

vibrant

orange city, iowa



orange city strategic planning session

The City Council and leadership team members meet each year to review strategic initiatives and set the course of action for the next year, while considering long term community needs. These initiatives give City staff the direction it needs to carry out the priorities established by the City Council, including strategies to finance projects. Most projects are financed either through the use of general fund taxes, road use taxes, general obligation bond issues, revenue bonds, or through the use of utility reserves.

As a result of the meeting the City Council has identified the following strategic initiatives for 2024:

- MOC-FV elementary redevelopment for housing
- Street project including 2nd Street and Delaware Avenue adjacent to school property
- Salem Avenue rental housing development project
- Puddle Jumper Park restrooms, shelter, disc golf, dog park development
- Working with developers for additional housing opportunities
- Continued development of local trails
- Sustainability of Orange City Day Care

Future considerations for potential City investment included:

- Highway 10 development and enhancement
- Consideration for a new City Hall/Police Department
- Pool enhancements – new amenities and replace aging mechanical systems
- Central Avenue – NWC to downtown – partner with donors
- Local electric generation that takes advantage of outside grants and funding.
- Future infrastructure including a new water tower and natural gas town border station.

Following each strategic planning session, the Council prepares the budget for the next fiscal year. Each quarter, the City staff provides updates to the City Council on the progress of each strategic initiative.

snow better time to read

Escape the chill and embark on a reading journey with the Winter Reading Program through the Orange City Public Library! For a chance to win prizes, record your reading minutes, whether you're curled up by the fireplace or wrapped in a blanket of snow. Use the ReadSquared app or pick up a paper log.

January 22-March 9

Along with the Winter Reading Program we are also starting up our first session of events for 2024. All ages are sure to find something to enjoy and learn from. Check our website, orangecitylibrary.org, for a complete listing and to register.



missouri river energy services scholarship program

Missouri River Energy Services (MRES) has established a scholarship program to assist high school seniors with educational pursuits that are related to the electric industry.

Up to 12 scholarships are granted each year in two categories:

1) Scholarships for Full-Time Undergraduate Studies

Up to five (5) scholarships of \$1,000 each are awarded to high school seniors who meet the qualifications.

2) Scholarships for Students in a Powerline/Lineworker Program

Up to seven (7) scholarships of \$2,000 each are awarded to students who meet the qualifications.

For more information on scholarship qualifications and how to apply, scan the QR Code or go to: mrenergy.com/services/scholarships



Applications are due March 15, 2024.

calling all snowbirds

If you enjoy winter in warmer weather, please contact the city office at 707-4885, to update your address. We will temporarily forward your monthly mail while you are away.



keep your sidewalks clear

Orange City property owners are encouraged to keep their walkways cleared this winter, especially when you are out of town. When removing snow, never push or blow snow from the property, sidewalk, or driveway into the street.

Property owners are responsible for keeping their public sidewalks clear of snow and ice within 10 hours of accumulation. The City inspects uncleared sidewalks on a complaint basis, and if sidewalks remain uncleared upon inspection, the City will clear the snow and ice at the owner's expense.

To report an uncleared sidewalk, please contact City Hall at [707-4885](tel:707-4885) and provide the address of the property.

please keep meters clear

When the snow piles high, we know it can be a challenge to keep the driveway, sidewalks, and stairs clear. OCMU asks you to keep one other area free of snow and ice - your gas meter and the path to it.

Heavy or hard-packed snow and ice on your gas meter may present a safety hazard. Heavy, deep snow and ice can limit ventilation and affect the regulator on your gas meter.

Please use these guidelines for helping OCMU staff access and accurately read and service your home's meter:

- ✔ *Keep meters easy to reach. OCMU's meter readers need access each month and quick access in an emergency can be critical for your safety.*
- ✔ *Remove snow and ice from your meter. Never let it get completely covered. Do not shovel snow up against your meter.*
- ✔ *NEVER kick or hit the gas meter or its piping to break away snow or ice. Use a broom to gently sweep it away.*

bank bill payment

Are you one of the many customers who use Bank Bill Pay to make your utility payment? Have you moved since starting to use Bank Bill Pay? Or are you paying more than one utility account with Bank Bill Pay?

With this option becoming more popular amongst our customers, it is extremely important that the correct information is on the check. We ask that if you use Bank Bill Pay, to please verify you are mailing this to **PO BOX 406**, your account number(s), address, and any other important information before you authorize the payment. This will be very helpful to make sure that the monies we receive will be applied to the correct utility account.

Thank you for updating your information and if you have any questions, please feel free to call the City Office at 707-4885.

As always, we appreciate all your timely payments!

the city offices are closed december 25 & january 1

For OC utility emergencies, please call [707-5000](tel:707-5000).



sign-up for youth basketball skills

Program consists of six weekly sessions. The first three sessions teach basic skills and some fun games. The final three sessions introduce the game of "4-on-4" for the 1st and 2nd grade girls & boys, and "5 on 5" for the 3rd and 4th grade girls & boys.

- *Programs start the week of January 8 and end the week of February 12.*
- *All sessions will take place at City Hall Gym.*
- *Fee: \$30 per participant. \$35 after Monday, January 8.*
- *Register online at: orangecityiowa.com/details/youth-basketball-skills/*
- *for more information you can contact Noah at 707-4885 or prdir@orangecityiowa.com*
- *Weather cancellations will be communicated through email.*



winter fun on ice

Winter fun right here in Orange City: grab your friends and lace up your skates!

The City is happy to offer a chance to enjoy movement and community this winter at our local ice rink.

Vets Park will transform a 100-foot area into a frosty playground where residents can enjoy skating and hockey! To ensure your comfort, we've provided an on-site warming shed where you can take a break from the brisk chill.

This will be available from late December through February and is free to use.