



DISCOVER
HAZELWOOD

HAZELWOOD HIGHLIGHTS

AUGUST 2020



THIS ISSUE

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FAQS - NID

What is NID?

NID is an additional property tax that can only be used to pay for fire service in the Robertson service area.

How is the NID calculated?

Per State law, the NID is based on the difference between what it would cost the City to provide fire and ambulance service to your neighborhood and what Robertson charges the City. The current cost differential would be \$1.37 per \$100 assessed value. The ballot erroneously lists the rate as \$1.73. By law, the actual rate will be \$1.37 as set for in the NID resolution.

Who votes on the NID?

Registered voters in the Robertson service area.

FAQS - SALES TAX

Where is the sales tax levied?

It applies to all sales that occur in Hazelwood.

How much will it generate?

The City estimates increasing the fire sales tax would generate \$780,000 per year.

Who votes on the sales tax?

All registered voters in Hazelwood.

AUG. 4 BALLOT INITIATIVES

The City of Hazelwood has a two initiatives on the Aug. 4 ballot. The first one, Proposition A, is to increase the current ¼-cent sales tax for fire purposes to a ½-cent. Additionally, Hazelwood residents that live in the Robertson Fire Protection District service area will have an opportunity to vote on creating a Neighborhood Improvement District (NID) in their area. This is Proposition F.

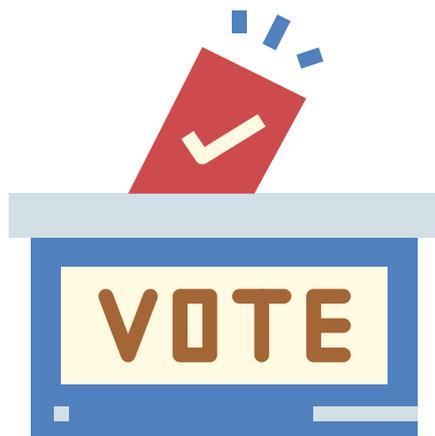
Budget Update

The City has had a significant budget shortfall for a number of years. The projected deficit for the FY2020, which just ended, is \$2.2 million. We are projecting an additional \$4.5 million deficit for FY2021.

And, like many other communities, Hazelwood is experiencing substantial revenue shortfalls because of decreased economic activity due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

We have taken steps to maintain essential services. The City recently made many budget cuts as outlined on page 2. So far, the City has been able to avoid cuts to Police and Fire.

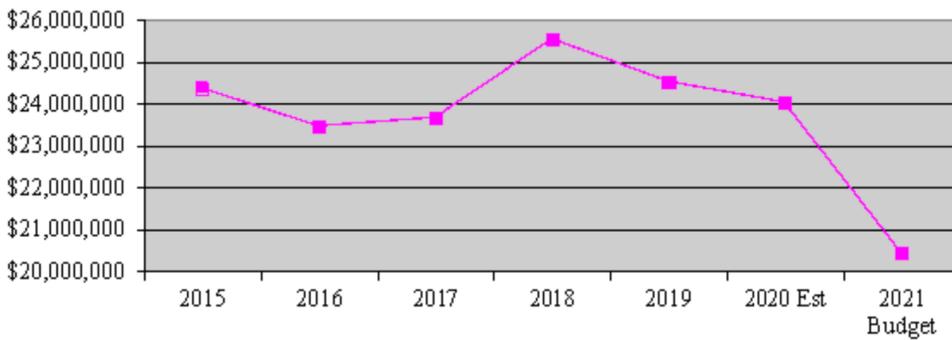
Please visit the City's website at www.hazelwoodmo.org/FireService to learn more about these important initiatives.



You can find your sample ballot and polling place on the St. Louis County website, www.stlouisco.com/yourgovernment.

COUNCIL PASSES 2021 BUDGET

General Fund Revenue



On June 17, 2020, the Hazelwood City Council approved the City's budget for the Fiscal Year 2021 (FY2021), which started July 1, 2020 and will end on June 30, 2021.

The City's everyday operations are maintained through the General Fund. For FY2021, we expect to receive about \$20.5 million in revenue and spend around \$24.9 million, creating a \$4.5 million dollar deficit. Fortunately, we will begin the fiscal year with a \$6.1 million dollar from the previous fiscal year.

