



# CITY QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

## DECEMBER 2015 Winter Issue



### UPCOMING DATES

#### Council Meetings at Eyota City Hall: 7 pm

December 29  
January 14 & 28  
February 11 & 25  
March 10 & 24

View on Charter Channel 180 & HBC Channel 19

#### Planning Commission Meetings, 7 pm at City Hall:

January 20  
February 17  
March to be determined

#### Park Board Meetings, 7 pm at City Hall:

January 13  
February 10  
March 9

#### EDA Meetings, 5pm at Arbor Gardens:

January 28  
February 25  
March 24

**City Hall is closed:**  
December 24 at noon  
December 25  
January 1 & 18  
February 15

**HAVE A SAFE HOLIDAY AND NEW YEAR!**

#### KEEP IN TOUCH:

- Phone: 507-545-2135
- Fax: 507-545-2235
- Email: [eyota@cityofeyota.com](mailto:eyota@cityofeyota.com)
- Facebook: [Eyota.MN](https://www.facebook.com/Eyota.MN)
- Website: [eyota.govoffice.com](http://eyota.govoffice.com)
- Marlis, Nancy, Kathie, Brad, Scott,

## NEW

### PARKING REGULATIONS FOR WINTER STREET PARKING

Eyota City Council approved changes to parking Ordinance #142: Section 3: Subdivision 3, stating:

“It shall be unlawful to park, or permit any vehicle or trailer to remain parked, upon any alley or street from November 1st to April 1st between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. or until streets are plowed from curb to curb during or following any snow fall or significant ice accumulation, and in the event of a continuous and/or substantial snowfall, a citywide “snow emergency” may be declared by the Public Works Supervisor or his/her designee. It shall be unlawful to park on any city street during the time in which a snow emergency has been declared, until such time as the snow emergency is rescinded.”

The decision was made at the October 22, 2015 council meeting.

Due to this change in ordinance, Residents ARE able to park on the street as long as there is not precipitation. Please keep an eye on the overnight weather predictions to avoid your vehicle being ticketed.



**Compost Site is now open!** After a lot of footwork by city staff and local land-owner, Scott Harnack, in working with Olmsted County and conforming to regulations, we can now say that Eyota has a Compost Site. Official word was given Wednesday, December 9th. This is for Eyota Residents Only. Please take note that this is a “Compost Site” not a dump site and accepted materials are limited.

**LOCATION:** 13314 Cty Rd 142 SE (about 1/2 mile east of DE elementary. 1st place on the right)

**MATERIALS ACCEPTED:** leaves, grass clippings, branches, trees- (including Christmas trees) NO stumps & NO dumping

**HOURS OF OPERATION:** Winter (Nov 1 through May 1) open weekend hours only **Sat 10am -3pm & Sun 1pm -3pm**

May 2 through Oct 3 1st Mon-Fri 5:30pm -8pm in addition to the weekend hours.

Be aware that this site is privately owned and is NOT run by the city. Please respect the rules and Harnack’s property.

**Notes from EDA Director Cathy Enerson:** The EDA board welcomes **Ryan Castle, of Bremer Bank** who replaces Doug McCabe, after Doug's departure from the bank. The board deeply misses **Shannon Reuss**, who recently passed away, and was a member of the EDA board for eight (8) years. Shannon brought enthusiasm to each board meeting and was diligent in her efforts on the board. She was a visionary, offering small business and international business experience. She cared about the environment and the local residents, putting Eyota's interest in front of her own. Shannon, as a previous nurse, cared deeply about the responsibilities the EDA board has to oversee Arbor Gardens Senior Living Center. As if hand picked by Shannon, her seat has been filled by her commercial neighbor. Welcome **Craig Horan of Prestige Auto**.

