

2019
City of Blaine
Department
Accomplishments



ADMINISTRATION-CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK CATHY SORENSEN

Licensing

- 40 new licenses
- 163 renewals
- 38 special events
- Continue to refine/streamline process for special events with the 3M Open/large concerts



Conducted County
Commissioner Special
Election

Tobacco compliance failures
decreased 110%

Alcohol compliance failures
decreased 75%

Legislative Activity Participation

- LMC policy committee for service policies
- Elections task force
- Data practices task force

Massage Enterprises

- locations decreased by 80%
- created cap of 10
- nationwide backgrounds
- presented w/ PD at BCA sex trafficking conference

ADMINISTRATION-COMMUNICATIONS

COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER BEN HAYLE



Social Media

- 18.8% increase in followers
- 39,373 total followers
- 8,857,609 social media impressions

Media Coverage

- more than 700 Blaine news stories
- total potential reach of over 370 million
- 3M Open, 2,700 news stories
- USA Cup – 107 news stories

City Website

- 346,288 different users
- 504,733 different sessions
- 1.2 million page views
- 50,563 total website subscriptions



City Connect

City Newsletter

6 issues

29,000 mailed per issue

BizConnect

Economic Development Newsletter

2 issues

29,000 mailed per issue

RecConnect

Recreation programs catalog

3 issues

29,000 mailed per issue

ADMINISTRATION-HUMAN RESOURCES

2019 ACTING HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR SHERI CHESNESS



Oversaw recruitment and on-boarding of:

- 37 employees
- 5 promotional processes
- 100 interviews
- 300+ applications
- 29 recruitment/hiring processes

Assisted SGR with recruitment processes for city manager and HR director

Implemented NeoGov, workforce management software

Finalized and implemented drug and alcohol (DOT and non-DOT) policies along with sick and vacation leave

Coordinated annual benefits fair for employees



Coordinated open enrollment for 213 employees

Oversaw

- one grievance arbitration
- unemployment hearings
- 3 PERA disability claims
- 2 investigations
- exit process for 19 employees

Completed pay equity reporting per Statute



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR ERIK THORVIG



Building Inspections

- completed 27,000 inspections
- continued with the development of the iMS permit/license/inspection software
- issued 5,854 permits

Third highest amount of inspections completed since 2007

Economic Development

- purchased two properties (105th Ave/TH65 and 8550 Van Buren St.)
- hosted 214 guests at the 3M Open tent
- met with 20 businesses
- attended a business retention and expansion seminar

Fourth highest amount of permits issued since 2007



Planning Department

- completed staff transitions with the retirement of the community development director
- creation of city planner position
- processed 54 planning applications
- processed 27 site plan applications
- began a complete review of the zoning code





**Achieved AAA
bond rating**

FINANCE & IT

FINANCE DIRECTOR JOE HUSS



**Substantial completion
of radio/meter change
out project**

**Successfully negotiated
transition of bank
account to use
compensating balances**

**TIF district was closed
and final excess TIF
reimbursed**

**Email system upgrade
from Exchange 2010 to
Exchange 2016**

**Provided citizens with an
efficient and easy to use
utility billing system**

**Capital asset system
conversion**

**Installation of Mary Ann
Young Center
technology**

**Numerous server
upgrades and expanded
storage space**

**Deployed FirstNet
Metrocell device to PD
for in-station FirstNet
coverage**

**Assisted with transition
to new permit/license
software IMS**

**Completed overhaul of
PD shared network file
structure and file
security**

**Email system upgrade
from Exchange 2010 to
Exchange 2016**

**Backup system/DR
update. Provides off-site
backup storage and
improved disaster
recovery**

PUBLIC SERVICES

PUBLIC SERVICES MANAGER/ASST. CITY MANAGER BOB THERRES



Completed construction of the new Mary Ann Young Center

Worked with Blaine Festival on 50th anniversary festival and fireworks

Worked with Anoka County and HUD on release of CDBG requirements

Completed hail storm damage repairs to city facilities

GIS Coordinator was reappointed to the Statewide Geospatial Advisory Council and elected to Vice Chair

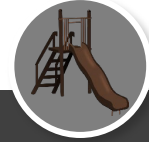
GIS - launched a new portal for building inspections to more efficiently locate and inspect outstanding permits

