

Chief Bruley *(continued from page one)*

Q. Police misconduct in other Minnesota cities has made national news in past years. What's your approach to addressing some of the bigger concerns around policing?

We must first and foremost create a culture in law enforcement that understands we are in the customer service industry. Every interaction an officer has with someone must communicate that we prioritize people's safety and that we're acting with their best interest in mind. For too long, law enforcement has encouraged a culture that suggests we exist to regulate and punish society. While we are empowered to hold people accountable, how we do that work matters! Respecting others and giving people a voice and an explanation goes a long way toward building trust. The community must not leave an enforcement interaction with an officer and have the idea that the officer had a motive or that it was personal.

Other critical ways to ensure police misconduct does not happen is to have good systems and policies in place that ensure that bad conduct is exposed early and that we hold people accountable.

Q. You've made it your mission to serve Brooklyn Park's residents in innovative ways - the Cops and Kids fishing program comes to mind. What's your secret to engaging the community?

It's simple...I love people! When your heart drives you to serve others, it's easy to engage people. Finding creative ways to build relationships with our community is one of my proudest accomplishments.

Q. We know every police department is different; what makes working



Officer Bruley on duty at BPPD in 1995

for the Brooklyn Park Police Department special?

The Brooklyn Park Police Department is special because we have a long history of fostering a culture that values exceptional police service to our community. We have accomplished this by selecting staff that inherently value serving others, we build relationships with our community at every opportunity, and we hold each other accountable for our actions.

Chief Bruley is now the leader of 107 licensed, full-time police officers and 52 full and part-time non-sworn staff. All members of the police department incorporate "Service, Justice and Courage" in all they do. *Congratulations, Chief Bruley!*

Follow BPPD on social media!

Facebook: @BPPDMN

Instagram: @BrooklynParkPoliceDept



Coming in 2023: No Mow May

Brooklyn Park City Council voted in September to approve joining a growing list of other Minnesota cities in supporting the "No Mow May" conservation initiative.

Protect our pollinators!

Scientists at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources say several Minnesota insect pollinator species have been listed as "threatened, endangered, or species of concern". Allowing your grass and weeds to grow (and refraining from pesticide use) provides habitat and food for bees, butterflies and other pollinators. Protecting pollinators plays an important role in our fight against climate change.

Next year, consider making your first mow in June. Stay tuned for more information early next year!

"How are we going to pay for that?" Budget talks in action

How much should the city spend on road salt? What kinds of recreational programs do we need? How long will our police cars and fire trucks last? City officials are considering these questions and more in budget talks.

Things to know

On September 26, 2022, Council adopted a maximum levy of 12.4% for 2023. From the time the maximum levy is adopted until the final budget is adopted, Council works to decrease the levy from the maximum amount.

Hennepin County delivers a parcel-specific notice of proposed property taxes to each taxpayer, November 11–24. This statement is also called a Truth-in-Taxation notice.

The statement includes proposed levies for the county, school districts, and other taxing authorities; it also includes the proposed maximum levy amount for the city. The final levy amount may be different from the amount in the proposed tax statement. It may be less, but will never be more than the proposed amount.

November 14: Council reviews 2023 budgets

November 21: The Economic Development Authority adopts a final budget and final levy

November 28: Council hears reports from the Budget Advisory Commission

December 5: Council holds a Truth-in-Taxation public hearing

December 12: Council adopts a final budget and final levy

You can stay engaged and informed in the budget process by visiting the city's finance website at: www.brooklynpark.org/city-finance/budget-process.

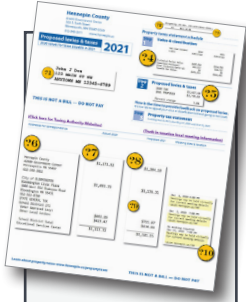
Get involved!

Attend or watch a public meeting. (Scan code at right) www.brooklynpark.org/city-council/#watch-meetings

Members of the public who desire to give input or testimony during the meeting may do so in person or by texting City Clerk Devin Montero at 763-439-1883 or email him at devin.montero@brooklynpark.org (subject line: "Council Testimony").

You will be asked to provide your name, address, email and phone number.

You will then be registered to speak during the Public Comment period or on the agenda item and will be provided the call-in number to address the Council.



Your truth-in-taxation statement indicates the maximum amount of property tax you will pay the following year if Council approves the budget. Council is currently working to reduce the levy.



Hometown Hero award presented to Fire Chief

Brooklyn Park Fire Chief T. John Cunningham was honored with the Minnesota Vikings *Hometown Hero* award on September 11, 2022. At the time of the 2001 attacks, Cunningham was a volunteer firefighter in Greenwich, Connecticut and felt the call to help.



