

Regular City Meeting Schedule City Council Workshops Second and Fourth Mondays @ 5:30 pm

City Council Business Meeting Fourth Monday at 7:00 pm

Economic Development Authority Second Monday at 7:00 pm

Planning Commission First Thursday at 6:00 pm

For the most up-to-date meeting calendar as well as agendas, meeting packets, and minutes, visit: www.mapleplain.com/calendar

CITY CONTACT INFORMATION

City Hall 5050 Independence St, PO Box 97 Maple Plain, MN 55359 763-479-0515 | www.mapleplain.com Hours: Mon - Fri 9 am - 4 pm

Email: jkolander@mapleplain.com (Jacob) klarson@mapleplain.com (Kevin) sunny@mapleplain.com (Sunny)

Public WorksPeopleService24/7763-479-9250

Maple Plain Fire Department Emergency 911

Emergency	911
Fire Station	763-479-0520

West Hennepin Public Safety

Emergency911Office763-479-0500www.westhennepin.com

Other Frequently Called Phone Numbers

Delano Senior Center763-972-0574Maple Plain Library612-543-5700Maple Plain Post Office763-479-1514

STAY CONNECTED



Quarterly Newsletter is published every three months to update residents and business on city government news.



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See the News & Announcements! www.mapleplain.com Check the Calendar!



City Council

Maple Plain is a Statutory "Plan B" City, with a part-time Mayor and City Council empowered by law to legislate city-wide policy and a full-time City Administrator who serves as chief executive. All Council members serve at large to represent the entire community, so residents may contact any one of them to express concerns and opinions. Mayor and Council members are elected in November of even-numbered years for four-year staggered terms.

Mayor

Julie Maas-Kusske 1489 Three Oaks Avenue H: 763-479-6010 juliemaaskusske@mapleplain.com

Council Members

Mike DeLuca 5825 Maple Ridge Drive M: 612-801-5533 mikedeluca@mapleplain.com

Andrew Burak 1684 Perkins Lane M: 612-221-6578 andrewburak@mapleplain.com John Fay 5819 Three Oaks Avenue H: 763-479-1913 johnfay@mapleplain.com

Connie Francis 1445 Halgren Road M: 612-554-6193 conniefrancis@mapleplain.com

Community Calendar

Oct 7 **MPFD** Open House Oct 14 Ordinance 329 Truck & Treat Oct 26 Oct 31 Halloween Nov 5 **Election Day** Nov 11 Veterans Day Observed (city offices closed) Nov 18 2024 Special Assessment Hearing Nov 28/29 Thanksgiving (city offices closed) Dec 7 View Santa Dec 16 Truth in Taxation Hearing Dec 24/25 Christmas (city offices closed) Jan 1 New Year's Day (city offices closed)



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Sign-up for CodeRED Notifications! www.mapleplain.com/codered