

• Hawley City Hall

Lobby Open - *limit 4 customers at a time, please keep 6' social Distancing & Masks are required*
 218-483-3331
218-483-4619 new
 305 6th Street
 Open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
www.hawley.govoffice.com
info@ci.hawley.mn.us

• Hawley Deputy Registrar

Lobby Open - *limit 4 customers at a time, please keep 6' social Distancing & Masks are required*
 Open 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.
 Motor Vehicle Licenses & DNR Licenses
Sorry - No Drivers' Licenses

• City Council Meetings

October 12th & 26th
 (the Meetings are broadcast live on Arvig Local Channel 14 at 5:30 p.m.)

• Garbage - No changes in Oct

• Recycling Center 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

• Fall Grass & Leaf Curbside Pickup

Oct 12, 15, 19 & 22 Grass & leaves MUST be in CLEAR plastic bags or cans to be picked up curbside.

• Compost Roll Off is located

behind the cardboard recycling building for grass & leaves until the end of October (Please no branches or bags in this roll off.)

• Utility Emergency - After Hours # 701-238-7657

• Call Before You Dig it's the law!
 651-454-0002 or 1-800-252-1166 or 811



happy halloween



National Fire Prevention Week

Oct 4th - 10th

"Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen"

is the theme for Fire Prevention Week, October 4-10, 2020. NFPA's focus on cooking fire safety comes in response to home cooking fires representing the leading cause of U.S. home fires, with nearly half (49 percent) of all home fires involving cooking equipment; unattended

cooking is the leading cause of these fires.

Key messages around this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen" include the following:

- Keep a close eye on what you're cooking; never leave cooking unattended.
- Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — at least three feet away from your stovetop.
- Be on alert. If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol, don't use the stove.

Safety TIPS:

- ⇒ Make an escape plan—discuss the plan with everyone in your home
- ⇒ Know at least two ways out of every room—make sure doors/windows open easily
- ⇒ Have an outside meeting place—a safe distance from the home
- ⇒ Practice your home fire drill twice a year
- ⇒ Practice using different ways out
- ⇒ Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them
- ⇒ Close doors behind you as you leave



HAWLEY LIQUORS FOOD DRIVE.....

Please consider donating Non-perishable Food Items during the month of October.

Hawley Liquors is participating with the Minnesota Municipal Beverage Association and Coors Light to sponsor the food drive. Bring items to Hawley Liquors or REACH.

All donations collected will be given to the Hawley Food Pantry at REACH.

Budget Billing Customers - Please check your account

Some of this year's utility budget estimates may be falling short. That means that some budget customers may not be paying enough to cover the actual cost of your utilities. This summer season has been considerably warmer and families spent much more time at home than last year. Budget billings were calculated upon your actual usage from the previous year.

Please check your bill to see if your account is falling behind because of the budget.

Check/compare your "Total" this is the actual amount of your account, And "Budget Total" this is the amount the budget system is asking you to pay If your "total" is MORE than the "Budget total" you are falling behind in payments on your account.

Sample Billing—look at the bottom 7 or 8 lines of your bill:

Cur Charges	\$440.36	9/27/20
Total	475.75	9/27/20
Budget Prev Bal	338.56	9/27/20
001 Budget GAS	53.00	9/27/20
003 Budget ELEC	178.00	9/27/20
016 Budget WAT	27.00	9/27/20
Budget Total	325.65	9/27/20

On this Sample Billing the actual amount owed as of 9/27/20 is \$475.75.

TOTAL	\$475.75
-Budget Total	<u>- 325.65</u>
	\$150.10 underpayment

** This customer will need to make extra payments.

After reviewing your account, you may need to make extra payments. If you are on the Direct Payment program, you will need to pay with a separate check as the system will only withdraw what is on the billing. We suggest that you continue to monitor your account balance closely until the end of the budget cycle in May. Feel free to call City Hall if you have any questions regarding budget billing or your account (218)483-4619. Thank you!

216B.097 Cold Weather Rule Notice - Hawley Public Utilities

Subdivision 1. Application; notice residential customer. (a) A municipal utility or a cooperative electric association must not disconnect and must reconnect the utility service of a residential customer during the period between October 15 and April 15 if the disconnection affects the primary heat source for the residential unit and all the following conditions are met:

- (1) The household income of the customer is at or below 50 percent of the state median household income. A municipal utility or cooperative electric association utility may (i) verify income on forms it provides or (ii) obtain verification of income from the local energy assistance provider. A customer is deemed to meet the income requirements of the clause if the customer receives any form of public assistance, including energy assistance, that uses an income eligibility threshold set at or below 50 percent of the state median household income.
- (2) A customer enters into and makes reasonably timely payments under a payment agreement that considers the financial resources of the household.
- (3) A customer receives referrals to energy assistance, weatherization, conservation, or other programs likely to reduce the customer's energy bills. (b) A municipal utility or a cooperative electric association must, between August 15 and October 15 of each year, notify all residential customers of the provisions of this section.

