



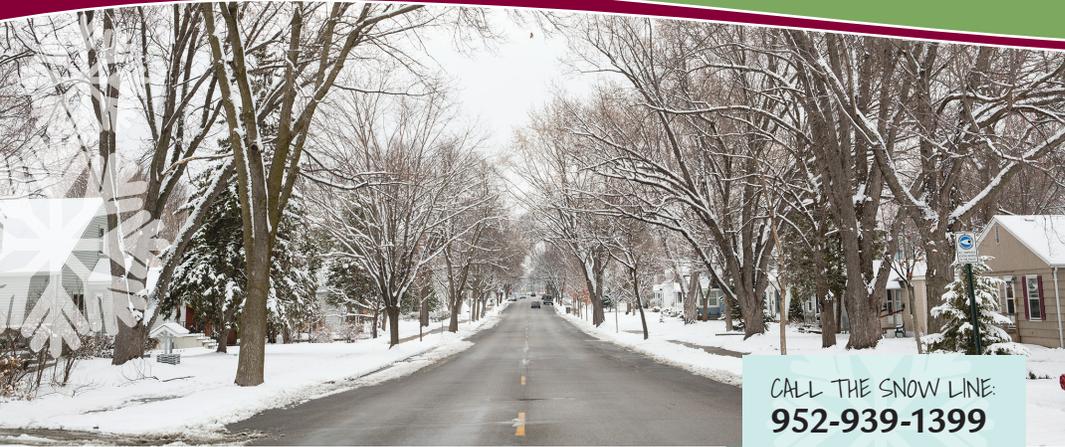
Hopkins Highlights

Inspire

Educate

Involve

Communicate



CALL THE SNOW LINE:
952-939-1399

Here Comes the Snow - DON'T GET TOWED!

In an average year, Hopkins will receive its first measurable snowfall within the next couple weeks. The City can declare a snow emergency **at any time** upon a two-inch snowfall.

Snow emergencies are announced on the City of Hopkins recorded snow line at 952-939-1399. (Note that snow depths are measured in Hopkins and may not coincide with those reported at the Minneapolis–Saint Paul airport.)

When a snow emergency is called, parking restrictions remain in effect until streets are plowed curb-to-curb, and parking lots and ramps are completely plowed. Vehicles left on streets or in public parking lots during snow emergencies may be ticketed or towed.

To avoid being towed, remove your vehicles from City streets and parking lots as soon as a snow emergency has been declared. If you have nowhere to park, use one of the emergency parking locations below.

The City may declare a snow emergency during either the **daytime or evening hours**, as needed, so plows can avoid plowing around parked vehicles.

Residents who leave a vehicle on the street or park on residential streets during the day should be aware of this change.

Get Notified of Snow Emergency Declarations

The City may also notify residents using the Rave emergency notification system, which notifies residents via a phone call, email and/or text message when a city-wide snow emergency is declared.

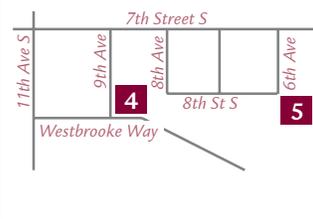
To register your cell phone or learn more, go to www.hopkinsmn.com/255/Emergency-Notification-System, or call 952-548-6451.

Snow Emergency Parking Locations



CENTRAL HOPKINS

1. Municipal Lot 300 just north of Downtown Park on 9th Avenue S
2. Maetzold Field parking lot (access from 1st Street N)
3. Municipal Lot 750 just south of 1st Street N



SOUTH HOPKINS

4. Parking lot in the northeast corner of 9th Avenue S and Westbrooke Way
5. Far east end of 8th Street S near Valley Park

HAPPENING NOW!

FREE Leaf & Yard Waste Pick-Up

Free fall leaf/yard waste bag pick-up began October 26 for most residents and will continue on your garbage day through November 19. No call-in required. You must use compostable bags.

If you live in Bellgrove, Hobby Acres, Park Ridge or Interlachen Park, the City provides free street leaf and yard waste pick up in your area November 2–5. Free bagged pick up is not provided in your area.

For more details, go to www.hopkinsmn.com/651/Leaf-Yard-Waste-Pick-Up. All services are subject to change due to weather.

Drop-Off Site Closes November 21

The free yard waste/brush drop-off site (3100 Hopkins Crossroad) will be open Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (closed for Veterans Day) through Saturday, November 21, weather permitting. After November 21, the site will close for the season.



