

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 12, 2018

830 WATER TOWER ROAD

The developers proposing a 120-unit housing complex at 830 Watertower Road hosted a public meeting on Tuesday, January 9th. Their proposal requires the property to be rezoned and the Planning Commission will be reviewing the rezoning request at their January 17th meeting.

ICE RINK OPEN

The public ice rink in Hemlock Park is open!! Enjoy!

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING

City Departments are undergoing the process of planning for future capital expenditures. Careful consideration is given to all requests for projects, equipment and resources that have a useful life of more than 5 years and cost greater than \$5,000. The State requires all municipalities to have a six-year Capital Improvement Plan.

LIBRARY

On January 16th, 3-4 p.m. and January 18th, 4-5 p.m., the library will have the construction system, K'Nex, available for kids and parents to build some structures. It is designed for 5-12-year olds, but this building system consists of interlocking plastic rods, connectors, blocks, gears, wheels, and other components, which can be pieced together to form a wide variety of models, machines, and architectural structures. (K'Nex in many ways is similar to the fun you can have building things with tinker toys, Lincoln logs, and Legos.)

The Festival of the Arts booklets will be available at the library and around Big Rapids on Tuesday, January 18th. The registration for all classes that are taking place during the Festival of the Arts will be handled exclusively at the library. Starting January 18th, you can call and reserve your space for a class and if there is a registration fee, it must be paid in person at the library at time of registration. (Checks and cash only.)

Two of the library's programs were featured in the monthly newsletter/magazine, "Talk of the Town" this month. The *1000 Books Before Kindergarten* and the library's *Homebound Services* are expertly described and we're very happy for the publicity on these library programs that community members might not know about.

There is a new book club that will be hosted at the library. The Going Global Book Club's first meeting in Big Rapids will be on Tuesday, January 23rd at 6 p.m. This book club focuses on books (fiction and narrative nonfiction) that explore different countries and cultures. It will meet every third Tuesday of the month. The January selection is "The White Tiger" by Aravind Adiga.

All of us in Michigan are happy to celebrate the 13th birthday of MeLCat, the state's resource-sharing system that provides access to several million items for library patrons to borrow. When a book, music CD or movie is not in our library's collection or is checked out for another three weeks, check MeLCat to see if you can borrow it from another Michigan library. MeLCat certainly is an unbelievable resource to all library patrons in Michigan. The Big Rapids Community Library is pleased to take part in this program.

PARKS AND REC

- Coed volleyball registration is closed. The season will begin with a scrimmage this Sunday, January 14th. Games are played on Sundays at Big Rapids Middle School.
- Daddy Daughter Dance registration is open. The dance will take place on Friday, February 16th from 7-9pm at Big Rapids Middle School. Cost is \$7 per person. Participants can mail or drop off registration to City Hall.

ROBEN HOOD AIRPORT

Operation Good Cheer: Held annually on the 1st Saturday of December, the airport hosted this event which benefits foster youth. Eagle Village and 3 area DHS agencies brought in a boatload of great food and volunteers, pilots arrived from Pontiac in planes loaded with gifts for kids in our region and a very good time was had by all. Twenty planes participated with Roben Hood Airport as their destination.

New Equipment: December saw the arrival of a new snow broom for the Airport. It is a large piece of equipment and does its job extremely well. Seven employees (Airport & DPW) are trained for operations. The consensus is, "Bring on the snow"!

By the Numbers: Dec 1 – Dec 31

Jet / Turbo Prop Operations:	20 (Local businesses, charters, Nat'l Guard)
Student Pilot Operations:	28
Resident Pilots / AeroMed:	34
Other Operations:	79 (Operation Good Cheer, fuel stop, visiting family, pipeline patrol, FSU, restaurants)

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the last week, the Police Division responded to 80 calls for service. There were no real calls of significance to report.

For the 2017 year, the Police Division responded to 4,302 calls for service. This is up 323 complaints from 2016. Although complaints were up, the number of reportable complaints stayed roughly the same.

In the last week, the Fire Division responded to 30 calls for service. On Thursday, fire personnel assisted with the fire academy. Topics covered for the class were water supply and fire suppression. Class will resume Saturday for a day of practical skills.

Members of the department considered 2017 a successful year and are looking forward to growing as a department and continuing to provide the service and protection we do to the citizens of our community.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Violations:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| (3) Blight | (2) Disabled Vehicles |
| (1) Furniture | (2) Garbage & Rubbish |
| (7) Parking | (1) Permits |
| (2) Sidewalks / Streets | |

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DPW: STREETS

- Plowed snow: streets, alleys, parking lots, Airport, sidewalks
- Sanded and salted streets and parking lots
- Checked sewers, jetted, call-ins
- Checked frost depths
- Picked up Christmas trees
- Plowed snow dump

DPW: PARKS

- Opened and cleaned City Hall restroom daily
- Repaired men's toilet at City Hall
- Took Christmas tree down
- Picked up trash in parks and downtown
- Plowed snow
- Sanded and painted picnic table boards
- Picked up broken trash bags on Water Tower Road
- Cleaned Christmas decorated windows at City Hall

MAIN MAINTENANCE

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Safety topic: Know What's Below: Call 811 Before You Dig.

- Checked generators.
- Ran customer samples.

- Checked cathodic protection.
- Plowed snow at plant, well house, HMC, and water towers.
- Removed snow from front sidewalk.
- Repaired plumbing leak at the chlorine analyzer at the State Street booster station.
- Cleaned and buffed floors at the plant.
- Worked with Steve O. to inspect our backflow preventers at the plant and booster station.
- Calibrated the chlorine analyzers.
- Worked with Jay and Don at the well house to correct an issue with our mag meters (flow rates).

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 19, 2018

LIBRARY

The Library was in The Pioneer for our first program on creating buildings/structures with K'Nex, which happened on Tuesday, January 14th. (The second session was held on Thursday, the 18th in the late afternoon.)

For the Festival of the Arts, the Library is the **EXCLUSIVE** registration point this years events that require sign-up in advance. If you are interested in an event that requires registration, please call the Library or come by. Any fees/costs must be paid at the time of registration (cash or check only).

We're excited because we've had several requests from some of the teachers at the Big Rapids schools for books on topics being studied in their classrooms. Just this past week, the books being requested for the students are on these topics: winter animals, fables and mythology.

Regularly scheduled programs are being highly attended:

- Storytime's: Monday (owls is the topic) and Wednesday (hibernation is the topic) @ 10:30.
- Adult PC/tech classes on Tuesday @ 9:30 (this week's topic is email basics, tips and tricks).
- Tiny Tots Tinker Lab on Thursday at 9:30.

First session of the Going Global Book Club meets on Tuesday, the 23rd at 6 PM.

PARKS AND REC

- Women's volleyball league begins this Sunday at Big Rapids Middle School. The league maxed out at a total of 15 teams this season.
- The walking program continues at Big Rapids Middle School Monday—Thursday from 4:00—8:00pm. Free to the public. Register in the Public Works office at City Hall.
- Planning for the Daddy Daughter Dance continues. The dance is scheduled for Friday, February 16th from 7:00-9:00pm at Big Rapids Middle School.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Officers responded to 49 calls for service. No major incidents to report.
- Sergeants saw demo of Pro-Vision in-car camera system.
- On Saturday Fire completed medical continuing education training.
- Additionally, they responded to 36 calls for service, included was a structure fire in Barton Twp. and the monitoring of river levels in Green Twp. due to ice jamming.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL A RIDE

196 Adult Riders - (\$2.00 Fare)

351 Children Riders - (\$1.00 Fare)

800 (\$1.00 Fare) - Seniors (193) and Disabled (607) passengers of which 192 used the wheelchair lift to board

130 Free Riders - Aides that ride with disabled passengers and children 4 and under with an adult

33 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

47 Safe Riders -(free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am)

Ferris Shuttle is back and they have added an additional route to go back and forth from the University Center to the Rock Café from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm (M – Th)

The main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), Arts and Science, 7:30am -7:00pm (M-F) and 7:30am – 2:00pm Fridays.

2,255 – Regular Route

172– UC/Rock Route

3,984 Total Passengers

541 Out of City Riders - Anyone we pick up or drop off outside the Big Rapids City Limits

Demand Response Only 1,510

DPW: STREETS

- Sanded and salted streets
- Checked sewers and jetted call-in's
- Picked up Christmas trees
- Filled pot holes
- Cleaned back room
- Fixed signs
- Checked frost depths
- Cleaned trucks

DPW: PARKS

- Opened and cleaned City Hall restroom daily

- Picked up trash in parks and downtown
- Plowed snow
- Continued sanding and painting picnic table boards
- Continued trimming trees

MAIN MAINTENANCE

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

- The Plant continues to run well, but some filamentous growth has returned.
- Northern A-1 PCS vactored out our clarifier center rings and scum pits.
- Ordered and received 4000 gallons of Ferric Chloride.
- Replaced a leaking diaphragm in our LMI Ferric Chloride feed pump.
- Performed weekly lift station readings and checks.
- Sent a response letter to Tom Berdinski (DEQ) documenting completed actions and updates, following Tom's recent Audit of our Plant and Lab.
- Professional Pump is rebuilding one of our old, failed Kaeser Blower Modules. As soon as it is complete, their field service crew will install it in Digester Blower #4.
- Continuing to collect and record Kaeser operational data for Fleis & VandenBrink.
- Ordered and received new bearings and related parts from Spencer Turbine Company.
- JW and Troy have disassembled Spencer Blower #3 and are now installing new bearings.
- Filled the grease hoppers on both Screw Pumps and dumped both catch jugs.
- Mic completed the DEQ-required SWPPP Annual Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan.
- Completed and submitted the 2017 Wastewater Summary Annual Report.
- Ordered and received 4 new filter cartridges for our Aerzen Blowers.
- Working on removing a restriction in the RAS piping between pumps 1 & 2.
- Repaired the heater controls on our IPP truck. Thanks, Scott!
- JW and Troy continue to assist Van with snow plowing, as needed.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 26, 2018

BARB OBERT

It is with great sadness that I let the community know that Barb Obert passed away January 19th. Anyone who came in to pay a water bill would have encountered Barb's smiling face. Barb worked at the City for 20 years and will be deeply missed. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. There will be memorial service Sunday, January 28, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. at the Big Rapids Eagles.

FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

The 11th Annual Festival of the Arts begins on February 1st and will run through the month of February. There are many exciting opportunities to experience the arts in wide variety of ways. Booklets detailing the Festival are available across the community and at City Hall. Details can also be found on the Festival website www.brfota.org.

MDOT WALKBRIDGE DISCUSSIONS

The City and Crossroads Charter Academy staff met with officials from the Michigan Department of Transportation to discuss options for the bridge and pedestrian crossings in the area. MDOT informed the group that work done on the bridge, even if it is maintenance, will trigger ADA compliance. Discussions will continue on this issue.

LIBRARY

Pick up your free copy of this year's Great Michigan Read at the library. It is "X: A Novel" by Ilyasah Shabazz with Kekla Magoon. The books are provided by the Michigan Humanities Council.

The staff at the library is working on packaging some new seeds for the library's Seed Library. We've just received some donations from different seed companies so we're gearing up for the growing season. (The Seed Library will open later in February for patrons to check out seeds for their gardens.)

The library will be taking part in the "Workplace Wellness" program. We're looking forward to providing some resources and programs for our staff and library board to motivate and promote wellness in the workplace.

Festival of the Arts reminder: If you plan to attend any class/event that requires registration, please call or come to the library to get registered. As of Thursday morning, the "pie making class" and the "gourmet cooking class" are filled, with people on the waiting list. Please review the schedule in case there are other events for which you want to call us and register. (If a fee is being charged for the class, cash and/or check must be received at the time of registration and done in person at the library.)

PARKS AND REC

- Daddy Daughter Dance registration is open. The dance will take place on Friday, February 16th from 7-9pm at Big Rapids Middle School. The cost is \$7 per person. Participants can mail or drop off registration to City Hall.
- For updates regarding the status of the ice rink please visit brpr.org and click "Winter Activities."

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 71 calls for service. There were no real calls of significance to report.

On Wednesday, Director Jim Eddinger and Detective Brian Miller took nearly 650 pounds of seized controlled substances and prescriptions taken in by the drug take back to the incinerator in Grand Rapids to be destroyed. These drugs were taken in and seized by the Mecosta County Sheriff Office, Osceola County Sheriff Office, Evart PD and our agency over the past month. This is in conjunction with 1016 Recovery Network.

The Fire Division responded to 25 calls for service over the past week. Of significance was the structure fire at ABC Automotive on Colburn. This fire is still under investigation.

On Thursday, the crew completed monthly river tower checks, and city buildings fire extinguisher/AED checks. Crew conducted a pre-incident survey of Family Video. Crew assisted with fire academy class with practical stations in the fire bay.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Violations:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| (1) Animals | (3) Blight |
| (3) Disabled Vehicles | (1) Furniture |
| (1) Garbage & Rubbish | (5) Parking |
| (1) Property Maintenance | |

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DPW: STREETS

- Sanded and salted streets, parking lots, and blacktop alleys
- Plowed the runway at the airport
- Jetted sewers call-ins and check them
- Filled pot holes
- Changed banners downtown
- Ice blades on 2 trucks to scrape the alleys and gravel roads
- Repaired signs
- Training on the bucket truck

DPW: PARKS

- Opened and cleaned City Hall restroom daily
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Continued sanding and painting picnic table boards
- Continuing education for pesticide licenses

MAIN MAINTENANCE

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

MOTOR POOL

- 901: replaced rear tires
- 903: did a grease service and repaired coolant leak
- 905: replaced both turbochargers, and both exhaust filters. Serviced wheel chair lift and replaced outer stop assembly, wire harness and outer barrier wire harness.
- 906: did a grease service, replaced front brake pads and tires
- 908: did a grease service, diagnosed a fuel leak and replaced 2 fuel lines. Replaced bad starter.
- 909: serviced and did a safety inspection, replaced turbocharger, removed exhaust filters for cleaning and reinstalled. Serviced wheelchair lift. Replaced power cord to DVR.
- Fire truck: replaced front brake pads and rotors, replaced leaky fuel fill tube
- Fire truck: diagnosed fuel leak, replaced all 6 injector lines
- 200: pickup truck, replaced battery
- 202: flatbed truck, installed rubber cutting edge and curb guards on front plow
- 305: backhoe, replaced battery
- 307: tractor, replaced door glass
- 317: garage fork lift, removed steering gearbox and rebuilt it
- 104: dump truck, serviced and did a rear brake job. Shoes, drums, dust shields and hardware. Replaced rear wheel speed sensors.
- Replaced rear tires. Replaced rear tarp system.
- 105: dump truck, serviced and replaced the fuel primer assembly.
- Replaced 6 sets of underbody blades
- Airport Kubota: serviced and replaced all 4 tires.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2, 2018

CIP PLANNING

Capital Improvement requests from all City Departments will be reviewed on Monday, February 5th, by members of the Planning Commission, City Manager, Treasurer and Director of Neighborhood Services. This is an important component of the budget process that helps to determine the major projects and equipment that will be included in the 2018/19 budget.

PUBLIC INPUT ON THE BUDGET

The City Commission is very interested in hearing from residents and business owners throughout the budget process. The following are opportunities to have your voice heard at the following City Commission meetings:

March 5, 2018- Public Forum

April 2, 2018- Public Forum

May 7, 2018- Public Hearing

LOSS OF LONG STANDING FARMERS MARKET VENDOR

We are all saddened with the passing Jack Albert Scott "Happy Jacks Kettlecorn" on January 31st. Jack was a vendor at the Market since its inception and always brought a kind word and smile to the market. He will be deeply missed.

MR. KARL

Karl Depew, a well-loved member of our community and longtime owner of Mr. Karl's Hair Salon passed away on February 1, 2018. He was an active participant in many committees and groups; both in the community, and at his church. He was an avid supporter of St. Mary's School. Always ready with a funny story or slightly bawdy joke, he was well loved and admired. You will be missed Karl.

AIRPORT

Work was completed on replacing hangar door cables and springs in Hangar C, the Community Hangar. Steve Schroeder, Jeff Hull and Isaac Knox successfully completed the project.

The new runway broom has been exceeding expectations. It has been very efficient in snow removal to facilitate arrival and departures at the airport.

Snowy owls are being spotted on a regular basis. We've had lots of visitors here trying to catch a glimpse.

January 2018 was the best January on record for the sale of Jet A fuel. AeroMed and Big Rapids Products utilized the airport and have added to the increase in fuel sales.

By the Numbers: Jan 01 – Jan 31

Jet / Turbo Prop Operations:	28 (Local businesses, charters, Nat'l Guard)
Student Pilot Operations:	14
Resident Pilots / AeroMed:	66
Other Operations:	18 (fuel stop, delivering plane, pipeline patrol, FSU, restaurants, Chili Saturday)

LIBRARY

Like other organizations and departments, its annual report time for the Library too. The State Aid report has been submitted. Also completed this week was the Library's annual report to be included in the City's Annual Report.

Miriam has created a video that is about the Big Rapids Community Library. Crossroads Charter School requested information on the library to be included in the program and information they are preparing on early literacy skills and its importance in helping children learn to read. The school has been awarded a grant that focuses on early literacy skills. The school's focus will be working with the parents of their young students on building early literacy skills. The Library, as a vital resource for parents and community members, is just one of the sources the school is highlighting as they complete the requirements for this grant.

The Festival of Arts opened Thursday, February 1st and one of the initial events took place at the Library. It is the film presentation and discussion related to the work of Spencer Tracy. Throughout the festival, the Library is one of the regular venues for programs as you will see by checking out FOTA's catalog and/or calendar.

February's Knit Night is also February 1st. Remember that the group meets monthly for newbies and experienced knitters and crocheters to share, socialize and work at their crafts.