Subdivision 2. Notice to residential customer facing disconnection. Before disconnecting service to a residential customer during the period between October 15 and April 15, a municipal utility or cooperative electric association must provide the following information to a customer:

- (1) a notice of proposed disconnection;
- (2) a statement explaining the customer's rights and responsibilities;
- (3) a list of local energy assistance providers;
- (4) forms on which to declare inability to pay; and
- (5) a statement explaining available time payment plans and other opportunities to secure continued utility service.

Subdivision 3. Restrictions if disconnection necessary. (a) If a residential customer must be involuntarily disconnected between October 15 and April 15 for failure to comply with subdivision 1, the disconnection must not occur;

- (1) on a Friday, unless the customer declines to enter into a payment agreement offered that day in person or via personal contact by telephone by a municipal utility or cooperative electric association;
- (2) on a weekend, holiday, or the day before a holiday;
- (3) when utility offices are closed; or
- (4) after the close of business on a day when disconnection is permitted, unless a field representative of a municipal utility or cooperative electric association who is authorized to enter into a payment agreement, accept payment, and continue service, offers a payment agreement to the customer. Further the disconnection must not occur until at least 20 days after the notice required in subdivision 2 has been mailed to the customer or 15 days after the notice has been personally delivered to the customer. (b) If a customer does not respond to a disconnection notice, the customer must not be disconnected until the utility investigates whether the residential unit is actually occupied. If the unit is found to be occupied, the utility must immediately inform the occupant of the provisions of this section. If the unit is unoccupied, the utility must give seven days' written notice of the proposed disconnection to the local energy assistance provider before making a disconnection. (c) If, prior to disconnection, a customer appeals a notice of involuntary disconnection, as provided by the utility's established appeal procedure, the utility must not disconnect.

Customer Appeals: Under the Cold Weather Rule, if a customer appeals a notice of involuntary disconnection prior to disconnection, as provided by the utility's established appeal procedure, the utility must not disconnect the customer until the appeal is resolved.

Service Limiters: Under the Cold Weather Rule, "disconnection" includes a service or load limiter or any device that limits or interrupts electric service in any way.

City of Hawley, Hawley Public Utilities Commission, 305 6th St, PO BOX 69, Hawley, MN 5654 Phone: 218-483-3331

If you need help paying your electric utility bill, you may qualify for state or federal fuel assistance. For complete qualification and application information, contact your local county welfare or community/citizen's action council listed below. These organizations may also provide budget counseling.

<u>West Central MN Communities Action Inc.</u>	<u>Clay County Social Services</u>	<u>REACH</u>	<u>Consumer Credit Counseling Service</u>	<u>Family Life Services</u>
411 Industrial Park Blvd, PO Box 596	715 11 th ST N	421 Fifth ST	15 South 10th St.	1201 25th St. S.
Elbow Lake, MN 56531	Moorhead, MN 56560	Hawley, MN 56549	Fargo, ND 58102	Fargo, ND 58102
<u>Phone: 1-800-492-4805</u>	<u>Phone: 218-299-5200</u>	<u>Phone: 218-483-3145</u>	<u>Phone: 701-237-9247</u>	<u>Phone: 701-235-3328</u>

EAP eligibility is based on the three most recent months of income.		
Household Size	Annual Income	Three Month Maximum
1	\$28,266	\$7,066
2	\$36,963	\$9,240
3	\$45,660	\$11,415
4	\$54,357	\$13,589
5	\$63,054	\$15,763
6	\$71,751	\$17,937
7	\$73,382	\$18,345
8	\$75,013	\$18,753

Notice of public hearing on proposed Hawley Police Department Body Worn Camera Program.

The Hawley Police department is going to be equipping our officers with body worn cameras (BWC). To be compliant with Minnesota State Law, we would like to allow the public to comment on the cameras we are proposing to purchase as well as our policy.

This information can be found on the City Website at: Hawley.govoffice.com under the Police Department section.

Any comments or questions related to the cameras or policy can be direct to Chief Joseph Backlund at PO Box 68, Hawley, MN 56549 or jbacklund@ci.hawley.mn.us.

