

STEARNS COUNTY SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

The purpose of this Report is to provide a summary of financial information concerning Stearns County for interested citizens. Questions about this report should be directed to Sarah Utsch, Stearns County Finance Director, (320) 656-3914.

A FULL AND COMPLETE COPY OF THE COUNTY FINANCIAL STATEMENT IS AVAILABLE ON THE COUNTY’S WEB SITE AT [www.stearnscountymn.gov](http://www.stearnscountymn.gov)

OR UPON REQUEST BY CALLING (320) 656-3914, OR BY WRITING TO SARAH UTSCH, STEARNS COUNTY FINANCE DIRECTOR, 705 COURTHOUSE SQUARE ROOM 148, ST. CLOUD, MN 56303

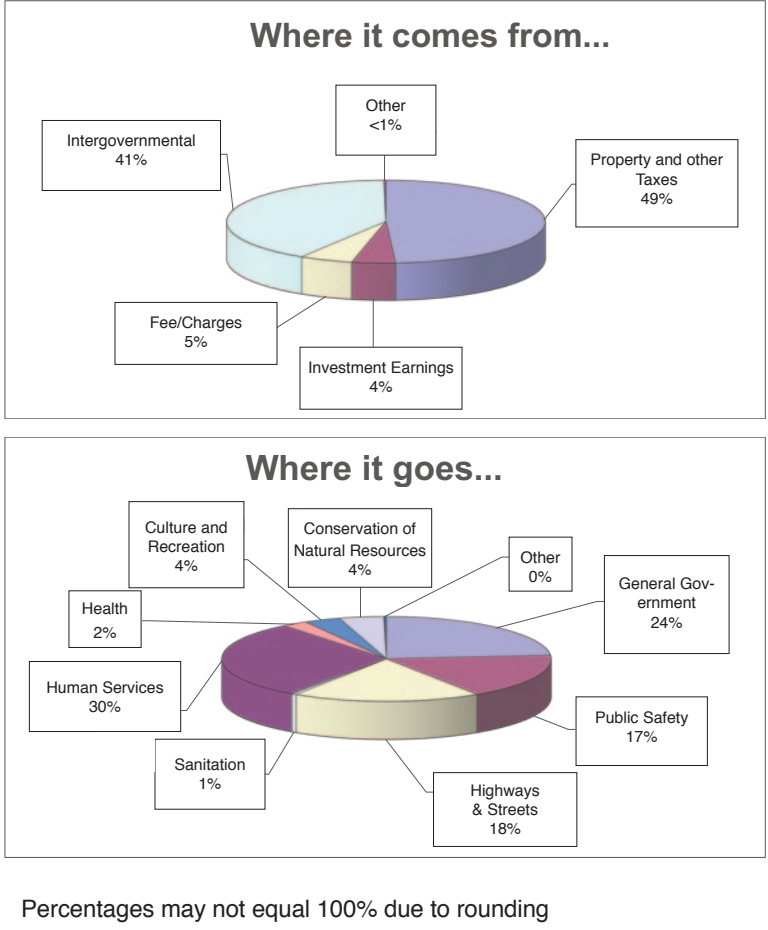
2023 COUNTY OFFICIALS

Office Name	Phone	Office Name	Phone
Commissioners:		Officers:	
1st District Tarryl Clark	(320) 656-3606	Administrator Michael Williams	(320) 656-3601
2nd District Joe Perske*	(320) 656-3606	Auditor/Treasurer Randy Schreifels	(320) 656-3900
3rd District Jeff Mergen	(320) 656-3606	Attorney Janelle Kendall	(320) 656-3880
4th District Leigh Lenzmeier	(320) 656-3606	Financial Director Sarah Utsch	(320) 656-3914
5th District Steve Notch	(320) 656-3606	Sheriff Steve Soyka	(320) 259-3700
*2023 Chair			

A PROFILE OF STEARNS COUNTY

Key Indicator	2023	2022	Percent Increase (Decrease)
Estimated Population	160,977	160,405	0.36%
Total Tax Capacity	\$211,097,000	\$180,290,000	17.09%
Percent of Property Taxes Collected	99.31%	99.60%	(0.29%)
Total General Revenues	\$123,043,353	\$107,264,630	14.71%
Total Program Revenues	\$86,333,846	\$82,020,322	5.26%
Total Expenses			
Governmental activities	\$154,981,915	\$216,133,784	(28.29%)
Capital Assets			
Governmental activities	\$464,297,719	\$439,254,453	5.70%
Total Outstanding Net Bonded Debt of County			
General obligation	\$0	\$0	N/A
Revenue supported	\$0	\$0	N/A
Special assessment	\$1,725,000	\$1,938,000	(10.99%)
Bond Rating on Most Recent General Obligation Bond Issue AA+ (S&P)	AA+ (S&P)	AA+ (S&P)	N/A
Total Government-Wide Net Position			
Governmental activities	\$530,297,487	\$475,894,474	11.43%
Business-type activities	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Total Number of Full-Time Equivalent Employees	944.7	953.35	(0.91%)

STEARNS COUNTY’S 2023 GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS’ FINANCES



A User’s Guide to  
County Financial Statements

The following definitions will help citizens understand the terminology that is used in the county’s financial statement.

Basic Financial Statements

Stearns County’s basic financial statements consist of three parts: government-wide financial statements, fund financial statements, and notes to the financial statements. The management’s discussion and analysis and certain budgetary comparison schedules are required to accompany the basic financial statements and, therefore, are included as required supplementary information.

**Government-wide financial statements** display information about the county’s financial reporting entity as a whole, except for its fiduciary activities. These statements should present separate information for the governmental activities of the county (primary government), as well as for its component units.

**Fund financial statements** display separate financial information for the county’s governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary funds. Information for governmental funds is presented separately for major funds and in the aggregate total for non major funds.

**Notes to the financial statements** provide additional information and disclosure for information in the financial statements.

**Governmental activities** are generally activities of the county financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange revenues. These activities are usually reported in governmental funds and internal service funds.

**Financial reporting entity** consists of the primary government (county), organizations for which the county is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the county are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity’s financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The nucleus of a county’s financial reporting entity is the primary government, the county.

**Primary government** is a term used in connection with defining the financial reporting entity. The primary government is the focus of the financial reporting entity. For the county, the primary government represents the financial activities, funds, or accounts directly under the control of the county board.

**Component unit** describes a legally separate organization for which the county board is financially accountable. In addition, component units can be other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the county are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity’s financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

County Governmental Fund Types

The **General Fund** is the general operating fund of the county. It is used to account for all financial resources, except those that are required to be accounted for in another fund.

**Special Revenue Funds** are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted for specified purposes.

**Debt Service Funds** are used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of principal, interest, and related costs of general long-term debt.

**Capital Projects Funds** are used to account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities.

County Proprietary Funds

**Internal Service Funds** are used to report any activity that provides goods or services to other funds, departments, or agencies of the primary government and its component units, or to other governments, on a cost reimbursement basis.

County Fiduciary Funds

**Fiduciary Funds** are used to account for assets held by the county as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments, and/or other funds; for example, taxes collected and held by a county for a school district.

Character Classification of County Expenditures

The county’s governmental expenditures are classified by character for the period expenditures are presumed to benefit. The county has the following character classifications:

**Current** operating expenditures are presumed to benefit the current fiscal period.

**Intergovernmental** represent resources transferred by to the county to other governments.

**Capital outlays** are presumed to benefit current and future fiscal periods and include amounts expended for the construction or acquisition of county capital assets.

**Debt services** are presumed to benefit prior fiscal periods as well as current and future periods and includes amount expended for the payment of principal, interest, and other costs associated with debt.

