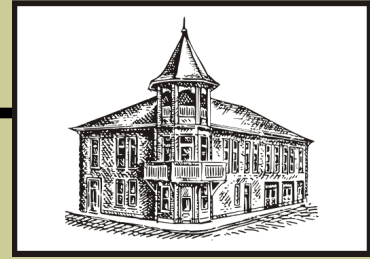


CITY NEWS



September 2024-March 2025

“TESTIFY” Exhibit at Perham Area Public Library



The exhibit features photos of art and artifacts from the Diane and Alan Page Collection

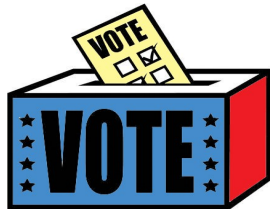
Perham Area Public Library, in partnership with Viking Library System, presents the photo gallery exhibit “TESTIFY: Americana, Slavery to Today” throughout the month of October. The exhibit is on display throughout the library building during open hours and is free and open to the public, funded in part with monies from Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage fund.

This powerful display of pieces from the Diane and Alan Page Collection of African American art and artifacts paints a portrait of race relations and representation in the 19th through 21st centuries. Retired Minnesota Supreme Court Justice and NFL Hall of Famer Alan Page and his family have reintroduced the

TESTIFY Exhibit as a large-format, high resolution photo display of selections from the original exhibits, with audio narration by Justice Page and collection director Georgi Page-Smith.

Companion programs at the Perham Library include Missy Hermes of Otter Tail County Historical Society speaking on Black history in Otter Tail County on Tuesday, October 8 (6:30pm) and a public screening of the documentary film, "Who We Are: a Chronical of Racism in America" on October 29 (6:30pm).
~Susan Heusser-Ladwig, Librarian

General Election The General Election is scheduled for Tuesday, November 5, 2024. Along with Federal, State, and County offices, the following local offices will be filled at that time: Mayor (two -year term) and two Council Members (four-year terms).



Are You Registered To Vote?

Register in advance by October 15 to save time on Election Day. It’s quick and easy! You can register online at www.sos.state.mn.us, use a paper form, available online or at City Hall, or you can register to vote on Election Day.

Vote absentee by mail Absentee Ballots will be sent out starting September 20 for the 2024 General Election. To receive an absentee ballot, you must complete an absentee ballot application. After the County receives your absentee ballot application, your absentee ballot will be mailed to you. You may also fax or email your applications to: (218) 998-8042 or voter@ottertailcounty.gov.

Vote absentee in person You can also vote absentee in person at the following location beginning September 20:

Otter Tail County Auditor/Treasurer Office
Government Services Center
510 W Fir Ave
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

If you have any questions regarding elections, please contact Heather Hoeft by email at lhoeft@cityofperham.com or (218) 346-9796.
~ Heather Hoeft, City Clerk



NOTICE HYDRANT FLUSHING

The City of Perham will do their Fall 2024 hydrant flushing, weather permitting, beginning at 10 p.m. on October 20th and finishing on or before Friday, November 1st. During this time you might notice

discolored water or particles in your water faucets. This should only last for a short time. The purpose of the flushing is to clean out the deposits that accumulate in the water main.

~Jeremie Schossow, Public Works Director

**Exciting Opportunity for Perham Landlords: SHRIMP Grant Program Now Open!



Attention Perham landlords! The City of Perham is thrilled to announce the launch of the SHRIMP (Single-family Home Rental Improvement Matching Program) Grant, designed to help you enhance your rental properties and contribute to the overall beautification of our community.

This exciting new program offers up to \$5,000 per property in 1:1 matching grant dollars for both interior and exterior rehabilitations or improvements to single-family rental homes within the city limits. Whether you’re looking to update a kitchen, refurbish a façade, or tackle other much-needed improvements, the SHRIMP Grant is here to support your efforts.

Here’s how it works:

- ****Grant Amount:**** Up to \$5,000 per property
- ****Match Requirement:**** 1:1 (you provide matching funds equal to the grant amount)
- ****Payment:**** Grants will be paid upon receipt of documentation showing that the project is completed and matching funds have been expended.

Don’t miss out on this fantastic opportunity to enhance your rental properties and make a positive impact on our community. Funds are limited and will be first come first served. For more details or to start your application, contact the Perham City Office or visit our website.

<https://progressiveperham.com/live-here/housing/housing-incentives/>

Let’s work together to make Perham an even better place to live and thrive!
~ Nick Murdock, EDA Director



The City of Perham has an exciting full-time career opportunity! We are looking for a motivated Administrative Assistant with efficient time management, organization, attention to detail, and multitasking skills to join our team. Visit www.cityofperham.com for more information.

