



White Bear Township Report

Township Residents Approve Budget and Tax Levy

White Bear Township residents approved the 2010 final property tax levy as well as the general fund operating budget. The Special Town Budget Meeting, which was moderated by Township resident Tom Horak, was held on Dec. 1 in Heritage Hall. Residents approved the \$3,254,291 general fund operating budget in addition to the \$2,630,033 final property tax levy. The final property tax levy is .75% lower than last year's property tax levy. The Township's 2010 tax rate is 17.564%. Its medium home value is

\$241,400 (which represents a 3.4% decrease from last year's medium home value of \$249,800).

The preliminary 2010 property tax levy of \$2,937,811 was approved by Town voters at the March 10, 2009 Annual Meeting. This was the maximum amount that could be certified as the final 2010 property tax levy. However, as in previous years, the Town Board and staff worked to reduce and refine the number before presenting the final budget to Township residents.

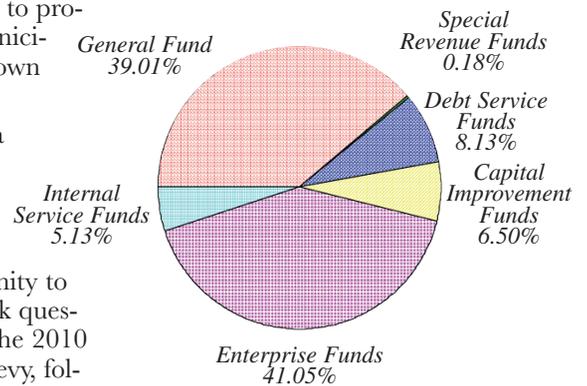
Township staff presented a final budget that

reinforced the Town's goal of achieving the lowest tax rate possible while continuing to provide the best municipal services to Town residents.

Staff presented a detailed 2010 budget and tax levy. Those in attendance then had the opportunity to comment and ask questions regarding the 2010 budget and tax levy, followed by residents (not the Town Board) voting on the budget and tax levy.

The budget meeting will be replayed on local cable Channel 16.

2010 Budgeted Expenditures by Fund Type



For more detailed information on the Town's 2010 budget and property tax levy, call Finance Officer Jessie Hart at (651) 747-2760 or visit the Township's website at www.ci.whitebear-township.mn.us.

Township Round-Up

CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL.

Allied Waste Service will pick up Christmas trees on normal collection days Jan. 4 – 15. Trees should be bare, free of tinsel, lights and stands and placed at the curb across the driveway from trash prior to 6:30 a.m. Wrapping paper and packing materials are not recyclable and should be thrown away with regular trash. For more information, call (763) 784•2104.

IDENTITY THEFT.

With the holidays near, and credit card bills rolling in, it is important to guard against identity theft. Run a credit report on yourself to see if there are any unknown credit inquiries or unauthorized accounts. Obtain copies of your credit report periodically to see if there are any unknown credit lines in your name. Credit reports costs less than \$10. All three major credit reporting agencies in the United States have toll free telephone numbers: Equifax (888) 532•0179; Experian (800) 311•4769; and Trans Union (800) 680•7289.

SNOWMOBILES.

White Bear Township requires snowmobilers to stay on public trails, waterways, highways and streets specifically designated for snowmobile use. No person shall operate a snowmobile on lands not his own, except where otherwise allowed by law, without the written permission of the owner, occupant or lessee of such lands. Further, no person shall operate a snowmobile in such a manner as to create a public nuisance, as defined by the Township's Ordinance No. 16.

WATER METER INSTALLATIONS.

White Bear Township's water meter installation program is in its final days. Only 30 Township homeowners have failed to schedule the installation of water meters in their homes. All others have complied. Once all water meters have been installed throughout the Township, residents will receive "informational bills" to inform them of their water usage. They will then have a chance to adjust their water use behavior prior to the change to metered water usage billing.

Volunteer Tutors Needed

The Ramsey County Sheriff's Literacy Plus Program

- *Improve a child's self-esteem*
- *Reverse the trends in juvenile crime and poverty*
- *Inspire and empower young people to build stronger, healthier communities*



Wednesdays from 4 to 6 p.m. at McDonough Recreation Center. Volunteers assist students with written and spoken language skills and homework assignments as well as supervise creative arts projects, recreation activities and field trips. Volunteers will receive training in the nationally-recognized "Read Naturally" curriculum and are asked to commit to a minimum of two hours a week.

Middle and High School students (ages 11 to 17) meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3 to 5 p.m. at McDonough Recreation Center. These new immigrants have limited English-speaking skills. Volunteers with solid knowledge of English literature, math, science and social studies are in great need to assist them with their homework.

Training sessions will be held January 20 and 21 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at McDonough Recreation

Reversing the trends in juvenile crime must become a top priority of our community.

The cycle of juvenile delinquency appears to be directly related to how well a child does in the early years of school. Early literacy skills can prevent this cycle.

*Ramsey County Sheriff
Bob Fletcher*

Begun in 1995, the Ramsey County Sheriff's Literacy Plus program is an after-school curriculum designed to improve an "at-risk" child's literacy skills.

Athletics is also a vital part of the program and helps strengthen a child's relationships.

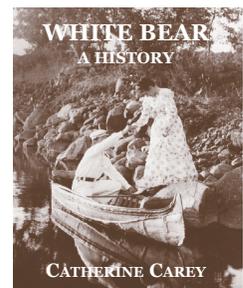
Elementary school students (ages 6 to 10) meet Mondays and

Center, 1544 Timberlake Rd., St. Paul.

To sign up for one of the two training sessions and/or to ask questions, contact: Nicki Hyser, Literacy Plus Volunteer Coordinator, 651-248-2430 or Nicola.Hyser@Co.Ramsey.Mn.Us.

Other Township News

- **History Book Signing.** Author Catherine Carey will sign her history book, "White Bear: A History," from 1 to 3 p.m., Sat., Dec. 19, at Festival Foods, Co. Rd. E & Century Blvd., White Bear Lake. The history book, which costs \$49.95 (plus tax), is available at Festival Foods, Kowalski's Market, Lake Country Booksellers, The Nest and The Depot in addition to the Township office at 1281 Hammond Rd.
- **House Numbers.** To ensure adequate fire and emergency protection, house numbers are required. Numbers shall be displayed on house or principal building in numerals not less than four (4) inches high and of contrasting color to the background, and made of reflective material or painted with reflective paint.
- **Winter Parking Regulations and Safety (Nov. 1 to April 1).** Motorists cannot park vehicles on the street for more than 24 consecutive hours.



Motorists cannot park on a Township street, boulevard, highway or alley after a snowfall of one inch or more until the road is cleared curb to curb. Automobiles should be parked in driveways more than two feet from the edge of the road.

Keep children out of snow piles and forts near the road to prevent injury from snowplows.

Do not put anything in the road right-of-way including plants, shrubs, rocks, etc.