



January / February  
2022

Number Three Hundred Seventy Nine

*In Memory of Hollie Brockoff and Joe Wickenhauser*

*Municipal State Aid*

The council discussed with the Assistant Engineer the Municipal State Aid System. This program allows participation in the Municipal State Aid System Program since the city has surpassed population count to provide funding assisting with construction and maintenance of the street system. Streets throughout the city were discussed. As the program grows, needs could change. System revisions may be requested and required City resolution approval. Inquiry was made if County Road # 40 was included in part of this system. The assistant engineer stated it could be applied for in the future by the council. Amount of funds anticipated to be received were also discussed. The assistant engineer explained that the Pavement Management Plan programmed amount on an annual basis based on the cash flow projections. Question was asked if the state funds were guaranteed. The response given by the city manager were that they were unaware of any cuts to state aid funding. The city attorney stated that funds are generated from the taxes paid for registration of vehicles. Clarification was requested for formula decision on selected streets. The assistant engineer further explained that there were flexible segments in street determination but selected streets can be changed in the future. The city manager detailed the connection details interconnecting to the Pavement Management Plan along with its evolving with the plan. Additionally, a small portion of streets are within the City of Chaska. Work is being done with staff and the City of Chaska to include areas in their portion with their Municipal State Aid plans. Motion was made and carried with all ayes adopting the resolution establishing Municipal State Aid System for the streets in the City of Carver.

*Miscellaneous*

The city manager informed the council nominations were being accepted for the Greg Osterdyk Community Service Awards. The city manager informed the council that Dr Holder of Carver Dental is the recipient of the 2022 reg Osterdyk Community Service Award. Congratulations to Dr Adam Holder.

The city attorney updated the council on their ability to change speed limits on local roads. The council has the ability for certain city streets without conducting a traffic analysis with MnDOT. There is an option to reduce speeds lower than 25mph on some streets. Several requirements are necessary when this is done. A summary of applicable statutes would be forwarded to the city manager for the council.

The Heritage Preservation Commission discussed the historic kiosk approval. The community development director presented the information of the content for the historic kiosk to be installed at the corner of Jonathan Carver Parkway and 6<sup>th</sup> Street encouraging the public to visit the downtown Carver area. Finalizing the content would be discussed further.

The city council recognized the employee of the year with an Employee of the Year Awards Presentation by the mayor. Administrative Assistant, Tedie Fahey was one recipient, the other went to the Building Official, Bryon Madson. Congratulations!

Annually the city is required to annually designate official representations and appoint responsibilities within the organization. The 2022 year is no different than the past. For anyone interested in those appointments, you can, if you have computer access, go the city's website to reference the minutes for that information.

*SouthWest Prime*

The Community Development Director discussed with the council the agreement with SouthWest Transit for the SouthWest Prime MD. Previously the city had reviewed and approved a contract for Prime services in the City of Carver. "Prime is an "On-Demand" ride service model offering transportation to Eden Prairie, Chanhassen, Chaska and Victoria. The existing contract states that the city is charged for rides that originate in Carver at the established rate. On an average there are one hundred fifteen trips per month originating in Carver using Prime for 2021. The council reviewed the contract which extends the service through 2022. These contracts are reviewed annually. Prime MD provides service to hospitals and clinics for non-emergency trips within the current services area of SouthWest Transit, along with select locations outside of the service area. Both SouthWest Prime and Prime MD are included in the 2022 budget, along with allocation. The staff will monitor budget amount throughout the year while providing updates to the council.

*Ironwood Park*

The community development director discussed the preparation of Plans and Specifications for Ironwood Park. There has been programming of newly expanded park area in Ironwood Park. Due to the Timber Creek development, the Ironwood Park has been expanded approximately by three acres of additional park land through the park dedication requirements. Proposed improvements include upgraded skate park, shelter with casual seating spaces and permanent lawn games, full-sized basketball court, robust trail system and an outdoor classroom adjacent to the Carver Elementary. There will be several unprogrammed spaces that could develop into future based needs and budget considerations. The council then discussed inclusion of relocation of bathroom facilities, parking expansion in addition to a drop off zone in the parking lot and also an expansion to the pavilion. At an open house residents submitted request for pickleball courts. Access and lights were also brought up at that time. The proposed improvements were tentatively scheduled to begin late spring 2022 with a fall completion. Initial budgeted costs were reviewed. A more refined budget would be prepared upon the completion of the plans and specifications. The project proposed to be funded from the Park Dedication Fund with revenue generated from development fees and an annual General Fund allocation. The council discussed a motion to prepare the plans and specifications for the Ironwood Park proposal.

The Ironwood Park Improvement Project proposed plans and specifications for the expanded park area were discussed again and reviewed by the council. Motion was made and carried with all ayes authorizing the preparation of plans and specifications for the Ironwood Park.

*Levee*

The city mayor told the Planning Commission members that the House Capital Investment Committee toured the Carver's levee. The Senate Capital Investment would be returning to review the levee again. The city is pursuing funding options for the levee improvement project.

"If it's meant to be, it will be"

~ Anonymous

## *Snow Plowing and Ice Control Policy*

The public services director discussed with the council a motion to adopt the 2021-2022 Snow Plowing and Ice Control Policy which included recommendations and edits. The purpose of the discussion involved resident input pertaining to new roads, new trails and budget considerations, as well as equipment and staff safety. The council reviewed the drafted policy for the snow plow schedule, route maps and trail map.

