



REFLECTIONS

JULY | AUGUST | SEPTEMBER

2022

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 3

City Hall Notes

Utility Billing Reminders

- Sign up for Direct Pay for your water/sewer bill!
 - The amount due will be deducted automatically on the 15th of each month. If the 15th falls on a weekend or holiday then the payment will be deducted the next business day.
 - Save the cost of a stamp
 - No late fees or penalties
 - No convenience fee (If you currently pay by credit card you are charged a minimum of \$3 by the credit card processing company)
 - You will continue to receive the Water/Sewer bill each month so you will know what will be deducted from your account.
 - Form can be found at <https://www.cityofmilaca.org/payments>
- If you are paying in person with cash at City Hall, please have the exact amount of your bill.



Online Reservation System

Our reservation system allows you to find and reserve a campsite or shelter any time day or night. Go to <https://www.cityofmilaca.org/reserve> to see availability, make your reservation, and use your credit/debit card to pay. A brief how-to video is posted on our YouTube channel (direct link <https://youtu.be/vQmoYfMal8Q>). We still can accept your reservation and payment in-person at City Hall. For more information email mmickelson@milacacity.com.



City Council News

- Welcome Ken Mueller!
Councilmember Mueller's appointment fills the vacancy left by C. Pedersen's resignation.
- Summary Financial Report
Schlenner Wenner & Co. presented their report related to the financial audit of the city. This summary is included at the end of the Newsletter.

Every open council meeting is streamed live on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/cityofmilacamn> and uploaded to our Youtube channel (search City of Milaca on <https://www.youtube.com/>).

Upcoming meetings and agendas can be found on the city website at <https://www.cityofmilaca.org/meetings>

Liquor Store Notes

Vicki Jeys, Manager — (320) 983-6255



We're The Coolest!

The Beer Cave is up and running smoothly with over 1,100 square feet of 24 packs and larger sizes. We also have great "Blow Out" items, and are adding new items weekly.

Stop by for all your drinking desires; we have something for everyone! Our variety surpasses most of our competition, and we're adding new items almost every week. Of course, we still carry all the great old-time favorites as well, so make sure you stop in to pick up a classic and something new!

Stop by for all your drinking desires; we have something



Parks & Public Works Notes

PARKS

Rec Park

You are now able to check out equipment to use at the various Rec Park amenities. There are basketballs, volleyballs, pickleball racquets & balls, horseshoes, and bag toss. Rental hours are from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and the schedule will be posted at

cityofmilaca.org/equipment

July 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 ★	2
3 ★	4	5 ★	6 ★	7 ★	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 ★	15 ★	16 ★
17 ★	18 ★	19 ★	20 ★	21 ★	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 ★	2 ★	3 ★	4 ★	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 ★	12 ★	13 ★
14 ★	15 ★	16 ★	17 ★	18 ★	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 ★	26 ★	27 ★
28 ★	29 ★	30 ★	31 ★			



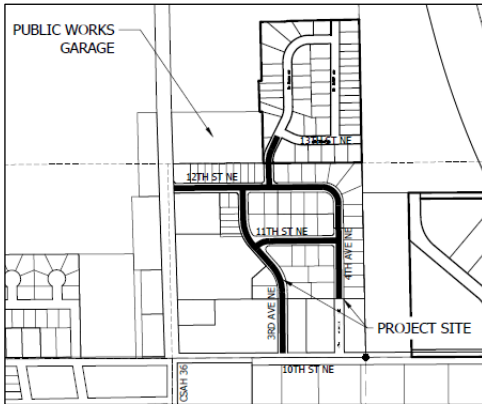
Trails

All trails are open. Early summer bugs are thick, so bring bug spray and hydration. Always plan your route and stay within your abilities. Ensure you download a map to your phone or use the Avenza Maps app to track your precise location if you're unfamiliar with the trails.

