



Hopkins



Inspire • Educate Involve • Communicate

Winter is Coming!

Remember these rules and sail through winter

Move your car

To avoid being towed, remove your vehicle from City streets and parking lots as soon as a snow emergency is declared. Snow emergencies may be declared upon a two-inch snowfall. Call the Snow Line at 952-939-1399 for snow emergency announcements.

To receive a message when a snow emergency is declared, visit www.hopkinsmn.com/255/Emergency-Notification-System to register your phone number for the Smart911 Emergency Notification System. During a snow emergency, parking restrictions remain in effect until streets are plowed curb to curb, and the parking lots and parking ramp are completely plowed.

Shovel the sidewalk

As mandated by City ordinance, Hopkins residents are responsible for removing snow and ice from public sidewalks within 12 hours of a snowfall. This is necessary for the safety of all who use the sidewalks. Remember, it is against the law for individuals to plow, shovel, blow or place snow onto streets, alleys and boulevards.



Clear the fire hydrants

While the City tries to clean snow from fire hydrants as soon as possible after a snow, we could use your help. Please adopt a nearby fire hydrant and keep it clear of snow through the winter. Hydrants should be cleared five feet on each side to give the Fire Department the quickest and best access. 🍓

Public Meeting on 2026 Budget is December 1

Interested in how your tax dollars are spent? Attend the 2025 Budget Hearing on Monday, December 1, at 6:30 p.m., at Hopkins City Hall. The 2026 Budget will be presented along with the proposed 2026 tax levy.

The council set a preliminary budget and levy in September, which will appear on the notice of proposed taxes mailed to every tax payer. City Council and staff have continued to work on the 2026 budget and will present the most current version of the budget and tax levy.

This is the final opportunity to provide input on the budget before it is approved. All input is welcome. 🍓

Election Day is November 4

The City's municipal and special elections will be held Tuesday, November 4. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Visit mnvotes.org to find your polling place, or contact City Hall for more information.

Vote Early by Absentee Ballot

Absentee ballots are available at City Hall through November 3, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. City Hall will be open extended hours on Saturday, November 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Monday, November 3, until 5 p.m. The deadline to return absentee ballots to City Hall is 5 p.m. on Election Day.

Questions?

Contact us at 952-548-6300 or visit www.hopkinsmn.com/352/Voting-Elections for more information. 🍓

Register for Winter-Spring Recreation

Tuesday, December 9, 8 a.m. • General Programs and Ice Skating Lessons

Thursday, December 11, 8 a.m. • Senior Programs

Visit minnetonkamn.gov/register to browse the program options and choose from an array of activities including kids' programs, tennis lessons, fitness programs and athletic leagues. There is something for everyone!

Register online at minnetonkamn.gov/register or call between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. General Programs: 952-939-8203, Senior Programs: 952-939-8393, Ice Skating: 952-939-8310. 🍓

Ice Rinks Open December 20

Lace up your skates at our area parks December 20 and will remain open through February 16, weather permitting. Outdoor warming houses are available at:

- Minnetonka rinks: Boulder Creek, Covington, Glen Lake, Gro Tonka, McKenzie, Meadow and Spring Hill parks
- Hopkins rinks: Burnes, Oakes, Central, Harley, Interlachen and Valley parks

Skating rink hours are Monday through Friday from 4:30 to 9 p.m., Saturdays from noon to 9 p.m., and Sundays from noon to 7 p.m. For weather related updates, rink conditions and closings, call the weather hotline at 952-939-8355. For more information, visit minnetonkamn.gov/outdoor-ice-rinks.

City Meeting Calendar

City Offices Closed

Tuesday, November 11

Veteran's Day

Thursday, November 27-Friday, November 28

Thanksgiving

Wednesday, December 24-

Thursday, December 25

Christmas

City Council Calendar

Tuesday, November 18, 6:35 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Monday, December 1, 6:35 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, December 16, 6:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Find agendas and minutes at www.hopkinsmn.com/343/City-Council.

Boards and Commissions Calendar

Tuesday, November 18, 6:30 p.m.

Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Monday, November 24, 6:30 p.m.

Park Board

Tuesday, November 25, 6:30 p.m.

Planning and Zoning Commission

Monday, December 1, 6:30 p.m.

Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Monday, December 15, 6:30 p.m.

Park Board

Thursday, December 23, 6:30 p.m.

Planning and Zoning Commission

Find agendas and minutes at www.hopkinsmn.com/346/Boards-Commissions.

Meeting Broadcasts

Watch City Council and Zoning and Planning Commission meetings live on Cable Channel 16. Meetings are also replayed every day (except Tuesdays) at 7 p.m.; Thursdays at 2 p.m.; and Sundays at 1 p.m.

