



Hopkins

Inspire • Educate

Involve • Communicate



Winter is Coming!

Remember these rules and sail through winter

Move your car

To avoid being towed, remove your vehicle from City streets and parking lots as soon as a snow emergency is declared. Snow emergencies may be declared upon a two-inch snowfall. Call the Snow Line at 952-939-1399 for snow emergency announcements.

To receive a message when a snow emergency is declared, visit www.hopkinsmn.com/255/Emergency-Notification-System to register your phone number for the Smart911 Emergency Notification System. During a snow emergency, parking restrictions remain in effect until streets are plowed curb to curb, and the parking lots and parking ramp are completely plowed.

Shovel the sidewalk

As mandated by City ordinance, Hopkins residents are responsible for removing snow and ice from public sidewalks within 12 hours of a snowfall. This is necessary for the safety of all who use the sidewalks. Remember, it is against the law for individuals to plow, shovel, blow or place snow onto streets, alleys and boulevards.



Clear the fire hydrants

While the City tries to clean snow from fire hydrants as soon as possible after a snow, we could use your help. Please adopt a nearby fire hydrant and keep it clear of snow through the winter. Hydrants should be cleared five feet on each side to give the Fire Department the quickest and best access. 🍷

Public Meeting on 2024 Budget is December 4

Interested in how your tax dollars are spent? Attend the 2024 Budget Hearing on Monday, December 4, at 6:30 p.m., at Hopkins City Hall. The 2024 Budget will be presented along with the proposed 2024 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 2024 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. 🍷

Election Day is November 7

The general election will be held Tuesday, November 7. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Visit mnvotes.org to find your polling place, or contact City Hall for more information.

Vote Early by Absentee Ballot

Absentee ballots are available at City Hall through November 6, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. City Hall will be open extended hours for absentee voting on Saturday, November 4 (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) and Monday, November 6 (open until 5 p.m.)

Questions?

City staff is available for voting questions. Please contact us at 952-548-6300 or visit our website at www.hopkinsmn.com/352/Voting-Elections for more information. 🍷

Register for Winter-Spring Recreation

Tuesday, December 12, 8 a.m. • General Recreation
Tuesday, December 12, 8 a.m. • Ice Skating Lessons
Thursday, December 14, 8 a.m. • Senior Programs

Visit minnetonka.gov/register to browse program options and choose from an array of activities, including kids' programs, tennis lessons, craft opportunities and athletic leagues. There is something for everyone!

Register online at minnetonkamn.gov/register or call between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. General Programs & Swimming Lessons: 952-939-8203, Senior Programs: 952-939-8393, Ice Skating: 952-939-8310. 🍷

Ice Rinks Open December 23

Outdoor ice rinks will be open December 23 and will remain open through February 19, weather permitting. Rinks and outdoor warming houses are available for your enjoyment at six Hopkins park locations. Regular open hours are Monday-Friday from 4:30 to 9 p.m., Saturday from noon to 9 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 7 p.m. For weather related updates, rink conditions and closings, please call the weather hotline at 952-939-8355. For more information, visit www.hopkinsmn.com/400/Ice-Skating-Rinks. 🍷

City Meeting Calendar

City Offices Closed

Friday, November 10

Veteran's Day (observed)

Thursday, November 23 & Friday, November 24

Thanksgiving

Monday, December 25

Christmas

City Council Calendar

Monday, November 6, 6:35 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, November 14, 6:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, November 21, 6:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, December 5, 6:35 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, December 12, 6:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, December 19, 6:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Find agendas and minutes at www.hopkinsmn.com/343/City-Council.

Boards and Commissions Calendar

Monday, November 6, 6:30 p.m.

Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Monday, November 27, 6:30 p.m.

Park Board

Tuesday, November 28, 6:30 p.m.

Planning and Zoning Commission

Tuesday, December 5, 6:30 p.m.

Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Monday, December 18, 6:30 p.m.

Park Board

Tuesday, December 26, 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: Patrick Hanlon

City Council:

- Gerard Balan
- Heidi Garrido
- Alan Beck
- Brian Hunke



City of Hopkins

CITY HALL
1010 1ST STREET SOUTH
HOPKINS, MN 55343
952-935-8474
WWW.HOPKINSMN.COM



Help Make the Holidays Bright

Submit a Nomination for Thanksgiving Meal Delivery

As a way to continue to support the community, the Hopkins Police Department has joined together with the Hopkins Fire Department, the Hopkins Rotary, and the Hopkins Business and Civic Association to deliver Thanksgiving meals, provided by Driskill's Downtown Market, to those in need.