If anyone is interested in volunteering, they should connect with the Milaca Trails Initiative on Facebook or the City trails webpage at cityofmilaca.org/trailsvolunteer

PUBLIC WORKS

2021 – 2022 Street Improvement Project — Construction Updates



Hidden Pines Project –

The replacement of the bituminous street surface through a bituminous reclamation process also including some minor drainage and curb repairs. **Finished**

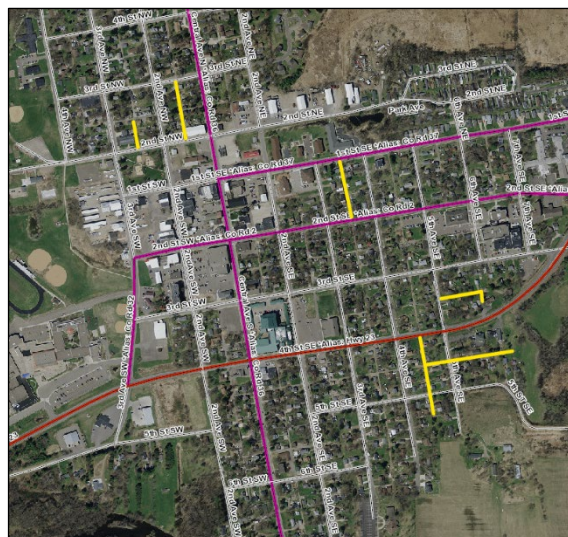
Black dirt, hydroseed, and minor landscaping items will be completed in the coming days.



Downtown Project –

The first layer of asphalt was put in place in 2021 with the second and final layer of asphalt to be completed in summer 2022. This was by engineering design to allow one winter frost thaw cycle and repair any settling before the final layer is placed.

There are some cracked concrete panels being replaced and paving is expected to be done in July.



Alley Paving –

Alley paving was done this year on the yellow portions of the map. The alleys selected to be paved in the SE portion of town have manholes and water valves in them, having them paved will make those structures more accessible in the winter for emergencies. The 2 portions paved in the NW are areas prone to washing out material onto 2nd St.

We hope to continue getting alley paving approved in the budget for the rest of town.

Deputy Registrar Notes

Amy Cain, Deputy Registrar — (320) 983-3143

The Deputy Registrar is open to the public Monday through Friday 8-4 pm. If you have a transaction that is going to take longer, please try to be here no later than 3:45 pm.

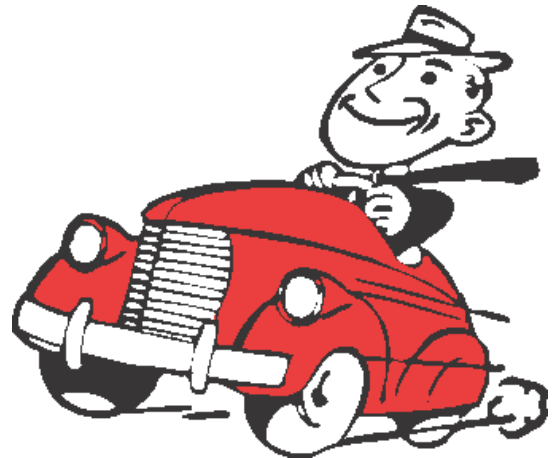
The knowledge test is offered here on a computer in the office. The test is by appointment only. Knowledge test appointments can be made on our website

<https://www.cityofmilaca.org/registrar>.

We are trying very hard to help everyone, so please be patient with us. We are limiting the number of parties in the building to 4, so please be aware of that limit so we can all stay safe, as well as keeping our doors unlocked. If you need a question answered right away, please feel free to email us at depreg@milacacity.com and we can answer your questions.

If you need anything looked up that is not public information, you do have to come in to the office due to data privacy. Otherwise please utilize the state's website to look at the status of titles and driver's licenses.

We appreciate all of our customers and we want to make sure everyone gets what they need in a timely manner. We do welcome everyone to utilize the drop box for tab renewals, DNR transactions, and even title transfers if completed! We check the box every day and do the work in between customers. Please fill out the provided form to go with the paperwork dropped off. If you need a driver's license, please make an appointment or stop in as soon as you can as they do expire at midnight on your expiration date with no extensions.



Please be aware that state is offering Road tests at this location now on Thursdays. You have to make an appointment for the road tests and they must be done online at drive.mn.gov as DVS examiners do the tests, not us. Any questions about the road tests need to be answered by state, as we have nothing to do with them.

