

Winter Isantian

This has been a fantastic year; full of exciting opportunities for the City of Isanti. The City is growing and will continue to do so over the next few years. The average house and property values continue to rise within our great city. The City invites all residents to look at City ordinances even if you have in the past, some of these ordinances have been changed/ updated this past year for the City to become a bit friendlier to its residents.

Here are some of our amazing achievements and projects completed this year:

- 12,000 square foot new liquor store. We seek to gain 12% market share and grow total revenues by 50% within the first 3 full years of operation. The revenue captured reduces taxes that would otherwise be passed onto residents.
- Main Street was reconstructed from Whiskey Road to 4th Ave NW.
- Eagle Park was modified to add more green space to the Downtown area.
- Bluebird Amphitheater is a 40'x19' venue able to be rented for concerts, private parties and other community events.
- Well 2 had extensive rehabilitation to pull out 300 cubic yards of sand and rebuild the pump making it reliable for another 20 years.
- With the sale of the Police Department facility to the Isanti Fire District, the PD plans to have a new facility they will make their home in mid to late 2022.
- Chickens, racing pigeons and bees are now permitted animals within city limits.
- Implementing technology for efficiency and new capabilities, water meters will be replaced in all homes and businesses in 2022.
- Reduced Sewer, Water and Stormwater rates until the end of 2023.
- Legacy Pines: The 3rd phase for Legacy Pines was approved in the fall of 2020 which included a final plat of 94 single family lots. This 3rd addition was developed in three phases (Phase One – 28 lots; Phase Two – 32 lots; Phase Three – 34 lots). Overall 167 lots were platted.
- Fairway Greens North has been approved for 167 single family lots. They will be platting and developing in phases. Phase I includes 56 lots and the passive park.
- Fairway Greens South has been approved for 45 single family lots.
- Heritage Estates is finishing up development of 50 small lot single family homes.
- Villages on the Rum 6th addition was approved for 16 lots and only has 2 remaining.
- Bank Site Development which is approximately 16 acres has be rezoned from General Commercial to Low Density Residential with the anticipation of a single family residential development.
- Shove Ready Sites:
 - * 10 acres has been sold to Wolf River Electric to relocate their current office/warehouse. They have received Site plan approval and are working on building permit plans.
 - * 5 acres has been sold to BP metals. They are a manufacturer relocating to Isanti from Blaine.
 - * 2.5 acres has been sold to Special Tools, Inc.
- The current liquor store has been sold to Nick & Drews Discount food.
- Isanti Family Dental is building their new dental office on Cherrywood Lane (in between Family Dollar and McDonalds) they will be relocating out of their current space into this new location and will have 1800 square feet of lease space available.
- Caribou Up North completed construction on the corner of Main and 5th.
- Serenity Circle Counseling has completed their new office building downtown.

- 102 Dahlin has been sold to Rockstad Relics & Wares Co to relocate their business from the space they lease in town. They will be providing other retail space to lease in their new building.
- Total YTD permits is 791. YTD residential building permits is 72.

The snow is upon us in the beautiful City of Isanti with some frigid days as well. With the cold weather brings fresh new ideas as the Council will hold a Goal Setting session at the end of January like it does every year. We have high hopes for this meeting as it sets the objectives and direction for 2022 and beyond. This year we have tackled large issues and have been successful in moving forward and in a positive direction.

The Council and I will be presenting ideas for the Goal setting objectives. But more importantly, if you have ideas for specific projects or overall goals of the City, I want your voice heard and would love your input as our residents and taxpayers. I grow more and more fond of this great City each and every day. I am humbled by the great strides we have made and will continue to make for you all in the years to come as we continue to move Isanti into a brighter future. If there are any questions, comments, suggestions, or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me ANYTIME at jeffjohnson@isantimayor.com or call me via cell 612-236-7513.

I hope everyone has a safe and fun winter!