

# City of Arnolds Park

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## **Arnolds Park Residents to Vote on Hotel-Motel Tax Increase**

Meeting in Special Session on August 22, 2018, the Arnolds Park City Council voted 5-0 to place on the November 6 General Election ballot a resolution that would increase the hotel-motel tax rate from 5% to 7%. The hotel-motel tax is charged by city lodging businesses to those visiting Arnolds Park. To increase the rate to 7% requires a “Yes” majority vote of city residents on November 6.

The current hotel-motel tax has been in existence since 1994. For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018, a total of \$477,862 was collected in hotel-motel tax by lodging establishments within the City of Arnolds Park, with half of that going to the Okoboji Tourism Committee to promote tourism on a regional basis. The remaining 50% went to the General Fund and was used by the City to help fund such projects as: our new Central Park, bike trails, other City parks and shelter houses, and other tourist related activities.

Based upon the numbers from FYE 2018, the projected new yearly revenue with a 7% tax would be approximately \$669,006, an increase in the total revenue collected of about \$191,144. The City would like to use this on projects like restoring the Wildcat Stadium ballpark and tourist area, other civic improvements, and to possibly apply proceeds to help hold down property tax rates!

## **Projects**

**West Broadway Street Improvements:** Milling and overlay of 634 lineal feet of West Broadway Street, curb & gutter removal and replacement, as well as, sidewalk removal and replacement along the north side of West Broadway was recently completed. Smaller areas of curb and gutter and sidewalk along the south side of West Broadway were also replaced. Construction costs on the project totaled \$162,896.13. Hulstein Excavating, Inc. out of Edgerton, MN was the contractor on this project.

**190<sup>th</sup> Street Trail & Lighting Improvements:** The addition of 2 – 8’ trails, one along the north side and one along the south side of 190<sup>th</sup> Street from 240<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 242<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, as well as, seven light poles was completed at the end of July. The addition of the trails and lighting create a safe pathway for residents and visitors as they walk and bike between Bridges Bay and the City center, and it also connects the existing trails on 190<sup>th</sup> Street to the ones on 242<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. Beck Excavating out of Spirit Lake, IA is the contractor for this project. This was a joint project between the City of Arnolds Park and Dickinson County. Total construction costs on the project was \$271,240.82 with approximately \$75,568.28 being the County portion.

**Lakeview Boulevard Pedestrian Walkway Improvements:** A short list of miscellaneous items remains and the then work on the Lakeview Boulevard Pedestrian Walkway Improvements project will be complete. This project called for the construction of a 4-foot sidewalk extending from Sunset Beach to 143 Pillsbury Point. Diamond Concrete out of Spirit Lake, IA is the contractor for this project.

## **Rentals**

We are seeing an increasing number of residential properties listed on AirBnB and other vacation rental sites. Please be aware that the minimum rental period differs depending upon what Zoning district property is located in. Property located in the (R-1) Single Family Residential, (R-2) Medium Density Residential, and (MH) Mobile Home & Manufactured Housing districts have a minimum rental period of thirty-one (31) days or one calendar

month. Rentals by the week, weekend, or night are only allowed in the (R-3) Cottage Residential, (C-1) Downtown Commercial, (C-2) General Commercial – Mixed Use, (C-3) Highway Commercial, and (C-4) Resort Commercial districts.

Regardless of location, all owners must provide enough off street parking for their tenants. A 180-square foot parking space is required for every three (3) persons of occupancy, or one (1) space for each bedroom. Failure to comply with the City Ordinance can result in a Municipal Infraction charge and fine for each day that the violation occurs. Please check with City Hall before listing your property for rent.

### **ATV, ORV, and Snowmobile Ordinance**

All persons operating must have a valid motor vehicle license and provide proof of current registration and financial responsibility as required by the Iowa Code Chapter 3211.

ATVs, ORVs, and snowmobiles are allowed to operate in the City from sunrise to sunset except for emergency situations or for loading or unloading from a transport trailer. ATV's may be operated during prohibited hours for snow removal purposes.

All ATVs, ORVs, and snowmobiles must be equipped with brakes, lights, muffling devices, and other equipment required by the State of Iowa law.

ATVs, ORVs, and snowmobiles will be allowed to cross Highway 71 at Broadway Street and 202<sup>nd</sup> Street, but will **not** be allowed to operate on Highway 71. ATVs, ORVs, and snowmobiles will be allowed on all other City streets.

ATVs, ORVs, and snowmobiles will not be allowed to operate in any City Park, playground, or upon any other City property without permission of the City.

No ATVs, ORVs, or snowmobiles shall operate on City streets at a speed greater than thirty-five (35) miles per hour even if the posted limit is greater than thirty-five (35) miles per hour. As always, drive sober or get pulled over.

Please stop by or contact City Hall for a complete copy of this ordinance.

### **At the Library**

Story time at the Library: Story time will take place every Tuesday at 10:30am. This is a great opportunity to hear the latest children's books, as well as, some favorite children's classics. After the stories we will do a themed craft for the kids to take home. Please call 712-332-2033 or stop by the library if you have any questions. Children of all ages are WELCOME!

