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Deck the House contest underway



PATRIOT

KISSING SANTA CLAUS. Mrs. Claus (Kristi Kelly) and Becker Mayor Tracy Bertram gave Santa (John Riebel) a peck on the cheek at last week's Farm Friends Santa Claus visit in Becker. The event featured trees, decorations, hot chocolate and cookies. (Submitted photo.)

Inside

CLEARWATER TWP.

Clearwater Township is moving their recycling pickup day to Thursday instead of Fridays due to concerns about the dates and costs. See the story on page 2.

BECKER SPORTS

The Becker girls soccer team held a banquet recently to re-hash the successful season and hand out much-deserved awards. See the story on page 11.

BIG LAKE

Two new officers with the Big Lake PD were sworn-in at the most recent city council meeting. See the story on Chris Thull and Bill Saliterman on page 6.



EDITORIAL/NEWS - Pages 1-12 **CHURCH** DIRECTORY - Page 2



THE DETERSLAND LIGHTS PROPERTY has over 25,000 lights that would give the Griswold family supreme envy (Submitted photo.)

have decorated their structures for the holidays

as part of this year's Deck the

Four homes and two businesses Becker Community Center and By Bill Morgan, Editor, Staff Writer

reporter.bill@patriotnewsmn.com

House contest sponsored by the but people of holiday cheer can still

Becker Parks & Recreation. Voting has ended as of this week

visit and experience the sounds and sights of this year's entrants.

The four homes are located at: 11159 Nikolas Ave.; 11157 Olympia Ave.; 11804 35th Ave., SE and 10221 18th Ave. The two businesses are: Studio 5 Salon at 13860 1st St. and Marvel Nutrition at 14275 Bank St.

The Detersland family on Nikolas Ave. have a display of over 25,000 lights, a singing reindeer, and more! It runs every day from 5-11 pm.



County approves 6.49% levy increase for 2023

The Sherburne County Board Tuesday certified the 2023 property tax levy at \$58,452,566. That represents a 6.49% increase over the 2022 levy of \$54,889.085.

By Ken Francis, Contributing Writer production@patriotnewsmn.com

Last year, the levy was increased 4.86% from

2021 The three largest levy-supported expenses in 2023 take up more than half of the levy total. They are Law Enforcement/ Corhas grown approximately 21.65% for taxes payable in 2023 and the latest census numbers indicate a 11.9% population growth rate since 2010 (88,499 to 99,074).

> Building and new home permits continue to

trend upward. Countywide, there were 474 new home permits in 2021, compared to 83 in 2011. The county also saw approximately \$221.5 million of new construction projects added to the tax rolls for taxes payable in



PATRIOTIC SNOWMAN. Jodi Buesgens and her granddaughter, Caylah Chonsky, enjoyed making a patriotic snowman in Becker last weekend. (Submitted photo.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Page 7 LEGALS/JUDICIAL - Pages 7-8 **CLASSIFIEDS** - Page 6 **EMPLOYMENT** - Page 4 SPORTS/ ACTIVITIES - Pages 10-11 OBITUARIES - Page 6

> INSERTS Bill's Family Foods Menards Runnings



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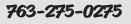
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rections at \$19,219,312, SHERBURNE up \$994,991 from 2022. OUNT C Next is Public Works at \$10,702,229,

up \$137,029

and Health

& Human

Services at

\$10,541542, up \$501,445. The original budget and levy request presented at the August budget workshop meeting called for a levy increase of 6.99%. But those numbers were reduced by \$273,802 over the past few months through staff meetings, board workshops and public input.

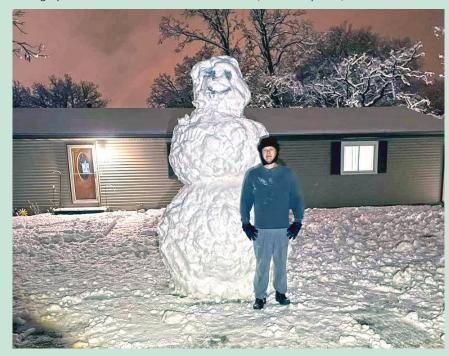
Administrator Bruce Messelt said growth across the county has had a positive impact on revenues. The countywide tax base

2023. The 2023 budget of \$122,897,214 includes several full-time employee (FTE) requests. But most of the new positions are expected to be offset by the increase in rev-

enue, cuts to professional services and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. New positions accounted for less than a 1% increase to the levy.

Based on the 6.49% levy increase, the county tax rate will still see a reduction due to the increase in the tax base. The impact on the average homestead property would decrease if

COUNTY to page 3



GIANT SNOWMAN. Dalton Offerdahl assembled a larger than life snowman at his home in Big Lake. (Submitted photo.)

Movies that are perfect for families this holiday season

Various traditions take center stage during the holiday season. One of those traditions may be sitting down and enjoying any of a number of timeless Christmas movies or even newer holiday films that are quickly becoming favorites.

Submitted Article

Film fans have their own ideas about the best films to watch during the holidays, but the following movies are some kids and adults can enjoy together.

"The Polar Express" (2004): A young boy enjoys a magical adventure to the North Pole aboard the Polar Express train. He learns about the true spirit of the holidays and the value of bravery and friendship along the way.

• "The Muppet Christmas Carol" (1992): Charles Dickens' classic story about a bitter miser might be a little frightening for young children to enjoy

in its more theatrical offerings. However, when the Muppet characters tell their version of the classic tale, the story becomes much more family-friendly. \cdot "A Boy Called Christmas" (2021): Based on the book

by Matt Haig, this movie is a reimagined take on Father Christmas. It focuses on Nikolas as he goes on an adventure to find a magical town called Elfhelm

 "Jack Frost" (1998): When a father dies in a car accident, he comes back to life as a snowman in his son's

MOVIES to page 3

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Area News



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BECKER

Grace Lutheran Church (LCMS) Pastor: David M. Johnson, 763-262-7782,

11185 27th Ave SE. Services: Sun. Worship 9am • www.gracebecker.org. Becker Baptist Church Pastor: Nathan Bucher, 763-261-4202. 11951 Hancock St. Services: Sun. Worship/Children 10:30am

www.beckerbaptist.org Becker Evangelical Free Church Pastor: Gerald Deppa, 763-261-4125, Becker High School, Office: 11373 150th Ave SE. Services: Sun. Worship/

Teaching/Fellowship 10am • www.beckerfreechurch.org Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church

The status of the visitation Carlinole Church Father: Nike Kellogg, 763-447-3339, 12100 Sherburne Ave. Services: Sat. Mass 5pm, Sun. Mass 8:30am & 10:30am. Masses held 1st, 3rd & 5th Sun-days of the month. (Masses held on 2nd & 4th Sundays in Big Lake) • www.maryofthewisitation.com www.maryofthevisitation.com

Church (ELCA) Pastor: Yolanda Denson-Byers & Vicar

Pastor: Yolanda Denson-Byers & Vicar Molly Wills, 763-261-5751, 11755 Sher-burne Ave. Services: Sun. Worship 9:30am (Holy Communion on the 1st & 3rd Sundays) www.faithlutheran-becker.org. Oakwood Community Church Assemblies of God Datase Core Bare 76 2020 (004, 13140)

Pastor: Gerry Bass, 763-220-6004, 13140 1st St (SW Corner of Becker Furniture World). Services: Sun. Worship 10am.

 www.oakwoodccbecker.org. Snake River Free Church Pastor: Steve Johnston, 612-219-8648, 180th St SE. Services: Sun. Worship/Sun.

School 10:30am. • sites.google.com/view/ snakeriverchurch/home Becker Christian Center

& Abundant Grace Church Pastor: Ken Hanson, 763-262-2177, 15455 59th St SE. Services: Sun. Praise & Worship 9:30am • beckerchristiancenter. g/becker-christian-center-church

Beacon House of Prayer Pastors: Brian & Linda Holmes, 763-

263-3771, 12264 Pleasant Ave. Services: Thurs. Worship 6:30pm. • *http://mnhou*seofprayer.org

Free Grace United Pastor: Kevin Wilson, 763-245-0001, 13150 First Street, Becker (enter through Becker Spine door). Services: Wed. Wor ship 6:30pm. https://freegrace.tv/loca tions/becker.

• BIG LAKE

Acts Seventh-Day Adventists Community Church

Pastor: Bill Nixon, 763-263-2287, 20455 187th Ave NW. Services: Sat. Worship 9am • https://actsmn.adventistchurch.org

Bethany Bible Church 763-263-2167, 511 Eagle Lake Road. Services: Sun. Worship 10am. www.bethanvbiblemn.com

Bridgeview Assembly of God Pastor: Steve Royalty, 763-263-6274, 20500 County Road 11. Services: Sun. Worship 9am & 10:45am • https://bridgeviewchurch.org

SVEA Hill Covenant Church Pastor: Don Bellach, 763-263-6322, 16392 235th Ave NW. Services: Sun. Worship 10am.

 https://www.sveahill.org Cornerstone Baptist Church Pastor: Gordon Langdon, 763-263-7878, 15300 County Road 35. • www.facebook. om/cornerstonebaptistchurchmn

Hope Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Orrock

(ELCA) in OFFORK 763-262-0028. www.hopeintherefuge.weebly.com. IFLESIA AMOR VIVIENTE Living Love Church

Pastores: Juan & Patricia Aguayo, 763-607-5403, 21 Lake St N. Services: Sat. 6pm. • https://www.facebook.com/amor-vivientemn.

ord of Pastor: Marty Mably, 763-263-3090, 15550 190th Ave NW. Services: Sun. Sam & 10:30am.
www.lordofglorylutheran.org/home
Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church Father: Mike Kellogg, 763-447-3339, 12100 Sherburne Ave. Services: Sat. Mass 5pm, Sun. Mass 8:30am & 10:30am. Masses held 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays of the month. (Masses held on 2nd & 4th Sundays in Big Lake) www.marvofthevisitation.c **Riverside Church** 763-263-2410, 20314 County Road 14. Services: Sun 8:45am, 10:30am & 12:05pm. • www.mvrc.church. Saron Lutheran Church Pastor: Kyle Sidlo, 763-263-2209, 311 Lake St. S. Services: Sun. Worship 9:30am, indoors or livestream. • www.saron.org.

Spirit Life Church 763-262-LIFE, 221 Lake St N. Services Sun mornings 9.45am • www.spiritlifechurchmn.org

• SANTIAGO

South Santiago Lutheran Church ELCA

Pastor: Allison Peterson, 763-662-2048, 14675 37th St. Services: Sun. 8am. and 10 am. • www.sslcmn.org Our Savior's Lutheran Church E.L.S. & Princeton Evangelical School Pastor: Timothy Zenda, 763-662-2570, 18977 17th St. Services: Sun. Divine

Worship 9am.

Horing Juni Andrew Science (Street Science) Glendorado Lutheran (ELCA) Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (ELCA)

(ELCA) Pastor: Shari Routh, 920-573-0193, 1100 186th Ave NE, Services: Sun Good Shepherd 9am, Sun. Glendorado 10:30am. • www.godsgreaterglory.org Gethesmane Church

(ELCA) – Ronneby

Pastor: Barbara Peterson, 320-983-5002, 14478 78th St. NE. Services: Sun. Worship 10am. • www.facebook.com/profile $nhn^{2}id = 10006901611334$

Jule Jnp: Id=1000901711334. Glendorado Evangelicial Country Church Interim Pastor, 763-662-2244, 16999 Glendorado Road NE. Services: Sun. Worship 10:30am. • https://m.facebook. com/Glendorado-Evangelical-Coun try-Church-734989370230509.

