

ARDEN HILLS

notes

The Official City Newsletter for Arden Hills Residents

January/February 2023

City Adopts Budget and Approves Tax Levy

The annual Truth-in-Taxation Hearing was held on December 12, 2022 at Arden Hills City Hall. City staff presented information regarding the 2023 budget and tax levy.

The City Council adopted a 2023 property tax levy of \$4,718,680. This sets the city's property tax levy increase for 2023 at 5.5 percent, which is less than the preliminary levy rate set in September 2022 of 7.0 percent.

In 2023, the city tax rate is projected to decrease by 9.0 percent. The tax rate is just one factor in calculating a tax bill, and with median property values increasing by 15.33 percent, many property owners will see their total tax bills increase. Home values are determined by the Ramsey County Assessor's Office.

The impact of a 5.5% levy increase translates to a \$56.87 increase in annual city taxes, or a \$4.74 increase per month, paid by resident owners of median valued homes.

Arden Hills continues to have one of the lowest tax rates in Ramsey County. In Arden Hills, the levy is split between the General Fund (\$4,098,680), the Economic Development Authority Fund (\$100,000), and Capital Funds (\$520,000).

What your Arden Hills Tax Dollar Buys You

TYPE OF TRANSACTION	BALANCE
Public Safety	\$39.11
General Government	\$18.58
Parks & Recreation	\$11.23
Public Works	\$11.43
Capital	\$ 7.46
EDA	\$ 1.43
TOTAL PER MONTH	\$89.24

A \$443,550 home (the average in Arden Hills) generates \$1,071 in annual City property taxes, or \$89.24 per month for 2023.

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Welcome Back to Lexington Campaign Kickoff



Mayor Grant, Councilmember Holden, and local business representatives celebrate the kickoff of the "Welcome Back to Lexington" campaign.



Mayor Grant, Councilmember Holden, City Staff, and other stakeholders kicked off the "Welcome Back to Lexington" campaign on January 17 at the Shoreview YMCA. The Twin Cities North Chamber of Commerce (TCN), in partnership with the cities of Arden Hills and Shoreview, has been awarded a Critical Corridors Grant from Ramsey County. This grant, along with contributions from Arden Hills and Shoreview, has funded the campaign to promote local businesses and encourage shoppers to patronize the many establishments along Lexington Avenue. TCN's goal is to provide support and assistance to the local businesses who were impacted by the Lexington Avenue construction project. You can find more information on the campaign at www.backtolexington.com



Service Directory

Arden Hills City Hall
1245 West Highway 96
Arden Hills, MN 55112

cityofardenhills.org

651-792-7800

Office Hours

Monday–Friday: 8:00 am–4:30 pm

Sheriff and Fire

911 - Emergency & Non-Emergency

Water and Sewer Problems
(During non-business hours)
651-767-0640

Mayor

David Grant • 651-538-0747
dgrant@cityofardenhills.org

City Councilmembers

Brenda Holden • 651-636-2987
bholden@cityofardenhills.org

Emily Rousseau • 651-792-7856
erousseau@cityofardenhills.org

Tena Monson • 612-758-0695
tmonson@cityofardenhills.org

Thomas Fabel • 651-303-3611
tfabel@cityofardenhills.org

City Administrator

Dave Perrault • 651-792-7824
dperrault@cityofardenhills.org

Communications Coordinator

651-792-7800

City Council Liason

Thomas Fabel

Resident Resources

cityofardenhills.org/resident-resources

Council meetings are held at City Hall on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 7 pm. Meetings are televised live on Cable Channel 16. Work Sessions and Planning Commission meetings are also televised. Please visit cityofardenhills.org for information about archived meeting playbacks.

Arden Hills Notes is the official newsletter of the City of Arden Hills, an equal-opportunity employer.

City News

Speed Limit Change in Effect February 2023

In December, 2022, the City Council voted in favor of decreasing the Citywide speed limit on city streets to 25 mph. The ordinance change went into effect on February 1, 2023. Roads under the jurisdiction of the City have been posted in accordance with an implementation plan approved by the City Council. This ordinance change does not include state or county roadways.

TCAAP JDA Chair Applications Now Being Accepted

The City of Arden Hills is looking for an Arden Hills Resident to volunteer to serve as the TCAAP Joint Development Authority (JDA) Chair for a term ending December 31, 2024. The JDA approves development projects in TCAAP. Application deadline is February 24.

Visit www.cityofardenhills.org/133/Joint-Development-Authority-JDA for more information.

Closure of City Buildings on February 20th

City Offices will be closed on Monday, February 20 in observance of Presidents Day.