For more information about what is accepted at the drop-off site, visit www.hopkinsmn.com/599/Drop-Off-Site.

Share Your Positive Experiences!

We love hearing kind words from Hopkins residents and community members about their experiences interacting with City staff, visiting City buildings or enjoying the City's amenities. Do you have any positive thoughts about Hopkins? Share them at www.hopkinsmn.com/testimonials.



Upcoming at the City

City Offices Closed

Wednesday, November 11
Veterans Day

**Thursday, November 26 and
Friday, November 27**
Thanksgiving Holiday

City Council Calendar

Wednesday, November 4, 7:05 p.m.
Meeting

Tuesday, November 10, 6:30 p.m.
Work Session

Tuesday, November 17, 7 p.m.
Meeting

Monday, November 30, 7 p.m.
Budget Hearing

Find agendas and minutes at www.hopkinsmn.com/343/City-Council. Watch City Council meetings live at www.hopkinsmn.com/349/Watch-Meetings-Live-On-Demand.

Boards and Commissions Calendar

Wednesday, November 4, 7 p.m.
Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Monday, November 23, 6:30 p.m.
Park Board

Tuesday, November 24, 6:30 p.m.
Planning and Zoning Commission

Find agendas and minutes at www.hopkinsmn.com/346/Boards-Commissions.

Meeting Broadcasts

Watch City Council and Zoning and Planning Commission meetings live on Cable Channel 16. Meetings are also replayed every day (except Tuesdays) at 7 p.m.; Thursdays at 2 p.m.; and Sundays at 1 p.m.

Elected Officials

Mayor
Jason Gadd

City Council
Alan Beck
Rick Brausen
Kristi Halverson
Brian Hunke

Attend Virtual Meeting on 2021 Budget

Interested in how your tax dollars are spent? Attend the 2021 Budget Hearing on Monday, November 30, at 7 p.m. The 2021 Budget will be presented, along with the proposed 2021 tax levy. The council set a preliminary budget and levy in September, which will appear on the notice of proposed taxes mailed to every tax payer. City Council and staff have continued to work on the 2021 budget and will present the most current version of the budget and tax levy. This is the final opportunity to provide input on the budget before it is approved. All input is welcomed. Information on attending can be found at www.hopkinsmn.com/1064/Truth-in-Taxation-Hearing.

Is Your Home Ready for Winter?

When do you know winter has arrived? It might be the first frost of the year or the holiday wreaths being hung along Mainstreet. For many Minnesotans, however, it might be a draft of cold air across the living room or the annual bill increase that comes with heating our homes. No one can stop the seasons from turning, but the City of Hopkins wants you to stay comfortable at home and keep your energy bills low—with help from the Home Energy Squad.

Home Energy Squad offers home energy visits — but what does that mean? During a visit, energy experts help you explore the place you live from a new perspective. They can show you how your home uses energy, as well as recommend ways to decrease your use, which will in turn decrease your utility bill. Their recommendations can help you improve everything from the energy performance of large equipment like furnaces, to the smaller, easier-to-overlook energy users like lightbulbs.

While usually performed in-person, Home Energy Squad is now offering a free virtual home energy audit. If you are working remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic, you may have noticed that asking your home to act as both office and living space can really increase how much energy you use along with your monthly utility bill.

After your free virtual visit, you and your energy expert may decide that the best next step is an in-person visit, which can be performed safely with health and safety guidelines in mind.

The City of Hopkins partners with the Home Energy Squad to provide these in-person visits at a reduced cost of \$50 for Hopkins residents. Free in-person visits are available to income-qualified households.

If you want to learn more or if you are ready to schedule your visit, call 651-328-6220 or visit mncee.org/hes/hopkins. Home Energy Squad is provided by CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy and delivered by the Center for Energy and Environment, a local nonprofit.

Take Note: Garbage and Recycling Schedule

City offices will be closed Wednesday, November 11, for Veterans Day. Wednesday and Thursday garbage and recycling collection will be delayed one day.

City Offices will also be closed Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27 for Thanksgiving. **Thursday's garbage and recycling will be collected one day early on Wednesday, November 25.** There will be no bulk pick-up this week.

Recycling collection is **November 9–13 and 23–25.**

Keeping Seniors Connected

STAY ACTIVE AND ENGAGED WITH THE HOPKINS ACTIVITY CENTER

Senior adults in the Hopkins community looking to stay connected are encouraged to visit the Hopkins Activity Center's website for information about online fitness and educational programming, as well as social activities, and access to helpful senior resources (assistance in navigating health insurance, social services, caregiving support).

