

Summer

2020



A Message from the Mayor

Jerilyn Horton-Richter is our new Clerk / Treasurer, in case you have not seen or talked to her recently. Jerilyn started working in the office April 13, 2020 and is currently getting up to speed. We are glad to have her working for the City and our residents. Stop by the City Office and introduce yourself and welcome Jerilyn to Oronoco. Thank you.

Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush days cancellation in August was another unfortunate event caused by the uncertainty of COVID-19. The Gold Rush committee's decision not to have the event this year was a tough decision for the committee to make. The uncertainty of the Governor's Emergency Orders extending into August and the safety of preventing the spreading of the virus with the large crowds, requiring masks and social distancing, sanitizing porta potties, and overall safety of the shoppers, vendors, residents parking cars, committee members, food vendors and volunteers were too big a risk for the City and the Committee to be responsible for. We are looking forward to the 2021 Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush Days event, August 20,21, and 22, 2021.

THE CITY OF ORONOCO

THE GOLDEN EXPLORER

WATER & SEWER

At this time, the 2020 legislature session has not had a bonding bill. We are hopeful that the July 12th Special Session, the legislators will discuss a bonding bill and the Governor will sign it. The City is asking for \$24,027 million for our wastewater treatment plant and collection system infrastructure. The engineering design of the system will be 60% completed during the month of July. The new bonding bill funding will allow the design to be completed. If we receive the bonding bill funding, the schedule for contracts to be distributed for bids is January 2021 and construction to begin April 2021 with a completion date of mid – to late 2022.

The Riverwood Hills water looping project between Sunny View LN SW and Istas LN SW has been completed. Very glad to have that done!

2020 Census

Please remember to send in or fill out the Census form online!

Public Works

River Park/Cedar Woodlands trail has been repaired from the 2019 flooding and is open to the public.

However, River Park park is still closed. The City placed hydro-seed down mid-June and it will take time to set. The park gates will remain closed to vehicle entrance until the park is fully open. Please be respectful to stay out of the roped-off areas.

If you are installing a sprinkler system, landscaping, or working within city right-of-way, please make sure you get a ROW Permit approved before starting any work. Please contact City Hall for details.

Please make sure to keep your right-of-way clear of overgrown trees and bushes. Overgrown landscaping can be dangerous, reducing the visual triangle and right-of-way.

City Hall Office hours have changed to:
7 am - 4 pm M-TH and
7 am - 11 am Friday

Oronoco Food Shelf

*Located at 20 3rd St SW
Open the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays each Month
5 - 6:30 pm*

The Food Shelf continues to provide food to anyone that needs it. The current health crisis has given everyone pause but we are operating, although in a different manner. Instead of shopping in person each shopper is given a list of what is available as they stay in their vehicles and wait. One of our nimble young volunteers takes the checked list to the basement and fills the order. Everyone gets a choice of a different type of packed box plus a choice of dairy and meat products. The bags and boxes are carried out and delivered to the shoppers vehicle without any contact. All volunteers are required to wear a mask and remain at the appropriate distance.

We take everyone's health and safety very seriously. We will continue to operate this way for the next couple of months and perhaps the end of the year. Delivery is also available to anyone that is unable or unwilling to visit the food shelf. If you are in need of delivery please telephone Lance at 507-421-0340 to arrange the delivery. We need to have the deliveries set up by Tuesday, so call on Sunday or Monday prior to the open dates.

Currently we have a limited need for volunteers. Since the pandemic changed everyone's life we have limited the contact for all volunteers. If you wish to fill in a spot please contact Rachel at 507-250-0428 to discuss any opportunities. Donations are still accepted, either groceries, personal care or household items. Financial support is also appreciated. Those may be mailed to OFS, PO Box 118, Oronoco, MN, 55960. Thank you! We intend to continue serving our community as long as there is a need!

Oronoco Area History Center

Open Saturday, July 11, from 10-12

Open Saturday, August 8, 10-12

We are looking forward to finally opening the doors to visitors at the History Center for the first time this year on July 11. Stop in and you might be surprised at what you learn about Oronoco's history.