The Public Hearing will be held on Monday, October 26, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. We welcome any feedback that the public has on the body cameras and policy. All present will be given the opportunity to address the Council.

COLD WEATHER RULE INFORMATION FOR MILITARY SERVICE PERSONNEL

CHAPTER 111 –H.F. NO. 532 An act relating to consumer protection; regulating certain contracts entered into by military service personnel; authorizing cancellations; requiring utilities to establish payment arrangements for military service personnel; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 325E; 325G.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

Section 1. [325E.027] UTILITY PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR MILITARY SERVICE PERSONNEL.

Subdivision 1. Restriction on disconnection; payment schedules.

(a) A municipal utility, cooperative association, or public utility must not disconnect the utility service of a residential customer if a member of the household has been issued orders into active duty, for deployment, or for a permanent change in duty station during the period of active duty, deployment, or change in duty station if such a residential customer:

1. Has a household income below the state median household income or is receiving energy assistance and enters into an agreement with the municipal utility under which the residential customer pays ten percent of the customer's gross monthly income toward the customer's bill and the residential customer remains reasonably current with payments under the payment schedule.
2. Has a household income above the state median household income and enters into an agreement with the municipal utility establishing a reasonable payment schedule that considers the financial resources of the household and the residential customer remains reasonably current with payments under the payment schedule.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, "household income" means household income measured after the date of the orders specified in paragraph (a).

Subdivision 2. Annual notice to all customers; inability to pay forms.

(a) A municipal utility must notify all residential customers annually of the provisions of this section.

(b) A municipal utility must provide a form to a residential customer to request the protections of this section upon the residential customer's request.

Subdivision 3. Application to service limiters. For the purpose of this section, "disconnection" includes a service or load limiter or any device that limits or interrupts electric service in any way.

Subdivision 4. Income Verification. Verification of income may be conducted by the local energy assistance provider or the municipal utility unless the customer is automatically eligible for protection against disconnection as a recipient of any form of public assistance, including energy assistance that uses income eligibility in an amount at or below the income eligibility in subdivision 1, clause (1).

Subdivision 5. Appeal process.

- (a) The municipal utility shall provide the residential customer with a commission-approved written notice of the right to appeal to the commission or other appropriate governing body when the utility and residential customer are unable to agree on the establishment, reasonableness, or modification of a payment schedule, or on the reasonable timeliness of the payments under a payment schedule, provided for by this section. Any appeal must be made within seven working days after the residential customer's receipt of personally served notice, or within ten working days after the utility has deposited first class mail notice in the United States mail.
- (b) The utility shall not disconnect service while a payment schedule is pending appeal, or until any appeal involving payment schedules has been determined by the commission.

Subdivision 6. Enforcement. This section may be enforced pursuant to chapter 216B.

HEATING SALES TAX EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that I use 50% or more as my primary source of residential heating of:

electric natural gas
 (Please check one)

And as my primary source of residential heating I request that Hawley Public Utilities deduct the applicable sales tax from my bill for those months that are exempt.

I further certify that the heating source I have checked above will be the primary source of heat at this residence until further notice and I am responsible for notifying the Hawley Public Utilities when this status no longer applies, MN Statute 297A.67 Subd 15.

Printed Customer Name _____

X _____
Customer Signature

Account Number _____ Date _____

Please return this form to City of Hawley,
PO Box 69, Hawley, MN 56549

ONLY if your primary source of residential heating has changed from last year.

Electricity or Natural Gas sold for residential HEATING use is not taxable for the billing months of November, December, January, February, March, and April when sold to metered customers who use it as their primary source of residential heat.

If more than one type of heat is used, only the *primary source* of heat is not taxable. Primary source of residential heat is the source that supplies more heat than any other source for the largest period of time during the heating season.

If the primary source of residential heat is natural gas then all the gas is not taxable during the winter heating months. If the primary source of residential heat is electricity, and there is only one meter, then all electricity measured through that meter is not taxable during the winter heating months. Off Peak Residential Electric customers have separate meters for heating and general use. Only the heating meter use is tax exempt if it is the primary source of heat.

Residential Customers Include: Homes, Apartments, Condominiums, Intermediate Care Facilities, Garages-residential (attached or not), Mobile Homes

Utilities supplied for residential heating *during* construction of a residence are not taxable. Residential use does not include use in travel trailers, motor homes, or other recreational vehicles.

Commercial and Residential Use:

Some buildings have both residential quarters and commercial operations. If there is one meter for the entire building for electricity or gas, square footage is used to determine if the residential exemption applies:

- ◆ The residential exemption applies if more than 50% of the square footage of the building is residential.
- ◆ The utilities are taxable if 50% or more of the square footage of the building is used for commercial operations.