Classification of County Functions

Functions are a group of related activities aimed at accomplishing a major service or regulatory program for which the county is responsible. The county has the following function classifications:

The **General Government** function includes expenditures for general county activities such as the county commissioners, county administration, county attorney’s office, county auditor-treasurer’s office, property services, environmental services office, and other county general service offices.

**Public Safety** relates to the objective of protection of persons and property and includes expenditures for corrections activities, operations of the sheriff’s department, the county jail, civil defense, and emergency services.

**Highways and Streets** includes expenditures relating to the construction and maintenance of county highways and bridges.

**Sanitation** involves expenditures for the removal and disposal of waste and includes county solid waste collection and disposal, recycling.

**Human Services** represents activities designed to provide public assistance and institutional care for individuals unable to provide essential needs for themselves. These programs include child support collection, child welfare, chemical dependency, medical assistance, and others.

**Health** involves all activities involved in the conservation and improvement of public health. This function includes expenditures for the county public health department, home health aid services, other nursing services, maternal and child health, supplemental nutrition programs, and programs to protect public and private water systems.

**Culture and Recreation** involves cultural and recreational activities maintained for the benefit of county residents and visitors. These activities include public libraries, county parks, and other recreation programs.

**Conservation** involves activities designed to conserve and develop such natural resources as water, soil, and forests and includes such programs as soil and water conservation, county extension, water planning, and other.

**Economic Development** activities are directed toward economically developing the area encompassed by the county and providing assistance to, and opportunity for, economically disadvantaged persons or businesses.

Summary of Stearns County’s Statement of Net Position  
December 31, 2023

	Primary Government Governmental Activities	Component Unit Housing and Redevelopment Authority of Stearns County		Primary Government Governmental Activities	Component Unit Housing and Redevelopment Authority of Stearns County
<b>Assets</b>			<b>Liabilities</b>		
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 164,892,208	\$ 3,677,738	Payables	\$ 11,098,227	\$ 186,282
Receivables	5,449,157	490,236	Due to other governments	895,309	–
Due from other governments	10,872,912	–	Unearned Revenue	21,523,663	2,837
Inventories	974,216	–	Long-term liabilities		
Prepaid items	–	33,315	Due within one year	12,101,988	102,727
Capital assets			Due within more than one year	5,495,272	5,878,289
Land	15,879,072	533,116	Net pension liability	51,502,372	–
Construction in Progress	5,467,296	1,655,197	OPEB payable	4,035,846	–
Right of way	21,118,089	–	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$106,652,677</b>	<b>\$ 6,170,135</b>
Infrastructure	348,369,860	–	<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>		
Buildings	53,108,116	2,761,824	Advance allotments for state aid	\$ 2,736,729	\$ –
Machinery, furniture and equipment	20,355,286	125,211	Deferred pension inflows	34,836,302	–
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 646,486,212</b>	<b>\$ 9,276,637</b>	Deferred OPEB inflows	1,506,121	–
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>			Deferred lease inflows	591,825	–
Deferred pension outflows	\$ 29,757,244	\$ –	<b>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>\$ 39,670,977</b>	<b>\$ –</b>
Deferred OPEB outflows	\$ 377,685	\$ –	<b>Net Position</b>		
<b>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>\$ 30,134,929</b>	<b>\$ –</b>	Net investment in capital assets	\$457,937,622	\$ 1,286,758
			Restricted	36,604,655	401,795
			Unrestricted	35,755,210	1,417,949
			<b>Total Net Position</b>	<b>\$530,297,487</b>	<b>\$ 3,106,502</b>



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MAJOR RECIPIENTS OF STEARNS COUNTY EXPENDITURES

The following is a list of the recipients of Stearns County expenditures totaling \$5,000 or more during 2023. The List does not include salary paid to County Employees nor does it include individuals who received Federal, State or County Human Services Aid.