We're excited about the new light fixture which was installed in the main stairwell between the 1st and 2nd floors. Everyone can now travel more quickly and more safely up and down those stairs, which has always been a very dark section of the library. Regular customers will notice the difference immediately and if you haven't been at the library recently, we invite you to take a look at that when you visit.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DPW: STREETS

- Sanded and salted streets, parking lots, and blacktop alleys
- Plowed the runway at the airport
- Jetted sewers call-ins and check them
- Filled pot holes
- Changed banners downtown
- Ice blades on 2 trucks to scrape the alleys and gravel roads
- Repaired signs
- Training on the bucket truck

DPW: PARKS

- Opened and cleaned City Hall restroom daily
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Continued sanding and painting picnic table boards
- Continuing education for pesticide licenses
- Replaced a few American Flags downtown
- Cutting dead trees along river walk

MAIN MAINTENANCE

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

MOTOR POOL

- BUSES
 - 901 - replaced rear tires
 - 903 - did a grease service and repaired coolant leak
 - 905 - replaced both turbochargers, and both exhaust filters. Serviced wheel chair lift and replaced outer stop assembly, wire harness and outer barrier wire harness.
 - 906 - did a grease service, replaced front brake pads and tires
 - 908 - did a grease service, diagnosed a fuel leak and replaced 2 fuel lines. Replaced bad starter.
 - 909 - serviced and did a safety inspection, replaced turbocharger, removed exhaust filters for cleaning and reinstalled. Serviced wheelchair lift. Replaced power cord to DVR.
- Fire truck - replaced front brake pads and rotors, replaced leaky fuel fill tube
- Fire truck - diagnosed fuel leak, replaced all 6 injector lines
- 200 - pickup truck, replaced battery
- 202 - flatbed truck, installed rubber cutting edge and curb guards on front plow
- 305 - backhoe, replaced battery
- 307 - tractor, replaced door glass
- 317 - garage fork lift, removed steering gearbox and rebuilt it
- 104 - dump truck, serviced and did a rear brake job, shoes, drums, dust shields and hardware. Replaced rear wheel speed sensors.
- Replaced rear tires. Replaced rear tarp system.
- 105 - dump truck, serviced and replaced the fuel primer assembly.
- Replaced 6 sets of underbody blades
- Airport - Kubota, serviced and replaced all 4 tires.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 9, 2018

LIBRARY

The Library is the venue for two events on Thursday, February 15th:

- From 3:30-7:00 pm, “Legos in the Library” has participants using model kits to create famous buildings and structures. All ages welcome. The completed architectural wonders will be displayed at the Library for the balance of the Festival.
- The 2nd event is the showing of “A Man Called Ove”. This film was the #1 U.S. foreign language arthouse release of 2017. The showing will begin at 7:00 pm.

The Friends of the Library Book Club meets on Friday, February 16th at Noon. The book being discussed is “X-A Novel” which also is this year’s book for the “Great Michigan Read”.

The Library is accepting applications for a part-time library assistant position. An employment application and the full job description are available on the city’s website.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 92 calls for service. There were no real calls of significance to report.

On Friday, Detective Miller, along with members of the County Honor Guard Detail, attended the funeral of Detroit Police Officer Glenn Doss, who was killed in the line of duty while responding to a domestic assault call.

In the past week the Fire Division responded to 28 calls for service. There were no calls of significance to report.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DPW: STREETS

- Plowed snow, sanded, salted, streets & parking lots
- Fixed signs
- Jetted sewers
- Filled potholes

DPW: PARKS

- Opened and cleaned City Hall restroom daily
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Continued sanding and painting picnic table boards
- Plowed snow

MAIN MAINTENANCE

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

MOTOR POOL

- Busses
 - 901: did a grease service and repaired heater hose
 - 903: did a grease service, and inspected wheelchair lift. Replaced rear shocks and repaired top light wiring
 - 904: serviced and did a safety inspection, serviced wheel chair lift
 - 905: serviced and did a safety inspection, serviced wheel chair lift. Replaced front tires
 - 908: did a grease service, removed exhaust filters and cleaned and installed
 - 909: did a grease service
 -
- DPW dump trucks
 - Adjusted 3 sets of brakes
 - Replaced 8 sets of under body blades
 - Replaced 2 hydraulic hoses on 2 trucks
 -
- Police cars
 - 401: serviced
 - 403: replaced the charge guard
 - 404: serviced
 - 405: serviced
 - 409: serviced
- 415 staff car: serviced. Replaced brake pads and rotors, front and rear. Replaced a lower control arm and front tires
- 209 pickup truck: serviced
- 218, pickup truck: serviced
- 221 pickup truck: serviced. Replaced leaky radiator and fuse block assembly for a head light issue
- 1-2 fire truck: replaced oil pan gasket and repaired exhaust leak

- 1-4 fire truck: replaced leaky injector lines

WASTEWATER PLANT

- The Plant continues to run well, but additional filamentous growth has returned.
- Aeration Basin 4 taken out of service; plant running on Basins 1, 2 and 3.
- Jay Norris set up flow-pacing on our LMI ferric feed pump.
- Changed oil in Kaeser digester blower 4 rear lobe.
- Performed weekly lift station readings and checks.
- Replaced a failed sequencing relay at the Waterloo Lift Station.
- Professional Pump is testing our rebuilt Kaeser blower module, and will install it soon.
- Continuing to collect and record Kaeser operational data for Fleis & VandenBrink.
- Our Lab Fecal Coliform Incubator failed; a new one was ordered and received.
- JW and Troy successfully rebuilt Spencer Blower #3 and it is back in service.
- Filled the grease hoppers on both screw pumps and rotated lead/lag operation.
- The Spencer Blower #1 drive motor was rebuilt at Fixall in Grand Rapids (new bearings).
- Ordered and received 2 cases of Kaeser blower oil, for ongoing Kaeser oil changes.
- Changed darkened / cloudy oil in Kaeser blower 3 and 4 front lobes.
- Switched to UV Channel 1 and took Channel 2 out of service for cleaning.
- Repaired broken gauge on ferric bulk tank.
- Repaired shorted power wire to east clarifier drive motor.
- Charter phone line failed, preventing alarm dialer calls. Jay and Tim are working on a back-up solution.
- Performed weekly lift station checks
- Repaired broken feed water line on the Huber Rotomat in the headworks building.
- Steve Dagovitz (Kaeser Rep) visited to observe and discuss our Kaeser blower problems.
- We continue to collect Kaeser blower data for Steve and for Fleis & VandenBrink.
- JW and Troy continue to help Van with snow plowing as needed.
- Dave attended a Water/Wastewater Operations Asset Management Class in Lansing.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 16, 2018

LIBRARY

Lots of activity at the library this week:

A Valentine's Day Celebration was held for the preschool story timers on February 14th. In addition to the usual stories, we enjoyed some special Valentine's Day goodies provided by the Friends of the Library.

Building with Legos kits, as part of the Festival of the Arts, happened on Thursday, the 15th.

Also on Thursday, the movie "A Man Called Ove" was shown in the evening at the Library.

The Friends of the Library Book Club's monthly discussion was Friday, the 16th at noon at the library. The book is "X: A Novel", which is the Michigan Great Read book as well.

Join us on Monday, the 19th, for the "Straw Bale Gardening" program, 6 PM at the Library as part of the Festival of the Arts. After this program, the Big Rapids Community Library's Seed Library will be open for the coming year. Vegetable, flower and herb seeds will be available to be checked out if you have a Big Rapids Community Library Card. They are checked out so we can track the number of packets and types of seeds that get used. As a Seed Library, we hope people will be able to save seeds after they harvest their vegetables, herbs and/or flowers and return them to the library to add to the library's selection for the following year. The library will be hosting other programs focused on gardening, seed savings, etc. throughout the coming growing season.

The Global Book Club meets Tuesday, February 20th at 6 PM. "Pachinko" by Mira Jin Lee is the book for this month's discussion.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 73 calls for service. Of significance was the death of a 9-month-old on Thursday. The matter is still under investigation.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 15 calls for service.

Shift personnel did a walkthrough of the South commons to include the ROCK. In doing the tour, members identified utility shut offs, FD connections, as well as became familiar with the building layout and potential issues inside the facility.

Also, FSU Dental Hygiene facility contacted the training division and set up CPR training for their staff in the coming months.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DPW: STREETS

- Plowed snow: streets, alleys, parking lots, turn arounds, sidewalks
- Sanded and salted streets and parking lots
- Hauled snow from parking lots
- Checked sewers, jetted, call-ins

DPW: PARKS

- Opened and cleaned City Hall restroom daily
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Continued sanding and painting picnic table boards
- Plowed snow
- Trimmed Trees

MAIN MAINTENANCE

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 23, 2018

PUBLIC INPUT ON THE BUDGET

The City Commission is collecting input and ideas for inclusion in the 2018/19 Budget at their meeting on March 5, 2018 at 6:30. Input from the public is crucial to the City's budget process.

CITY TRAFFIC ISSUES

A change to traffic flow along South Street will be implemented by the University in the summer of 2018 and will become a two-way street. The one-way drive from the Business Building parking lot will be eliminated and the one-way exit of Stadium Drive onto South Street will be relocated and made into a two-way. Along with this traffic issue, the City is investigating traffic issues near Riverview and Brookside Elementary Schools and the Charter School.

FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

It is nearing the end for the 2018 Festival of the Arts, The FOTA Board will be meeting to discuss thoughts/ideas/room for improvement for the 2019 Festival. If anyone has thoughts in this regard please forward them to mgifford@cityofbr.org.

LIBRARY

The Library wants to spread the word that "March is National Reading Month".

- There will be displays at the Library and library staff will be out and about in the community promoting reading and literacy with even more enthusiasm.
- The Library will be taking part in St. Peter's Literacy Night on Thursday, March 1st, 6-7 PM.
- The Library has been replacing books in all the senior residences in the area, or providing books and shelving for the first time for some. The Fairman Residence and the Nisbett Building are part of this program too. The Library is providing Information to the Activities Directors and Managers at these locations that includes how to get a Big Rapids Community Library card, what adult programs are ongoing at the Library, how to see the schedule of events taking place at the Library, applications for those residents who qualify for homebound delivery of library items, and more.
- Mr. Howard has lined up local residents and "celebrities" to read at story times throughout the month of March.
- You'll be hearing about our celebration focused on Dr. Seuss's contribution to children's reading; Theodor Seuss Geisel's birthday is March 2nd.

Knit Night is coming up on Thursday, March 1st, 6:30-8:30 pm at the library. Many knitters and crocheters are regulars, but everyone is welcome.

Business as usual with: Monday and Wednesday, 10:30-11:00 am story times; Tiny Tots Tinker Lab at 9:30-11:00 am on Thursday; and adult computer class on Tuesday, 9:30-10:30 am (topic is Microsoft Word 2016).

RECREATION

Daddy/Daughter dance was another successful event with around 600 attendees.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division has responded to 70 calls for service. There were no real calls of significance to report.

On Tuesday, Detective Miller and other members of the honor guard, attended the funeral of Detroit Police Officer Darren Weathers, who was killed in a traffic accident during the course of a training exercise.

Interviews took place this week for a police officer position. On the interview board were Sergeant Liz West and Officer David Flore.

Officers Flore and Kasey Metcalf took part in a job fair held at Ferris State University.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 20 calls for service. On Thursday, fire crews assisted the County Fire Academy class to do search and rescue at Hillcrest. Part paid members were trained on drafting and driving the tenders.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Violations:

- | | |
|---------------|------------------------|
| (4) Blight | (3) Disabled Vehicles |
| (2) Furniture | (3) Garbage & Rubbish |
| (9) Parking | (4) Polycart Placement |
| (2) Signs | |

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DPW: STREETS

- Checked sewers, jetted, call-ins
- Repaired catch basin Third/Maple
- Filled potholes

DPW: PARKS

- Opened and cleaned City Hall restroom daily
- Picked up trash at parks, downtown, and parking lots
- Continued sanding and painting picnic table boards
- Assembled new picnic tables for pocket park

- Cleaned up fallen tree on River Walk

MAIN MAINTENANCE

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WASTEWATER

- The Plant continues to run well overall, but filamentous growth and foam persists.
- The recent rain event revealed a float and alarm problem with the screw pumps.
- Both U.V. channels remain in service, due to the storm flows and filamentous foam.
- PCS vactored out both final clarifier scum pits, which quickly filled during the storm.
- Aeration Basin 4 out of service and idling for a few days; Is now back into service.
- Jay Norris working on aeration blower and automatic air valve operational issues.
- Changed oil in Kaeser Digester Blower 4 rear lobe, and then again in the front lobe.
- Performed weekly lift station readings and checks.
- Tioga Lift Station low-level alarm. Pump stayed on due to grease on the transducer.
- Working with Professional Pump to schedule our Kaeser blower module installation.
- Ordered and received the second Lab BOD Incubator, as a back-up unit and for IPP use.
- Ordered and received 4,000 gallons of ferric chloride from Webb Chemical.
- E.Q. Valve driveshaft and u-joints need to be removed, repaired and re-installed.
- Filled the grease hoppers on both Screw Pumps and rotated Lead/Lag operation.
- Re-installed the rebuilt 100 hp motor onto Spencer Aeration Blower #1.
- Collected belt tension and harmonic data for Steve Dagovitz at Kaeser.
- Ordered and received 2 cases of Kaeser oil, for ongoing Kaeser Blower oil changes.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2, 2018

COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Community Garden at the Library will be expanding in 2018. If you are interested in being a part of the expansion please contact the Library at 796-5234.

MITCHELL CREEK PARK IMPROVEMENTS

The City received a grant as part of the DNR Passport Program and will be making improvements at Mitchell Creek Park beginning in the Spring.

LOCAL CONTRACTOR DONATION

Design Build LLC, Brad Luban has agreed to donate his services to water the 300 new trees in Clay Cliffs Park from June – August. Given the soil conditions in the portion of the park where the trees are located, the watering will be vital to the trees in the first year.

STREETLIGHT CONVERSION TO LED

The City has successfully converted all the lighting in City Hall and the Public Safety building to LED during the past year. In 2018, efforts will begin to convert parking lot and streetlights as well. The City greatly appreciates partnering with Consumers Energy to make these improvements possible.

LIBRARY

The Library, local schools and other literacy-focused organizations are having lots of events and displays focused on reading for all ages, especially since March is National Reading Month. The Library is taking part in two events at Brookside Elementary next week for parents and was also involved in Brookside's Literacy Night on March 1st.

March's foreign film is "Coming Home", being shown on Saturday, March 10th at 7 PM at the Library.

Several of the Little Phelps Free Libraries will be ready to be placed inside some locations around Big Rapids within a few days, with all of the libraries put on their posts and sitting outside businesses once the "real" spring weather has come. Watch our website and Facebook page for locations and updates.

New displays at the Library highlight Dr. Seuss's birthday and March as Women's History Month.

RECREATION

We are excited to introduce Josh Pyles as our new recreation/DBA coordinator. He is a Big Rapids native that graduated from Big Rapids High School and Ferris State University. He comes to us from

West Shore Community College where he programmed and planned recreation/leagues/pool programs. Please feel free to stop by and meet him.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DART

190 Adult Riders - (\$2.50 Fare)

306 Children Riders - (\$1.25 Fare)

709 (\$1.25 Fare) - Seniors (134) and Disabled (575) passengers of which 242 used the wheelchair lift to board

60 Free Riders - Aides that ride with disabled passengers and children 4 and under with an adult

40 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

65 Safe Riders -(free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

Ferris Shuttle is back and they have added an additional route to go back and forth from the University Center to the Rock Café from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm (M – Th)

The main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), Arts and Science, 7:30 am -7:00 pm (M-F) and 7:30 am – 2:00 pm Fridays.

2141 – Regular Route

222– UC/Rock Route

3,733 Total Passengers

513 Out of City Riders - Anyone we pick up or drop off outside the Big Rapids City Limits

Demand Response Only 1,305

DPW: STREETS

- Filled pot holes
- Graded alleys and gravel streets
- Fixed 4 catch basins: 2 on Sanborn/Division and Cypress/Cherry
- Dug out in front of storm drain on 4th Ave.
- Dug out storm drain on River Walk
- Checked sewers and jetted call-ins
- Installed signs on E. Bridge St.
- Cleaned drains
- Trimmed brush from alleys and some streets

- Fixed torn banner
- Washed trucks
- Cleaned up 2 trees

DPW: PARKS

- Opened and cleaned City Hall restroom daily
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Picked up litter in parking lots, White Pine Trail, and parks
- Continued sanding and painting picnic table boards

MAIN MAINTENANCE

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

MARCH 9, 2018

LIBRARY

Dr. Seuss's birthday was celebrated with songs, stories and birthday cake on Monday, March 5, at the 10:30 Story Time. Wednesday's Story Time took place at the Public Safety Building – lots of fire trucks, equipment and firemen so the kids were excited and had lots of fun, of course.

The “**Books Around Big Rapids**” program continues to grow with more baskets of books for waiting rooms being delivered this week, and other doctors' offices will get their baskets of books next week.

A few of the **Little Phelps Free Libraries** will be set up inside some Big Rapids businesses next week. Once we have the real spring thaw, the balance of the libraries will be set up on posts outside various businesses in town. We'll be sharing a list of locations on our website and Facebook page as the libraries are placed around town.

Next Tuesday, March 13, the regular Library Board Meeting will be at 4 PM. The March Friends of the Library Book Club meets on Friday, March 16 at noon. The book under discussion is “Reading Lolita in Tehran”.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 79 calls for service. There were no real significant calls of service to report.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 20 calls for service. On Wednesday, Firefighter Matt Kidd taught first aid and CPR to members of the Mecosta County Sheriff Office

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DART

310 Adult Riders - (\$2.50 Fare)

367 Children Riders - (\$1.25 Fare)

824 (\$1.25 Fare) - Seniors (151) and Disabled (673) passengers of which 105 used the wheelchair lift to board

115 Free Riders - Aides that ride with disabled passengers (52) and children 4 and under (63) with an adult

53 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

0 Safe Riders -Ferris is on Spring Break starting March 2nd – 12th (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

Ferris Shuttle is back and they have added an additional route to go back and forth from the University Center to the Rock Café from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm (M-Th). The main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), Arts and Science, 7:30 am-7:00 pm (M-F) and 7:30 am-2:00 pm Fridays.

