



HOLDINGFORD FIREFIGHTERS RELIEF ASSOCIATION BREAKFAST

Sunday March 10th

8:00am – 12:30pm

Holdingford City Center

Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage, Ham, Hash Browns & Caramel Rolls

Free Will Donation



HOLDINGFORD FIRE RELIEF ASSOCIATION

The Holdingford Fire Relief Association has made significant contributions to the community and its fire department in 2023, totaling \$79,500. Here's a breakdown of their donations to the City and how they were used:

1. \$46,500 was donated to purchase and outfit a grass rig, which is essential for fighting wildfires and handling various emergencies in areas where a standard fire truck might not be suitable.
2. They contributed \$2500 towards gas meters, which are crucial for detecting potentially dangerous gases, and ensuring the safety of firefighters and the public during emergencies.
3. \$30,500 was donated to the capital expenditure savings specifically designated for the truck fund. Out of this amount, \$23,333 was allocated to the annual General Obligation Bond payment on one of their trucks. The remainder will go into the savings for future large purchases.

The total donations of \$79,500 by the Relief Association in 2023 not only support the immediate operational needs of the fire department but also contribute to long-term planning and investment in essential equipment. This financial support helps in reducing the property tax levy, demonstrating a direct benefit to the community by alleviating some of the financial burden on taxpayers.

FEBRUARY 12TH CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- The City Council approved a sewer forgiveness for the Trailer Park, due to a water leak, where the water leaked onto the ground and not into the sewer system.
- A resident brought forward an issue with her sewer connection to the City's sewer connection. She asked the City to inquire with the City's insurance company to scope and investigate other residents' homes. She is concerned that this is not just a single issue at her residence.
- The Fire Relief Association donated \$4000.00 to the City's, Fire Capital Fund. This fund is used to purchase fire trucks and equipment for the City's Fire Department. The Fire Relief will be doing a Gun Raffle this year, tickets will be available soon from members. The Fire Department hired Dustin Siegal as a Probationary firefighter. The Fire Department is working on a FEMA grant to purchase new turnout gear and is starting to search for a new water tanker.
- Maintenance reported a portion of the sidewalk on Main Street has been closed in front of 571 Main Street, this will remain closed until the owner completes work on the front of the building. The Council approved the closure of the City's Brush pile; however, grass clippings and leaves will still be accepted. No sticks, branches, tree stumps, or other yard debris will be accepted. New signs will be placed.
- Clerks are still searching for an auditor for the 2023 City Audit. Preparing for the President Nomination Primary Election on March 5th. Clerks are also searching for a new website provider, as our current platform is obsolete, and will no longer be supported by Catalis.
- The Liquor Store completed inventory on January 1st. The manager is working on updating the décor. She also requested to make one of the employees a temporary full-time employee to cover upcoming vacations and medical leaves. A request was made by a resident to look into a better ventilation system for the Muni's kitchen area.
- Much discussion was had about the Charitable Gambling at the Muni, discussions took place about the previous meeting between the Muni Manager and the Booster Club. The Council ultimately approved to terminate the Charitable Gambling Contract with the Booster Club, while the Booster Club is a noble cause for the student athletic programs at the Holdingford Schools, the council had to make a tough decision on what is best for the Taxpayers in the City of Holdingford.
- The City council passed a Purchasing Policy.

Full Meeting Minutes can be found on the City Website <https://holdingfordmn.us/minutes>



CITIZEN'S PORTAL FOR UTILITY BILLS



The Citizen's Portal on the City's website is available for residents to; view account history and payment Information, make quick payments, easily enroll in auto pay and E-billing, and the ability

to update their account information, and so much more.

Please note there is a processing fee for using a Credit/Debit card of 2.75% and a flat fee of \$1.10 for using a bank account.

If you need help with the Citizen's Portal call the Clerks or stop down to City Hall. We will gladly help you set this up.

Payments can also be dropped off with the clerks Monday-Thursday 8 am-4:30 pm, Friday 8 am-noon; or in the water bill drop box, by the front doors to the City Center building at 420 Main Street.

<https://holdingfordmn.payacp.com/home>



LOOKING AHEAD

- Fire Relief Association Breakfast, March 10th, details to come at a later date.
- City Council Meeting, March 11th at 7:00 pm with a work session scheduled for 6:00 pm
- City offices will be closed March 20th – 22nd for the clerks to attend a conference.
- City Wide Clean Up is scheduled for May 4th, with details to come at a later date.
- Stearns County Hazardous Waste Collection, June 26th at the High School Parking Lot. The flyer is on the City's Website.

<http://tinyurl.com/43w6bma2>

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor:	Eric Berscheid eberscheid.council@holdingfordmn.us
Council Member	Seth Young syoung.council@holdingfordmn.us
Council Member	Jayne Opatz jopatz@holdingfordmn.us
Council Member	Tim Winter twinter.council@holdingfordmn.us
Council Member	Andy Higgins ahiggins@holdingfordmn.us

CITY'S COMPOST SITE

The City's compost will only accept grass clippings and leaves, from City residents. The compost site will no longer accept, sticks, branches, tree stumps, or other yard debris. The sign will be posted soon.

The compost will be available later this spring, as the Maintenance department is confident the rough potato weed has been eradicated from the site. Watch for posting when compost will become available.

Borgmann's Disposal will have a leaf & lawn pickup on the first Friday of the month from May to November, weather permitting. Items include; bagged grass clippings, leaves, plant/flowers, along with neatly piled small stick branches. These dates include:

May 3rd, June 5th, July 5th, August 2nd, September 6th, October 4th, November 1st

City of Holdingford
PO Box 69, 420 Main Street
Holdingford, MN 56340

Phone: 320-746-2966

www.holdingfordmn.us

City Hall Hours
Monday-Thursday
8:00am – 4:30pm
Friday
8:00am - noon