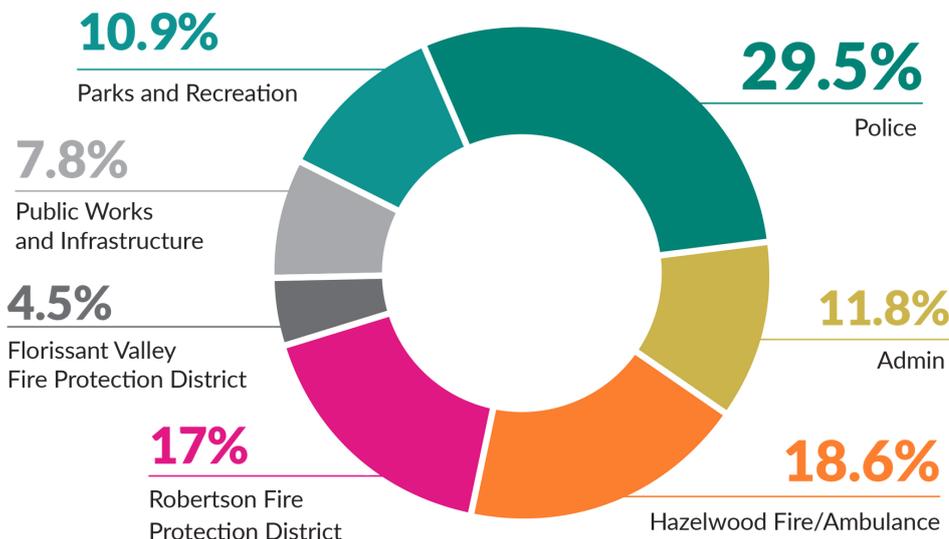
The City provides services, and those services are provided by people. To help control some of the personnel increase, the City eliminated raises and cost-of-living-adjustments for employees for the FY2021. A hiring freeze has also been implemented.

The Capital Fund, which is funded through a one-half cent sales tax and can only be used to fund capital projects, is planning to have project spending of about \$2.2 million dollars. This fund purchases capital items, such as buildings, vehicles, and equipment, and pays for buildings or infrastructure, such as streets, neighborhood sidewalks, bridges, and storm channels.

The other major fund is the Economic Development fund, supported by a one-half cent sales tax. This fund is dedicated to promoting economic development around the City. The budgeted spending is over \$10 million in FY2021. There are a number of big projects that will be getting underway soon, such as the reconstruction of Phantom Dr., and the City has been preparing for them for a long time. Additionally, this fund provides economic development loans to qualifying businesses.

You can always find more information about the budget on our website at www.hazelwoodmo.org/budget.

Hazelwood Expenses (City Services)—2021



ADDITIONAL CUTS

Due to decreased revenue and increased costs for FY 2021, the following cuts were made to services:

- Civic Center East is closed indefinitely and as many classes and services as possible have been relocated to Hazelwood Community Center
- Leaf Collection in the fall and limb collection in the spring will be eliminated
- Turf maintenance is reduced at City parks, City Hall and Police Station, community centers, fire stations and other City facilities
- Reduced maintenance of streets and parks and slower responses to maintenance needs
- Non-revenue generating community programs are eliminated, including: Adult & Children's Easter Egg Hunts, Art Fair, Summer day camp, Dances, Fireworks, Halloween Happenings, Hazelnuts funding, Safety Town, Santa visit, Senior programs, Skate/BMX competition, Stocking Truman Pond with fish, Swim leagues

GFOA AWARD

Congratulations to the Finance Department! Despite the City's budget troubles, the Finance Department works hard on their fiscal reporting. For the 22nd year in a row, the City of Hazelwood has been recognized for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Reporting by the Government Financial Officers Association (GFOA), receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2019. This award recognizes governments going beyond the minimum requirements for governmental accounting and reporting and represents a significant accomplishment to a government and its management in displaying the financial health of the government.

COUNCIL UPDATES

- Council authorized the issuance of Ch. 100 bonds for the expansion of Silgan Plastics in Aviator Business Park.
- Council amended *Chapter 220. Nuisances* (the weeds section) of the City Code. The changes include prohibiting new, invasive non-native, exotic plant species and requiring existing invasive species to be managed by the property owner so that they do not expand and do not cross into neighboring properties. It now also allows property owners to plant native species in their yards.
- Council amended *Chapter 510* regarding sign regulations. The amendment brings the City into compliance with recent Supreme Court rulings, as well as addresses electronic signs and wall signs.

SERVICE ANNIVERSARY

Ward 3 Councilmember Don Ryan celebrated his 10 Year Service Anniversary in April 2020. He is well known for his active participation in the Ward 3 Neighborhood Watch program and he is proud of bringing the "Eat Smart in the Park" program, which includes healthier choices, to the Sports Complex and the pool. In addition, Councilmember Ryan was instrumental in getting the city back on its feet after a tornado hit his Ward especially hard.