CLEAR LAKE

Living Waters Church 320-699-0876, 7830 Church St. Services: Sun. Worship 10am. • https://www.facebook.com/livingwaters.us. Trinity Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod Pastor: Josh Reber, 320-743-2919, 8641

Main Ave. Services: Sun. Worship 8:45am. • www.trinityclearlake.org/ 8:45am. index.html.

SHED Church -

Non-Denomination in Palmer Pastor: Lay Minster Leader, 320-241-0123, Palmer Town Hall, 4180 105th Ave. Services: Sun. 5pm. • www.shed

church.org. St. Marcus Catholic Church

St. Marcus Canone Church Father: Joseph Backowski, 320-743-2481, 8701 Main Ave. Services: Mon. & Wed. Mass 8am, Sat. Mass 5pm, Sun. 8am. • www.churchofstmarcus.org.

• DUELM St. Lawrence Church

Father: Joseph Backowski, 320-968-7502, 10915 Duelm Road NE. Services: Sun. Mass 10am, Tues. Mass 8am. www.stlawrencechurchofduelm.com

CLEARWATER

Clearwater United Methodist Church Pastor: Alison Hendley, 320-558-2581, 405 Main St. Services: Sun. Worship 9:30am. • www.clearwaterumcmn.org Freedom Bible Baptist Church 320-434-347, 605 Lime St. (Old Clearwa-ter Post Office). Services: Sun. . Worship 10.45cm

10:45am. www.freedombiblebaptist.com

Rejoice Lutheran Church – ELCA Pastor: Jim Bump, 320-558-6851, 1155 County Road 75. Services: Sun. Worship 9:30am. Livestream worship at Rejoice's Youtube Channel, https://www.youtube. com/channel/UCsJGuBda4orT9TWYii-5wmGw • www.rejoicelutheranchurch.org

Church of St. Luke

Father: Dennis Backer, 320-558-2124 17545 Huber Ave NW. Services: Sat Mass 5pm, Sun. Mass 8am & 10am Weekday Mass Tues.-Fri. 8am/Sat. 9am https://www.facebook.com/ChurchOf-StLukes.

Tri-County Alliance Church

Immanuel Lutheran Church

SILVER CREEK

church.net.

SAINT CLOUD

Faith Lutheran Church

Pastor: David Fogal, 320-558-2750, 8464 160th St NW. Services: Sun. Worship 10:30am. • http://tcachurch.com.

Pastor: Ken Tatkenhorst, 763-878-2820, 11390 Elliot Ave NW. Services: Sun. Worship 9am • https://immanuel-luther-

an-church-of-silver-creek business site Silver Creek Community Church Pastor: Zach Pryor, 320-963-3957, 4282 114th St NW. Services: Sun. Worship

9am • https://silvercreekcommunity

Pastor: Joshua Reber, 320-252-3315, 3000 County Road SE. Worship: Sun. 10:15am.• www.faithstcloud.org.

consulting firm

The Becker Twp. Board of Supervisors met Monday evening, with several road updates and a presentation by a consulting firm on the agenda

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer production@patriotnewsmn.com

Representatives from Rum River Consultants informed the board about their professional consulting firm that provides building permit and inspection services.

Owners Andy and Roxanne Schreder spoke to the board, along with Program Administrator Carri Levitski. They outlined their online building permit process, and covered the main duties of their inspectors. Their company currently provides services to several surrounding entities, including Monticello, Wright County and Baldwin Township.

The board had several questions, including the expected timeline for inspection turnarounds and their fee structure. The board chose to take no action on the matter at this time.

Roads

Engineer Wes Davis joined the meeting virtually and discussed a number of road items, including the 2023 project to reconstruct 97th. Davis reported that at a recent meeting, the three entities involved in the project determined how they would split up the State of MN grant monies that had been awarded: approximately 20% to the City of Becker, 19% to the City of Clear Lake and 60% to Becker Township.

In a related move, to cover some of the expected increases in cost for the project since the original engineer's estimate, the board transferred \$200,000 from its ARPA fund to the Roads and

During their Decem-

By Penny Leuthard, Contributing Writer

production@patriotnewsmn.com

ber meeting the Clearwater

Twp. Board of Supervisors

discussed recent communi-

cation from the township's

recycling company concern-

ing the dates and costs of

Bridges fund.

The Board also noted that it might need to do a special meeting before the end of 2022 to ensure that the construction process is complete

and ready to let bids in late January 2023. Tony Wruck,

who provides the snowplow contract in the township, has had a busy start to the season. He also notified the supervisors that he is testing a tracking device that will be used in the snowplows to accumulate data that can be shared with the Township and County for reporting purposes.

Insurance

The Township is still working through some appeals related to the hail storm that affected the Town Hall last spring. MATIT (Minnesota Association of Townships Insurance Trust) is the insurance company that did not agree with the hail claim as submitted by the township and there is a hearing scheduled for January to try and resolve the matter.

The Township did authorize legal counsel to try and facilitate an appraisal process that could lead to a resolution.

In Other Business, the Board:

• Heard from Sgt. Dan Frank regarding last month's 167 calls for service to the SCSO. Traffic stops (55) and car-deer accidents (10) dominated the call statistics;

• Re-appointed the current members to the Planning Commission and also approved the Joint Planning Board positions, with Luke Babler taking over for Board Chair Brian Kolbinger;

· Discussed the City of Becker and Xcel Energy AUAR, a planning document that is being proposed for developing some of the parcels near the Sherco Plant.

upcoming year; Rose Thelen

will be vice chair. Board

meetings will be kept the

same dates but will be held at

7 p.m. versus the

current 7:30 p.m.

time. Public post-

ing places, bank,

Clearwater Twp. recycling pickup to move to Thursdays

Becker Twp. hears from Becker pursuing new lift station at business park

During Tuesday's Becker City Council meeting, Phil Knutson discussed the progress of Project #3. The project' goal is to install a new lift station in the

By Katherine Cantin, Staff Writer reporter.katie@patriotnewsmn.com

business park as a part of the city's plans to expand the park and attract new businesses. In order to complete the project, the city will have to complete some construction under Hwy. 10 and under the property owned by Country Lumber and by Kyle and Cindy Johnson (who own the strip mall to the west of Country Lumber).

Initially, the city offered to repave Country Lumber's and the Johnsons' parking lots in exchange for their cooperation with the project. Country Lumber agreed to this, but the Johnsons did not. The value of the parking lot reconstruction offered to the Johnsons is estimated to be over \$50,000. The Johnsons felt the offer was not worth their cooperation. City staff, with the backing of the city attorney, offered the parking lot deal several more times, saying they would not be negotiating another deal, but rather that the next steps would be to utilize the city's right to eminent domain and reimburse the business for costs incurred, an estimated \$11,800. None of the business's structures will be damaged, and their everyday business may be affected but will not be shut down altogether.

The council approved a resolution directing the condemnation of the property for public purposes, subject to the approval of the city attorney.

plans to tear the front porch

off his cabin and redo it with

a deck. Although the foot-

ings will remain the same

it will bring his impervious

surface to 27 $\frac{1}{2}$; it needs to

Hanson indicated there

be 25% or less.

Public Hearing: Fee Schedule

A public hearing was held to approve the 2023 fee schedule. The fee schedule is approved

every year. This year, two new fees were added, both relating to

the dangerous dog ordinance. Otherwise, the only changes involved making the language of the fee schedule more clear.

School Campus CUP

Council approved a CUP for Becker Schools, which will allow them to complete projects outlined in their referendum. This included a traffic study, and the good news is that the improvements should reduce the amount of queueing during student drop-off, making the process faster. Education will be sent out to students' families on how to go through the drop-off process once the improvements have been made.

In Other Business, the Council:

· Heard committee reports;

 Approved a CUP for the expansion at Charlie's Bar and Grill;

· Approved some changes to Chapter 11 of city ordinance, just to add some definitions and make the language more clear;

SAC/WAC charges calcu-

happy holiday season.

lations

courts.

Approved changes to

• Wished Beckerites a

NEWS

 \odot

not to maintain it. The letter

will be forwarded to Patrick

Chaplin's attorney to use as

they move forward with the

Three of a Kind's gambling

permit for their annual July

The board approved

CHURCH DIRECTORY BROUGH TO YOU BY THESE ADVERTISERS: 24 Hõur CORNEROAKS DR. REED DILL & DR. PETER KUEFLEF TOPESSATOW FAMILY & COSMETIC DENTISTRY 290 EAGLE LAKE RD. N. BIG LAKE 63-263-3262 + WWW.CORNEROAKSDENTAL.COM 19640 200th Ave., Big Lake DAHLEN RUUD THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE! **CALL THE PATRIOT TO** 320-743-2479 DAHLENSHEETMETAL@FRONTIER.COM **BECOME A CHURCH PAGE** P.O. BOX 646 • BECKER, MN 55308 sponsor! 763-275-0275 WWW.DAHLENSHEETMETAL.COM Ralph's 763-262-1454 8852 Cty Rd 23 Becker, MN WILLIAMS 763-452-2500 **Auto Body** Phone: 763.261.5656 DINGMANN ⁷63-261-5656⁻ 320-743-2204 Clear Lake, MN Ralph du Monceaux, Owner Free Loaners ~ Free Estimates ~ Honest Work FUNERAL HOME • CREMATION SERVICES nsdingmann.com Your Hometown Bank 🛛 🏟 Membe Sherburne COTO A Calaine State Bank 16455 122nd St Becker MN 55308 Becker 763-261-4200 | Princeton 763-389-4099 Monticello 763-271-7177 763-263-9471 www.sherburnestatebank.com M-F Pizza, Wings & More 8AM-Order Online 4:30PM **Becker Pizza Depot** 763-262-4237 The Area's Best Pizza -- Ask Anvone Owner: Chad Schwintek 13050 1st Street Becker, MN 55308 14281 Bank Street, Becker • 763-262-2700 v.BeckerPizzaDepot.com • Facebook: Pizza Dep KEN GEROUX CONSTRUCTION hubbard Integrity • Excellence RYAN HUBBARD Lic. #BC002757 Big Lake • 763-263-6878 RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL - AGRICULTURAL Bob's Scott & Tonia Ulsby 6715 125th Ave - Clear Lake, MN 320.743.2387 • Cell: 320.290.9843

pickup

The company has indicated that beginning in January they will begin picking up residents' recycling on Thursdays instead of Fridays, hoping to streamline their pickup schedule. A postcard will be sent out to residents with the new schedule.

The board also discussed their upcoming contract renewal with Republic Services. Costs will be going up due to the rising cost of fuel and difficulties the company is having getting rid of some of the recyclables.

Twp. Clerk Jean Just will send out for quotes, after which a decision will be made by February. The township currently has 577 recycling bins.

Republic Services has a new phone number, 320-252-9608, which is also listed on the township's website, ClearwaterTownship.org.

Organizational

Meeting

John Notch was approved as board chair for the

THE CLEARWATER TWP. BOARD discusses the township's recycling contract during their December meeting. (Photo by Penny Leuthard.)

and law firm were kept as is.

The board approved raising wages. Board members will receive \$75 per hour for the first four hours, over that they will receive \$15 per hour. Treasurer wage was kept the same, clerk's hourly rate was raised from \$25 and hour to \$30, and deputy clerk/treasurer's rate was raised from \$20 to \$23/ hour.

Maintenance Dept. Supervisor Mike Ludenia requested the wage for his part time workers be raised. The board agreed, raising the rate from \$27/hour to \$30.

Other Business

Tim Hanson approached the board to request an impervious surface variance for his Co. Rd. 7 property. He

were things he could remove on the property to get the impervious surface down to where it needs to be. The board approved the variance with the condition that this would take place.