1880- Rochester & Northern Railroad Schedule: Leave Rochester at 7:55am, arrive at Oronoco Switch at 8:43am.

1910 - During the July 4th Celebration, the dock near the pavilion broke down and 30 people found themselves in five to six feet of water. There were several narrow escapes from drowning.

1920 – Choice summer home sites are available in King's Park at a reasonable sale price with easy terms available. "Good water, good boating, bathing and natural scenery unsurpassed"! Take the old Falls road and follow the signs. Norton and Armstrong, owners.

1922 – The Rochester Automobile Club has plans for a first-class bathing beach at King's Park. It was voted to move William J. Mayo's cottage from its present site at Oronoco to King's Park and remodel it to a club house for the members.

Find us on Facebook where fun and interesting photos of Oronoco's past are posted. If you can't make the scheduled time the Center is open, we are happy to meet you by appointment. Call Mary Fuller at 507-269-1075 to set up a time.

July 1922:

**OLD LANDMARK
GIVES WAY TO
TRADE GROWTH**

**Growell Flats Will Soon be Occupied
by Business Firms With Fordham
Electric Co. First Occupant**

The Crowell Flats for many years in Rochester, have been exclusive apartments. For years they have stood snugly in their location on 121

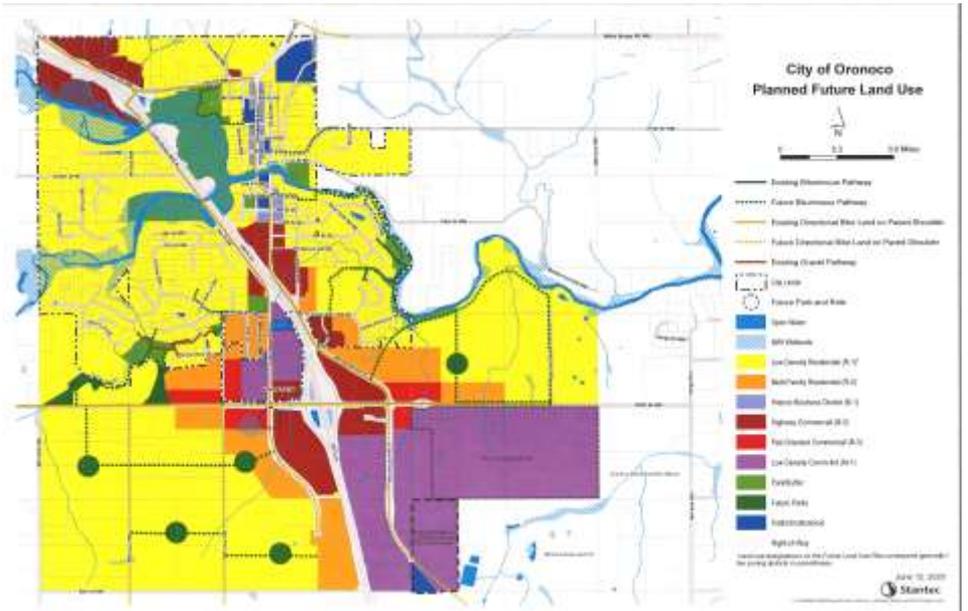
123 First avenue NW, paying no attention to the constant changes that went on around them except to add improvements to the interior and the exterior,

Now however, they have given way to the growth of the city and the trend of commercialism, have given up their air of domestic comfort and peace and will soon become a place of business. The soft rustle of the house dress and the song of the tea kettle will be succeeded by the clang of the cash register and the noise of hurrying, restless feet.

The suite of rooms on the north side of Second street, are now being converted into a place of business and the Fordham Electric company will take up their quarters there in the immediate future. Other changes in the building will probably soon follow.

