



Where Pride and Prosperity Meet

Cottage Grove Reports

Cottage Grove Ice Rinks are Open for Business



Lace up your skates because Mother Nature finally allowed the City to flood and open our outdoor ice rinks! Warming houses are now open but please note maintaining and limiting the number of patrons inside the houses is a priority this season. Please dress for the weather and limit the amount of time you spend in the buildings when possible. Make sure the houses are open by calling the hotline at **651-458-6060**. Standard warming house hours are Monday through Friday from 3 to 8 p.m. and on weekends from 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Warming houses will also be open those same hours on Martin Luther King Day and Presidents' Day.



City Leaders Sworn-In for New Terms Following November's General Election

On Monday, January 4, Mayor Myron Bailey and Council Members La Rae Mills and Justin Olsen were sworn in. For Mayor Bailey, it marks the beginning of his fourth term as Cottage Grove's Mayor. He served as a Council Member from 2005 through 2008 before winning the race for Mayor. Through last November's General Election, Council Member La Rae Mills won her second term on the Cottage Grove City Council.



The Cottage Grove City Council is made up of 4 Council Members and the Mayor. Last year, the body held 22 regular meetings, 15 special or emergency meetings and considered more than 440 agenda items. All told, the 2020 General Election held on Tuesday, November 3 was by far one of the largest in the City of Cottage Grove's history. Nearly 23,000 registered voters cast ballots, compared to a large turnout in 2016 of almost 20,000 voters. It took 138 volunteer election judges to facilitate the vote as they were tasked with running a secure process while ensuring voter safety and following social distancing guidelines related to COVID-19.



Justin Olsen begins his third, four-year term on the City Council. Council Member Olsen previously served 2 terms, from 2009-2017 and then rejoined the Council in 2020, following a special election to fill the final year of a vacant seat.

Due to social distancing requirements, all three elected officials were joined by a small group of friends and family members for their traditional swearing-in ceremonies. Minnesota State Senator Karla Bigham was on hand to take each individual through their oath of office.



Part-time and Seasonal Public Works Jobs Available

Applications are now being accepted for the following positions:

- Six-month, full-time positions in Parks, Utilities and Streets Maintenance
- Three-month, full-time positions in Parks and Streets Maintenance
- Three-month internships in Landscape and Forestry

Wages range from \$12.00 to \$15.00 per hour depending on the job position and experience. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled. Visit cottagegovmn.gov for complete job descriptions and online application. Must be 18 years of age with a valid driver's license and high school diploma to be considered.

HERO Center Offers Civilian Firearms Training Courses

The HERO Center Shooting Range is now open to the public on weekends. The Center is also offering four civilian courses on the range including Intro to Handguns, Intro to Handguns for Parent/Guardians and Juveniles, Minnesota Permit to Carry and Hybrid: Intro to Handguns and Permit to Carry. Courses cost between \$99 and \$125. You'll find more information at herocentermn.org.



Purchasing a New Toilet or Washing Machine? You Might be Eligible for a Significant, Water Efficiency Rebate!

As part of the City's water conservation program, and taking advantage of funds from the Metropolitan Council and the Clean Water, Land & Legacy Amendment, Cottage Grove is offering rebates to residents who purchase water saving toilets and clothes washers. The rebates can amount to \$80 for new toilets and \$200 for new clothes washing machines.



Visit cottagegovmn.gov/waterrebate to find a list of eligible toilets and washing machines. You'll also find the rebate application. If your application is approved, a check will be sent to you within seven to ten days. Questions? Contact City Project Engineer Joe Fox by phone at [651-458-2826](tel:651-458-2826) or by email at joefox@cottagegovmn.gov.

Home Heating: Fire Prevention Tips from the CGFD

It's that time of year again and winter heating practices - including the use of furnaces, fireplaces and space heaters - are one of the leading causes of building fires in the State of Minnesota. Most can be prevented by following a few of these simple safety tips:

- Have your furnace inspected each heating season. A faulty furnace can not only cause a fire but it can release deadly carbon monoxide (known as the "silent killer" because it is odorless and colorless)
- If you have a fireplace, keep the chimney free of accumulations of highly-combustible creosote
- Never use a stove or oven for heat. Besides the fire risk, extremely dangerous levels of carbon monoxide can be released into your home

- Space heaters are a good alternative source of heat but **space heaters need space!** Keep portable heaters three feet from anything combustible
- Have smoke and carbon monoxide alarms outside every bedroom and test them at least monthly. Smoke alarms should be replaced every ten years. There are smoke alarms available now that have a ten-year battery so they do not need to be replaced every year
- Have a fire escape plan and practice it. Any room used for sleeping needs two ways out



Summary Budget Statement for the City of Cottage Grove (2021)

The purpose of this statement is to provide summary 2021 budget information for the City of Cottage Grove to interested citizens. The budget is published in accordance with Minnesota Statute 471.6965. The complete City budget may be examined at Cottage Grove City Hall, 12800 Ravine Parkway South during normal business operating hours (when the building is open). Otherwise, it will be posted online at cottagegrovemn.gov. The City Council adopted this budget on December 2, 2020.