The board approved renewal of Diane Stirling's dog kennel conditional use permit. The state reviewed the property this past summer and gave the operation a clean bill of health. There are currently 20 dogs on the property; the permit allows for up to 30.

The letter the township attorney drafted concerning the 157th St. issue was reviewed. The letter states 157th is publicly platted, the township has no jurisdiction over it, and they have chosen

fundraiser.

The township newsletter will be sent out some time in the beginning of the new year. Supervisor John Notch requested the issue of dumping leaves, snow, and other rubbish in the ditches be addressed as he's had to speak to numerous residents about it this year. Dumping anything in the township's ROW isn't allowed.

The board will be discussing upcoming road projects during their February 8 meeting; residents are encouraged to attend to provide their input.

The next Clearwater Twp. meeting will be January 11 at 7 p.m.

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|------------------------------|---|-----------|
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| Townshins | City of Becker Becker Township and Becker School District #726 and Big Lake School District #727 | |

• Subscription Rates: \$90 annually, \$45 for six months, \$22.50 for three months or \$7.50 a month.

• Deadlines: Wednesday 12 pm Legals & Notices, Wednesday 10 am Display & Classified Ads.

• Submitted Material: There will be a \$30 charge for all thank you, engagement, wedding and birth announcement pictures. The PATRIOT is not responsible for correctness of ads received by telephone.

• Letters to the Editors: The PATRIOT welcomes letters to the editor. Addresses and telephone numbers are require for verification purposes. All letters must contain the original signature of the writer. E-mailed letters can be accepted. The deadline for all letters is 11am Wednesday. Limit letters to 200 words or less. Letters will be printed at the discretion of the editor and are subject to editing for grammar, libel and brevity. Two letters per writer per subject each year.

• Obituaries: Obituaries are \$50 prepaid. The Editor reserves the right to edit lengthy obituaries.

Patriot Office

PUBLISHER/EDITOR Bill Morgan - production@patriotnewsmn.com ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER Carol Hanson - sales.carol@patriotnewsmn.com ADVERTISING SALES Mary Nehring - adsales@patriotnewsmn.com Casey Hanson - sales.casey@patriotnewsmn.com

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tiago

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Holiday Store Hours



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COUNTY from page 1

their taxable value remained constant. However, since the average residential taxable valuation has increased approximately 22.5%, the impact would be approximately \$9.60 per month on the average residential homesteaded property in Sherburne County.

The board also certified the Regional Rail Authority levy in the amount of \$0. Although the county's actual share of Northstar expenditures for 2023 is \$1,194,180, no levy dollars will be used to pay that cost. The money will come from revenues collected through the Local Option Sales Tax.

Northstar Link The board approved the annual Operating Grant Agreement with St. Cloud Metro Transit for the 2023 Northstar Link Commuter Bus Service. Mn/DOT, Sherburne, Stearns, and Hennepin County's Regional Rail Authorities have agreed to continue providing funding for the Northstar Link commuter bus service between St Cloud and Big Lake. Sherburne County's contribution is 43.4% of the Net Operating Costs, or \$84,546. The plan is to utilize Emergency Relief funds, and not the tax levy, to cover the operating costs.

Hwy. 25 Study

The board approved a Joint Powers Agreement with Wright County for a Planning and Environmental Linkage (PEL) study of Hwy. 25. A PEL will define transportation improvements needed within the study area by evaluating several factors such as mobility, safety, reliability, economic development and congestion.

The cost is still to be determined, but both counties have agreed to acquire all necessary funding, utilizing the Central Minnesota River Partnership (CMRP) funds and Initiative funds to complete the initial phase of the study.

ARPA Expenditures The board approved ARPA expenditures totalling \$363,663.81. That total includes \$68,926.28 for reimbursement for a Human Resources position in the sheriff's department; \$106,362.19 for jail overtime costs; \$65,000 for YMCA Drop-In child care staffing; \$164,62 for a file management system in the county attorney's department and \$8,750.04 in reimbursement for payroll in administration and maintenance for dealing with COVID-related programs.



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MOVIES from page 1

front yard. Jack learns to keep his promises and make things right with his son things he wasn't capable of doing as a human.

·"Christmas with the Kranks" (2004): The Kranks decide to forego their annual Christmas party and plan a vacation since their daughter will be out of town. But when said daughter decides to come home after all, chaos sets

in as the couple tries to figure out how to put together an extravaganza at the last minute.

· "Beauty and the Beast: The Enchanted Christmas" (1997): The Beast does not favor the holiday season, so Belle must change his mind on the matter in this animated Disney offering.

• "Elf" (2003): As a youngster, Buddy was

magically transported to the North Pole and raised by Santa's elves. As an adult. he's determined to find his real dad in New York City and uncover a way to fit in.

• "Santa Hunters" (2014): A young boy teams up with his sibling and cousins to try to capture new footage of Santa in action and prove that the man in red truly exists.

classic Nutcracker tale. This adventure sees Clara defending the Land of Sweets from the evil Mother Ginger Holiday films enhance

the Four Realms" (2018).

This is a newer take on the

the celebratory nature of the season. Certain movies are tailor-made for families to watch together during this special time of year.

• "The Nutcracker and

2022 comes to close for Santiago Board

The Santiago Township Board of Supervisors met last Wednesday for the final time in 2022, approv-

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer production@patriotnewsmn.com

ing a broadband expenditure and reviewing ongoing road maintenance.

All three Supervisors voted in favor of approving a \$5,000 payment from their ARPA fund to Midco's broadband initiative within the township. Midco is paying the majority of the costs of the project, which is also being completed with some Sherburne County grant funds. Once completed, the project will

bring high-speed internet fiber cable to several township residences, as well as an important connection to enhance future

infrastructure.

Even with the allocation,

the Township's ARPA fund still has a little more than \$30,000 in it. Board Chair Jeff Pappenfus explained that he would like to see what shape the roads are in after this winter before spending additional ARPA funds.

The next item discussed was the road report, and Supervisor Dave Jehoich noted that with the recent rains and warm temperatures, the road beds had

thawed, making plowing very difficult. He said that in some cases, the snow was plowed, but the Class Five gravel was also falling victim to the blade of the snow removal equipment. This could make for some interesting conditions in the spring.

Sgt. Dan Frank of the SCSO was also on the agenda, as he reported on last month's call load. The Sheriff's Office responded to 81 calls for service, including 22 traffic stops, and seven car-deer collisions.

In voting-related business, the board approved a resolution signifying the Town Hall as the official Polling Place for any 2023

elections.

In final action, the Board discussed the issue of unknown individuals dumping household garbage in the township dumpster. The dumpster is only to be used for Township refuse, as well as used oil filters for the drain oil drop off station.

After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to place increased signage near the dumpster and will also enhance the surveillance of the area in hopes of collecting photographic evidence of the offenders.

The board's next meeting will be on January 11, 2023.

Clearwater man involved in 2-vehicle accident

A Clearwater man was injured in a two-vehicle crash last Friday evening in Lynden Twp.

Submitted Article

Thomas Charles Middendorf, 71 of Clearwater was westbound on Hwy. 94 when his vehicle and

the vehicle of Nikita James Isaac, 35 of Baton Rouge, LA, collided at mile marker 174 in Stearns County.

Isaac was driving a semi truck and Middendorf was driving a 2002

Buick LeSabre.

Authorities reported the roads were covered in snow and ice. Midden-

dorf was transported to St. Cloud Hospital following the incident with non-life threatening injuries. Isaac had no injuries.

The attending authorities were Clearwater Fire and Rescue, Mayo Ambulance and the Stearns County Sheriff's Dept.



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*Ability to work with a diverse population, including people with disabilities

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Gladys "Dolly" (Thompson) Scott

We are saddened to announce the death of our dear mother on December 15, 2022. Arrangements pending. Full obituary to follow.



Holiday storytime at CW Library

The Clearwater Public Library was a cozy place to be last weekend as 17 kids and adults gathered for the themed stories were read, one with the help of a felt story board. Afterward the kids put their creativity to

By Penny Leuthard, Contributing Writer production@patriotnewsmn.com

library's Winter Holiday Story Time.

To the delight of the young ones, two winter

Chris Thull and Bill Salitergumball machine ornaments they filled with M&Ms. Once completed,

use to make mini

the candy as they had been to make the ornament.



JENNIFER RANDALL helps four-year old Jayden put the finishing touches on his Christmas ornament. (Photo by Penny Leuthard.)

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Two officers sworn in to BLPD

The recent Big Lake City Council meeting kicked off on a high note, as two new officers were sworn in to the

Big Lake Police Department.

man were sworn in to duty by

By Katherine Cantin, Staff Writer

reporter.katie@patriotnewsmn.com

ing Inc. Historically, Bob's Towing has provided this service for the city, and they were the cheaper option, but their property was

found to not be in compliance with city ordinance.

They are renting the property in question and were not able to make the required improvements. Since the property was not in compliance, staff recommended the council opt to sign a contract with Collins Bros.

Council Member Sam Hanson asked that the decision be tabled until March, when Bob's Towing will be finished with their lease and can find a more suitable property for their operations.

Council Member Ken Halverson pushed back against that motion, reminding the board that Bob's Towing had about nine months to get their property into compliance but failed to do so. He believed that it was not right to allow them extra time to remedy the situation as their competitor was already in compliance.

Ultimately, a motion to table the decision until March carried 3-2.

Admin's Report

City Administrator Hanna Klimmek reported that she had attended a meeting held by Xcel Energy regarding the solar farm in Becker. Construction on the solar farm will begin in the spring.



OFFICER CHRIS THULL (L) and Bill Saliterman (R, with fiance) were inroduced to city council. (Photos by Katherine Cantin.)

She also reported on an up-

date regarding the Sherco

plant decommissioning. She

noted that it makes up a sig-

nificant portion of the county

tax base. Xcel pays for around

12% of the county's taxes (al-

though Klimmek misspoke at

the meeting, stating it made

up 75% of the county tax

base. Xcel makes up 75% of

Becker City's tax base, but

only 12% of the county's tax

base. Klimmek asked that

the correction be available

to Patriot readers.) Xcel will

be holding quarterly infor-

mational meetings beginning

next year, and Klimmek

planned to update the board

Committee spearheaded a

campaign to collect dona-

tions from city staff which

were donated to the Big Lake

Schools' Angel Fund, which

pays for lunch for students

who cannot afford it.

The City Wellness

after each.

Klimmek thanked the city plow drivers for all their recent hard work.

In Other Business, the Council:

 Granted a temporary construction easement to Sherburne County for work being done on Co. Rd. 43;

 Appointed individuals to the planning commission and the economic development authority;

 Recognized Scott Zettervall for his seven years of service on the planning commission;

• Set the tax levy for 2023 (the Truth in Taxation meeting was held at an earlier meeting

· Held a public meeting for storm water pollution prevention:

· Heard department reports from the BLFD and the BLPD.

Mayor Paul Knier. In other police news, some were as eager to eat two internal promotions were made as a part of the consent agenda. Officers Sam Norlin and Guy Chaffee were both promoted to the rank of patrol

sergeant, and Officer Sam Olson was promoted to the position of police captain.

Open Forum

This reporter, Katherine Cantin, was the sole speaker during open forum. She noted that, in previous years, the city has opted to use Star News as their legal newspaper, and requested that the council consider the Patriot for this purpose for 2023, noting that the Patriot is delivered to every Big Lake home while the Elk River Star *News*, the city's current legal newspaper, is delivered only on a subscription basis. Cantin believed that this made the Patriot the better choice in terms of government transparency.