1,840 -Regular Shuttle

221 -UC/Rock Route

3,730 Total Passengers

627 Out of City Riders -Anyone we pick up or drop off outside the Big Rapids City Limits

1,669 Demand Response Only

DPW: STREETS

- Plowed snow: streets, alleys, parking lots, turn arounds, sidewalks
- Sanded and salted streets and parking lots
- Checked sewers and jetted call-ins
- Filled potholes
- Repaired signs

DPW: PARKS

- Opened and cleaned City Hall restroom daily
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Continued sanding and painting picnic table boards
- Delivered extra supplies for Dog Park clean-up
- Picked up wood from North End Park
- Plowed snow

MAIN MAINTENANCE

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

MARCH 16, 2018

CENSUS 2020

Staff is preparing for the 2020 Census and recently received all the digital information needed to verify City boundaries and addresses.

PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at their upcoming meeting on Wednesday, March 21st, to discuss a potential change to the ordinance that would streamline the rezoning and text change application process.

STREETLIGHT LED CONVERSION

The City has partnered with Consumers Energy to convert all the lighting at City Hall and Public Safety to LED. The conversion has significantly reduced energy usage. Attention has turned to City Streets and Parking Lot lights and the City will work to convert them to LED over the next several years. It is cost prohibitive to do the whole City at one time.

FARMERS MARKET PLANNING UNDERWAY

Preparation has begun for the upcoming Farmer's Market Season. The Farmer's Market Board will be meeting soon and Josh has attended trainings for the various Farmer's Market Programs. The first market of the year will be Friday, May 11th.

LIBRARY

A third grade class from Brookside Elementary School was at the library on Tuesday morning (3/13) to learn about the Seed Library, plant seeds to take back to their classroom, and to get a tour of the library.

March as Reading Month continued to be the theme at two events at Brookside Elementary and the library took part in both of them. On Wednesday, 3/14, the Literacy Night there had lots of parents and school children being entertained, learning about many projects, and doing craft activities; and on Friday morning, 3/16, there is "Books and Bagels" that will be open to parents and kids at the school.

The Chamber of Commerce's Business After Hours was here on Thursday evening. We were able to explain the details of the "Read Everywhere in Big Rapids", especially the newer components of this initiative – Little Phelps Free Libraries and Books Around Big Rapids. Information on the Literacy Playground progress in Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Park was also highlighted.

An update on the Little Phelps Free Libraries: 4 of them will be "out in the community" over the next week and ready for business. They will be at the two food pantries, City Hall, and the City Housing

Commission. Then the balance of these libraries (7 more) will be installed around town, hopefully in early May.

The Books Around Big Rapids program has provided baskets of new children's books now to 5 doctors' offices for their waiting rooms or exam rooms, and we're waiting for other doctors in town to respond to our calls to see if we have other locations where we can place more books for use at their offices.

This Monday (3/19) and Tuesday (3/20) the library will have kids creating with QBMaze, a marble maze building kit. (Monday, 3:30 PM and Tuesday, 6 PM)

The Going Global Book Club meets at the library on Tuesday, March 20th, 6 PM.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 75 calls for service. There are no real calls of significance to report.

Investigators believe they have identified the male responsible for a group of larcenies from vehicles that took place the early morning of December 21st, 2017 in the area of Second and Third Avenues. Charges will be sought through the Mecosta County Prosecutor's Office for the 26-year-old male.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 26 calls for service.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Violations:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| (1) Animals | (3) Blight |
| (2) Disabled Vehicles | (3) Furniture |
| (6) Garbage & Rubbish | (12) Parking |
| (2) Permits | (1) Sidewalks / Streets |
| (4) Signs | |

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

288 Adult Riders - (\$2.50 Fare)

415 Children Riders - (\$1.25 Fare)

797 (\$1.25 Fare) - Seniors (125) and Disabled (672) passengers of which 247 used the wheelchair lift to board

118 Free Riders - Aides that ride with disabled passengers (45) and children 4 and under (73) with an adult

49 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

0 Safe Riders - Ferris is on Spring Break March 2nd - 12th (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

Ferris Shuttle is back and they have added an additional route to go back and forth from the University Center to the Rock Café from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm (M –Th)

The main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), Arts and Science, 7:30 am -7:00 pm (M-F) and 7:30 am – 2:00 pm Fridays.

0- Regular Shuttle

0- UC/Rock Route SPRING BREAK THIS WEEK

1,618 Total Passengers

592 Out of City Riders - Anyone we pick up or drop off outside the Big Rapids City Limits

1,618 -Demand Response Only

DPW: STREETS –

- Plowed snow: streets, alleys, parking lots, turn arounds, sidewalks
- Sanded and salted streets and parking lots
- Checked sewers and jetted call-ins
- Filled potholes
- Repaired signs

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned City Hall restroom daily
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Continued sanding and painting picnic table boards
- Started painting parks trash cans
- Repaired fence at Playscape
- Plowed snow

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WWTP –

- The Plant continues to run well overall, but filamentous growth and foam persists.

- Final Clarifier scum pits filled up with foam again and had to be vactored out.
- Both U.V. channels remain in service as a precaution, due to the filamentous growth.
- Plant Operators repaired a damaged skimmer on the east clarifier.
- Biotech visited the Plant to discuss the Spring sludge hauling and take lab samples.
- Jay Norris working on aeration blower and automatic air valve operational issues.
- Plant Operators, Professional Pump, and Kaeser Staff all worked on the Kaeser Digester Blower #4 module replacement. This blower is now back up and running.
- Plant Operators performed weekly lift station readings and checks.
- Mic sent in quarterly mercury samples, and results were received from Paragon Labs.
- Plant Operators changed oil in Kaeser Digester Blower #3.
- Ordered and received a tote of polymer, plus a 55-gallon drum of test polymer.
- Organized and scheduled a Water/Wastewater Supervisor Class, to be held here in Big Rapids on May 23rd (0.6 CEC's "Managerial" credits for water/wastewater licenses).
- Finished rebuilt motor installation on Spencer Blower #1 and placed it back into service.
- Scheduled a May 22nd Plant CIP Engineering Meeting with Fleis & VandenBrink.
- Ordered and received repair parts for one of our Plant Composite Sampler units.
- Completed and returned DEQ paperwork for Amy and Jake's upcoming Wastewater "C" License Exam in Gaylord.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

MARCH 23, 2018

PLANNING CONSULTANT

RFQ's for planning consultant services are due March 29th. Following the deadline, staff will be reviewing the submittals and organizing interviews. The planning consultant will be tasked with addressing needs surrounding Form Based Codes and the Redevelopment Ready Communities program.

VULTURES ON BJORNSON STREET WATER TOWER

Anticipating the seasonal return of Vultures that select the Bjornson Street Water Tower as a roosting location, staff is investigating ways to deter their presence on the tower. Vultures are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, and it is illegal to harm Vultures in the United States. Contact has been made to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for assistance.

WALK BRIDGE UPDATE

Fleis and VandenBrink is working on pedestrian alternatives for State Street near Crossroads Charter Academy. This work is being done in anticipation of removing the Bridge during the summer of 2018.

CITY HALL CLOSED FOR GOOD FRIDAY

City Hall will be closed on March 30, 2018 in observance of Good Friday.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 101 calls for service. While conducting a foot patrol in the area of Pine and Warren an officer located the smell of marijuana. Smell was coming from a residence in the area. Made contact with guest who was leaving, officers observed paraphernalia and small quantity of marijuana through an open window curtain. Executed a search warrant seizing fair amount of marijuana from the residence and a lot of paraphernalia.

On Tuesday and Thursday this week officers took part in night time shooting at the FSU range. The officers found this extremely helpful training.

Officer Kasey Metcalf successfully completed his FTO process and has begun working the road assisting on the Wednesday-Saturday day shift.

The Fire Division responded to 40 calls for service over the past week. Although there was nothing significant in nature, this number is nearly twice as many calls as they usually get in a given week.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Violations:

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| (6) Blight | (2) Disabled Vehicles |
| (2) Furniture | (5) Garbage & Rubbish |
| (9) Parking | (1) Sidewalks / Streets |
| (8) Signs | (2) Yard Waste |

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

365 Adult Riders - (\$2.50 Fare)

411 Children Riders - (\$1.25 Fare)

776 (\$1.25 Fare) - Seniors (135) and Disabled (641) passengers of which 242 used the wheelchair lift to board

129 Free Riders - Aides that ride with disabled passengers (70) and children 4 and under (59) with an adult

53 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

25 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

Ferris Shuttle is back and they have added an additional route to go back and forth from the University Center to the Rock Café from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm (M–Th)

The main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), Arts and Science, 7:30 am-7:00 pm (M-F) and 7:30 am–2:00 pm Fridays.

2,178 Regular Shuttle

304 UC/Rock Route

4,241 Total Passengers

531 Out of City Riders - Anyone we pick up or drop off outside the Big Rapids City Limits

1,681 -Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Checked sewers and jetted call-ins

- Filled potholes
- Repaired signs
- Changed out downtown banners
- Crack sealed streets

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned City Hall restroom daily
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Continued painting parks trash cans
- Started sanding and painting downtown trash cans
- Installed bases on Vogel 2 Field
- Removed backstops and AstroTurf for ice rink
- Repaired crusher dust walkway at Mitchell creek

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WATER TREATMENT PLANT

- Safety topic: Lightning: The Underrated Killer
- Checked generators.
- Ran customer samples.
- Checked cathodic protection.
- Worked with Jay Norris rewiring the well house to correct some issues we have had.
- Lubed all Pratt valves at the plant.
- Cleaned up around the plant and water tower buildings. Swept and moped floors, dusted and emptied trash.
- Cleaned and buffed floors at the plant.
- Removed plow from the truck.
- Attended classes in Lansing and Mt. Pleasant.
- Painted more at the plant.
- Worked with Peerless Midwest to remove and replace our #4 well motor, flow test and collect two samples after repairs were complete.
- Worked with Michigan Cat to perform our annual generator tests and maintenance.
- Pumped water out of pit between our two reservoirs.
- Replaced a light fixture and an electric eye for the lighting outside at the Plant.
- Repaired the outside light at the well house.
- Repaired leaks on high service pump #4.
- Read water meters.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

APRIL 6, 2018

LIBRARY

It's National Poetry Month. We've pulled some great poetry books or poems for everyone to enjoy and have them showcased in front of the main desk at the library. It's easy to forget about poetry and we hope to have patrons picking up books to browse and take home to enjoy the diverse poems that have been created by so many people, of all ages.

Next week, 4/8-4/14, is National Library Week. We'll have some interesting quotes posted on our blackboards at the circulation desks, as well as a display that you will have to come and explore. Remember, one of the best bargains in your wallet is your library card. Please support your local library, wherever it may be!

"Malcolm X" movie with Denzel Washington will be shown at the library on Tuesday, April 10th at 6 PM. Free copies of the book written by his daughter, "X: A Novel" will be available as well.

"About Elly" is the Foreign Film Series movie showing on Saturday, April 14th at 7 PM at the library.

Just FYI, lumber for the balance of the plots for the community gardens at the park next to the library will be delivered by the end of this week, with a Ferris student organization actually doing the construction of the boxes. We'll keep you posted as they are completed, take pictures of the event and tell you more about the college students involved, as well as those from the city and other agencies helping place and fill the garden boxes so they will be ready for planting. Registration for all community garden boxes is open, both online and at the library.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past two weeks, the Police Division responded to 155 calls for service.

Charges have been authorized for a 26 year old Big Rapids male for the larceny from autos that took place the early morning hours on December 21st, 2017.

Director Jim Eddinger has continued to gain traction in reaching his and the Open Arms Child Advocacy Center goals to be able to open it's doors and become a reality. On Thursday, the Big Rapids Lions Club donated \$5,000 to the cause.

On Tuesday and Thursday, March 20th and 22nd, members of the police division did a night shoot at the range.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 52 calls for service. On Thursday of this week, the firefighters did a Medical inventory audit and assisted in teaching a Fire 1 & 2 Class for MOCC.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Violations:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| (1) Animals | (6) Blight |
| (3) Disabled Vehicles | (2) Furniture |
| (1) Garbage & Rubbish | (8) Parking |
| (2) Permits | (2) Sidewalks / Streets |
| (2) Signs | (3) Yard Waste |

RECREATION

- Began collecting Girls On The Run Registration Forms. A Coaches Meeting will be hosted April 10th at City Hall.
- Collected Farmers Market applications and will be hosting the Farmers Market Vendors Meeting April 19th at City Hall.
- The Touch-A-Truck event is scheduled for April 28th with a meeting for truck placement taking place April 11th at DPS.
- Scheduling and planning for summer programs are underway, including Flyer preparation.
- Promotion of “Meet Me In The Park” is underway to gain votes for the City of Big Rapids. Winning this event gains a \$20,000 Grant for Big Rapids to utilize in park improvements.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

256 Adult Riders - (\$2.50 Fare)

79 Children Riders - (\$1.25 Fare) **Spring Break for School kids**

706 (\$1.25 Fare) – Senior (133) and Disabled (573) passengers of which 204 used the wheelchair lift to board

150 Free Riders – (99) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (51) children 4 and under with an adult

31 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

0 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am) **Easter Weekend-no safe ride**

Ferris Shuttle is back, and they have added an additional route to go back and forth from the University Center to the Rock Café from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm (M – Th)

The main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), Arts and Science, 7:30 am -7:00 pm (M-F) and 7:30 am – 2:00 pm Fridays.

1,269 Regular Route Shuttle only **Monday thru Wednesday this week for Easter**
207 UC/Rock Route **Monday thru Wednesday**

2,698 Total Passengers

498 Out of City Riders - Anyone we pick up or drop off outside the Big Rapids City Limits

1,191-Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

-DPW: STREETS –

- Crack sealed streets
- Signs
- Cleaned drains
- Rebuilt 2 catch basins
- Banners downtown
- Pot holes
- Sewers
- Sanded and salted streets and parking lots
- Plowed snow-streets, parking lots, Airport, alleys

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned City Hall restroom daily
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Continued sanding and painting downtown trash cans
- Installed tennis courts nets
- Installed volleyball net
- Disassembled ice rink
- Began making new signs for parks entrances
- Plowed snow

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WWTP –

- The Plant continues to run well overall, but filamentous growth and foam persists.

- Final Clarifier scum pits continue to fill up with foam, which has been cleaned out multiple times by Routley Septic and plant staff.
- U.V. Channel 1 was taken out of service for routine cleaning and maintenance.
- U.V Channel 2 is in service, with Channel 1 now serviced and ready to use.
- Dave and Mic attended a DEQ seminar in Mt. Pleasant, regarding upcoming PFAS issues.
- Biotech hauled and land-applied 629,000 gallons of biosolids from our storage tanks.
- Jay Norris working on aeration blower and automatic air valve operational issues.
- Kaeser Digester Blower #4 continues to run well with the new blower module.
- Plant Operators performed weekly lift station readings and checks.
- 1st Quarter mercury sampling results were received from Paragon Labs.
- Screw pump grease hoppers were filled and grease catch jugs were emptied.
- Continuing to evaluate a 55-gallon drum of test polymer from our current supplier.
- A spare 125 HP motor is being installed, following a motor failure in Kaeser Blower #1.
- Our annual DEQ IPP Compliance inspection has been scheduled with Tom Berdinski.
- Our back-up Isco Composite Sampler is down for repairs to the refrigeration system.
- A broken rear window pane was replaced in the Dodge pickup. Thanks, Scott!

MOTOR POOL-

WTP-

- Safety topic: Lockout/Tagout: Water Under Pressure Poses Danger.
- Checked generators.
- Ran customer samples.
- Checked cathodic protection.
- Lubed high service pumps.
- Answered call ins.
- Replaced broken auto-clave gasket.
- Replaced heater bulb at Ferris water tower.
- Lubed boiler recirculation pumps.
- Lubed chemical feed pumps.
- Adjusted the packing on high service pump #4.
- Replaced O-ring seals on OCV valve for high service pump #4.
- Re-wired two outdoor light fixtures to accept LED bulbs.
- Performed quarterly lab QA/QC.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

APRIL 13, 2018

BIG EVENT CANCELED

The 2018 “Big Event” is canceled due to inclement weather and will not be rescheduled. Thanks to all involved in the planning and organization of the Big Event. The community looks forward to next year.

ICE GRANT

The City has applied for an Infrastructure Capacity Enhancement Grant through the MEDC for the past two years. In both years the applications were not approved. The intent was to apply again this year, but we were informed that they were not doing the program this year. However, MEDC officials made a visit to City Hall last week to inform us that although they were not accepting new applications for funding in 2018 they were continuing with the program by looking at applications from last year that were not funded. The City has been awarded a grant for this year to fund a project in the Spring and Summer of 2019. The project is water main replacement and road reconstruction on Ives Ave. and South Street from Magnolia to State Street as well as one block of work on Clark Ave. The grant amount will be approximately \$1.8 Million

DP TIRE

DP Tire received Site Plan approval from Big Rapids Township to build a 40,000 square foot facility on the West side of the Perry Street Interchange. The new project would consolidate the operations that are currently in the City and Green Township to that location.

MADISON AVE. CELL TOWER

Verizon Wireless has been approved to construct a tower that is approximately 160 feet tall on the north side of Madison Ave. in Big Rapids Township. Construction will likely begin in the summer of 2018.

GUS MACKER

Downtown will be hosting the Gus Macker on May 19th and 20th. If 150 teams register for the event, the company estimates approximately 6,000 people in attendance at the event. Michigan Ave. North of Maple Street will be closed to through traffic for the event.

LIBRARY

Storytimes this week: Monday's topic is “Farms” and Wednesday will be focused on “Garden Time”. Storytimes start at 10:30 AM.

On Tuesday, April 17, at 6 PM, the Going Global Book Club will be discussing *A Tale for the Time Being* by Ruth Ozeki.

Tuesday's 9:30 AM computer class will focus on the library's digital resources --- numerous MeL items, plus eBook, eAudiobook, Digital magazine, and online language resources.