Important Reminders



If there is a fire hydrant on your property, please clear a three-foot radius around the hydrant after each snowfall. This will help reduce the time it takes firefighters to hook up hoses if a fire occurs in your neighborhood.



It's important to remember to detach your garden hoses at the end of the season. Even if you have a "frost-free" spigot, you will need to remove the hose in the winter or run the risk of your pipes freezing and bursting.



During the winter months it is a good idea to keep the snow clear from your gas meter to keep snow from getting into your regulator vent and easier access for the meter readers.



Winter can bring with it a host of challenges, especially when it comes to maintaining your home's plumbing system. One issue that is often overlooked but can cause significant problems is a frozen plumbing vent or stack. A blocked vent can disrupt your plumbing system's functionality and lead to potentially expensive repairs. Inspect your vents regularly to prevent blockages.

~Jeremie Schossow, Public Works Director

Snow Emergencies & Parking



Winter parking rules are in effect November 1st-April 30th. A Snow Emergency is declared when snowfall accumulates to two inches or more and remains in effect until the snow has been cleared from the streets to full width.

During a snow emergency it is unlawful for any parked vehicle to be on the street. Restrictions will remain in effect until the snow has been cleared to the full width of the street. A vehicle left on the street is subject to being towed and taken to a place of safety. Any vehicle that is removed will not be released until the towing and storage fees are paid. These charges are additional to any fines or penalties imposed from violating the parking restrictions.

~ James Gritz, Police Chief



City News is a semi-annual publication. For contact information and additional news visit our website at:

www.cityofperham.com

Join us on Facebook



Be sure to check out www.progressiveperham.com



"An equal opportunity provider and employer."

Minnesota Cold Weather Rule (MN CWR)

During the period of October 1 through April 30, Perham Natural Gas (PNG) will not disconnect natural gas service to a residential customer who is delinquent in payment of their utility bill **when one of the following conditions are met:**



The customer has declared in writing an inability to pay on forms provided by PNG. To qualify you must provide proof of income (prior year completed tax forms or current Social Security Statement) for all household members along with the MN CWR Application that is mailed with your City of Perham PNG Disconnection Notice. *A payment agreement must be set up with PNG.*

The customer's household income is at or below 50% of the state median household income as documented by the customer to PNG. *A payment agreement must be set up with PNG.*

The customer has entered into a mutually acceptable payment agreement with PNG and is reasonably current with payment under the schedule.

The Cold Weather Rule (CWR) does not totally forbid winter shutoffs. If at any time of the year you receive a **Disconnection Notice, you must act promptly.** Do not wait until the Disconnection Date to call or return the CWR application. Please **contact our office immediately** at 218-346-4455 or toll free 877-864-7963 to review your account and payment agreement assistance.

If you need assistance paying your natural gas bills, you may qualify for state or federal heating assistance. To find out if you qualify and how to apply, call the MAHUBE-OTWA office in Detroit Lakes at 218-847-1385, in Wadena at 218-632-3600 and in Fergus Falls at 218-739-3011. You can also contact the Salvation Army Heat Share Program at 800-842-7279 or First Call for Help at 211.

~ Julie Kempenich, Utility Billing Clerk

ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Get Help Paying Your Energy Bill



The Minnesota Energy Assistance Program (EAP) helps pay home heating costs for low-income households. This **program is available for both renters and homeowners** and is based on energy costs, household size and income. This would be for assistance in paying for natural gas services as well as electricity, depending on your primary heating source. Other benefits available include furnace or water heater repair, insulating for efficiency or house weatherization to lower your heat bills.

MAHUBE-OTWA offices are located in Detroit Lakes (218-847-1385), Fergus Falls (218-739-3011) and Wadena (218-632-3600). Information can also be found on their website at www.mahube.org

Applications for the next program year/heating season will be available in **September 2024.** *Applications will also be mailed to past EAP participants in September.* If interested, call MAHUBE-OTWA to find out how you can apply for energy assistance for the upcoming heating season.

Landmark Liquors will be hosting the annual Holiday Open House on Thursday, December 5th, 2024 from 4:00-7:00pm. Free Admission, Free Samples! Come celebrate National Repeal Prohibition Day while enjoying time with friends and stocking up for the holidays!



City of Perham

125 2nd Avenue NE
PO Box 130
Perham, MN 56573

(218) 346-4455

(877) 864-7963 Toll Free

(800) 627-3529 MN Relay Service TTD

(888) 262-3837 Utility Emergency

CITY CALENDAR

Regular monthly meetings held by the City of Perham:

- Committee of the Whole
- Council
- EDA
- HRA
- Library Board
- Parks & Recreation
- Planning Commission

Please visit our website at www.cityofperham.com for upcoming meeting dates, times, and locations.