Towing Contract

The city received two bids for a towing contract, one from Bob's Towing and one from Collins Bros. Tow-

Public Notices

Township Public Notices

NOTICE OF FILING FOR TOWN OFFICES TO BE ELECTED BECKER TOWNSHIP

Notice is hereby given that a town election will be held in the Township of Becker, Sherburne County, Minnesota, on Tuesday, the 14th day of March 2023.

The first day for filing affidavits of candidacy will be Tuesday, the 3rd day of January 2023 and the last day will be Tuesday, the 17th day of January, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

Filings may be made with Clerk Lucinda Messman at the Becker Township Hall, 12165 Hancock Street, Becker, MN during regular hours (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 8 am – 5 pm) or call for appointment. Town hall will be open from 1:00 to 5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 as required The following terms will

be expiring: Supervisor, Seat #1 – for the term of three (3) years Supervisor, Seat #2 – for the term of three (3) years Filing fee is \$2.00. December 2, 2022 Lucinda Messman, Clerk (Published in the *Patriot*: 12/17/22; 12/24/22.)

FILING NOTICE FOR QUALIFIED VOTERS IN SANTIAGO TOWNSHIP Notice is hereby given that a town election will be held in the Township of Santiago, Sherburne County, MN., on Tuesday, March 14,

2023. Notice is hereby given to qualified voters of Santiago Township, Sherburne County, State of Minnesota, that filing for town office will be held for a two week period beginning, Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

Affidavits of Candidacy shall be filed by appointment with the town clerk, Kathy Woolard, Affidavits will be accepted from January 3, 2023 through January 17, 2023. The Clerk's Office will be open for filing January 17, 2023 from 1:00 pm until 5:00 pm.

There will be a \$2.00 filing fee.

Offices to be filled at the Annual Election in March are as follows;

1 Supervisor for a three year term

1 Treasurer for a two year term

The clerk's office, located at 16943 20th St., Santiago, MN. 55377, will be open Saturday, March 11, 2023, from 10 am- 12 pm, for the purpose of absentee voting. Kathy Woolard, Clerk Santiago Township (Publiched in the *Patriot*:

City Public Notices

TITLE AND SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE 2023-01 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY'S

FEE SCHEDULE The City Council of the City of Clearwater, Minnesota, Counties of Wright and Stearns, does hereby amend the City's fee schedule ordinance for 2023 effective January 1, 2023. Shown here is a summary of the changes.

- Increased the per meeting cost for a Special Meeting of a Board/Commission to \$500 per meeting.

- Eliminated the annual Business Registration fee of \$25.

Increased water and sewer rates 5-6%.Increased refuse rates

\$0.50. - Reduced Minor Subdivision Application Fee to

\$200 and the escrow to \$1,000. A complete copy of

A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for inspection at the City Office, 605 County Road 75, Clearwater MN 55320, and on the City's website at *www.clearwatercity.com*. (Published in the *Patriot*: 12/24/22.)

CITY COUNCIL CITY OF CLEARWATER ORDINANCE NO. 2022-10 AMENDING PART I, CHAPTER 34, ARTICLE III – SECTION 34-66, PARKING AFTER SNOWFALL OF THE CLEARWATER CITY CODE

THE CITY OF CLEAR-WATER HEREBY OR-DAINS AS FOLLOWS: City Code Section 34-

66, Parking After Snowfall, is hereby amended as follows:

(a) After a snowfall of at least two inches or a wet slushy snowfall of any amount, it is a petty misdemeanor for any person to fail to remove a motor vehicle or parts thereof from any street or alley until the snowplowing on the street or alley is completed.

(b) Following any snowfall between the dates of November 1st of each year to April 1st of the year next following, it shall be unlawful to park or leave standing any vehicle or part thereof on any eity street or alleyway from 2:00 a.m. until such time as snow plowing eurbto eurb has been completed on such street or alleyway. (move remainder to NEW section (d))

(c) This parking prohibition includes parking vehicles or part thereof on the street, **alley**, or right-of-way, whether improved with curb, gutter and pavement or not improved.

Probates

STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF SHERBURNE TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

PROBATE DIVISION Court File No.: 71-PR-22-172 In Re the Estate of Charlene Merna Kosloski,

Decedent. ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICA-TION OF INTESTACY, DE-TERMINATION OF HEIRS, AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTA-TIVE

It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 12th day of January, 2023 at 11:00 A.M., a hearing will be held in the above named Court at Sherburne, Minnesota, of the formal adjudication of intestacy, determination of heirs, and for the appointment of Tammy Leanne Wesely, 12832 296th Avenue NW, Princeton, MN 55371, as personal representative of the estate of the above named decedent in unsupervised administration, and that any objections thereto must be filed with the Court. That if proper, and no objections are filed, said personal representative will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate. Upon completion of the administration, the representative shall file a final account for the allowance and shall distribute the estate to the persons thereunto entitled as ordered by the Court, and close the estate.

Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said personal representative or to the Clerk of the Court within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred. Dated: December 8, 2022 /s/ Jordan Gregorich Deputy Court Administrator April A. Lindstrom (ID#0386599) Attorney at Law 545 Highway 23 East, Suite 203 P.O. Box 2 Milaca, MN 56353 320-982-1144 (Published in the Patriot: 12/17/22; 12/24/22).

STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF SHERBURNE TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PROBATE DIVISION Court File No.: 71-PR-22-175 In Re the Estate of JAMES ALBERT BURKETT, a/k/a James A. Burkett,

Deceased. Notice of Informal Probate of Will and Appointment of Personal Representative and Notice

to Creditors. TO ALL INTERESTED PER-SONS AND CREDITORS:

Notice is hereby given that an application for informal probate of the above-named Decedent's Last Will date August 27, 2012

Summons

STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF REDWOOD FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT Court File Number: 64-JV-22-110 Case Type: CHIPS - Perma-

nency In the Matter of the Welfare of

the Child of: Jontue Marie Braun, Mother (deceased) and Christopher

Reed Braun, Father ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

FINDINGS

- The Court finds the following: 1. The Court has reviewed he Affidavit of Diligent Efforts to Locate Parent/Legal Custodian, which was file by Southwest Health and Human Services on November 21, 2022.
- 2. Southwest Health and Human Services has made diligent efforts to locate Christopher Reed Braun, who is a parent in this case. ORDER

Based on the above findings, as well as the court record, the Court orders the following:

- 1. The Redwood County Court Administration shall serve the Permanency Petition-Termination of Parental Rights upon Christopher Reed Braun by publication in a qualified newspaper in Sherburne County pursuant to Rule 16.02, subd. 3, of the Rules of Juvenile Protection Procedure.
- Service by publication is complete upon final publication of the Summons as specified in Juv. Prot. Rule 53.02, subd. 3, regarding service of process in TPR and permanency proceedings.

Dated December 7, 2022 BY THE COURT: /s/ Patrick Rohland Judge of District Court (Published in the *Patriot*: 12/17/22; 12/24/22; 12/31/22.)

STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF SHERBURNE TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT Court File Number: 71-CV-22-1480 Case Type: Other Civil (Declaratory Judgment) SUMMONS

Kenneth L. Geroux, Plaintiffs,

The unknown heirs of Lisa M. Geroux and all other persons unknown claiming any right, title, estate, interest or lien in the real estate described in the complaint herein, Defendants.

THIS SUMMONS IS DI-RECTED TO: The unknown heirs of Lisa M. Geroux and all other persons unknown claiming any right, title, estate, interest or lien in the real estate described in the complaint herein.

Plaintiff has started a lawsuit against you. The Plaintiff's Complaint against you is attached to the summons. Do not throw these papers away. They are official papers that affect your rights. You must respond to this lawsuit even though it may not yet be filed with the Court and there may be no court file number on this summons. 1. YOU MUST REPLY WITHIN **20 DAYS TO PROTECT YOUR** RIGHTS. You must give or mail to the person who signed this summons a written response called an Answer within 20 days of the date on which you received this Summons. You must send a copy of your Answer to the person who signed this summons located at: **Creig Andreasen** Gurstel Law Firm -Hourly Dept. 6681 Country Club Drive Golden Valley, MN 55427 2. YOU MUST RESPOND TO EACH CLAIM. The Answer is your written response to the Plaintiff's Complaint. In your Answer you must state whether you agree or disagree with each paragraph of the Complaint. If you believe the Plaintiff should not be given everything asked for in the Complaint, you must say so in your Answer. 3. YOU WILL LOSE YOUR CASE IF YOU DO NOT SEND A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE COMPLAINT TO THE PERSON WHO SIGNED THIS SUMMONS. If you do not Answer within 20 days, you will lose this case. You will not get to tell your side of the story, and the Court may decide against you and award the Plaintiff everything asked for in the complaint. If you do not want to contest the claims stated in the complaint, you do not need to respond. A default judgment can then be entered against you for the relief requested in the complaint. 4. LEGAL ASSISTANCE. You may wish to get legal help from a lawyer. If you do not have a lawyer, the Court Administrator may have information about places where you can get legal assistance. Even if you cannot get legal help, you must still provide a written Answer to protect your rights or you may lose the case. 5. ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE **RESOLUTION.** The parties may agree to or be ordered to participate in an alternative dispute resolution process under Rule 114 of the Minnesota General Rules of Practice. You must still send your written response to the Complaint even if you expect to use alternative means of resolving this dis-

pute. 6. THIS LAWSUIT MAY AFFECT OR BRING INTO QUESTION TITLE TO REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN ISANTI COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, LEGALLY DE-SCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

Parcel 1 - Lot 3, Block 4, Palamino Acres, Sherburne County, Minnesota. AND Parcel 2 - Lot 4, Block 2, Burntwood Third Addition

Sherburne County, Minnesota. The object of this action is to

establish a joint tenancy recited in two (2) deeds for the above referenced properties.

Dated: December 8, 2022 GURSTEL LAW FIRM, P.C. BY: /s/Creig Andreasen Creig Andreasen, #0334832 6681 Country Club Drive – Hourly Dept.

Golden Valley, MN 55427 763-267-6785 *C.Andreasen@gurstel.com*

Attorneys for Plaintiff (Published in the Patriot: 12/24/22; 12/31/22; 01/07/23.)

DEADLINES Notices & Legals Wednesdays at Noon



Announcements

<u>Miscellaneous -</u> <u>Announcements</u>

Every Child Deserves a Family! WE NEED YOU! Sherburne County is recruiting Foster Homes! Chelsea Doherty 763) 765-4033 or chelsea.doherty@co.sherburne.mn.us.

FREE - Advocates for

Independence First & third Wed. of the month 2-4pm at Independent Lifestyles, 215 North Benton Drive, Sauk Rapids. Michele Pelka (320) 281-2042.

FREE - The Saint Cloud

Area Parkinson's Disease (PD) Support Group, last Wed. monthly, 10am at Edgewood Living 677 Brianna Drive, Sartell. Bobbi (320) 281-3343.

Mental Health

Discussion Group Mon., 6-7pm at Independent Lifestyles, 215 N. Benton Dr., Sauk Rapids. Ricky (320) 281-2025.

Parkinson's Disease

Support Group Third Mon. of the month, 1-2:30pm at ILICIL Independent Lifestyles, 215 N. Benton Dr., Sauk Rapids. Independent Lifestyles at (320) 529-9000.

Rivers of Hope Working in partnerships

w/schools, law enforcement, social service agencies & the court system in Sherburne & Wright Co. (763) 295-3433 or 1-800-439-2642 or *info@ riversofhope.org*.

Volunteer as a Foster

Grandparent Local schools & organizations need caring adults like you! Pat Braun (612) 390-0617.

Wright County Community Action

Community Action You have been affected & are having or are anticipating having difficulity paying your mortgage, Wright County Community Action at (320) 963-6500 ext. 238.

