

# City of Lexington

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR January-March 2019

City of

Lexington

City Hall 763-784-2792

lexingtonmn@comcast.net

Fax-763-785-8951

Cable Channel 16

www.ci.lexington.mn.us

[Like us on Facebook](#)

Mayor-Mark Kurth

### Council Members

Mike Murphy

Diane Harris

John Hughes

Kim DeVries

### City Administrator

Bill Petracek

### Finance Director

Chris Galiov

### Deputy City Clerk

Mary Vinzant

### Administrative Assistant/ Permit Technician

Peggy McNamara

### Building Inspector

Scott Jensen

### Public Works Department

763-784-6849

Jim Fischer

Travis Schmid

### Centennial Lakes Police Department

763-784-2501

### Lexington Fire Department

763-784-1604

### Lexington Liquor

763-786-0198

Jack Borgen

Karen Larson

Andy Lyons

I want to wish you all a happy and successful 2019!

We had an election this past year and I want to thank you all for your continued support. I am extremely proud to serve this small community and very proud to have worked with our City Council and city staff this past year. We have all worked hard and have a lot to show for our efforts.

When I ran for Mayor in 2014, I quickly realized the City of Lexington had a decision to make. We could sit idly by and do nothing, and watch our taxes continue to rise out of control. Or we could make some hard decisions and work to redevelop areas of this community to reinvigorate and increase our revenue stream, yet, still maintain our small town feel. Some of these decisions were difficult and some were not popular with everyone. I realized that no matter what decision was made, it was not going to make 100% of the citizens happy; however, most decisions made will rarely end in that result.

Here are just a few of the results in 2018:

Groundbreaking began in Jan 2018 for the Ephesians apartment building with a completion date set for Feb of 2019. Leasing is now taking place and new residents should start moving in sometime thereafter.

By now, most of you have noticed that the Lovell building has been sold and torn down. The *Landings of Lexington* apartment complex will begin construction very soon. The expected completion date is sometime in early to mid-2020

We've worked hard to increase revenue and watch expenses at our municipal liquor store and we've had our most successful year since I have been elected. Thank you Jack Borgen for your leadership.

I can proudly announce that due to the decisions and hard work of the City Council, the city staff, and myself, we were able to pass a 0% increase in the general levy for the 2019 Budget.

In 2018, we had our most successful Lexington Fall Festival to date. I want to thank the YMCA, our Park Board, Lexington Fire Relief Auxiliary, and Cowboy's Saloon for all of their hard work. We constantly look to improve on this and it is becoming very popular. The Fall Festival is fully funded by Lexington Fire Relief Charitable Gambling profits and donations made by our local businesses.

We are working hard to keep the hockey rink open and weather permitting it will be open soon. Watch for updates. I want to thank the Tree of Life Church for donating their time to operate the warming house.

There are a lot of thank you's to hand out. Most, if not all of these people, donated their time with little recognition. There are many, many people who work hard for our small community. They don't do it for money or recognition, they do it because they care.

Cont. on page 2

They care about where they live and want to make it a better place. So if you see a police officer, a fire fighter, a city employee, a park board member, a planning and zoning member, or someone making a difference, please thank them. It goes a long way!

If you want to make a difference or get involved, attend a City Council meeting, a Park Board meeting, or a Planning and Zoning meeting. The Lexington Fire Department is ALWAYS looking for good people as well. Stay informed and get involved in what's happening in Lexington. You may be thinking that you already have a full time job, kids, sports, etc. Just keep in mind, we all do as well.

I hope to see you soon

Mark Kurth, Mayor of Lexington

**CITY OF LEXINGTON, MINNESOTA**

**SUMMARY 2019 BUDGET**

The purpose of this report is to provide summary 2019 budget information concerning the City of Lexington to interested citizens. This budget is published in accordance with Minn. Stat. Sec. 471.6965. This budget is not complete; the complete budget may be examined at the Lexington City Hall, 9180 Lexington Ave, Lexington, MN 55014 during regular business hours. The City Council adopted this budget on December 6, 2018.