The council reviewed again the plowing and ice control policy with the public services director who presented an updated policy. Inquiry was made if the levee trail will be plowed by the city. The city manager stated that Carver County is reviewing their policy with consideration of a plan to reimburse cities for work done to maintain county portions. Question was then asked about the City of Chaska clearing the trail from their end. The city manager was not aware of the city's plans and would follow up with them. Clearing the ice rink was asked about, as well. The public services director stated that city streets and trails are prioritized before cul-de-sacs and the ice rink. Motion was made and carried with all ayes adopting the snow plowing and ice control policy.

## *Sign and Pavement Identification*

The city manager discussed with the council sign and pavement identification policy. Discussion regarding removal of "Slow Children" and "Children at Play" signs to begin in May of 2022 was held. Occasionally requests have been received relating to street signage, pavement markings and other traffic control measures. Overall, the council handled such requests. These types of requests have increased along with becoming more complex. A drafted Street Sign and Pavement Marking Policy has been completed in an effort to develop a uniform request process and establish consistent decision-making criteria. The objectives utilized involved a systematic process to address traffic concerns with an easy-to-follow program; evaluate traffic concerns; informing residents of issues; and to incorporate traffic strategies program.

The city manager again discussed the sign and pavement marking policy with the council which will be administered by the city engineer using specific objectives. Motion was made and carried with all ayes adopting the sign and pavement marking policy removing all "Slow Children" and "Children at Play" signs beginning in May of 2022.

## *Gilbert Property*

The community development director presented the concept plan for the Gilbert property located directly south of the Meadows at Spring Creek to the Planning Commission members. The property is approximately fifteen acres to be accessed from Mulberry Lane. The Concept Plan designates a development consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan. A recorded cart path has been recorded which the staff and the developer will work to resolve and remove at the time of the development. The bluff ordinance was significant in this area. An overview of the ordinance was reviewed along with the statement that the city would not allow deviation from it. Plans were not finalized. The architect designing the homes in Tim Whitton. The community development director anticipated villas or detached townhomes with a Homeowner's Association would be the direction of the development. Development representative stated that the market will drive the plan with different offered plans. Question was asked by commission member if larger but fewer homes would be constructed. Response given was that the city needs to meet the density requirements. Discussion was held on multiple items.

## *Sixth Street West Improvement Project*

The city engineer gave an overview of the Sixth Street West Improvement project. Councilmember pointed out the traffic change from a stop to stop for traffic relative to the pedestrian crossing is very important at the 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway intersection. Above the minimum standard signage will be done in this area. The widths were discussed of the area. Motion was made and carried with all ayes authorizing the preparation of the plans and specifications for the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Improvements project.

"Right now I am trying to be in a place of calm, a place where I can chill out and then handle the chaos of life better. You don't just get it overnight; you have to work at it. It's a daily struggle."  
~ Jackee Harry

## *Parks Advisory Group*

The community development director discussed a Parks Advisory Group involving the Parks Master Plan. There has been a large volume of feedback and increased public engagement with interest in park development and redevelopment. The staff has been brainstorming regarding increased interest in the parks area issues. The Parks Commission historically operates similarly to the Planning Commission and City Council where formal monthly meetings are held. The staff proposed an idea involving a larger group of residents to work together in the capacity of a parks advisory group to meet for brainstorming, education about parks funding, maintenance and development and local events to promote community and Carver parks. The parks advisory group would also provide feedback and ideas to the City of Chaska for event execution under the city's recreation agreement. This formal role of park plan approval would shift to the Planning Commission who is tasked with park work through development and review of the Comprehensive Plan. The goals for the proposed group would increase public engagement and education, listen to a wide range of community members relating to park development and redevelopment, as well as foster community events and meeting attendance. The proposed group requires ordinance amendment with implementation of the proposed model.

## *Truth in Taxation*

The council held a public hearing involving the Truth in Taxation information. A senior citizen attended the meeting discussing the impact on personal tax impact of senior citizens requesting reconsideration. Request was made for some sort of relief to be applied for seniors, as well as consideration of an annual cap for property that had not been improved. Additionally, request was submitted to find some budget cuts to consider delaying some expenses to a future date. Another citizen was present for clarification and request also to reconsider the proposed budget and tax levy on behalf of retired citizens within the community. No action would occur at the present time however in the future the consideration and adoption of the final budget and levy would occur. The council had opted not to adopt the franchise fees which would have resulted in additional charges on resident bills for services such as cable and electricity.

The council discussed the 2022 Property Tax Levy and Budget at their meeting requiring adopting resolution certifying the levy. After reviewing the process and the numbers from past meetings throughout the year. A new Finance Director position was also identified in the city's strategic plan. The fund revenues expenditures, financial levy history and recommendation to approve the resolution were all discussed. Motion was made and carried adopting the resolution with all ayes certifying the 2022 Property Tax Levy in said amount. Motion was made and carried adopting the resolution with all ayes approving the 2022 Budget.

## *Policing Services*

Council discussed and reviewed the contract for police services. Amendments to the contract were discussed and reviewed. Motion was made and carried with all ayes entering into the contract for Police Services with the Carver County Sheriff's Office.

## *RiverSide Park Redevelopment*

The community development director discussed the RiverSide Park Redevelopment plans, an item identified as an action item in the Strategic Plan. Discussion focused on using the park as a hybrid of active and passive uses with the goal of highlighting natural features. The proposed concept shows portions of the park with natural prairie planting with mowed trails as opposed to current conditions of fully mowed park area. Another idea involved adding a vehicular river overlook in the park. Mention has been made that many visit the park to relax in their vehicles during the day and for lunch time. The archery range, campsites and robust tree canopy would remain intact. A phased approach is necessary based on budget constraints. Future projects could include bird habitat viewing, improvements to the camp ground and an additional overlook towards the existing wetland. The Parks Commission reviewed the proposed concept and were supportive with phase one. Phase One includes the vehicular overlook and native prairie seeding. Funding would come from Park Dedication. Future phases of redevelopment would be reviewed by the Planning Commission and council prior to execution. It was also deciphered that with native plantings that there would be less maintenance work required.

