



1040 2nd Street, Suite 103  
Sturgis, SD 57785



Sturgis Information Publication

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## City Secures Equipment Grants to Improve Emergency Snow Removal

Blizzards will no longer prevent the Police Department from responding to emergency calls and maintaining public safety. After the blizzards in the fall of 2008 and spring of 2009, the department began to work diligently on finding ways for officers to respond to calls during and immediately after winter weather emergencies.

*"It was a bad situation.... our officers were completely snowbound at the law enforcement center. We were just lucky there were no major emergencies."*  
Assistant Chief of Police, Branden Bestgen commenting on the spring blizzard in 2009.

The solution was found through a special grant program from the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD). This grant allowed the Police Department to secure two Champion motor graders and an Oshkosh snow blower (pictured). The DOD grant program is designed to assist communities with emergency operations such as clearing emergency routes to the

hospital and other critical areas after major storms. The program offers surplus equipment at no cost to the City other than delivery expenses. The equipment is used but remains in very good condition. The estimated value of the

equipment is \$380,000. Combined with the ATV/UTV Track unit recently purchased with a Bureau of Justice Grant, the City is well positioned to provide emergency snow removal for law enforcement and other emergency responders.

City Manager David Boone states, "This equipment is absolutely critical to the City's ability to provide public safety and police protection to our residents during extreme weather conditions."



### City Wide Garage Sale May 1

Mark your calendar and plan to participate in the City Wide Garage Sale on Saturday, May 1, followed by the City Wide Clean Up event May 3-7, 2010.

Watch for details and registration forms in upcoming newsletters or visit the City website at [www.sturgis-sd.gov](http://www.sturgis-sd.gov). You may also call the Sturgis Chamber at 347-2556 extension1 for more information.



Happy   
St. Patrick's Day

### March 14

Daylight Savings Time begins.....  
Spring ahead 1 hour



### Officials

#### Mayor

Maury LaRue 347-4422

#### Council Members

Ward One:

Mark Chaplin 720-3792

Joe DesJarlais 347-7928

Ward Two:

Sherry Scudder 720-2768

David Hersrud 347-5061

Ward Three:

Clint Brengle 720-0171

Jamie McVay 720-5780

Ward Four:

Dane Sundstrom 490-1172

Bernadette Usera 720-9424

#### City Manager

Dave Boone 347-4422

## Office Improvement Plan Increases Efficiency and Customer Service

The City continuously evaluates work processes in order to provide services as efficiently as possible, whether it's administering the Purchasing Policy, obtaining grants for snow removal equipment or reducing budget expenses.

A recent example of this management philosophy is the re-evaluation of office and storage spaces for the various departments located at City Hall. Recent staffing changes have not increased the number of full time staff funded with the General Fund tax dollars but they have changed the way departments work and interact. City Hall has re-organized to improve efficiency and expand services to meet residents needs. The City has re-organized the Rally and Community Development Departments, obtained 'in-house' legal counsel to save legal fees, and developed a "One Stop Business Shop" to promote economic development. These important expansions in services have created the need to more efficiently utilize existing space at City Hall.

In upcoming months, several improvements will be made to City Hall as approved by the City Council. Community

Development will move into offices assembled in an under-utilized upstairs conference room, providing office space necessary to offer expanded business services. The Rally Department will move downstairs into the current Community Development space. The existing window and counter space will allow for better public accessibility, and closer proximity to the Finance Department will facilitate more efficient interactions between the two departments. The City Manager's staff will relocate upstairs into the current Rally Department space, consolidating office staff into a single location to provide Human Resources, Legal, and Constituent Services.

The estimated \$30,000 cost for the improvements will be paid from a State Block Grant that was unused in the re-construction of City Hall in 2006. These improvements will allow our employees to work more efficiently and provide better customer service to our citizens at no additional cost to tax payers.

## Announcements and Meetings

**Sturgis City Council:** March 1 and 15. Council meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. at the Sturgis Community Center, 1401 Lazelle Street.

