

**HAPPY NEW  
YEAR!**



**Employee  
Spotlight**

**ON  
Brady Swanson**



**Meet the city staff that  
serve you!**

**Department:**

Electric—Lineman

**Date started at city:**

September 23, 2019

**Favorite part of working at**

**the city:** “the guys I get to work with.”

**Hobbies/activities** Fishing, hunting and being outdoors.

**Fun Fact about Brady:** Brady has hunted in four different states in the last three years.

**Motto:**

“Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago..”

- Warren Buffet

# January 2024 City News

## CITY OF FOSSTON WORKS TO KEEP STREETS CLEAR DURING SNOW EVENTS

As many residents have probably already noticed, the City of Fosston’s patrol officers have been working to ensure vehicles are moved from the street during snow events.

City ordinance 72.08 states that *following a snowstorm no car shall be parked on any streets until the snow has been removed by city maintenance personnel.* This ordinance differs from others that allow parking on the street for up to 24 hours. Under this ordinance, during snow events there is no time limit, parking is simply not allowed.

We understand that residents have become used to keeping their vehicles on the streets and the enforcement of this ordinance is new to many. Our goal in placing reminder cards on vehicles is compliance, not punishment. In fact, currently the City of Fosston does not have parking tickets to issue and there are no immediate plans to issue parking tickets.

Again, the goals of these efforts are to make winter driving and walking in our community safe, as well as the safe removal of snow for our snow plow operators. Notices placed on vehicles are simply reminders to adhere to the ordinance. Patrol officers will work to contact vehicle owners if vehicles are not moved by the following day to attempt to have the vehicle moved. In egregious cases vehicles will be towed.

We appreciate cooperation on these efforts.

### January Fact or Fiction

**Fiction:** rounding up your utility bill doesn’t make a difference.



**Fact:** Through operation roundoff the funds received by rounding up your utility bill to the nearest dollar goes into a specific fund. This fund has been used to help fund Memorial Day programs, Giving Hearts Day, and other community projects or events that need a little financial help to get done. Rounding your utility bill does make a difference!

### **Coming Events:**

- City Council Meeting—  
Tuesday, January 16th at  
7pm
- City Departments Closed—  
Monday, January 15th.  
Monday and Tuesday garbage pickup will be done on Tuesday.

# NEWS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Members of the Fosston Police Department and other area Law Enforcement Officers are concerned about traffic safety and will be out doing extra enforcement. We were recently awarded a TZD (Towards Zero Deaths) traffic enforcement grant and will have extra patrols enforcing traffic laws to keep our roads safe. Please remember to slow down, especially during the winter months with icy road conditions. The Fosston Police Department has responded to numerous motor vehicle crashes, and most are preventable.

By ordinance, your pets do need to be registered with the city and you do need to provide up to date shot records. Also please note, your pets need to be always secured on your own property and cannot leave your property without being on a leash. We are a pet friendly city, but no one wants their neighbor's dog running in their yard and leaving unwelcome deposits.

To assist the Police, Fire and Ambulance we would like to remind the citizens of Fosston to please make sure you have house numbers clearly marked on the side of your home. House numbers in a contrasting color from siding, and large enough to read from the street is best. In an emergency this will greatly assist us in finding your home and providing emergency assistance.

During winter months parking on the city street is not advised as it creates issues with snow removal. By ordinance, vehicles need to be moved every 24 hours and need to be off the city street after a snowfall for plowing purposes. Vehicles and trailers left on the street in violation of our city ordinance may be ticketed or towed.

Did you know the police department does Vacation House Watch? Whether you are going on vacation or just going to be away from your property for a few days let the Fosston Police Department know and we will watch over the property until you return. This allows you to have peace of mind while enjoying time away!



## Looking for more ways to reduce energy cost? –

- \* Keep your furnace filter and vents clean – Replace your furnace filter monthly during the heating season and you could reduce heating costs by 5%.
- \* Use a programmable thermostat – This could save as much as 20% on heating costs by automatically turning your heating system up or down to coincide with your daily routine. The City has rebates available on programmable thermostats at [www.fosston.com](http://www.fosston.com).
- \* Lower your thermostat setting – reduce indoor thermostat temperature from 72 to 68 degrees during the heating season to save 5% on heating cost.
- \* Use kitchen, bath and other ventilating fans wisely – Fans can pull out a houseful of warmed air if left running too long.
- \* Close a bedroom door and heat register during the day, or close off an unused room entirely and save money.
- \* A dripping hot water faucet can cost over \$35 per year. A quick fix can take care of the problem. Also, other faucets, bathroom stools, outside faucets can waste large amounts of water in a month.
- \* Save half the energy your dishwasher uses by not using the dry cycle.

*“Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible.”*  
- Dalai Lama