## Utility Infrastructure

The council discussed authorization of preparation of a trunk area charge study for the Southwest and Big Woods future growth areas with the city engineer at their meeting. There has and continues to be future growth in the local community. This growth has been an increasing adjoining development primarily occurring on land directly adjoining recently developed areas. As development conventionally occurs, the extension of the city's trunk municipal utilities systems are also generated with this contiguous development. In the area being discussed there will not be any directly adjacent land readily available for continuing development. However, future growth areas identified within the Comprehensive Plan will be required to be reviewed for feasibility of expansion. The two areas recognized within the Comprehensive Plan are in the southwest area and the Big Woods areas. This area combined represents a significant portion of growth potential. The planned uses offer opportunities of housing, commercial and industrial development potential. These areas are not directly adjacent to developed property within the city, trunk utility extensions to service the areas, requiring considerable infrastructure costs. These large trunk system expansion costs could render the stated property as undevelopable without action by the city. Trunk area charges proactively provide a means to distribute a major trunk utility infrastructure expansion cost evenly to the properties directly benefitting from the expansion, paid back over time as the area develops. This charge structure can make these major non-contiguous growth areas feasible to develop from a cash flow perspective. The council reviewed the concept of utilizing trunk area charges allowing trunk utility infrastructure projects at former meetings. The recommended next step involves the city engineer to study the utility system costs, recommending area charges to extend trunk municipal utilities to the areas defined in the southwest and Big Woods proposed future growth areas.

## Next Steps Concept Plan

The community development director presented the council with the concept plan for Next Steps Learning Center. The location is proposed for the Carver Commons area. The property currently home to Kwik Trip with additional commercial users anticipated. The daycare center meets intent with the zoning district of the property. Next Steps Learning Center has two other locations, one in Chaska and the other in Chanhassen. The stie plan plans accommodate one hundred eighty-nine children. Also plan shows four outdoor play spaces, site access and parking meet required infrastructure for the building. Hours of operation planned were Monday through Friday with the hours of 6:30 AM to 6 PM. Carver Commons streets are private with plowing and maintenance the responsibility of the property owners. Utilities are available. Trail access to the building site was also discussed. Request was submitted for rezoning of Planned Commercial Development to accommodate the building layout. The proposed project has been reviewed by the Planning Commission who were supportive of the project. Projections anticipated to be quick with the platting process. The Planning Commission and council would expect to consider the Preliminary Plat, Rezoning and Final Plat at one meeting since the platting of commercial property generally is far less complex. If approvals continue on schedule, the learning center anticipates opening its doors in early winter of 2022.

## 2022 Street Maintenance

The assistant city engineer discussed with the council the 2022 Street Maintenance Projects requesting authorization of preparation of Plans and Specifications for said projects. Existing streets continue to age with new streets added to the existing system. Whereas, it is important to develop and follow a systematic approach to street maintenance. Recognizing this facet, the first Pavement Management Plan was developed. The first phase of this system identified areas requiring maintenance. The next step in the process is preparations for final plans and specifications for the project. Funding the project was also discussed.

## Disclaimer

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## State Opioid Settlements

The city attorney discussed the Ste Opioid Settlement with the council. The review of the resolution involving approval of the memorandum of Agreement between the state and local governments and authorization participation in National Opioid Settlements was reviewed. Recently, the MN Attorney General's Office finalized settlements with certain opioid distributors and manufacturers. These settlements are part of national opioid litigation. All MN cities are eligible to participate in the settlement, but to do so, a city must approve and sign the agreement. The resolution presented provides the requisite authority. The agreement and two participation forms were reviewed. Participating in the settlements required the city to release any claims. The cities are entitled to receive local allocations under the settlements with populations more than thirty thousand, local public health authority and those with initiated litigation on their own. The agreement supplied a list of public entitled public entities for allocation. Carver is not included on this list. Although the city is not entitled to direct allocations, only cities that participate in the settlements are eligible for future grant money and other potential programming that might originate settlement dollars. It is unknown if the city will participate in future state or county programming, but failure to participate in present settlement procedures will likely preclude later participation. There is a push for all cities to sign because it will have a substantial impact on the total dollar amount received. The attorney recommended city approval for participation.

## 2022 Super Bowl LVII Sunday

What is Super Bowl Sunday? It is the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual NFL championship game of the National Football League. It has also been established as the final game of every NFL season since 1966. Information compliments of the internet. Question of 2022 is; who is the favorite? Answer given is the Kansas City Chiefs. So, when is this event, even though many know the answer. It will be held Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup> ( day before Valentine's Day – hint, hint guys ). To be held at the SoFi Stadium and broadcast on NBC. Here's a trivia fact for you, it's the eighth time the Super Bowl was hosted by the greater Los Angeles area and the first time in the City of Inglewood. Also, as usual, I'm not a sports fan nor a follower as if many of you didn't already know that. But it looks like to me that they don't really know yet exactly which teams are actually playing on the thirteenth yet, right? Don't have anyone to ask either. It however, appears that there are actually fourteen contenders vying for that Super Bowl win? Right? How am I doing so far? I know, you don't care. At the risk of really offending all the sports people, I do know, however, that the Vikings are not one of those fourteen teams. Right?