If you, your family, a friend or a neighbor are in need of a Thanksgiving meal, visit www.hopkinsmn.com/formcenter/police-17/thanksgiving-182 to submit a nomination form by 6 a.m. on November 15. Meals will be delivered the afternoon/evening of November 22.

If you are unable to submit a nomination online, please contact Anne Buck at 952-548-6407.

Submit a Nomination for Cops N Kids Shopping

The Hopkins Police Department is now accepting nominations for Cops N Kids Shopping coming up on Tuesday, December 5. Cops N Kids Shopping is a program to help make the holidays a bit brighter by offering teens the opportunity to experience the joy of giving, as well as create valuable relationships between police, youth and their families. The participants are transported to a local retailer where they are given a gift card to purchase gifts for their family.

Youth are nominated by the community based on their positive performance in school, their commitment to the community and unique needs. The deadline to submit a nomination is Wednesday, November 22, at 8 a.m. Learn more and submit a nomination at www.hopkinsmn.com/428/Cops-N-Kids.

City Awards Hopkins Climate Solutions Fund Dollars

In 2023, the City of Hopkins allocated \$150,000 from American Rescue Plan Act dollars to create a grant program which offered incentives to residents and businesses pursuing projects which help accelerate the communities transition to cleaner and more efficient energy. Applications for this fund opened in July and closed in September. The City saw 34 requests totaling \$45,058.

While all of the funding for residential projects was utilized in this round, income-qualified residential, commercial and multi-family projects will be accepted through the end of the year.

The fund will re-open in early Spring 2024. Residents can find the latest updates on the fund at www.hopkinsmn.com/1149/Hopkins-Climate-Solutions-Fund.

2024 City Budget Update

On September 19, the City Council approved a 2024 preliminary tax levy of \$19,678,939 or a 4.86 percent increase from 2023. This is a reduction from an initial increase of 11.53 percent.

2024 Preliminary Tax Levy

The preliminary tax levy provides for the general fund, equipment replacement, Hopkins Center for the Arts, the Pavilion and debt service. The levy provides for the continuation of outstanding customer service by City workers, exceptional police and fire protection and helps maintain a vibrant, authentic downtown. This results in estimated tax payments of \$2,187 for the median value home (\$369,300) a \$1 or 0.1 percent decrease from 2023.

2024 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 81 percent of budgeted revenues in 2024.

General Fund Budgeted Revenues increased by 6.27 percent from the 2023 Budget. Intergovernmental Revenue will increase based on new legislation for Local Government aid. Miscellaneous Revenue will increase based on new franchise fee ordinances adopted in September.

General Fund Budgeted Expenditures increased by 7.18% from the 2023 Budget, due to salary and benefit increases, I.T. costs, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion initiatives, and the Depot/Ace Internship program. The budget also includes the addition of a maintenance worker in the Forestry/Parks division of Public Works.

View the full budget breakdown at www.hopkinsmn.com/876/Annual-Budget. 🍷

Meet Our Spanish Speaking Community Connector!



Did you know that the City of Hopkins has a Spanish speaking Community Connector? Zaira Rosas is here to facilitate and

build relationships between the Latino Community and the City. She hosts open office hours to hear issues and concerns, and informs City decision making on a variety of projects.

Community Connectors partner with the City to assist with engagement that elevates

underrepresented voices and build trust between community members and city government. Connectors like Zaira can help residents participate in public engagement and programming opportunities City-wide and project-based, can assist with the navigation of City websites and permitting processes, and can facilitate understanding of resources available.

Community Connectors strive to be someone residents can rely on and communicate issues to with confidence.

Connect with Zaira on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at 952-228-8419 or zrosas@hopkinsmn.com. 🍷

2024 Parking Permits

2024 parking permits are now available for purchase online. To purchase a permit or find more information about parking in Downtown Hopkins, visit our website at www.hopkinsmn.com/485/Downtown-Parking. 🍷

Upcoming Events

Buckthorn Removal Event

Saturday, November 4 • 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Join the Hopkins Park Board for volunteer event to remove buckthorn and learn how to manage it at Shady Oak Pong and the Hiawatha Oaks Preserve. Buckthorn is an invasive shrub that outcompetes native plants and takes over forest floors, preventing other plant regeneration. Management is key for the health of our city's environment. Learn more about buckthorn and sign-up to volunteer at www.hopkinsmn.com/1128/Buckthorn.

Turkey Bingo

Sunday, November 12 • 1 p.m.