Knit Night is Thursday at 6:30 PM at the library. The enthusiastic knitter contingent is now meeting twice/month here.

The Community Garden boxes for the Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Park were built and delivered. Next step, they will be placed in the appropriate locations in the park and filled with soil this weekend, depending on the vagaries of weather. Registration for all the community gardens is open and available online and at the library.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 89 calls for service. There were no calls of significance to report.

On Wednesday, April 18th, at 7:00 pm, Detective Brian Miller will be taking part in a discussion panel hosted by 9&10 News in Traverse City to speak about the Opioid Epidemic with medical experts and other law enforcement officials from the region.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 12 calls for service.

On Sunday, shift personnel spent most of the afternoon completing the UL research basement fire module. Crews learned about the structural concerns with modern construction when exposed to fire as well as size up, thermal camera limitations, conditions above the fire, fire attack, ventilation, overhaul and how and when to check for structural stability.

On Tuesday, firefighters had training from 18:00 to 22:00 - Clandestine Meth Labs - Response with medical and/or fire, safety issues, situational awareness. On Wednesday, fire crews trained on basement fire's and Assisted MOCC with their fire class.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

285 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

383 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

743 (\$1.25 Fare) – Senior (140) and Disabled (603) passengers of which used the wheelchair lift to board

95 Free Riders – (55) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (40) children 4 and under with an adult

46 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

31 Safe Riders -(free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)
Ferris Shuttle is back and they have added an additional route to go back and forth from the University Center to the Rock Café from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm (M–Th). The main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), Arts and Science, 7:30 am-7:00 pm (M-F) and 7:30 am–2:00 pm Fridays.

2194 Regular Route Shuttle only

287 UC/Rock Route

4064 Total Passengers (**includes no-shows**)

518 Out of City Riders - Anyone we pick up or drop off outside the Big Rapids City Limits

Demand Response Only–1,506 (no-shows not included)

DPW: STREETS –

- Filled pot holes
- Checked sewers
- Fixed signs
- Hauled mulch to the library
- Fixed a water leak at 821 Rose Ave.
- Filled a stump hole on Fremont and Rose
- Cleaned drains
- Rotated the leaves in the leaf pit

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned City Hall restroom daily
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Continued sanding and painting downtown trash cans
- Continuing making new parks signs
- Cleaned up fallen tree on River Walk
- Clearing brush from Depot
- Clearing brush from mural from old dam

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

APRIL 20, 2018

EARTH DAY CLEAN UP

Saturday, April 21st, 9:00 a.m., will be the annual Earth Day Clean Up. To participate report to City Hall.

HAMPTON INN

Wednesday, April 25th, 4:00 p.m., the Hampton Inn will be hosting a ribbon cutting and open house.

CHILDREN'S PARADE

Thursday, April 26th, 1:00 p.m., will be the annual Children's Parade Downtown.

COMMUNITY EXPO

Saturday, April 28th, 1:00 p.m., at Big Rapids Middle School, the Chamber will be hosting the annual Community Expo.

WIN KELLUM IMPROVEMENTS

Sam Daugherty coordinated a donation from Lowes to fund new benches in the dugouts at the Win Kellum Ballfield. Thanks to Sam and Lowes for their hard work!

AMERICA'S MAIN STREETS CONTEST

The City of Big Rapids is competing for \$25,000 in the America's Main Streets Contest presented by STIHL Inc. This money can be used to assist in revitalizations downtown. Please vote at mainstreetcontest.com/profile/178 and click on "Vote". You will be able to vote every 24 hours until the voting closes on Sunday, April 22.

MEET ME AT THE PARK CONTEST

Promotion of "Meet Me at the Park" is ongoing to gain votes for the City of Big Rapids. Winning this event gains a \$20,000 Grant for Big Rapids to utilize in park improvements. The link to vote is <https://www.meetmeatthepark.org/pages/index.php>

LIBRARY

Next week is Shakespeare's birthday and the library is celebrating this famous playwright. On Monday, April 23, there will be cake and a showing of the comedy "Much Ado About Nothing " from 6- 8 p.m. at the library.

Libraries and schools are involved in “Money Smart Week”, which runs April 21-April 28, to teach financial literacy to young people. Library staff will be going to all the 2nd grade classrooms in Big Rapids with the featured book “Lots and Lots of Coins”. All the students will get a copy of the book too, which was donated by Michigan Credit Unions.

As Friday’s weather is expected to be dry and warm, the community garden beds will be placed in the marked spaces in the park, and soil will get added to them. Registration is open at the library, or online, for garden beds at any of the Big Rapids Community Gardens sites. Think Spring!

RECREATION

- Registration for Girls on the Run is closed and practices are under way at each of our participating schools.
- Collected Farmer’s Market Applications at the Vendor Meeting and will be setting up the Parking layout over the next week.
- The Touch A Truck event is scheduled for April 28th to go along with our Community Expo.
- Summer programs are set with a flyer soon to follow. Excited to announce a new program called FAT 2 TUFF for Kids.
- Summer Concert Series in the Bandshell is returning beginning June 20th. Stay tuned for Band Announcements.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 68 calls for service. On Saturday, officers investigated the death of a 22 year old female. This investigation is still open. Officers also continue to investigate a female, Crystal Hawn, who has been missing since April 8th. The BRDPS has been assisted throughout both of these investigations by the MCSO, FSUDPS and MSP.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 29 calls for service. On Tuesday, firefighters assisted MOCC with Fire 1&2 class. Fire crews finished up training on basement fire’s.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Violations:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| (5) Blight | (3) Disabled Vehicles |
| (2) Furniture | (2) Garbage & Rubbish |
| (6) Parking | (1) Permits |
| (7) Polycart Placement | (1) Property Maintenance |
| (6) Signs | (3) Yard Waste |

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

290 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

434 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

705 (\$1.25 Fare) – Senior (122) and Disabled (583) passengers of which used the wheelchair lift to board

83 Free Riders -(62) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (21) children 4 and under with an adult

49 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

49 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

475 Out of City Riders-Anyone we pick up or drop off outside the Big Rapids City Limits
Ferris Shuttle is back, and they have added an additional route to go back and forth from the University Center to the Rock Café from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm (M-Th). The main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), Arts and Science, 7:30 am-7:00 pm (M-F) and 7:30 am-2:00 pm Fridays.

1,978 Regular Route Shuttle only

204 UC/Rock Route

3,792 Total Passengers (includes no-shows)

1,512 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included)

DPW: STREETS –

- Fixed signs
- Filled potholes all week
- Plowed snow
- Sanded and salted several times
- Fixed cabinet for Dial-A-Ride
- Opened drains
- Jetted sewers and checked them
- Hauled snow from parking lots

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned City Hall restroom daily
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Continued installing new parks signs
- Cleaned up fallen trees at River Street crusher dust trail and River Walk
- Plowed snow
- Replaced downtown flag

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs

- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WWTP –

- The Plant continues to run well overall, with some foam and filamentous growth.
- Topped off Plant Generator diesel fuel tank, prior to last weekend's storm event.
- Final Clarifier scum pits continue to fill up with foam. Chlorination of these pits is in progress, prior to pumping them back to the head of the plant.
- Jake and Dave visited the Reed City WWTP to observe their Lab Chlorine testing.
- Both U.V. Channels are in service, to ensure thorough disinfection.
- Working with Fleis & VandenBrink on IPP, MAHL Study, and upcoming PFAS issues.
- Ordered and installed a new Sensaphone alarm dialer at the North State Lift Station.
- Jay Norris working on aeration blower and automatic air valve operational issues.
- Kaeser Digester Blower #4 continues to run well with the new blower module.
- Kaeser Digester Blower #1 running fine, following replacement of the 125 HP motor.
- Plant Operators performed weekly lift station readings and checks.
- Conducted 5 plant tours for groups of FSU Microbiology students.
- Screw pump grease hoppers were filled and grease catch jugs were emptied.
- Working with Biotech on another 1-year contract extension for biosolids hauling.
- Our annual DEQ IPP Compliance inspection with Tom Berdinski will take place May 2nd.
- Gathering information on the WWTP water well evaluation and rehab project.
- Spencer Blower #1 is being evaluated for motor bearing noise and possible repair.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

MAY 4, 2018

ELECTION

Don't forget to vote on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 for the School Election. All three of the City's precincts will vote at City Hall. Voting starts at 7:00 a.m. and runs until 8:00 p.m.

ZINNIAS

The City provides free of charge one flat of Zinnias for City residents. Coupons for the flowers are available on a first-come, first-served basis and can be picked at City Hall on May 29, 30, and 31. The flat of Zinnias must be picked up on Friday, June 1, 2018 at the Farmer's Market.

FARMERS' MARKET

The Farmers Market Begins next Friday May 11th at 8 am in the City Hall Parking Lot.

IVES AVE. PROJECT

The Ives Ave. Watermain and Road Reconstruction Project that was previously planned to start in May, is now scheduled to start the first week of June.

LIBRARY

Preschool story times next week at 10:30, with Monday's topic " Veggies & Fruit"; and Wednesday will be focused on "Mother's Day".

"Social Media, Take 2" will be the subject of the Tuesday morning technology class. Introducing Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat and LinkedIn during this session. Class is 9:30-10:30 am.

Tiny Tots Tinker Lab is open to parents and kids of all ages on Thursday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

We're having a Pollinator Party on Thursday, 5/10, 6 PM. Join us in the park behind the library – where we will sow flower seeds to attract bees, butterflies, and other insects so they do their work of helping pollinate the herbs, veggies and flowers that will be growing in the community garden plots.

RECREATION

- The Touch A Truck event was a huge success. Thanks to all of our community who provided trucks to make the experience great for the kids.
- Summer programs are set and with that comes the Charles E. Fairman Community Pool. Set to open June 11 for open swim and registration.

- Summer Concert Series in the Bandshell is returning beginning June 20th at 7 pm. The FSU Community Summer Band will be kicking off our series.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- In the past week, the Police Division responded to 103 calls for service. There were no significant calls to report.
- Sergeant Danielle Haynes and Officers Lorne Juday and Andre Torres have been in training this week at the BRHS for National School Shield Security Assessor Training.
- In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 23 calls for service. A few of these were for grass fires and assists to other agencies for the same.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Violations:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| (1) Animals | (9) Blight |
| (6) Disabled Vehicles | (8) Furniture |
| (7) Garbage & Rubbish | (9) Parking |
| (2) Permits | (13) Polycart Placement |
| (2) Property Maintenance | (1) Sidewalks / Streets |
| (18) Signs | (3) Yard Waste |

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

222 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

476 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

689 (\$1.25 Fare) – Senior (136) and Disabled (553) passengers of which 180 used the wheelchair lift to board

87 Free Riders – (60) **Aides** that ride with disabled passengers and (27) **children** 4 and under with an adult

60 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

80 Safe Riders - (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

524 Out of City

Ferris Shuttle is back and they have added an additional route to go back and forth from the University Center to the Rock Café from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm (M–Th)

The main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), Arts and Science, 7:30 am -7:00 pm (M-F) and 7:30 am–2:00 pm Fridays.

1,688 Regular Route Shuttle only

270 UC/Rock Route

3,572 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,474 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Filled pot holes
- Fixed water leak at 417 Division St.
- Tree limb at 516 W. Waterloo St.
- Jetted sewers
- Took animal out of town
- Took office apart at City Hall
- Blacktop 2 patches
- Cleaned drains
- Fixed signs
- Began sweeping Ferris and City streets
- Rotated leaves

DPW: PARKS –

- Opening and cleaning restroom at City Hall
- Opening and cleaning parks restrooms
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Cleaned up fallen tree on River Walk
- Replaced missing retaining wall blocks on River Walk
- Prepped ballfields for games
- Hauled bushes from Public Safety
- Repaired Mitchell Creek toilet
- Repaired Win Kellum toilet
- Turned drinking fountain on at Holland Park
- Turned water and drinking fountain on at Dog Park

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons

- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

MAY 18, 2018

TRAFFIC STUDIES

The City is partnering with Big Rapids Public Schools and Fleis and VandenBrink Engineering to complete traffic studies of the areas surrounding the Riverview and Brookside Elementary Schools. The goal is to find ways to make pick up and drop offs safer for pedestrians, motorists and staff.

IVES AVE. PROJECT

The Ives Ave. Watermain and Road Reconstruction Project will begin June 11th.

STATE STREET WATERTOWER

The painting of the watertower is scheduled to begin May 29th.

CITY COMMISSION MEETINGS

There will be two City Commission meetings the week of May 21st. Their regularly scheduled meeting at 6:30 on the 21st and a special meeting to discuss the State Street Walkbridge at 5:30 p.m. on the 24th. Both meetings will be held at City Hall.

GUS MACKER

the Gus Macker will be held May 19 and 20th in the downtown area. Michigan Avenue will be closed from Maple Street north to Hemlock Street.

LIBRARY

Next week, the only story time will be on Wednesday, 5/23 @ 10:30 a.m. It will be picnic time – food, of course as well as stories. Then story times go on a break, until summer reading is in full swing.

The Tiny Tots Tinker Lab will be open on Thursday, 5/24 @ the library, and not back on the schedule until September.

The library staff is gearing up for summer programming at the library. This includes the sign-up for Summer Reading which opens June 11th and the Kick-Off for summer reading is Friday, June 15th. Details of all the summer programming will be in a brochure that will be available next week.

Also, here before you know it, is the Scholastic Book Fair that will run at the library June 11th through June 15th.

RECREATION

- Girls on the Run 5k is Saturday June 2nd beginning at the Bandshell in Hemlock Park. Warm up begins at 9:45 am and the run/walk event begins at 10:00 am.
- The Farmers Market began Friday, May 11th. The schedule is Tuesday 12:00 pm-5:00 pm and Friday 8:00 am-2:00 pm.
- Summer is just around the corner and that means the Charles E. Fairman Community Pool will be opening. Registration begins June 11 at 1 pm at the pool.
- Summer programs are beginning soon so find what fits your fancy and get involved.
- Summer Concert Series in the Bandshell begins June 20th with the Ferris Community Summer Band kicking things off from 7:00 pm-9:00 pm. Concerts will continue June 27th, July 3rd, 11th, 18th, 25th, and August 1st, 8th, 15th.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 83 calls for service. There were no real calls of significance to report. At Monday's Commission meeting, Officer Kasey Metcalf, who recently graduated from FTO, will be introduced to the public. Officer Eric Winsor will also be given an award for recent excellent work habits he is exhibiting.

The department is also preparing for the Gus Macker, which is to take place this weekend.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 18 calls for service. On Tuesday, Shift personnel preplanned Big Rapids Hobby Shop at 801 N State Street. Further shift personnel trained on the tactics and objectives in the event of an incident at that address. Members discussed and walked through size up, truck location, initial operations, life safety concerns, building construction response under fire as well as mutual aid and ladder placement with on scene hazards.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

232 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

478 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

734 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (155) and Disabled (690) passengers of which 27 used the wheelchair lift to board

90 Free Riders – (64) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (32) children 4 and under with an adult

40 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

0 Safe Riders -(free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

497 Out of City

Ferris Shuttle

0 Regular Route Shuttle only (**Shuttle done for summer**)

0 UC/Rock Route (**Shuttle done for summer**)

1,574 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,534 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included)

DPW: STREETS –

- Sweeping night and day
- Put up decorations and took them down for the gala at the Airport
- Set picnic tables and umbrellas downtown
- Cleaned garage
- Sawed patch on Ives and Locust
- Hung pergola
- Working on the board walk on the River Walk, tear old boards off and install new ones
- Filled potholes
- Unloaded basketball hoops for Gus Macker
- Put out cones for road closures for Gus Macker
- Jetted sewers and checked them

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Replaced a few boards on River Walk bridge behind Water Plant
- Installed Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Park sign
- Blew River Walk
- Prepped ballfields for games
- Mowing Public Safety
- Mowing of parks, downtown and ballfields
- Cleaned up fallen tree on River Walk by Waste Water Treatment Plant
- Weed whipped
- Sprayed for weeds

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons

- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WWTP –

- The Plant looks great, with very little filamentous growth and foam. Several days of scum pit chlorination has worked well to prevent re-seeding the Plant with foam.
- Influent flow has dropped, following Ferris graduation. Once the public and parochial schools are out, we will be down to normal summer flows.
- We will be able to go back to 1 U.V. Channel for disinfection very soon.
- Working with Fleis & VandenBrink on IPP, MAHL Study, and upcoming PFAS issues.
- Tom Berdinski (DEQ) visited to perform the annual IPP Compliance Inspection. Much of our time was spent discussing PFAS sources, sampling plans, source monitoring, etc.
- Formulating a PFAS sampling plan with Fleis & VandenBrink.
- Filed for 60-day extension of the DEQ June 29th PFAS Interim Report due date.
- The City Commission approved a 2nd contract extension with Biotech Agronomics.
- Performed weekly Lift Station checks and collected meter readings.
- Jay Norris repaired some Spencer Blower VFD and SCADA communication issues.
- Kaeser Digester Blowers 3 and 4 continue to show milky and/or dark gear case oil.
- The West Clarifier was temporarily taken out of service, to free up a drive system jam.
- Received a new refrigeration system and temperature sensors for 2 failed samplers.
- Screw pump grease hoppers were filled and grease catch jugs were emptied.
- In the process of diagnosing a bearing noise in Spencer Aeration Blower #1.
- Seeking a quote to test the Plant Water Well for maximum available flow.

WTP-

- Safety topic: Night Work: Reduced Visibility Increases Hazards.
- Checked generators.
- Ran customer samples.
- Checked cathodic protection.
- Put 1 MG reservoir back in service.
- Answered call-ins.
- Ran conduit from 1 MG reservoir to the PLC panel for Jay to hook up the mixer.
- Cleaned up lawn debris to get ready for mowing.
- Turned sprinklers on at the plant.
- Mowed lawn at the plant.
- Met with Eric and Tim from the USDA to get instructions on the mounting and placement of our new taxidermy Vulture to deter the Turkey Vultures away from the Bjornson tower.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

MAY 25, 2018

FOND FAREWELLS

After 36 plus years of dedicated service to the City, Jean Schneidt will be retiring July 8th. We wish her well on her well-deserved retirement.