February is the Best Time to Prune



Have you considered pruning your trees this year? Pruning is beneficial for many reasons:

1. Trimming off dying or diseased branches protects your trees from further harm.
2. You can prune to promote new tree growth or suppress unwanted growth.
3. Pruning can keep branches from becoming too large and hazardous.

According to Ramsey County Master Gardener Volunteers, February is the best time to prune your trees. In February, harmful tree diseases are at a minimum and deciduous trees have already “hardened off”, meaning they have prepared for winter dormancy.

When the growing season begins, the wounds will be sealed, and the healing process will begin. July and August are the second best times to prune. April, May, and June are not good months to prune because deciduous trees need to use their stored energy to produce new leaves instead of healing wounds. Also, pruning during warmer spring months encourages the spread of diseases such as Oak Wilt and damage by pests such as Emerald Ash Borer. Pruning too early, in late autumn and early winter, can lead to winter injury. The pruning wounds may not have time to heal and could freeze or be damaged by frost.

Ramsey County residents can bring branches to select Ramsey County yard waste collection sites. Sites are open on weekends during the winter. Visit our website for locations and hours. Please note that not all yard waste sites accept branches.

Visit www.cityofardenhills.org/411/Tree-Service-License to find licensed tree trimming contractors.

The Council adopted a 2023 city budget of \$15,926,830, which includes the General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Capital Funds and Utilities.

2022 General Fund Budget

Revenues

- General Fund revenues in the 2023 budget are set at \$5,369,420.
- The property tax levy accounts for approximately 76% of the General Fund revenues and will be increased 5.0%, or \$196,000, over the previous year.

Expenditures

- General Fund expenditures for 2023 total \$5,530,180.
- Public Safety costs are set to increase by 7.8% for the Lake Johanna Fire Department, 4.0% for the Ramsey County Sheriff contract, and 11.2% for dispatch costs.
- Personnel costs are increasing by 6.2% due to cost of living adjustments, step increases, and health insurance premium increases.

The approved budget and tax levy information can be viewed in detail in the December 12 City Council agenda at www.cityofardenhills.org.

The purpose of the table to the right is to provide summary 2023 budget information concerning the City of Arden Hills to interested citizens. This budget summary is published in the format prescribed by Minnesota Statutes Section 471.6965. This is not the complete city budget; the complete city budget may be examined at Arden Hills City Hall located at 1245 West Highway 96 or online at www.cityofardenhills.org. The City Council approved this budget on December 12, 2022.

Budgeted Governmental Funds

General and Special Revenue Funds	2022 Budget	2023 Budget
Revenue		
Taxes:		
Property Taxes	\$3,950,850	\$4,170,490
Tax Increments	377,180	0
Other	112,470	102,400
Special Assessments	1,510	3,350
Licenses and Permits	504,800	511,730
Intergovernmental Revenue:		
State	158,250	171,370
Charges for Services	519,510	525,550
Fines and Forfeits	23,750	23,190
Miscellaneous	13,820	13,340
Interest Earnings	27,950	42,500
Total Revenue	5,690,090	5,563,920
Expenditures		
General Government	1,334,760	1,431,300
Public Safety	2,510,670	2,655,800
Streets and Highways	759,040	796,430
Culture and Recreation	763,980	782,720
Economic Development	375,750	93,250
Total Expenditures	5,744,200	5,759,500
Excess (deficiency) of revenue and other financing sources over expenditures and other financing uses	(\$54,110)	(\$195,580)
General Fund Balance - January 1	\$3,169,812	\$2,749,992
General Fund Balance - December 31	\$2,749,992	\$2,589,232
Property tax levy requirement to fund this budget	\$4,472,680	\$4,718,680



Round Lake Senior Living Ribbon Cutting

On January 5, 2023, Trident Development opened their new senior living facility at 1740 Parkshore Drive. Mayor David Grant, City Councilmembers Tom Fabel, Brenda Holden, and several City staff joined Round Lake Senior Living Facility staff to celebrate the exciting addition to Arden Hills. The senior living facility is open and ready for new residents, offering residents a range of services and amenities that include independent living, assisted living, memory care services, and skilled nursing.

Round Lake Senior Living staff members cut the ribbon at their grand opening.

City Council Benchmarks

All votes 5-0 unless otherwise noted.



December 19, 2022 Special City Council Meeting

- Approved Resolution 2022-058 permitting a front yard setback variance at 1861 Highway 96.
- Approved staff to order the replacement of the 2012 International Plow Truck, Unit 115 for 2025 Mack Granite 42FR Single Axle.
- Approved Agency Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation for Federal Participation in Construction.

