

BYRON COMMUNITY NEWS

— BROUGHT TO YOU BY BYRON EDA AND CITY HALL —

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Byron sees more businesses coming

■ Story & Photos by Gretta Becay

Construction, dirt work, and renovations started in November for new Byron businesses.

1. A mixed-use recreation and family entertainment facility is being built at 1200 Fourth St. NE, east of Fareway Meat and Grocery. Plans for the facility include two basketball courts, shooting cages, an indoor playground, and classrooms for school-aged childcare.

2. A suite inside the Byron Towne Square strip mall at 1067 Fourth St. NE, is being renovated for a hockey training facility. The facility will focus on youth hockey development and will offer training sessions and small-scale competitions; primarily 3-on-3 games.

3. A vehicle dealership is now located at 11 Second Ave. SW. The owners plan to operate a small used car dealership at that location with an inventory of 10-15 vehicles on-site at any given time.

4. A mixed-use commercial development is planned for the acreage at 414 Tenth Ave. N., (north of the Byron Towne Square strip mall). The plan right now potentially includes a hotel, a restaurant, storage units and other facilities. Discussions about the development will continue as things develop.



Friendly Reminder:

Let's Keep Our Sidewalks Safe and Accessible!

City Code requires that snow, ice, dirt, and debris be removed from public sidewalks within 48 hours of being deposited. This helps keep our community safe for pedestrians and welcoming for everyone.

Please take a few minutes to clear your sidewalks and do your part in creating a safe, walkable city. Thank you for helping us keep Byron safe and beautiful!

Keep Fire Hydrants Clear of Snow

Every second counts in an emergency

- Remove snow and ice from the hydrant
- Clear an area approximately 3 feet around the hydrant
- Clear a path from the hydrant to the street



Help keep fire hydrants clear this winter

As winter blankets our community with snow, it's crucial to keep fire hydrants accessible

In an emergency, every second counts! If hydrants are buried under snow, firefighters lose valuable time accessing water. Let's work together to keep our community safe! Here's how you can help:

- Clear a 3-foot radius around hydrants near your home.
- Make sure hydrants are visible from the street (not buried under snowbanks).
- Lend a hand to neighbors who may need help clearing their hydrant.

Your small efforts can make a big difference!

Byron 2026 levy approved

■ Story by Gretta Becay

At their December meeting, after the Truth in Taxation presentation and a public hearing, the Byron city council members approved the 2026 final levy of \$6,638,568.

Byron's Tax Rate decreased from 60.60 to 60.08 due in large part to the 12+% increase in taxable valuation generated by new and increased valuations throughout the community. During the presentation, it was noted that at the end of 2024, Byron's population was 6,961.

To date, the city has issued building permits totaling about \$8.4 million. That includes 18 new homes, as well as decks, additions, alterations, and miscellaneous permits.

Council members also talked about planned capital projects for



2026 including a roundabout at the Fourth St. NE and Tenth Ave. NE, an expansion to the fire hall, upgrades to the pool, athletic fields, and other open space improvements, and other projects.

CITY OF BYRON MISSION STATEMENT

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

BrrrFest 2025 was a Success!



■ Story & Photo by Gretta Becay

Even with the below-zero temperatures, Byron residents and visitors turned out in force to take part in BrrrFest, the city's winter festival. Businesses throughout the community held open houses with treats, activities, and sales and Saturday morning, Dec. 13, Breakfast with Santa at the Community Education Center was held with delicious food, activities and Santa.

The festival wrapped up with a vendor fair, a light parade and fireworks. Santa led the parade in a Byron Fire Department truck. He then handed out treats provided by Fareway at the Byron Community Recreation Center parking lot to those parked and waiting for the spectacular fireworks display. It was a wonderful fun-filled festival.

For more pictures and to view the sponsors of this event, please visit www.byronmnchamber.com

OPEN MIC NIGHT

PROVIDING AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EMERGING MUSICIANS, COMEDIANS, POETS AND OTHER PERFORMERS TO PRACTICE THEIR CRAFT AND GAIN EXPERIENCE IN FRONT OF A LIVE AUDIENCE.

JANUARY 10
FEBRUARY 7
MARCH 14
APRIL 11

7 PM - 10 PM

FOR ALL AGES



505 Frontage Rd NW, Byron

HOSTED BY:

THE DIVERSITY & INCLUSION COUNCIL OF BYRON

LOCATION:

THE COMPADRES

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS 3 DAYS BEFORE EVENT:

- Scan the QR Code or
- <https://forms.gle/L9eRUhCkT6Tb7ARk6>



Diwali Festival of Lights held at BHS

■ Story & Photos by Gretta Becay

On Nov. 8, hundreds of people attended a 2025 Diwali Festival of Lights celebration held in the auditorium at Byron High School. Byron city council member Justin Blom served as the local official. In this picture, he lights one of the ceremonial lamps to start the event.

It was noted, "The Festival of Lights symbolizes the spiritual victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance."

The event is hosted by the Indian Cultural Association of Minnesota. The audience was entertained with colorfully costumed dancers and singers and the lights, colors and vibrant energy lit up the big auditorium.