GIS – new datasets built bringing out catalog to over 420 datasets that support a variety of business needs in the city

GIS - participated in the state and metro data initiatives in support of NG9-1-1, metro stormwater and damage assessment

GIS – converted utility datasets to standard federal and state schemas

GIS – continued successful support of 9 business applications that are integrated with GIS data



Completed park master plan development and prepared for City Council review

Initiated the process and design for city hall improvement, including the 3rd floor of city hall



PUBLIC WORKS-ENGINEERING

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR JON HAUKAAS



**Pavement management
program street ratings
completed**

Development projects

**New assessment software
and processes**



Street Projects

**Tournament Players Parkway
Lever Street area improvements
Cloverleaf Parkway (Phase 1)
Jefferson Street (Phase 1)**

PUBLIC WORKS

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR JON HAUKAAS



TH65 PEL study and options

Focus on safety

Implemented regular communications meetings

Streets

- snow & ice control improvements-new routes, calibration of equipment
- patching improvements- paver use instead of only hole filling
- right-of-way aesthetic focus

Implementation of a work order solution (PubWorks)

Utilities

- wellhouse improvements (wells 1,2,9,11,14)
- HVAC improvements (WTP 1,2,3)
- SCADA improvements (lift stations, well houses, WTP, tower communication)
- WTP4 construction (commissioning in summer 2021)



Parks

-Landscape bed improvements

-Irrigation controller replacements

Integration of engineering and public works operations



SAFETY SERVICES

POLICE CHIEF/SAFETY SERVICES DIRECTOR BRIAN PODANY



Patrol Division

- 11 new patrol officers hired and successfully completed field training
- Conducted two homeless outreach events spearheaded by members of patrol and special operations
- Pulse Point/Heart Safe program was taken on with AED mapping complete city wide



Successful union contract negotiations for officers and sergeants

Support Services

- processed 21,474 incident reports and 3,913 citations
- processed thousands of data requests from the public and other agencies
- implemented National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) for reporting crime data to the national level

Emergency Mgmt

- planned and executed the 3M Open public safety plan for the golf tournament and concert
- planned and executed the public safety plans for Joyful Noise, Patriot Ride, USA Cup
- updates to command vehicle
- updated EM technologies
- installation of new outdoor warning siren



Kari's Law – every phone in city hall can now dial 911 directly and dispatch can see what area of the building they are in

Special Operations

- Created and implemented a retail detective
- Participated in a human trafficking detail with BCA for Final Four tournament
- Revised and improved use of force reporting process
- Transitioned to LEADS Online from APS

SAFETY SERVICES

POLICE CHIEF/SAFETY SERVICES DIRECTOR BRIAN PODANY



Handled over 43,000 calls for service, up 13% from 2018

Implemented annual officer wellness check-in program. Enhanced wellness program with ongoing services and training



Property Room

- complete audit conducted of 13,700 items
- implemented property scanner tool
- conducted a weapons inventory, 3 stolens discovered
- processed over 1,346 digital media requests
- 90 drug take back boxes collected and destroyed

Community Outreach

- point of impact teen driver safety awareness
- conducted two new Americans academies
- safety patrol training – 5 schools, 300 kids
- safety camp – 165 kids attended
- bike helmet sale – 887 helmets sold

Created a streamlined on-boarding process for new officers. Revamped new officer academy training



Social media increases:

- 2,820 Facebook followers
- 3,372 Nextdoor followers
- 323 Twitter followers
- 1,823 Instagram followers

Updated school resource officer contracts & improved communications

Published the first ever Blaine PD annual report

New Laser Shot equipment put into service

SAFETY SERVICES-COMMUNITY STANDARDS

POLICE CHIEF/SAFETY SERVICES DIRECTOR BRIAN PODANY



Rental licensing period
was shifted to calendar
year from mid-year.
Issued 1,254 rental
licenses

Assisted with creation of
reasonable accommodations
ordinance



Station 5 city hall
firefighters responded to
111 calls

Conducted 2,842
housing inspections

Opened 1,126 code
compliance cases and
conducted 8,796
inspections which
includes initial
inspections and follow
ups

Continued the
development of the iMS
permit/license/inspection
software

Issued 249 fire
inspection permits and
conducted review on
312 plan submittals

Emergency management
staff assisted with the
planning and operation of
the 3M Open and
associated concert

