

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Community facilities include public and semi-public services and/or structures which are provided for the community's well being. While often neglected or underestimated during the planning and development stages, community facilities play a major role in determining the degree to which health, safety, and welfare can be insured to residents. These facilities help create a desirable atmosphere for the overall functioning of the City.

The following descriptions of the various community facilities will not be detailed, but will give an overview reflecting the qualities and conditions of existing structures:

1. City Hall

The city administrative offices are in a centrally located building found within the Central Business District. The building was constructed in 1964 with an addition made four years later. The interior of the building is designed around a courtyard that provides a common area for all tenants enabling public use of the building facilities.

The building houses a number of offices from both the public and private sector. The majority of office space, however, is occupied by the city administration. The City Administrator, City Clerk, City Treasurer, Building and Zoning Administrator, Administrative Assistant and council chambers are all located inside the building. The council chambers are of sufficient size to conduct regular council meetings and for holding public hearings. To make council meetings more available to citizens, a video camera and new sound system were installed in the council chambers. The meetings are broadcast live plus taped for broadcasting at a later date for public viewing on the city's cable television system.

Additional office space is rented out to other governmental agencies and private practices. Currently found within the building is the County Extension Office, Farm Service Agency, Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), Soil Conservation Service (SCS), County Zoning Office, Southwest Minnesota Crisis Center, and City Engineer Banner Associates' office. The nearby parking lot, along with street parking, allows for sufficient parking space the majority of the time. Access is adequate for both pedestrians and handicapped persons.

2. Fire Hall

The Pipestone Volunteer Fire Hall was constructed in 1959 at the intersection of 2nd Street and 2nd Avenue Northeast, one block from the Central Business District. The building lies at the intersection of two major thoroughfares which provides easy access to the rest of the community. The original facility was 62 feet x 80 feet, but has since received an additional 24 x 48 foot storage area attached. This houses the Department's 1941 Buffalo Fire Truck for display. The main building contains fire equipment storage, vehicle storage, showers, boiler room, and a meeting/training room. The vehicles and equipment stored within the building include: two pumpers, one aerial ladder truck, one ERV (Emergency Response Vehicle), one rural pumper

and one rural tanker. In 2008, the City purchased the Hicks Motor Company building site located South of the current Fire Hall. The City remodeled the Fire Hall and constructed a new addition onto the south end of the existing building to provide more space. The Volunteer Fire Department has served the community for over 100 years.

3. Airport

Pipestone Municipal Airport is described in the Transportation Section of this plan.

4. Public Works Garages

The City Public Works Department and Water/Wastewater Department are located on 2nd Street and 5th Avenue Northeast, encompassing approximately 2.5 acres. The site includes office space, storage space (heated and cold), and sand and gravel storage behind the buildings. The heated storage building, used as a maintenance shop and equipment storage facility, was constructed in 1988. With the new addition complete, expansion has become somewhat limited. Attention should be given to the Water/Wastewater Department building adjacent to the ground storage tank. It appears that structural deterioration may be occurring at various points around the building.

5. Municipal Liquor Store

The Pipestone Municipal Liquor Store has an excellent location at the intersection of Trunk Highway (T.H.) 23 and 75 and 2nd Street Southeast. The store began operation at this site in 1977, after the structure had been remodeled. A 12 x 27 foot expansion was completed in 1988 to make room for additional cooler space. Additional room should be added when the need arises.

6. County Highway Engineer Shop

The County Highway Engineer Shop is located on the six hundred block of 4th Street NW. A recent addition to the building built in 1981 now encompasses the State Highway Maintenance Shop to the east of the original building. A common office area adjoins both buildings. This facility stores all equipment and material utilized by the maintenance staff. This staff consists of the engineer, assistant engineer, sign technician, shop foreman, survey crew and employees.

The site is located within the center of the County allowing excellent access to roads, cities, etc. in all directions. The addition of the State Highway Maintenance Shop to this facility will assist in providing additional manpower and equipment when needed for special projects and emergency situations.

