# **City Highlights**

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# The City Needs Your Help! Inventory of Water Service Lines

Recent Federal and State regulations on lead in municipal drinking water require cities to inventory the type of metal used in water service lines. The inventory is to be completed by October of this year. The city has begun to identify its lines and will be asking residents to assist in identifying their service line. This is the line that runs from the shutoff by the street, the "curb stop", to the water meter inside the home.

For homes built after 1986, service lines will be steel, copper, or plastic, as lead piping was banned from use after this date. Any home built before 1986 may have lead service lines. In the next month or so, you will be getting a letter in the mail with information on what to look for and how to check your pipe. We will be asking you to document the type of pipe and return the information to City Hall so we can complete this mandatory inventory.

#### **Nuisance Violations**

The city has been receiving an increasing number of complaints regarding public nuisance violations. The most common nuisance complaint is parking and/or storing of items outside on the grass. In residential districts, storing cars, trailers, campers, fish houses, snowmobiles, boats and other watercrafts, recreational vehicles, etc. on the grass in the front, side, or rear of the home is not permitted unless it is on an approved parking pad. In addition, storing lawnmowers, tires, construction materials, barrels, lumber, boats, canoes, etc. outside is also prohibited.

An approved parking area is a defined area constructed of asphalt, concrete, gravel, pavers, or some other surface. To create one of these areas, a zoning permit is required and there are setback requirements depending on the material used for the surface. The area also needs to be maintained in a way to prevent grass and weeds from growing. If you need information on creating a compliant parking area, please contact City Hall.

Items placed in the boulevard also become an issue and hazard. Placement of furniture, electronics, appliances, and other household items, except as permitted as part of a community cleanup or collection by a not-for-profit organization, are deemed a public nuisance. Items placed for collection must be properly identified and located on the boulevard only during the hours of 8:00 am – and 8:00 pm.

Ordinances are in place to address a variety of concerns including blight, unsanitary conditions, fire hazards, and unsafe structures. Left unmanaged, these issues can lead to public health hazards as well as conditions that impact the property values in your neighborhood. If you would like to report a blight complaint, contact the Montgomery Police Department at 507-364-8000 or City Hall at 507-364-8888.



### **Street Improvement Plan**

The city's Public Works Advisory Board worked with the city engineer to review and revise the city's street improvement capital plan. The plan that was approved by the council in 2019 remains generally the same with only a couple of modifications.

**2024** – this year the county will be doing a mill and overlay on 1<sup>st</sup> Street. They will also be doing "thin overlay" on Oak Ave east of the railroad tracks. This involves putting down about an inch to inch and a half of asphalt.

**2025** – this project will include the area from Vine Avenue to Lexington west of 4<sup>th</sup> Street. The city

engineer will be presenting information to the public works advisory board and the city council in the next couple of months to start the feasibility study. The goal is to have the project underway in the spring of 2025.

**2027** – the 2027 project will include the area south of Vine to Oak, including Oak. Between 1<sup>st</sup> Street and 4<sup>th</sup> Street. The county will be partnering on this project as Oak is a county road.

**2029** – the plan currently is to complete the area from Vine to Boulevard, between 4<sup>th</sup> Street and 1<sup>st</sup> Street.

**2031** – the area to the east of the railroad tracks was one project in the original plan. The revised plan divides these into two (2) project areas. The first area will be Ash Avenue north to Boulevard, between 1st Street and 5th Street.

**2033** – the final area will be Oak Avenue south, including areas in Memorial Park, between 5th Street and 1st Street.

Along with these major street projects, the city will be doing general maintenance including crack filling, sealcoating, and begin with mill and overlay projects.

#### **Community Garden**

The Community Garden is back for another year. Located near the Montgomery water tower, residents can rent a 10 x 10 plot to garden over the summer. The fee to reserve a plot is \$15 per plot. An additional damage deposit of \$25 per plot will also be collected. This deposit will be returned once the plot is left clean and in good standing at the end of the planting season. For more information and to reserve your garden plot, contact City Hall or email kgaul@cityofmontgomerymn.com.

### **Compost Site**

The City's compost site is now closed for the winter. The site will re-open in the spring when the weather conditions allow access to the site.

## **Notification System**

The City's website has a notification system that allows residents to subscribe to receive text and/or e-mail alerts when there is a notification sent by the city.

The City uses the notification system to alert residents in incidences such as a snow emergency being declared, or if a water main breaks.

Signing up for the service is easy. Visit the City's website at <a href="https://www.cityofmontgomerymn.com">www.cityofmontgomerymn.com</a> and click on the "Notify Me" icon. Then follow the steps.

You can remove yourself from the notification list at any time.

#### **Council Contact Information**

Mayor Tom Eisert teisert@cityofmontgomerymn.com

Council member Mick McGuire mmcguire@cityofmontgomerymn.com

Council member Bob Forcelle bforcelle@cityofmontgomerymn.com

Council member Zack Matson zmatson@cityofmontgomerymn.com

Council member Butch Kubes <a href="mailto:bkubes@cityofmontgomerymn.com">bkubes@cityofmontgomerymn.com</a>

### **City Contact Information**

www.cityofmontgomerymn.com

City Hall: 507.364.8888

Police Department: 507.364.8000 or 507-364-7700

Brian Heck, City Administrator bheck@cityofmontgomerymn.com

Patti Soukup, Clerk/Treasurer psoukup@cityofmontgomerymn.com

Christina Dietz, Utility Billing cdietz@cityofmontgomerymn.com

Kate Gaul, Administrative Assistant kgaul@cityofmontgomerymn.com

Joshua Mankowski, Planner/Economic Development <a href="mankowski@cityofmontgomerymn.com">jmankowski@cityofmontgomerymn.com</a>

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