

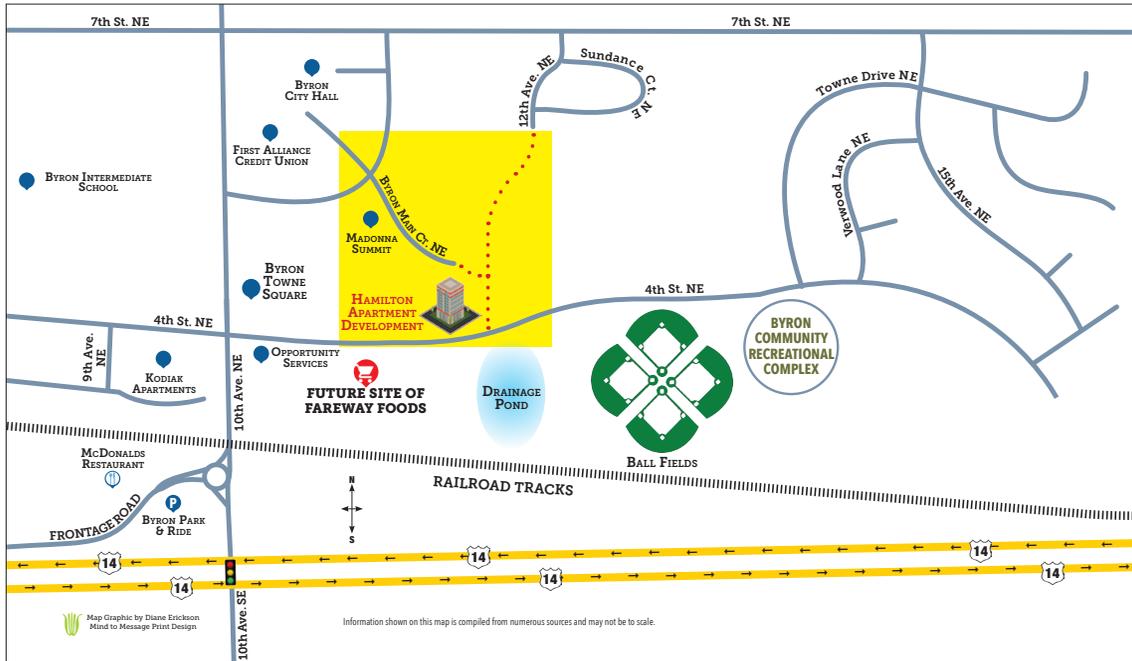
BYRON COMMUNITY NEWS

— BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE BYRON EDA AND CITY STAFF —

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New apartment complex planned for Byron Towne Square



from the consortium of banks that took over the land when the Farr development failed. The Fareway grocery store is also on one of these lots.

The city will extend Byron Main Court NE and 12th Ave NE all the way to Fourth St. NE. They are to the north and north-east of the complex.

The developer would like to begin construction this summer and ideally finish by the summer of 2021. The final value of the building is estimated at \$4.95 million.

The city is offering approximately \$500,000 in incentives including a refund on a portion of the price of the land after the certificate of occupancy is issued and tax abatements over a 10-year period.

An official for Hamilton Real Estate said the group manages about 1,000 apartments in the region including Kodiak Apartments. He said the location of the land within walking distance of the new Fareway grocery store and the Byron Community Recreation Center were big draws to the company to build here.

■ Story by Gretta Becay

Byron City Council members took the first steps in bringing a 47-unit market rate apartment complex east of Byron Towne Square Shoppes on Fourth on the north side of Fourth St. NE near Madonna Summit at their meeting

Feb. 11. Hamilton Real Estate is planning to build the complex with one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments along with tuck-under garages and rentable storage closets.

The developer is planning for each unit to have its own washer/dryer and a balcony or patio.

There will be a large communal patio with gas bar-b-ques and fire tables and an on-site fitness center.

The complex will be placed on a 2.24-acre parcel which is being purchased from the Byron Economic Development Authority. The BEDA purchased the parcel

2020 Presidential Primary is March 3; absentee voting currently available at 4H Building or by mail

■ Story by Gretta Becay

For the first time in decades, Minnesota will have a presidential nomination primary this year. The state legislature established this in 2016. The primary is scheduled for March 3 and absentee voting began Jan. 17.

For residents wishing to vote early, an absentee ballot can be obtained by mail by applying online at the Secretary of State's website or by calling Olmsted County Elections at (507) 328-7650. Residents can vote in person at the 4H Building at Graham Park, 1508 Aune Drive SE, Rochester from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Olmsted County website also explains that two more locations will open in late February for absentee voting. They are the Olmsted County Government Center, 151 Fourth St. SE, Rochester and 125 Live, 125 Elton Hills Dr. NW, Rochester.

Any voter who is registered in Minnesota can vote in the primary. Residents can register on March 3 at city hall which is the voting place for Byron voters who live within the city limits.

There are four major political parties which were eligible to submit candidates for the primary. They include the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, the Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis Party, the Legal Marijuana Now Party, and the Republican Party. Only the DFL and the Republican parties have submitted candidates for this primary and there will only be two ballots.