The Halftime show headlining are Dr Dre, Snoop Dogg, Eminem, Mary J Bilge and Kendrick Lamar. Aren't they all rappers? No comment at the risk of offending even still more.

In closing, let's see what this blasted, bloody virus has to say about screwing up this well-planned, thought-out scenario of brilliant minds determined to showcase competition of a bunch of grown men tackling one another ruthlessly for a ball to be chased down an open field to gain points and see who is allegedly better than the other. Seems pointless but that's just my stupid opinion and it doesn't certainly matter or count. Nor, hey, should it, if this is what you want to watch. More power to you. Have fun, knock yourself out. Lots of luck to the contenders is what I say. Just remember, there is more to life than winning first place. It's how you play the game right? Exercising writing privilege here, okay. If I offended anyone, Sorry, not sorry. It was really meant to get you to read this and to smile.

## Carver Business Alliance

Carver Business Alliance "The Carver Business Alliance is a collaboration of business owners, community leaders, and local officials working together to promote, enhance, and create opportunities for commerce in the City of Carver. Business roundtable discussions are held and City of Carver updates are provided at each meeting." They meet every third Friday of the month at 8 AM at the Carver Village Hall. Anyone owning a business in Carver is welcome. The next scheduled meeting is February 18<sup>th</sup>.

"Life is full of change and uncertainty. We know this. We experience it on a daily basis." ~ Carre Otis

## Carver Current

You have seen the Carver Current website, haven't you? It's the perfect on line 'go to' site for local information. Be sure to check it out; [www.carvercurrent.com](http://www.carvercurrent.com). An excellent source of information of city updates, local organization events, local news, school activities, sports results etc. Also, a great site for sharing important information and events affecting local residents. The newsletter, the "Villager Tower" can also be found on this website, among other valuable information, history information, links, etc.

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## 2022 Carver Farmer's Market

Heads up everyone! Saw an announcement for the 2022 Carver Farmers' Market. The opening day for 2022 will be July 12<sup>th</sup> and open through September 27<sup>th</sup> from 3 PM to 6 PM at the Community Park in Carver. For more information you or you are interested in being a vendor, you can contact the Chamber of Commerce for more information and a Carver Farmers' Market application.



## Carver Ice Rink

The ice rink at the Community Park in Carver is open! The warming house hours are 9 AM – 10 PM, rink lights are on until 9:30 PM, satellite restroom, main rink, recreational rink also available. The city requests that you please follow the posted signs for closures during the season due to unfavorable conditions/ice restoration and courtesy towards others.



## Chaska Community Center

February 7<sup>th</sup> through March 6<sup>th</sup> the Chaska Community Center presents the Gnome Hunt. Harvey, the Gnome will be placed in one of Chaska's parks. A clue will be given each week on Monday morning at 9 AM at the Chaska Community Center's Facebook page and their website. First clue will appear on Monday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. Then Harvey moves each week from park to park but you will have Monday AM to Sunday PM to look for Harvey. Then share your Gnome Hunt photos through Facebook. To find the parks, you can go to the Chaska Parks inventory.



## Valentine's Day Fun in Carver

Hey everyone! Listen up, you are invited to come and have Valentine fun in Carver! Come join in on the fun as fun is created with little hands with valentine crafts, games and a snack on Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at the Carver Village Hall. The fun will begin at 9:30 AM and go until 10:30 AM. It's for kids ages one through six. For more details and to register, visit the Chaska Parks and Recreation website. [www.chaskamn.com](http://www.chaskamn.com)



## East Union Lutheran Church

The East Union Church is making preparations for their annual Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction. Be sure to take the family for their delicious offering of a great meal. The event is scheduled for Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup> from 4 PM to 6 PM. Something for everyone at this event. Baskets, gift certificates, and specialty items are all up for bid. Dinner includes spaghetti with homemade sauce, salad, bread, beverage and homemade desserts. Who can bet that? Certainly not me. Rumor has it, it is really, really delicious!!! Someone else cooks, does clean up and you get to see people and talk to people.



## Carver Lions



Council recognized the Carver Lions for the Carver Village Christmas event which was a great success, along with the help of the Carver Fire Department. The Christmas Tree Lighting was sponsored also with the Carver-on-the-Minnesota organization which was also successful, considered a great event. What would we do without this terrific organization filled with warm and good-hearted people? Want to join them and be part of the giving in the community? You can. They hold their meetings the first and third Wednesday of the month at city hall. Everyone is welcome to come and join in to see what they are all planning and doing. Then you can decide if you want to pursue more involvement.

Don't forget that they have also resumed meat raffles and you can find more information on their Facebook page or the Facebook pages of local saloons.

They are also working on the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Soggy Bottom Fundraiser to be held, Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup> from 11 AM to 2 PM at RiverSide Park. A fundraiser for local community members requiring extra help. You all are invited to come down for snow golf, food, drink, bonfire and raising money for those in medical crisis. The Lions are proud to announce their 2022 recipients: Kelsey Granowski and Derek Thuening. You can buy event tickets or just donate. Registration is always available onsite at the event too. Can't find a Carver Lion or where to get more information, you can always ask at the city hall. This is the 13<sup>th</sup> year for the fundraiser.