Visit www.hopkinsmn.com/activitycenter to see the list of activities, or find the Hopkins Activity Center on Facebook for more senior event information and news during the building closure.



Hopkins Highlights

EXTRA

2021 City Budget

On September 15, the City Council approved a 2021 preliminary tax levy of \$18,023,384 or a 2.82 percent increase from 2020. City Council is currently reviewing options to reduce the final tax levy that will be approved in December.

2021 Preliminary Tax Levy

The preliminary tax levy provides for the general fund, capital, equipment replacement, Hopkins Center for the Arts, the Pavilion and debt service. The levy results in an estimated tax payment of \$1,877 for the median value home (\$291,000) or a \$49 increase from 2020. The \$49 increase can be attributed to a \$63 increase to general operation, which is offset by a \$14 decrease to debt.

Purpose	Actual 2020	2021 Proposed	% Change
General Operations			
General Fund	\$12,479,305	\$12,808,552	2.64%
Capital Levy	75,000	175,000	133.33%
Arts Center	325,225	331,182	1.83%
Pavilion Fund	290,000	340,000	17.24%
Equipment Replacement	110,000	250,000	127.27%
Subtotal	\$13,279,530	\$13,904,734	4.71%
Special Levies:			
Debt Levies	\$4,250,154	4,118,650	-3.09%
TOTAL LEVIES	\$17,529,684	\$18,023,384	2.82%

Overview of Budget Process

The City revamped its annual budget process for the 2021 budget cycle to have a new emphasis on community engagement. On January 21, the City hosted its first budget engagement session about the City's Financial Management Plan and how the budget process works. During March and April, the City asked residents, business owners and property owners to provide input on the 2021 Budget through a survey. A second Budget Engagement session was held virtually on August 17 to discuss the proposed 2021 Budget. More information on the City's Budget can be found at www.hopkinsmn.com/466/City-Budget-Process.

A draft version of the 2021 budget and tax levy was prepared by staff and presented to City Council on July 21. The draft included both conservative revenue estimates and decreased expenditures. The budget and tax levy were again reviewed during the August 18 and September 1 City Council meetings. Based on direction from City Council, the draft version of the 2021 budget and tax levy was reduced by \$521,024 to the preliminary levy amount of \$18,023,384. The City Council will continue to meet and discuss options to further reduce the tax levy throughout the fall.

2021 General Fund Budget

The General Fund is the main operating fund of the City and accounts for core services provided by the City. Taxes are the main revenue source for the General Fund, accounting for approximately 82 percent of budgeted revenues in 2021.

General Fund budgeted revenues increased by 2.53 percent from the 2020 Budget. Intergovernmental revenue will increase by 9 percent, primarily due to an increase in Local Government Aid based on State Legislation. Charges for services and miscellaneous revenue have decreased based on conservative budgeting and uncertainty caused by COVID-19.

General Fund	2020	2021	% Change
Property Taxes	\$12,564,305	\$12,893,552	2.62%
Intergovernmental Revenue	1,352,946	1,474,671	9.00%
License, Permits & Fines	777,865	786,815	1.15%
Charges for Service	251,050	228,550	-8.96%
Miscellaneous Revenue	415,550	367,250	-11.62%
Total Revenues	\$15,361,716	\$15,750,838	2.53%

General Fund budgeted expenditures increased by 2.53 percent from the 2020 Budget, due to salary and benefit increases and equipment charges. Decreases come from reductions to budgets for training, memberships, crack sealing, striping, pole painting, supplies and deferred maintenance accounts.

General Fund	2020	2021	% Change
General Government	\$1,932,032	\$1,985,244	2.75%
Community Services	1,653,186	1,650,085	-0.19%
Public Safety	7,461,159	7,808,981	4.66%
Public Works	3,443,017	3,469,191	0.76%
Recreation	783,122	748,137	-4.47%
Other	89,200	89,200	0.00%
Total Expenditures	\$15,361,716	\$15,750,838	2.53%

Core City Services Funded With Tax Dollars

- » 24-hour police and fire protection
- » Emergency medical service
- » Street, sidewalk and trail maintenance
- » Snow plowing
- » Hopkins Activity Center
- » Boulevard and forestry program
- » Park maintenance
- » Recreation programs
- » Planning and economic development
- » Elections