

City of South St. Paul

August 27, 1920 – News Update

National History Made in South St. Paul Today When Women Vote Under the New Law

South St. Paul's special \$85,000 waterworks bond election today was of much more concern and placed this city in the national spotlight. It was the first election ever held in the United States at which women had the same constitutional right to the ballot as men, as only yesterday afternoon by proclamation of the Secretary of State Colby at Washington, following the ratification of the 19th Amendment. Miss Marguerite Newburgh cast the first vote at the second precinct, second ward (City Hall), making her the first woman to vote in the Nation.

In that election on August 27, 1920, ninety South St. Paul women voted in this historic election.



Celebrating 100 Years in 2020

On August 27, 2020, South St. Paul will be marking the 100th Anniversary of the first woman to vote in the United States. Starting in 2019, events will take place in South St. Paul to commemorate and to educate not only the community of South St. Paul, but also residents from the State of Minnesota and the Nation as to where the first vote took place. There is no marker, monument, or signage marking the location.

Modeling after the monument in Seneca Falls, New York, the birth place of women's suffrage in the United States, South St. Paul would like to place a monument identifying the location of the first women's vote, bringing the suffrage movement full circle. This would be unveiled on August 27, 2020, marking the 100th Anniversary of the 1st woman to vote after the ratification of the 19th Amendment.

The City of South St. Paul is respectfully requesting \$300,000 for a historic monument to be placed at Lawshe Park (the location of the first vote) to commemorate the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in the United States and that South St. Paul women were the first to exercise the right to vote in the United States after the ratification of the 19th Amendment. Working with the Minnesota Historical Society, a historic monument for the residents of the State of Minnesota and the Nation will be predesigned, designed, constructed and installed for all to view and enjoy.

We thank you in advance for your consideration.

**SOUTH ST. PAUL WOMEN ARE
FIRST IN AMERICA TO VOTE
UNDER UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE**