The Hopkins Police Department is hosting their annual Turkey Bingo at the Hopkins Activity Center, 33 14th Avenue N. For \$20, play 10 games for the chance to win amazing prizes worth over \$100 each game. Raffles for gift cards to local businesses will be held between games. Refreshments will be available for purchase. The 18+ event is cash only. All proceeds will go to the department's Cops N Community programs.

Holiday in Hopkins

Saturday, November 25 • 2-5 p.m.

Head down to Mainstreet on Small Business Saturday for Hopkins Business and Civic Association's 13th Annual Holiday in Hopkins featuring horse-drawn carriage rides, hot cocoa, cookie decorating and more.

Garbage, Organics & Recycling Schedule

November 2023

City offices will be closed Thursday, November 23, and Friday, November 24, for Thanksgiving. Thursday's garbage, organics and recycling collection will be collected one day early on Wednesday, November 22. Recycling collection will be the weeks of November 6-9 and November 20-22.

December 2023

City offices will be closed Monday, December 25, for Christmas. Garbage and organics collection will be delayed one day. Recycling collection will be the weeks of December 4-7 and December 18-21.

Holiday Tree Pick-Up

Holiday trees will be picked up curbside, free of charge for Hopkins residential garbage customers the week of January 8. Trees will be picked up on your garbage day, subject to change due to the weather.



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December Concerts at the Art Center

Two dynamic musical acts are coming to the Hopkins Center for the Arts in December.

Sunny War takes the main stage on Saturday, December 2, at 8 p.m. As a Nashville-based singer-songwriter and guitar virtuoso, Sunny has crafted a set of songs that draw on a range of ideas and styles, as though she's marshaling all her forces to get her ideas across: ecstatic gospel, dusty country blues, thoughtful folk, rip-roaring rock and roll, and avant garde studio experiments.

The lively Squirrel Nut Zippers return to the Center on Saturday, December 16 at 8 p.m. for their joyous, raucous Christmas Caravan Tour, to perform all of the hits from Christmas past. This unique show is a must-see for any true music lover.

For information on exhibitions, concert ticket purchasing and rental opportunities at the Center, visit www.hopkinsartscenter.com. 🍓

Visit the Art Center's Iranian Exhibitions

Original works by local Iranian-Americans whose creative work in the arts reflects or illuminates their rich heritage are on display at the Hopkins Center for the Arts through December 2. The Twin Cities Iranian Culture Collective exhibition is an opportunity for viewers to learn about Iran's history and culture through visual art.

Also on view through December 2, artist Catherine Hearingd paints watercolor landscape scenes that invite the viewer to experience the familiar scene from a unique perspective, and illustrator Douglas Oudekerk tells a story through vivid images in his "Scenes from a Mystery" exhibition.

Stop in to visit the free galleries at the Art Center, located at 1111 Mainstreet, during open hours Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. 🍓



Hopkins Activity Center

Fitness • Recreation • Social Opportunities • Rentals

The Hopkins Activity Center is here to support your quest to take care of your health and wellness through recreation, social enrichment, fitness, education and volunteer programming.

The Activity Center is located at 33 14th Avenue N. Register by calling the Activity Center at 952-939-1333 or visiting the program registration site at www.hopkinsmn.com/activitycenter.

Salute to Vets Program and Lunch

Thursday, November 9 • 10:45 a.m.

The Hopkins Activity Center is hosting their annual Salute to Vets The program will honor veterans for their committed service, along with the My Life My Story project presentation of veteran narratives. Reservations are required to attend.

Veterans eat free. Activity fee: \$10, Members: \$9.

Event sponsors: Allina Health Aetna, Avidor, The Glenn.

Pickleball Lessons, Open Play and Court Rental

Winter time is the perfect time to play a friendly game of indoor pickleball! The Activity Center offers pickleball lessons for all levels, drop in recreational play for adults 55 and over, and indoor court rental on nights and weekends by reservation. Register for Activity Center events and facility rentals by calling 952-939-1333 or visiting the program registration site at www.hopkinsmn.com/activitycenter.

Clock Tower Bricks Make Great Holiday Gifts!

Leave a lasting impression in Clock Tower Plaza with the "Buy A Brick" program. Individuals, families, groups, businesses and organizations can purchase bricks with their names imprinted that will be placed at Clock Tower Plaza off 9th Avenue and Mainstreet. The cost for individual bricks is \$80, \$100 for businesses and organizations, and \$250 for a premier location. Learn more at www.hopkinsmn.com/853/Buy-a-Brick. 🍓