



**CITY OF OKOBOJI**  
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*Mission Statement: "Improve and Protect our Community"*

**QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**  
January 1, 2016

**NEW DEPUTY CLERK**

On October 19, 2015 the City's newest employee, Lissa Ballis, started her duties as the Deputy City Clerk for the City of Okoboji. Lissa brings with her experience in accounting, billing, computer experience and people skills. You will find Lissa to be very pleasant and outgoing. When you have a chance please stop in to introduce yourself and say hi.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL INCUMBENTS RE-ELECTED**

The past city election held November 3, 2015 allowed for the re-election of Mary VanderWoude as Mayor. Mary begins her 6<sup>th</sup> term as Mayor on January 1, 2016. Jim Hentges and Jim Delperdang were both re-elected as City Councilmembers. Jim Hentges is beginning his 3<sup>rd</sup> term as a Councilmember. Jim Delperdang is beginning his 4<sup>th</sup> term as a Councilmember. If you see them please congratulate each one and thank them for their years of service.

**CITY WEBSITE INFORMATION**

As many of you are aware, the new city website is up and running. During the course of implementing the new website, the Mayor and City Council wanted it to look more vibrant and up-to-date, plus offer more information. In the past year, the City has added information in the Government section of the website regarding issued construction permits, zoning fees, application for construction permits, the zoning map, and approved zoning ordinance amendments for your convenience. These come along with the Zoning Ordinance and the Code of Ordinances that is now in place. These are all done with your interests in mind. If you have any other suggestions for items to possibly be added to the website, please contact your City Councilmember, Mayor, or City Hall, and we will see what can be done.

**WINTER HOURS FOR RECYCLING FACILITY**

Winter hours have been set for the Recycling Center located at 2260 220<sup>th</sup> Street (A34), Milford, Iowa. Those hours will be Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 9 AM – 4 PM. The phone number for the location is 712-338-2549. Appointments must still be scheduled for the disposal of household hazardous waste. The website address is [www.dickinsonrecycling.com](http://www.dickinsonrecycling.com). These hours will remain in effect until further notice.

**ALLIANT ENERGY REBATE DEADLINE IS JANUARY 31, 2016**

Okoboji residents and business owners that have made energy saving upgrades in 2015 need to submit their Alliant Energy rebate claim forms by January 31, 2016.

Rebates are available on a variety of energy-efficient equipment including:

- Heating, cooling and water heating
- Lighting
- Doors
- Insulation and home sealing
- Computer equipment
- Food service equipment
- Refrigeration
- Motors and drives

For more information, call 1-866-ALLIANT (866-255-4268) or visit [alliantenergy.com/rebates](http://alliantenergy.com/rebates).

**SNOW REMOVAL**

The Okoboji City crew takes pride in providing safe streets to travel upon during the winter. In the event of a snowstorm, the City crew will make every effort to clean the streets in a timely fashion. If a storm diminishes during the evening hours, you can expect the plows to be out as early as possible to have the streets open so you may have safe travel to work in the morning. In the event of a daytime storm, the plows will be out as weather allows; but in any event, every effort will be made to make travel as safe as possible.

During normal snow removal operations, you may find your driveway entrance has been blocked with snow from the snowplows. If you could wait until the crew is finished with snow removal, you should only have to clean your entrance once. In the event the City crew goes out and widens the street at a later time to accommodate more snow removal in the future, the snow will be removed from your entrance. Please do not confuse this with normal snow removal operations.

The City crew asks that everyone please give them some room when operating the trucks for snow removal, as this can be very difficult when working with traffic.

**Please keep parked cars off city streets during and after snow storms. Parked cars are an obstacle to clearing the street well, and also pose a hazard that plows must maneuver around. Your street will be plowed more thoroughly if there are fewer cars parked on the street.**

**AUTOMATIC BANK PAYMENT**

The City of Okoboji offers automatic bank payments for your quarterly water bills. This service will save you time, money, and hassle -- your payments will be made automatically from your checking or savings account. You will save time writing and mailing checks plus the cost of stamps and checks. Your payment will be made on time every quarter. You never have to worry about forgetting a payment or incurring additional charges for late payment. Automatic payments are extremely accurate. If you have more than one City water account, you can sign up for all of them on one form. Please contact City Hall if you have any questions about this service, you can request an ACH Debit Authorization form from us or go to the city website located under water services to print out your own.

**HOUSE NUMBERING: WOULD THE AMBULANCE CREW BE ABLE TO FIND YOU??**

This is a reminder that your home or business must be numbered. **Our Fire Chief has requested that you make sure your number is displayed AND visible to passing traffic.** Our fire and rescue personnel have had difficulty finding certain locations because of no house numbers or numbers that are hard to see. The time spent trying to locate your house number could be a matter of life and death in an emergency situation. Please contact City Hall if you are not certain of your house or business number. Our City Ordinance states: The owner shall place or cause to be installed and maintained on the principal building the assigned number in a conspicuous place to the street in figures not less than two and one-half (2 ½) inches in height and of a **contrasting color** with their background. If your home or business is located so it is not visible from the roadway, then a number must be placed on a post as near to the road as possible for easy identification. If an owner refuses to number a building as mentioned, or fails to do so for a period of thirty (30) days after being notified in writing by the City, the City may proceed to place the assigned number on the principal building and assess the cost against the property for collection in the same manner as property taxes. **For those of you who know your home or business is not numbered, please do so at your earliest convenience.**

***As always, the Mayor, City Council, City Hall Staff, Police Department, and Maintenance Employees would like to wish you all a safe and prosperous New Year!***

These newsletters are furnished to all taxpayers and citizens of Okoboji, hoping to keep you all informed as to local government issues and to encourage participation. If you have a suggested topic for future newsletters, advise your Mayor and Councilmembers, or you may call, e-mail, or write directly to the City Hall.

Dennis J. Daly  
City Clerk/Administrator