911 TECH INC	9,000.00	KIMBALL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 739	2,158,721.83
ACCURATE CONTROL, INC	86,720.35	KIVISTO WEST TREE SERVICE LLC	37,950.00
ADAPT PHARMA INC	33,912.00	KNIFE RIVER CORP	18,999,588.38
ADVANCED MASONRY RESTORATION INC	86,650.00	KNOWBEE INC	13,943.66
AED SUPERSTORE	5,298.00	KNOWLEDGE K&L	150,000.00
AFSCME COUNCIL 65	238,133.96	KNOWLEDGE K&L	150,000.00
ALQUIST, DANIEL P	16,273.00	KRAEMER TRUCKING & EXCAVATING	38,913.00
ALBANY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 745	5,817,350.42	KRAINT TOWNSHIP	311,840.24
ALBANY MUTUAL TELEPHONE	115,050.89	KRIS ENGINEERING INC	75,553.78
ALL SAFE GLOBAL INC	5,615.15	KRIS ENGINEERING INC	75,553.78
ALPHA TRAINING & TACTICS LLC	28,884.42	KULZER, ALEXANDER MICHAEL	23,027.00
ALTERNATIVES SUPPORTED LIVING SERVICES, INC	86,066.42	LABORATORY CORP OF AMERICA HOLDINGS	11,455.51
AMAZON.COM CORP CORPORATE CREDIT	194,227.26	LAKE FRANKLIN LAWN CARE AND LANDSCAPING LLC	11,455.51
AMUNDSON & JOHNSON PA	8,712.53	LAKE GEORGE TOWNSHIP	83,000.24
ANNANDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT 876	550,215.86	LAKE MINNAPOLIS TOWNSHIP	12,040.00
ANOKA COUNTY	781,154.11	LANDWEHR CONSTRUCTION INC	3,468,770.83
API ENGINEERING GROUP INC	139,858.91	LANDRY PHYLIS INC	10,522.00
API STORES INC	20,828.28	LARSON ELEVATOR COMPANY	21,776.17
API GARAGE DOOR INC	14,056.58	LAUREN CONSTRUCTION INC	4,987.11
ARCSEARCH CORPORATION	14,226.18	LAW ENFORCEMENT LABOR SERVICES	75,819.80
ARCHSOCIAL SERVICE FKA EXACTBYTE INC	2,402,138.00	LEADSONLINE	367,950.00
ARVIG ENTERPRISES INC FKA DIVERSICOM	83,796.00	LEADSONLINE	1,569.00
ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA COUNTIES (AMC)	1,048,114.14	LENNSTRAL ANDY	9,690.00
ASTECH ASPHALT SURFACE TECH	145,668.00	LEXISNEXIS	14,705.75
ATA	8,697.25	LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA	98,060.00
ATLANTIC CITY LLC	16,615.30	LIGHTHOUSE HEALTH & WELLNESS PBC	5,688.00
AUDIOCODES	11,371.03	LIND FAMILY FUNERAL HOME INC	5,100.00
AUTO TRIM DESIGN OF CENTRAL MINNESOTA	11,860.07	LINDSEY TOWNSHIP	13,500.00
AVAYA INC	14,231.50	LITTLE FALLS MACHINE INC	13,328.05
AVENUE INSIGHTS & ANALYTICS LLC FKA CONDUENT INC	2,554.88	LONG PRAIRIE GREY EAGLE SCHOOL DIST. 2753	5,218.43
AVIVO FKA RESURANCE INC	6,787.51	LOUIS INDUSTRIES INC	5,336.52
AVON TOWNSHIP	552,748.98	LSC GROUP HOLDINGS LLC	61,028.07
AXON FKA TASER INTERNATIONAL INC	82,704.55	LUNDA CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	295,132.03
BBK PHOTO - VIDEO	17,044.00	LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF MINNESOTA	105,386.44
BACKESS, WAYNE	17,044.00	LUXEMBURG TOWNSHIP	330,905.06
BACKESS, WILLIE	73,758.72	LYNDEN TOWNSHIP	193,596.44
BARNIA, GILZY, STEFFEN LTD	19,553.58	MAG RETAIL HOLDINGS - FFD LLC	446,153.50
BATTERIES PLUS INC	110,965.00	MALENE PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP	23,764.41
BDO INC	17,513.44	MAINTENANCE CONNECTION LLC	8,400.00
BEAUDRY OIL AND SERVICE INC	5,204.21	MALMANGER, KATHERINE S	5,553.58
BEE LINE SERVICE CENTER INC	13,613.92	MARREN INC	775,488.69
BELGRADE BROOKTON ELOROSA SCHOOL DIST. 2364	1,542,027.64	MARCO INC	17,520.04
BENEFIT PLANS ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES, LLC	152,250.00	MARTIN MARGIETTA MATERIALS	17,050.00
BENTON COUNTY	36,807.10	MARTIN MARGIETTA CONS. PSYCHOLOGISTS INC	15,322.00
BILLMAN - HUNT FUNERAL CHAPEL	6,960.50	MAURER, DAVID	7,426.00
BIRKBECK COMPANY INC	12,229.00	MAURER, DAVID	7,426.00
BORK LUMBER & STEEL INC	15,225.58	MAYO CLINIC AMBULANCE	8,216.70
BORUM, JEFFREY	2,710.43	MCI INC	87,488.75
BRADSHAW & BRYANT	40,717.75	MCKESSON MEDICAL-SURGICAL INC	68,951.69
BRAUN INTERIOR CORP	40,049.90	MECKER COUNTY	7,697.93
BRETH-ZENZEN FIRE PROTECTION LLC	6,024.35	MELROSE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 740	2,487,593.33
BRICKGIRL INC	11,120.00	MELROSE TOWNSHIP	163,618.06
BROCK AIR PRODUCTS INC	7,903.59	METRO SALES INC	7,169.00
BURKS EXCAVATING INC	26,270.40	METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	41,159.00
BUSKAWY TOWNSHIP	733,847.37	MICRO TEL INC	9,101.00
BURNS HEALING CENTER LLC	16,645.00	MID-CENTRAL DOOR COMPANY	46,655.90
BROWN, JAMES	1,617,474.59	MIDDLE FORK CROW RIVER WTRSHED	33,525.81
CAIN THOMAS ASSOCIATES INC	32,069.91	MIDWEST MACHINERY COMPANY	118,601.12
CALHOUN HOLDINGS LLC	90,888.04	MIDWEST MONITORING & SURVEILLANCE	102,351.20
CAMP RIPLEY	7,773.00	MIES OUTLAND, INCORPORATED	15,469.89
CAMPION BARROW & ASSOCIATES	21,510.00	MIGAIA, JASON	107,520.00
CARACAL ENTERPRISES LLC	6,560.00	MILE HIGH SHOOTING ACCESSORIES LLC	9,486.05
CARASOUTH TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION	12,150.00	MILLE LACS COUNTY	9,149.24
CAREY GROUP PUBLISHING	8,052.94	MILLER PONTIAC-BUICK-GMC INC	18,412.29
CASS COUNTY	9,268.05	MILLER PRIMER FUNERAL HOMES	11,253.00
CDW COMPUTER CENTERS INC	55,413.08	MINNESOTA ASSN OF COUNTY OFFICERS	7,000.00
CENTER FOR PUBLIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT LLC	7,098.00	MINNESOTA COUNTY ROYALTY ASSN	275,560.00
CENTER FOR VETERAN AFFAIRS	18,010.94	MINNESOTA CORRECTIONAL FACILITY BAYPORT	275,560.00
CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP	1,053,433.77	MINNESOTA DEFERRED COMP PLAN	1,003,732.04
CENTRACARE LABORATORY SERVICES	10,410.85	MINNESOTA DEFERRED COMP PLAN	1,003,732.04
CENTRAL HYDRALUX LLC	38,188.00	MINNESOTA MINORING INC	17,560.73
CENTRAL MINNESOTA DELIVERY	40,998.01	MINNESOTA NURSING ASSOCIATION	54,777.00
CENTRAL MINNESOTA MENTAL HEALTH CENTER	420,408.33	MINNESOTA PUBLIC WORKS ASSOC. INC	38,188.00
CENTRAL SPECIALTIES INC	31,188.52	MINNESOTA RECOVERY CONNECTION	24,288.17
CENTRE SPORTS LLC	24,817.84	MINNESOTA SCHOOL OF DIVING	15,308.49
CHAMBERLAIN OIL CO INC	11,836.50	MINNESOTA SHIFFRIS ASSOCIATION	15,308.49
CHARM-TEX, INC	6,544.48	MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES	11,174.64
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS	19,489.82	MINNESOTA TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE	19,500.00
CHILDREN'S DENTAL SERVICES	13,670.93	MJF INDUSTRIES INC	5,666.25
CHRISTIANSONS BUSINESS FURNITURE	28,004.79	MOORE, JAMES	2,500.00
CINTAS CORPORATION NO 2	15,893.67	MORRISON COUNTY	7,440.23
CITRIX SYSTEMS, INC	5,195.00	MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS INC	68,036.58
CITY OF ALBANY	1,798,315.81	M-R SIGN COMPANY INC	8,070.75
CITY OF AYON	141,096.38	MUNSON TOWNSHIP	19,417.75
CITY OF BELGRADE	382,061.58	MUYES, DONNA A	10,000.00
CITY OF BROOKTON	586,028.75	N. HARRIS CENTER FOR CORPORATION	25,857.00
CITY OF COLD SPRING	2,893,476.17	NAPELL APPRAISAL INCORPORATED	13,600.00
CITY OF EDEEN VALLEY	249,032.37	NATCON CONSULTING SOLUTIONS INC	2,400.00
CITY OF ELOROSA	27,536.91	NAVIGATE	25,335.00
CITY OF FREDRICK	623,588.88	NEWBERRY, GASHA	27,286.00
CITY OF GREENWALD	42,229.70	NEXT CHAPTER TECHNOLOGY, INC	27,286.00
CITY OF HOLDINGSFORD	112,433.03	NOVUS TOWNSHIP	11,243.00
CITY OF KIMBALL	588,923.32	NO WAIT INSIDE, INC	19,055.00
CITY OF LAKE HENRY	14,588.90	NORTH FORK CROW RIVER	554,232.46
CITY OF MEIRE GROVE	29,090.12	NORTH FORK CROW RIVER	554,232.46
CITY OF NEW MUNICH	1,351,584.29	NORTH AND BUSINESS SYSTEMS INC	39,223.68
CITY OF PAINESVILLE	1,940,941.03	NORTHWOODS FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS INC	58,916.69
CITY OF RICHMOND	871,550.00	NORTHWOODS FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS INC	58,916.69
CITY OF ROCKVILLE	7,630.00	OKA TOWNSHIP	25,953.39
CITY OF SARTELL	6,744,420.27	OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY	132,362.00
CITY OF SAUK CENTRE	2,962,311.32	OLDSPEC INC	4,206,012.72
CITY OF SPRING HILL	16,602.84	OPENVISOR INC	10,678.00
CITY OF ST AUGUSTA	1,358,413.44	OPG EAGLE CREEK HOLDINGS LLC	10,520.00
CITY OF ST CLOUD	33,322,187.85	OPG EAGLE CREEK HOLDINGS LLC	10,520.00