Planning & Zoning

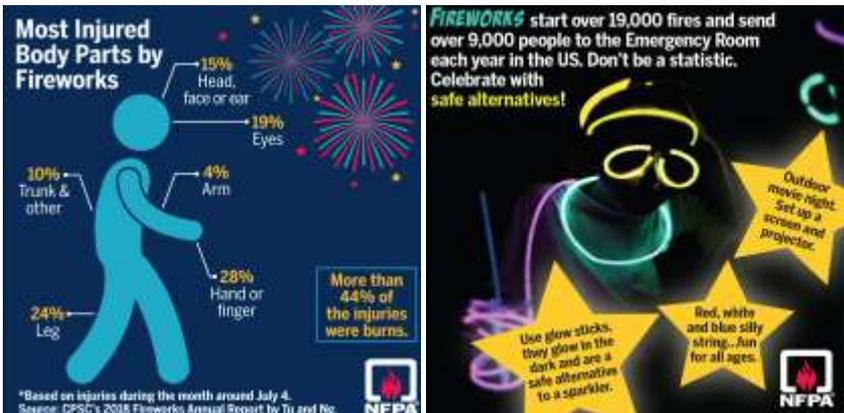
Our next meeting is July 9th at 7 pm, located at City Hall. We will be discussing the FLUP and other topics at this meeting. Please attend if you are interested in the future land use plan of the city.



Fire Department

The Oronoco Fire Department is happy to announce two new members on our fire department. Abby Schimek and Jackson Campeau both just joined, so make sure you say hello the next time you see either of them. Your volunteer fire department is made up of people that live in and work in the area, and we would love to have a conversation with anyone about our organization and what it takes to become a member.

Each summer, thousands of people, most often children and teens, are injured while using consumer fireworks. Despite the dangers of fireworks, few people understand the associated risks - devastating burns, other injuries, fires, and even death.



Call the firehall at 367-4440 if you would like to leave a message with any questions or if you are interested in joining, and check out our website <http://www.oronocofire.com> and our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/oronocofire> for more information.



1st Responder's

*We are looking for members,
applications are on our website!*

***Book Exchange
at
Oronoco City
Hall***

Please feel free to
bring books in
or
take books
out!

We have great
reads for all!



Parks and Trails

Camping season at Oronoco Park is open through
Labor Day weekend.



Gardening

Are you interested in gardening but feel you may not have the
space for a garden at your current location?

Garden plots are available at
Garden Park (located on 1st Street SE).

For more information on plot sizes and cost, please contact
Oronoco City Hall at oronococityhall@gmail.com.

ORONOCO AREA SENIORS GROUP

WE ARE LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!

CALL Carole at 367-4717 or Judy 367-4462

Join the Seniors (Age 55+) of the Oronoco area at the Oronoco Community Center every 4th Wednesday of each month. A lunch buffet catered by Tilly's at noon is offered for only \$4.00. Call Carole for lunch reservations. Meals are not provided Jan - March.

Followed by programs and speakers, if time permits, the group plays Bingo, 500 cards, other activities and have a great social gathering.

~ Update ~

Life sure has changed and we all miss our activities - lunch, cards, bingo ,programs, and fellowship. We will keep you posted for when our activities will resume.

Call me for any questions or concerns. Miss you all. ~ Carole Wells

Young at Heart Exercise Group

Well this has been a long stretch of isolation.

We are all anxious to get out and start the exercise group again.

There has also been some interest in yoga following the regular exercises.

Keep working on those muscles and joints during this time.

We are following guidelines and waiting to receive approval for a start date at the

Oronoco Community Center location.

Stay safe and healthy and keep moving.

If you have any questions or concerns feel free to call 367-2311.

~ Rosemary Van Houten



NOTICE
of
Candidacy filing

Filing Dates: Tuesday, July 28th, 2020 to Tuesday, August 11th, 2020 at 5 pm

Location: Oronoco City Hall, 115 2nd Street NW

open seats: Oronoco Mayor
(two (2) year term 2021-2022)

Oronoco Council member
(four (4) year term 2021-2024)

Oronoco Council member
(four (4) year term 2021-2024)

Instructions: Forms are at Oronoco City Hall. Fill out the form completely with a two (2) dollar filing fee. Candidacy forms will not be accepted before or after the filing period.

Please contact Oronoco City Hall with questions.