Area Food Shelves

Becker Food Shelf Tues., 9-11am & Thurs. 4-6pm. The food shelf is located 12060 Sherburne Ave. in City Hall. (763) 261-4612.

Big Lake Community

Food Shelf Mon. & Thurs. 5:30-7:30pm & Wed. 9-11am. "Freebie Friday", 11:30am-12:30pm. "Pop-up Pantry", 11:30am-12:30pm every Tues. To volunteer call (763) 263-2432 or www.blcfs.org.

Clearwater/Clear Lake Food Shelf Mon. 5:30-7pm, Tues. 9-11am & 6-8pm, Wed. 3-5pm & in the brown Liong Com

9-11am & 6-8pm, Wed. 3-5pm & in the brown Lions Community Building beneath the water tower in Clearwater.

<u>Clear Lake/Clearwater -</u> <u>Legions & Lions</u> Clear Lake Legion

Second Tues. of the month at 4180 105th Ave., Clear Lake, 7:30pm. Bud Stimmler at (320) 761-5793. Clear Lake Lions

12/17/22; 12/24/22.)

TOWNSHIP OF LYNDEN, STEARNS COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA CANDIDATE FILING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to qualified voters of Lynden Township who wish to be candidates for office in Lynden Township, must file an Affidavit of Candidacy with the Township Clerk

Filing for town office will be held for a two week period beginning January 3, 2023 and closing on January 17, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Affidavits of Candidacy are located on the web: https://www.sos. state.mn.us/election-administration-campaigns/ or by contacting the clerk.

The Clerk's office located at the Lynden Town Hall 21367 Co Rd 44 will be open from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the last day of filing, January 17, 2023. The Annual Election will be held on March 14, 2023.

One Supervisor / Three year term One Treasurer / Two year term Jenny Schmidt Lynden Township Clerk *clerk@lyndentownship.net*

220-774-8507 (Published in the *Patriot*: 12/17/22; 12/24/22.)



(d) All vehicles or parts thereof found in violation of this Section 34-66 may be towed at the owner's expense at the direction of the public works supervisor or designee, or any peace officer. Any vehicles towed under this provision shall follow the procedures outlined in Section 34-62

Effective Date. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and summary publication, which is hereby authorized by the City Council. ADOPTED THIS 12th DAY OF DECEMBER 2022 APPROVED BY: /s/ Andrea Lawrence Wheeler, Mayor ATTEST: /s/ Annita M. Smythe, City Administrator (Published in the Patriot: 12/24/22.)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Clear Lake City Council will hold a Public Hearing for the following reason: Property located at 8825

Main Ave Clear Lake, MN 55319

Applicant – T NOG

A special Council public hearing has been scheduled for January 3, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. This public hearing is being schedule to review a Conditional Use Permit application for the construction of a 1-megawatt Community Solar Garden. This meeting will take place at City Hall located at 7684 1st Ave West.

The public is urged to attend this hearing and all persons desiring to be heard with reference to the proposed conditional use permit request will be heard. Written and oral arguments will be considered. Written comments must be received in the Clerk's office prior to hearing date. (Published in the *Patriot*: 12/24/22.)



has been filed with the Probate Registrar, and the application has been granted.

Notice is also given that the Probate Registrar has informally appointed the following:

James Andrew Burkett, 15069 Scenic Drive, Dayton, MN 55327 as personal representative of the Estate of the Decedent. Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as personal representative, or may object to the appointment of the personal representative. Unless objections are filed pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-607, and the court otherwise orders, the personal representative has full power to administer the Estate, including, after 30 days from the date of issuance of letters, the power to sell, encumber, lease or distribute real estate.

Any objections to the probate of the Will, or to the appointment of the personal representative, must be filed with this court, and will be heard by the court after filing of an appropriate petition and proper notice of hearing.

Notice is also given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four (4) months after the date of this Notice, or the claims will be barred.

Dated: December 12, 2022 /s/ Pamela Kreier Probate Registrar /s/ Patricia Kuka Court Administrator Paul W. Flower Attorney at Law Paul W. Flower, P.A. 6467 Vagabond Lane N Maple Grove, MN 55311 Tel: 763-843-7850 *www.paulflowerlaw.com* (Published in the *Patriot*: 12/24/22; 12/31/22).

Sheriff & Police Reports are posted on our website:

www.patriotnewsmn.com

BASC NOW AT BCCI ALL AREA SENIORS WELCOME. SENIOR CENTER OPEN MON. - FRI. 5AM-5PM. COFFEE IS ON AT 5AM. COME DROP IN! <u>Tues., Dec. 27</u>; 7am: Walk up Walk; 7:30am: Boosted Walk; 9am: Cards & Conversation; 9:15am: Holiday Bonus 500 Card Club with cash prizes. <u>Wed., Dec. 28</u>: 10am: Dementia Caregiver Support w/facilitator, Tami Kolbinger-Rm 109 <u>Thurs., Dec. 29</u>: 9am: Cards/Conversation. Fri., Dec. 30: See you in the New Year! Becker Community Center:

763-200-4271 Blood Pressure available whenever BASC is open Send activity/class opportunities to: basc.becker@gmail.com <u>Planning Mtg.:</u> 3rd Wed., 1pm;

Big Lake Senior Center

Next Board mtg.:

Jan. 18, 3-5pm



First & third Tues. of the month at Palmer Twp. Hall, 7pm. Contact any Lions member or website: www.clearlakelionsmn.org

Clearwater American Legion Post 323 & Auxiliary Second Thurs. of the month. Auxiliary 6:30pm, S.A.L. at 7pm, Legion 7:30pm. Clearwater Legion, Clearwa-

ter.

Lions Club of Clearwater Second Tues. of the month at 8pm. Clearwater Lions Pavilion. www.clearwaterlionsmn.com

<u>Clear Lake/Clearwater -</u> <u>Support Grooups</u>

Clearwater AA/Al-Anon

7pm, Sun. night at Clearwater United Methodist Church, 405 Main St. Clearwater. (320) 310-1399 for AA or (320) 558-6613 for Al-Anon.

Clearwater AA Meeting Mon. nights, 7pm, Rejoice Lutheran Church, 1155 CR 75, Clearwater. (612) 801-7317.

Clearwater Narcotics Anonymous

7pm, Wed. night at Clearwater United Methodist Church, 405 Main St. Clearwater. (612) 607-4484.

Free Grace Recovery

Sun. 6-8pm at Clear Lake Town Hall, 7684 1st Ave. W. Clear Lake. Justin or Renee at (612) 384-9069.

<u>Clear Lake/Clearwater -</u> <u>CVBC, Library &</u> <u>Young @ Heart</u>

Clear Valley Business Connections Quarterly on the 2nd Thurs. of the month, 11:30am-1pm at various locations. Glenna Soenneker, President, (320) 267-4361, clearvalleybc@ gmail.com.

Clearwater Area Friends of the Library

Clearwater Area Friends of the Library are currently accepting donations of gently used books, DVDs & CDs for their used bookstore located in the Clearwater Library.

Young @ Heart

Community Young@ Heart will meet on the third Thurs. of every month at Rejoice Lutheran Church, 1155 Co. Rd. 75, Clearwater, MN. Join us: 10:30 to meet & greet old & new friends, 11:30 lunch (suggested donation), 12pm program.

Public Notices

PATRIOT

Pick up a copy

of the PATRIOT

at the following locations: **CLEARWATER:** Coborn's CLEAR LAKE **Ralphie's Min-**

noco

PALMER:

General Store

SANTIAGO:

General Store

BECKER:

Bill's Family

Foods. **PATRIOT** office

BIG LAKE:

Coborn's

NEWSPAPER 🔊

NEWSPAPER

City Public Notices

2023 CITY OF CLEARWATER SUMMARY BUDGET DATA

The purpose of this report is to provide summary 2023 budget information concerning the City of Clearwater to interested citizens. The budget is published in accordance with Minnesota Statutes Section 471.6965. This budget is not complete: the complete budget may be examined at the Clearwater City Hall, 605 Cty Rd 75, Clearwater, MN. The City Council adopted this budget on December 12, 2022.

| Governmental Funds | | 2022 | 2023 | |
|---|----------------|-----------|--------------|--|
| | 2022 Budget | | Budget | |
| Revenues | | Duuget | | |
| Taxes | \$ | 1,292,187 | \$ 1,460,655 | |
| Tax Increments | ψ | 1,292,107 | - | |
| All Other Taxes (franchise, hotel/motel, etc.) | | 260,000 | 268,000 | |
| Special Assessments | | 54,108 | 52,611 | |
| Licenses and Permits | | 67,500 | , | |
| Federal Grants | | | | |
| State General Purpose Aid | | 352,294 | 361,903 | |
| State Categorical Aid (state aid for streets, etc.) | | 52,500 | 54,700 | |
| Grants from County and Other Local Governments | | 52,500 | | |
| Intergovernmental Revenues | | | - | |
| Charges for Services | | 239,477 | 343,497 | |
| Fines and Forfeitures | | 237,477 | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | | 2,506 | - | |
| Interest Earnings | | 17,570 | 5,030 | |
| Transfers from Other funds (incl. Enterprise Funds) | | 17,370 | | |
| Total Revenues | | 2,338,142 | 2,546,396 | |
| Expenditures | | 2,550,142 | | |
| General Government | | 420,800 | 504,330 | |
| Public Safety | | 661,150 | 694,740 | |
| Public Works | | 302,050 | 323,450 | |
| Culture and Recreation | | 120,600 | 124,100 | |
| EDA | | 81,630 | 87,890 | |
| Sanitation | | | - | |
| Capital Outlay, General government | | 427,323 | 568,000 | |
| Capital Outlay, Public works | | | | |
| Debt Service | | 210,000 | 211,000 | |
| Interest and Fiscal Charges | | 78,011 | 73,455 | |
| Transfers to Other Funds | | | - í | |
| Miscellaneous Expenses | | - | - | |
| Total Expenditures | | 2,301,564 | 2,586,965 | |
| | | , , | | |
| Net revenues over expenditures | \$ | 36,578 | \$ (40,569) | |
| Property Tax Levy - All Funds | \$ | 1,334,650 | \$ 1,460,655 | |
| (Published in the Patriot: 12/24/22.) | | | | |

Ordinance No. 265, 2nd Series Summary AN ORDINANCE REVISING SECTION 2.19 OF **CHAPTER 2 IN CITY CODE PROVIDING FOR FEES** RELATED TO LICENSING, ADMINISTRATIVE CITATIONS, MISCELLANEOUS, PROPERTY, UTILITIES AND SERVICES

The following official summary of the ordinance referred to has been approved by the City Council of Becker as clearly informing the public of the intent and effect of the amendments.

Chapter 2, Administration and General Government

Section 2.19 REVENUE AND FINANCE

Subd. 2. Fees Relating to Licensing, Administrative Citations, Miscellaneous, Property, Utilities and Services.

- A. Licensing Related Fees
- B. Administrative Citations
- C. Miscellaneous Fees
- D. Property Related Fees
- E. Utility Related Fees
- F. Charges for Service
- This ordinance revises the City Fee Schedule in the City of Becker Code Book.

A printed copy of the entire ordinance is available for inspection by any person at City Hall any Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

This document hereby is made a part of this ordinance and is attached hereto.

- /s/ Tracy Bertram, Mayor
- ATTEST:
- /s/ Susan Nache, Deputy Clerk
- (Published in the Patriot: 12/24/22.)

Big Lake Public Schools #727 Notices

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

This represents a summary of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Big Lake Public Schools #727. A complete set of minutes will be on file at the District Office and on our website at www.biglakeschools.org upon Board approval.