CITY OF ST JOSEPH	414,758.00	PALADIN TECHNOLOGIES (USA) INC	17,045.01
CITY OF ST MARTIN	264,783.03	OPUS GROUP	6,597.77
CITY OF ST ROSA	21,582.39	PATTON FUNERAL SERVICE CORPORATION	29,600.00
CITY OF ST STEPHEN	270,910.53	PAYNEVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 741	29,600.00
CITY OF WAITE PARK	110,341.51	PAYNEVILLE TOWNSHIP	57,759.84
CIVICPLUS LLC	97,142.68	PAYAL	18,983.50
CLEAN EARTH SYSTEMS	8,786.50	PC SERV, LLC	6,240.00
CLEARWATER LAKE ASSOCIATION	9,767.00	PERFORMANCE HEALTH SUPPLY INC	19,417.75
CLEARWATER RIVER WATERWORKS DISTRICT	224,685.13	PERFORMANCE KENNELS INC	18,295.00
CLIFTON LARSON ALLEN LLP	11,025.00	PFM FINANCIAL ADVISORS LLC	5,960,576.47
CLOUDCOWFARMER FKA PAKTAKO SOFTWARE INC	8,365.00	PERMANENCE HEALTH SUPPLY INC	19,417.75
CORBONS INCORPORATED	58,527.23	PICOTMETRY INTERNATIONAL CORP	67,650.00
COLD SPRING RECORD	1,637.49	PICOTMETRY INTERNATIONAL CORP	67,650.00
COLLEGEVILLE TOWNSHIP	922,133.88	PIEASANTS FOREVER INC	333,450.00
COLUMBIA BROTHERS INC	8,425.12	PIEASANTS FOREVER INC	333,450.00
COMPASS MINERALS AMERICA INC FKA N AMER SALT	499,267.92	POPE DOUGLAS SOLID WASTE	85,637.00
CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS INC	66,064.00	PORT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SAINT PAUL	194,670.60
CONSULTING SOLUTIONS INC	21,640.00	POSTMASTER ST CLOUD	36,687.00
CORE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PA	24,071.25	POWERHOUSE OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT	18,412.29
CORNERSTONE DRUG AND BATH INC	13,470.00	POWERHOUSE OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT	18,412.29
CPS TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS	48,880.00	POWERHOUSE OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT	18,412.29
CREMATION TOWNSHIP	5,700.00	PRAIRIE LAKES YOUTH PROGRAMS	28,176.15
CROW LAKE TOWNSHIP	93,631.88	PRAIRIE LAKES YOUTH PROGRAMS	28,176.15
CROW RIVER TOWNSHIP	236,942.78	PRESBYTERIAN FAMILY FOUNDATION INC	13,470.00
CROW LAKE TOWNSHIP	93,631.88	PROFESSIONAL GUARDIAN SERVICES	5,132.00
CUMMINS POWER, LLC	10,407.11	PROGRESS SOFTWARE CORPORATION	8,650.00
DACOTAH PAPER COMPANY	64,857.24	PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD OF CENTRAL MN	152,000.00
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP	10,845.64	PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD OF CENTRAL MN	152,000.00
DANIEL FUNERAL HOME	54,875.00	QUADIENT INC (FKA NEPOST)	56,890.29
DATAWORKS PLUS LLC	20,576.02	QUALITY POWER SOLUTIONS LLC	52,113.74
DAVID TUNER AND ASSOCIATES	48,000.00	R.L. LARSON EXCAVATING INC	1,700.38
DDA HUMAN RESOURCES INC	5,400.00	RATH, DENNIS A	24,302.00
DELL MARKETING, L.P.	1,107,088.64	RATH, TYLER	24,302.00
DELTA AIR LINES	15,099.50	RAYMOND TOWNSHIP	30,670.25
DELTA TARIFF LLC	148,030.00	RD O EQUIPMENT COMPANY	213,851.62
DESIGN ELECTRIC CONTRACTORS	226,575.60	REAL TIME TRANSLATION INC	19,148.05
DIAMOND VOGEL INC	24,071.25	RECOLLECT SYSTEMS INC	9,894.00
DILIGENT CORPORATION	38,124.00	RED CEDAR CONSULTING LLC	9,506.10
DICKMANN FUNERAL CARE INC	1,400.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
DISC GOLF ASSOCIATION, INC	9,125.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
DISPATCH HEALTH & COMMUNICATIONS INC	17,710.06	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
DLT SOLUTIONS INC	17,710.06	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
DOUGLAS COUNTY	51,731.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
DOHERTY STAFFING SOLUTIONS INC	7,706.18	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
DOUGLAS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DIST	8,687.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
DOWNTOWN COUNCIL ST CLOUD INC	9,000.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
DTM FLEET SERVICE LLC	124,111.08	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
EAST SIDE GLASS	22,461.79	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
EAST SIDE OIL COMPANY INCORPORATED	368,862.96	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
EAST WEST CENTRAL REALTY	7,540.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
EDEN LAKE TOWNSHIP	530,784.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
EDEN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT #63	1,469,584.17	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
EDEN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT #63S	299,351.12	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
ELFMANN EXCAVATING LLC	13,442.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
ELK HORN TOWNSHIP	454,491.21	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
ELLIOTT OIL SUPPLY CO., INC.	11,016.35	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
EMBURSE INC	36,528.52	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS PROFESSIONAL ASSOC.	10,749.66	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS RESEARCH INSTITUTE INC	45,000.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
EPTURA INC	11,942.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
ERICKSON ENGINEERING	6,189.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
ESSENTIA HEALTH EMS	7,967.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
EVERYTHING SIGNS	32,501.41	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
EVOLVING SOLUTIONS INC	27,072.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
EXPRESS SERVICES INC	479,710.23	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FAIR HAVEN TOWNSHIP	14,422.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FARMER SPECIALLY VEHICLES INC	14,422.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FARMING COMMUNITY CENTER	45,615.77	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FARMING TOWNSHIP	7,837.13	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FARM-RITE EQUIPMENT INC	6,044.34	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FARMER SPECIALLY VEHICLES INC	14,422.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FEDERAL EXPRESS	35,960.34	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FIDELITY SECURITY LIFE INSURANCE CO	7,500.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FIFTH ASSET INC	244,428.18	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FLEET SERVICE INC	13,468.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FLUGA, CHRISTINE	5,100.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FOLLEY FUNERAL HOME INC	17,070.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FORCE AMERICA DISCOUNTS LLC	47,886.44	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FORREST J. JONES & COMPANY INC	124,728.04	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FRAMEWORK INC FKA THE JOHNSON MKTG GROUP	11,764.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FREVEL, IRENE	7,117.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
FUNK, KENNETH S	129,885.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
GALLAGHER BENEFIT SERVICES INC	30,556.69	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
GARTNER GROUP INC	140,479.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
GEN SANITARY DISTRICT	11,828.51	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
GENERAL OFFICE PRODUCTS COMPANY	36,507.34	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
GEOCOM INC	10,168.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
GEORGEON, ANTHONY	146,621.28	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
GETTY TOWNSHIP	6,300.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
GEVEKO MARKINGS INC	30,066.11	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
GHD SERVICES INC	5,400.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
GILLESAND CHEVROLET	157,230.00	REDAIR CONSULTING LLC	49,697.15
GILL, ANDREW			