CITY OF ORONOCO MEETINGS

City Council:

3rd Tuesday each month @ 7:00 pm

Planning & Zoning:

2nd Thursday each month @ 7:00 pm

1st Responders:

1st Monday each month @ 6:30pm

Fire Department:

2nd Monday of each month @ 6:30pm

4th Monday of each month @ 6:30pm

Parks & Trail Committee:

1st Monday of each month @ 6:30 pm

Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush:

2nd Monday each month @ 6:00 pm

Water & Sewer Committee :

2nd Tuesday each month @ 6:30 pm

CITY CONTACTS

2020 Mayor:

Ryland Eichhorst

2020 Council Members:

Trish Shields

Carl Krause

Nancy Quimby

Lori Novak

City Clerk / Treasurer:

Jerilyn Horton-Richter

Deputy Clerk:

Rebecca McGuire

Maintenance:

Dan Howard

Jim Ackman

Fire Department:

Dan Sundt

Emergency Medical Responders:

Chris Inman

Emergency Operations Center:

Pat McGovern

Planning & Zoning:

Paul Jannetto

Gold Rush Committee:

Carol Olson

Park Committee:

Katie Dudley

Cemetery Association:

John Tilford

Oronoco Township:

Lucy Shonyo

CITY HALL INFORMATION

Monday - Thursday

7 AM - 4 PM

Friday

7 - 11 AM

(507) 367-4405

oronococityhall@gmail.com

www.oronoco.com

**Please remember that
all dogs and cats
must be current on shots
and licensed with Oronoco
per City Ordinance. License
are \$5.00 a year per pet.
Please renew your license
every December at City Hall
with a copy of your animals
vaccination record.**

Thank you!



Summer

Need A Document Notarized?

If you need a document notarized, contact City Hall. Your City Clerk is a Notary of the Public. This is a service provided FREE by the City.



Please visit our website for notices, events, applications, permits, meeting minutes, and more.

WWW.ORNOCO.COM



LIKE us on Facebook!



**WATER TEST
KITS**

Available at City Hall. It tests for coli form, bacteria, nitrate, chloride, sulfate, nitrite and fluoride.

**COMMUNITY CENTER
AND CITY PARK RENTALS**

- CC Room Rental: \$75 - \$150
- Meeting Room Rental: \$25
- Chairs: \$35
- Picnic Tables: \$50
- Camp Sites: \$15
- City Shelter: \$30





Presbyterian Church of Oronoco

20 -3rd Street S.W., P.O. 118
Phone 507-367-4711
website: www.oronocochurch.org
Pastor: Lisa Johnson
Email: pastorlisaj@gmail.com
Phone: 507-995-7310

The Presbyterian Church of Oronoco continues to meet online only at our regular worship time - 10:00 a.m. - either via Facebook Live

(search "Presbyterian Church of Oronoco")
or Zoom

(Zoom ID number is posted on our Facebook page every Saturday).

We will continue meeting this way through August at least.

We do not have a reopening date yet and will re-evaluate as fall draws closer.

The Food Shelf is housed at and sponsored by our church together with Channel One.

The food shelf is open the second and fourth Wednesday of each month.

During the summer months the food shelf will be open from 5-7:00 p.m.





Pine Island Area Home Services

WE ARE
HERE
TO HELP

A Living at Home/Block Nurse Program

Web site: www.pineislandareahomeservices.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pineislandareahomeservices

Office hours: Monday through Thursday from 9:00-1:00

Phone: 356-2999

Pine Island Area Home Services provides volunteer services to promote independent, home-based living for adults 65 and older in the Pine Island and Oronoco area.

Due to the restrictions of Covid-19, our several services have been suspended or modified in the mode of delivery.

We are following the Emergency Executive Order 20-55 Protecting the Rights and Health of At-Risk Populations during the COVID19. The Governor's order reads as follows: "At-risk persons strongly urged to stay at home. Beginning on Sunday, May 17, 2020 at 11:59 pm and continuing for the duration of the peacetime emergency declared in Executive Order 20-01 or until this Executive Order is rescinded, all at risk persons currently living within the State of Minnesota are strongly urged to stay at home or in their place of residence except to engage in necessary activities for health and wellbeing (including, but not limited to, visiting medical professionals, picking up prescriptions and other medical equipment, grocery shopping, outdoor exercise, child care, caring for family members or pets) and work, if it is not possible to work from home. People who can work from home must do so.