The knowledge tests that are offered by our office is by appointment only; the cost is \$10.00 to take it with us. If you have taken a written test and failed it three times or more, you do have to take it at an exam station, not with us. *Please be advised that if you are coming from out of state, you are required to do a written test. Make a new to MN appointment for this option on the website.*

If you have any questions for us, call us at **(320)983-3143** to leave a detailed message or email depreg@milacacity.com, and we will get back to you as soon as we can!

We appreciate all of our customers, so thank you for trusting us to serve you! Stay healthy and happy throughout this summer and we hope to see you soon!



Fire Department Notes

Jesse Gerads, Fire Chief — (320) 983-3465

FIREWORKS SAFETY TIPS

Closely supervise all fireworks. Truth be told, no firework is safe enough for little kids to use without the supervision of an adult. It is easy to assume that fireworks like pinwheels and sparklers are low risk and cannot start a fire. But the truth is that under the right condition, these fireworks can start a small fire. Never attempt to re-light fireworks that didn't work properly the first time you started it. Instead, dump them in a bowl or bucket of water.



CAMPFIRE SAFETY TIPS

Inspect your surroundings. Think carefully before choosing a location for your campfire regardless of how experienced you are as a camper. To be on the safe side, it is wise you camp in areas that have an existing fire pit. If you don't have places like this in your area, then you can build your fire in a safe location where there is no dry grass and overhanging tree branches. Be sure to clear away all the vegetation from the area you plan to set up your fire, dig a fire pit and surround it with rocks.

Follow area rules. As you probably know, camping is prohibited in some towns and parks. So before choosing an area, it is important that you do some research to learn about the campfire rules governing that area. The reason why some parks camping restriction varies, most times, is because the area is prone to wildfires or has a unique plant and animal species that can easily be wiped out.

Flammable liquids. Don't store highly flammable liquids like gasoline, lighter fluid or kerosene close to your campfire, as stray flames can easily ignite them and start a fire.

Stop, drop and roll. Ensure that the people you are going camping with know how to stop drop and roll especially if their clothing catches on fire. If only adults come, then you can simply talk about it, but if you plan on bringing kids along, then you should practice each step with them together.

Keep it under control. See, you don't have to build a large campfire to have a good time. Large campfires are often very difficult to control. And even worse, embers from them can easily be blown to nearby bushes and start a small fire. The best option, therefore, is to keep your campfire small. This way, it will be easy to control and put out if need be.



Don't set it too close to your tent. Your campfire should be a good distance away from your tent or sleeping area. Only opt for tents that are made from fire-resistant materials. Of course, they may be expensive like this one, but that shouldn't deter you from purchasing them.

Stay close by. Assign someone to keep an eye on the campfire at all times. If nobody is going to be keeping an eye on it or monitoring it, then you should put it out. Don't forget to put out your campfire before going to bed.

Be prepared. Do not start a campfire if you don't have the means or equipment to put it out. Always keep a shovel, buckets of water, and a fire extinguisher that you can easily use to put out the fire in the event of an emergency or when you are done using it.

Putting it out. It might seem like a good idea to fall asleep in front of a campfire, but the truth is, it is dangerous and for good reasons. You see, the embers from the flames can easily drift to nearby vegetation and start a small fire. The best course of action, therefore, is to put out your campfire totally before sleeping. You can do this by dumping water or sand on it. The same applies to BBQs. Ensure that your propane valve and vents on the grill are tightly shut when you are done.

Before doing any type of burning, check with the MN DNR for fire danger and burning restrictions. You can do that online at https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/firerating_restrictions.html



1897 - 2022
125
CELEBRATE MILACA

AUGUST 26-27, 2022 RECPARK, MILACA
Historic Log Sleigh Dedication
Log Race at the Rum River
All-American Lumberjack Show
2nd Annual Kids Hands-On Event
Arts & Crafts Fair
Games & Food Trucks
FREE ADMISSION!
cityofmilaca.org/125 for more info

CITY CALENDAR*

**Please remember this schedule is subject to change or cancellation.*

July 7, 2022

Music in the Park –
Riverside Swing Band 6:30 p.m.