7. Minnesota State Highway Maintenance Shop

The Minnesota State Highway Maintenance Shop, built in 1999, is located along 4th Street NW. This new facility is connected and adjacent to the Pipestone County Maintenance Facility. Much like the County Highway Engineer Shop, this facility is used to store vehicles, materials, and

other equipment utilized by the State. This new state of the art facility enables the assistance of manpower and equipment between the two governing bodies. A possible long range purchasing agreement could have an economical impact on both budgets. Currently, four employees make up the workforce for this facility.

8. Law Enforcement Center

The City of Pipestone contracts with the Pipestone County Sherriff's Office for law enforcement services. The Law Enforcement Building was built as an addition to the Pipestone County Courthouse in 1978. The building is occupied by the County Law Enforcement Department. The Sherriff's staff includes 25 permanent employees. The law enforcement agency has about a dozen different vehicles used for patrolling and other transportation needs. The county-wide 911 service is operated from the Law Enforcement Building. In 2007-2008, Pipestone County constructed a new Emergency Services building to house the County Ambulance and Emergency Services/VSO personnel and equipment, east of TH 23/75 a block north of TH 30.

9. Pipestone County Courthouse

The Pipestone County Courthouse was constructed in 1900 on a square of land donated by Daniel Sweet (an early settler in Pipestone) and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The interior has been altered a number of times, with major interior remodeling completed in 1996. New fire alarms and sprinkler system were installed and the electrical wiring system was updated to meet code. The exterior, however, has remained relatively unchanged. The courthouse is totally handicapped accessible.

10. Pipestone County Museum

The Pipestone County Museum is located on South Hiawatha Avenue directly east of the Calumet Hotel. The facility was originally constructed in 1896 to house the City government, fire department, and police department. The three-story structure also contained the first public library, a community room and a gymnasium. The City moved out of the facility in 1960 when the building no longer suited their needs. In 1967, the Pipestone County Historical Society purchased the structure to house the County Museum. The facility has functioned as an historic site and is listed within the National Register of Historic Places.

11. Water/Sewer Department Building

Prior to August 1989, the City's sewage was treated by a sewage treatment plant located on the west side of the City. The facility has since been replaced by a sewage pond system. The effluent from the entire collection system is directed toward the main lift station where force main lines then advance the sewage to the four pond system located along Highway 30, approximately 1 1/4 miles west of the City. The system is regulated by controlling the amount of sewage flowing into the designated pond or ponds. By controlling the water flow between the ponds, the sewage water is able to naturally "purify" itself, at which point, it is emptied into Pipestone Creek. The new pond system has been very efficient and has served its purpose extremely well. The site should maintain high standards and regular maintenance checks to

insure the pond's effectiveness. A flow meter was installed in the main lift station in 1999. Expansion of the sewage pond facility has been identified by the City Council for improvement in the next twenty (20) years.

12. Cemeteries

There exists within the City of Pipestone, three cemeteries. Two are owned by the City (Old Woodlawn Cemetery and New Woodlawn Cemetery) while the Catholic Cemetery is privately owned. All three cemeteries are located within 1/2 mile of each other in the northwest section of the City, just west of the National Monument. Old Woodlawn has already reached its capacity and thus has no space available for additional grave sites. New Woodlawn is approximately 2/3 full and quickly nearing its capacity. There is open land in all directions surrounding the cemeteries which provides an excellent opportunity for expansion. The City should begin making considerations for expansion of the facility or begin looking for alternative locations while there is still an adequate amount of time to do so.

13. Library

The City of Pipestone and the Pipestone School District #583 developed a joint library facility in 1975. The library was connected with the Central School Building on the north side of the facility. The utilization of a common facility has worked extremely well. In 1991, the facility changed its status from a community library to a public library. This has increased and expanded the library's service area to include areas outside local boundaries. The library is part of the regional Plum Creek networking system. After passage of a new school bond referendum, a new library facility was constructed along with the new middle/high school at the new location on West Highway 30.

