

CITY OF
CHATFIELD

COMMUNITY LINK

DECEMBER 2008

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The City Budget... The Tax Levy... The Services...

Elements of the City Budget:

The operations of the City of Chatfield can be separated in many ways. For the most part, though, the general taxpayer likes to know how their money is being spent, what kind of value is being generated and that sort of thing. For that purpose, it's fair to separate the city operations into the fairly broad categories of "Administration", "Culture & Recreation", "Public Safety, Streets-Sidewalks & General Government", Utilities and "Debt Service."

Administration covers those indirect costs, such as the Clerk's Dept., City Council & other Commission activity, elections and the like. Culture & Recreation refers to the Library, swimming pool, parks, summer recreation, band concerts, etc.

Public Safety includes the police, fire & ambulance but also includes building code enforcement, animal control and civil defense sirens. Streets—General Government would include street & sidewalk maintenance, storm water management, the Thurber Building and so forth.

Where does the money go??

Categorically, the City expense side of the 2009 City Budget looks something like:

- \$374,000 Administration
- \$488,000 Culture & Recreation
- \$852,000 Public Safety
- \$584,000 Streets, Sidewalks & Thurber
- \$590,000 Debt Service
- \$527,000 Utilities

Where does the money come from??

Some of the activities listed above do generate revenues but the bulk of these services are paid for by local property taxes and aids to local governments. The City also operates a water and sewer utility that generates revenue. Categorically, the revenue side of the budget looks something like:

- \$896,000 Property Tax
- \$820,000 Local Government Aid
- \$342,000 Fines, Licenses & Fees
- \$140,000 Intergovernmental contracts
- \$119,000 Market Value Credit Aid
- \$65,000 Donations
- \$895,000 Utility Fees

The Tax Levy:

The 2009 City tax levy totals \$1,022,089 (not including the Market Value Credit Aid adjustment), which is 4.66% higher than in 2008. In 2009, a home valued at \$164,000 will pay about \$2.42 per day for city services.

Services Provided— A Sample:

- 2,100 hours of Library Services
- 10,400 hours of Police Services.
- 330+ Ambulance Responses + 24/7
- 50+ Fire Responses + 24/7 Access
- Street Sealcoating/Overlay Program
- Sidewalk Replacement Program
- 65 acres of parkland
- Ballparks, playgrounds & paths.
- Snowplowing & Streetsweeping
- Spring Clean-up
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection
- 550 hours of Swimming Pool Access
- 200+ locally produced programs via CCTV
- Brush & Leaf Dump
- Building Code Enforcement
- Webstreaming & Podcasting

The City makes every attempt to get the maximum value possible for each dollar it spends. It is hoped that each resident finds a good value for the City Services that they support.

Shop Local, Shop Chatfield!!! Shop Local, Shop Chatfield!!!

CITY OF CHATFIELD

21 Southeast Second Street
Chatfield, MN 55923
Phone: 507-867-3810
Fax: 507-867-9093
www.ci.chatfield.mn.us

In Case of Emergency: 9-1-1

Ambulance Office (Non Emergency)	507-867-4446
Police Office (Non Emergency)	507-867-3331
Chatfield Public Library	507-867-3480

Etcetera

Brush & Leaf Dump
Closed for the season.

Community Link
the TV Show

See the televised version of the newsletter on CCTV
Channel 11—
Mondays, at 5:30 pm
Tuesdays, at 11:30 am
or Thursdays at 7:00 pm.

Reading Meters

Please keep the meter readers in mind when tying your dogs out.

Leave a clear path to the meter pad (black box on the outside of your house) that is outside of the dog's range.

CHILL FEST 2009!

Reserve

Saturday, January 24th, 2009

for a full day of activities with the Chill Fest Celebration.

The Chatfield Lions Club is hosting this year's celebration. A **planning meeting** is being held **Saturday, December 13th at 9:00 a.m.** in the Training Room at the Thurber Building. Any person, organization or business interested in sponsoring and hosting a Chill Fest event is encouraged to attend.

The chairpersons for the event are Lion members Matt Opat (867-4080) and Mike Martin mpmartin57@myclearwave.net (867-3134).

Take the plunge!!!



Shop Chatfield!!!

CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR

Curt Sorenson (507) 867-3810
csorenso@amfam.com

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Brenda Johnson (507) 867-4650
brenda.johnson@attglobal.net

Russ Smith (507) 867-4711
rsmith@mcghiebetts.com

Paul Novotny (507) 867-3549
paulcti@qwestoffice.net

Ken Jacobson (507) 867-4759
chatfieldjake@yahoo.com

Ginny Engle (507) 867-4701
gineng2@aol.com

DECEMBER 2008

Mon Dec 1 — Truth-in-Taxation Hearing 6:30 pm

Mon Dec 1 — Planning & Zoning 7:00 pm

Mon Dec 8 — City Council 7:00 pm

Wed Dec 10 — Cable TV Board 7:00 am

Mon Dec 15- Heritage Pres. Comm 7:00 pm

It has long been understood that one of the key ingredients to a healthy economy is the practice of local trading, local purchasing. The more that people think local and act local, the stronger that locality becomes.

According to recent studies that have been made public by Lee Egerstrom of MINNESOTA 2020, the act of buying local can make a tremendous impact on the local economy. According to Egerstrom's article, for every \$1 spent with a local, independent business, 68 cents stays home and circulating in the Minnesota economy. For every \$1 spent at a national chain that does not have headquarters in the state, 43 cents stays behind to boost the local economy.

Findings from last year's report, according to Egerstrom, found that, if Minnesotans spent 25 percent of their holiday shopping budget on Minnesota made products, the impact would ripple through the economy like a tidal wave, infusing more than \$2 billion into the state economy. Even a 10 percent increase in purchases of local products would stimulate employment and increase purchases from local suppliers.

Similar impacts could be made right here in Chatfield and the entire southeast Minnesota region. There are many locally produced products, ranging from food items to clothing to durable goods and there are certainly many local merchants who provide valuable goods and services that residents need.

Give your local merchants a chance; you will be pleased at what you find and the local benefits will be very real. Shop Chatfield.