

Whitetail Ridge A great location for your new home

The newly developed Whitetail Ridge subdivision is located at the intersection of South Prairie Avenue and Belle Vue Road. This tranquil location consists of 14.7 acres, 6.7 of which are classified as an "open space" or natural buffer, as they are wetland and wooded. Twenty lots in this serene setting have been subdivided, spanning from 12,300 ft² - 17,750 ft², with lot prices ranging from \$40,000 - \$60,000, which includes all utility costs and street assessments. Contact 507.238.3936 for additional information.

These buildable lots are waiting for you!



Fairmont's beautiful lakes and extensive park and trail system aid in attracting and retaining residents. People are constantly utilizing the parks for swimming, picnicking, boating and fishing. Fairmont's Park Department puts a lot of effort into these parks, i.e. grooming the grounds, repairing equipment, preparing docks, raking the swimming beaches and maintaining the picnic shelters. Visitors and residents seem to enjoy and appreciate their efforts. If we all continue to pick up after ourselves and our pets, our parks will be a better place for everyone.

Enjoy a Park

Enjoy a Fairmont Park. Our parks have something for everyone.

Creating Balance

Amenities are hard to come by without the financial resources to acquire them, whether it's park equipment, streets, water or sewer; it all costs money. By state statute, Fairmont must set its 2018 preliminary budget by September 30. Staff and council are busy discussing priorities, needs, and mandates to establish Fairmont's preliminary budget. A few listed priorities include: repairing streets, cleaning up blighted properties, enhancing the trail system, replacing worn out equipment, addressing flooding in a couple areas of the City, completing the Pioneer Drive walking bridge, and working to offer more affordable housing.



Fairmont's general fund budget is approximately \$9.8 million, broken down as: General Government 15.0%, Public Safety (Police and Fire) 35.5%, Parks and Recreation 27.1% and Public Works (Streets and Storm Sewer) 22.4%. This excludes Water, Waste Water, Electric Utilities and the Liquor Store, as these are stand-alone enterprise funds. The average \$150,000 household pays approximately \$755.00 annually in property taxes to the City of Fairmont, excluding the School District and the County taxes. Of fourteen cities in comparable size, i.e. Albert Lea, Alexandria, Hutchinson, Marshall, New Ulm, Fairmont ranks second lowest in property taxes. Questions City Staff and Council often ask include, "Do we have all the amenities we need?" "Are our streets and infrastructure up to a high standard?" "If the answers to these questions are "no", is it because we are not levying enough taxes?" "On the other hand, if Fairmont raises taxes, will we remain competitive as a City for economic development and attracting people to our community?" Creating a balance is the key.

I believe we have the ability to raise taxes and still have one of the lowest tax rates for a community our size, while continuing to provide excellent services and still be competitive.

~ Michael Humpal, City Administrator

It's Not Too Late..... to address some commonly reported code violations and to make sure your property is kept in a safe and respectable manner.

Grass and Weeds

Long grass or weeds is the number one complaint received throughout the spring and summer months. Section 17-2 of the Fairmont City Code states, "It is unlawful for any owner or occupant to allow grass or weeds to grow at a height greater than 6 inches." Please, make sure grass and weeds are mowed and maintained throughout the growing season.

Junk

Items stored outside in yards should be items commonly found outdoors. Section 17-1 of the Fairmont City Code states, "It is unlawful for any person to park or store any unlicensed, unregistered or inoperable vehicle, parts of motor vehicles or machinery, inoperable lawn equipment, construction materials not currently being used for a construction project, household furnishings or appliances originally intended for use within the interior of a building, broken or disabled bicycles or recreational conveyances, empty glass, metal or plastic containers, broken or obviously discarded tools, toys or electronics, or other similar items or materials on private or public property, unless housed within a lawfully erected building or in a zone wherein junkyards are a permitted use." Please take some time each day to assess your property and pick up items that should be stored inside.

Solid Waste Storage

Dumpster, garbage and recycling containers are not allowed to be stored in the front yard EXCEPT the night before and throughout the day of garbage and recycling pick up. Containers must be stored so that they are not visible from the street or front yard. For a complete overview of solid waste storage, please see Section 22 of the Fairmont City Code.

The City of Fairmont greatly appreciates all your help in improving the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Fairmont!

To file a complaint or report a code violation, please contact:
Darcy Jones, 507-238-3933 or djones@fairmont.org



Dispose of unwanted, unused appliances, electronics and tires at the upcoming clean-up events. Fairmont Clean-up Coupons will be accepted and additional items can be disposed of for a nominal fee.

Cleanup events are scheduled for

September 12: 9am - 1pm

September 16: 9am - Noon

*Martin County Highway Department
1200 Marcus Street • Fairmont*

Can't make the cleanup events? Contact Prairieland Solid Waste for additional disposal options (507-776-3232).



Over the last year, the Fairmont Police Department (FPD) had numerous personnel changes. Michael Hunter was promoted to Chief of Police in December 2016, which promoted Officer James Tietje to Patrol Sergeant to fill the vacancy left by Chief Hunter. While Chief Hunter and Sergeant Tietje are familiar faces to our community, FPD added four additional officers to continue to serve and protect our community.

Officer Lily Paine joined the department in April 2016 after serving with the Madelia Police Department. In March 2017, Officer Josh Nelson and Officer Colin Hagert joined FPD after serving with the Northfield Police Department and Sleepy Eye Police Department, respectively. Most recently, Officer Jason Christenson joined the force in June 2017 after serving ten years as a Faribault County Sheriff's Office Patrol Deputy. We are very pleased to add these new officers to our department.

We are pleased to announce the renewal of our partnership with the Fairmont Area Schools to reinstate the School Resource Officer position Fall 2017. Officer Mike Beletti has been selected to serve in this role. His focus will be on student safety and building positive relationships with students and staff.

The FPD personnel is very proud to serve our community and would like to thank you for your respect and continued support. Our officers and employees understand that FPD doesn't just stand for Fairmont Police Department, but also for the expectation of how we provide service in our community:

Fair, Professional, and Dedicated.

City Council

Meets 2nd & 4th Mondays at 5:30 pm
City Hall Council Chambers

Debbie Foster	235-5826	Mayor
Tom Hawkins	238-3678	Council Member At-Large
Bruce Peters	238-4507	Ward 1
Ruth Cyphers	236-2710	Ward 2
Jim Zarling	238-9303	Ward 3
Wayne Hasek	235-3974	Ward 4

City Hall

Office hours Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
100 Downtown Plaza, Fairmont

Mike Humpal	238-3936	City Administrator
Elizabeth Bloomquist	238-3939	City Attorney
Paul Hoyer	238-3934	Finance Director
Patty Monsen	238-3935	City Clerk
Troy Nemmers	238-3942	Public Works Director/City Engineer