Miriam Andrus, Library Director, will be leaving Big Rapids to take a position in Midland. We congratulate Miriam and wish her well on her new job.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

The Memorial Day Parade will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the Mecosta County Courthouse and proceed to the Highland View Cemetery

ZINNIAS

The City of Big Rapids will give a free flat of Zinnias to City residents and businesses. The Zinnias must be planted in a location within the City limits where they can be viewed by the general public.

Coupons for the flowers are available on a first-come, first-serve basis and may be picked up at the Public Works office in City Hall starting May 29-31, 2018 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. There is a limit of **one** coupon per address or land parcel.

Flowers may be **picked up Friday, June 1, 2018** at the Farmer's Market **between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.** **Coupons must be presented to receive the flowers.**

LIBRARY

The library was visited by 60 second grade students from Riverview Elementary this week. Students were introduced to the library's history timeline on the stairwell between the first and second floors; everyone was able to browse in the Children and Juvenile rooms, checking out their favorite books or finding new ones to peruse; and Mr. Howard shared a story and the kids made butterfly creations. The tour of the library included an introduction to the seed library, the Little Phelps Free Library program (we still had some of the libraries in the media room, awaiting their installation outside), the second floor collections for adults and teens, and the media room where movies, knitting kits, board games and more are located. Many of the students have library cards and knew exactly where their favorite books were located. Reminded the students we hope to see them in the library this summer for the summer reading program, and to bring their parents to sign them up for a library card if they don't already have one.

Mr. Howard celebrated the end of regular story times on Wednesday with a picnic with kids and parents in the park. The weather cooperated and they enjoyed the extra freedom of being outside and sharing food and stories.

The Big Rapids High School book club is growing with mounting attendance each month. (The pizza, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, is always a plus for the group too.)

With the Memorial Day holiday and the end of the school year, the library staff continues to gear up for Summer Programs at the library, including our Summer Reading Program. Sign-up starts June 11th; and the kick-off is June 15, 11-2 in Anna Howard Shaw Park with food and lots of surprises. The brochure outlining all the summer events at the library will be published and distributed within the next few days. The Book Fair also runs June 11-June 15 in the basement of the library. Anyone can also purchase books online from Scholastic for their personal libraries, and these orders also benefit the library.

RECREATION

- Girls on the Run 5k is Saturday June 2nd beginning at the Bandshell in Hemlock Park. Warm up begins at 9:45 am and the run/walk event begins at 10:00 am.
- The Farmers Market began Friday, May 11th. The schedule is Tuesday 12:00 pm-5:00 pm and Friday 8:00 am-2:00 pm.
- Summer is just around the corner and that means the Charles E. Fairman Community Pool will be opening. Registration begins June 11 at 1 pm at the pool.
- Summer Concert Series in the Bandshell begins June 20th with the Ferris Community Summer Band kicking things off from 7:00 pm-9:00 pm. Concerts will continue June 27th, July 3rd, 11th, 18th, 25th, and August 1st, 8th, 15th.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

(15) Blight	(9) Furniture
(5) Garbage & Rubbish	(52) Grass & Weeds
(30) Parking	(3) Permits
(14) Polycart Placement	(2) Property Maintenance
(2) Sidewalks / Streets	(16) Signs
(2) Yard Waste	

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

182 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

392 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

725 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (143) and Disabled (582) passengers of which 187 used the wheelchair lift to board

66 Free Riders – (49) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (17) children 4 and under with an adult

48 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

0 Safe Riders -(free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

494 Out of City

Ferris Shuttle

0 Regular Route Shuttle only (**Shuttle done for summer**)

0 UC/Rock Route (**Shuttle done for summer**)

1,413 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,365 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Dug out 2 patches River St. and 800 block of Winter and blacktopped them
- Jetted sewers
- Moved planters downtown
- Fixed wash out on Michigan Ave. across from Public Safety
- Swept streets
- Cleaned up a tree on Monroe St.
- Sawed patch in Parkview and rebuilt catch basin and blacktopped the patch
- Moved the bench out of the way at Mitchell Creek Park for construction
- Filled flower pot at the post office with black dirt for the Garden Club
- Dug out patch on Locust & Ives and blacktopped the patch
- Wood chips at Hillcrest for gardens
- Fixed the storm grate in Swede Hill Park that goes to the river
- Painted parking lots

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Prepped ballfields for games
- Mowed of parks, downtown and weed whipped
- Mowed ballfields
- Mowed White Pine Trail
- Repaired crusher dust trail under maple street

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

JUNE 1, 2018

AIRFEST 2018

Plans are underway for AirFest 2018 at Roben Hood Airport. AirFest will be June 30, 2018 starting with a pancake breakfast from 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Lunch of hotdogs, chips, pop will start at 11:00 a.m. and run until 2:00 p.m.

This is a family friendly event with planes arriving in the morning and kid's games and activities in the afternoon. The Mecosta County Senior Center will be there as well with all of their homemade baked goods... yummy!

LIBRARY

The Friends of the Library meet on Wednesday, June 6th, 4 PM at the library. Everyone is welcome.

Join the "Knit Night" regulars on Thursday, June 6th, 6:30-8:30 PM at the library. You can be an expert, a novice, a regular or a newcomer to the group; come and spend an informative and social evening. Just bring your needles, yarn and see what you can create or complete.

The library's Scholastic Book Fair this year will include an online "store", that will be available starting Monday, June 4th and this online store will close Saturday, June 23rd. More information will be found on the library's website. Ordering online during the library's Scholastic Book Fair allows folks to find titles that won't be at the book fair (like Books 1 and 2 of the series because Book 3 is new and the only one that you can get at the Book Fair). The "physical" Scholastic Book Fair opens in the library's community room on Monday, June 11th. The library benefits from all purchases made during the book fair (online or visiting the store) in the form of "book credits" which allow for purchasing books for the library's children's and juvenile collections. We appreciate everyone's support.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division has responded to 74 calls for service. There were no real calls of significance to report.

Last week Officers Lorne Juday and Chad Kinsey attended bike officer school. Speaking to Officer Juday, he advised it was a very strenuous school.

There are still openings for Safety City, which will be held at Eastwood Elementary, June 11th-15th, for children 4-5 years old. There will be two sessions, 9-11 am and 1-3 pm. If interested, please pick up a registration form at the Big Rapids Department of Public Safety. The fee for enrollment is \$20. Safety City is a service project sponsored by the Meceola Children's Council. Children will learn safety topics from Officer Juday and others, on Fire Safety, Bus Safety, Stranger and school safety.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 23 calls for service. On Tuesday, personnel trained on EPI injection and went over new MCMC protocols.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| (7) Blight | (2) Disabled Vehicles |
| (2) Furniture | (4) Garbage & Rubbish |
| (74) Grass & Weeds | (2) Parking |
| (2) Permits | (32) Signs |
| (2) Yard Waste | |

DPW: STREETS –

- Wood chips at Bergelin House
- Wood chips at Playscape
- Jetted sewers
- Swept streets
- Put cones out for Memorial Day Parade
- Worked on ADA ramps downtown
- Brined some alleys and streets
- Put up signs for new traffic orders near elementary schools
- Picked up a tree on Rose Ave.
- Replaced hydrant on S. Third

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Prepped ballfields for games
- Put out flower pot inserts
- Put out hanging baskets
- Watered flowers
- Mowed parks and ball fields

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

JUNE 8, 2018

AIRFEST 2018

Plans are underway for AirFest 2018 at Roben Hood Airport. AirFest will be June 30, 2018 starting with a pancake breakfast from 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Lunch of hotdogs, chips, pop will start at 11:00 a.m. and run until 2:00 p.m.

This is a family friendly event with planes arriving in the morning and kid's games and activities in the afternoon. The Mecosta County Senior Center will be there as well with all of their homemade baked goods... yummy!

LIBRARY

Did you know? Worldwide Knit In Public Day is Saturday, June 9th. The Big Rapids knitting enthusiasts will be taking part and celebrating their hobby. 10 AM to Noon in Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Park, and then 12-2 PM at Artworks. Rain or shine, come and join in. (10-Noon will be moved inside to the library if the weather is a factor.)

We'll be welcoming Miriam back from Family Leave on Monday, June 11th.

"Libraries Rock" – we never deny that, but as this summer's reading program theme for the majority of public libraries in the U.S., Big Rapids Community Library will be providing many ways to celebrate reading and libraries, and of course, music. Sign-up for all ages for the summer reading program starts Monday, June 11th. Information about what you need to do for all ages will be on the library's website, and of course, you can come into the library to sign-up and ask questions. The summer reading program (tracking minutes read, completing the challenges created for all ages, earning prizes and awards) runs from June 11 to August 3rd.

The Kick-Off Party for the Summer Reading Program is Friday, June 15, 11 AM to 2 PM in the library park, aka Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Park. Rock climbing, face painting, games, free hot dogs and cookies, and of course, get information about all the summer programs happening at the library.

The Friends of the Library Bookclub will meet on Friday, June 15 at Noon and discuss "Big Little Lies" . They will have their discussion outside in the Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Park; all are welcome to join them.

The library will be closed 11-2 on Friday, June 15th while we are celebrating the Summer Kick-Off outside in the park.

RECREATION

- Summer Concert Series at the Bandshell begins June 20th at 7 pm. The Ferris Community Summer Band will kick us off for the first three events of the series.
- Summer Recreation programs are underway and that includes the Community Pool. Open Swim and registration begin June 11th and run through the week at the pool.
- BRCTA's Tennis in the Park Introductory Tennis Lessons begin July 9th. Please see attached registration form.
- The Downtown Big Rapids Farmers Market, sponsored by Metron, is in full swing on Tuesdays from 12 pm-5 pm and Fridays 8 am-2 pm. Come down to the Market June 22nd for some food samples and blood sugar testing.
- The annual City Picnic is scheduled for August 8th at Hemlock Park.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Violations:

(8) Blight	(2) Disabled Vehicles
(2) Furniture	(25) Grass & Weeds
(10) Parking	(2) Property Maintenance
(28) Signs	(6) Yard Waste

DIAL-A-RIDE-

166 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

435 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

679 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (143) and Disabled (536) passengers of which 104 used the wheelchair lift to board

80 Free Riders – (49) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (13) children 4 and under with an adult

34 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

483 Out of City

0 Safe Riders -(free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am)

Ferris Shuttle

0 Regular Route Shuttle only (**Shuttle done for summer**)

0 UC/Rock Route (**Shuttle done for summer**)

1,394 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,360 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Trimmed trees in alley by Little Caesars
- Put meter on hydrant for the gardens at Hillcrest Elementary
- Fixed alley 300 blk. S. Third
- Graded and brined alleys
- Swept streets
- Moved handicap signs in Swede Hill Park
- Black dirt alley in 400 blk. of Ives south of Oak
- Black dirt alley 600 blk. N. State St.
- Picked up brush from tree 900 blk. Woodward and 900 blk. Rose

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Mowed parks, downtown, and ballfields
- Mowed Public Safety
- Prepped ballfields for games
- Repaired bench at Mary Pine Park
- Planted flowers downtown
- Watered and maintained flowers
- Blew River Walk and White Pine Trail
- Took extra supplies for wedding at Hemlock Park
- Repaired drinking fountain at Holland Park

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WWTP –

- The Plant is running very well and ferric chloride use is being reduced to save money.
- Influent flow will drop to Summer levels as Public and Parochial schools end the year.
- U.V. Channel #1 was cleaned and placed back into service.
- Initial IPP sampling for PFAS is complete and lab results will soon be available.
- Tom Berdinski (DEQ) granted a 60-day extension of the PFAS Interim Report due date and our new Interim Report due date is August 31st.
- Kaeser Rep. Steve Dagovitz visited to observe and inspect our Kaeser Digester Blowers.
- Kaeser Blower #4 oil changed again, and 2 belts were replaced on Kaeser Blower #3.

- Performed weekly Lift Station checks and collected meter readings.
- Northern A-1 vactored out Waterloo, Tioga and North State lift station wet wells.
- Jay Norris established flow-pacing adjustability of our ferric chloride dosing pump.
- DMR-QA 38 Lab Proficiency Testing is almost done and ready to submit for grading.
- Ordered and received 4000 gallons of ferric chloride from Webb Chemical.
- Ordered Rotary Chicken Dinners for WWTP Staff, who are hungry and waiting...
- Screw pump grease hoppers were filled and grease catch jugs were emptied.
- Ferris agreed to drain their pool slowly (at our request) over a 5-day period.
- Seeking a quote to test the plant water well for maximum available flow.
- Cleaned or changed 14 VFD cooling fan filters on the electrical room control panel.
- Black influent was seen at the plant during recent sanitary sewer jetting.

WTP-

- Safety topic: Facing up to Stress.
- Checked generators.
- Ran customer samples.
- Checked cathodic protection.
- Answered call-ins.
- Filled Fox Pools' water tankers to fill pools, 16,000 gallons were sold.
- Calibrated PH meter at the head of the plant.
- Re-calibrated chlorine analyzer.
- Worked on some landscaping along the driveway at the well house.
- Mowed lawns at the plant, HMC, well house, and the water towers.
- Cleaned, stripped, and re-waxed the floor in the kitchen area at the plant.
- Replaced broken sprinkler heads in the lawn at the plant.
- Performed maintenance on the fluoride feed pump.
- Joe, Earl, and Jim all passed their Operator exams.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

JUNE 15, 2018

AIRFEST 2018

Plans are underway for AirFest 2018 at Roben Hood Airport. AirFest will be June 30, 2018 starting with a pancake breakfast from 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Lunch of hotdogs, chips, pop will start at 11:00 a.m. and run until 2:00 p.m.

This is a family friendly event with planes arriving in the morning and kid's games and activities in the afternoon. The Mecosta County Senior Center will be there as well with all of their homemade baked goods... yummy!

LIBRARY

The library's Summer Reading Kickoff is Friday, 11-2 PM in Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Park. All are welcome to join us for face painting, inflatables, and rock climbing!

We will have free hot dogs and concessions available for purchase! Libraries Rock in many ways and we've also invited those "rock haulers", some of the city's workers with their big trucks, to be part of the fun.

The Book Fair continues through 5 PM on Friday, but the online book fair will be open through Saturday, June 23rd. Information is on the library's website or call us.

Reminder that **everyone** can sign up for summer reading at any time throughout the summer. There are 4 reading groups: Pre-Lit (0-5 yrs), Kids (6-10 yrs), Teens (11-17 yrs) and Adults (18+). (Last day to log reading and/or hand-in challenge sheets is August 3.) Lots of good prizes for all categories.

Join us on Monday, June 18, starting at 11 AM for a program with Paleo Joe, who will teach us all about fossils and dinosaurs.

The Going Global Book Club meets on Tuesday, 6/19 at 6 PM to discuss "The Badass Librarians of Timbuktu" by Joshua Hammer.

Story times are back on the schedule: Wednesday, 10:30 at the library; Friday, 10:30 at the Farmer's Market (city hall).

Our next summer reading program is "All Creatures – Monarch Butterflies". Join us at 1:00-1:30 PM to learn about the lifestyle, migration and favorite foods of the monarch butterfly.

A Pride Party, only for teens, will be on Friday, 6/22 at 6 PM at the library.

Our first summer movie in the park is Friday, June 22 starts at dusk. It is "A Wrinkle In Time".

RECREATION

- Summer Concert Series at the Bandshell begins June 20th at 7 pm. The Ferris Community Summer Band will kick us off for the first three events of the series.
- Summer Recreation programs are underway and that includes the Community Pool. Open Swim and registration begin June 11th and run through the week at the pool.
- BRCTA's Tennis in the Park Introductory Tennis Lessons begin July 9th. Please see attached registration form.
- The Downtown Big Rapids Farmers Market, sponsored by Metron, is in full swing on Tuesdays from 12 pm-5 pm and Fridays 8 am-2 pm. Come down to the Market June 22nd for some food samples and blood sugar testing.
- The annual City Picnic is scheduled for August 8th at Hemlock Park.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 63 calls for service. Officers continue to investigate the armed robbery that took place in the 200 block of S. Bronson in the early morning hours of June 5th.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 19 calls for service. On Saturday potential firefighter candidates were put through their physical agility testing.

This past week, Officer Juday assisted to putting on Safety City at Eastwood Elementary for ages 4 and 5 year old children. It was very well received.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Violations:

(5) Blight	(4) Disabled Vehicles
(6) Furniture	(3) Garbage & Rubbish
(21) Grass & Weeds	(7) Parking
(5) Polycart Placement	(2) Property Maintenance
(2) Sidewalks / Streets	(29) Signs
(1) Swimming Pools	(1) Yard Waste

DIAL-A-RIDE-

222 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

377 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

846 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (147) and Disabled (699) passengers of which 224 used the wheelchair lift to board

108 Free Riders – (64) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (44) children 4 and under with an adult

47 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

629 Out of City

0 Safe Riders -(free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am)

Ferris Shuttle

0 Regular Route Shuttle only (Shuttle done for summer)

0 UC/Rock Route (Shuttle done for summer)

1,600 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,553 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DPW: STREETS –

- Fixed 2 catch basins in the alley behind Brown's Barber Shop and blacktopped the patches
- Fixed catch basin on the SE corner of Hutchinson and Rust
- Rebuilt a sanitary manhole on the intersection of N Third and E Madison
- Painted the parking bars downtown on Michigan Ave. and Maple St.
- Painted arrows on Colburn for the right and left turn and installed a sign
- Fixed signs
- Cleaned some drains
- Took 2 trees down: 1 on S Bronson for sidewalk program and 1 on Williams street in front of St. Vincent de Paul. Trimmed for a stop sign at Rose and Bridge
- Brined some alleys in the 1st ward in the Flats
- Jetted sewers
- Farmer signs
- Dug out a patch on N. Warren and blacktopped behind Sherwin Williams
- Took wood chip to the Bergelin House
- Tree limb at 840 Osburn St.