Proceeds would benefit: "Kelsey Granowski is a 38-year-old wife to Andy, and mother of two, ages 6 & 9 living in Carver. She was diagnosed this Fall with Stage 4 Metastatic Breast Cancer. She works as a social worker with the county and her husband is a teacher in District 112. The cancer has currently spread to her bones, ovary, thyroid and lymph nodes. She is receiving chemo treatments and as a side effect is also suffering from tinnitus and hearing loss. She will have radiation and an extensive surgery in the future, and will have to continue with lifelong management. Kelsey would like to raise breast cancer awareness as a part of her journey."

And:

"Derek Thuening is 27 years old and was in an ATV accident on his property that he shares with fiancée Nicole, and two children ages 1 & 7. In the accident he broke his ankle, leg, arm, fractured ribs, vertebrae, jaw, the base of his skull and has a brain bleed. He is currently in a wheelchair and they have weekly trips to HCMC. Nicole works at a daycare and Derek is projected to be out of work for a year. The evening of the accident he took the dogs out to run them on their property. Derek often works in his shop late into the evening, as such, Nicole went to bed for the night thinking he was in the shop. When she awoke in the morning to find him not in bed, she called a friend to come help look for him. Derek was out in the elements, suffering from his injuries all night. Their loyal dog stayed with him the duration of the night and barked to alert the friend to their location."

The Carver Lions Club thanks you for your support!

## Job Opening

The City of Carver is seeking applications for the position of Finance Director. This new position will give the applicant the opportunity to lead, build and make significant decisions as a key member of the city's leadership team. The city seeks an authentic, detail orientated, visionary individual to evolve with the city as the community grows.

Minimum qualifications for the position include a Bachelor's Degree in accounting, finance, or a closely related field and five (5) years of experience in an accounting position in a city, county, or business working with government accounting requirements. Preferred qualifications include certification as Public Accountant or Public Finance Officer. The salary range includes a competitive benefits package. The position also offers a flexible work environment, including opportunities to work remotely.

The position will be open until filled, with initial application review beginning Monday, January 31. All applicants must submit an official City of Carver employment application, along with a resumé and cover letter. Application packets may be e-mailed to: Brent Mareck, City Manager, [bmareck@cityofcarver.com](mailto:bmareck@cityofcarver.com).

Visit the City's Employment page for more details regarding the position and how to apply: [Finance Director Position](#)

"The secret of your success is determined by your daily agenda."  
~John C. Maxwell



## Courtney's January Input

Submitted by: Courtney Johnson

As I look forward to 2022, I'd also like to take a look back at 2021 and share the 10 items that, in my opinion, were the most noteworthy in our community.

10. Veggies Galore – 2021 was the inaugural year for the Carver Farmers Market and our Community Gardens. Both were great additions to our community and made it easier to get fresh produce in Carver.

9. New Website – Early last year [CityOfCarver.com](http://CityOfCarver.com) got a much-needed facelift! The updates to our website produced a modern, more user-friendly site, which is searchable and easy to navigate.

8. PHEV Purchase – In July we purchased a PHEV (Plug-in Electric Hybrid Vehicle) for our Community Development Department, which uses it for daily building inspections. The vehicle runs on electric power with a gas backup when the battery has been exhausted. So far, we haven't had to refill the gas tank!

7. Space Study – After working with architects and engineers on a space study, we identified the need to construct a 9,600 sq. ft. vehicle and equipment building. The proposed building site would be just west of the existing Fire Station/Public Services building. The Space Study also identified a need to construct an 820 sq. ft. addition on to the south side of the existing Fire Station to house firefighters' turn-out gear in a room separate from the fire garage, with its own ventilation system.

6. 5,241 – Last summer we got the results of the 2020 Census and the City of Carver's population is now 5,241. Having crossed the five thousand population threshold, Carver now qualifies for Municipal State Aid. This means Carver will now receive hundreds of thousands of dollars from the State of Minnesota for road construction and maintenance.

5. LRIP Grant – Carver won a \$1.25M Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) grant from MnDOT which will be used to make improvements to 6th Street West. The project will include full-depth pavement reclamation, enhancements to the storm sewer system to alleviate flooding, and pedestrian and bicycle mobility improvements along the corridor, and will take place this summer.

4. Levee Progress – Last summer and fall we had visits from Representative Tom Emmer, and both the Minnesota House and Senate Capital Investment Committees, all who walked the levee with me and learned about the City of Carver's need for funding to make improvements to this vital piece of infrastructure. I'm hopeful 2022 will bring additional funding to continue our momentum on this project!

3. Watering Ban – Last summer amid a drought and on some of the hottest days of the summer, we had a watering ban for eight days. With two new wells and our Water Treatment Facility expansion which will all go into service this year, in addition to repairs to the existing well we are making this winter, I'm confident we won't have another watering ban anytime soon.

2. Pavement Management Plan - This plan was built around an annual investment in street maintenance, while incorporating recommended street maintenance best management practices such as bituminous mill and overlays, reclamations, a seal coat and crack seal program, and reserving funds for miscellaneous repair needs. The repair and replacement of streets as identified in the Pavement Management Fund will be financed through the Street Maintenance Fund which is part of our General Fund Budget - NOT Franchise Fees.

1. JCP Improvement Project - The most memorable event in Carver last year was the Jonathan Carver Parkway (JCP) Improvement Project. After seven months of construction, we now have a beautiful corridor which will safely and efficiently move traffic throughout our community for a long time to come!

Happy New Year!

