

# CITY OF BIG RAPIDS NEWSLETTER

June 2024 Edition



## City of Big Rapids Waives Fees for 2024 Pool Season

The City of Big Rapids has announced that it will waive all fees at the Charles E. Fairman Community Pool for the 2024 season.

This decision, approved unanimously by the City Commission, aims to enhance community engagement and provide accessible recreational opportunities for all residents.

Josh Pyles, Community Pool Director, believes that eliminating fees will enable more children to learn to swim, aligning with one of the pool's main objectives.



"The Big Rapids Community is surrounded by different bodies of water, including the Muskegon River, several lakes, and a community pool," Pyles said. "It is of the utmost importance to teach our kids to learn how to swim at an early age."

The pool kicks off its 2024 season on June 10th; parents who want to register their kids for swim lessons can stop by the community pool from 1:00 pm to 7:45 pm. In addition, there will also be an evening open swim from 5 pm to 7:45 pm.

For more information about swim lesson registration or other activities at the community pool, please contact Pool Director Josh Pyles at 231-592-4038.

## Big Rapids Police get New Equipment Upgrades

Big Rapids Police vehicles recently were outfitted with new in-vehicle cameras, while officers will be equipped with new body cameras.

Police Chief Danielle Haynes is excited to have the new equipment installed.

"Big Rapids' commitment to safety is a number one priority," Haynes said.

"Our police vehicles and officers are now equipped with Axon Fleet 3 in-car and Axon 4 body cameras, ensuring transparency accountability, and trust within our community."

The City Commission approved the new audio/visual equipment in October 2023.

## *City Happenings!*

**JUNE 3: CITY COMMISSION MEETING 6:30PM**

**JUNE 7: BR LIBRARY: NATIVE PLANT SALE  
12PM-4PM**

**JUNE 8: BR LIBRARY: STORYTIME /MR. HOWARD  
11AM**

**JUNE 12: BR LIBRARY: STEM LAB: ORIENTEERING.  
AGES 9-13 4PM (MUST REGISTER)**

**JUNE 12: CHARTER REVISION MEETING  
5:30PM**

**JUNE 13: PARK & REC MEETING 6:30PM**

**JUNE 19: CITY HALL CLOSED (JUNETEENTH)**

**JUNE 20: PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
6:30 PM (PENDING)**

## **Reminder: City enforces lawn/grass ordinance**

Now that we're in June, it's a timely reminder for residents about the city's grass and lawn ordinance:

- The ordinance states that grass must not exceed six inches in height.
- Failure to comply will lead to a violation notice being issued.
- Repeat offenses by residents can result in the city taking action to have the grass cut which would result in the resident being billed for the work plus a 20% administrative fee
- If you have any questions, contact Community Development at 231-592-4036



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Last month, Big Rapids Dial-A-Ride launched its partnership with The Routing Company and its Ride Pingo app.

The app is available for download on both Android and iPhone devices.

The Ride Pingo app enables users to conveniently schedule and pay for their rides with a debit card, and track the location of their bus in real-time.

## **Zinnia Flats- Where to get them**

Zinnia Flats will be available at the Big Rapids Farmers Market on June 7th starting at 8 am and will last until the flats are gone.

(1) flat is available per City address.

If you have any questions, contact Farmers Market Director Josh Pyles at (231)-592-4038



**DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN PAY  
YOUR CITY WATER BILL,  
PROPERTY OR INCOME TAXES  
ONLINE?**



Log on to [cityofbr.org](http://cityofbr.org)  
Click 'Pay Bills Online' and follow  
the instructions