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$ 1,817,271</b>	<b>\$ 1,817,271</b>
<b>Debt Service</b>	<b>\$ 197,573</b>	<b>\$ 212,655</b>
<b>Capital Projects Fund</b>	<b>\$ 352,500</b>	
<b>Enterprise Funds:</b>	<b>\$352,500</b>	
<b>Lovell Building</b>	<b>\$ 85,816</b>	<b>\$ 85,816</b>
<b>Liquor Fund</b>	<b>\$ 3,367,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,367,000</b>
<b>Storm Water Fund</b>	<b>\$ 28,607</b>	<b>\$ 51,015</b>
<b>Water Fund</b>	<b>\$ 138,000</b>	<b>\$ 196,046</b>
<b>Sewer Fund</b>	<b>\$ 199,000</b>	<b>\$ 338,660</b>

**SPRING  
RECYCLING DAY**

**\*\*REMINDER !!!!**

**Lexington's  
Recycling/Clean Up Day is  
Saturday April 27th**

**8:00 AM—12:00 PM**

**Location to be  
determinate at a later date**

**Watch for the Recycling/Clean news-  
letter in late March or early April...**

***Thank you to the Fire Relief***

***Once again ,many thanks must go out to the  
wonderful members of the  
Lexington Fire Relief***

***Association for their donation of the prize  
money for the Holiday Lighting Contest.***

***The Lexington Lighting Contest is just one of  
the many beneficiaries of the community  
based generosity, considerateand  
courageous group of volunteers.***



**Congratulations to the 2018**

**Holiday Lighting Contest winners:**

**1st Place**

**Joe Wolfbauer Jr**

**8860 Syndicate**

**2nd Place**

**Ruel Carpenter**

**8871 Griggs**

**3rd Place**

**Donald Christensen & Janice Heinen**

**4040 Restwood Road**

**City Offices will be CLOSED**

**January 21st**

**Martin Luther King Day**

**February 18th**

**Presidents Day**

Snowmobiles are motorized vehicles, and are therefore regulated by state law and city ordinance. Like other motor vehicles, they are regulated for the protection of both the snowmobile operators and the non-snowmobiling public. The concern for safety is high in the snowmobiling community. Last snow season 2017-2018, considered to run from the beginning of November through the end of April, saw as many as seven snowmobile-related fatalities. This was compared to five deaths from the season before. Of these seven; five involved alcohol. This year the legislatures changed the law so if a person is arrested for DWI on a snowmobile it's the same as being arrested for driving a motor vehicle like an automobile.

To help reduce accidents, minimize injuries, and reduce the number of complaints received concerning snowmobiles, the following "snowmobile basics" are offered for your consideration:

No person under the age of 14 may operate a snowmobile on city streets.

No person under the age of 18 may operate a snowmobile without a helmet.

If you were born after December 31, 1976 you must have a snowmobile safety certificate to operate a snowmobile in Minnesota.

Snowmobiles may only be operated between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 pm weekdays (including Sunday) and 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. on Friday and Saturday.

No snowmobile may exceed a speed of 10 mph on city streets, nor may they exceed a speed of 30 mph on posted portions of the Rice Creek Trail.

No snowmobile can exceed the speed of 50 mph at any time, including lakes and waterways.

City traffic ordinances apply to the operation of snowmobiles on city streets.

Snowmobiles must follow the marked snowmobile path. The only trail in Circle Pines is along Lake Drive.

Operating snowmobiles on boulevards and public property is prohibited.

Snowmobiles must remain at least 100 feet from any residence, except when operating on city streets.

Snowmobiles must come to a complete stop at all uncontrolled intersections.

Snowmobiles must have an operable muffler, headlamp and tail lamp.