Councilmember Ryan is an avid Blues hockey fan and loves old black and white movies. He and his wife Dawn have two daughters, Whitney and Suzy, and two grandchildren, Lucas and Eli.

NEW COUNCILMEMBER FOR WARD 4



In the June election, the residents of Ward 4 elected Dan Herin as their Councilmember.

Councilmember Herin is a retired City of Olivette firefighter and a US Navy Veteran. He lives with his wife Nanette and they have three grown sons: Jason, Joshua, and Jacob. Councilmember Herin's hobbies include fishing, hunting, and other outdoor sports. He loves cars and going to his church.

Councilmember Herin is excited to serve Ward 4 and wants to help out his community.

COUNCIL CALL-OUT: ENDANGERMENT OF A HIGHWAY WORKER

We are committed to providing a safe working environment and a safe commute for both motorist and construction workers in our city. The City Council recently passed an ordinance entitled "Endangerment of a Highway Worker" under Traffic Code 310.065. This ordinance tightens the restrictions and consequences of certain offenses in a work zone or construction zone, including:

- Exceeding the posted speed limit by fifteen miles per hour or more
- Passing illegally
- Failure to stop for a work zone flagman or failure to obey traffic control devices
- Driving through or around a work zone by any lane not clearly designated to motorists
- Physically assaulting, or attempting to assault, or threatening to assault a highway worker in a construction zone or work zone, with a motor vehicle or other instrument
- Intentionally striking, moving, or altering barrels, barriers, signs, or other devices used to control the flow of traffic to protect workers and motorists in the work zone
- Committing any of the following offenses for which points may be assessed under state law:
 - Leaving the scene of an accident;
 - Careless and imprudent driving;
 - Operating without a valid license;
 - Operating with a suspended or revoked license;
 - Driving while in an intoxicated condition or under the influence of controlled substances or drugs or driving with an excessive blood alcohol content;
 - Any felony involving the use of a motor vehicle.



The Hazelwood Police Department is utilizing "Hazardous Moving Violation Grants" from the Missouri Department of Transportation to pay officers to work overtime to enforce traffic violations in the Construction Zones.

Please drive safe, especially in work zones and construction zones.



PROJECT UPDATES

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, several projects have continued around Hazelwood. Here's a brief update:

- Green Street, a developer that owns several properties along Pershall Road including the Book Source building and the Nature's Own Bakery building, will be constructing a new building at 8930 Pershall Road.
- POWERplex: during the pandemic, Big Sports Properties began providing drive-in concerts and graduations for area schools.
- Pallet Logistics Management (PLM), a company that builds and recycles pallets, is finishing their consolidation into their new facility on Hazelwood Ave.
- Silgan Plastics: located in Aviator Business Park, the City is working with Silgan Plastics to locate a large research and development facility here.
- Village Square: the developer continues to give the iconic shopping center a face-lift with facade and parking lot improvements. New businesses will be opening up soon.



ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

- The McDonnell Boulevard resurfacing project is completed.
- I-270 North Project:
 - MoDOT will close Dunn Road at Old Halls Ferry Road, as well as the I-270 WB Off-Ramp to Old Halls Ferry Road on Aug. 3. This closure is expected to last approximately 30 days.
 - MoDOT will close Pershall Road between Ford Lane and Polson on Aug. 4. This closure is expected to last for approximately 18 months.
 - You can find more information at <http://www.i270north.org>.

CODE CORNER

With fall just around the corner, keep an eye out for these common property maintenance violations:

- Gutters filled with debris and other obstructions
- Grass and weeds over eight inches tall
- Fence lines with overgrown vegetation

Because the City has eliminated the Fall Leaf Collection program, here are some alternate suggestions for getting rid of your leaves this fall:

- Contact Republic Services to arrange for weekly curbside collection. Their fee is \$9.30/month. You can call Republic Services at 636-947-5959 or find more information on their website at www.RepublicServices.com.
- Drop your leaves and other compost material at St. Louis Composting. Find out more at www.stlcompost.com.

CITY EVENTS

City Council Meeting

Aug. 5 | 7:30 p.m.

City Hall

27th Annual White Birch Classic Disc Golf Tournament

Aug. 8 | 10 a.m.

Disc Golf Course

City Council Meeting

Aug. 19 | 7:30 p.m.

City Hall

Labor Day - City Hall Closed

Sept. 7 | All Day

City Offices

Dog Day at the Pool

Sept. 8 | 5 - 8 p.m.

White Birch Bay

ADULT SWIM

Sessions are limited to 20 spots. All aquatic center and social distancing rules will be enforced.