Consistent with guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC"), "at-risk persons" include people who are: 65 years and older.

In providing the services available, we are following the CDC guidelines.

Current and Ongoing Services are as follows:

Transportation

Transportation services are provided by our volunteer drivers.

Please call the PIAHS office (356-2999) to request transportation.

All riders must be healthy without any symptoms. Both the driver and the rider are required to wear a protective mask.

Meals on Wheels

PIAHS continues to deliver “Meals on Wheels” to our clients. This service is a noon meal delivery Monday through Friday.

Grocery Assistance

To respond to needs, PIAHS is assisting clients in obtaining their groceries. We will pick up and deliver groceries that have been called in or ordered online. We also drive clients to our local grocery store. We are not able to provide group trips to shop at this time.

Virtual Exercise Classes: We are now offering a [virtual](#) one-hour exercise class.

The video is located on our Facebook page

www.facebook.com/pineislandareahomeservices.



The exercise classes incorporate weights into the regular exercise program to improve strength and balance. This class is designated to prevent or reverse bone loss. This class is recommended especially to those concerned about osteoporosis prevention or reversal.

Foot Care Clinic

The foot care clinic has resumed services at this time. Our nurse Suzette Hirichs sets the schedule. An \$18 fee is paid directly to the nurse. Call Pine Island Area Home Services at 356-2999 for appointments. In-home appointments are available for elders having difficulty leaving home.

[Special Upcoming Events:](#)

Taste of Pine Island

The 9th annual Taste of Pine Island will look different this year due to Covid-19. The Virtual Taste of Pine Island will feature many of the event's typical activities. Check out the website for information www.one.bidpal.net/tasteofpi and look for:

Cont.

- Silent auction
- Where raffle tickets are sold
- Updates
- Live stream events



Raffle Tickets!

A live stream event is planned to share the tunes from Root River Jam and the announcement of the raffle winners and more with the community on August 27th.

As we continue to work with the limitations of Covid-19, we are experiencing a decline in our number of volunteer drivers. If you are interested in volunteering as a driver, we would welcome your help. **We are always in need of more volunteer drivers!**

WE NEED YOU!
TO MAKE IT HAPPEN

If you are interested in holding an event at the Community Center, please contact Oronoco City Hall for arrangements at oronococityhall@gmail.com or at 507-367-4405.

Rental information is also located on the city website at www.oronoco.com



*Grace Evangelical
Lutheran Church*

Wisconsin Synod (WELS) - wels.net

45 1ST Ave. NE, Box 238
Oronoco, MN 55960

Pastor Roger Riedel – Cell: (507) 601-8541
riedels.1999@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook
www.gracelutheranoronoco.com

Sunday Worship – 9:00 & 10:00 am
Monday Worship – 7:00 pm

Please join us in worshipping our Lord Jesus Christ,
Who says, “I am with you always.”



2 Peter 3:18 - “Grow in the grace and knowledge of our
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

Weekend schedule: (subject to change)

Sunday – 9:00am Worship (please wear a face mask)

10:00am Worship (face masks optional)

Monday – 7:00pm Worship (face masks optional)

Sunday services are posted on our website:
gracelutheranoronoco.com

Call the church office at 367-4329 for a daily devotion: “A
Moment in the Word.” Or you can listen to “A Moment in the
Word” on our website: gracelutheranoronoco.com

For information regarding church membership or additional
information about worship, please call Pastor Riedel.

NNO has been moved to October 6th, 2020!

Oronoco Park
(310 5th Street NW)

