



Items of Interest

MUB Public Hearing - February 8 at 8:00 a.m. at City Hall, Room B.
Swimming Lessons - Register until January 29. Classes on Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:45 - 4:15 or 4:30 to 5:00 starting on January 31. Classes cost \$20 for members and \$35 for non-members.
Music Revue & Chocolate Tasting - February 12 at 4:00 p.m. Bring your special someone to the Sturgis Community Center for chocolate and music to celebrate Valentine's Day. Admission is \$10.00 for adults, \$8.00 for Senior Citizens & Students and \$5 for children five and under. Proceeds go to fund the purchase of the Eagle Sculpture at the back entrance of the Meade County Offices building. Produced by the Drama Committee of the Sturgis Area Arts Council.



Announcements and Meetings

Sturgis City Council: February 6 and 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the Erskine Building. Note: If you want to be scheduled on the City Council agenda, you must notify the Finance Office by 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to the Council meeting.
MUB: February at 8:00 a.m. at City Hall, Room B.
Forestry: March 1 at 6:00 p.m. at the Sturgis Fire Hall.
Park Board: February 16 at 7:00 p.m. at the Morman Law office.
Planning and Zoning: February 14 and 28 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, Room B.
Sturgis Arts Council: February 9 at 7:00 p.m. at Sturgis City Hall.
Library Board: February 29 at 4:00 p.m. at the Sturgis Library.

Officials

Mayor
 Mark Carstensen 490-1044

Council Members

Ward One:
 Joe DesJarlais 347-7928
 Kelly Vasknetz 490-0361

Ward Two:
 David Hersrud 347-5061
 Marcia Johnston 347-2483

Ward Three:
 Clint Brengle 490-9541
 Jamie McVay 720-5780

Ward Four:
 Tim Potts 720-4233
 Dane Sundstrom 490-1172

City Manager
 Daniel Ainslie 347-4422

City Council Elections Set For April 10, 2012

Four City Council terms (Vasknetz, Johnston, Brengle and Potts) will be expiring in 2012. To be placed on the election ballot, a candidate must secure a minimum number of signatures as determined by the Finance Officer. Petitions must be completed between January 27 and February 24. **Petitions must be turned in to City Hall by 5:00 p.m. on February 24.** City Council representatives elected in 2012 will serve three-year terms and will be paid a salary of \$8,300 per year.



City Council elections will be held on Tuesday, April 10. A sample ballot will be available on the City website by March 26. Absentee ballots will be available after March 26 at Sturgis City Hall. If you are not currently a registered voter, you may register at several locations including Sturgis City Hall at 1040 2nd Street and the Meade County Auditor's Office at 1300 Sherman Street. To see a full list of registration locations, visit the SD Secretary of State website at www.sdsos.gov. The deadline for voter registration is March 26. In order to place your vote, you must be registered in the ward where you live. If you are not sure of your registration status, you can contact the Meade County Auditor's Office at 347-2360. You can view a ward map on the City website at Sturgis-sd.gov. The election will take place at the Sturgis Community Center at 1401 Lazelle Street from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 10. All voters are required to show a valid photo ID (SD Drivers License/SD ID Card or Student ID) at the poll.



2011 A Busy Year In Sturgis

The year kicked off with the completion of a new 4,000 sq. foot Sturgis Liquor Store in February. The new store, located at 1075 Lazelle, was built next to the existing store which was sold later at auction. The 2010 Census revealed that Sturgis had grown to 6,627 residents, up 2.87% from 2000. Following the Census Report, the Finance Officer was challenged with redistricting the voting wards to better reflect the new population numbers in each ward. With the help of the Community Development Department, the redistricting was completed by the December 1 deadline. The 2011 Pavement Program included a record 62 blocks of asphalt overlay. This was the largest asphalt paving program undertaken by the City. Sturgis now maintains over 51 miles of paved streets and 7.5 miles of alleyways.



Continued New Sturgis Liquor opened in February 2011.

Continued from front...

The Parks Department installed lights at the volley ball court and completed a large portion of the Deadman Trail bike path.

The Police Department received a \$16,250 grant from the SD Department of Public Safety for the purchase of in-car cameras and new radar equipment. In July, the Department hosted the Second Annual SWAT Public Safety Day at the Community Center.

The Water Department began a multi-year infrastructure improvement project that included new mains and service lines near the hospital. The project will finish in 2013 with infrastructure replacement under Lazelle Street.

The Sturgis Community Center installed a new flagpole through the Flags for Fallen Military group. The flagpole was dedicated to Cpt. Christopher Soelzer, a Sturgis Brown High School graduate who was killed in action in Iraq.

The Sturgis Volunteer Fire Department had 234 calls (compared to 1,192 last year). The ambulance responded to 1,385 calls (compared to 1,192 in 2011) and received an award for their participation in the *Everyday Hero's* competition.

