

June 2017

Volume 1, Issue 4

# Sibley County Community Development

## Sibley County Awarded SMIF Grant

Sibley County is pleased to announce that they have been awarded a grant from Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation in the amount of \$12,500. The grant will be used to promote Sibley County businesses by increasing business knowledge.

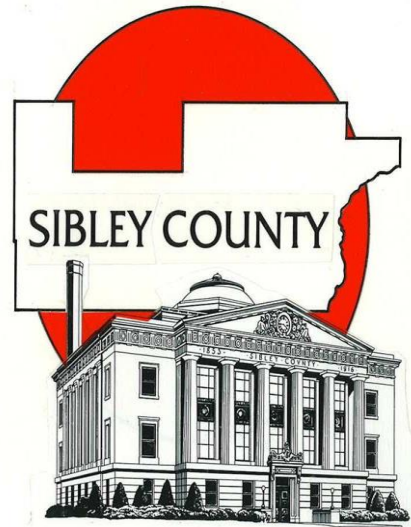
The first objective of this grant is to offer economic development assistance to cities and businesses within Sibley County. This includes offering economic development assistance to at least one of the smaller cities in Sibley County, Small Business Development Center offering assistance to Sibley County businesses, and setting up a one-stop website for the County.

The second objective involves community enrichment programs and will include hosting several business classes over a 12-month period, having our web presence consultant Mike Feterl work with local businesses to create or refine their websites and social media, and having graphic designer Craig Kotasek work with businesses to create or refine their logos.

The final objective of this grant will be to reach out to the Hispanic Community. This includes using a cultural consultant to reach out to the Hispanic business community and translate economic development materials into Spanish.

## ***Rural Child Care Innovation Program***

First Children's Finance has chosen Sibley County to participate in their Rural Child Care Innovation Program. The Rural Child Care Innovation Program is a community engagement process designed to address the challenges of child care in rural America. Close to 20 applications statewide were submitted and Sibley County was among the four communities to be selected.



## Upcoming events:

June 9 –  
Breakfast on the Farm  
Darlene Weckwerth Farm  
6:30 -10:30 am

June 13<sup>th</sup>-  
Eat Wings to Raise Funds for  
Alzheimer's - Team Gibbon  
11 am – 9 pm  
507-766-0970

June 14<sup>th</sup> –  
Gaylord Music on Main  
Singing Cowgirl  
5-7 pm

June 11<sup>th</sup> –  
Veterans on the Water  
fundraiser at the Sibley  
County Fairgrounds  
11 am – 2:30 pm

June 13<sup>th</sup> –  
Summer Engineering  
Challenge webinar  
Winthrop Innovation Center  
507-614-STEM

June 16 thru 18-  
2017 High Life Invite -  
baseball tournament

June 21<sup>st</sup> –  
Gaylord Music on Main  
Church of Cash  
5-7 pm



### 80-acre solar garden

Sibley County granted a conditional use permit authorizing the Lagerstedt Family Farm to operate a large solar energy system in Severance Township just outside of Gibbon. The purpose of constructing the array will be to generate offsite solar energy that will be connected directly to the electric grid for the on-going benefit of subscribers.

Novel Energy Solutions will lease approximately 82 acres and construct up to 23,400 solar panels. The garden will have gated access accessible by Xcel Energy and emergency response personnel with a key code or double lock.

Construction will begin in the summer or fall of 2017.

## Commercial Property for Sale: Green Isle Industrial Park

29.81 acres are available in the Green Isle Industrial Park. JIT Companies and Locher Bros are currently located in the Industrial Park.

PIDS:  
34.0158.010, 34.0158.020,  
34.0158.030, 34.0158.040  
34.0158.050, 34.0158.060  
34.0158.070, 34.0158.080  
34.0158.100, 34.0158.110

There are a total of 10 lots available in the Industrial Park, the prices are negotiable.

Please contact Amy Newsom at 507-237-4117 or AmyN@co.sibley.mn.us

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*Leading Sibley Together applications are available.  
Contact Roxy Traxler or Amy Newsom at 507-237-7800  
for more information.*

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## Arlington ACT on Alzheimer's

The Arlington ACT on Alzheimer's Support Group meets the second Wednesday of each month at Fairview Assisted Living in Arlington. The meeting starts at 10 am. If you have questions about the group or need more information please contact Barb Alsleben at 320-221-3747 or [Barbara.alsleben@lssmn.org](mailto:Barbara.alsleben@lssmn.org).

Also make sure to check out the dementia friendly garden located in the Memorial Park near the hospital and nursing home in Arlington. The garden is open to the public; please bring your families to the garden. Thanks to the Arlington Garden Club for their work on the garden.