14. National Guard Training and Community Center (Armory)

The National Guard Training and Community Center is located three blocks south of the Central Business District and offers a large building space for various groups in the community. It has had the kitchen remodeled and offers an excellent food preparation and serving area. The TACC has also had its restrooms remodeled to fall in compliance with the American Disabilities Act. The building is now handicap accessible. The building has had some recent upgrades; i.e. re-roofed in 1999 and the west entry has been remodeled. The TACC's location maximizes parking around Central School and the County Courthouse area.

15. Pipestone Area Chamber of Commerce

The Pipestone Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau are located on T.H. 23 and 75. The Chamber and Visitors Bureau employs two permanent staff members that work along with a cross-section of local citizens representing the City's businesses, industries, and education systems. The Pipestone Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau is a community membership organization promoting commerce, tourism, education, agriculture and professional interest in the Pipestone area. The Chamber works to enhance the overall environment of the City by appointing representatives to various committees who offer expertise from their areas.

These committees then work to develop new ideas and programs that will help the community. The Convention and Visitors Bureau is the tourism arm of the Chamber of Commerce in promoting Pipestone and working to get "more heads on beds." The two organizations work together to promote community events such as: Song of Hiawatha Pageant, Waterpower Festival, Civil War Days, Pow Wow, Opera on the Farm, Tram and many retail events. A visitor's center is located at the intersection of 2nd Street and Hwy 23 & 75. The Pipestone Area Chamber of Commerce and Convention and Visitors Bureau is a valuable asset to the community and will continue to promote the City and its services.

16. Pipestone Senior Center

The Pipestone Senior Center is centrally located in the City on the two hundred block of South Hiawatha Avenue. The building was built in 1904, originally functioning as the County Library. The city-owned building was designed as the Senior Center in 1977, at which time, it was made totally handicapped accessible. New steps were replaced at the front entrance of the Center in 1999. The Center is in an excellent location as the Nokomis Apartments, a high-rise complex for the elderly and the handicapped, is only one and one-half blocks away from the facility. The building serves the community as a multi-purpose senior center. The Pipestone Seniors are able to participate in a large array of activities provided by the Center. Many different programs are also conducted on a regular basis at the Center, and, if they are not readily available, the Seniors are referred to other groups or individuals that can assist them.

As a joint effort with the City, the Senior Center has proven very successful. The facility is lacking adequate space for certain activities and equipment. However, expansion would not be feasible due to the historical significance of the building, as well as the insufficiency of open space surrounding the facility. Future plans for the Center concern the addition of new programs and more community involvement. Overall, the feelings toward the Senior Center now, and for the future, are quite positive.

17. Recycling Program

The County of Pipestone coordinates a voluntary recycling program which includes curbside recycling. A compost pile also exists along North Hiawatha Avenue. The City currently offers a clean-up week program whereby residents are able to dispose of large amounts of unwanted items to be hauled by the City to the landfill. The Boy Scouts also operate a recycling trailer for donations.

18. Pipestone County Medical Center

The Pipestone County Medical Center, currently managed by Avera Health Systems, is located in the southwest section of the City on the nine hundred block of 4th Avenue Southwest. The present facility was built adjacent to the older hospital. Pipestone County Medical Center is comprised of a critical access hospital, a 43-bed skilled nursing long-term care facility (Ashton Care Center), and full-service clinic. Eleven medical providers are on staff with additional specialists available through the Avera system. The Intensive Care Unit in the hospital was remodeled in 1987, the clinic was remodeled in 1996, and the hospital unit had a major interior

update in 2003. There was a new surgical and rehabilitative services addition constructed in 2002, and an MRI unit added in 2006. A hospice house was also added in 2006 at 309-10th Street Southwest across from the Medical Center.