Mayor Courtney Johnson

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Instagram: Carver\_Mayor\_Courtney



## Ice Palace Maze

The Stillwater Ice Palace Maze opened to the public on in January and will be available for family-friendly fun through February 20<sup>th</sup> seven days a week. It is considered the largest ice maze in the country according to Krystal Frasier reporter. The maze is at the Zephyr Theatre in Stillwater. The maze is approximately a half mile long and includes an ice slide, and ice-bar. An added feature is hot chocolate and s'mores. The hours are 2 PM to 10 PM Monday through Friday. Saturday and Sunday's hours will be noon to 10 PM. Children under the age of 4 can enter for free, five years of age and older will need to pay for a ticket. However, if you're 100 years old (or older), you can get in for free. Also, heard that you could possibly see one or two ice queens on the North Mountain. Tickets are also available on line. Website: [www.icepalacemaze.com](http://www.icepalacemaze.com)



## Trinity Lutheran Church

Submitted by: Trinity

Everyone is welcome in this place! Please join us for Worship at 10 am every Sunday morning. We believe that the church is not a building but people joined together by God through faith. Our prayer is to see our town awakened to and transformed by the love of Jesus. We would love to pray for you. Please contact Pastor Jander with prayer requests or questions at: Office: 952-448-3628 Email: [office@trinitycarver.com](mailto:office@trinitycarver.com) Website: [trinitycarver.com](http://trinitycarver.com) Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TrinityLutheranChurchCarver](http://www.facebook.com/TrinityLutheranChurchCarver)



"THIS IS THE DIRECTION THE WORLD IS GOING IN AT THE PRESENT TIME. IN OUR WORLD, THERE WILL BE NO EMOTIONS EXCEPT FEAR, RAGE, TRIUMPH, AND SELF-ABASEMENT. THERE WILL BE NO LOYALTY EXCEPT LOYALTY TO THE PARTY. BUT ALWAYS THERE WILL BE THE INTOXICATION OF POWER. ALWAYS, AT EVERY MOMENT, THERE WILL BE THE THRILL OF VICTORY, THE SENSATION OF TRAMPLING ON AN ENEMY WHO'S HELPLESS. IF YOU WANT A PICTURE OF THE FUTURE, IMAGINE A BOOT STAMPING ON A HUMAN FACE, FOREVER. THE MORAL TO BE DRAWN FROM THIS DANGEROUS NIGHTMARE SITUATION IS A SIMPLE ONE: DON'T LET IT HAPPEN. IT DEPENDS ON YOU."  
- GEORGE ORWELL

## Community Highlights

February 2022

- February 1st Lunar New Year  
Happy Birthday Terrance!
- February 2nd Groundhog Day  
Lion's Meeting
- February 3rd Happy Birthday Darrel!
- February 7th Council Meeting
- February 8th Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting
- February 9th 2 Hour Late Start for Schools  
Happy Birthday Bonnie!
- February 10th Happy Birthday Adam and Tommy!
- February 11th Happy Birthday Justice!
- February 12th East Union Annual Spaghetti Dinner  
Happy Birthday Renee!
- February 13th Super Bowl Sunday LVI  
Happy Birthday Maddie!
- February 14th School Board Work Session  
Dahlgren Township Board Meeting  
Valentine's Day
- February 15th Happy Birthday Kimberly!  
Happy Anniversary Dwight and Janet!  
Happy Birthday Katie!
- February 16th Lion's Meeting  
Happy Birthday Bob!
- February 17th through 20th – Occasional Shop Weekend  
Planning Commission Meeting  
Happy Birthday Bruce!
- February 18th Business Alliance Meeting
- February 20th Happy Birthday Tom!
- February 21st No School  
President's Day  
Happy Birthday Peggy!
- February 22nd Council Meeting  
Happy Birthday Sandra!
- February 23rd Happy Birthday Faye!
- February 28th School Board Meeting  
Happy Birthday Skylar!



## Dahlgren Township

Discussions have occurred with the City of Carver and the township regarding a cartway beside Highway #212, southside of Fleet Farm. The state is looking to eliminate the use of this cartway for township residents disallowing access to the highway. Discussions are continuing whether or not access will be allowed through adjoining neighborhoods. The Orderly Annexation agreement is being referenced as to how to handle the situation.

The Carver County Parks representative presented a preliminary plan for a park at Miller Lake to the Dahlgren Township board members. Statement was given that in initial discussions at this time is that there are not any specific decisions on what the park will look like such as boating, camping etc. Resident expressed concerns regarding gravesites near the proposed area. Assurances were given that the sties would be preserved, as well as incorporated into the park design. Request was submitted to name the park "Miller Park". Concerns were also given from township residents near the proposed park regarding potential trails connecting the park to Waconia and Carver. Land owners would be consulted and worked with in the future if trails were to be built.

Additional information found on line states that Miller Lake is a hundred forty-acre, class forty-three lake. The lake connects with Carver Creek and then ultimately to the Minnesota River. Also discussed was the sportfish community of fish in the lake. Miller Lake is surrounded by private land and no public access exists. Therefore, it would be very unwise to go searching to access the lake. Warning: This is for information purposes only regarding the discussion of preliminary plans to create a park by the county.

