



COMMUNITY NEWS April 2024

Important Numbers

City Hall 515-279-3662
Public Safety 515-277-4453
Emergencies 911

What's Inside

- Code Reminders
- Library Update
- Wanted: Zoning Board Member
- Park Construction
- Register for WHAMM
- Ice Cream Social
- Council Meeting Recaps

Contact Council

Mayor Mike Jones

- mike.jones@windsorheights.org

Councilor Susan Skeries

- susan.skeries@windsorheights.org

Councilor Joseph Jones

- joseph.jones@windsorheights.org

Councilor Michael Libbie

- michael.libbie@windsorheights.org

Councilor Lauren Campbell

- lauren.campbell@windsorheights.org

Councilor Threase Harms

- tharms@windsorheights.org

You can also [click here](#) to contact Council as well!

2024 MOVIES IN THE PARK

PRESENTED BY



BOLTON & MENK



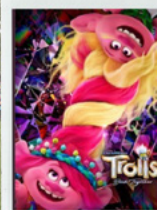
May 3rd



June 7th



August 2nd



September 6th



October 4th



December 7th

FREE!



Join us for the 2024 Movies in the Park series! The movies will start at sunset, and we will begin serving refreshments 30 minutes before we push play. Bring chairs or a blanket and enjoy a fun evening for the entire family! Movies will be shown on the north side of the Community Center due to the ongoing park construction. Also, there will be no playground equipment available.

Thank you to our sponsors for making Movies in the Park possible!

Presenting Sponsor of Movies in the Park: Bolton and Menk

Gold Sponsor of Movies in the Park: Marco's Pizza

Drink Sponsor of Movies in the Park: Pepsi

Popcorn Sponsor of Movies in the Park: Flix Brewhouse



Our 2024 Earth Day Celebration is bigger than ever! Join us from 8:30-11:30 for the stream cleanup and from 12-3pm for crafts, free plants, free seeds, and meeting a real live raptor!

[Sign up to volunteer for the stream cleanup!](#)



**WINDSOR
HEIGHTS**
the heart of it all

Participate in Mow Less May

As a reminder, the City of Windsor Heights does not participate in No Mow May and will still enforce lawn codes all season long. Lawns must remain under 6" tall, and lawn clippings must be kept out of the street.

We do understand many residents want to do their part to create a habitat and food sources for pollinators, so here are a few alternatives to try this year!

- Participate in Mow Less May:** Studies have shown that mowing every two weeks, as opposed to every week, can still significantly increase bee population size, and many flowering plants will flower even with mowing. Mowing grass at a taller height also promotes healthier lawns. Just be sure to set your mower height higher.
- Create a Pollinator Garden:** Rather than letting your lawn grow high, install a pollinator garden. Pollinator gardens with a wide variety of species that bloom from early spring to late fall can help support bees, butterflies, and other beneficial pollinators all season long.

FUNDING FOR SOIL QUALITY RESTORATION

The City of Windsor Heights will cover a portion of your project! Benefits of SQR include:

- Adds nutrients lawns need without additional fertilizers
- Reduces compaction
- Increased organic matter content
- Enables your lawn to soak up and store more water



Is your lawn in need of some TLC this year? Have you heard of our SQR program?

We want to help you restore your lawn! We may reimburse you for up to 75% of your yard project.

73rd Street North of University Will Be Reconstructed

The City Council accepted a bid for 73rd St. from Hickman to University Ave. reconstruction on April 1st. The project does include the City coordinating with the Iowa Department of Transportation, which due to delays, has created a short time frame between bid acceptance and the start by date of May 6th. Pre-construction meetings with the contract and residents on 73rd will begin ASAP.

Learn more at the link! Bookmark the page as updates will be posted regularly.



Sidewalks are an important part of making a community walkable and connecting neighbors. In order to make maintaining sidewalks more affordable, the City rolled out the Sidewalk Improvement Grant for 50% of the cost for necessary improvements.

Properties without existing sidewalks are not required to install sidewalks as part of City Ordinance.



Learn more and apply today!

AT YOUR LIBRARY

Featured Franklin Avenue Library Program: Repair Café
Sunday, April 14, 12-3 PM

Do you have an item in your home in need of repair? Stop by our Repair Café to get help from volunteers with expertise on how to fix your item(s) or refer you to a local professional. The following items can be brought for repair:

- Clothing
- Bicycles
- small motor home tools (mowers, trimmers, snow blowers)
- small electronics (audio equipment, computer/laptop gaming consoles). NO PHONES or TVs
- small home and kitchen appliances (food processors, blenders, mixers, fans, lights). NO MICROWAVES.

Please bring replacement parts for items needing repair. Volunteers can help find replacement parts if necessary. The Des Moines Repair Café aims to reduce waste, share tools and resources, and help build self-reliance skills in our community.