January 9, 2023 City Council Meeting

- Approved Resolution 2023-001 naming the St. Paul Pioneer Press as the official newspaper for legal notices; reappointed Campbell Knutson, P.A. as city attorney with Joel Jamnik as primary city attorney; reappointed Ehlers & Associates, Inc. as financial consultant; and reappointed Malloy, Montague, Karnowski, Radosevich and Company (MMKR) as auditor.
- Approved right-of-way temporary easement costs for Mounds View High School Trail improvements.
- Approved Resolution 2023-002 relating to the 2023 resident appointments and chairs of the City's Commissions and Committees.
- Approved Professional Services Agreement with HR Green for Arden Manor and Floral Parks playground replacements.
- Approved Cooperative Agreement with Ramsey County for right-of-way acquisition and design for the roundabout at Old Snelling and County Road E. (approved on a 3-2 vote, Grant and Holden opposed)
- Approved suspension of Mayoral Privilege for appointments to City Committees and Commissions. (approved on a 3-2 vote, Grant and Holden opposed)
- Approved Resolution 2023-003 appointing Emily Rousseau as the 2023 Mayor Pro-Tem. (approved on a 3-2 vote, Grant and Holden opposed)
- Approved Resolution 2023-004 appointing City Council Liaisons for 2023 as follows: Emily Rousseau (Planning Commission and PTRC), Tom Fabel (Communications and Personnel), Tena Monson (Lake Johanna Fire Department Board of Directors/Relief Association Representative and Fire Department Headquarters JPA Representative) and David Grant (Personnel and Twin Cities Gateway). Resident Eileen Scott was appointed as the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon/Military Liaison. (approved on a 3-2 vote, Grant and Holden opposed)
- Rescinded 2022 TCAAP JDA appointments of David Grant and Brian Holmes. (approved on a 3-2 vote, Grant and Holden opposed)
- Appointed Fabel and Monson as JDA Commissioners for the 2023-2024 term. (approved on a 3-2 vote, Grant and Holden opposed)
- Approved directing staff to move forward with the process of an ordinance amendment - Chapter 2, Subsections 220.01 and 220.03 (approved on a 3-2 vote, Grant and Holden opposed) Note: the City Council will formally take action on the proposed amendment at its February 13 regular City Council meeting.

For a complete listing of recent City Council actions, visit cityofardenhills.org and click on "View Agendas and Minutes."



WANTED:

Interested in seasonal Parks & Recreation job openings? Contact Matt Johnson at (651) 792-7848 or mjohnson@cityofardenhills.org for more information!

- PLAYGROUND LEADERS (\$12.60/HR & UP)
- YOUTH SOCCER OFFICIALS (\$17.60/HR & UP)
- EVENING SPORTS INSTRUCTORS (\$13.65/HR & UP)
- TENNIS INSTRUCTORS (\$14.70 & UP)

Minimum Requirements: Applicants must be 16 years of age or older. Desired Qualifications: Completion of a minimum of one year of college or other high level training preferred. Should have some related experience in youth work. First Aid/CPR Certification.

- PUBLIC WORKS SEASONAL MAINTENANCE WORKER (\$14.20 - \$18.20/HR) *DEPENDING ON EXPERIENCE*

Contact Public Works at (651) 792-7850 or publicworks@cityofardenhills.org for more information about Public Works seasonal openings!

Minimum Requirements: Applicants must be 18 years of age or older with a valid Class D driver's license (verification required) and ability to pass a drug test.

Visit our website www.cityofardenhills.org to fill out and submit your application. The application deadline is Friday, May 5 or until all positions are filled.





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Postal Customer

CPC Commemorative Opening Ceremony of New Headquarters

On January 10th, Colder Products Company (CPC) held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of its new corporate headquarters at 4200 Round Lake Road West in Arden Hills. Mayor David Grant and Councilmember Brenda Holden were in attendance along with members of CPC’s Executive Team and members of City Staff. The new facility houses CPC’s medical and industrial production, engineering and marketing operations, along with its thermal management business, which specializes in liquid cooling innovations for high-performance computers and data centers, electric vehicle charging, and more. Arden Hills is excited to welcome about 500 of their employees to our community. CPC has other locations in Roseville, Minneapolis and internationally, with nearly 750 employees worldwide. CPC is the leading provider of quick disconnect coupling, fittings, and connectors for life sciences, biopharma, and chemical handling markets.



Mayor Grant, Councilmember Holden, City Staff and CPC Executive leaders at CPC's new corporate headquarters.