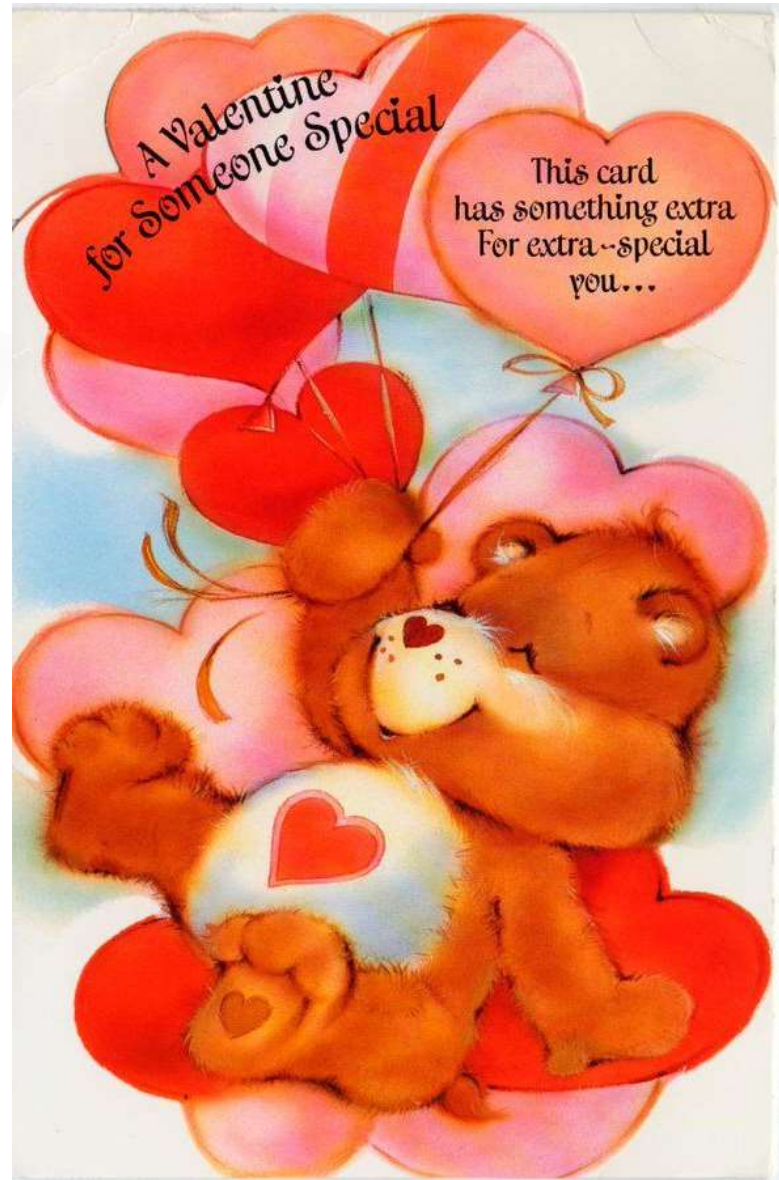
"When you lose someone close it changes your perspective. A beautiful ancient tree full of wisdom and knowledge fallen on the path due to the chaos of nature. As people climb and duck under the "obstacle", I can't help but to think it's your way of saying you will always be with us. An amazing chapter closed."

~ Tim Adam



## Open Gym

Open Gym is Back! In January the gym at the Carver Elementary School ( 1717 Ironwood Drive, Carver ) was opened once again for Open Gym Sundays, from 2 PM to 5 PM. It's a free weekly event! You need to bring your own basketballs and equipment though. Also, children under the age of ten must be accompanied by an adult. The open gym will run for several months. However, on February 3<sup>rd</sup> there will not be any open gym. ( It's Super Bowl Sunday! But that may not be the reason, I just happened to remember it. Could be completely irrelevant, couldn't it? Just another way to spice this up for y'all. Did it work? )





**Mixing Magic Bakery**  
Mrs Charay Williams

A made to order bakery in the SW Minneapolis Area  
[mixing-magic-bakery-online.square.site](http://mixing-magic-bakery-online.square.site)  
Instagram: Mixing Magic Bakery

*13th Annual*  
**Soggy Bottom  
Snow Golf Fundraiser**

**Saturday, January 29**

**11am - 2pm**

**Riverside Park**

**\$25/person**

**Sponsored by the Carver Lions.  
Proceeds to help local families in medical crisis.**

**2022 Recipients**

**Kelsey Granowski & Derek Thuening**

**For more info about the recipients  
and to register or donate, go to:**

**Facebook: Carver Minnesota Lions Club**

**Eventbrite Website: type in Soggy Bottom**

**Registration available day of the event. Registration includes Soggy Bottom hat.**

**After the event: Carver Lions Meat Raffle @ Lisa's Place 3pm**





Hosted by East Union Lutheran Church

# *Spaghetti Dinner* *and Silent Auction*

**February 12, 2022**  
**4:00 – 6:30 p.m.**



*Bring your family,  
friends and neighbors  
and support a great  
cause!*

## **Pricing**

**Adults \$10**

**Children (4-17) \$5**

Ages 3 and under Free

**Family \$25**

**\*Take-out available**

**East Union Lutheran Church**  
**15180 County Road 40**  
**Carver, MN 55315**

There will be something for everyone at this event. Baskets, gift certificates, and specialty items all up for bid. Dinner includes: spaghetti with homemade sauce, salad, bread, beverage, and homemade desserts.

**\*Need not be present to win the Silent Auction**

## *Night Marauders – Newest Conquest*

In case you have been wondering what the nasty little devils have been up to? They have been busy scouring the new neighborhoods popping up all over the hillsides of outer historic downtown Carver boundaries exploring and following their noses and curious ears to all the new venues out in the outer limits.

“Where has Territory and Raschevious been lately?” Rascal asked Lavender as they strolled towards the river through the snow beaten path.

“They have been hanging out at this house up Spring Creek neighborhood.” Lavender said.

“And you know this how?” Rascal inquired sharply.

“I heard them talking about this fantastic lady there baking these tremendous desserts and Territory can’t keep his nose from poking around there?” Lavender scowled with disapproval.

