

## Annual Report to the Citizens

We would like to share with you a list of City successes in 2008. It has been a year of positive change thanks to the support of the Council, staff, and the community. We have worked together as a team, focused on delivering improved municipal services that are responsive to, and meet the needs of you, our citizens. This list reflects the hard work of the Council and the employees who are dedicated to making Sturgis a better place to live, work and raise a family.

**1. City Property Tax Reduction** – The Council delivered a 2009 balanced budget of \$14,732,844 that will reduce the City property tax by 53 mills and establish a “Rainy Day Fund” of \$237,503. The City levy represents 30% of the levy and the remaining 70% goes to the Meade School District and Meade County.

**2. Getting Maximum Value For Your Tax Dollars** –

The Council approved a new purchasing program to obtain maximum value for each public dollar spent. Competitive bidding saved the City \$97,787 while providing better accountability to citizens for the expenditure of tax dollars. Since April 2008, the new program achieved an average savings of \$10,865 per month!



**3. 2008 Budget Savings** – We implemented new procedures to better control costs and improve efficiency resulting in a budget savings of \$1,210,692 in General Fund tax dollars and \$4,806,377 in the total budget, which includes enterprise funds like the Liquor Store and Sanitation Departments.

**4. 2008 Bond Refinancing** – The Council refinanced \$6,470,000 of high interest bonds saving the City \$1,215,637 in interest charges and lowering of our average bond interest rate by 3.61%.

**5. Samson Motorcycle Products** – We worked with Sturgis Economic Development Corporation to help

bring Samson Motorcycle Products to Sturgis potentially creating up to 75 new jobs.

**6. Future Sturgis** – We initiated and helped coordinate the Future Sturgis program to develop a plan for the future. Over 360 citizens participated and developed a plan to improve the quality of life in Sturgis. In preparation to meet the economic and community development needs identified by Future Sturgis, the City has created a Community Development Department to assist the Council in carrying out parts of the plan.

**7. Sturgis Elementary School/Pony Fields Parking Lot** – We worked with the Meade School District to construct a joint use parking lot where the School District paid for 75% of the project and the City paid for the remaining 25% for a total project cost of \$424,721.

**8. Sturgis Landmark Sign Project** – We developed an agreement with the Feist family to provide a grant of \$25,000 for the construction of the Sturgis Landmark Sign on Sturgis Hill to promote community identity and pride.

**9. Street Maintenance Program** – We completed the 2008 asphalt overlay program providing residents with 35 blocks of new street

resurfacing at a total project cost of \$236,130, which was \$63,870 under budget.

**10. Community Center Roof Project** – We put a new \$261,758 roof on the Community Center to protect the citizens’ investment in one of our most important “quality of life” assets.

As I look to the future, I also want to mention that we are working hard to improve services to our citizens and businesses.

*Continued on inside*

## Announcements and Meetings



City offices will be closed on Monday, February 16 for Presidents’ Day. Monday’s trash collection will be rescheduled for Tuesday, February 17.

City Council: February 2 and February 16. Council meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. at the Sturgis Community Center 1401 Lazelle Street. Council agendas and minutes can be viewed on-line at [www.sturgis-sd.gov](http://www.sturgis-sd.gov).

Forestry Board: February 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the downstairs conference room at City Hall.

Municipal Utility Board: February 11 at 8:00 a.m. in the downstairs conference room at City Hall.

Parks Board: February 17 at 7:00 p.m. at Morman Law Firm 850 Main Street.

Planning and Zoning: January 27, February 10 and 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the downstairs conference room at City Hall.

Town Hall Meeting: The Citizen's Commission to Determine Mayor and Council Salaries will meet on January 29, at 6:30 p.m. in the Meade Room at the Community Center.

[www.sturgis-sd.gov](http://www.sturgis-sd.gov)

## Officials

**Mayor**

Maury LaRue 347-4422

**Council Members**

Ward One:

Mark Chaplin 720-3792

Tom Ferguson 720-0239

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

## If Your Goal in 2009 is to Get Fit the Community Center is Here to Help

The Sturgis Community Center provides a safe and healthy environment to the citizens of the greater Sturgis area so that they may participate in recreational and entertaining activities.

Located at 1401 Lazelle Street, the Community Center is a premier multi-use facility, featuring a 25 yard, six lane, indoor swimming pool, diving board, 72 foot waterslide, hot tub, sauna, outdoor patio, gymnasium, indoor walking/running track, weight room, cardio room, racquetball courts, and locker rooms.

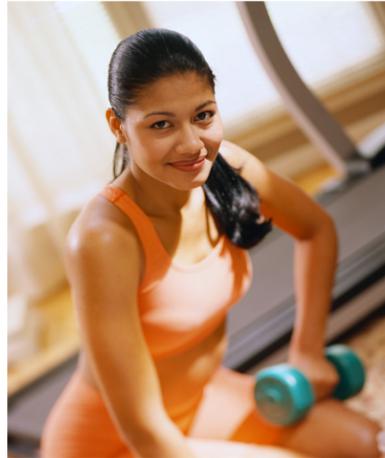
Our dedicated staff is committed to serving you. Join us for a tour of the facilities to see what activities may interest you and your family.

