

BYRON COMMUNITY NEWS

— BROUGHT TO YOU BY BYRON EDA AND CITY HALL —

www.byronmn.com | Like us on Facebook, Instagram and Nextdoor

Volume 7 | Issue 9 | September 2025

Byron's Vendor Fair and Farmers Market are very successful



Beginning in June, a Farmers Market began popping up at the Byron Park 'n Ride every Saturday. It soon grew to be too big for the parking lot. In August, the market moved to the Byron Community Recreation Complex, 1650 Fourth St. NE. Who started this? Two energetic, forward-thinking sisters from Byron, Amber Freese and Ashley Scanlan.

The market runs from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday through October 25, explained Amber. The two plan to reopen the market in the spring next year.

Ashley holds a vendor fair, 'Handmade Holiday Market', at her home in the fall and winter months. Last year, this occurred during Brrrfest in December. However, this year it will take place two weekends in November. It's a great place to get Christmas gifts and decor.

For more information and to keep up with vendor information and scheduling, visit the Byron, MN Farmers Market Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/farmersmarketbyron>



Byron park hours

Byron parks are open from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The city's curfew for juveniles is also 10 p.m.

Previously, park hours were tied to the times for sunrise and sunset. However, in March, the Byron city council members voted to extend the hours so the parks may be used for longer times in the spring and fall.

For more information, please call city hall at (507) 775-3400.

Construction on County State Aid Highway 5 to Salem Corners is complete



The intersection at CSAH 5 and Highway 14 is once again open to through traffic all four ways. Olmsted County has finished the two-year project of completely rebuilding CSAH 5 between Byron and Salem Corners.

When funding becomes available, the intersection will become the site of an interchange; one of two on Highway 14 in or near Byron. One will be at CSAH 3 – which is now a J-turn - and the other will be at CSAH 5 – which currently and historically is the site of an average of one accident per month.

Officials from the city of Byron and Olmsted County are continuing to seek funding from the state of Minnesota so the interchange plans will be ready when funds become available for the planning and design, explained Byron City Administrator Al Roder.



The city would like to thank the businesses and organizations that purchased advertising banners this year for placement on the outfield fences at the Byron Community Recreation Complex at 1650 Fourth St. NE and at Old Towne Park at 126 Byron Ave. N. This year, 14 groups purchased 19 banners.

If you'd like a banner for next year's season, applications are available at city hall and on the city's website. Revenue from the banners will be used to help purchase scoreboards at the fields.

Crash Data for the state of Minnesota is available at <https://roadsafetyinfocenter.mn.gov/map/information/crashes>

CITY OF BYRON MISSION STATEMENT

To provide valued public service and guide the city with innovative thinking toward smart growth.

Byron Council approves preliminary levy



At the Byron city council meeting Sept. 9, the members voted to set the 2026 Preliminary Levy tax rate at 60.59%, which is slightly lower than last year. Finance Director Cami Reber explained that the tax capacity value of property in Byron increased by 12.5% from last year. New construction valued at \$33,353,900 - which includes Stonehaven Apartments, Stonehaven

Townhomes, Dollar General and several single-family homes – helped drive that increase.

Because the value of taxable property throughout the city increased, property taxes could increase also, even though the tax rate remains the same.

Property valuation notices were sent out earlier this year by Olmsted County so you should know if your property increased or decreased in value. The 2026 Proposed Tax Statements arrive from the county later in the year and will show the effect of each taxing district's proposed tax rate on your property.

The levy helps to pay expenses for the city. These will rise next year because of increases in staff wages/benefits, the new state Paid Leave Law starting in January, the increase in the contract with the Olmsted County Sheriff for law enforcement coverage because of the additional cost of the school resource office, an 8.16% increase in health insurance costs, and other items.

The Truth in Taxation meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Dec. 9 in the Council Chambers, Byron City Hall, 680 NE Byron Main Ct. At that meeting, property owners may discuss the city taxes on their property with the council members.

After that hearing, council members will decide the final budget figures for 2026. The budget may decrease between now and the vote on the final budget, but it may not increase.



TRASH CONTAINER PLACEMENT

When you put your trash and recycling containers out for pick up, please position them behind the curb, NOT in the street. The garbage truck arms can easily reach them behind the curb, and the street should always be kept clear for street sweepers, snowplows, and other vehicles. After the trash and recycling have been picked up, please remove the containers from the right of way.

Personal items should also be kept out of the right-of-way property next to city streets. Only USPS approved mailboxes and utility poles can be in this area. Anything of a semi-permanent/permanent nature like fences, basketball hoops, and sprinkler heads should not be located there.

These items interfere with the maintenance of public streets and utilities. And the city is not responsible for damage caused to these types of items.

Byron remodeling numbers show activity



Does it seem like building and remodeling projects are going on all over Byron? They are! According to Olmsted County, Byron has had 160 building permits valued at about \$6.5 million issued between Jan 1 and Aug. 28. Those include 14 new detached family homes, 7 decks, 55 alterations, and 74 mechanical and plumbing permits among other work.

Last year was even busier when Byron had 452 building permits issued including 27 new detached family homes, 3 new attached family homes, 27 decks, 4 garages, 132 mechanical and plumbing permits, and 246 other alterations among other work.



The Byron Fire Department's annual open house is scheduled from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Oct. 6 at the Byron Fire Hall at 707 Frontage Road NW. Bring your children and they can help wield fire extinguishers and fire hoses, watch demonstrations about the firefighters' equipment, and see how fire works its way through a structure.

The activities available at this open house are great ways to teach children fire safety tips and skills.

Call Byron City Hall at 775-3400 to have the latest edition of the Byron Community News sent to your inbox OR pick up a copy at Byron City Hall.

• Byron Community News layout by Mind to Message Print Design •