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Mowed parks, downtown, and Public Safety
- Weed whipped
- Continued planting flowers

- Cleaned up a campsite near Northend Park
- Prepped ballfields for games
- Mowed ballfields and weed whipped
- Watered and maintained flowers
- Blew River Walk and White Pine Trail

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

JULY 13, 2018

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

The Charles E. Fairman community pool will be having an ice cream social on Thursday, July 19, 2018 from 6:00 to 7:45 p.m. There will be free open swim from 6:00 – 7:45 p.m. and free ice cream and cake. Please come and enjoy the pool and weather the heat with ice cream and cake.

PEDESTRIAN WALK BRIDGE

The bridge is scheduled for removal on Saturday, July 21st. State Street from Maple to Pine will be closed during the removal and traffic will be detoured through Downtown.

GUIDE TO DEVELOPMENT

One of the requirements for the Redevelopment Ready Communities initiative is to provide the public with a Guide to Development. The Guide will help individuals navigate through the various permitting processes. The City's Guide to Development will be available on the City's website by July 23rd.

CODY WYMAN

The City is happy to welcome Cody Wyman who will be working in the Public Works Department as an Engineering Technician. Cody is a graduate of Reed City High School and Ferris State University.

PROJECT UPDATES

Watermain and road reconstruction on Ives Ave is scheduled to be completed by the end of the month as well as the repainting of the State Street Watertower.

AT&T BOXES

The AT&T boxes that are located throughout the community and that are in a state of disrepair, are being identified by City Staff and a list of them is being given to AT&T to repair.

LIBRARY INTERVIEWS

Interviews for the next Library Director are progressing well and the second round of interviews will take place during the week of July 16th.

LIBRARY

Our next movie in the park is Friday, 7/13 at dusk – Come enjoy “Coco”, and get some free popcorn too.

The Whispering Pines Mobile Zoo will be here on Tuesday, July 17th, 11 AM for “The Surprise Safari”. Come see, touch and learn about some critters that they will be bringing!

“The Woman Next Door” by Yewande Omotoso is the Going Global Book Club selection under discussion Tuesday, July 17th at 6 PM at the library.

We’re “making a bookmark from old books” on Thursday, July 19 at 5 PM.

Don’t forget story time is Wednesday, July 18th, 10:30 AM at the library; and Friday, July 20th at 10:30 AM at City Hall (Farmer’s Market).

And ending our busy week is “Wonder Woman Night”. Friday, July 20th, 5 PM. Come and make origami Wonder Woman bookmarks and see the “Wonder Woman” movie which will start at 5:45 PM, in the Community Room at the library.

RECREATION

- Summer Recreation programs are underway and that includes the Community Pool. Open Swim and swim lessons are in full swing. Please also take the opportunity to complete a short survey on the pool if you haven’t already at <https://cityofbr.seamlessdocs.com/f/PoolSurvey>
- The Downtown Big Rapids Farmers Market, sponsored by Metron, is in full swing on Tuesdays from 12 pm-5 pm and Fridays 8 am-2 pm.
- The summer concert for Wednesday, July 18th will be Great Scott starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Bandshell.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Violations:

(5) Blight	(3) Disabled Vehicles
(6) Furniture	(9) Garbage & Rubbish
(44) Grass & Weeds	(3) Parking
(2) Permits	(1) Polycart Placement
(2) Property Maintenance	(1) Recreational Vehicles
(37) Signs	(1) Yard Waste

PUBLIC SAFETY

- In the past week, the Police Division responded to 67 calls for service. This has been a very slow period for the department.

- Officer Bill Sell began his first phase of his FTO process. He is currently with Sergeant Scott Paquette. Officer Riley Carlson has successfully completed his first phase, and has moved on to phase 2. He is currently with Sergeant Liz West.
- On Thursday, officers assisted the MCSO in relation to the robbery of Isabella Bank in Big Rapids Township. Through the investigation, a 23 year old male, who had recently been released from the Mecosta County Jail, was identified as the person responsible. A warrant has been issued. The male, Nicholas Nelson, is currently on the run, and believed to have left the state.
- This past week, the department hosted a car seat training clinic. Members of the department, including Firefighter Sean Wethington, Officer Lorne Juday and Service Officer Andrew Hartwig, were all participants.
- In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 20 calls for service.

DIAL-A-RIDE-

206 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

178 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

764 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (156) and Disabled (608) passengers of which 213 used the wheelchair lift to board

126 Free Riders – (78) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (48) children 4 and under with an adult

14 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

654 Out of City

Ferris Shuttle

0 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

0 Regular Route Shuttle only (**Shuttle done for summer**)

0 UC/Rock Route (**Shuttle done for summer**)

1,288 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,274 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DPW: STREETS –

- Painted flag pole at City Hall

- Put up new light pole in alley behind Shooters
- Took benches to Mitchell Creek Park
- Installed signs in Mitchell Creek Park
- Moved 1 bench to Holland Park
- Fixed the patch on Hutchinson and Rust; blackdirt and sawed blacktop and blacktopped it
- 3 other patches also: 2 on Fuller and Clark, 1 on 400 block of Division Street
- Jetted sewers and checked
- Put out temporary “no parking” signs for the fair on Pere Marquette and 300 block of Williams Street
- Brined alleys of the east side of town north of Colburn to Maple
- Put out farmer signs and cones
- Put out cones for car show on Michigan Ave. and stages
- Graded water patches on Bjornson
- Took out bushes in Hemlock Park and took gate out
- Helped contractor on Ives with the watermain project
- Fixed water stack at Riverview Elementary School because it wouldn’t turn off
- Cleaned some drains

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Mowed parks and ballfields
- Weed whipped
- Cleaned up bus stop
- Watered and maintained flowers
- Continued spreading mulch
- Continued spraying for weeds
- Hauled black dirt and spread along new paved trail (connector trail for River Walk) and seeded
- Blew River Walk and White Pine Trail
- Continued hedge trimming
- Sprayed for bees
- Prepped ballfields for games
- Repaired Vogel 1 storage box

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WWTP –

- The Plant is running well, with only 1 U.V channel required for disinfection.
- U.V. Channel #1 was cleaned and placed into service and Channel # 2 was shut down.
- Initial wastewater PFAS sampling results are below DEQ levels of concern. These “spot-check” sampling results are preliminary and will be submitted with a required report to the DEQ. After reviewing our results, DEQ may or may not require further sampling.
- Fleis & VandenBrink continues to seek some direction/resolution with Kaeser and Professional Pump regarding our Kaeser Blower #4 and drain oil samples.
- Ordered and received 140 diffuser membranes and 280 clamps from Petersen & Matz.
- Plant Operators replaced all 168 diffuser membranes in our North Aerobic Digester. This Digester is now back in service and running very well.
- Ordered a 275-gallon tote of polymer from Bailey’s Street, Limited.
- Ordered and received a ¼-ton electric hoist for lifting and servicing U.V. light array racks.
- Received a quote from Tradition Electric to install necessary hoist power source wiring.
- Plant Operators fabricated mounts and installed wheels on our portable Honda pump.
- Information is being gathered for the 2018 WWTP Asset Management Annual Report.
- DMR-QA 38 Lab Proficiency Testing results were submitted to ERA for grading.
- A new lab supply order was placed after July 1st and new budget availability.
- Screw pump grease hoppers were filled and grease catch jugs were emptied.
- 3 quotes were solicited and received for purchase of a new Lab Glassware Washer.
- City Staff and Fleis & VandenBrink held a WWTP Engineering Meeting to discuss 2018-19 WWTP CIP projects.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

JULY 20, 2018

PEDESTRIAN WALK BRIDGE

The bridge removal for Saturday, July 21st has been confirmed with MDOT. The removal will begin at 8:00 a.m. State Street from Maple to Pine will be closed during the removal and traffic will be detoured through Downtown.

LIBRARY

It's been a busy week with the summer programs at the libraries. The Surprise Safari this week had more than 150 attendees so we moved everyone outside to the park. (Animals always bring out the crowds!). We've had great participation in the summer reading, "Libraries Rock" so far and all our programs, including our movies in the park, have been hits. We're so glad to see so many people.

Wednesday, July 25, at 10:30 am is story time at the library.

On Fridays the library has a table at the Farmer's Market, plus a 10:30 am story time where the story and activities take place in City Hall.

There will be two Creative Writing Workshops this week. For those ages 8-14, the workshop is Tuesday, July 24th, 1 PM. The Teen Creative Writing Workshop is Thursday, July 26th at 1 PM. (Registration is required.)

A new summer program is the Printmaking Workshop. It will be Wednesday, July 25th at 1 PM. (We are asking for folks to sign-up in advance.)

Our last summer movie in the Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Park is "Black Panther". Join us on Friday, July 27th; movie starts at dusk. Free popcorn is available.

Mark your calendar: the **Mars Opposition** is July 27th. Need to know more? Come and get some astronomy books from the library, or go to nasa.gov.

RECREATION

- Summer Recreation programs are underway and that includes the Community Pool. Open Swim and swim lessons are in full swing. Please also take the opportunity to complete a short survey on the pool if you haven't already at <https://cityofbr.seamlessdocs.com/f/PoolSurvey>
- The Downtown Big Rapids Farmers Market, sponsored by Metron, is in full swing on Tuesdays from 12 pm-5 pm and Fridays 8 am-2 pm.
- Next week is Outlaw Express at the Bandshell for our Summer Concert Series. Concert begins at 7 pm.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 80 calls for service. There were no real calls of significance to report.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 27 calls for service.

Fire and police personnel participated in camp 911 on Wednesday. Firefighter spent the day instructing the attendees on home and kitchen fire safety as well fire extinguisher operation and placement of safety equipment in the home. While Detective Miller spoke to the attendees on Policing in a college town and the importance of the communication between local law enforcement agencies.

PUBLIC WORKS

DIAL-A-RIDE-

233 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

347 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

799 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (142) and Disabled (657) passengers of which 244 used the wheelchair lift to board

149 Free Riders – (93) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (56) children 4 and under with an adult

14 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

814 Out of City

Ferris Shuttle

0 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

0 Regular Route Shuttle only (**Shuttle done for summer**)

0 UC/Rock Route (**Shuttle done for summer**)

1,542 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,528 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Continued working on Win Kellum
- Watered trees
- Sawed patch on Madison/N.Third
- Street sweeping
- Farmers market signs

- Picked up signs for pedestrian bridge detour, put some out
- Swept parking lots
- Removed bushes in parking lot islands
- Removed gate at Hemlock Park

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Continued spreading mulch
- Continued spraying for weeds
- Prepped ballfields for games
- Watered and maintained flowers
- Repaired sandbox at Playscape
- Blew River Walk and White Pine Trail
- Mowed ballfields and soccer fields
- Weed whipped at ballfields
- Continued trimming bushes
- Sprayed for bees
- Took extra supplies to ballfields for baseball tournaments
- Took extra supplies for community cookout at Bandshell

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

JULY 27, 2018

Monday, July 30 at 11 a.m., there will be a “instrument petting zoo” program at the library. Everyone always enjoys being able to “touch and play” with musical instruments; and our summer theme is “Library Rocks”. Rock-n-roll, or whatever kind of music you love is part of that.

The Comedy Magic Show is Wednesday, August 1st, 2-3 p.m. Weather permitting, we hope to have it outside. Gordon Russ is always a big hit; so many people enjoy being entertained by magic.

The Friends of the Library’s monthly meeting is Wednesday, August 1st, 4 PM at the library. All are welcome.

Our knitting enthusiasts are providing a “learn how to knit” program for us on Thursday, August 2nd, 6-8 pm. Pre-registration is requested.

The Summer Reading Program will be wrapping up, with Friday, August 3rd the last day anyone can log their reading minutes, turn in their reading challenges, etc. Prizes can be redeemed through August 10th with the raffles for the special prizes taking place the week of August 6th.

We’re happy to have the Little Phelps Free Library up in the Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Park. We hope everyone has been noticing the little libraries around town. You can find them outside the Chamber of Commerce Building, the two food pantries, and the Salvation Army with more to be installed soon

Our last summer movie in the Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Park is “Black Panther”. Join us on Friday, July 27th; movie starts at dusk. Free popcorn is available.

RECREATION

Summer Concert Series the band will be Ruby and the Retros. Concert starts at 7pm in the Bandshell behind the Middle School.

First Friday Event August 3rd on Michigan Ave. Includes Car Show, Music, Sidewalk Sales and more. 5pm-7pm

Little Kevin Softball game. Includes Law enforcement playing against FSU Hockey Alumni. All money raised goes to the Little Kevin Fund to help families and kids with the costs of Hockey. The game begins at 6pm at Hemlock Park.

Fall Recreation Programs are being finalized and will be out next week with registrations and more information so stay tuned. Some of the programs include our fitness classes, women’s volleyball, our walking program and more.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 76 calls for service. There were a couple of larcenies handled, where people have been identified and charges sought.

On Wednesday members of the department had training in Field Training Officer updates.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 29 calls for service.

On Thursday Firefighters Wethington, Vincent and Officer Juday provided citizens with CPR training at the department.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Violations:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| (4) Blight | (2) Disabled Vehicles |
| (4) Furniture | (6) Garbage & Rubbish |
| (79) Grass & Weeds | (6) Parking |
| (1) Property Maintenance | (1) Recreational Vehicles |
| (1) Sidewalks / Streets | (28) Signs |
| (4) Yard Waste | |

PUBLIC WORKS

DIAL-A-RIDE-

187 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

266 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

680 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (138) and Disabled (542) passengers of which 190 used the wheelchair lift to board

113 Free Riders – (79) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (34) children 4 and under with an adult

24 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

569 Out of City

Ferris Shuttle

0 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am)

0 Regular Route Shuttle only (**Shuttle done for summer**)

0 UC/Rock Route (**Shuttle done for summer**)

1,270 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,246 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Attached name plates on benches at Dog Park and Hemlock Park
- Put signs up for bridge detour and took them down and back to GR
- Cleaned drains
- Farmer's signs
- Win Kellum ballfield press box construction
- Graded gravel roads
- Installed 200 ft. water main on Olaf St. and did a pressure test on the main
- Picked up crusher dust for parks
- Cut brush around sign on E. Spruce
- Swept downtown
- Swept Maple St. from the stone the state put down with the sealer they installed
- Painted lines out to the Airport
- Installed a donation stand for disc golf at Northend Park
- Filled potholes
- Put of Flags at Vet's Park

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Mowed ballfields, parks, and downtown
- Weed whipped
- Continued spraying weeds
- Picked up extra supplies from ball tournaments
- Took picnic tables to Depot for Wish-A-Mile bike tour
- Watered and maintained flowers
- Blew Riverwalk and White Pine Trail
- Mowed White Pine Trail
- Prepped ballfields for games

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WWTP –

- The Plant is running well with one U.V disinfection channel in service (#1).
- U.V. Channel #2 was taken out of service for cleaning and is now ready to be placed in service when needed.

- Fleis & VandenBrink continues to seek some direction/resolution with Kaeser and Professional Pump, regarding our Kaeser Blower #4 and drain oil samples.
- Ordered another set of membrane diffusers and clamps for the South Digester.
- Ordered and received a 275-gallon tote of polymer from Bailey's Street, Limited.
- Ordered new air filter cartridges for our Kaeser digester blowers.
- Tradition Electric and Plant Operators installed a ¼-ton electric hoist, which will be used to lift and service U.V. light array racks.
- Plant Operators replaced the ferric delivery line from the ferric building to the basins.
- The 2018 WWTP Asset Management Annual Report is being prepared for submittal.
- Still waiting for DMR-QA 38 Lab Proficiency Testing results.
- Performed weekly lift station checks and meter readings.
- Screw pump grease hoppers were filled and grease catch jugs were emptied.
- Proceeding with purchase of a new Lab Glassware Washer from USA Bluebook, who provided the cheapest price of the 3 vendors who submitted quotes.
- Mowing, yard work, painting and outside work continues in and around the Plant.
- Jake Renne tested for and received his Pool License. Congratulations, Jake!

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 3, 2018

ELECTION

Reminder: The August Primary election is August 7, 2018. The polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. There are three precincts in the City and they are as follows:

Precinct 1 – Public Safety
Precinct 2 – City Hall
Precinct 3 – MOISD (Career Center)

If you are not sure as to where to vote, please contact your Clerk. The City Clerk's number is 231-592-4020. Please exercise your right to vote.

HEMLOCK PARK DRIVE

Construction on the Sewer Main that crosses Mitchell Creek is ongoing and the Drive to Hemlock Park will be closed Tuesday, August 7th – Thursday, August 9th.

OLAF WATERMAIN

The watermain on Olaf Street has been replaced in preparation of the street being paved later this fall. Paving Olaf is a first step in the process of attempting to pave all the gravel streets on the East Side of Big Rapids.

CITY PICNIC

The Annual City Picnic will be Wednesday, August 8th. City Hall will be closed during the event starting at 11:30 am till 5 pm. Attendees should park in the parking lot behind the middle school or in the parking lot East of City Hall and walk into the park.

NATIONAL FITNESS CAMPAIGN

Fundraising for the National Fitness Campaign initiative in Triangle/Centennial/Rotary Park is scheduled to start in mid-August utilizing the Patronicity platform. More information will be forthcoming regarding the details of donating.

SAVE THE DATE!!

A community discussion is being hosted at City Hall on Thursday, September 6th at 5:30 at City Hall. The purpose of the event is to solicit community input on the possibility of purchasing and developing the Depot property. Tours of the Depot building will start at 4:30 at the Depot on the September 6th.

LIBRARY

The library's "Harry Potter Birthday" part was a big hit. With one of the movies playing in the background, folks made Harry Potter bookmarks and added their names to the raffle to win Harry Potter-focused items. Over 60 folks turned up for cake too.

The last official event for our Summer Reading "Libraries Rock" program happened on Wednesday with the Comedy Magic Show by Gordon Russ. Nice weather allowed all the kids and adults to enjoy the show outside in the Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Park. Great group attended; lots of fun.

The book, "Off & Away" will be featured at downtown's First Friday event. The book/story walk will allow everyone to walk down the block and read the story. Great illustrations for this story; should make you smile.