Elected Officials

Mayor: Patrick Hanlon

City Council:

- Heidi Garrido • Brian Hunke
- Ben Goodlund • Aaron Kuznia



CITY HALL
1010 1ST STREET SOUTH
HOPKINS, MN 55343
952-935-8474
WWW.HOPKINSMN.COM



Help Make the Holidays Bright

Submit a Nomination for Thanksgiving Meal Delivery

As a way to continue to support the community, the Hopkins Police Department has joined together with the Hopkins Fire Department, the Hopkins Rotary, and the Hopkins Business and Civic Association to deliver Thanksgiving meals, provided by Driskill's Downtown Market, to those in need.

If you, your family, a friend or a neighbor are in need of a Thanksgiving meal, visit www.hopkinsmn.com/formcenter/police-17/thanksgiving-182 to submit a nomination form by 6 a.m. on November 12. Meals will be delivered the afternoon/evening of November 26.

If you are unable to submit a nomination online, please contact Anne Buck at 952-548-6407.

Submit a Nomination for Cops N Kids Shopping

The Hopkins Police Department is now accepting nominations for Cops N Kids Shopping coming up on Wednesday, December 10. Cops N Kids Shopping is a program to help make the holidays a bit brighter by offering teens the opportunity to experience the joy of giving, as well as create valuable relationships between police, youth and their families. The participants are transported to a local retailer where they are given a gift card to purchase gifts for their family.

Youth are nominated by the community based on their positive performance in school, their commitment to the community and unique needs. The deadline to submit a nomination is Monday, December 1, at 8 a.m. Learn more and submit a nomination at www.hopkinsmn.com/428/Cops-N-Kids.

Hopkins Community Connection Project

The City of Hopkins strives to be a vibrant space with a spirit of community where people feel safe, are treated with respect, and whose cultural heritages are celebrated.

The Community Connection Project aims to collect resident thoughts and experiences relating to equity, inclusion and belonging. This feedback will inform future City efforts to better recognize, connect, and engage residents.

There are multiple ways to get involved with this project, including filling out the Community Connection survey, stopping by one of our events or hosting your own meeting in a box.

For more information, visit the City website or contact Kaori Hirano at khirano@hopkinsmn.com.



2026 City Budget Update

On September 16, the City Council approved a 2026 proposed tax levy of \$22,294,813 or a 7.98 percent increase from 2025. This is a reduction from a projected 20.70 percent increase.

2026 Preliminary Tax Levy

The preliminary tax levy provides for the general fund, equipment replacement, building improvements, Hopkins Center for the Arts, the Pavilion and debt service. The levy provides for the continuation of outstanding customer service by City workers, exceptional police and fire protection and helps maintain a vibrant, authentic downtown. This results in estimated tax payments of \$2,470 for the median value home (\$376,200) a \$210 or 9.29 percent increase from 2025.

2026 General Fund Budget

The General Fund is the main operating fund of the City and accounts for core services provided by the City. Taxes are the main revenue source for the General Fund, accounting for approximately 80 percent of budgeted revenues in 2026.

General Fund budgeted expenditures increased by 8.19 percent from the 2025 Budget due to salary and benefit increases and funding six additional Public Safety positions (three police officers, two full-time firefighters and a deputy fire chief).

View the full budget breakdown at www.hopkinsmn.com/876/Annual-Budget. 🍷

ACE Applications Open December 1

Interested in local government? Need a summer job? Become an ACE next summer! The ACE Program is open to young adults ages 16-24 who face barriers to employment.

The ACE Program is an eight-week paid internship beginning mid-June to early August. The program offers several positions within the

cities of Hopkins and Minnetonka in the police, fire, public works, administration, arts and recreation departments.

To learn more, visit www.hopkinsmn.com/ACE. 🍷



METRO Green Line Testing

Metro Transit has begun testing light rail vehicles in Hopkins as the Green Line Extension project is nearing completion. Testing will continue throughout 2026.

Light rail vehicles will be traveling through Hopkins between St. Louis Park and Eden Prairie to test the electrical systems and crossing warning lights. For everyone's safety, please be aware of and

comply with all railroad crossing gate arms and warning lights, even if the reason for them might not be apparent. The testing work is critical to ensure the Green Line Extension Light Rail Transit project is ready to serve customers in 2027.

Visit the METRO Green Line Extension website at greenlineext.org to learn more. 🍷

Tree Sale Preview Coming In January

In partnership with Tree Trust, Hopkins Public Works will be offering a limited number of trees at a discounted price of \$40 each to residents in early 2026. Preview will be online at treetrust.org beginning January 26, with the sale opening on February 23. Pick-up will be May 2. Keep an eye out for more information in the next issue of Highlights.

Upcoming Events

Turkey Bingo

Sunday, November 9 • 2 p.m.