**Forestry:** March 3, at 7:00 p.m. downstairs at City Hall.

**Planning and Zoning:** March 9 and 30, at 6:30 p.m. downstairs at City Hall.

**Park Board:** March 9, at 7:00 p.m. at Morman Law Firm 850 Main Street.

**MUB Board:** March 10, at 8:00 a.m. downstairs at City Hall.

**Arts Council:** March 11, at 7:00 p.m. downstairs at City Hall.

**Library Board:** March 31, at 4:00 p.m. in the Sturgis City Library.

## Building Inspections Office Changes Renewal Process

Beginning in 2010, the Building Inspections Office will no longer send out annual renewal reminders. Contractors will be responsible for keeping current with their renewals. The time periods of all licenses will be from January 1 thru December 31. License fees for 2010 will be \$125 for all contractors.



Don't forget to check with the Building Inspections Office at 347-4424 for any permits that might apply to your new and remodel projects.

## Parking Reminder from the Sturgis Police Department

In 2009, the City Council passed ordinance 16.05.11 which prohibits parking or storage of any trailer, recreational vehicle, implement, passenger vehicle or other personal property on any public right-of-way including public streets. This ordinance includes the following:

- Leaving any car, pickup, motorcycle, camper or RV in any public right of way for more than five (5) consecutive days.
- Leaving any farm tractor, implement, trailer, truck or truck tractor in any public right of way for more than twenty four (24) hours.



Vehicles and other items being stored in violation of this ordinance will be subject to fines and the vehicle will be towed by the Police Department. Special permission for temporary storage needs may be granted in advance from the Police Department.

This ordinance is especially important during the winter months when snow removal becomes an issue.

For more information or to request permission for temporary storage call the Sturgis Police Department at 347-5070.

**Now Showing**

### THE LITTLE RASCALS

Free Family Movie

Community Center Theater

February 28 at 2 p.m.

## Sturgis City Council Election

As of February 22, the following individuals have turned in valid petitions and will be placed on the ballot for the City Council election to be held on April 13, 2010. The deadline for turning in petitions at the City Finance Department is February 26 at 5:00 p.m.

- Pete Bonefield - Ward 1
- Clint Brengle (incumbent) - Ward 3
- Mark Carstenson - Ward 2
- Tim Potts - Ward 4
- Sherry Scudder (incumbent) - Ward 2
- Dane Sundstrom (incumbent) - Ward 4
- Ursula Ward - Ward 3

The City Council election will be held at the Community Center located at 1401 Lazelle Street. Polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m. Voters will need to show a photo ID when they arrive at the poll. Unofficial winners will be announced after votes are counted on election night. Official results will be announced within seven days after the votes are canvassed.

If you are not sure which ward you are in, visit [www.sturgis-sd.gov](http://www.sturgis-sd.gov) click on the Government tab and go to the Voting Ward Map page. If you have moved since the last time you voted, you will need to re-register. If you are not registered to vote, you may do so at the Finance Office in City Hall or you may go online at: [www.sdsos.gov](http://www.sdsos.gov). The deadline for registration is March 29 at 5:00 p.m.

Absentee voting will take place at City Hall beginning on March 29. Additional information, a sample ballot, and election results will be posted on the City website as it becomes available.



## Writing Workshop for Adults

*Do you need help with your resume, cover letter, or interviewing skills?*



Gavin Woltjer, former University of South Dakota, and twice Distinguished Professor of Communications at Augustana College, will be teaching writing workshops for adults who would like to construct, revamp, or redo resumes and cover letters.

This free workshop will be held on March 20, from 12-4 p.m. at the Sturgis Public Library. If you are unable to attend at this time and would like to make an appointment, please call the Library at 347-2624.

## Code Enforcement Program is Underway

The Community Development Department recently hired Dave Smith as the new Code Enforcement Officer for the City of Sturgis. The Code Enforcement Officer responds to concerns from citizens that affect the quality of life within the City such as zoning, overgrown lots or yards, inoperative vehicles, maintenance of structures, illegal signs and public nuisances, located mainly on private property. The Code Enforcement Officer also performs systematic inspections throughout the City to ensure that properties are in compliance with City codes.