Help Keep Windsor Heights Beautiful

Windsor Heights is a great place to live, and we need your help in keeping it clean, safe, and beautiful as the season changes. If you notice a concern around town, let us know by calling City Hall at 515-279-3662 or submitting online report at windsorheights.org and selecting "Report a Concern" under the Residents menu. Here are some reminders of some seasonal code items to keep in mind:

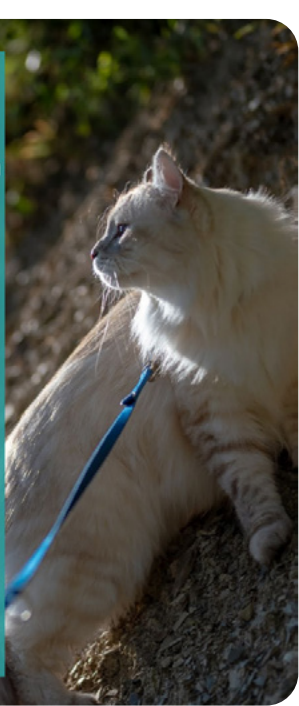
- Keep your lawn mowed and free of trash and junk
- Clean up after your pets and keep them on leashes
- Keep your vehicles parked on pavement and not grass

Per City Code 55.04 Section 1, no owner of any dog, cat or other animal shall allow or permit such animal to run at large.

Most may assume that this would apply to dogs only, but it does apply to all pets.

While your cat may enjoy being outside they are put at greater risks such as exposure to diseases, parasites as well as animal attacks or getting hit by a car.

If your cat finds the out doors pur-fect, leash up and take them on a walk!



Need Help With Your Energy Bill?

IMPACT Community Action Partnership continues to accept applications for energy assistance through April 30, 2024.

Families in Windsor Heights needing energy assistance can apply in a variety of ways:

- Schedule an over the phone, in-person, or home visit appointment by calling 515-518-4770 or emailing info@impactcap.org.
- Apply online at www.impactcap.org/energyassistance
- Download a paper application from our website (www.impactcap.org/energyassistance) that can be completed and mailed in or dropped off at our office. Families can also call or email to request a paper application be mailed to them.

IMPACT often has funds available to help with other essential needs. Contact us by phone or email to see how we can help with what you need!

Zoning Board of Adjustments

Accepting Applications



The Board of Adjustments is accepting applications for new members. The board is a quasi-judicial body created by the City Council under the Zoning Ordinance. Main responsibilities include decision-making on conditional use permits, appeals in zoning ordinance enforcement, and requests for variances. Terms are five years.

If you have any questions about the role or responsibilities of the board, contact City Clerk Adam Strait at 515-645-6810 or by emailing astrait@windsorheights.org.

Apply today at the link!



How's Our Newsletter?

Share your comments and suggestions or ask a question! Email City Clerk Adam Strait at astrait@windsorheights.org or call 515-279-3662



3/4/23 City Council Meeting Recap

- Held Public Hearing on the 2025 - 2035 Capital Improvement Plan and approved Resolution No. 2024-15 - A Resolution Adopting the Fiscal Year 2025- 2035 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
- Approved Resolution No. 2024-16 - A Resolution Approving the Site Plan for Casey's General Stores at 6961 University Avenue
- Approved the 1st Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-01 - An Ordinance Amending Chapter 156, Adding Subsection 102.11.23 to Section 156.04, of the Code of
- Ordinances for the City of Windsor Heights, with Regard to Enforcement Procedures for Rental Housing. This ordinance will help the City enforce code requirements with rental housing.
- Approved the South 68th Street Design Contract
- Discussed 73rd Street Reconstruction Communication Plan, which outlines the phases of construction and when affected residents and businesses would be potentially impacted and what communication from the City would entail

3/18/24 City Council Meeting Recap

- Held Public Hearing on Proposal to Enter into a General Obligation Corporate Purpose Loan Agreement and approved Resolution No. 2024-20 - A Resolution taking additional action on proposal to enter into a General Obligation Corporate Purpose Loan Agreement and providing for the levy of taxes to pay a General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds, Series 2024
- Held Public Hearing on Proposal to Enter into a General Obligation Park Improvement Loan Agreement and approved Resolution 2024-21 - A Resolution taking additional action on proposal to enter into a General Obligation Park Improvement Loan Agreement and repurposing bond proceeds
- Discussed the City's draft flood response plan with Flood Consultant Rick Roe in attendance to answer questions
- Approved Professional Services Agreement with Bolton and Menk for Salt Shed Construction to replace the current salt shed at the Public Works facility
- Approved Right Of Way Work Permit At 63rd and University Ave and discussed parkland in regards to the upcoming apartment complex at the location
- Approved the 2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-01 - An Ordinance Amending Chapter 156, Adding Subsection 102.11.23 to Section 156.04, of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Windsor Heights, with Regard to Enforcement Procedures for Rental Housing