# Public Notices

## STATE OF MINNESOTA STEARNS COUNTY

DISTRICT COURT  
7TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Court File Number:  
73-JV-24-3316  
Case Type:  
CHIPS - Permanency

Summons and Notice  
Termination of Parental  
Rights Matter (CHP-115)

In the Matter of the  
Welfare of the Child(ren) of:

Marquita Racquel Stalberte  
(Mother)

and

Demetrius Cortez Smith  
(Father)

NOTICE TO: Marquita  
Racquel Stalberte, Above-  
named parent(s) or legal  
custodian(s).

1. A Termination of  
Parental Rights Petition has  
been filed in the Juvenile  
Court alleging that parental  
rights of the above-named par-  
ent(s) or legal custodian(s) to  
the child(ren) named in the pe-  
tition should be permanently  
severed.

2. This is your notice that  
this Termination of Parental  
Rights case is scheduled for a  
remote hearing before the Ju-  
venile Court located at 725  
Courthouse Square Room 134  
St. Cloud MN 56303, on De-  
cember 18, 2024 at 2:15 or as  
soon after as the case can be  
heard. Please contact court ad-  
ministration to get the remote  
hearing information.

3. YOU ARE ORDERED  
to appear before the Juvenile  
Court at the scheduled time  
and date.

4. You have a right to be  
represented by counsel.

5. If you fail to appear at  
the hearing, the Court may  
still conduct the hearing and  
grant appropriate relief, in-  
cluding permanently severing  
the parental rights of the  
above-named parent(s) or legal  
custodian(s) or taking perma-  
nent custody of the child(ren)  
named in the Petition.

Dated October 18, 2024

BY: Carin W  
Stearns County  
Court Administration  
725 Courthouse Square  
Room 134  
St. Cloud MN 56303  
320-656-3620

(Publish Oct. 29 - Nov. 12, 2024)

## STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEARNS

DISTRICT COURT  
7TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
PROBATE DIVISION  
Court File Number  
73-PR-24-8185

Estate of

Thomas Alois Tomsche,  
a/k/a Thomas A. Tomsche,  
Decedent

NOTICE OF INFORMAL  
APPOINTMENT OF  
PERSONAL REPRESENTA-  
TIVE AND NOTICE  
TO CREDITORS  
(INTESTATE)

Notice is given that an ap-  
plication for informal appoint-  
ment of co-personal represen-

tatives has been filed with the  
Registrar. No will has been  
presented for probate. The ap-  
plication has been granted.

Notice is also given that the  
Registrar has informally ap-  
pointed Gary R. Tomsche,  
whose address is 20016 Rush-  
meyer Lake Road, Albany,  
Minnesota, 56307 and Dean  
Tomsche, whose address is  
21052 Quaker Road, Albany,  
Minnesota, 56307, as Co-Personal  
Representatives of the  
Estate of the Decedent. Any  
heir or other interested person  
may be entitled to appointment  
as Personal Representative or  
may object to the appointment  
of the Co-Personal Representa-  
tives. Unless objections are  
filed with the Court pursuant  
to Minnesota Statutes section  
524.3-607) and the Court other-  
wise orders, the Co-Personal  
Representatives have full pow-  
er to administer the Estate in-  
cluding, after 30 days from the  
date of issuance of letters, the  
power to sell, encumber, lease  
or distribute real estate.

Any objections to the ap-  
pointment of the Co-Personal  
Representatives must be filed  
with this Court and will be  
heard by the Court after the  
filing of an appropriate petition  
and proper notice of hearing.

Notice is also given that  
(subject to Minnesota Statutes  
Section 524.3-801) all creditors  
having claims against the Es-  
tate are required to present the  
claims to the Co-Personal Rep-  
resentatives or to the Court  
Administrator within four  
months after the date of this  
Notice or the claims will be  
barred.

Dated: October 23, 2024  
Gina De Vilbiss-Hendry  
Registrar

Dated: October 23, 2024  
George Lock  
Court Administrator

Filed in District Court  
State of Minnesota  
Dated October 23, 2024

Attorney for Petitioner  
Nicholas J. Kaster, Esq.  
ID #0334546  
Moss & Barnett, a Profes-  
sional Association  
150 South 5th Street  
Suite 1200  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
Telephone: (612) 877-5444  
FAX: (612) 877-5075  
Email:  
Nicholas.Kaster@lawmoss.-  
com

(Publish Nov. 5 & 12, 2024)

## STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEARNS

DISTRICT COURT  
7TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
PROBATE DIVISION  
Court File Number  
73-PR-24-8630

Estate of

Rita Regina Sunder, also  
known as Rita R. Sunder  
and Rita Sunder,  
Decedent

NOTICE OF INFORMAL  
PROBATE OF WILL AND  
APPOINTMENT OF  
PERSONAL REPRESENTA-  
TIVE AND NOTICE  
TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that an Ap-  
plication for informal probate  
of the Decedent's Will, dated  
January 9, 2015 (the "Will"),  
has been filed with the Regis-  
trar. The Application has been  
granted.

Notice is also given that the  
Registrar has informally ap-

pointed Lance R. Sunder,  
whose address is 11262 Grand  
Lake Road, Cold Spring, Min-  
nesota 56320, as Personal Rep-  
resentative of the Estate of the  
Decedent. Any heir, devisee or  
other interested person may be  
entitled to appointment as Per-  
sonal Representative or may  
object to the appointment of  
the Personal Representative.  
Unless objections are filed with  
the Court pursuant to Min-  
nesota Statutes Section 524.3-  
607) and the Court otherwise  
orders, the Personal Representa-  
tive has full power to adminis-  
ter the Estate, including, af-  
ter 30 days from the date of  
issuance of letters, the power  
to sell, encumber, lease or dis-  
tribute real estate.

Any objections to the pro-  
bate of the Will or appointment  
of the Personal Representative  
must be filed with this Court  
and will be heard by the Court  
after the filing of an appropri-  
ate petition and proper notice  
of hearing.

Notice is also given that  
(subject to Minnesota Statutes  
Section 524.3-801) all creditors  
having claims against the Es-  
tate are required to present the  
claims to the Personal Repre-  
sentative or to the Court Ad-  
ministrator within four months  
after the date of this Notice or  
the claims will be barred.

Dated: October 30, 2024  
Heidi Rasmussen  
Registrar

Filed in District Court  
State of Minnesota  
Dated October 30, 2024

Attorney for Personal Rep-  
resentative:  
Kelsey M. Scanlan, Esq.  
Moss & Barnett, a Profes-  
sional Association  
150 South Fifth Street  
Suite 1200  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
Attorney License No:  
0399398  
Telephone: (612) 877-5320  
FAX: (612) 877-5047  
Email:  
Kelsey.Scanlan@lawmoss.-  
com

(Publish Nov. 5 & 12, 2024)

Office of the Minnesota  
Secretary of State  
Assumed Name/Amend-  
ment to Assumed Name  
Minnesota Statutes,  
Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed  
name does not provide a user  
with exclusive rights to that  
name. The filing is required for  
consumer protection in order to  
enable consumers to be able to  
identify the true owner of a  
business.

1. List the exact assumed  
name under which the busi-  
ness is or will be conducted:  
Noske Law Firm

2. Principal Place of Busi-  
ness:  
3400 1st St. N. #201  
Saint Cloud, MN 56303

3. List a Mailing Address if  
you cannot receive mail at the  
principal place of business ad-  
dress:  
1020 Romeo Way  
Avon, MN 56310

4. List the name and com-  
plete street address of all per-  
sons conducting business un-  
der the above Assumed Name,  
OR if an entity, provide the legal  
corporate, LLC, or Limited  
Partnership name and regis-  
tered office address:  
James Louis Noske  
1020 Romeo Way  
Avon, MN 56310

5. This certificate is an  
amendment of Certificate of  
Assumed Name File Number:  
664059700028  
Originally filed on April 2,  
2013

6. I, the undersigned, certify  
that I am signing this docu-  
ment as the person whose sig-  
nature is required, or as agent  
of the person(s) whose signa-  
ture would be required who  
has authorized me to sign this  
document on his/her behalf, or  
in both capacities. I further  
certify that I have completed  
all required fields, and that the  
information in this document is  
true and correct and in compli-  
ance with the applicable chap-

ter of Minnesota Statutes. I  
understand that by signing  
this document I am subject to  
the penalties of perjury as set  
forth in Section 609.48 as if I  
had signed this document un-  
der oath.