"We were just there to help whatever that need was," Cunningham said. "Whether it was actually doing rescue work or recovery work, or to bring supplies for firefighters that were finding themselves there from halfway across the country."

Chief Cunningham, joined by his fellow BP Fire colleagues stood on the Vikings field, the roar of well-wishers and supporters all around. Cunningham leads Brooklyn Park's Fire Department with an eye toward safety for all.

"Our game day is every day," Cunningham emphasized. "When someone calls 911, they're expecting the peak performance, the utmost professionalism and someone that can solve every problem that they have. As a chief, I'm that coach; I'm that CEO of the organization. I'm that mentor, I'm that leader, I'm the manager – and it's my job to make sure we have the best equipment, the best facilities, the best training and, most importantly, the best people on our team."

"It's the people that make the organization. That's why I love my job," he added. "We're not there to judge; we're there to serve. There are no second chances; we can't lose the game we're in. We have to win."

Follow the Brooklyn Park Fire Department on social media to see them in action!

Facebook: @BPFire

Instagram: @BrooklynParkFireDept

TikTok: @BrooklynParkFireDept

Note: Includes excerpt from Lindsey Young, Minnesota Vikings Staff Writer

Property tax reduction programs

<https://www.revenue.state.mn.us/property-tax-programs>

The programs listed below help reduce property taxes for various types of property and owners across Minnesota. The application process is through the Hennepin County Assessor's Office.

Market Value Exclusion for DISABLED VETERANS	This program provides an annual market value exclusion of up to \$300,000 to help lower property taxes for qualifying disabled veterans, their caregivers, and their surviving spouses.
BLIND/DISABLED Homestead Classification	This classification provides a reduced classification rate on the first \$50,000 of taxable market value for qualifying blind or disabled persons.
SENIOR CITIZEN Property Tax Deferral	This program helps senior citizens who are having difficulty paying their property taxes. To qualify, you must be 65 or older and your household income must be less than \$60,000. Senior Citizen Property Tax Deferral Site Form CR-SCD, Senior Citizen Property Tax Deferral Application Department of Revenue, 651-556-4803
HOMESTEAD Classification	The homestead classification applies to properties that are physically occupied by the owner(s) as the principal place of residence. Classification as a homestead may qualify a property for a reduced classification rate, a reduced taxable market value, a property tax refund, and/or other special programs.

If you have questions, contact: Hennepin County Assessor's Office at 612-348-3046 or email: ao.programs@hennepin.us

Candidates for the 2022 election to Brooklyn Park city offices

MAYOR



WYNFRED RUSSELL
Candidate for Mayor

EAST DISTRICT



INDRED ALEXANDER
East District Council Candidate

CENTRAL DISTRICT



NICHOLE KLONOWSKI
Central District Council Candidate

WEST DISTRICT



MARIA TRAN
West District Council Candidate



HOLLIES WINSTON
Candidate for Mayor



CHRISTIAN ERIKSEN
East District Council Candidate



TESHITE WAKO
Central District Council Candidate



TONJA WEST-HAFNER
West District Council Candidate

To find out more about the candidates visit: <https://www.brooklynpark.org/elections/#candidates>

- You can vote early, in person, through November 7, 2022 at Brooklyn Park City Hall, 5200 85th Ave N, Council Chambers, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, November 5, 2022, in-person voting will be available 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at City Hall
- Monday, November 7, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at City Hall
- Tuesday, November 8, 2022, General Election Day; polls are open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Know before you go!

Due to redistricting following the 2020 Census, your polling place and precinct might have changed. To determine where to vote, go to the Secretary of State website: <https://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us>

For any questions, please contact City Clerk Devin Montero, 763-493-8180 or devin.montero@brooklynpark.org



In 2023: Stories told your way

Is it a swoosh? A fan? A squiggly, wiggly piece of abstract art?

We've all seen the Brooklyn Park logo, but did you know it's a fingerprint? The fresh green core with a crisp blue outer edge is a nod to the Mississippi River and the many ways in which we're unique, united and undiscovered.

In 2023, get to know Brooklyn Park's unique people, hear the stories that unite us, and enjoy undiscovered delights across the city:

The Wood Podcast

Featuring the voices of Zanewood Recreation Center participants, this podcast will draw you into the world of Brooklyn Park's youth. In the face of a rapidly changing city and ongoing pandemic challenges, we ask, "How are the children?" The youth sound off!

A Day in the Life

Stay tuned for a behind-the-scenes social media series where we explore all it takes to run a city. Look for content covering how we provide city services to our over 86,000 residents, attract diverse and thriving businesses, manage land use, and more.

