



CITY OF BIG LAKE

July 2026 Newsletter

2026 Election Information

Upcoming Election Dates:

- State Primary Election: Tuesday, August 11, 2026
- State General Election: Tuesday, November 3, 2026
- Polls Open at 7:00 a.m. and Close at 8:00 p.m.

When voting at the Primary Election: The State, Legislative, and Federal Offices are arranged in partisan format. On the partisan formal ballot, a voter must vote for candidates of only one political party. Voting outside of a political party will result in a spoiled ballot. None of the votes cast on a spoiled ballot are counted. Voters must adhere to the instructions advising the number of candidates that votes can be cast for under each office. County and Judicial Offices are non-partisan positions on this ballot.



When voting at the General Election: Voters have the option to vote for any Office(s) and are not restricted to one political party. Voters must adhere to the instructions advising the number of candidates that votes can be cast for under each office.

Voting Locations for City of Big Lake Residents

- Precinct 1: Big Lake City Hall, 160 Lake Street North. All residents who live on the north side of Hwy 10, east of Lakeshore Drive and south of Hiawatha Avenue vote at Big Lake City Hall (located at the intersection of Hwy 10/25). Voter Parking is in the Northside (Main) Parking Lot.
- Precinct 2: Big Lake Public Works Building, 18041 – 198th Avenue. All residents who live on the south side of Highway 10 vote at the Big Lake Public Works Building (located by the water tower site along Hwy 10). The voting entrance and parking is on the backside of the building.
- Precinct 3: Saron Lutheran Church, 311 Lake Street South. Residents who live west of Lakeshore Drive and north of Hiawatha Avenue vote at Saron Lutheran Church. There are separate access points when entering and exiting the parking lot: Voters enter the parking lot on the north side of the church building, and must exit the parking lot on the south side of the building.

Night to Unite

Night to Unite is a national event that builds and fosters community bonds between citizens, businesses, and public safety organizations. This annual celebration brings together our citizens and public safety to promote safer communities and address safety concerns.

Host a neighborhood block party and request that your local Police Department make a visit. Night to Unite takes place on Tuesday, Aug 4, 2026. Deadline to request a visit at biglakemn.org is on Saturday, August 1, 2026.

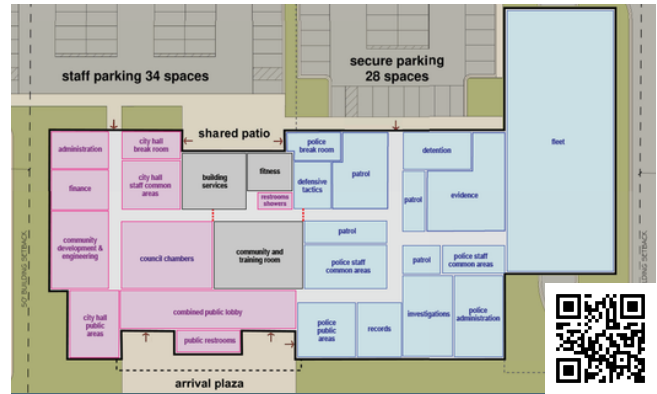




Summer Farmers Market

Don't miss the Big Lake Farmers Market at Lakeside Park! Open Wednesdays from 3-7pm from June to August and 3-6pm in September.

Free Parking | Local Vendors | Live Music
Homegrown Produce | Food Trucks



Public Safety Facility Project

Learn about the City's Public Safety Facility Project by scanning the QR code or visiting biglakemn.org. Subscribe for real time alerts when updates are added to the website. Note that the above visual is a concept design.

Planning Today for Big Lake's Tomorrow

While summer is a time to enjoy all that Big Lake has to offer, it is also one of the busiest times of the year for the City's Finance Department. Each July, staff begins preparing the proposed budgets for the coming years. This process includes reviewing the Capital Improvement Plan, updating the Long-Term Financial Management Plan, evaluating the cost of providing City services, reviewing current and projected revenue sources, preparing the personnel budget, and balancing community needs with available resources to develop a financially responsible budget.

The City Council will hold its 2027 Budget Workshop on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. Residents are encouraged to attend, ask questions, and share their thoughts on community priorities before the preliminary property tax levy is adopted in September and the final budget and levy are adopted in December.

Your input matters. Budget workshop information, agendas, presentations, and budget documents will be available on the City's website. We encourage you to stay informed and be part of the conversation as we plan for Big Lake's future.

2027 Budget Timeline

- June-July: Staff develops the proposed budget
- August: Public budget workshop
- September: Preliminary maximum property tax levy adopted
- December: Truth in Taxation public meeting
- ◆ December: Final budget and levy adopted

Music in the Park

There are four more Music in the Park dates this summer! Free Parking, live music, and food trucks at Lakeside Park from 7pm-8:30pm on Thursdays:

July 23: Power of 10 | July 30: Maiden Dixie
Aug. 6: Mick Sterling | Aug. 13: Humboldt Station

Length of Service Recognition

Thank you to Big Lake City staff for all that you do!

- Sandy Petrowski
 - Community Development
 - 30 years