Dated: October 28, 2024

James Louis Noske  
Applicant

(Publish Nov. 5 & 12, 2024)

## STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEARNS

DISTRICT COURT  
7TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
PROBATE DIVISION  
Court File No.:  
73-PR-24-8575

NOTICE AND ORDER OF  
HEARING ON PETITION  
FOR FORMAL PROBATE  
OF WILL AND FORMAL  
APPOINTMENT OF  
PERSONAL REPRESENTA-  
TIVE AND NOTICE  
TO CREDITORS

Estate of

Owen J. Becker,  
Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is  
given that on December 6,  
2024, at 8:45 AM, a hearing  
will be held in this Court at  
725 Courthouse Square, St.  
Cloud, Minnesota, for the for-  
mal probate of an instrument  
purporting to be the Will of the  
Decedent dated, July 5, 2007,  
("Will"), and for the appoint-  
ment of Julie A. Lemke, whose  
address is 37179 County Road  
9, Avon, MN 56310 as Personal  
Representative of the Estate of  
the Decedent in an UNSUPER-  
VISED administration. Any ob-  
jections to the Petition must be  
filed with the Court prior to or  
raised at the hearing. If proper  
and if no objections are filed or  
raised, the Personal Represen-  
tative will be appointed with  
full power to administer the  
Estate including the power to  
collect all assets, to pay all legal  
debts, claims, taxes and ex-  
penses, to sell real and person-  
al property, and to do all  
necessary acts for the Estate.

Notice is also given that  
(subject to Minnesota Statutes  
section 524.3-801) all creditors  
having claims against the Es-  
tate are required to present the  
claims to the Personal Repre-  
sentative or to the Court Ad-  
ministrator within four months  
after the date of this Notice or  
the claims will be barred.

This hearing will be held  
administratively and no ap-  
pearances are required unless  
objections are filed.

BY THE COURT

Dated: October 25, 2024  
Nathaniel Welte  
Judge of District Court

Dated: October 25, 2024  
George Lock  
Court Administrator

Filed in District Court  
State of Minnesota  
Dated October 25, 2024

Attorney for Petitioner  
LeAnne D. Miller  
Reichert Wenner, P.A.  
616 Roosevelt Road  
Suite 100  
St. Cloud, MN 56301  
Attorney License No:  
0302041  
Telephone: (320) 252-7600  
FAX: (320) 252-2678  
Email: lmiller@reichertwen-  
nerlaw.com

(Publish Nov. 5 & 12, 2024)

## STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEARNS

DISTRICT COURT  
7TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Probate Court Division  
Court File No.:  
73-PR-24-8598

ORDER AND NOTICE  
OF HEARING ON  
PETITION FOR FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION OF  
INTESTACY, DETERMINA-  
TION OF HEIRSHIP AND  
APPOINTMENT OF  
PERSONAL REPRESENTA-  
TIVE IN UNSUPERVISED  
ADMINISTRATION AND

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In Re: Estate of

Aaron J. Newman,  
Decedent

TO ALL INTERESTED  
PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

It is Ordered and Notice is  
hereby given that on the 6th  
day of December, 2024, at 8:45  
A.M., a hearing will be held in  
the above named Court at St.  
Cloud, Minnesota, on petition  
of Laura J. Newman, for the  
adjudication of intestacy and  
determination of heirship of  
the above named decedent, and  
for the appointment of Laura J.  
Newman, whose address is 444  
Victory Avenue #222, Sartell,  
MN 56377, as personal repre-  
sentative of the estate of the  
above named decedent in unsu-  
pervised administration, and  
that any objections thereto  
must be filed with the Court.  
That, if proper, and no objec-  
tions are filed, a personal rep-  
resentative will be appointed to  
administer the estate, to collect  
all assets, pay all legal debts,  
claims, taxes and expenses,  
and sell real and personal  
property, and do all necessary  
acts for the estate.

This hearing will be held  
administrative and you are  
not required to appear.

Notice is further given that  
ALL CREDITORS having  
claims against said estate are  
required to present the same to  
said personal representative or  
to the Court Administrator  
within four months after the  
date of this notice or said  
claims will be barred.

(COURT SEAL)  
Dated: October 25, 2024

Nathaniel Welte  
Judge

Filed in District Court  
State of Minnesota  
Dated October 25, 2024

Attorney  
Willenbring, Dahl, Wocken  
& Zimmermann, PLLC  
Kelly A. Springer  
(0387850)  
318 Main Street - Box 417  
Cold Spring, MN 56320  
Telephone: (320) 685-3678

(Publish Nov. 5 & 12, 2024)

Stearns County  
Board of Commissioners  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, October 15, 2024

Call to Order  
9:00 AM Meeting called to  
order by Tarryl Clark, Chair,  
on October 15, 2024, in the  
Board Room of the Stearns  
County Administration Center,  
705 Courthouse Square, St.  
Cloud, MN.

Roll Call  
Present: Commissioner Dis-  
trict 1 Tarryl Clark, Commis-  
sioner District 2 Joe Perske,  
Commissioner District 3 Jeff  
Bertram, and Commissioner  
District 5 Steve Notch  
Remote: District 4 Leigh  
Lenzmeier (Via Teams from  
150 Division Street E, Buffalo  
MN 55313)

Approve Agenda  
Motion was made to ap-  
prove the agenda with remov-  
ing Item #1 under Human  
Services to a later date.

I.1. Accept Information and  
Approve Opioid Community  
Advisory Committee Project  
Recommendations.

RESULT: APPROVED  
[UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: District 3 Jeff  
Bertram

SECONDER: District 5  
Steve Notch

ROLL CALL VOTE:  
AYES: District 1 Tarryl  
Clark, District 2 Joe Perske,  
District 3 Jeff Bertram, Dis-  
trict 4 Leigh Lenzmeier, and  
District 5 Steve Notch

Consent Agenda  
E.1. Approve Minutes of Oc-  
tober 1, 2024.

E.2. Approve and authorize  
Board Chair to sign FY2025  
State of Minnesota Board of  
Water and Soil Resources  
MPCA SSTS Program Grant  
Agreement.

E.3. Approve 2025 Stearns  
County Board Meeting Sched-  
ule

E.4. Approve Resolution 24-  
49 supporting Operation Green  
Light for Veterans by display-  
ing green lights in windows of  
businesses and homes from No-  
vember 4 through November  
11, 2024.

E.5. Authorize County

Board Chair to sign the  
Rockville County Park Land  
Acquisition Purchase Agree-  
ment and authorize the County  
Parks Director to sign the  
property closing documents on  
behalf of the County.

E.6. Appoint Tamilee  
Adolph to the Dairy Advisory  
Committee for a Three-Year  
Term Beginning on October  
15th, 2024.

E.7. Approve Application  
and Permit for a One Day Tem-  
porary On-Sale Liquor License  
submitted by the Church of the  
Holy Cross of Pearl Lake for  
their event to be held on Octo-  
ber 25, 2024 at Holy Cross  
School located in Maine Prairie  
Township

E.8. For Informational Pur-  
poses Only, Claims Paid for  
September 21st, 2024, through  
October 4th, 2024, amounted to  
\$7,132,467.60, Excluding In-  
vestment Purchases.

E.9. Approve purchase of a  
Bloodhound from the Georgia  
K9 National Training Center  
with donations received from  
the Central Minnesota K9  
Foundation.

E.10. Approve acceptance of  
the Byrne Justice Assistance  
Grant for the fiscal year 2024  
which will be used to purchase  
7 WRAP Safety Restraint de-  
vices along with crime preven-  
tion and community engage-  
ment materials.