The library will be joining other organizations for National Night Out on Tuesday, August 7th, 6-9 PM at the Public Service Building.

Another book/story walk will be part of the Friday Farmer's Market on August 10th. "Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt" is the book that can be read as you go through the farmer's market downtown. The ending of the book will be read every 30 minutes by the library's Mr. Howard at City Hall. At this farmer's market, many family-oriented items will be featured, sponsored by Angels of Action, Great Start, Spectrum Health, MSU Extension Office, SLD Read, and the Downtown Big Rapids Farmer's Market. The families can receive information about early literacy and parenting tips, plus vouchers to use at the farmer's market, a book for their child, and much more.

The library's Summer Reading Program is wrapping up, with the last day to log your reading (books, minutes, etc.) is Friday, August 3rd. Prizes will still be awarded for a few days, and the raffle for the larger prizes for all the age categories will take place the week of August 6th.

RECREATION

Matt Gabriel will be our next Concert in the Summer Concert Series down at the Bandshell beginning at 7pm.

Women's Volleyball League – Registration forms are attached and due by August 31st. The Scrimmages will be held September 9th and regular season begins September 16th. It is a 10 week season followed by playoffs with games happening on Sundays in the Big Rapids Middle School.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 79 calls for service. There were no real calls of significance to report.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 31 calls for service. On Thursday, the duty crew trained on structure fire scenarios and then practiced throwing ladders and Vent Enter Search evolutions in the training in area. Duty crews finished the session off with Air Management training.

Firefighters Matt Kidd and Richard Spedowske continue to work on the department's sprinkler system.

The department will be hosting National Night Out on Tuesday, August 7th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DPW: STREETS –

- Swept downtown
- Swept up the leftover material on Maple St. from the sealing the State did
- Put up speed limit signs for the Housing Commission
- Checked sewers and jetted for the Housing Commission
- Exposed gas main and services on Olaf
- Installed water services on Olaf
- Fixed pergolas
- Worked on Win Kellum
- Put up lane closures on 131 for milling and blacktopping, 2 days of work
- Blacktopped the intersection of Winter and Magnolia and 2 patches on Bjornson and the large patch on corner of Winter and Chestnut
- Put out cones for the downtown to be blocked off for event

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Prepped ballfields for games
- Watered and maintained flowers
- Continued spraying weeds
- Continued spreading mulch
- Pulled benches out at Industrial 2 ballfield
- Mowed ballfields and parks
- Continued trimming bushes
- Cut vines away from Riverwalk bridge behind Water Plant
- Weed whipped parks and ballfields
- Blew Riverwalk and White Pine Trail
- Trimmed trees behind Playscape

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts-

DIAL-A-RIDE-

196 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

258 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

625 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (118) and Disabled (507) passengers of which 190 used the wheelchair lift to board

98 Free Riders – (75) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (23) children 4 and under with an adult

13 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

445 Out of City

Ferris Shuttle

0 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am)

0 Regular Route Shuttle only (**Shuttle done for summer**)

0 UC/Rock Route (**Shuttle done for summer**)

1,190 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,177 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 17, 2018

LIBRARY

Going Global Book Club is discussing "Girls Burn Brighter" by Shobha Rao on Tuesday, August 21st at 6 PM at the library.

The library will join all the local organizations at Summer Fest on Saturday, August 25. "Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt" story will be showcased in the book walk during the event.

Just a reminder: The Friends of the Library Book Sale starts on Friday, August 31 at 9:30 AM in Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Park, continuing on Saturday at 9 AM, and then at Hemlock Park on Labor Day.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week the Police Division responded to 80 calls for service. There were a couple of domestic assaults in these where officer's will be submitting for charges, as the suspects had fled.

On Tuesday this week, members of the department took part in firearms training at the range oversaw by the firearms trainers, Sergeant Jeff Hauger, Officers Jason Kuiawa and Lorne Juday.

In the past week the Fire Division responded to 15 calls for service. Each shift personnel continue to train, in order to be prepared for any future calls.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Violations:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| (2) Animals | (3) Blight |
| (3) Furniture | (6) Garbage & Rubbish |
| (86) Grass & Weeds | (3) Parking |
| (2) Property Maintenance | (1) Recreational Vehicles |
| (15) Signs | (3) Yard Waste |

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

214 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

420 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

712 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (169) and Disabled (543) passengers of which 231 used the wheelchair lift to board

52 Free Riders – (6) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (46) children 4 and under with an adult

24 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

680 Out of City

Ferris Shuttle

0 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am)

0 Regular Route Shuttle only (**Shuttle done for summer**)

0 UC/Rock Route (**Shuttle done for summer**)

1,398 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,374 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Blacktop South Street and on Ives and the intersection of E. Madison and N. third
- Dug out the patch on Madison and N. Third
- Fix catch basin on the corner of Perry and 131 NW corner
- Sawed the patch in the alley behind Schuberg's Bar
- Worked on Win Kellum, press box is done
- Installed new glass information board at City Hall
- Checked sewers
- Black dirt at 325 Ives around a tree
- Painting at Riverview and Brookside schools for new traffic order
- Swept downtown
- Farmers signs

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks, downtown, and ballfields
- Prepped ballfields for games
- Watered and maintained flowers
- Mowed parks, Public Safety, downtown, and ballfields
- Weed whipped
- Cleaned up fallen trees at Disc Golf Course
- Sprayed for bees
- Blew Riverwalk and White Pine Trail
- Took extra supplies for Run Michigan Cheap at the Depot

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 24, 2018

NATIONAL FITNESS CAMPAIGN

The City is teaming up with Rotary and Spectrum Health to Get BR Fit! The goal is to fundraise \$45,000 with donations from the community to bring the National Fitness Campaign's outdoor fitness court to Big Rapids. Thanks to the MEDC they will match each donation dollar for dollar, so we can purchase the \$90,000 fitness court. Currently, we have \$11,000 towards the project thanks to the generous donations from Rotary, Spectrum Health, and Live Well Mecosta. Please visit our website and view the link to Patronicity this campaign will continue until October 22 to meet our goal.

https://www.patronicity.com/project/rotary_fitness_park#!/

DOWNTOWN SUMMERFEST

The Downtown Summerfest is this Saturday, August 25 from 12 pm-6 pm. There will be inflatables, climbing wall, yard games, car show, kids bike rodeo, sidewalk sale and plenty of other activities. Thanks to the DBA coordinating this event.

CHAMBER'S PAW PRINTS

The Chamber has been working towards painting Paw Prints down Cedar, Michigan Ave, into Hemlock park. At long as the weather holds, volunteers coordinated by the Chamber will paint them on Saturday, August 25.

LIBRARY

The library will join the festivities on Saturday, August 25 at the downtown Big Rapids Summer Fest. Our participation will include the storybook walk of "Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt". Come and say "hello" when you're enjoying the afternoon fun.

On Tuesday, August 28, join the MSU Extension Service expert as she presents valuable information and hints and tips on "Food Preservation". 4:30 PM at the library. There are so many fruits and veggies that need to be made ready for later enjoyment!

We're happy to announce we have Overdrive eBook and e-Audiobook titles now available for Big Rapids Community Library patrons! Thousands of titles are available since we joined the Up North Digital group and have access to that collection. It's really great news if you're already a digital book enthusiast, or ready to become one – using your smartphone, tablet, laptop, or PC. When getting the app for your smart device, you will choose either "Libby" or "Overdrive" – just depends what you find in your app store for your device. More information available at the library and on the library's website.

Have you been receiving the library's newsletter every week? It arrives in your inbox on Sunday so you can get an update on what's happening at the library in the coming week plus other interesting news of services and programs. Contact the library to get signed up.

The Friends of the Library are busy preparing for their annual book sale – coming up the weekend of Labor Day. Friday and Saturday (8/31 and 9/1) at Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Park, behind the library and then they will have a booth at the Arts and Crafts Festival at Hemlock Park on Monday, 9/3.

RECREATION

- Fall Recreation Programs begin in September see the attached flyer for more details.
- Women's Volleyball registrations are due August 31st. The first scrimmage is Sunday September 9th.
- Tennis in the Park registration is live also and will take place after school in Hemlock Park. Starts September 11th and runs Tuesdays and Thursdays until September 27th.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 96 calls for service. These numbers are up compared to the rest of the summer. There were no real calls of significance to report. This weekend is Welcome Back Weekend for Ferris students. As a result, there will be extra officers on, including on bicycles, to help with any potential problems.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 34 calls for service. This number is also up from the normal summer numbers. Bethany Hamilton was hired to fill the full-time position that opened up as a result of Captain Tim Mortensen's retirement.

Thursday and Friday this week Firefighters Sean Wethington and Russ Bell, along with Director Jim Eddinger, Detective Brian Miller and Officers Ryan Myers and Tyler Haynes all have received training on being Public Information Officers for the department. This training took place in our community room.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

235 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

221 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

737 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (136) and Disabled (601) passengers of which 200 used the wheelchair lift to board

90 Free Riders – (28) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (62) children 4 and under with an adult

18 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

595 Ferris Shuttle

0 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am)

0 Regular Route Shuttle only (Shuttle done for summer)

0 UC/Rock Route (Shuttle done for summer)

1,301 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,283 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total Out of City)

DPW: STREETS –

- Fixed manhole cover on Loudon and blacktopped around it
- Put up posts and installed signs for schools; Brookside, Riverview, & CCA
- Worked on Olaf, doing undercut and compacting gravel
- Fixed water stack 113 N. State
- Took tree down across from A&W for school signs
- Grading alleys: 500 blk. Clark and 300 blk. S. Warren
- Swept downtown
- Swept Perry Ave. from State St. to 220th
- Checked sewers
- Barricades for Summer Fest
- Barricades for Paw Prints
- Farmers signs

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks, downtown, and ballfields
- Continued spraying for weeds
- Prepped ballfields for games
- Watered and maintained flowers
- Continued trimming bushes
- Mowed parks, Public Safety, downtown, and ballfields
- Weed whipped
- Blew Riverwalk and White Pine Trail
- Continued spraying for weeds
- Sprayed for bees
- Trimmed trees

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn-ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WWTP –

- The Plant is running very well with one U.V disinfection channel in service (#2).
- 3.6 inches of rainfall Mon-Tue resulted in very high Plant flows and numerous alarms.
- The West Clarifier was taken out of service for cleaning, repair and maintenance. The clarifier baffle, weir and trough were power washed and a new brush set was installed.
- U.V. Channel #1 cleaning and maintenance is in-progress, with Channel #2 in service.
- Preparing for increased Fall flows with the return of Ferris and Public School classes.
- Working with Webb Chemical on a 1-year renewal of our Ferric Chloride contract.
- Working on replacement of all 168 diffuser membranes in the South Digester.
- The new Lab Glassware Washer is installed and waiting for some ordered components.
- Received new air filter cartridges and gear case oil for our Kaeser digester blowers.
- Working with Scott Hall and Ed Hawks (F&V) to finalize the U.V. safety shower, eyewash and electric water heater project details, along with any necessary water well updates.
- Working on the PFAS Letter and Interim Report for the DEQ, which is due on August 31st.
- Ordered a DMR-QA 38 pH certification “re-test” kit. We will also need to follow up with a letter and corrective action plan for Tom Berdinski (DEQ) to review and approve.
- Performed weekly lift station checks and meter readings.
- Screw pump grease hoppers were filled and grease catch jugs were emptied.
- Cleaned, primed and painted the steel door on the U.V Disinfection Building.
- Mowing, yard work, cleaning and painting continues in and around the Plant.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 31, 2018

LABOR DAY HOLIDAY EVENTS

Labor Day 50th Craft Sale at Hemlock Park begins at 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There will be more than 80 vendors present, come and join the FUN!

The Friends of the Library are having their annual book sale – This weekend of Labor Day. Friday, August 31 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday, September 1 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Park, behind the library and then they will have a booth at the Arts and Crafts Festival at Hemlock Park on Monday, September 3 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Old Jail yard sale and cookout. Saturday, September 1 -Yard Sale begins 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Cookout begins at 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Big Rapids Historic Preservation Commission and support their preservation projects. Public welcome. Ages 13 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

WARREN AVENUE CONSTRUCTION

Construction on the 300 and 400 blocks of South Warren Ave. is scheduled to begin on September 6th. There is a temporary traffic control order for “No Parking” on both sides of the street for the 300 and 400 blocks of S. Warren Ave. from September 4, 2018 until October 31, 2018.

PFAS TESTING OF CITY WATER

The State of Michigan will be testing the City water for PFAS on September 12th. Results of the test will be available in four to six weeks.

POWER OUTAGE

The State Street Water tower and the Library both experienced power outages from the recent storm. Power was restored on August 30th and operations are back to normal.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 160 calls for service. This is over double the number of calls for a week the department has taken over the course of a week this summer. 88 of these calls were taken between Friday morning and Sunday evening. Of these there were 6 arrests, 26 people cited for MIP or open intoxicants and 9 accidents.

On Friday, August 24th, Firefighter Vincent and Officer Juday assisted with CPR training at the Big Rapids Middle School. Over the next year DPS CPR instructors will be assisting with training Big Rapids Public School staff with CPR. More to come on that as the program progresses. Firefighter Bethany Hamilton continued in her orientation and continues to do well.

Fire Division responded to 52 calls for service in the past week. On Tuesday, August 28th there was a severe storm that went through the area. Green Charter Township has a wind event that caused widespread damage to trees and powerlines. The Paris Park Campground also had significant damage to campers. The Fire Division responded to 14 calls for service between 8:00 PM and Midnight. These calls involved opening completely blocked roadways up and ensuring safety around powerlines. On Wednesday, an additional 7 utility related calls were responded to. The Fire Division with the help of the Big Rapids Township Fire Department worked very efficiently to assist in any way possible.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Violations:

(3) Animal	(13) Blight
(1) Disabled Vehicle	(10) Furniture
(8) Garbage & Rubbish	(37) Grass & Weeds
(15) Parking	(1) Property Maintenance
(75) Signs	(9) Yard Waste

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

272 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

101 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

704 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (139) and Disabled (565) passengers of which 197 used the wheelchair lift to board

80 Free Riders – (32) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (48) children 4 and under with an adult

16 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

488 Out of City

Ferris Shuttle

0 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am)

0 Regular Route Shuttle only (**Shuttle done for summer**)

0 UC/Rock Route (**Shuttle done for summer**)

1,173 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,157 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Cleaned up trees all week
- Graded some gravel alleys
- Banners downtown
- Signs
- Cleaned drains
- Filled pot holes
- Pulled out post and gate at Hemlock Park
- Swept downtown
- Removed the temporary handicapped signs for the Courthouse
- Sewers jetted on Henderson Street
- Farmers signs
- Put out cones for car show and craft show this weekend

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks, downtown, and ballfields
- Watered and maintained flowers
- Mowed parks, Public Safety, and ballfields
- Cleaned up fallen trees in parks and Riverwalk
- Blew Riverwalk and White Pine Trail

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut-offs/turn-ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 7, 2018

LIBRARY

New programs, this week at the library include:

Button-Making Workshop for Teens on Tuesday, September 11th @ 4 PM. (The last button-making program, was so successful, we ran out of time and button materials.)

Join us for the Agatha Christie Birthday Party -- including cake and a showing of the new movie "The Crooked House". Agatha would have been 128 this year; she is a famous author of more than 60 books and story collections.

Story Times for young children start back on the regular Monday and Wednesday schedule, at 10:30 AM. Monday's topic for this week's books and music will be on "Welcome" and Wednesday is "Library Fun".

Tuesday at 9:30 AM our free computer/tech classes begin again. Topic is Internet Essentials -- browsers and search engines.

Tiny Tots Tinker Lab will be open from 9:30 am-11:00 am on Thursday, September 13th at its regularly scheduled time slot.

The Big Rapids Camera Club meets on Thursday, September 13th at 6 PM in the Community Room. The program topic is, "Photography on the Muskegon River System".

The library is part of the Passport Program for this season's Tuba Bach New World Exploration series, which begins Friday, September 15th. Come to the library to see our display of books, bookmarks and buttons relating to each week's focus. First week is "New Orleans".

Depot Discussion

Thank you to all that participated in the Depot discussion and tour. Community input is a vital component of determining the next steps for the property.

Hemlock Park Sanitary Crossing

Construction of the replacement sanitary crossing in Hemlock Park is complete.

Rotary Fitness Park

Please visit the following website to learn more about the Rotary Fitness Park initiative.

https://www.patronicity.com/project/rotary_fitness_park#!/

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 95 calls for service. (There were no real calls for service to report.)

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 36 calls for service.

On Monday, at the City Commission Meeting personnel attended probationary Firefighter Hamilton's official introduction to the city...Congratulations Firefighter Hamilton!

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

201 Adult Riders (\$2.00)

240 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

794 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (130) and Disabled (664) passengers of which 208 used the wheelchair lift to board

78 Free Riders – (42) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (36) children 4 and under with an adult

20 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and is not present when the bus arrives.

583 Out of City

Ferris Shuttle

Ferris Shuttle is back and they are continuing an additional route to go back and forth from the University Center to the Rock Café from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm (M – Th).

The main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), Arts and Science, 7:30 am -7:00 pm (M-F) and 7:30 am – 2:00 pm Fridays.

27 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

1314 Regular Route Shuttle only

1,173 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,157 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Painted curbs in front of Riverview and Brookside to get rid of the yellow curb
- Graded alleys and gravel streets
- Picked up storm damage all week
- Fixed pergolas downtown
- Swept downtown
- Checked sewers; jetted Sanborn sewer and 1 sewer call-in during the weekend on
- W. Waterloo, nothing in our main
- Cleaned drains
- Put out Farmers Market signs
- Delivered water pipe up on S. Warren to start new watermain on Monday
- Fixed catch basin on Spring and Hutchinson
- Took out stumps on Olaf for sidewalk and delivered sand for the sidewalk
- Washed trucks

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at the parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Took extra supplies for craft show to Hemlock Park
- Prepped ballfields for games
- Mowed parks, downtown, Public Safety, and ballfields
- Weed whipped
- Cleaned up fallen trees in parks
- Continued spraying for weeds
- Sprayed for bees

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut-offs/turn-ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
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WWTP –

- Due to the continuing rain events, Plant flow remains higher than normal.
- Both Final Clarifiers are back in service, following cleaning, maintenance and repair.
- Both UV Disinfection Channels remain in service during higher than normal flows.
- Ordered and received 4000 gallons of Ferric Chloride from Webb Chemical Company.
- The Commission approved a 1-year contract extension with Webb Chemical Company.
- The South Digester is back in service following replacement of 168 diffuser membranes.
- Additional racks were received and installed in the new Lab Glassware Washer.