## Sibley County Courthouse & Annex Project

The majority of the project is driven by the need to upgrade the existing mechanical systems in both the historic Courthouse and the Annex Building. As a result of tight ceiling spaces and a historic rotunda that occupies the core of the building, we are planning to use a VRF (variable refrigerant flow) system which utilizes refrigerant as the cooling and heating medium. With this system, ducts are able to be significantly reduced in size and refrigerant lines transfer heating and cooling allowing us to incorporate this system in tight spaces without compromising the historically significant spaces. The other major component to the project is the replacement of all exterior windows. In doing so, we are proposing to match all original openings and mullion configurations as originally designed and constructed in 1916.

### Window Replacement:

The current windows in the historic courthouse were most recently replaced in 1979. They were designed and installed to match the historic window openings of the original building. Now after over 40 years of use, these windows are due for replacement. It is proposed to replace all exterior windows on the historic courthouse. Window replacement of the historic courthouse will be done to reflect the configuration and character of the original historical windows.

### HVAC Upgrades

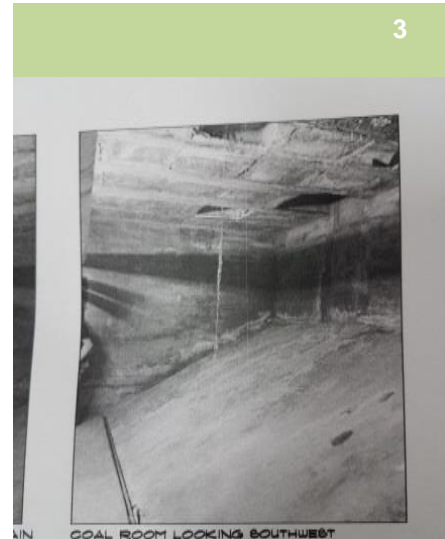
The existing console hydronic fan coil units were installed in approximately 1974 to replace the original cast iron steam radiators. The fan coils provide space cooling as well as heating. The fan coils have exceeded their normal operating lifetime and are in generally poor condition. These existing console fan coil units will be replaced by new variable refrigerant flow console fan coils. The new fan coils will have an appearance very similar to the 1970's fan coils they will be replacing.

### Electrical & Lighting

Various lighting fixtures and configurations from different eras exist throughout the building. It is proposed to replace the majority of the lighting with LED fixtures of a consistent profile in the new lay-in ceilings that will be installed following the new mechanical upgrade installation. Historic lighting fixtures will remain and be refurbished or upgraded if required.

### Decorative Plaster Repair:

Throughout the entry vestibules, stairs, rotunda and courtroom there are highly decorative plaster details. As a result of water infiltration or general building wear, there are various locations where this plaster is in need of repair. The plan is to repair the plaster, at various locations in the courthouse including entrances, stairs, and the rotunda to match existing historic character of the original plaster work.



## Upcoming Events:

June 21st -  
Team Gibbon's 2017 Walk to  
End Alzheimer's Bingo Event  
6:30 pm at the Gibbon  
Community Center

June 19 thru 22-  
Kerfoot Canopy Tours  
Zipline Summer Camp  
for ages 11-15  
952-260-2092

June 28<sup>th</sup> -  
Summer Engineering  
Challenge webinar  
Winthrop Innovation Center  
507-614-STEM

June 28<sup>th</sup> -  
Gaylord Music on Main  
Mages Family Band  
5-7 pm

June 30-  
Deadline to register for the  
summer technology challenge  
at the Winthrop Innovation  
Center.  
507-614-STEM

July 13 -  
Winthrop Lion's Music in the  
Park  
Mary Guentzel Quintet  
6:30 to 8 pm

July 17 thru 20-  
Kerfoot Canopy Tours  
Zipline Summer Camp  
for ages 11-15

## Sibley County Community Development

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Find us on the Web:  
[co.sibley.mn.us](http://co.sibley.mn.us)



## Timeline for Courthouse Repairs

Right now, the time line is as follows but is always subject to change:

Bids out for review: June 21

Bids Due: July 13

Bids Awarded: July 25

Outside Work / Coal Chute Removal: September 2017

Boiler Room / Mechanical: Late September to December 2017

Basement Annex: Effective December 2017 the Annex Basement will no longer be available as a meeting room. Demo in this space will start in December and then this will be used as our 'swing' space to house staff and for other needs throughout the entire project.

1st Floor Annex: February 2018

2nd Floor Annex: April 2018

3rd Floor Annex: Late May / June 2018

Courthouse Phase 1A (3rd/2nd Floor South): July 2018

Courthouse Phase 1B (3rd / 2nd floor North): September 2018

First Floor Courthouse: October 2018

Tentative Completion – early December 2018