Days:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Time:

Noon - 1:30 pm

Cost:

\$15 resident | \$25 nonresident |

No senior discount available

Session 3 Dates:

8/10 - 8/12

8/17 - 8/19

8/24 - 8/26

REGISTER on the city's website:

www.hazelwoodmo.org/WhiteBirchBayRegistration.



QUEEN ANN PARK IMPROVEMENTS COMPLETE

Thanks to a Municipal Park Grant, Queen Ann Park received several improvements recently. The grant provided 95% of the funding to replace the pavilion and concrete pad, install a rope/cable play feature and 50' of zip lines with ADA engineered wood fiber surfacing, replace the playground structure, and upgrade the swings.



WHITE BIRCH BAY FUN!

White Birch Bay Aquatic Facility is still open through at least Labor Day Weekend, pending weather and COVID-19 restrictions. Days and hours are limited and 6' social distancing rules are in place. You must wear a face mask when you are not eating or swimming and you must follow one-way path designations.

HOURS:

Noon - 3 p.m.: Session 1

3 - 4 p.m.: Cleaning/sanitizing

4 - 7 p.m.: Session 2

OPEN:

Thursday - Sunday

ADMISSION:

Resident Child: \$5

Resident Senior Citizen (55+): \$5

Resident Adult: \$6

Non-Resident Child: \$10

Non-Resident Senior: \$12

Non-Resident Adult: \$12

Refund policy: In the event of inclement weather, if the facility must close within the first hour of the swim session, refunds will be credited to the purchaser's account. NO REFUNDS will be given after the first hour of the swim session.

REGISTER on the city's website:

www.hazelwoodmo.org/WhiteBirchBayRegistration.

HAPPY RETIREMENT!



Cindy Mihelich

After more than 20 years with the City, Cindy Mihelich retired from her position of Administration Assistant to the City Manager. She has a Certificate in Human Resources from Cornell University and prior to working for Hazelwood, she worked at Idaho State University as Executive Assistant to the Vice President. Cindy enjoys home improvement projects, cooking, spending time with family and friends, rehabbing houses with her husband, and traveling around the country in their travel trailer.

Congratulations, Cindy, on your retirement! Enjoy it!



Sue Morton

Susan Morton began her career with the Hazelwood Police Department on July 28, 2008 and served as the Police Records Clerk until her retirement on June 1, 2020. She was an asset to the Department, and her professionalism and friendly demeanor will be missed.

Happy retirement, Sue!



Anne Frese

Miss Anne Frese is retiring after working as the preschool teacher for 36 years for our Parks and Recreation department. When she was not working at Hazelwood, she worked her other jobs at Florissant Valley Community College Children's Center or at the Schnucks on Grandview. Miss Anne has taught many generations of Hazelwood children and missed them during quarantine, driving by their house to say "hi"! Miss Anne is an avid St. Louis Cardinals fan.

Enjoy your retirement, Miss Anne!



Chris Thomas

City Clerk Chris Thomas retired in July. She started with the City's Finance Department in 1996 and moved to the City Clerk's Office on 1999 as a secretary. In 2006, she was promoted to Deputy City Clerk and in 2016, Chris was promoted to City Clerk.

Chris plans to spend her retirement with her husband and their two children, while spoiling their two grandchildren.

Have fun and enjoy retirement!

SERVICE

ANNIVERSARIES

Several employees have celebrated their service anniversaries with the City over the past few months. We thank all of them for their hard work and dedication to the City!

25 Years:

- Darin Hamm, Foreman, Public Works Department
- Norman Mars, Sergeant, Police Department
- Mike Monticelli, Police Officer, Police Department
- Ed Novak, Police Officer, Police Department
- Angie Pingel, Telecommunicator, Police Department
- Fred Simon, Police Officer, Police Department
- James Taschner, Sergeant, Police Department

5 Years:

- Deputy Fire Marshal Dale Harbison, Fire Department

PROMOTIONS & NEW HIRES

Congratulations to the City employees who received promotions and to the City's newest hires!

Promotions:

- Becky Ahlvin, Community and Economic Development Coordinator promoted to Assistant City Manager-Economic Development
- Julie Lowery, Deputy City Clerk promoted to City Clerk
- Lukumanu Sodamade, Accounting Coordinator promoted to Assistant Finance Director
- Dave Tuberty, Finance Director to Assistant City Manager-Finance Director

New Hires:

- Laryn Brown, Recreation Supervisor-Aquatics, Parks and Recreation
- Barbara Wiles, Clerical Support II, Finance Department