Paint Night at the Library: The Lakes Libraries will continue to offer monthly paint nights this fall and winter. Attendees of any skill level are invited to recreate a beautiful painting by following step-by-step instructions from the artist who created the original painting. All painting supplies are provided. Early registration cost is \$7.50 or \$15.00 if you pay the day of the event. Space is limited so be sure to sign up early!

Monday Morning Mah Jongg Club: The players meet at 9:30am every Monday morning in the library. If you are a Mah Jongg player or would like to learn the game we invite you to stop by the library on Monday mornings to meet this wonderful group of players.

Our library book club meets the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00am. The group has a wonderful list of books picked out for the fall. Each month a different book is discussed and coffee and treats are served. If you are interested in learning more about book club, please stop by the library or join us at our next book club on Wednesday, October 10th.

The library continues to add new items daily. Whether you enjoy reading books, listening to audio books, or enjoying a movie the library has something for everyone! Please stop in and check out all our new items and enjoy a cup of coffee, tea, or cider at our coffee station.

### **Police Department**

Fall has arrived and the new school year is well under way. In an effort to keep all our kids safe, we are asking that everyone use caution when approaching a stopped school bus from either direction. When the warning lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended, you **MUST** stop and allow the children to enter or exit the school bus safely. Whether a school bus is picking up or dropping children off on either a two-lane road or three-lane

highway, you must stop when the warning lights are activated. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in keeping our school children safe.

We can tell by the falling temperatures, that winter will soon be here. We would like to take this time to remind everyone of a few things:

- Keep your sidewalks free of snow and ice. This is the responsibility of the property owners in both the residential and business districts.
- During snow removal, do not park, abandon, or leave unattended vehicles on any public street, alley, or City owned off-street parking area unless the snow has been removed or plowed from said street, alley, or parking area and the snow has ceased to fall. Any vehicles left on City streets following a snowfall of 2 inches or more will be ticketed or towed at the owner's expense whether or not a snow emergency has been declared by the City.
- Keep a Winter Emergency Kit in your car. You never know when or where you may become stranded.
- Drive Carefully. Please allow extra time to reach your destination and use caution when traveling on wet or snow covered roads.

Any resident of Arnolds Park that is leaving for an extended amount of time this winter may come to the Arnolds Park Police Department and fill out a House Watch form. This will allow the police department to contact you or an emergency contact should there been an incident that involves your residence.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the police department at 712-332-2227.

### **Yard Waste and Open Burning**

The City has proper disposal methods for yard waste and we ask that it never be blown onto or placed on the streets, public roads, or neighboring lots.

Yard waste is collected on Tuesdays. If you wish to have your yard waste picked up it must be placed in City bags, tied shut, and placed at the **curbside by 7:00 a.m.** on collection days. Bags will not be picked up if there is garbage or other items in the bag.

If you choose to burn your yard waste, please be courteous to neighbors and use good judgment based on weather conditions. All fires must be attended by a person 18 years of age or older at all times. Any yard waste you burn on your property, must originate on your property.

***The burning of garbage, rubber, or anything of a toxic matter is strictly prohibited. Yard waste cannot be burned on City property.***

### **Recycling**

City recycling is now picked up by Town & Country. Recycling must be placed in the correct container in order to be picked up. Town & Country will not pick up recycling in any other container or if it is mixed in with garbage.

The recycling no longer needs to be separated and can be co-mingled together. Curbside recycling days are the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays of each month. Please contact City Hall if you would like to receive a recycling container at no charge. There are recycling bins located at 700 240<sup>th</sup> Ave. if you should miss the curbside collection.

Accepted recyclables include: cans (steel, tin, aluminum), plastic containers (bottles, tubs, jugs), flattened cardboard, paper (newspapers, office paper, junk mail, magazines, phone books). Shredded paper and plastic bags need to be bagged separately in clear plastic bags. **Do not recycle the following items:** Glass (bottles, jars), Styrofoam, ceramics, porcelain, baking glass, toys, clothes, shoes, rubber, waste & food, hazardous materials (paint, lead, glue, oil), electronics (TVs, keyboards, batteries, bulbs), furnace filters.

Please have containers out by 7:00 a.m. on pick-up day. If you do not have your container out in time it will not be picked up until the next designated pick-up day.

### **Snow Removal**

Town and Country Disposal will not empty commercial dumpsters if there is snow in front of or blocking the dumpster. Businesses are responsible for snow removal and ensuring the path is clear for the garbage trucks.

### **Winter Utility Shut Down**

Every winter there are homes that have water lines freeze up and break. In addition to water issues, we have seen sewer back-ups over the past several years. If a homeowner is leaving for a period of time, the water to the house should be shut off. If for some reason there is a power outage, or the heat should go off, a flooded lower level might be avoided. In addition, it would be wise to have someone check the house periodically.

### **Emergency Number**

If you have a water or sewer emergency on weekends or holidays, please call the Dickinson County Communications Center at (712) 336-2525.