July 9, 2022

Milaca Fire Department Golf Tournament –
Stones Throw Golf Course 11 a.m.

July 21, 2022

City Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.*
Movie in the Park – Encanto 9 p.m.

July 28 – 31, 2022

RecFest

August 4, 2022

Movie in the Park – Luca 9 p.m.

August 7, 2022

Airport Fly-In Breakfast 8 a.m.

August 13, 2022

1st National Bank Concert – Rec Park 6 p.m.

August 18, 2022

City Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.*

August 26, 2022

Historic Log Sleigh Dedication
Log Float Race
Axe-Throwing Event

August 27, 2022

2nd Annual Kids Hands-On Event
All American Lumberjack Show
Everything Under the Sun Arts & Craft Fair

September 8 – 11, 2022

Mike & Sandy Rotz Camping & Jamming

September 22, 2022

City Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.*

**All Open City Council Meetings are live streamed on our Facebook page*

SAVE THE DATE

October 20 – Rum River Community Foundation BrewFest

October 31 – Daytime Trick or Treat

ADMINISTRATION ☐ (320)983-3141

City Manager Tammy Pfaff tpfaff@milacacity.com

City Treasurer

Jessica Humphreys jhumphreys@milacacity.com

Assistant City Clerk / Accounts Payable

Deloris Katke dkatke@milacacity.com

Administrative Communications Specialist

Mary Mickelson mmickelson@milacacity.com

Utility Billing / Front Desk Clerk

Mary Beth Niedzielski mniedzielski@milacacity.com

DEPUTY REGISTRAR ☐ (320)983-3143

Amy Cain depreg@milacacity.com

Audra Wiener

Patty Flaten

MILACA OFF SALE ☐ (320)983-6255

Vicki Jeys, Manager liquor@frontiernet.net

POLICE DEPARTMENT ☐ (320)983-6166

Chief Quinn Rasmussen qramussen@milacacity.com

Officer Jeff Shaw jshaw@milacacity.com

Officer Jake Isaacson jisaacson@milacacity.com

Officer Craig Elgin celgin@milacacity.com

Officer Henry Harris hharris@milacacity.com

Officer Andrew Sammis asammis@milacacity.com

Becky Porter, Office Administration rporter@milacacity.com

PUBLIC WORKS & PARKS ☐ (320)983-6547

Gary Kirkeby, Public Works Supervisor
gkirkeby@milacacity.com

John Oldenburg

Mark Wubben

Warne Johnson

Troy Roelofs

Zach Pelarski

CITY COUNCIL DIRECTORY

Mayor Harold "Pete" Pedersen (320)237-2657

Councilmember Dave Dillan (320)983-3204

Councilmember Norris Johnson (320)983-6837

Councilmember Lindsee Larsen (320)982-1088

Councilmember Ken Muller (320)630-5064



Reflections is produced every three months.

If you have an e-mail address and would like to receive this newsletter electronically, please contact city hall via phone or email and we will send a pdf copy to you of **Reflections**.

You may also go to our website to view the newsletter:

www.cityofmilaca.org/newsletter

Next issue will be available in October 2022.

CITY OF MILACA
255 1ST ST E
MILACA MN 56353

(320) 983-3141
(320) 983-3142 FAX

cityofmilaca.org



CITY OF MILACA, MINNESOTA
SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the financial information concerning the City of Milaca to interested citizens. The complete financial statements may be examined at the City Hall, 255 1st Street East. Questions about this report should be directed to Tammy Pfaff, City Manager, at 320-983-3141.

REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR GENERAL OPERATIONS
(GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS)

	Total 2021	Total 2020	Percent Increase (Decrease)
Revenues			
Property Taxes	\$ 1,036,477	\$ 1,022,154	1.40%
Tax Increment	60,129	58,492	2.80%
Franchise Taxes	11,395	11,526	-1.14%
Special Assessments	15,096	13,606	10.95%
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	51,499	41,700	23.50%
Intergovernmental	1,368,130	1,191,659	14.81%
Charges for Services	208,727	235,842	-11.50%
Fines	3,634	-	100.00%
Interest Income (Loss):			
Investments	(53,929)	85,647	-162.97%
Miscellaneous	494,532	494,413	0.02%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 3,195,690	\$ 3,155,039	1.29%
<i>Per Capita</i>	<i>\$ 1,053.29</i>	<i>\$ 1,044.37</i>	<i>0.85%</i>
EXPENDITURES			
Current:			
General Government	645,616	690,370	-6.48%
Public Safety	835,179	820,482	1.79%
Public Works	266,555	301,558	-11.61%
Parks and Recreation	170,745	146,799	16.31%
Library	22,790	24,486	-6.93%
Economic Development	39,652	60,134	-34.06%
Airport	65,562	60,566	8.25%
Capital Outlay	1,519,914	586,762	159.03%
Debt Service:			
Principal	665,179	426,111	56.10%
Interest and Other Charges	92,259	120,986	-23.74%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 4,323,451	\$ 3,238,254	33.51%
<i>Per Capita</i>	<i>\$ 1,425.00</i>	<i>\$ 1,071.91</i>	<i>32.94%</i>
Total Long-term Indebtedness	\$ 2,114,726	\$ 2,041,598	3.58%
<i>Per Capita</i>	<i>\$ 697.01</i>	<i>\$ 675.80</i>	<i>3.14%</i>
General Fund and Special Revenue Funds Committed, Assigned, and Unassigned Fund Balances - December 31	\$ 2,295,802	\$ 2,112,519	8.68%
<i>Per Capita</i>	<i>\$ 756.69</i>	<i>\$ 699.28</i>	<i>8.21%</i>

**CITY OF MILACA, MINNESOTA
 STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
 PROPRIETARY FUNDS
 31-Dec-21**

	Water Fund	Sewer Fund	Liquor Fund	Totals
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 850,013	\$ 1,086,311	\$ 987,998	\$ 2,924,322
Assessments Receivable	8,584	-	-	8,584
Accounts Receivable	44,384	27,668	-	72,052
Due from Other Governments	-	973	-	973
Inventory	-	-	474,934	474,934
Prepays	3,453	2,656	7,270	13,379
Total Current Assets	906,434	1,117,608	1,470,202	3,494,244
Noncurrent Assets				
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated	-	-	131,827	131,827
Capital Assets Being Depreciated (Net)	2,905,098	1,037,524	622,577	4,565,199
Total Noncurrent Assets	2,905,098	1,037,524	754,404	4,697,026
TOTAL ASSETS	3,811,532	2,155,132	2,224,606	8,191,270
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Pensions	51,660	52,774	106,851	211,285
LIABILITIES				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable	19,209	23,069	150,187	192,465
Salaries Payable	5,077	5,179	9,458	19,714
Deposits Payable	17,696	-	-	17,696
Due to Other Funds	-	-	889	889
Accrued Interest	3,272	-	-	3,272
Bonds Due Within One Year	166,000	-	-	166,000
Total Current Liabilities	211,254	28,248	160,534	400,036
Noncurrent Liabilities				
Compensated Absences Due After One Year	4,873	4,873	10,184	19,930
Bonds Due After One Year	680,000	-	-	680,000
Net Pension Liability	71,071	72,676	147,606	291,353
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	755,944	77,549	157,790	991,283
TOTAL LIABILITIES	967,198	105,797	318,324	1,391,319
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Pensions	70,807	72,406	147,058	290,271
NET POSITION				
Net Investment in Capital Assets	2,059,098	1,037,524	754,404	3,851,026
Unrestricted	766,089	992,179	1,111,671	2,869,939
TOTAL NET POSITION	<u>\$ 2,825,187</u>	<u>\$ 2,029,703</u>	<u>\$ 1,866,075</u>	<u>\$ 6,720,965</u>

**CITY OF MILACA, MINNESOTA
 STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
 PROPRIETARY FUNDS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021**