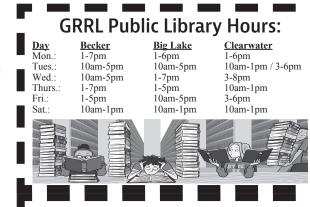
School District No. 727, Big Lake Schools, was called to order on December 15, 2022.

ROLL CALL

II.

- All Board members were present except Mr. Tony Scales. III APPROVE AGENDA
- A motion passed to approve the agenda.
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE RETIREMENT RECOGNITION V.
- Bruce Ganfield was recognized.
- VI OPEN FORUM
- No participants
- VII. CONSENT AGENDA
 - A motion passed to approve the following:
 - A. PREVIOUS MINUTES
 - B. CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS
 - C. CREDIT CARD REPORT
 - D. PERSONNEL
- E. FINAL READING AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES VIII. DONATIONS
- A motion passed to approve the donations.
- IX FINANCIAL REPORT
- A motion passed to approve the financial report as presented. APPROVE PAY 2023 PROPERTY TAX LEVY CERTIFICA-

A motion passed to approve the 2023 Levy Certification as presented



Becker Library Events

Storytime Tuesdays: Children, with a favorite adult, enjoy books, songs, rhymes & movement activities while building language, early literacy & school readiness skills. Ages 2 to 6. Registration required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Becker Library. Tues., Jan. 10, 17, & 24 & Feb. 14, 21 & 28, 10:30-11am.

Tiny Tots Play Workshop: This is a drop-in, self-directed time for parents/caregivers to explore & play with their little ones. Supplies are provided. Ages 2 to 6. Limit 12. Registration required. Wed., Jan. 11 & 25 & Feb. 8 & 22, 10:30-11:30am.

Kumihimo Braiding Kit: Learn the art of Kumihimo (coo-me-he-mo), ancient Japanese braiding. All supplies provided in the kit will make a bracelet or book mark. For teens, adults, & seniors. Limit 19. Registration required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Becker Library. Thurs., Jan. 12.

During library open hours Frozen in Nature Art Kit: Pick up a clear plastic plate at the Becker Library as the base for Frozen Art. Additional instructions provided with the plate on how to create this oneof-a- kind frozen art piece. For all ages. While supplies last. Sponsored by the Friends of the Becker Library. Wed., Jan. 18. During library open hours Becker Book Club: Read the monthly book selection & join the group for discussion. For adults. Registration is required. Jigsaw Puzzle Tournament: Gather a group of four friends to form a team, select a team name and enjoy some puzzling fun! Four team limit. Register once with a team name. For ages 12 to adults & seniors. Sponsored by the Friends of the Becker Library. Sat., Jan. 28, 10:30am-Noon

Big Lake Library Events

Tech Tuesdays for Seniors: Want to read an eBook on a tablet or take a practice-driving test? Stop in and learn how to use the Digital Library or other online library resources. Staff will have three 20-minute sessions available. Call the Big

Lake Library at (763) 263-6445 to register for a time slot. For ages 55 & up. Tues., Jan. 3 & Feb. 7, 11-Noon.

Skateboard Art: Join us in a creative space for an engaging program that will grab your attention and harness your creativity using skateboards as a canvas. For ages 12 to 18. Limit 10. This program was made possible with Arts & Cultural Ĥeritage Funds from Minnesota's Clean Water, Land, & Legacy Amendment. Sat., Jan.

14, 11am-1pm. Andrew Walesch presents: Best of the Great American Songbook: Enjoy singer/pianist Andrew Walesch's wonderful jazz crooner interpretations of the great composers of Tin Pan Alley, Broadway, & American popular songs. For all ages. This program was made possi-ble with Arts & Cultural Heritage Funds from Minnesota's Clean Water, Land, & Legacy Amendment. Wed., Jan. 18,

5-6pm. Book Club: Read the monthly book selection & join the group for discussion. Registration required. Call or stop in the li-brary to sign up! For adults & seniors. Wed., Jan. 18 & Feb. 15, 5:30-6:30pm.

Tiny Tot Tuesday: This is a drop-in, self-directed time for parents/caregivers to explore & play with their little ones. Supplies provided. For ages 2 to 6. Limit 10. Registration required. Tues., Jan. 31 & Feb. 28, 10:30-11:30am.

Clearwater Library Events

Photography Workshop: Learn to take better pictures from the combined experience of this group of amateur photographers. Beginners are encouraged to attend. Open discussion starts at 6:00 p.m. For teens & adults. Wed., Jan. 4 & Feb. 1, 6-8pm.

Paws to Read: Young readers build confidence by reading to a furry friend. Register to share a story of your choice with Luna, our visiting therapy dog. Please call the Clearwater Library at (320) 558-6001 to reserve your 15-minute time slot. For ages 6 to 10. Sat., Jan. 14, 10:30-11:30am.



TION

AN ORDINANCE REVISING SECTION 3.35 OF **CHAPTER 3 IN CITY CODE PROVIDING RELATED**

X. Ordinance No. 266, 2nd Series Summary

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent

TO WATER AND SEWER AVAILABILITY CHARGES AND CALCULATIONS

The following official summary of the ordinance referred to has been approved by the City Council of Becker as clearly informing the public of the intent and effect of the amendments.

Chapter 3, Municipal Utilities

- Section 3.35 WATER AND SEWER AVAILBILITY CHARGES.
- Subd. 2. Sewer Availability Charge- changing to Sewer and Water Availability Charges

E. Changing the number of unit charges to a meter and service ratio

F. Simplifying the table and adjusting to a meter and service ratio by meter size calculation

A printed copy of the entire ordinance is available for inspection by any person at City Hall any Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

This document hereby is made a part of this ordinance and is attached hereto. /s/ Tracy Bertram, Mayor

ATTEST

/s/ Susan Nache, Deputy Clerk (Published in the Patriot: 12/24/22.)

ORDINANCE No. 267, 2nd Series Summary AN ORDINANCE REVISING SECTIONS 11.02, 11.31, AND 11.72 OF CHAPTER 11 IN CITY CODE TO ADJUST DEFINITIONS OF SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS AND SOLAR ENERGY FARMS AND THEIR ALLOWED AREAS OF USE

The following official summary of the ordinance referred to has been approved by the City Council of Becker as clearly informing the public of the intent and effect of the amendments.

Chapter 11, Land Use Regulations (Zoning)

Section 11.02 DEFINITIONS.

Section 11.31 AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT. (AG) Section 11.72 SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS

This ordinance adds definitions for solar energy farms and solar energy systems, adds it as an interim use to the agricultural district.

and removes permitting under a conditional use. A printed copy of the entire ordinance is available for inspection by any person at City Hall any Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

This document hereby is made a part of this ordinance and is attached hereto.

/s/ Tracy Bertram, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Susan Nache, Deputy Clerk

(Published in the Patriot: 12/24/22.)

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provide complete details.

- WORLD'S BEST WORKFORCE REPORT XI.
- XII. HOCKEY COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIP UPDATE A motion passed to approve the updated Cooperative Sponsorship for girls and boys hockey.
- XIII. ESTABLISH COMBINED POLLING PLACES A motion passed to approve the following resolution:
- **RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING COMBINED POLLING** PLACES FOR MULTIPLE PRECINCTS AND

DESIGNATING HOURS DURING WHICH THE POLLING PLACES WILL REMAIN OPEN FOR VOTING FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTIONS NOT HELD ON THE DAY OF A STATEWIDE ELECTION

XIV. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT Board Member Dan Nygaard was recognized for his 15 years on the school board

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion passed to adjourn the meeting. (Published in the Patriot: 12/24/22.)

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS This represents a summary of the Truth in Taxation Hearing of the Board of Education of Big Lake Public Schools #727. A complete set of minutes will be on file at the District Office and on our website at www.biglakeschools.org upon Board approval.

CALL TO ORDER

The Truth in Taxation Hearing of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 727, Big Lake Schools was called to order on December 15, 2022 at 6:01 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

I.

All Board members were present except Mr. Tony Scales. Ш TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING

Truth in Taxation Hearing for taxes payable in 2023 was presented

ADJOURNMENT IV

A motion passed to adjourn the hearing. (Published in the Patriot: 12/24/22.)

PAR

DEADLINES

Notices & Legals Wednesdays At Noon **Contact Kathy:** 763-275-0275 or Email: legals.kathy@ patriotnewsmn.com



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Notice to Counties and Municipalities, Under Minnesota Statutes Section 216B.16, Subdivision 1

Re: Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation Request for Increase in Natural Gas Rates, MPUC Docket No. 22-504

On November 1, 2022, Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation ("MERC") filed an application with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) for a general rate increase for natural gas services provided to customers in the State of Minnesota. The requested increase is for 9.91 percent or about \$40,322,302.

State law allows MERC to collect an interim (temporary) rate while the MPUC considers the rate increase request. The interim rate increase is approximately 9.08 percent, including the cost of gas, or about \$36,973,887. The interim rate increase is effective January 1, 2023. All MERC gas customer bills will reflect the 9.08 percent increase during the interim period and this rate will remain in effect until a final decision is made.

In accordance with Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 2, the Commission has referred the matter to the Office of Administrative Hearings and delayed a decision on proposed final rates in order to evaluate the application. In addition to the review by the Commission, the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources will conduct an investigation of MERC's books and records as part of the rate review. The Minnesota Office of the Attorney General – Residential Utilities Division may investigate this proposal, as well as other parties such as consumer or public interest groups.

The interim rate increase will be collected through a 32.82 percent interim rate increase on distribution margins. Distribution margins include the customer charge, the distribution charge, and if applicable, the daily firm capacity charge for firm/interruptible service customers.

The chart below shows an example of interim and proposed rate changes on monthly bills for customers with average gas usage. This calculation will not necessarily result in an interim bill that is uniformly 9.08 percent higher than present bill because gas costs are not included in the calculation of the interim rate increase.

| MERC Customer Class | Average Monthly Usage (Therms) | Present Monthly Bill | Interim Monthly Bill | Proposed Monthly Bill |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| CONSOLID | ATED SALES | <u> </u> | | I |
| GS-CONSOLIDATED Residential Sales | 72 | \$79 | \$86 | \$87 |
| GS-CONSOLIDATED C&I FIRM Class 1 | 73 | \$87 | \$97 | \$95 |
| GS-CONSOLIDATED C&I FIRM Class 2 | 555 | \$533 | \$571 | \$572 |
| GS-CONSOLIDATED C&I FIRM Class 3 | 9,842 | \$8,315 | \$8,722 | \$8,662 |
| CONSOLIDATED C&I INT Class 2 | 3,399 | \$2,566 | \$2,652 | \$2,673 |
| CONSOLIDATED C&I INT Class 3 | 15,749 | \$11,557 | \$12,021 | \$11,864 |
| CONSOLIDATED C&I INT Class 4 | 101,748 | \$69,073 | \$70,234 | \$69,330 |
| CONSOLIDATED Agriculture Grain Dryer - Class 1 | 491 | \$421 | \$450 | \$447 |
| CONSOLIDATED Agriculture Grain Dryer - Class 2 | 2,397 | \$1,768 | \$1,815 | \$1,825 |
| CONSOLIDATED Electric Generation - Class 1 | 1,137 | \$883 | \$919 | \$915 |
| CONSOLIDATED C&I Firm/Interruptible Class 2 | 5,011 | \$3,939 | \$4,116 | \$4,203 |
| CONSOLIDATE | ED TRANSPORT | | | |
| Transport-CONSOLIDATED C&I FIRM Class 2 | 3,801 | \$887 | \$1,110 | \$1,153 |
| Transport-CONSOLIDATED C&I FIRM Class 2 - CIP Exempt | 5,015 | \$960 | \$1,185 | \$1,312 |
| Transport-CONSOLIDATED C&I FIRM Class 3 | 23,664 | \$3,381 | \$4,332 | \$4,216 |
| Transport-CONSOLIDATED C&I FIRM Class 4 | 124,171 | \$7,187 | \$8,717 | \$7,472 |
| Transport-CONSOLIDATED C&I FIRM Class 5 - CIP Exempt | 1,962,554 | \$15,092 | \$11,138 | \$16,407 |
| Transport-CONSOLIDATED C&I INT Class 2 | 6,101 | \$915 | \$1,106 | \$1,107 |
| Transport-CONSOLIDATED C&I INT Class 3 | 26,565 | \$2,960 | \$3,754 | \$3,477 |
| Transport-CONSOLIDATED C&I INT Class 4 | 129,765 | \$7,245 | \$8,758 | \$7,572 |
| Transport-CONSOLIDATED C&I INT Class 5 | 395,311 | \$14,785 | \$18,534 | \$14,334 |