“That’s what Territory does.” Rascal moaned.

“Something about Mixing Magic Bakery.” She answered not listening to the sulking raccoon.

“What?” Rascal howled. “What are you talking about?”

“I heard Territory telling Bandeet that there was this fantastic lady who moved here from Texas recently and that she loves science fiction fantasies and baking. She told Territory that Science was viewed as Magic a long time ago and since she was a sci-fi nerd, she chose the name Mixing Magic Bakery because it was the perfect name.”

“What else did he say?” Rascal was even more upset now.

Lavender didn’t quite understand what his problem was but was certain she would find out in all due time. He had been awfully surly as of late. She thought it was due to the cold winter and their being unable to meander freely downtown when it seemed like everything suddenly shut down and it was more like a ghost town than the busier streets that they were used to.

“What’s your problem Rascal?” Lavender was becoming agitated which was never a good sign for a skunk.

“I’m tired of being left out.” He groaned plopping down in the snowdrift.

“Well, it’s not like any of us have any control over the humans.” She waddled past him pretentiously.

“It’s just that I thought we were a group and Territory has been excluding all of us lately.” He griped resentfully.

“Has it ever occurred to you Rascal that Territory might just be looking out for the betterment of everyone rather than risking something bad happening to everyone the way things have been lately?” She huffed, “You are just bored and immature.”

“I am not.” He rebuked.

“Are so.”

“Am not.” They bickered foolishly. Bandeet was meandering towards them grinning precociously.

“What you smiling at?” Rascal snapped.

“Foul mood again Rascal?” Bandeet teased.

“No!” He snarled.

“Well, you better lose that attitude. Territory told me to come find you. He has some wonderful news for us all.” Bandeet informed them excitedly.

Charay answered the door to find five raccoons and a skunk sitting on her steps.

“Hello Territory.” She greeted warmly with her smile melting his heart instantly.

Introductions were made and Rascal warned not to touch a thing or he would find himself sitting outside in the snowbank until she was done showing them how she made the special custom order unicorn cake. They were also given scraps and pieces, along with tastes between the demonstration and narrative. Lavender was extremely uncomfortable, as was Rhapsody. They were not used to being addressed by humans nor were they accustomed to being invited into someone’s home. Territory had been stern with his instructions on how they were expected to behave and not to touch, pester or ask for anything.

“Did Territory tell y’all that I love baking?”

Raschevious nodded timidly.

"That so many people said I should sell my desserts? I discovered also it was a great way to meet people." She was getting her materials, ingredients all gathered as she talked to them. "I am self-taught, you know." She looked at Rascal who looked like he was about to die from fear. "You sure are a cute little one." She told him looking directly into his eyes. He swooned bashfully.

"Where are you from mam?" Rhapsody asked curiously.

"I was raised in Wisconsin but just moved here from Texas."

The group was totally mesmerized with the charming baker.

"I am a first generation American. My family is from Barbados." She chuckled, "But I'm sure you have no idea where all those places are, do you?" She reached for the cake pans out of the oven as the buzzer rang.

"Our first steps are done." She put the pans on the counter to cool. "Would you all like a sugar cookie?"

Before Territory could object, she was handing them each a cookie. Delicately they all began to nibble on the simply delicious and delightful treat.

Raschevious bravely asked, "You said you were self-taught? How is that?"

Territory nudged him hard.

"It's alright Territory. I don't mind." She scoffed, "I have loved baking since I was very young. I would make box cakes and watch mother make bread. Baking is my passion. I loved watching the food network and that really is where I learned everything." She told them as she prepared her frostings and icings for the round cakes to come out of the pans, all while conversing with them as they listened intently, clinging to her every word with interest.

"Then I discovered that I had a real knack for baking and cooking. I loved seeing the final results. I cook quite a bit and I also love to cook."

She dropped the beautiful full cakes onto the platter and gently pushed them where they were centered before professionally adhering the icing around the top of the bottom layer. Placed the next two layers before spreading the frosting around all of the layers as her audience watched her working deliberately, determined and diligently on the perfect spread over the exterior. She sculpted the adornments, embellishments and perfectly shaped flowers to design, execute and create the perfect appearance of the unicorn's mane with the most alluring eyelashes to boot on the front. The final touch to her work of art were the ears and the horn of soft pastel colors creating a magnificent illusion of a masterpiece. Her audience was in awe.

"Well, what do you think ladies and gentlemen?" She asked stepping back to admire her work. They were too awestruck to speak.

"You don't like?" She teased knowing better.

Territory slowly shook his head in awe.

"What's your favorite to make?" Rhapsody finally found her voice.

"Cupcakes are my favorite. My customers love my chocolate chip cookies." She answered amused by their reactions.

She watched them admiring the plate full of cookies and cupcakes.

"You do this all the time?" Raschevious asked finally.

"I hope to make it a full-time gig one day."

"You will too. These are delicious." Rascal wolfed the cupcake down she had given him.

Territory angrily pointed to the door for Rascal to depart immediately. He hung his head.

"Territory don't be so harsh on the little rascal. Afterall, I did give it to him. You all will get one."

She said softly.

"He knows better." Territory scowled as Rascal slithered to the door ashamed. "We will eat it outside."

"You will come visit again?" She asked as her audience began to move to the door.

They all said their thanks as she handed them each a cupcake on their way out.

"Thank you Mrs Williams for allowing us to watch you create your masterpiece and sharing your delicacies."

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Be Sure to stop in and say hello to Ann and Brenda

February Sale Dates: February 17<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>

2022