The hospital has adequate room and staff to accommodate patients; however, if the need to expand arises, the hospital may have to obtain additional land in another location due to inadequate open space surrounding the hospital. The reimbursement climate with medical claims over the past decade has had somewhat of a negative effect on the hospital. It has been suggested that the Medical Center could benefit by expanding its services beyond the County boundaries. This would allow the facility to solicit a larger number of people in order to increase the number of patients treated.

19. Public Schools

The Pipestone/Jasper Consolidated School System is located within District #2689 which includes 240 square miles, stretching 36 miles north-to-south across the county. The three school complexes that exist in the City are Hill Elementary in the southwest section of the City, Brown Elementary in the southeast section, and the new high/middle school. Student enrollment-1,188 for 2006-2007-varies slightly from year to year. A school bond referendum was passed in 1999 to construct a grades 6 ó 12 Middle School/High School along west Highway 30, which opened for classes in January 2003. The old Central School has been sold to a private party and redevelopment proposals made; however, none have moved forward as of January 2008.

20. Community and Technical College

Minnesota West Community and Technical College, Pipestone campus, is located on 20 acres of land north of the City. The site was once occupied by the Indian Training School which closed in the 1940s. The college came into existence in 1967, offering training in 10 technical areas to approximately 160 students. At the turn of the 21st century, it is now a comprehensive community and technical college offering both liberal arts and technical programs. It is one of five campuses of Minnesota West. Through its Custom Training division, it provides training directly to business and industry throughout the southwest part of the state.

The college has had many expansions, additions, and renovations over the years. Most recently it completed a Conference Center that is used extensively by the community for a variety of meetings and exhibitions. The college also has two high-tech interactive television studios that make it possible to bring training in from all over the country. It is also expanding its offerings in on-line education.

21. Teen Center

The Pipestone Teen Center located at the former Villa on North Hiawatha Avenue has been closed with no immediate proposal for reuse of the site.

22. Performing Arts Center

The Pipestone Performing Arts Center is located in Pipestone's beautiful Historic District at 104 East Main (the former Farris Grand Opera House). This 300-seat theater with stadium seating and a thrust stage provides entertainment throughout the year with a wide venue to over 12,000 people. The venue includes community theater, adult and children; a local singing group; a presenters series; a travelogue series; visual arts; as well as conferences and lectures.

The Pipestone Performing Arts Center, Inc. is a 501.c3, non-profit organization governed by a board of directors whose goal is to stimulate and encourage theatrical activities in the region as a contribution to its cultural life, and to produce and present special dramatic events for the aesthetic entertainment and education of the general public.

23. Ridgeview Estates and Falls Landing

Located at 903 2nd Avenue SE, Ridgeview Estates is a 28 apartment unit, independent congregate care facility, owned and operated by the Good Samaritan Village. A new private assisted-living facility, Falls Landing, is located 1101 North Hiawatha, south of Good Samaritan Village.

24. Good Samaritan Village

The Pipestone Good Samaritan Village is a 126 bed skilled nursing facility that also offers home health care services to the surrounding area. The Village staffs 170 employees.

25. American Legion

The American Legion is located at 117 S. Hiawatha Avenue. The Legion was chartered in Pipestone in 1920 and currently has 350 members. The Legion honors veterans of past wars and also maintains active participation in youth programs and activities in the community.

26. Little Feather Interpretive Center

The Little Feather Interpretive Center is a learning center where people can learn Native American cultural values and in-depth interpretation of the Pipestone history, Pipestone quarries and the significance of the Native American sacred ceremonial pipe. A program called "*Beads & Buckskins*" has been presented at grade schools all the way up to universities. The Center is also used for Native American cultural events, exhibits, educational purposes, spiritual gatherings, tribal council circles, local Native American use, and meetings.

27. Keepers of the Sacred Tradition of Pipemakers

Located at 4th Street Northwest and Hiawatha Avenue North, the Center was purchased in 1997 by the Keepers of the Sacred Tradition of Pipemakers to research and plan stories and histories of pipes and their uses by various Indian tribes in North America.