E.11. Authorize letter of  
support for the City of Pay-  
nesville requesting further ac-  
tion by the MPCA regarding  
contaminated soil near the city  
drinking water wells.

Consent Agenda Vote:  
Motion was made to ap-  
prove the Consent Agenda.

RESULT: APPROVED  
[UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: District 2 Joe  
Perske

SECONDER: District 5  
Steve Notch

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: District 1 Tarryl  
Clark, District 2 Joe Perske,  
District 3 Jeff Bertram, Dis-  
trict 4 Leigh Lenzmeier, and  
District 5 Steve Notch

Auditor-Treasurer

F.1. *Appoint Two Commis-  
sioners to the Stearns County  
Canvassing Board for the Gen-  
eral Election*

Motion was made to appoint  
Commissioner Clark and Com-  
missioner Bertram to the  
Stearns County Canvassing  
Board for the General Election  
scheduled to meet November  
8th, 2024, at 3:00 PM, at the  
Stearns County Service Center  
in Waite Park (Room 1104).

RESULT: APPROVED  
[UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: District 2 Joe  
Perske

SECONDER: District 5  
Steve Notch

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: District 1 Tarryl  
Clark, District 2 Joe Perske,  
District 3 Jeff Bertram, Dis-  
trict 4 Leigh Lenzmeier, and  
District 5 Steve Notch

Attorney

G.1. *Notice to Cities and  
Towns on Registration and  
Compliance Checks of  
Cannabis Retail Businesses &  
short review of Proposed Coun-  
ty Ordinance*

Brenda Theis, Senior Coun-  
ty Attorney, reviewed a pro-  
posed Notice to Cities regard-  
ing the County's  
recommendation to adopt their  
own ordinances relating to Re-  
tail Business Registration and  
Compliance Checks. After  
some discussion, motion was  
made to approve a Notice to  
be mailed to Stearns Coun-  
ty cities and townships no-  
tifying them of the County's  
recommendation. If the city  
or township decides to  
adopt their own ordinance,  
it should include language  
stating if they are limiting  
the number of cannabis re-  
tail businesses in their ju-  
risdictions, to include a  
statement that it is subject  
to the limitations on the to-  
tal number of retail loca-  
tions as stated in the Coun-  
ty's ordinance.

RESULT: APPROVED  
[UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: District 3 Jeff  
Bertram

SECONDER: District 5  
Steve Notch

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: District 1 Tarryl  
Clark, District 2 Joe Perske,  
District 3 Jeff Bertram, Dis-  
trict 4 Leigh Lenzmeier, and  
District 5 Steve Notch

## Public Notices

continued on page 13

Cold Spring Area Maennerchor

**ALL-You-Can-Eat**

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Pancakes, Pep's Pork Sausage and Song  
Coffee, Milk, Fruit and Whipped Toppings

Sunday, November 17th, 2024  
St. Boniface Parish Center  
Cold Spring, MN  
Serving from 8:30am—12:00pm

Purchase **Advance** Tickets by Calling  
Or Texting **320-428-9024**  
or from any Maennerchor Member

**\$10.00** per person

Ticket price at the door on the 19th  
**\$11.00** per person

Children 8 and under eat for free



Did you have back or neck  
surgery due to an injury at work?

Even if you received benefits,  
you may be due additional monies.

**WHY NOT FIND OUT?**

Call today for a FREE consultation.

Ronald Drewski 320-281-5161  
Drewski Law Office, PLLC  
Workers' Compensation Attorney  
1669 - 4th Avenue North, Suite 200  
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379



Kevin 320.980.3558

Kurt 320.980.6499

- Sitework
- Basements -  
Additions,  
Demolition
- Septic Systems -  
New or Replacement

krippner.exc@gmail.com







Public Notices

continued from page 13

property, and do all necessary acts for the estate.

Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

This hearing will be held administratively and no appearances are required unless objections are filed.

(COURT SEAL)

Dated: November 5, 2024

William Cashman  
Judge  
George Lock  
Court Administrator

Filed in District Court  
State of Minnesota  
Dated November 6, 2024

Attorney for Petitioner:  
Willenbring, Dahl, Wocken  
& Zimmermann, PLLC  
Daniel T. Zimmermann  
(141835)(bak)  
318 Main Street  
PO Box 417  
Cold Spring, MN 56320  
Telephone: (320) 685-3678  
Our File No. 19330-001

(Publish Nov. 12 & 19, 2024)

Ideas For A Festive Holiday Fête

The holiday season has arrived and with it comes many opportunities to socialize. With so many events on people’s calendars, holiday party hosts may wonder what they can do to set their gatherings apart from others to make them memorable. Read on for seven festive ideas that can set a holiday season party apart from the rest.

1. **Cook ahead.** Being able to mingle with guests and guide conversation or activities is the key to being an excellent holiday host. By cooking foods that can feed crowds ahead of time, you won’t be stuck in the kitchen when you should be out and about. Casseroles, stews, soups, and quiches can be cooked in advance and then warmed (or set in a slow cooker) to bring to temperature

2. **Choose a color scheme.** Choose a color scheme that really pops and sets a festive tone. For a holiday cocktail party, consider bold reds and pinks and add a burst of gold for that contrast of color that adds impact.

3. **Hire some entertainment.** Conversation and reminiscing can fill some time, but allot some of the party budget to entertainment. Perhaps hire a DJ who can keep the music flowing, or a karaoke professional who will have guests up and singing holiday (or non-holiday) tunes?

4. **Create a signature cocktail.** An open bar can be expensive, especially if

you want to stock it with top-shelf offerings. Wine and beer is more affordable, and hosts who want to offer something a little different can create a signature cocktail for the party. Tie in seasonal flavors, whether you go sweet with a chocolate cream liqueur and mint or something more tart like a cranberry-based drink.

5. **Rearrange the furniture.** If the music is playing and guests are fired up, you’ll need a spot where they can dance. Move large furnishings out of the main gathering space to create room to cut a rug; otherwise, create an outdoor gathering area complete with stringed lights so guests can take the fun outside, if necessary.

6. **Plan for prizes.** Guests always appreciate some sort of takeaway. Gifting is commonplace this time of year, but perhaps have guests work a little to reap the rewards? Simple trivia games or a scavenger hunt can increase the fun and make it possible for guests to walk away with some swag.

7. **Have at least one unexpected item.** This can be anything from a very clever and cute dessert to a special guest to an over-the-top decorative item that gets people talking and ensures the party is one no one will forget.

Throwing a festive holiday party is easier than one may think. With some creativity, hosts can plan a party to remember

Recycle and Reduce Waste for the Holidays

The holiday season is a special time of year. Individuals often spend a little more on gifts, indulge a little more on rich foods and treats and make a concerted effort to enjoy more time with their loved ones during the holidays.

The tendency to overdo things during the holiday season can create a lot of waste. In fact, Americans produce 25 percent more garbage from Thanksgiving through the end of the year, according to Waste Advantage magazine, a publication of the waste and recycling industry. That uptick equates to one million tons of extra trash per week throughout the holidays.

Extra food, plastic and paper waste is generated this time of year, but people can be mindful of the potential to go overboard and take some steps to be more waste-conscious as they entertain.

- Reuse a small portion of wrapping paper or look for other wrapping items. Sunday comics, newsprint, colorful magazine pages, and even pieces of fabric can be used to wrap gifts in lieu of purchasing new wrapping paper. Otherwise, collect used wrapping paper and reuse it next year, doing the same with boxes and bows. According to researchers at Stanford University, if every American family wrapped just three presents in reused materials, it would save enough paper to cover 45,000 football fields.
- Skip disposable party items. It’s certainly easy to

use disposable plates, napkins and cups when hosting holiday parties, but that is very wasteful. Opt for durable, reusable products that can be packed away and used each year during holiday events.