Michael Bennet, Joseph Biden, Michael R. Bloomberg, Cory Booker, Pete Buttigieg, Julian Castro, John K. Delaney, Tulsi Gabbard, Amy Klobuchar, Deval Patrick, Bernie Sanders, Tom Steyer, Elizabeth Warren, Marianne Williamson and Andrew Yang.

The website for the Secretary of State explains that even if a candidate drops out before the primary, the ballot will not change.

In order to vote, voters must request the ballot for the party of their choice.

Although how a voter voted on the ballot is secret, the website for the Secretary of State explains, "... a list of who voted in a presidential nomination primary and the political party each voter selected will be provided to the chair of each major political party."

The city will be reimbursed by the state for the cost of the primary but not until after the election. The statewide primary is estimated to cost almost \$12 million.

There will still be precinct caucuses and state and local nominating conventions for other business of the political parties.



Candidates filed include Donald Trump for the Republican Party and the following candidates for the DFL party:

CITY OF BYRON MISSION STATEMENT:

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

Did You Know?



Did you know that plowing streets is determined on how long the snow event will occur and the amount of snow that is expected? Plowing is not based on the time of the day. Plowing will commence when the falling of snow quits unless the forecasted amount requires more than one pass. Byron is not large enough to have staff available to rotate schedules to plow such as MnDOT.

It typically takes 6 to 7 hours to plow the entire community. When plowing starts, the first focus is emergency routes and arterial streets and we move into residential neighborhoods from there.

With the recent snow event, City Hall has received numerous complaints about sidewalks not being cleared. Residents are required to clear sidewalks within 48 hours of a snow event. Homeowners that have not shoveled their sidewalks will be charged for the service of having them cleared.



Did you know that the city of Byron has partnered with Olmsted County and the city of Rochester to provide “Public Alerts”? These alerts are used to notify residents of snow emergencies, road closures, water breaks, etc. You can sign up for either text or phone call or both. Visit Byronmn.com for the link to sign up under “Emergency Alerts/Snow Notifications”. When you click on the link it will direct you to “Rochester Alerts”, however you will only receive notifications for what you select from the menu. Alerts from Byron will be clearly marked with the city of Byron flag. A paper form is available at City Hall for enrollment if preferred.

STAY IN THE KNOW, SIGN UP FOR PUBLIC ALERTS TODAY!



If you have any questions or concerns you would like the City to address, please contact City Hall or your city officials directly.

The city Facebook page was created to get information out to the residents; it was not intended for staff to monitor or follow-up on comments. If you would like a response to a question or comment, please contact City Hall directly.

Byron proclaims March Colorectal cancer awareness month March 9 is Turn Minnesota Blue day

■ Story & Photo by Gretta Becay



Mayor Daryl Glassmaker and Kelly Domaille, who is on the board of the American Cancer Society, Rochester, met on Feb. 25 at city hall and the mayor signed the proclamation.

Domaille explained that many communities across Minnesota have made this proclamation and they are all working together to ‘turn Minnesota Blue’ on March 9.

She said that colorectal cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer deaths in the U.S. among men and women combined. However, “if the majority of people in the United States age 50 or older were screened regularly for colorectal cancer, half of all cases could be prevented entirely.”

Early detection and screening are key in defeating this disease, she explained.

Watch out for utility work along Fourth Street

■ Caption & Photo by Gretta Becay

Workers for Xcel Energy are shown being lifted up to work on changing out the old utility pole for a taller one. Public Works Superintendent Tom Ricke explained that, “All the poles along Fourth St. from Second Ave. NW (County Road 5) to 10th Ave. NE are getting replaced. They are upgrading the lines and poles. The old poles are 40 feet tall and the new poles will be 45 feet tall.”



Jameson Hanson appointed as new city council member



■ Story & Photo by Gretta Becay

Jameson Hanson was sworn in to the Byron City Council at their regular meeting Feb. 11 to fill the position left open when Scott Johnson resigned last month.

Mayor Daryl Glassmaker appointed Hanson and the other council members unanimously approved the appointment.

Hanson is the past president of the Byron Area Chamber of Commerce. He and his wife Bryten own the local Anytime Fitness along with the Anytime Fitness in Stewartville. They are also partners in two gyms in Baldwin, Wisconsin and Wahpeton, North Dakota.

Jameson was born in Austin, MN. He graduated from Southland High School in Adams, MN and from the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities with his Bachelor of Kinesiology.

He opened his first Anytime Fitness in Stewartville in 2016. He and his wife helped start the Northlight Community Church which meets at the Primary School.

In his application, Hanson stated he wanted to be appointed to the council position because, “I want to make a positive impact on the community I love. The city of Byron has so many wonderful features, but we have so much untapped potential to grow our community and improve the local quality of life.”

Hanson will serve until the end of the year in the position. If he wishes to serve out the remainder of Johnson’s term until 2022, Hanson will decide to run for election in November.

Other council members’ terms that expire at the end of this year include Steven Cook, Matthew Brekke, and Mayor Daryl Glassmaker