«Detach and return the Exemption Certificate only if your heating source has changed from last year.

Attention Snowbirds: Before you leave town

• Please fill out & sign the Water Shut Off Request Form available at City Hall if your home will be vacant 30+ consecutive days. You can have your water shut off at the curb & garbage stopped while your gone and it will save on your utility bills!

• Stop in at City Hall and renew your Motor Vehicle Licenses. You can purchase them in advance so that you do not have to worry about car renewals when you are away. Please bring in your plate number(s) and insurance information.

• Fill out the Police Vacation watch registration form on the city website: www.hawley.govoffice.com Travel safely and we will see you in the spring!





October 4-10 is Public Power Week... and we have reason to celebrate!

Hawley Public Utilities

Like more than 2,000 utilities across the country, we are powered by a community-owned, not-for-profit public power utility. During Public Power Week, we celebrate the benefits of living in a public power community, including:

- Low rates
- High reliability
- Customer responsiveness
- Community focus
- Economic development
- Local control



Street Lights

If you notice that a street light is out or blinking on/off please call and report it to City Hall. We will ask you for details about the location of the problem light. Our staff will repair/replace it.

Thank you for your assistance!



Walk to Anywhere Week 2020



Join us for a week long celebration of Walking!

School looks and feels different this year: some are virtual, others are in-person and many are somewhere in-between. Since back-to-school has changed for everyone this year, our annual Walk to School Day event is adapting to allow for different school formats. Whether it's walking to school for in-person classes or exploring your neighborhood with family, we hope you will join us for [Walk to Anywhere Week, Oct. 5-9!](#)

Fire Hall Improvements

The Hawley City Council has contracted with Hammer's Construction out of Perham to improve the City owned Fire Hall at 430 Fifth Street.

The oldest part of the building on the north side will be demolished and a new 65' x 80' steel addition will be built in that same general area. The addition will have 2 drive-through bays and a large training room. Off street parking will be added on both the north side and east side of the building.

The southern most part of the current building will be kept and it will be re-sheeted with new metal siding to match the new addition.

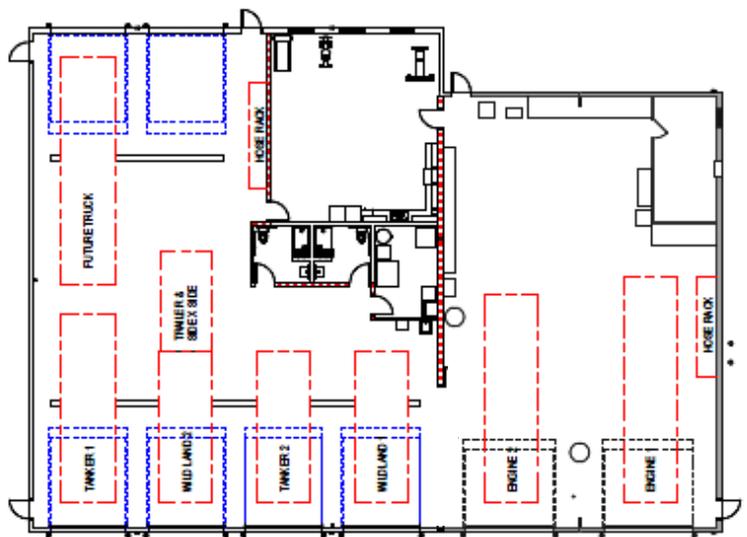
The Fire Department will be operating out of the southern section of the building during construction.

When the addition is complete the Fire Department will have 8,350 square feet of finished space to operate out of. The approximate cost of the improvements are \$870,000.

The City will be leasing the Fire Hall to the Hawley Area Fire District for the Fire Department's use.

You are welcome to drive by and check out the big changes.

Please talk to your children about staying away from the actual work site and equipment. We want everyone to say safe. Thank you.



STRUGGLING BECAUSE OF THE PANDEMIC? **FREE, WALK-IN MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC** FOR CLAY COUNTY RESIDENTS

9 am to 5 pm Wednesdays (through Dec 9)
Online or at The Village Family Service Center
815 37th Ave S, Moorhead

Clay County CARES Act Business Grants

Clay County is going to be offering a round II of grants starting as early as Oct 1st.

They will be focusing on businesses with 20 -50 Full Time Equivalent Employees.

Please watch the Clay County Website for more information:

<https://claycountymn.gov/> Businesses with 20 to 50 FTE Employees that have had negative impacts due to COVID-19 are encouraged to apply.