**MINNESOTA DESIGN TEAM  
TO VISIT EYOTA**

**APRIL 14-16 2016**



Eyota, Minnesota is "the only city named Eyota in the entire United States", states the Minnesota Design Team (MDT)! Eyota evolved as a train town along the Winona and St. Peter Railroad, and now there is tremendous growth projected for Eyota. That growth is sparked by quality education and community members that call Eyota their home. Continued growth is spurred by local strategic planning at the City level, and the projected City of Rochester and Olmsted County projects. Eyota has funding available for City projects and has very motivated leadership who sees the value in bringing the community together in a coordinated effort to chart their future long range plan. **That is what you, as a community member of Eyota, can take part in when you participate during the Minnesota Design Team (MDT) visit!**

Some specific challenges the MDT and the Eyota committee hope to tackle (and where we need MDT expertise) are:

- ◆ Main Street revitalization (design and economic development).
- ◆ How to better activate open space.
- ◆ How to best coordinate city owned land, and privately owned land in the development of a community/event center.
- ◆ Connecting local and regional bicycle networks.

Local leadership and committee membership are growing, Connie Meiners is the local committee chair. To sign up to volunteer for the Eyota, Minnesota Design Team visit go to City website under EDA.

You can also learn more at <http://www.aia-mn.org/get-involved/committees/minnesota-design-team/mdt-volunteers> The value of this visit is estimated to be in excess of \$200,000. Eyota feels honored to be chosen by the MDT. Housing, Food, Fun and Fellowship provide opportunities for you to volunteer either on the committee or for one item during the weekend visit.

**2016 Think.... New Housing Starts and  
New Construction Incentives**

In 2015 the City's dirt was moving in all directions. Vacant lots are now new homes, resulting in the growth of Eyota's population and tax base. There were eight (8) single family home permits taken out in 2015 of which four (4) were townhomes. Eyota had not seen the construction of new townhomes since 2003 due to land for townhomes falling into State forfeiture. The new construction starts are a milestone to be celebrated!

What's to come in 2016 is even more exciting. In the NW area of **Eyota fifteen (15) new single family home lots** will be developed. To reach the developer to discuss the timeline and pricing of the lots, call John Keefe at 507-932-4656.



To support the development of the fifteen (15) new lots, the joint city sewer board has agreed to waive SAC fees associated with residential new construction in 2016. The City of Eyota will also waive fees in the amount of \$4,850 for residential new home construction, and \$2,250.00 for commercial construction in 2016. That incentive will sunset at the end of 2016.

**Happy Holidays and Happy New Year  
from the EDA Board, Dale Heintz Chair,  
Connie Meiners Vice Chair,  
Cathy Enerson Director.**

**GET FAMILIAR WITH THE CITY WEB-SITE**

No need to call City Hall, many of your questions can be answered there!

[www.eyotagovoffice.com](http://www.eyotagovoffice.com)

- ⇒ New ~ Lost & Found Page
- ⇒ Fill out forms ahead of time: Pet license; Building Permits
- ⇒ Keep informed by viewing the Events calendar page
- ⇒ View the city newsletter whenever you want & in COLOR! Review older editions.





**IMPORTANT ~ Service and Price changes.**

- ◆ As of Dec 1, Dover/Eyota bus operation will run 9am to 5pm.
- ◆ Starting Jan 2 a one-way trip from Rochester (and farther than 8 miles out of town) will be \$5 (\$10 round trip)

**1-800-528-7622**

**CURRENT PROMOTIONS & SPECIAL SERVICES:**

- ◇ **Twice weekly trips to Rochester:** MONDAY'S - Apache Mall 1pm- 3pm THURSDAY'S - Walgreens 1:30pm to 2:30pm
- ◇ **Tues: Shop at Eyota Market: 11am-4pm. Make \$50 in purchases and receive a free bus token.**
- ◇ **Wed: Senior Grocery Shopping with 5% discount at Eyota Market: 11am to 4pm.**
- ◇ **Let the driver help you with your packages ( subject to regulations)**

**CHRISTMAS TREE PICK-UP**

Trees placed on the curb will be picked up through

**Friday, Jan 15**



Please remove ALL tree decorations first



**City Announcements:**

**LIKE us on Facebook**—Get up-to-date city announcements and emergency info: [facebook.com/Eyota.MN](https://www.facebook.com/Eyota.MN) or search for *City of Eyota, MN Government*.