28. Pipestone National Monument

The Monument, an area of 281.78 acres, provides a topographic relief from the plains of the surrounding region. Sioux quartzite, the rock overlying the pipestone seam, is exposed along the creek running through the property. There is evidence pipestone was quarried, at least, since the time of European exploration and probably long before that. Today, only Native Americans with recognized tribal affiliations are allowed to quarry pipestone at the Monument. Approximately 53 quarries are actively worked while others remain dormant, used many years ago.

According to the National Park Service (NPS), "The mission of Pipestone National Monument is to continue to provide for American Indian use and access for the quarrying of the pipestone and cultural uses, to preserve and protect cultural and natural resources, and to provide for the public use, enjoyment, and understanding of Pipestone National Monument." Attractions at the Monument include operating quarries, a picnic area, a three-quarter mile handicap accessible trail that leads past quarries, native plants, and rock formations. Special attractions include Winnewissa Falls and Leaping Rock. A natural resource program is returning the native tallgrass prairie and plants.

The Visitor Center includes interpretive displays, films, and information. A Cultural Center helps to explain the art of pipe making and Native American work. Native Americans can be observed making pipes and other craft items. A small gallery displays many outstanding examples of pipestone carving and artwork. Many Native Americans regard the Monument as a spiritual center, and several ceremonies are held annually at the Monument.

The NPS *General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement* process considered alternatives for management of the Monument for the next 15-20 years. These alternatives included:

- The No Action Alternative, continuing management as currently practiced.
- Alternative One, with generally reduced development in the heart of the monument, with Administration, maintenance, and visitor center facilities would also be removed and relocated off-site. There is concern about the visitor center's location in the floodplain, and with disturbance of Native American ceremonial use at the quarry locations.
- Alternative Two would enlarge the monument, yet rehabilitate the existing visitor center at its present location.
- Alternative Three, combining elements of the first two alternatives.

According to the Monument website, "In the 2007 draft GMP, the Monument had selected Alternative 3 as its preferred alternative. However, during the review period and based upon consultation with its affiliated tribes, a change was made to Alternative 1. Alternative 1 reflects the respect and reverence for the area as a site of great spiritual importance." The General Management Plan was approved by the National Park Service in September 2008.

29. Pipestone RV Campground

The Pipestone RV Campground is located on North Hiawatha Avenue directly across the street from the Pipestone National Monument and the famous "Song of Hiawatha" pageant grounds. The campground is open May through October and has been distinguished a Good Sam Park. The 6-acre facility offers 53 level RV sites and an additional 28 large pull through units. Two large tipis are also available creating a fun environment for adults and kids alike. This clean, modern campground has ample tent camping areas with grills and/or fire rings nearby. Sites are also available with water and electricity 20/20 amp hookups.

A fully stocked camp store including RV necessities, souvenirs, and crafts is situated in the center of the campground for your convenience. Bathrooms, showers and laundry facilities are also located within this building. Activities available include a heated swimming pool, playground, horseshoes, volleyball, and tetherball. A large enclosed pavilion is available for group meetings and parties.

Community Facilities

Goal

It is the goal of the City of Pipestone to provide all residents with a quality living environment through the use and maintenance of community facilities and services.

Strategies

- encourage the development of cultural diversity by developing community facilities that will enhance the arts, entertainment and culture, and lend itself to other activities that require formal meeting/banquet rooms
- cooperate with the school board in meeting the educational needs of the community
- support the growth and maintenance of the educational, cultural, and social services to the community and surrounding region
- encourage a high level of health care services for the community
- encourage the continued improvement and development of semi-public facilities and services (golf course, churches, clubs, etc.) to provide additional social opportunities and interaction within the community
- encourage the continued cooperation between the City and the County, with respect to use of County facilities (courthouse, law enforcement center, museum, library, fairgrounds, etc.)
- encourage and promote cooperation of City and County government to enhance waste debasement, yard waste composing, and household hazardous waste