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Coming in tomorrow's BRANDON VALLEY Journal



2020 is now a vivid memory (thank goodness), and this week's *Journal* recaps what we have ranked as the top 20 stories of 2020. Also, a Valley Springs farmer is leading a national organization. Find out what led Kevin Scott to step up to the presidency of the American Soybean Association.

Retired pastor Dennis Bossman has hit the big screen after scoring a role in "Pale Dawn," a short film based on a true story, and the excitement leading up to Thursday night's premier at the Dells Theatre.

The Brandon City Council kicks off 2021 with their first meeting of the new year Monday night, and the *Journal* will be there to report on the happenings. We've also got a report from the Minnehaha County Commission's final meeting of 2020, and will bring you game recaps from the BV girls' come-from-behind battles against two formidable opponents in top-ranked O'Gorman and second-ranked Mitchell. Plus, the Lynx wrestlers racked up another trio of dual victories at the annual Floyd Farrand Invitational last week.

We'll also give you a glimpse into next week's mid-year graduation ceremony at Brandon Valley High School and a whole lot more!

All this and a whole lot more can be found on the pages of this week's *Brandon Valley Journal!*

If you're a subscriber, thanks for reading! If you're not, what are you waiting for? To subscribe, call us today at 582-9999 so you can be in the know of everything that's "Coming in Tomorrow's *Brandon Valley Journal!*"

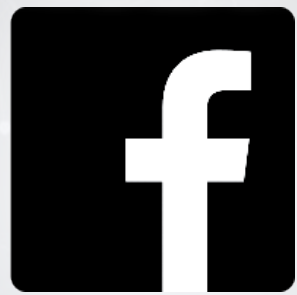


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Brandon Area Briefs

January needs at the BAFP

Household necessities headline the list of January needs at the Brandon Area Food Pantry. Needs this month are bottled juices, shampoo (only), men's/women's deodorant, laundry detergent, Kleenex, toothpaste and pet food for both dogs and cats.

Due to recent large-scale donations, the BAFP has no need for canned vegetables (i.e., peas, corn, carrots, all varieties of beans) and soups, both cream and other varieties.

Due to COVID-19 precautions, Pantry clients will receive items that have been pre-bagged by BAFP volunteers. To make appointments for either pickups or donations, call 582-7001.

The BAFP is open from 4-6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and will maintain those hours until further notice.

Used eye glasses and hearing aids for the Brandon Lions Club may also be dropped off at the BAFP.

Brandon P&Z meets Thursday

Brandon's Planning & Zoning Commission will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7 in the Council Chambers. The meeting is open to the public.

Brandon Fire Department explores Jr. Fire Fighter program

The Brandon Fire Department is looking at organizing a Junior Fire Fighter program in Brandon. They are seeking students ages 16 to 18 and space would be limited. If interested (now or in the future), complete the online form at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScmbVc71T-VwLYigcIoTgK5mxnh1qh-v6MX62Xz-z3R7IF_16Bw/viewform?usp=sf_link

January sobriety checkpoint list announced

South Dakota's Department of Public Safety will begin 2021 by holding 20 sobriety checkpoints in 17 counties during the month of January.

The monthly checkpoints are designed to discourage drivers from drinking and then driving. The checkpoints are funded by the South Dakota Office of Highway Safety and conducted by the South Dakota Highway Patrol with the help of local law enforcement.

Counties where checkpoints are scheduled are Brookings, Brown, Butte, Clay, Codington, Day, Douglas, Harding, Hughes, Jones, Lawrence, Lincoln, Lyman, Minnehaha, Pennington, Spink and Walworth.

SFCF Scholarships now available

Brandon Valley High School 2021 seniors are encouraged to apply for a Sioux Falls Community Foundation Scholarship. These scholarships vary in criteria and while some scholarships are merit-based, many are also need-based. To apply, visit sfacf.org.

Pucks & Ponytails returns

Brandon Valley Hockey Association has brought back Pucks & Ponytails, which is geared for female skaters. The program is from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Fridays on the BVHA's outdoor rink at Aspen Park. To learn more, visit brandonvalleyhockey.com.