**Land Aerobics** - Cardio Sculpt, Bosu Ball Toning, Kick-Boxing, Ultimate Abs, and Power Sculpt. Call for schedule.

**Personal Training** - Call for appointment.

**After School Fun & Fitness** - Free transportation from school to the Community Center. Call for more information.

**Water Aerobics** - Including Deep Water and Shallow Water.



Monday - Friday 5 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Saturday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Sunday Noon - 8 p.m.  
Ph: 347-6513

*Enjoy a Free Week January 24 - 31. Sign up for a new 12 month membership during your FREE WEEK and get an entire MONTH FREE with paid membership. Memberships as low as \$22.50 + tax per month for singles and \$32.50 + tax per month for a family of 4. For more information visit [www.sturgis-sd.gov](http://www.sturgis-sd.gov) or call 347-6513.*

## Reminders from Public Works

**The success of our snow removal program depends on your assistance. Here are a few tips:**

- When snow is expected, park your vehicles off the street if possible.
- Remove snow from your sidewalk within 24 hours.
- Do not shovel snow from your driveway and sidewalk into the street. Place it on your lawn or near trees and shrubs to help with winter watering.
- If you shovel before we plow the street, your driveway or sidewalk may get plowed in. In most cases it is unavoidable.
- Please be patient; we have 40 miles of streets to clear. Moving heavy wet snow takes considerably more time than fluffy snow.
- Snow is removed from life safety and emergency routes first. The second priority is the major arterial streets (Lazelle, Harmon, Ballpark, Sherman, Douglas, Nellie, and the Whitewood Service Road). Followed by major-minor collector streets and school routes (Shepherd, Park, Anna, Dickson, Pine View, Otter, Raccoon, Moose, Sunset, and Colorado, Third, Cedar, Fulton, Dolan Creek, Williams, and Ninth). Remaining residential streets are cleared as soon as possible.

It is the goal of the Sturgis Public Works Department to provide the safest driving surfaces possible, using the resources that we have available. In the event of a major winter storm private contractors may be hired by the City to assist with snow removal. Private contractors are required to meet minimum specifications and are selected through a pre-screening application process. Contractors working specifically for the City will have their equipment clearly marked for identification purposes.

If you have an emergency situation and are not able to get through on your street, call 911. If you would like to get updated information on the snow removal progress, call the Public Works Department at 347-3916.

[www.sturgis-sd.gov](http://www.sturgis-sd.gov)

## City Prepares for Upcoming Election

On April 14, City elections will be held for Mayor and four City Council positions. Petitions for these offices can be picked up at City Hall beginning January 30. Nominating petitions must be turned in to City Hall by 5:00 p.m. on February 27.

If you are not a registered voter, you have until March 23, at 5:00 p.m. to register at one of several locations including the Meade County Auditor's Office, the City Finance Office, or on-line at [www.sdsos.gov](http://www.sdsos.gov). Absentee and sample ballots can be obtained at the City Finance office up to 15 days before the election.



Voting will take place at the Sturgis Community Center located at 1401 Lazelle Street. Polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m. For more information call City Hall at 347-4422.

## Annual Report

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In 2008 we conducted customer service training of all front line employees to improve our citizens' interaction with City services. We also created a *Developer's Handbook* to make it easier for businesses to locate in Sturgis.

Most importantly we are reaching out to citizens through the *Sturgis Information Publication*, a monthly newsletter with information related to City government.

We have also developed a new and improved web site that will provide users with current information such as Council agendas, newsletters, maps, publications, emergency bulletins, employment postings, and other interactive features. A **Citizens' Request Tracking** feature will allow users to submit requests on-line and will enable City staff to monitor and track those requests to make sure they are addressed quickly and efficiently. The new web site will go on-line in February of 2009.

In the months ahead, we will be conducting a series of community surveys, via the *Sturgis Information Publication*, in order to help the City connect and communicate more effectively with residents.



The new City website will go on-line in late February and will be located at [www.sturgis-sd.gov](http://www.sturgis-sd.gov)

We rely on your feedback, please tell us what you think of these new efforts.

Many blessings to you and your families in 2009.

Dave Boone  
City Manager

## Travel Plans Should Include a Call to 511



When dialing "511" you receive up-to-date, location-specific road and weather information on any Interstate, US, or state highway in South Dakota and several adjoining states.

Travelers should not confuse 511 with 911, the nationwide emergency response number. Any situation requiring police, fire department, ambulance or other emergency services must still be reported to 911, which is manned by trained public safety dispatchers.

[www.sturgis-sd.gov](http://www.sturgis-sd.gov)

## Contact Information

City Manager 347-4422  
Community Development 347-4424  
Finance Office 347-4422  
Human Resources 347-4422  
Rally Department 720-0800  
8:00 - 5:00 Mon. - Fri.  
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  
7:00 - 5:00 Mon. - Fri.  
After Hour Emergency call  
Police Dispatch 347-2573