The City Council approved Title 18 requiring all businesses (except non-profits and youth sales) to have a business license. The ordinance allows the City to monitor transient businesses more closely and to deter fraud and misrepresentation. The data gathered through licensing also helps with future planning and zoning in accordance with the Sturgis Comprehensive Plan.

The City Council approved an ordinance placing restrictions on temporary structures. Under the new ordinance, vendors could not put up temporary structures more than seven days prior to opening for business. In addition, vendors had to take down their tents within four days after their temporary vending permit expired. The intent of the ordinance was to limit the amount of time vacant tents remain up before and after the Rally.

New faces in Sturgis included Daniel Ainslie who was hired as the new City Manager. In April, Voters elected Mark Carstensen as the new Sturgis Mayor and Marcia Johnston was appointed to filled his spot as Council Person for Ward 2.

The Events Committee hosted a Historical Volksmarch in May. The walk showcased some of the historical homes and landmarks in the community. The event will return in the spring of 2012. In addition, Woodle Field hosted the Black Hills 100 Ultra Marathon with competitors from around the United States. Athletes ran from Sturgis to Lake Pactola during the event.

The Sturgis Fairgrounds celebrated '100 years' with a BBQ hosted by the Jackpine Gypsies and local businesses. Following the BBQ, participants enjoyed the 4th of July fireworks provided by the Volunteer Fire Department.

As we move into 2012, the momentum will continue with several anticipated projects, including reconstruction projects on Lazelle and Moose Drive; and the reconstruction of the Bear Butte Creek crossing at the City Park. Efforts to recruit new businesses at Exit 32 and the Industrial Park will continue to move forward. A new assisted living facility will be complete and a multitude of activities and events are in the planning process.

Sturgis Community Center Receives ESGR Patriot Awards

The Sturgis Community Center was recently awarded two Patriot Awards from the "Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve" (ESGR) organization. The organization was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve component members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment.

The Patriot Award is given to employers who demonstrate a high level of patriotism by supporting existing employment laws protecting the rights of workers who serve in the Reserves.

The City currently employs six employees and volunteers who are actively enlisted in the Reserves. Reservists Jeremy Eckhart and Ashley Johnson both nominated the Sturgis Community Center for the award.



December 27, 2011 from left: Councilman Joe DesJarlais, Reservist Jeremy Eckhart, Community Center Director Rod Heikes, and City Manager Daniel Ainslie.

Employee Spotlight - Sturgis Water Department

The employees of the Water Department include both office and field personnel who work together to ensure that Sturgis residents have clean, reliable water service. The department is governed by the Municipal Utility Board (MUB), a three person board, established in 1979 to oversee the Water Department.

The City's water system currently consists of seven wells, three holding tanks, and many miles of water mains and pipe. The system provides 292,000,000 gallons of water to 3,400 users. The system is maintained by Water Operators Brad Deutsch (11 years) and Neil Murray (7 years) with the support of Operator/Meter Reader Judson Crowser (20 years). Bev Johnson (10 years) and Tammy Even (1 year) process service requests and handle all billing including the sanitation, recycling, and wastewater services. The department is under the leadership of Interim Superintendent Dale Olson (23 years).

In 2011, the department began a 3-phase infrastructure improvement project. Phase 1 is complete with the addition of several mains near the hospital. Phase 2 and 3 will include replacement of several major water lines and replacement of aged and under sized infrastructure under Lazelle Street. The improvement project is expected to be complete in 2013.

Business License Reminder

All businesses (including home based) within the city limits must obtain a business license for the 2012 calendar year.

Registration is free for permanent businesses (doing business for 5 or more months out of the year) and \$25 for temporary businesses. For those businesses that applied in 2011, there is no need to submit an application for 2012. Non-profit organizations do not need a business license.

You can apply in person at Sturgis City Hall or go online at sturgis-sd.gov. If you have questions about the Sturgis business license, phone City Hall at 347-4422.

At the Library in February



Getting the Most From Your E-Reader - February 8 at 9:00 a.m. learn about downloadable e-books available with your Sturgis Public Library Card. Bring your device and ask questions about how to use your e-reader to download using *Overdrive*, a free service available to Sturgis Public Library patrons.

Artists of the Month - Art Students from the Sturgis William Middle School will be our February Artists of the Month. Their work will be on display at the Library during February. Come on down and see the beautiful talent we have in our schools.

For a full schedule of events in February, call the library at 347-2624 or visit our web page at Sturgis-sd.gov.

Contact Information

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

Community Center 347-6513
8:00 - 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 Ballpark Road

Library 347-2624
8:30 - 7:00 Mon. - Thur.
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.
1920 Ballpark Road
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
1040 2nd Street
Drop boxes: 2901 Vanocker Canyon
and City Hall 1040 2nd Street