	Governmental Funds	
	<u>2020 Adopted Budget</u>	<u>2021 Adopted Budget</u>
Revenues		
Taxes	\$ 14,326,900	\$ 14,822,785
Other Taxes/Assessments	603,000	643,230
Licenses and Permits	1,587,200	1,690,300
Intergovernmental (State)	527,250	453,000
Intergovernmental (Fed & Local)	170,500	224,000
Charges	4,825,505	4,921,800
Fines and Forfeitures	150,000	150,000
Interest Earnings	283,200	141,500
Miscellaneous	197,000	131,200
Transfers	<u>932,750</u>	<u>1,062,000</u>
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>\$ 23,603,305</u>	<u>\$ 24,239,815</u>
Expenditures		
General Government	3,718,110	3,461,810
Public Safety	8,369,785	8,949,240
Streets and Highways	4,512,595	4,819,860
Sanitation/Recycling	62,030	58,440
Parks and Recreation	4,610,585	4,695,355
Natural Resources	365,905	372,700
Economic Development	393,190	412,370
Capital Outlay	878,140	1,038,500
Transfers In/Out	<u>588,300</u>	<u>667,540</u>
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<u>\$ 23,498,640</u>	<u>\$ 24,475,815</u>
Revenues over (under) Expenditures	<u>\$ 104,665</u>	<u>\$ (236,000)</u>
Property Tax Levy Requirement to Fund Budget	\$ 16,914,400	\$ 17,589,285

Enterprise Fund Budgets (2021)

	Water	Sewer	Street Lights	CG EMS	Total 21' Budget	Total 20' Budget
Operating						
-Revenues	\$2,489,000	\$3,157,500	\$870,000	\$2,138,000	\$8,654,500	\$8,119,100
-Expenses	<u>1,920,010</u>	<u>2,752,470</u>	<u>857,130</u>	<u>2,239,195</u>	<u>7,768,805</u>	<u>7,525,973</u>
Operating Income	568,990	405,030	12,870	(101,195)	885,695	593,127
Interest	50,000	55,000	10,000	7,500	122,500	127,500
Transfer Out	<u>(186,000)</u>	<u>(192,000)</u>	<u>(48,650)</u>	<u>(95,000)</u>	<u>(521,650)</u>	<u>(521,750)</u>
Net Income (loss)	432,990	268,030	(25,780)	(188,695)	486,545	198,877



City Hall

12800 Ravine Parkway South

Cottage Grove, MN 55016

(651) 458-2800

cottagetrovemn.gov

Mayor Myron Bailey and Council Members Steve

Dennis, La Rae Mills, Justin Olsen and Dave Thiede

Cottage Grove Parks & Recreation and Ice Arena

(651) 458-3400

Stick & Puck (\$10) - Sessions are great for exercising, practice skating, stick handling and shooting skills. Skaters 18 and younger must wear a helmet and 10 and younger must have a parent present. 11 sessions are offered in January; you'll find the schedule and pre-registration information at cottagetrovemn.gov.

Open Skate (\$5) - Sessions are great for exercising, practice skating and having fun. Rental skates are available for \$4 per pair. Sessions are available on Sundays (January 17, 24 and 31) from noon to 1:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required and details can be found on the City's website at cottagetrovemn.gov.

Cosmic Skate (\$5) - Bring your friends and family for an "out of this world" experience on the ice. We'll turn off the overhead lights, fire up the party lights and crank the music! Sessions will be held on Saturdays (January 16, 23 and 30) from 5 to 6 p.m. and on Monday the 18th from noon to 1:30 p.m. Pre-registration required.



River Oaks Golf Course & Event Center

11099 South Highway 61 . (651) 438-2121

- We're hoping to start up our ever-popular Fish Fry on Friday, February 19th. Follow the River Oaks Facebook Page for confirmation and details!
- Our greens have turned to white so grab your cross country skis or snow shoes and head out to River Oaks where you'll find miles of groomed trails
- We are now booking for golf tourneys and filling up our golf league spots for 2021. Visit our website (riveroaksmunigolf.com) for details.