From now until July 1, the Code Enforcement Officer, along with the Director of Community Development, will be working to educate the community on the existing City ordinances and expectations and goals for compliance. On July 1, enforcement of Title 36 of the City of Sturgis Ordinances (Administrative Code Enforcement) will begin City wide. Enforcement of these codes will provide all the residents of our community an improved quality of life and will make Sturgis an even better place to work, live, and raise our children.

If you want to report a code violation or if you have any questions about current City ordinances, please contact the Community Development Office at 347-4424 or use the *Sturgis Listens* feature on the City website (you are not required to provide your name). All City ordinances may be viewed on the City website at [www.sturgis-sd.gov](http://www.sturgis-sd.gov).

The Sturgis Police Department will continue to respond to public property, parking, and criminal violations.

## What is GIS and What Does it Mean for Sturgis?

Geographic Information System (GIS) is a framework for gathering and organizing spatial features and related information in a computerized format so that it can be displayed and analyzed with digital mapping software. GIS and Global Positioning Systems (GPS) can be used together to collect and locate different features (i.e. streets, waterlines, and light poles) within the City and attach useful information to each of these features.

Many agencies use GIS to help in planning and organizing their geographic data. GIS is also used by many government entities to keep track of parcels of property, public works, roads, and more within their jurisdictions. Geographic analysis of this data provides officials a better understanding of existing conditions in the City and County, improving their ability to deliver various services to citizens.

The City of Sturgis has partnered with Meade County to continue to develop and improve GIS services in our community. Current projects include the set up and installation of a GPS base station that will allow new data collection and the inventory of various City infrastructures. This data will assist in future strategic planning and maintenance upgrades, along with continued mapping and website accessible database services.

The availability of accurate data ensures easier access for everyone who requires GIS information. Recently the City of Sturgis and Meade County underwent another joint venture to obtain the newest aerial photography images known as 'pictometry,' that will soon be available to the public as well.

The City of Sturgis GIS Department will be collecting data for various projects around the City during the spring and summer of 2010. Questions related to GIS services can be directed to the Community Development Office at 347-4424.

**IRS tax forms and information booklets are available in the lobby at City Hall.**

## FREE FIREWOOD



Free firewood is available on a first come - first serve basis. It is located east of the football field in the City Park.

## Contact Information

City Manager 347-4422  
City Attorney 347-4422  
Community Development 347-4424  
Finance Office 347-4422  
Human Resources 347-4422  
Rally Department 720-0800  
1040 2nd Street

Community Center 347-6513  
5:00 - 9:00 Mon. - Fri.  
8:00 - 8:00 Sat.  
Noon - 8:00 Sun.  
1401 Lazelle Street

Fire & Ambulance 347-5801  
Emergency 911  
7:00 - 5:00 Mon. - Fri.  
1901 Ball Park Road

Library 347-2624  
8:30 - 7:00 Mon. - Thu.  
8:30 - 5:00 Fri.  
8:30 - 4:00 Sat.  
1040 2nd Street

Liquor Store 347-5983  
8:00 - 10:00 Mon. - Sat.  
10:00 - 8:00 Sun.  
1075 Lazelle Street

Parks Department 347-9018  
8:00 - 5:00 Mon. - Fri.  
1040 2nd Street  
Shelter Reservations call  
347-4422

Police Department 347-5070  
Emergency 911  
1400 Main Street

Public Works 347-3916  
7:00 - 4:00 Mon. - Fri.  
1057 Dudley Street  
Rubble Site  
8:00 - 5:00 Tue. - Fri.  
8:00 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 5:00  
Mon. and Sat.

Water Department 347-4425  
8:00 - 4:45 Mon. - Fri.  
After Hour Emergency call  
Police Dispatch 347-2573