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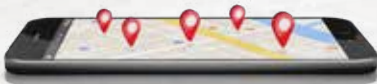
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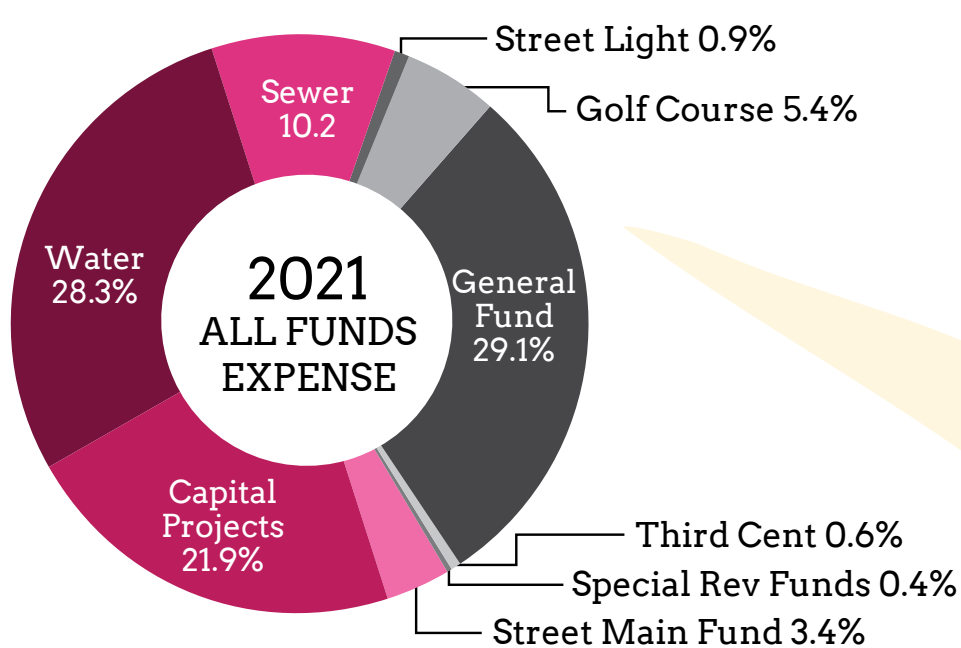
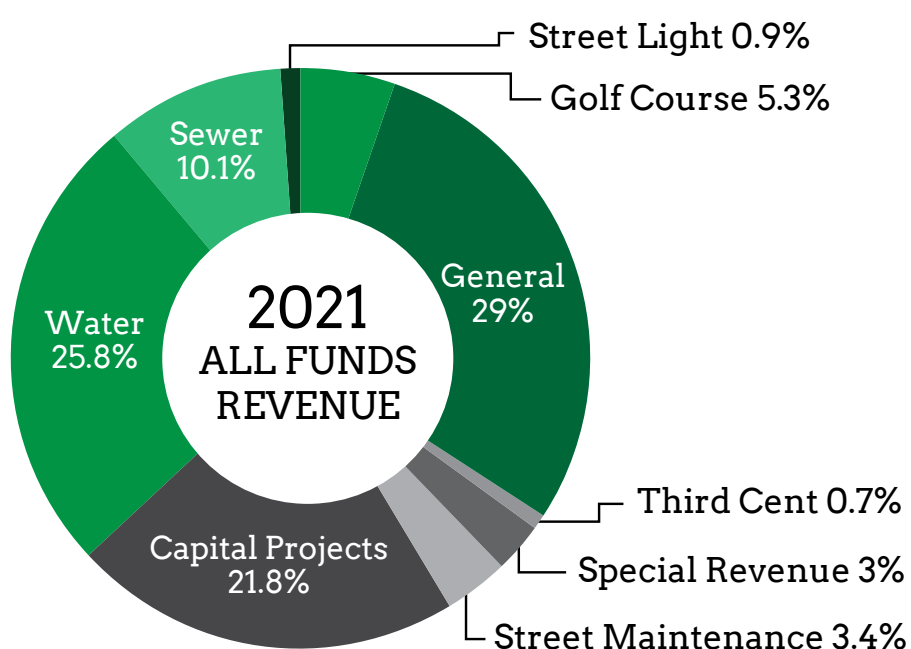
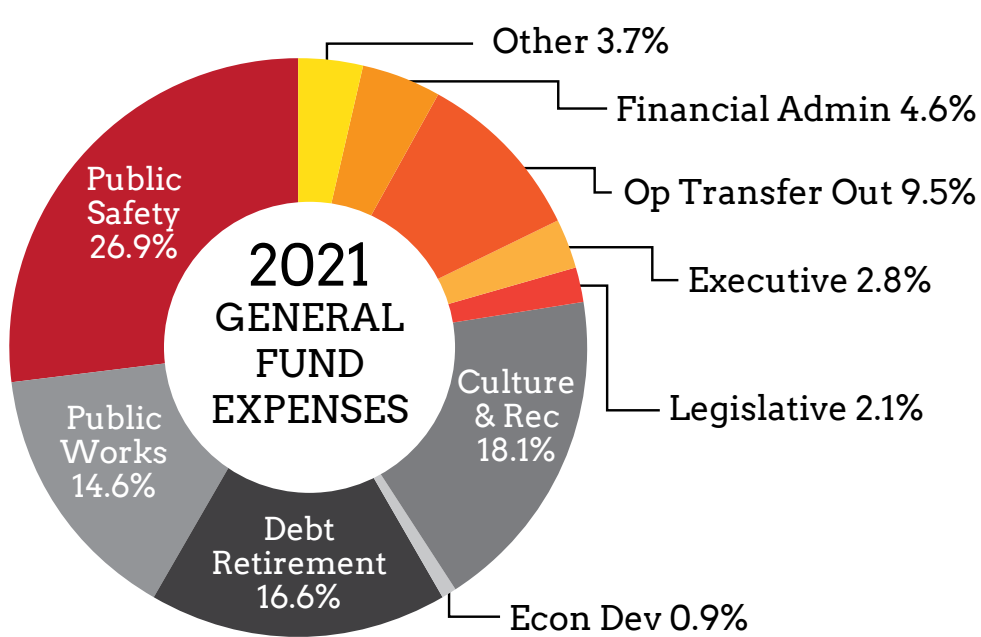
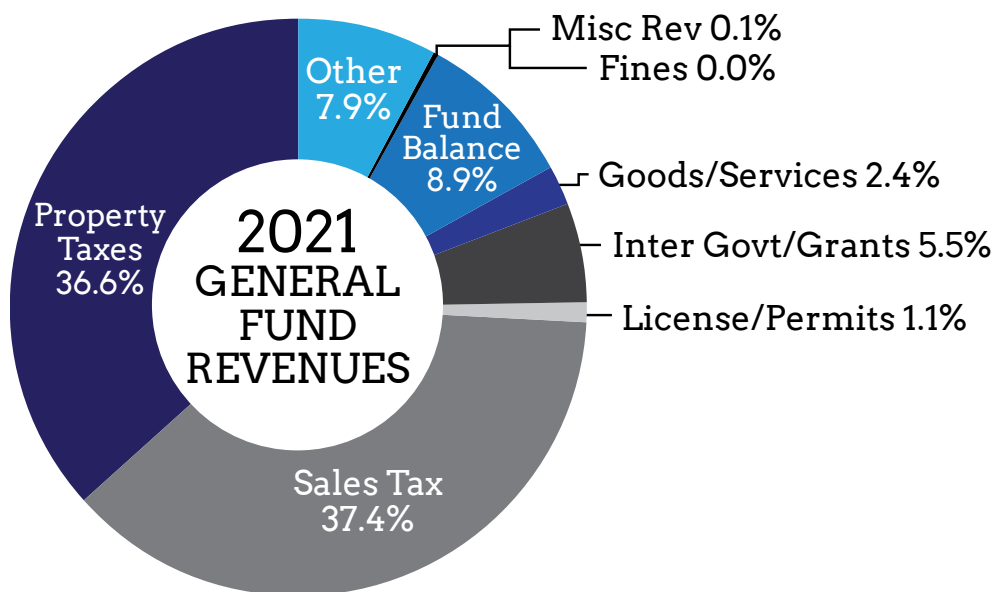