PROPOSED CHANGE IN AVERAGE MONTHLY BILLS

| Transport-CONSOLIDATED C&I Firm/Interruptible Class 3 | 20,271 | \$2,440 | \$3,106 | \$2,891 |
|--|-----------|---------|---------|---------|
| Transport-CONSOLIDATED C&I Firm/Interruptible Class 5 - CIP Exempt | 1,001,711 | \$7,479 | \$5,543 | \$7,275 |

*The "present monthly bill" amounts reflect the rates authorized in Docket No. G011/GR-17-563, the cost of gas, and applicable Natural Gas Extension Project Rider and Gas Utility Infrastructure Cost Rider surcharge rates.

The Commission will make a decision on the rate increase in the fall of 2023. Final rate changes, if approved, will be effective after that date. If final rates are less than interim rates, the difference in the amount collected during the interim period will be refunded to customers with interest. If the final rate is greater than the interim increase, customers will not be charged for the difference.

The public may review the proposed rate schedules and a comparison of present and proposed rates at:

Minnesota Energy Resources

2685 145th Street West Rosemount, MN 55068 Phone: 1-800-889-9508 Web: www.minnesotaenergyresources.com/company/rate_case.aspx

Minnesota Department of Commerce

85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101
Telephone: 651-539-1534
Web: <u>https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp</u>.
Select 22 in the year field, enter 504 in the number field, select Search, and the list of documents will appear on the next page.

An Administrative Law Judge will schedule public hearings. Customers will be notified by mail or bill insert of the dates of those hearings. Public notice of hearing dates and locations will be published in local newspapers in MERC's service area.

Persons who wish to formally intervene or testify in this case should contact the Administrative Law Judge, Minnesota Office of Administrative Hearings, P.O. Box 64620, St. Paul, MN 55101, Telephone: (651) 361-7900.

Questions about the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's review process?

The MPUC is asking customers to comment on MERC's request for a rate increase. Send comments to the MPUC's Consumer Affairs Office (CAO) or contact the CAO for assistance with submitting comments:

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission 121 7th Place East, Suite 350 St. Paul MN 55101 Phone: 651-296-0406 or 1-800-657-3782 Email: consumer.puc@state.mn.us Persons with hearing or speech disabilities may call through their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service.



Becker Sports

Bulldog boys hoops loses in OT



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battle last Friday in Delano, but the Becker Bulldog boys basketball team suffered its

> By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer production@patriotnewsmn.com

first loss of the season in overtime, 83 to 78.

It was an extremely even game throughout, as the Tigers held a 35 to 34 halftime lead. The two teams were all tied up at 71 points apiece at the end of regulation.

In overtime, the Tigers held a 12-7 advantage to seal the win. The contrasting styles of the two teams made for an interesting chess match, as Delano preferred the outside shot and Becker used its muscle inside.

Delano used the long ball all game, as they attempted 30 three-point shots, making 11, while the Bulldogs held a big advantage at the free throw line, hitting 17 of 25 shots from the charity stripe (Delano attempting six, making four).

Brady Paumen poured in the double-double for the Bulldogs, scoring 22 points

It was a tough fought and collecting 14 rebounds. "We found ourselves on the wrong side of the scoreboard, but the right side of

growth," Coach Josh Ihrke said. "We got better as



BECKER'S BRADY PAUMEN led the team with 22 points and 14 rebounds in last Friday's OT loss to Delano. (Submitted photo.)

a program tonight."

Becker scoring: Ryan Bengtson five, Alex Weiss four (seven rebounds), Kevin Vogl two, Kyan Blomquist 14, Sawyer Brown 11, Julias Hendricks 20, Brady Paumen 22 (14 rebounds, four steals).

Willmar

Tuesday evening, Becker hosted Willmar and fell short again, this time by a score of 76 to 58. The Cardinals took a 32-26 halftime lead and then extended that with 44 second half points to the Bulldogs' 32.

Becker did have incredibly balanced scoring in the game, as nine players put up points for the Bulldogs.

The game was the home opener for the Bulldogs and Coach Ihrke credited the Cardinals with a "great performance".

Becker scoring: Weiss seven, Kevin Vogl six, Blomquist nine, Kyle Vogl three, Brown six, Hendricks six, Teigen Salvevold four, Paumen 12, Mitchell Soltau five.

Bulldog grapplers go 3-0 at GSL

170

45-15

Lance Lysdal then

decision at 220.

Kolby rounded

scoring with a fall

Becker's

scored a 4-2 decision at

195, followed by a Ricker

out

just seconds into the second

period to push the final to

the day, Becker found itself

up against a very good Wa-

tertown-Mayer squad, but

still came up with the ef-

fort needed to post a 39-28

four matches and trailed

0-16 before stopper Kaden

Nicolas scored a first period

pin at 1:36 to put the Bull-

lowed with a 5-0 decision

at 138 and then Landen Ku-

jawa scored an 11-4 deci-

sion at 145 to bring Becker

extended their lead to ten

before Jurek picked up a

forfeit at 160 for the Bull-

after the 170 pound match, but the Bulldogs reeled off

four straight wins to com-

Weber (195) scored pins for

the Bulldogs, while Ricker won a tight 3-2 decision at

220 to put Becker up five.

man at 285 to open the third

period and helped the Bull-

dogs put the exclamation

point on their third win of

Becker's dual match re-

cord undefeated on the sea-

son heading into Thursday

night's quad held at Das-

sel-Cokato. Complete de-

tails on those matches will

be found in next week's

The three wins kept

Kolby then pinned his

plete the comeback.

Becker lost the first

Ryan Boecker fol-

A Royal win at 152

Watertown led 28-18

Owen Angell (182) and

comeback win.

dogs on the board.

to within 12-16.

dogs

the day.

In their third match of

It was a successful three rounds of wrestling last Saturday for the Bulldogs, as the team went 3-0

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer production@patriotnewsmn.com

at the Glencoe-Silver Lake Invitational.

Becker opened up the first round with a 76-0 shutout shellacking of the Orono Spartans.

Becker used five Orono forfeits to help the cause, while the Bulldogs also picked up six pinfalls.

Picking up decision wins for Becker were Bennett Kujawa (15-3 maj. dec. 103), Dylan Weber (6-3 dec. 182) and Dylan Kolby (4-2 dec. 285).

Pinfalls were recorded by: Tyler Hall, 120; Drew May, 145; Adam Jurek, 160: Owen Angell, 170: Lance Lysdal, 195; and Tyson Ricker, 220.

Forfeit winners included Boston Kuschel, Jackson Fischer, Kaden Nicolas, Landen Kujawa and Jake Rosenow.

In the second match of the day, the Bulldogs again wrestled well in defeating the Annandale-Maple Lake Lightning, 45-15.

Boston Kuschel started things off with a 9-5 decision win, followed by a Tyler Hall pin at 2:43 and the Bulldogs led 9-3. The Lightning tied it up with a pin at 126 pounds, but Kaden Nicolas put Becker in front for good with a 14-3 maj. dec. at 132 pounds.

Drew May pinned his opponent at 138 pounds, followed by a Landen Kujawa dec. win at 145 and the Bulldogs led 22-9.

Adam Jurek continued to dominate the 160 pound weight class, as he scored an 18-1 tech. fall, while teammate Owen Angell scored a first period pin at

FRC 4607 ready for a new year of competition

Becker's First Robotics Competition (FRC) Team 4607 is gearing up for another challenging season of problem solving, with the team having high hopes of defending their State

Patriot. Jurek says this year's

competition season will consist of participating in two Regional events: the Great Northern in Grand Forks, ND, as well as the Seven Rivers in Lacrosse,

Bulldog gymnasts edged by Knights

Annandale hosted a very competitive gymnastics invitational last Saturday, with the Bulldogs placing second

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer production@patriotnewsmn.com

(137.95 points), just behind STMA (138.45). Delano finished in third place, followed by the host Cardinals.

We lost to STMA by only half of a point, but we came away from the meet with a season-high score and feeling great about the performance we gave," Coach Jen Harmoning said. "We know that we are still competing our safe routines and have many more difficult skills to put into them yet, but we feel really good about where we are at right now.'

The Bulldogs opened on the bars and gained some early momentum.

'It was our first event of the day and the team came really strong out of the gates to set a great tone for the day and earn a season-high team total of 33.7," Harmoning said. "Any time the team can hit 5-for-5 on an event, we will be glad to take it!"

(PR); 10: Alison Woodard 7.95 (PR). Next was the beam event

and the Bulldogs managed to

stay in the air, but missed the consistent flow needed to dominate the

event. "We only counted two falls in our team score on beam, but we missed many connection points due to extra wobbles and breaks between skills," Harmoning said.

Scores: 2: Woelfel 8.9; 5: Kirk 8.55 (PR); 6: Hennessey 8.3; 7: Chloe Spear 8.25.

Next, Becker was on to the floor exercise and it resulted in a season-high team total of 35.25.

"Everyone worked hard to show more expression while competing and it made it a whole lot more fun for the whole team," Harmoning said. "The floor judge made it a point to come talk to me when the meet was over to mention how much she enjoyed our routines and what a great job the girls did.' Scores: 2: Bella Kuschel

9.05; 3: Woelfel 8.85; 5: Hennessey 8.75; 7: Kirk 8.6.

The final rotation

have their vault landing right into the corner - it can give the kids some worries about what might happen if they go a bit crooked and hit the wall," Harmoning explained. "Every gym we travel to is going to have things that we aren't used to; learning to deal with those things as they come makes us mentally

stronger." Scores: 1: Kirk 9.0; 3: Hennessey 8.9; 7: Kuschel 8.6; 8: Woelfel 8.5.

In the all around, Becker finished in places two through four with each girl hitting their personal records: 2: Kirk 34.75 (PR); 3: Hennessey 34.6 (PR); 4: Woelfel 34.5 (PR).

"It would have been nice to win the meet but competing well is the most important thing," Harmoning noted.

She also credited her JV team for winning that portion of the meet, noting that their team score would have placed them third overall in the Varsity event. Sabrina Jensen and Lillian Bonsante tied for first place on the vault, while Cassie Larson won beam and floor. Bonsante won the allaround.

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Becker place winners and scores (personal records noted with PR); 2: Emma Hennessey 8.65; 3: Karli Kirk 8.6 (PR); 5: Lauren Woelfel 8.25, 6: Cassie Larson 8.2

brought the Bulldogs to the vault, where they dealt with some unknowns in terms of the set-up.

"Annandale has a pretty small gym and they need to

Becker was scheduled to compete Wednesday evening against Cambridge-Isanti in a weather-related make-up match. Look for details in next week's Patriot.