	Water Fund	Sewer Fund	Liquor Fund	Totals
SALES AND COST OF SALES				
Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,892,947	\$ 2,892,947
Cost of Sales	-	-	(2,151,548)	(2,151,548)
GROSS PROFIT	-	-	741,399	741,399
OPERATING REVENUES				
Charges for Services	<u>544,829</u>	<u>332,893</u>	-	<u>877,722</u>
TOTAL GROSS PROFIT AND OPERATING REVENUES	544,829	332,893	741,399	1,619,121
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Wages and Benefits	187,080	190,235	368,921	746,236
Materials and Supplies	22,922	3,239	10,509	36,670
Repairs and Maintenance	169,757	51,048	33,472	254,277
Professional Services	61,156	23,836	8,813	93,805
Insurance	5,427	4,152	8,497	18,076
Utilities	42,721	10,550	30,921	84,192
Miscellaneous	2,539	979	65,076	68,594
Depreciation	<u>182,095</u>	<u>76,856</u>	<u>55,472</u>	<u>314,423</u>
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>673,697</u>	<u>360,895</u>	<u>581,681</u>	<u>1,616,273</u>
NET OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	(128,868)	(28,002)	159,718	2,848
NONOPERATING INCOME (EXPENSE)				
Special Assessments	482	-	-	482
Intergovernmental	160,098	-	-	160,098
Connection Fees	-	16,000	-	16,000
Investment Income	9,513	11,161	6,929	27,603
Miscellaneous	28,517	198	364	29,079
Interest and Other Charges	<u>(10,184)</u>	<u>(336)</u>	-	<u>(10,520)</u>
TOTAL NONOPERATING INCOME (EXPENSE)	<u>188,426</u>	<u>27,023</u>	<u>7,293</u>	<u>222,742</u>
CHANGE IN NET POSITION PRIOR TO TRANSFERS	59,558	(979)	167,011	225,590
TRANSFERS				
Operating Transfers Out	-	-	(192,648)	(192,648)
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	59,558	(979)	(25,637)	32,942
NET POSITION - BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>2,765,629</u>	<u>2,030,682</u>	<u>1,891,712</u>	<u>6,688,023</u>
NET POSITION - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 2,825,187</u>	<u>\$ 2,029,703</u>	<u>\$ 1,866,075</u>	<u>\$ 6,720,965</u>

CITY OF MILACA, MINNESOTA
 STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
 PROPRIETARY FUNDS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021

	Water Fund	Sewer Fund	Liquor Fund	Totals
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Cash Received from Customers	\$ 543,491	\$ 329,670	\$ 2,923,856	\$ 3,797,017
Cash Paid to Suppliers	(300,875)	(70,905)	(2,377,548)	(2,749,328)
Cash Paid to Employees	(176,116)	(178,692)	(341,105)	(695,913)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	<u>66,500</u>	<u>80,073</u>	<u>205,203</u>	<u>351,776</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Intergovernmental	160,098	642	-	160,740
Other Receipts from Customers	28,517	16,198	364	45,079
Net Operating Subsidies and Transfers from (to) Other Funds	-	-	(191,759)	(191,759)
NET CASH PROVIDED (USED) BY NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES	<u>188,615</u>	<u>16,840</u>	<u>(191,395)</u>	<u>14,060</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Special Assessments	(2,272)	-	-	(2,272)
Purchases of Capital Assets	(55,679)	(17,244)	(143,166)	(216,089)
Payments on Bond Principal	(169,000)	(35,000)	-	(204,000)
Cash Paid for Interest	(10,881)	(774)	-	(11,655)
NET CASH USED BY CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES	<u>(237,832)</u>	<u>(53,018)</u>	<u>(143,166)</u>	<u>(434,016)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
Investment Income	<u>9,513</u>	<u>11,161</u>	<u>6,929</u>	<u>27,603</u>
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	26,796	55,056	(122,429)	(40,577)
Cash and Cash Equivalents - Beginning of Year	<u>823,217</u>	<u>1,031,255</u>	<u>1,110,427</u>	<u>2,964,899</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents - End of Year	<u>\$ 850,013</u>	<u>\$ 1,086,311</u>	<u>\$ 987,998</u>	<u>\$ 2,924,322</u>