Brandon

SOUTH DAKOTA

CITY FINANCES

Revenue and Expenditures



OVERVIEW OF MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTING

Cities use an accounting system called fund accounting. Funds are accounting devices that the City uses to keep track of specific sources of funding (revenue) and spending (expenses) for particular purposes. The City of Brandon maintains sixteen funds. Some of these funds include the General Fund, Water Fund, Sewer Fund, Street Maintenance Fund and the Street Light Fund. Below is an overview of some of the funds the city maintains. Visit <https://cityofbrandon.org/finance> for a detailed budget, audit and more.

GENERAL FUND

Revenue for the general fund comes mostly from property and sales tax revenue. Departments included in this fund are general government, public safety, public works, health and welfare, culture and recreation and more.

STREET MAINTENANCE FUND

Revenue for the street maintenance fund comes from an annual street maintenance fee on your property taxes. The 2021 assessment is \$2.00 per front footage of your lot. The revenue is used to maintain or repair public streets, like our annual Slurry Seal. A Slurry Seal is done each year in an area of town to extend the life of the road. Replacing curb and gutters, street patching and striping roads are other repairs done on streets to extend the life.

WATER FUND

Revenue for the water fund comes from water usage on your monthly utility bill and this revenue remains in the water fund. The water revenue helps pay for operations, maintenance, capital projects and debt. 2020 major capital projects included Well#8, Water Treatment Plant Facility Plan, Water Meter Replacement Phase I and new water lines for Core Phase I.

SEWER FUND

Revenue for the sewer fund comes from sewer usage on your monthly utility bill and this revenue remains in the sewer fund. The sewer revenue helps pay for operations, maintenance, capital projects and debt. The City has an agreement with the City of Sioux Falls to ship our waste to the Sioux Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant. This is the largest operational cost the City of Brandon has for the sewer fund, coming in at over \$1.2 million dollars in 2020. Studies to compare options and cost have been done in the past, with this being the best option for the City. Those studies can be viewed at <https://cityofbrandon.org/publicworks>. A 2020 project included new sewer lines in the Core Phase I area of town.

STREET LIGHT FUND

Revenue for the street light fund comes from street light fee on your monthly utility bill and this revenue remains in the street light fund. The street light revenue helps pay for crossing lights, street lights, all of the streets lights in residential areas and major roads throughout the City of Brandon. A 2020 project included adding lights in the Core Phase I project to improve the lighting and safety of the area.

This is a brief overview of the City of Brandon finances. For a complete budget or audit report visit <https://cityofbrandon.org/finance>. City finances are very different from private business. Should you have any questions on the budget or finances, you may reach out to City Finance Officer, Christina Smith at 605-582-9065. For project questions, please reach out to City Engineer, Tami Jansma at 605-582-9055.