- Buy durable and reusable items as gifts. Avoid fad gifts and focus on items that will have staying power. Homemade gifts, such as foods, knitted scarves, artwork, and more, are generally eco-friendly.
- Set up marked trash and recycling receptacles. Remind party guests to recycle the appropriate materials by clearly marking a pail designed for collecting recyclables, such as cans, plastic beverage bottles and glass wine bottles. Most hard plastics can be recycled.
- Remove your name from catalog lists. Call companies and ask to be taken off promotional mailing lists to reduce paper waste.
- Send a photo. Mail holiday card recipients photos of the kids or the entire family in lieu of cards. They’re apt to save the photos and display them, helping to keep even more paper trash out of landfills.
- Research new recipes for leftovers. With an abundance of food remaining after entertaining, turn leftovers into new meals by exploring recipes from friends or by doing a little research online.

Waste can get out of control during the holidays, but there are ways to tame the excess.

What to Know About Estate Planning

Managing and planning one’s estate sounds like a task reserved for the über-rich. But that’s a common, and potentially costly, misconception. Indeed, estate planning is a necessary component of long-term financial planning no matter the size of a person’s investment portfolio.

Estate planning is an umbrella term that encompasses anything from asset allocation after death to end-of-life health care decisions to power of attorney should an individual become incapacitated. Key components of an estate plan typically include wills,

trusts, power of attorney, and health care directives. According to a 2021 survey by Caring.com, only 33 percent of Americans have a will in place, and 60 percent of respondents in the same survey cited “not having enough assets” as reasons for not creating an estate plan.

The following are some basic steps anyone can take to establish an estate plan.

- Create a will. A will is a legal document that specifies how your assets will be distributed after your death. Although a will can be set up without an attorney, relying on an attorney to create or update a will can ensure that it is legally sound and reflects your intentions. In the will you can name an executor who will carry out the plans of the will. Without a will, intestacy laws where you live will dictate the distribution of your assets.
- Establish trusts. Morgan Legal Group says trusts are tools that can protect assets, minimize estate taxes and provide for beneficiaries. Trusts can be revocable or irrevocable. Special needs trusts also can be set up. Trusts can help avoid probate and reduce estate taxes. The National Bureau of Economic Research indicates trusts can reduce estate taxes by up to 40 percent. Trusts also can shield some of your assets so they cannot be counted as part of your responsibility for paying for skilled nursing home admittance.
- Determine powers of attorney and health care proxies. If someone becomes incapacitated, that person will need responsible people who can act on their behalf. A financial or legal power of attorney can help with paying bills, accessing accounts and managing finances and other needs. A health care proxy can be listed on an advanced health care directive, known as a living will. The proxy will communicate your wishes indicated on the directive and see that your wishes are honored.

Surprising Hidden Costs of Home Ownership

A home is the most expensive purchase many people ever make. Buyers understand that certain costs come with home ownership. However, some of the costs associated with home ownership can catch even the most savvy savers off-guard. And in recent years, those extra costs have been surging.

The following are some of the unexpected expenses that come with living the homeowner dream.

- Property taxes: Depending on where you live, property taxes can comprise a large portion of monthly expenses. Some people pay their property taxes separate from their mortgage payments. Others wrap the tax burden into their mortgage bill. Either way, Business Insider reports that New Jersey currently has the highest effective property tax rate in the United States, with a median Garden State property tax bill at \$9,000 annually. The lowest property tax rate is found in Hawaii, and the average homeowner there pays only \$2,000 in property taxes annually. Zoocasa reports that annual property taxes in Canada can cost anywhere from \$2,500 to \$10,000 depending on the province’s property tax rate and average cost of homes.

• Home insurance: CNN Business reports that home insurance premiums have surged in recent years, in large part due to extreme weather. In the U.S., insurance rates jumped 11.3 percent nationally last year, according to S&P Global. Severe storms, including hurricanes and wildfires, cost homeowners insurance agencies nearly \$101.3 billion last year, and those losses have been passed on to policy holders through higher prices.

• Mortgage insurance: Many people do not have the standard 20 percent down payment necessary to

buy a home. To circumvent this, lenders will require borrowers to take out mortgage insurance, also called PMI, to offset their risk. Credit Karma says PMI depends on factors such as down payment and borrowers’ credit scores, but typically it’s around 0.2 to 2 percent of the loan amount per year. You can remove PMI from your monthly payment once you have 20 percent equity in your home.

- Maintenance: Even a brand new home will require some measure of maintenance and routine upkeep. Bankrate indicates one of the biggest costs of owning a home is maintenance, coming in at roughly \$3,018 a year and an additional \$3,300 for improvements. Lawn care, home cleaning, pest prevention, replacing smoke alarms and batteries, roof repair, and clearing rain gutters are some of those costs.
- HOA and CDD fees:

Some communities impose homeowners association fees on those who live within the neighborhood. Such fees cover items like maintenance in and around the community and snow removal. A Community Development District Fee is imposed by the developer of a neighborhood or subdivision to finance the cost of amenities in a neighborhood. Homeowners should be aware of these fees before buying in an HOA community.

Apart from these expenses, annual utility payments can be quite expensive. Utilizing utility plans that offer a fixed cost per month can help homeowners budget for utility expenses more readily.

Home ownership can be costly. Buyers would be wise to familiarize themselves with some of the hidden costs of owning a home prior to purchasing one of their own.

Go ‘Mutts’ For These Pet Gifts

Pet parents try to ensure their companion animals never want for anything. People will go to great lengths to pamper their pets with the best care, food and accessories. According to the American Pet Products Association, consumers in the United States spent \$147 billion on pets in 2023. And it’s not just the essentials that have people opening up their wallets for pets. A 2022 YouGov survey found that 57 percent of owners buy holiday gifts for their pets and 40 percent host birthday celebrations.

With the holiday season on the horizon, there’s a good chance that beloved pets are on gift lists this year, particularly for Gen Z pet owners. A study of 1,000 U.S. adults conducted by Talker Research for Newsweek found that Gen Z spends an average of \$148.50 on their pets each month, the highest of all surveyed. For those shopping for gifts their pets will enjoy, these options could have tails wagging.

- **Treat dispenser:** It isn’t possible to be home with their pets all of the time. A dispenser that can be programmed to offer treats at certain intervals or connected to an app that enables a person to release one at the push of a button can be a nice gift to surprise stay-at-home pets.
- **Puzzle toy:** Pets need to keep their brains work-

ing; otherwise, they may get bored and into trouble. A puzzle toy that has treats or kibble hidden behind panels helps pets remain mentally sharp.

• **Pet booties:** When the weather gets chilly, walking dogs outdoors on the ice and snow can be painful on their paws. A pair of booties can protect the delicate pads of pets’ feet from ice melt products, snow and sharp objects.

• **New bed:** Upgrade a pet’s bed to something even more lush and comfortable. A fleece blanket and a dedicated pet pillow can help pets feel even more pampered.

• **Safety belt:** Guarantee that trips in the car to the dog park or other excursions are safer by gifting a safety pet harness that works like a seatbelt in a vehicle.

• **Grooming package:** Everyone wins when a pet is washed, dried and primped to perfection. Professional groomers have the skills to tame excess fur and trim nails so pets smell wonderful and remain comfortable.

• **New toys:** Whether a pet is a parakeet or poodle, gifts of new toys can be engaging for animals who have grown bored with their old ones.

Be sure to wrap up clever gifts for pets so that every member of the family has something to enjoy come the holidays.



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