To learn more about snowmobiling rules and regulations you may pick up a Minnesota Snowmobile Safety Laws, Rules and Regulations booklet at city hall or the police department. The Rice Creek Trail Association is also a very good source of information on everything snowmobile-related. They can be reached online at [www.ricecreektrail.com](http://www.ricecreektrail.com).

### *Fire Department News:*

Having your home damaged by a fire and losing your belongings is something no should have to go through. Unfortunately, this became reality for one of our Lexington residents this last month.

If you would like to learn more on how to help prevent a fire starting in your home, or what actions to take if a fire does start, contact the Lexington Fire Department Prevention Officer at [firepreventionlexmn@comcast.net](mailto:firepreventionlexmn@comcast.net) to schedule a free confidential one hour appointment. This appointment will cover Fire Prevention and Crime Prevention specifically related to your home. If you are in need of smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms and a few other items, they will be supplied and installed free of charge. Appointments are scheduled based on your availability to residents in the city of Lexington.

If you have questions, would like more information, or to schedule a free appointment, please contact the Lexington Fire Department Prevention Officer at [firepreventionlexmn@comcast.net](mailto:firepreventionlexmn@comcast.net)

## Recycling (Made Easier)

If you don't have a copy of the "Recycling Guide"

(a reference book to help you reduce waste, reuse resources, recycle more and dispose of materials safely)

stop by City Hall and pick one up.

Residents are encouraged to turn in their aluminum recycling receipts to City Hall. They can be included in the City's tonnage reports to Anoka County. Thank you to all residents that currently do this, it helps us achieve our recycling goals.

***\*Do you need childcare?***

***\*Did you apply for or have Childcare Assistance?(CCA)***

***\*Did you qualify for CCA or be placed on the waiting list?***

***\*Are your children/child between the ages of 6 weeks to 35 month?***

***Then Head Start Child Care Partnership is for you!***

***Contact them at 763-783-4348***

## Cut back on Road Salt to Protect Our Infrastructure, Water, and Aquatic Wildlife!

The Twin Cities Metro applies 350,000 tons of road salt every year, but have you ever wondered where it goes when winter ends?

Stormwater and snowmelt carry dissolved road salt into lakes, streams, and groundwater when winter thaws out. Chloride, a major part of road salt compounds, is especially stubborn in water. Once it dissolves, there is no feasible method to remove chloride from water, and stormwater treatment solutions like stormwater ponds and rain gardens are ineffective at removing chloride. Instead, chloride gradually accumulates in our water bodies, harming fish and other aquatic life. The corrosive nature of road salt also contributes between \$350 million and \$1.2 billion in infrastructure costs each year to the Metro area alone.

### What can you do about it?

Here are some helpful tips **you** can use to make your driveways and sidewalks safer and better for the environment this winter:

#### Shovel!

Salt is never a substitute for shoveling. Shovel your snow and ice first so that salt is only used for melting ice stuck to the ground.

#### Scatter!

Did you know you only need a 12-oz. mug of salt to effectively de-ice a 20-foot driveway or 10 sidewalk squares? When applying salt, aim to leave 3" between grains.

#### Salt!

Traditional salt (sodium chloride) does not melt ice when the temperature is below 15 degrees Fahrenheit. Use a low-temperature alternative such as magnesium chloride or calcium chloride to melt ice at lower temperatures or use sand for traction.

#### Sweep!

Sweeping up leftover salt and reusing it later is a great way to save money and limit the amount of salt getting into nearby waterways!

The holidays leave behind waste to dispose of. Seek out recycling options for decorations, holiday lights, and more!

<http://www.rethinkrecycling.com/residents/materials-name/holiday-lights-decorations-wrapping-paper>

Taking down your Christmas tree? Put your real tree to good use by finding an option so it can be composted.

[www.rethinkrecycling.com/residents/materials-name/christmas-trees-holiday-decorations](http://www.rethinkrecycling.com/residents/materials-name/christmas-trees-holiday-decorations)

  
The possibilities are endless.