**Shovel Sidewalks within 12 hours after a snowfall** - Required by ordinance.

**Christmas Lights & Decorations Contest:** Eyota Dollars awarded for 1st (\$20) & 2nd (\$15) for Single-color, Multi-color lights or decorations, plus two honorable mentions (\$5), Grand Prize: \$25. Judging was from Dec. 8 to14. Watch for winner announcements!

**Bookmobile:** Starting Jan 9, the bookmobile will be adding every other Saturday, stops in Eyota at Front St. and Center Ave 12:15—2:30pm. Check the bookmobile schedule on Eyota City website for specific times and dates

**New Skate Park Equipment:** It was acquired in November and is being put together by Eyota Public Works. The equipment will be ready to go by Spring of 2016.

**Ice Skate Rink:** At this point not sure when we will be able to get ice on the rink.

**Reporting suspicious activity in town:** Citizens are encouraged to use the Olmsted County Sheriff's office non-emergency number for reporting suspicious activities in city parks or in town. Call: **507-328-6800** **In light of the recent national and international events, be sure to call 911 for an emergency!**



**2015 CONSTRUCTION REVIEW**

In looking back at this summer's street project, considering how many things were involved (water, storm sewer, sanitary sewer, curb/gutter and street) and the large construction area, things went quite smooth with no major issues and the November 7 completion date was met. With the exception of the sod. That subcontractor is required to return in the spring to complete the job and replace any sod that did not grow. Until such time, the project will not be accepted by the City and warranties do not go into effective until the project has been accepted. There are a few other items that were always scheduled to be completed in 2016; such as, additional utility work along Center Avenue and the second lift (or wear course) of blacktop on all the streets. Thank you to everybody that was involved, lived in the construction zone, contractors and even those who just had to drive through.

**2016 Street project** is moving forward with construction planning. Stay tuned for the upcoming plans.

**Any construction information, for all street projects, WILL CONTINUE TO BE POSTED ON FACEBOOK and THE CITY OF EYOTA WEBSITE: [www.eyota.govoffice.com](http://www.eyota.govoffice.com)** Click on the 'Citizens' Tab and then on 'Road Construction Info and Updates' When new information is obtained, city staff will post as soon as time permits.

**UTILITY RATES RISING**

**BEGINNING 2016**

The Dover, Eyota, St. Charles Area Sanitary District will be increasing the amount charged to the City effective January 1. The City will be studying the current sewer rates charged to Eyota property owners and increase the monthly rates accordingly. The water rates will also be evaluated to determine a required rate increase due to normal operating expense increases and additional cost to replace the water mains. Water and sewer rates will be increasing effective March 1, 2016.



City of Eyota  
38 South Front St. SW  
P.O. Box 328  
Eyota, MN 55934

Permit No. 12  
Eyota, MN 55934  
Presort Standard

Postal Patron  
Eyota, MN 55934

**INSIDE STORIES:** NEW- winter street parking ordinance; Now Open- Eyota Compost Site; 2015 Construction review & wrap-up; Utility rates increasing 2016



**Dog, Cat and Chicken  
licenses expire  
December 31, 2015**

**There will no longer be a  
December Rabies clinic in  
Eyota**

Be sure your pet is up to date with rabies vaccination and bring proof of rabies from Vet when getting license.

ALSO~ call to let us know if you no longer have your pet to license so we do not have to pursue your payment.

***Don't be late***  
***\$10 late fee!***



**Is your street light out?**

You no longer have to contact city hall to report an outage. You, as a citizen, can report it as soon as you see it:

**By phone**, during Peoples Energy business hrs 8-5 at 507-367-7000

**Online** at [ww.peoplesenergy.coop](http://www.peoplesenergy.coop) click on the 'Contact Us' page.

**Be sure to have light post location details.** This information is also posted on our city website under citizens tab then utility.