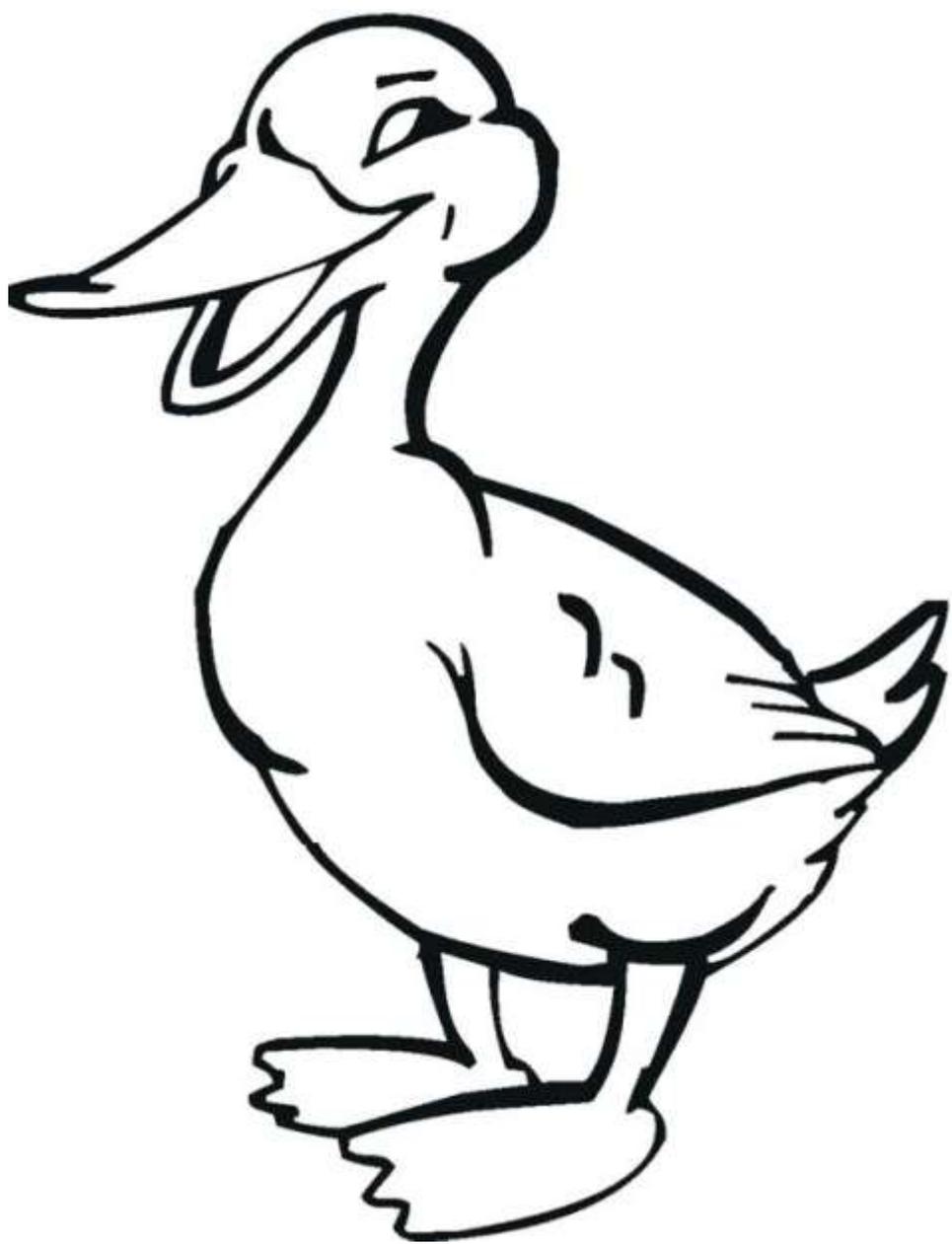
5 pm - 7 pm

More information to come.
Call City Hall for any questions.



Coloring Corner









City of Oronoco ~ 2020 Calendar

July 3 - City Hall closed

July 6 - 5:30 pm - Oronoco Township

July 6 - 6:30 pm - Parks

July 6 - 6:30 pm - 1st Resp.

July 9 - 7 pm - Planning & Zoning

July 9 - 7 pm - Variance Public Hearing

July 9 - 7:05 pm - FLUP Public Hearing

July 13 - 6 pm - DOGR

July 13 - 6:30 pm - FD

July 14 - 6:30 pm - Water & Sewer

July 21 - 7 pm - Reg. Council Mtg.

July 27 - 6:30 pm - FD training

July 28 - 11 am - Water Bills Due

August 11 - Primary Election

November 3 - General Election

***More than 2 City Council Members may attend committee meetings creating a quorum.*

Thank you to everyone who makes this newsletter possible!