The Hopkins Police Department is hosting their annual Turkey Bingo at the Hopkins Activity Center, 33 14th Avenue N. For \$20, play 10 games for the chance to win amazing prizes worth over \$100 each game. Raffles for gift cards to local businesses will be held between games. Refreshments will be available for purchase. The 18+ event is cash only. All proceeds will go to the department's Cops N Community programs.

Central Park Open House

Monday, November 17 • 6-8 p.m.

Come out and see the new design for Central Park and share your thoughts at the Hopkins Pavilion. Learn more about this project and sign up for updates at www.hopkinsmn.com/1194/Central-Park-Master-Plan.

Holiday in Hopkins

Saturday, November 29 • 1-5 p.m.

Head down to Mainstreet on Small Business Saturday for Hopkins Business and Civic Association's annual Holiday in Hopkins featuring horse-drawn carriage rides, hot cocoa, cookie decorating and a tree lighting at Downtown Park. Find more information on Facebook at www.facebook.com/hbcamn.

Garbage, Organics & Recycling Schedule

November 2025

City offices will be closed Thursday, November 27, and Friday, November 28, for Thanksgiving. Thursday's garbage and organics collection will be collected one day early on Wednesday, November 26. Recycling collection will be the weeks of November 3-6 and November 17-20.

December 2025

City offices will be closed Wednesday, December 24, and Thursday, December 25, for the Christmas holiday. Monday and Tuesday garbage and organics collection will be picked up as normal on December 22 and 23. Wednesday and Thursday collection will be held on Friday, December 26. Recycling collection will be the weeks of December 1-4, December 15-18 and December 29-31.

Holiday Tree Pick-Up

Holiday trees will be picked up curbside, free of charge for Hopkins residential garbage customers the week of January 12. Trees will be picked up on your garbage day, subject to change due to the weather.



City of Hopkins

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1010 1ST STREET SOUTH
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Now Showing! *at the Hopkins Center for the Arts*

Exhibitions

Original works by local Iranian-Americans whose creative work in the arts reflects or illuminates their rich heritage are on display at the Hopkins Center for the Arts through November 30. This exhibition features artworks in a variety of mediums exploring a range of ideas: history, culture, immigrant experience, and pure aesthetics.

Also on view through November 30, immerse yourself in the layered imagery converged with mixed media by artist Mary Catherine Solberg. Her portraiture artwork explores the connection between present experiences and past memories. In another exhibition area, viewers are invited to explore the real (and imagined) pressures of contemporary American life presented through artist Kathryn D'Elia's paintings of pop culture icons and the uses of everyday articles.

Concerts

Thursday, December 11 • 7 p.m. Social Hour, 8 p.m. Concert
Suzy Bogguss' *Swingin' Little Christmas* is a joyous, festive evening of traditional songs and spontaneity. This fun-filled show features Christmas classics sprinkled with Suzy's hits through the years and select songs from her recent releases that the whole family will enjoy!

Watch for the early 2026 season concert schedule announcements, by following the Arts Center on Facebook at facebook.com/hopkinsartscenter or on Instagram at instagram.com/hopkinsartscenter4.

For information on exhibitions, concert ticket purchasing and rental opportunities at the Center, visit www.hopkinsartscenter.com.



Hopkins Activity Center

Fitness • Recreation • Social Opportunities • Rentals

The Hopkins Activity Center's mission is to provide pathways to "Experience the Upside of Aging." It is a gathering place for mature adults to participate in recreational, social, educational, fitness and volunteer activities. It also serves as a community facility offering a gym and various rooms available for parties, meetings or recreational event rentals on evenings and weekends by reservation.

Register for Activity Center events and facility rentals by calling 952-939-1333 or visiting the program registration site at www.hopkinsmn.com/activitycenter, or by visiting the Activity Center, located at 33 14th Avenue North.

Pickleball Lessons, Open Play and Court Rental

Winter time is the perfect time to play a friendly game of indoor pickleball! The Activity Center hosts pickleball skills lessons, beginner classes, drop-in recreational play for adults 55 and over, and court rentals on nights and weekends by reservation.

Ring in the New Year

Wednesday, December 31 • 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Ring in the New Year early with a Noon Year's pizza party lunch to celebrate another year around the sun. Enjoy social time with friends old and new and sing along to the wonderfully fun and entertaining ALIVE & K!CK!N performance group! Tickets must be purchased in advance to attend (Activity fee: \$12, Members: \$10).

Clock Tower Bricks Make Great Holiday Gifts!

Looking for a unique holiday gift? Leave a lasting impression in Clock Tower Plaza with the City's "Buy A Brick" program. Individuals, families, groups, businesses and organizations can purchase bricks with their names imprinted that will be placed at Clock Tower Plaza off 9th Avenue and Mainstreet. The cost for individual bricks is \$80, \$100 for businesses and organizations, and \$250 for a premier location. Learn more at www.hopkinsmn.com/853/Buy-a-Brick. 🧱