Bulldog girls ground Eagles, 70-67

According to the MSHSL enrollment data, last Friday's girls basketball game between Eden

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer production@patriotnewsmn.com

Prairie and Becker would be a predicted blowout in favor of the Eagles, who have the fifth highest enrollment in the state of MN at 2,642 students in grades 10-12. Becker's data placed the team at the 90th largest, with 844 students, meaning that the Eagles had three times as many potential players to choose from when sculpting its roster.

The good news for the Becker Bulldogs is that the team and Coach Dan Baird didn't heed the stats, and as a result they notched one of the best victories in program history with a 70-67

After a back and forth affair for most of the second half, the game was tied with 1:30 to go, and the Eagles had an open three pointer at the buzzer to potentially send the game to overtime, but the ball found the back of the rim and bounced off.

"This was a game of runs and we made the plays down the stretch," Coach Dan Baird said. "Our girls executed our game plan."

The Eagles came into the game undefeated (6-0) and ranked #3 in Class AAAA, and in the early minutes of the game they looked deserving of the top five ranking.

'Eden Prairie has been an amazing free-throw shooting team, and we lim-

for the game, which was under our goal actually," Baird noted. "We did a nice job

ited those attempts by com-

mitting only 10 team fouls

playing defense with our feet and not fouling."

Eden Prairie was, however, hot in the first half from the three point line, going 8-of-14 which propelled them to a 38-32 halftime lead.

"But we made an immediate run to start the second half and buckled down our defense, forcing tough shots for the Eagles," Baird said. "This win accomplishes a major team goal for us - historically, we haven't been able to get over the hump versus top five, Class AAAA schools."

Becker was 8-for-8 from the foul line in the game, and the Bulldogs needed every point.

Becker senior Ayla Brown led the scoring attack for the Bulldogs with 25 points and five rebounds.

"Eden Prairie had a tough time keeping Ayla in front," Baird said. "Through four games, Ayla's lightning quick first step has been difficult to stop for opponents."

Baird also credited Dani Nuest with playing a great game, scoring 16 points and dishing out five assists

"More importantly, Dani held superstar Eagle shooting guard Tori Schlagel to zero points on 0-for-7 shooting," Baird said. "Lexi Rose hit huge free throws down the stretch and made



BECKER'S AYLA BROWN led the team in scoring with 25 points and also played phenomenal defense in the Bulldogs' win over Class AAAA power Eden Prairie. (Submitted photo.)

key defensive plays in the last two minutes.'

Baird added that Maren Westin was efficient with 13 points, six rebounds, three assists, and three steals.

"This was a back and forth game that was enjoyable for the fans to watch, and epitomized what high school sports is all about," Baird concluded.

Becker continued its tough schedule with a game against Class AAAA Roseville on Thursday, followed by matchups against Alexandria and Minnetonka at the Breakdown's Granite City Classic over the Holidays

Becker scoring: Nuest 16 (five assists), Westin 13, Brown 25, Lexi Rose 12, Evelyn Kreft two, Liz Mackedanz two.

Championship from last WI. May.

By Mark Kolbinger, Contributing Writer production@patriotnewsmn.com

"I'm amazed how every year we find new students who step up and take on new roles and challenges," Coach Alex Jurek says. "We have great leadership in place across all of our departments, so we should enjoy some success once again.'

Entering its 11th year, the program will be looking to build upon its past success, which includes two MSHSL State Championships, as well as six trips to the World Championships.

Jurek says there are 36 kids out for the team this year, and they will again be divided into the squads that tackle different parts of the competition, including computer programming,

building the robot, game strategy a n d competition, marketing and

business partnerships and team outreach.

The team

has been training for the past four months, including again hosting their early December JumpStart program, which has grown into the largest Robotics training event in the United States.

This year's season will kick off on January 7, as the team will host a total of 30 teams for the kickoff event. This is the day that FIRST Robotics announces the 2023 competition program, as well as the specifications for the robot and game strategy.

"These are the two most difficult regionals in the Midwest," Jurek says. "In Wiscon-

sin alone, there will be three different World Championship teams competing.'

In the coming months, the team is looking forward to hosting its 12th Girl Scout troop for what has been determined Operation Caramel Delight.

"This was the 12th group that we have worked with and we are proud to partner with the scouts to help them learn about STEM so they can earn their Robotics badge," Jurek says. "It's just one of the many ways we partner with community organizations to help prepare students for what comes after high school."

Jurek says the team will announce its

full list of sponsors after the new year, but they are always looking for additional business partners or owners who are looking to provide additional expe-

riences for the robotics students.

"Our sponsors have been incredible in helping us to achieve such a high level of success," Jurek says. "In return, we believe that we help them with identifying possible workers for the future and in strengthening their ties within the community."

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Sports News

Becker girls soccer team holds banquet

The Becker girls soccer 2022/23 season was concluded several weeks back and the team wrapped selves.

this season was both enjoyable from victories, and vet emotional By Bill Morgan, Editor, Staff Writer

worked

up their campaign with a banquet at Pebble Creek Golf Course for dinner and awards on Nov. 15.

reporter.bill@patriotnewsmn.com

Coach Ben Strom welcomed a large crowd of parents and families to enjoy an evening of great food, awards, honors, laughter, and recap memories from the season.

The captains gave speeches, as well as acknowledgment of all the support from parents who helped throughout the season. Coach Strom handed out awards to junior varsity and varsity players - these ranged from personal awards by seniors to underclassman (including the announcement of letter winners) academic awards, team, and Mississippi 8 Conference awards.

"Having the banquet at Pebble Creek is very enjoyable for the girls and it is nice to celebrate with their parents and families,' said Strom. "I am proud of the academic achievements and the conference awards for our student-athletes this fall "

Strom went on to say it is important to recognize all the student-athletes that put in the extra effort to academically better them"The win-loss record with defeats," he

said. " The girls hard.

with a slideshow of photos, and thank you video to the coaches, and a new candle tradition for each senior that symbolized the end of their high school career. Varsity Awards

All Conference (2):



THREE RETURNING BULLDOGS for the girls soccer team were chosen as team captains for next year's season. They are: Charlie Ebert, Rebecca Lyon and Abby Atwood. (Submitted Photo).

played through injuries, and stayed positive throughout all the games and practices. In the end, the measure of success is not just based on the win-loss record, rather. the friendships, and the lessons that come as the result of the hard work and effort they put in, the selfless commitment to the team, and their dedication to improve and be better. We have talented players on our JV and Varsity teams. We have a fun group of girls, and we will miss the seniors that are leaving."

The evening ended

Rachel Fuller and Abby Atwood; All Conference Honorable Mention (4): Liz Mackedanz, Hailey Szabla, Rebecca Lyon and Charlie Ebert; Most Valuable Player: Rachel Fuller; Most Improved: Kailey Thompson; Most dedicated (2): Abby Atwood and Hailey Szabla; Rookies of Year (2): Stella Bloch and Kailey Thompson; Team Spirit Award: Ava Ewald; Coaches award (2): Liz Mackedanz and Ava Ewald; Bulldog Award: Rebecca Lyon; Scholar Athlete: Alana McGowan



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Jr. Varsity Awards Most Valuable Player: Hailen Pettersen; Most Improved: Kaitlynn Finney; Most Dedicated: Wren Williams; Rookie of the Year: Lorelei Clouse; Team Spirit Award: Kylee Morton; Bulldog Award: Daelyn Brannan; Coaches Award: Leon Morris.

Congratulations go out to the team's new captains for next year: Charlie Ebert, Rebecca Lyon, and Abby Atwood.

Hornet wrestlers take first

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HUBBARD

The Big Lake wrestling team came home with the title at the 13-team Maple Grove Crimson Invitational two Saturdays ago.

By Ken Francis, Contributing Writer production@patriotnewsmn.com

The Hornets crowned two individual champions, had two second places and four other top-four finishes.

Zack Smith won the title at 145 pounds. After a firstround bye, he beat Isaac Roberts of North Branch, 14-4. After beating Clark Thompson of Bismarck Legacy, 16-13, he pinned previously undefeated Isaak Coolidge of Rush City-Braham at 1:53 in the championship match.

Nolan Reiter won the 152-pound title. He beat Sean Peterschick of Bismarck Legacy by tech fall, 18-3. He pinned Tanner Cummings of North Branch at 2:34, then pinned Jose Anaya of Paynesville Area at 0:25 in the finals.

Kale Westgaard took second at 106 pounds. After a first-round bye, he beat Tucker Gould of Rush City-Brainerd, 12-8. He lost by pin to Dylan St. Germain of Eagan in the championship match.

Cash Stortz finished fourth at 120 pounds. Afer a first-round bye, he beat Ethan Hong of Maple Grove, 11-0.

He lost to undefeated Zakary Johnson of Blaine, 4-3, then lost by pin to Joey Enzminger of Bismarck Legacy in his final match.

Dallas Sibbet placed third at 132 pounds. He pinned Americo Garcia of St. Paul Highland Park at 3:21. He pinned Hser Kalu Moo of Roseville Area at 3:31. After losing to Bryce Young of Blaine, 13-0 in the semifinals, he pinned Thomas Krueger of Eagan at 3:47 in his final match.

Cooper Cusick took third at 138 pounds. He pinned Brandon Haas of Paynesville Area at 2:00, then pinned Sam Cohen of Eastview. After losing by pin to undefeated Landon Umbreit of Rush City-Braham, he beat Darion Snyder of St. Paul Highland Park, 10-4 in his final match.

Carson Gellerman placed second at 170 pounds. He pinned Hamdie Osman of Blaine at 1:37 in his first match. He pinned St. Joshua Johnson of Park Center at 0:29. After a 14-4 win over Brett Miller of Bismarck Legacy, he lost a 5-3 decision to Dylan Cariveau of Roseville Area in the final match.

Gauge Hoffman took fourth at 182 pounds. He lost his first match by pin to undefeated Ezra Formaneck of Eastview. He came back to

pin Gus Mastrud of St. Paul Highland Park at 4:51 by pin, then beat Jack Gilbertson of Eagan, 20-7. He lost by pin to Mitchell Babineau of Blaine in his final match.

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Mason Krebs finished fourth at 220 pounds. He lost his first match, 8-6 to Carter Johnson of Bismarck Legacy. He got a next round bye before pinning Jace Allerton of Rush City-Braham at 3:00. He lost by pin to Cole Will of Eagan in his last match.

Kane Lapointe took third at 285 pounds. He pinned Chase Thein of Maple Grove at 2:56 in his first match, then pinned Treyson Renken of Bismarck Legacy at 1:05. He lost by pin to Spencer Eisenbraun of Paynesville Area, then won by injury default over Louis Ebi-Ndie of Roseville Area in his final match.

Final team scores were:

1. Big Lake 193.5; 2. Eastview 178.0; 3. Bismarck Legacy 151.5; 4. Paynesville Area 149.0; 5. Rush City-Braham 116.0; 6. Eagan 110.5; 7. Blaine 102.5; 8. Maple Grove 96.0; 9. North Branch 64.0; 10. St. Paul Highland Park 59.0; 11. Roseville Area 45.0; 12. Park Center 31.0; 13. Tartan 4.0.

Last Thursday, they beat Monticello, 38-32.

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...and also to our Team Members for making it possible!

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A Special Thank Gou

Jarred Merchant – Sherburne State Bank Tony Velishek – North Risk Partners

Extra Special Thank you:

To our all clients who have had the patience and grace of saints. With all the challenges faced this year, both within our industry and personally, your understanding has been amazing and greatly appreciated. We are truly blessed to work for such great people.

-Ken Geroux

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