

ISSUE 1 • JANUARY 2025

THE TONKA BAY CONNECTION

Official Newsletter of the City of Tonka Bay

A Message from the Mayor

Happy New Year!

As we wrap up 2024, we embark not only on a new year, but a new Council as well. This January we will have two Councilmembers leaving us and another two joining to take their places. I would like to thank both Councilmembers Connelly and Viger for the last four years of their service and commitment to the City. They both provided great input and the City was better with their participation and leadership. Joining us are Jeff Anderson and Kathy Ottum. Some of you may remember Jeff from Councils past and Kathy, while serving her first term with the City, has been a regular participant at many meetings for some time. I look forward to serving with them both. The combination of experience and fresh eyes will be a benefit to us all.

As with many things in life, good things are often accompanied with more sobering news. Dan, our City Administrator, is regretfully leaving to pursue the next chapter in his professional journey. Dan was approached by another city with an opportunity that he simply couldn't pass up (and neither would I if I were him). I can't say enough good things about Dan. He has provided a great deal of ballast over the past few years and has done an outstanding job navigating a plethora of tasks and moving parts that many don't often have the opportunity to see. He has been a steadfast advocate for the City and worked well with our sister-cities and staff alike, in a calm, professional, and unflappable manner. I think I speak for everyone when I say, Dan will be missed and that we all wish him the best in his new journey.

We continue to move forward with plans to find a final resting place for the soils in front of City hall. The cultural and environmental studies for the Council's proposed location are close to being complete and everything is moving along the proposed timeline our City Engineer helped construct earlier this Fall. With the New Year beginning, more information should be available by the next regular meeting on January 14th in fact, after this newsletter comes out. In short, things are moving ahead according to plan and are currently on-schedule, with the hopes of having matters largely taken care of before the spring thaw.

So while the New Year isn't necessarily coming in like a lion, the City does have a number of things we need to accomplish in our first quarter. Please be patient as we work through the hiring process and integrate in a new City Administrator. Our City Clerk, City Treasurer, myself and the other Councilmembers will be picking up things as we can, but we will not have a full complement of staff members which will impact the regular daily tasks to some degree.

I wish you all the best in the coming year! Looking forward to the tasks ahead.

Respectfully,

Adam

Important Dates:

- January 13, 2025 Christmas Tree pickup
- January 13, 2025 Garbage only pickup
- January 14, 2025 City Council Meeting – 7pm
- January 17, 2025 Arctic Fever Events begin
- January 20, 2025 Martin Luther King Jr Day-City Hall Closed
- January 20, 2025 Garbage & Recycling pickup
- January 27, 2025 Garbage only pickup
- January 27, 2025 Parks & Docks Commission Meeting 5:30 pm
- January 28, 2025 City Council Meeting – 7 pm
- February 1, 2025 Utility Bills Due
- February 11, 2025 City Council Meeting – 7 pm
- February 14, 2025 Valentine's Day
- February 17, 2025 Presidents Day City Hall Closed
- February 24, 2025 Parks & Docks Commission Meeting – 5:30 pm
- February 25, 2025 City Council Meeting – 7pm

Join the Parks and Docks Commission!

Are you passionate about your community's parks, trails, and recreational spaces? The City of Tonka Bay is seeking dedicated volunteers to join the **Parks and Docks Commission**.

This is a great opportunity to help shape the future of our parks, docks, and public spaces while serving your community.

What Does the Commission Do?

- Provide input on park development and improvements.
- Advise the City Council on park and dock-related projects.
- Help maintain and enhance recreational spaces for all residents.

Who We're Looking For:

- Residents who care about the quality and development of local parks and docks.
- Individuals willing to attend regular meetings and collaborate with fellow commissioners.
- No previous experience required – just a commitment to your community!

Term Length:

Terms typically last 2-3 years, with meetings held monthly on Monday evenings.

How to Apply:

Submit an application found on the website to clerk@cityoftonkabay.net

Help us make Tonka Bay an even better place to live, work, and play!

Sign Up for Citywide Email Blasts!

To receive current and future notable information from the City of Tonka Bay, please visit www.cityoftonkabay.net

On the main page go to Residents, next click on Email Subscription Service.

Enter your name and email address, then select you email Option(s) and submit.

You must confirm the email that will be set to you. You can also call City Hall at 952-474-7994 and provide your information as well. We would be more than happy to help.

Arctic Fever

FREE WINTER FUN FOR ALL AGES!

GLOW Bowling at Country Club Lanes

Saturday January 18th, 2025

10:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Glow Bowling Package is \$13.99/per person

Includes shoes, 90 minutes of GLOW bowling, and soda

\$10.99 a person plus tax with a food donation

Donations will be brought to the Westonka Food Shelf in Mound

Pizza will be provided by the City of Tonka Bay

Donuts provide by South Lake police officers

Music, fun games, and prize drawings!



New Look for Utility Billing

Dear Residents,

We are excited to announce that your utility billing statements will now feature a new design that provides more detail and user-friendly information. This update reflects our commitment to enhancing transparency and improving your experience.

What's New?

- **Enhanced Clarity:** Charges and usages are now displayed more clearly, making it easier to understand your bill.
- **Additional Insights:** View a history of your water, sewer, and garbage services for the past 5 cycles.
- **Convenient Reminders:** Important notices, payment due dates, and other updates will now be highlighted.
- **Newsletter:** A quarterly newsletter will be included with each billing providing notable happenings for the City of Tonka Bay.

When will you see the change? The redesigned statements will be introduced starting with January 2025 billing cycle.

How does this Affect You? Your account details, payment options, and billing cycle remain the same. The only change is the improved design and additional information on your statement.

If you have any questions or need assistance understanding your new bill, please don't hesitate to contact Annie Britt, City Treasurer, at 952-474-7994.

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