BP 2025 deep dive

In 2017, we asked the community, "What do you want Brooklyn Park to be like in the year 2025?" Keep an eye out for regular progress updates on our six goals: United Community, Beautiful Places, Thriving Economy, Healthy and Safe People, Increased Equity, and Effective, Engaging Government.

Brooklyn Park to regulate the sale of certain edibles containing THC

State lawmakers recently made it legal to sell certain edibles and beverages infused with tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the cannabis ingredient extracted from hemp. State law does not limit where products may be sold, excluding liquor stores.

Brooklyn Park officials are reaching out to the business community, particularly tobacco, alcohol, and retail food establishment owners to gather feedback on how best to regulate. The City Council plans to consider creating a new THC ordinance later this year.

Brooklyn Park Recreation & Parks

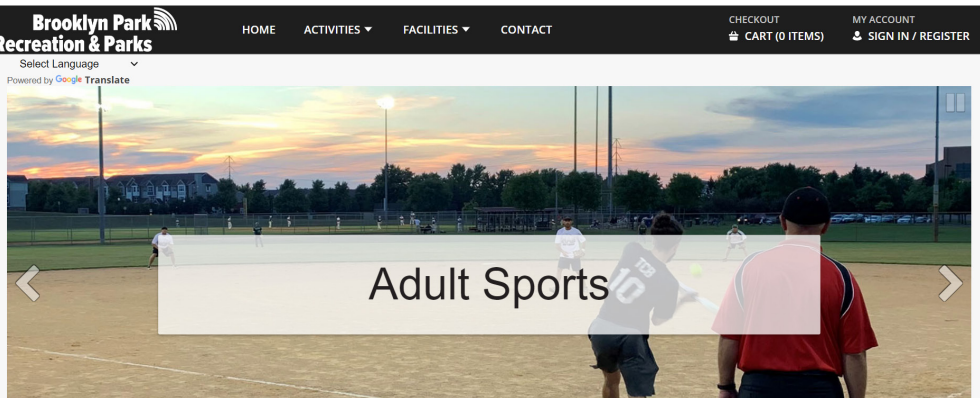
Programs, Facilities, and Equity Survey

The Recreation & Parks Department is looking to hear from all residents of Brooklyn Park to gather information on program interests, ideas for events, facility use, and to learn more about the racial and ethnic makeup of our customers. Our goal is to ensure that programs, facilities, events, and services are equitable, inclusive, relevant, and accessible for everyone that wants to use them.



Scan code to access the survey.

Thank you!



The **GetUp&Go** has gotten up and GONE!

The days of waiting for the Winter, Spring and Summer Recreation and Parks catalogues are over. We're transitioning to a fun insert in Park Pages, launching in January. Get information about events, programs, services, and facilities delivered to your doorstep every other month!

Bonus: We've upgraded WebTrac, our online registration platform. The site is now active! Easily search for programs and activities for all ages. Need language translation? With one click, you can read WebTrac in any language.

Removing barriers to Recreation and Parks programs

Are you interested in taking a swim class, joining a family field trip, or flexing your artsy side with a painting project? Brooklyn Park Recreation and Parks can help! With hundreds of programs and dozens of events throughout the year, we have something for everyone. Even better, the Recreation and Parks Department no longer requires documentation for need-based subsidies. Don't let cost keep you or your family from participating in our programs and events. Scholarships can easily be requested in person, over the phone or online at the time of registration. Staff can help you with determining which discount amount you qualify for and answer any questions you have. Scholarships are available for Brooklyn Park residents of all ages. Recreation and Parks Director Brad Tullberg says, "We want to make it easier for Brooklyn Park residents to take part in what we have to offer. Our united, thriving community is bursting at the seams with unexpected opportunities. We've got something for everyone!"

Follow us on social media!

Facebook: @BPRrecreationandParks

IG: @BPRrecreationandParks

NEW TO ICE SKATING?

Skating lessons are for you!

Skating lessons are offered year-round at the Brooklyn Park Ice Arena. Learn to Skate USA is a skating program whose mission is to provide a fun and positive experience that will instill a lifelong love of skating. The foundation of the program is based in a safe and solid skill progression that provides all skaters the necessary tools to reach their goal, be it recreational or competitive. The program is taught by Brooklyn Park USFS Professional Skating School instructors. Each class will consist of a 30-minute lesson and a 30-minute practice time. Skates are available at no charge for registered participants (youth size 8 through adults); rental for others is \$3 per time. Winter lessons, beginning January 7, are Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings. For more information and to register, please visit www.brooklynpark.org/registration or call 763-493-8333.

2022 LIVING WELL RESOURCE FAIR

“Age My Way”

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4
10AM—2PM

Speakers | community resources | health screenings | refreshments

COMMUNITY ACTIVITY CENTER

5600 85th Avenue N | Brooklyn Park 763-493-8333