- Worked with Jay Norris to solve some SCADA communication and alarm issues.
- Work continues with Fleis & VandenBrink to finalize the UV safety shower, eyewash and electric water heater project details, and necessary water well updates.
- The PFAS Interim Report for the DEQ, was uploaded to Mi-Waters on August 31st.
- Ordered, received and completed a DMR-QA 38 pH certification “re-test” kit. Successful grading and a corrective action plan need to be sent to Tom Berdinski (DEQ).
- Performed weekly lift station checks and meter readings.
- September 10th WWTP Engineering CIP Meeting scheduled with Fleis & VandenBrink.
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- Put out farmers signs
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DPW: PARKS –

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Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

RIVER CLEAN UP

The Muskegon River Trash Bash Clean Up is scheduled for Saturday, September 15th. Thank you to all involved in organizing and carrying out this effort!

BIG RAPIDS HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING

Homecoming for the Big Rapids Public Schools is September 21st and 22nd. Downtown Parade will be September 21st at 5:30 p.m.

WARREN AVENUE CONSTRUCTION

Project is underway and the watermain replacement is almost complete. Stormwater installation will start September 17th. Project completion is weather dependent but will likely occur in 3-4 weeks.

GRAVEL STREET PAVING

Olaf Street is scheduled to be paved during the week of September 17th. This is a great first step towards paving the City's remaining gravel streets.

LIBRARY

The library will be at the Farmers' Market on Friday downtown; and also, at the rescheduled Bulldog Bonanza on Monday, September 17th at the University Center, 4-7 PM. If you are in the vicinity, stop in.

Join us Friday, September 14th at 6 PM for cake and movie viewing ("The Crooked House) to celebrate Agatha Christie's Birthday.

The Going Global Book Club meets Tuesday, September 18th at 6 PM, discussing "Home Going" by Yaa Gyasi. New members are welcome.

Thursday, September 20th is Knit Night at 6:30-8:30 PM. We have free yarn and knitting kits that include patterns and needles too.

The Friends of the Library Book Club meets Friday, September 21 at Noon to discuss "Little Fires Everywhere" by Celeste Ng. All are welcome.

The Tuba Bach concert series, New World Exploration, starts on September 15, and continue for a total of 6 weeks on Saturdays and Sundays through October 21. The library is part of the passport program that

Friday, September 21 is “Teen Movie Night” at the library. 6 PM with free popcorn to see the movie, “Every Day”. Spread the word.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 121 calls for service. There were no real calls of significance to report.

This past week, Sergeant Danielle Haynes and Administrative Secretary April Decator went to South Dakota for training for the new reporting system that agencies in the area are transitioning to.

In the past week, the Fire Division has responded to 24 calls for service.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

202 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

240 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

794 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (130) and Disabled (664) passengers of which 208 used the wheelchair lift to board

85 Free Riders – (59) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (36) children 4 and under with an adult

20 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

593 Out of City

1,542 Ferris Shuttle

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26 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

2,909 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

2,889 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Worked on new watermain on S. Warren Ave.
- Black dirt on Olaf
- Put up light pole behind Chemical Bank for cameras
- Fixed storm sewer on Hemlock
- Fixed sanitary sewer on Bjornson and Milton
- Put out farmers signs

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Prepped ballfields for games
- Mowed parks, downtown, Public Safety, and ballfields
- Weed whipped
- Watered flowers
- Blew Riverwalk and White Pine Trail
- Took hanging baskets down
- Continued spraying for weeds
- Repaired crusher dust trail
- Watered trees

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WATER TREATMENT PLANT –

Safety topic: Trenching: Don't Dig Into Trouble.

- Checked generators.
- Ran customer samples.
- Checked cathodic protection.
- Answered call Ins.
- Mowed lawns at plant, well house, HMC, and all four tower locations.
- Worked with Jay Norris to replace faulty Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) on the intermediate pump at the plant.
- Worked with Traditions electric to wire the new mixer at State street from the top of the water tower to the PLC inside the building. Jay Norris will complete the installation.
- Worked with Traditions electric to install two new light fixtures in the pipe gallery at the plant to replace two faulty lamps.

- Worked with Traditions electric to repair all of the aviation lights on the top of the four water towers.
- Cleaned and scrubbed the walls around the staircase at the plant.
- Power washed around both Reservoirs at the plant from the ground up as high as could be reached.
- Worked with Steve Jones construction to prepare AT&T building for its new location at HMC.
- Repaired leaks on booster pump at the State Street location.
- Performed ERA samples in lab for lab certification purposes.
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- Read all water meters.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 21, 2018

LIBRARY

Hope it's not too late to get into the newsletter with library information. Thanks so much.

A Kids Comic Drawing Workshop is Thursday, September 27th, 4 PM. Looks like fun.

The next adult computer class on Tuesday September 25th, 9:30 AM will be about the ins and outs of Google Drive.

On Friday, September 28th, there is a free tai chi class, 8:30-9:30 at the library. Registration is requested. First time we've had this at the library; hope we have some folks come.

The library is a member of the Mid-Michigan Library League (our state co-op) and the league's annual meeting was September 20th in Cadillac. Three library board members joined Chris and Tirzah at the meeting and were able to meet other librarians and trustees and to discover what is happening at other league libraries. 10 "lightening round" presentations were part of the program today, and Chris and Tirzah took part in that aspect of the meeting. 70 people enjoyed also hearing from the State Librarian, Randy Riley and the State's Law Librarian before we enjoyed lunch.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 133 calls for service. There were no real calls of significance to report.

Last Saturday, Officer Kasey Metcalf and some other local law enforcement and first responders took part in the 12th Annual Koz Softball Tournament in Rockford. The team won, beating a Detroit team in the final. This is the third time in the 12 years our team has won. We have finished second several times. The tournament in honor of Robert Kozminski, a Grand Rapids Police Department officer, killed in the line of duty in July 2007.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 25 calls for service.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| (4) Animals | (10) Blight |
| (6) Furniture | (11) Garbage & Rubbish |
| (15) Grass & Weeds | (11) Parking |
| (12) Permits | (17) Polycart Placement |
| (3) Property Maintenance | (24) Signs |
| (2) Uninhabitable Dwellings | |

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

128 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

466 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

721 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (130) and Disabled (591) passengers of which 214 used the wheelchair lift to board

111 Free Riders – (49) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (62) children 4 and under with an adult

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45 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am)

2,637 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

2,595 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Worked on water main on 300 and 400 blocks of S. Warren Ave. pressure test and taking samples.
- Blacktop patches on Hemlock Street and Milton Ave.
- Fixed signs.
- Set out Farmers Market signs and cones.
- Checked sewers and jetted call-ins.
- Fixed catch basin on Damascus.
- Cleaned drains and checked Ives Street drain.
- Fixed things at the library and hung a screen for the projector.
- Bolted the benches down at the Dog Park and Hemlock Park
- Put out cones for high school parade.

- Set out barricades for Germanfest and no parking signs on Finley Ave.

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Prepped Hemlock ballfield for fall league
- Took care of See Click Fix issue-fallen tree at Northend Park
- Trimming of trees
- Mowing of parks, ballfields, downtown, and Public Safety
- Weed whipping
- Repaired drinking fountain at dog park
- Watering and maintaining of flowers
- Blew Riverwalk and White Pine Trail
- Mowed White Pine Trail

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn-ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WWTP –

- The transition into fall continues, but plant loading is still lower than expected.
- The Vortex Grit Chamber has been repaired and is now back in service.
- A WWTP CIP Engineering meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday October 10.
- The Plant continues to run well, with 1 U.V. disinfection channel in service.
- Ordered and received a new Moyno transfer pump for our Ferric Chloride day tank.
- Ordered and received repair parts for the LMI Ferric Chloride dosing pump.
- Working with Biotech to coordinate our annual Fall Biosolids haul in Oct-Nov.
- Using Aeration Basin #4 to receive, aerate and stabilize sludge storage tank decant.
- Worked with Jay to set up a SCADA “offset” control for flow-paced Ferric Chloride feed.
- Met with Fleis & VandenBrink on Sept. 10 to review current projects and progress.
- Repair of the rotary-vane vacuum pump is in-progress, for our portable vacuum tank.
- An Evoqua Screw Pump Sales Rep. visited to observe and discuss our screw pump needs. The discussion was very productive, and we will be taking a closer look at their pumps.
- Mowing, yard work and other outside maintenance continues in and around the Plant.
- Performed weekly lift station checks and meter readings.

WATER PLANT

Water treatment plant activities:

- Safety topic: Vehicle Safety: Check, Inspect, Drive!
- Checked generators.
- Ran customer samples.
- Checked cathodic protection.
- Answered call Ins
- Mowed lawns at plant, well house, HMC, and all four tower locations.
- Repaired washouts around the plant and down by River-walk caused by the significant rainfalls we had in August.
- Read all water meters.
- Started painting the boiler room at the plant.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 28, 2018

DISTRICT AWARD

Congratulations to Gail Dolbee for being selected for the "A Celebration of Success" 2018 MAA award at the Michigan Assessors Association Summer Conference. This award was presented to members who are doing their best, working hard and who help others.

INTERIM STREET SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Jake Walston has accepted the position of Interim Street Superintendent. Jake has worked for the City since 1994, beginning in a laborer position progressing to his current position as Lead person at the Garage. His ability to earn his CDL and MI-DEQ S-2 Water Distribution License along with multiple certifications identifies that Jake will continue to grow in his role as he transitions into the Street Superintendent. Jake will begin this position Monday, October 1. Please feel free to congratulate him in his new role as this is something he has accomplished through hard work and dedication, which is well deserved on his behalf.

NATIONAL FITNESS COURT CAMPAIGN

The City of Big Rapids and the Department of Public Safety Fire Division will be offering two people the chance to be a firefighter for the day in order to promote a fundraiser for the National Fitness Court Campaign. To be eligible for this experience, people must donate a minimum of \$50.00 to the Fitness Court campaign between Friday, September 28 and Friday, October 5 at 1:00 p.m. Names of everyone who donated will be entered into a raffle and the winner can choose two people, along with themselves, to be a firefighter for a day.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| (1) Animals | (6) Blight |
| (1) Disabled Vehicles | (1) Furniture |
| (2) Garbage & Rubbish | (5) Grass & Weeds |
| (6) Permits | (8) Polycart Placement |
| (2) Property Maintenance | (2) Sidewalks / Streets |
| (13) Signs | |

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

269 - **Adult Riders** - (\$2.50 Fare)

480 - **Children Riders** - (\$1.25 Fare)

756 - **(\$1.25 Fare) – Senior** (153) and **Disabled** (603) passengers of which **218** used the wheelchair lift to board

101 - **Free Riders** – (48) **Aides** that ride with disabled passengers and (53) **children** and under with an adult

43- **No Shows** - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

462 -**Out of City**

1,511 – Ferris Shuttle

Ferris Shuttle is back and the main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), University Center, Arts and Science, 7:30 am -7:00 pm (M-F) and 7:30 am – 2:00 pm Fridays.

86 -Safe Riders -(free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

3,246-- Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

3,203 - Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this)

DPW: STREETS –

- Worked on water main and installed water services on 300 and 400 blocks of S. Warren Ave. The 400 block is complete.
- Blacktopped Olaf St.
- Fixed catch basin on Damascus
- Patched around manhole on Ferris Dr.
- Put out cones for FSU Homecoming Parade
- Replaced cargo net at Playscape
- Set out Farmers Market signs and cones
- Checked sewers and jetted call-ins

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Prepped Hemlock ballfield for fall league
- Blew Riverwalk and White Pine Trail
- Watered and maintained flowers
- Repaired slide at Playscape
- Trimmed Trees

- Took extra supplies for Angel Ride at Northend Park
- Took care of graffiti on River Walk
- Mowed parks, downtown, ballfields, and Public Safety
- Weed whipped
- Repaired irrigation leak at Vogel 1 ballfield

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 5, 2018

As part of their lessons on learning about the community, both second grade classes from Riverview Elementary visited the library on Wednesday, October 3rd – getting a quick tour of the library and discovering where they can come to get more books with their parents.

The Monthly Teen Maker Space event for October is Tuesday, October 9th at 4 PM. They will be taking green screen photos, which allows for some creative and wacky results.

The Library Board monthly meeting is Tuesday, 4 PM.

The Big Rapids Camera Club meets at the library on Thursday, October 11th at 6 PM. Larry Zomer will be presenting on “Capturing and Editing Fall Color Photos”. Open to the public.

The Foreign Film Series for October is on Saturday, October 13th at 7 PM – “Suffragette”. All are welcome.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 130 calls for service. There were no real calls of significance to report.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 14 calls for service.

On Monday, Police and Fire personnel assisted in the suppression and investigation of several suspicious fires believed to be the act of arson in the Morley area. A 32-year-old Howard City male, an 18-year-old Morley female and a 20-year-old Howard City male are believed to be the individuals responsible.

On Thursday, Firefighter Kidd trained some of the officers on the use of Narcan.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

260 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

457 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

724 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (137) and Disabled (587) passengers of which 219 used the wheelchair lift to board

88 Free Riders – (43) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (45) children 4 and under with an adult

77 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

555 Out of City

1,692 Ferris Shuttle

Ferris Shuttle is back and the main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), University Center, Arts and Science, 7:30 am -7:00 pm (M-F) and 7:30 am-2:00 pm Fridays.

87 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

3,385 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

3,308 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Installed water services on 300 block of S. Warren, all complete
- Installed library boxes at Hemlock and Pocket Park
- Closed off the stairwell at Win Kellum
- Put out cones for parade
- Checked sewers
- Swept downtown
- Farmer's Market signs

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Trimmed trees
- Blew Riverwalk and White Pine Trail
- Blew irrigation at ballfields and Public Safety
- Pulled flowers out of pots
- Mowed parks and downtown
- Put corn stalks up

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WASTEWATER PLANT –

- The transition into fall continues and phosphorus loading is lower than normal.
- Changed the front and rear gearcase oil in Kaeser Blower #4; drained oil is still dark.
- A WWTP preliminary CIP meeting was held on Oct. 3rd, and a second meeting will be held on Oct. 10th, with Fleis & VandenBrink in attendance.
- The Plant continues to run well overall, but something black (with a petroleum odor) was dumped and came into the plant Fri. 28th -Sat 29th. We are looking for the source.
- Both U.V. channels were taken out of service, one-at-a-time, and thoroughly cleaned.
- Repaired 2 composite sampler refrigeration units that had developed refrigerant leaks.
- Ordered a new replacement sampler refrigeration unit, and a new sampler pump.
- Don Popma (Biotech) came to take a sludge storage sample and discuss our fall haul.
- Using Aeration Basin #4 to receive, aerate and stabilize sludge storage tank decant.
- Replaced corroded sections of the furnace chimney pipe in the Digester Building.
- Repair of the rotary-vane vacuum pump is in-progress, for our portable vacuum tank.
- Ordered a case of United De-Scaler solvent for cleaning/de-scaling our U.V bulb sleeves.
- Mowing, yard work and other outside maintenance continues in and around the Plant.
- Performed weekly lift station checks and meter readings.
- A Chamber of Commerce Plant tour has been scheduled for Thursday Oct. 11th.
- Dr. Franklund has scheduled 3 Microbiology class tours for Thursday Oct. 18th.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 12, 2018

NATIONAL FITNESS CAMPAIGN – ROTARY PARK

The last day to donate to the National Fitness Campaign is October 22nd. The group has raised 70% of the targeted \$45,000 to date. Please visit www.patronicity.com to find out more information.

IVES DRAIN

The office of the Mecosta County Drain Commission has received a petition to establish the Ives Drain District. Once the signatures are verified, the district can be established, and it will require another petition to initiate a project within the district.

LIBRARY

Reminder that the Foreign Film for this month is “Suffragette”, playing Saturday, October 13th at 7 PM at the library.

We will be welcoming the library’s new director, Lauren Moran, on Monday, October 16th.

The Going Global Book Club meets on Tuesday, October 16, at 6 PM, discussing the book “Ten Women” by Marcela Serrano.

Don’t miss the second Beekeeping program at the library on Wednesday, October 17th at 5:30 PM. Its focus will be on beehives and there will be two distinct kinds of beehives discussed and on display.

Thursday, October 18th, the teen book club meets at the high school. The club is called “YA Lit” and they are discussing “A Study in Charlotte” by Brittany Cavallaro. We thank the Friends of the Library for providing the funding to purchase books for the group.

The Friends of the Library Book Club meets on Friday, October 19th at noon, with “The Orchardist” by Amanda Coplin as their focus.

Friday, October 19th at 6 PM the monthly teen movie is “Warm Bodies”. A good film to gear up for Halloween.

RECREATION

The Walking Program through the Middle School will be starting on November 1st and end on April 30th. The days will be Monday thru Thursday from 4 pm till 8 pm. Whenever there is no school due to a holiday, bad weather, etc., the program will be cancelled for that day.

A sign up sheet will be on Josh Pyles Desk in the Parks and Recreation office at City Hall.

FARMERS MARKET

We are nearing the end of the season with no more Tuesday Markets and only two more Friday Markets.

After the season is done there is one more special Holiday Market that will be taking place on Friday November 16th from 10 am-2 pm.

DOWNTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Fall Fest is coming October 26th and 27th. See the attached flyers for all of the ways to enjoy it or get involved.

Festival of Lights parade and festivities will be happening on November 17th. If interested in the parade please contact Josh Pyles at 231-592-4038

If you are interested in seeing Santa, see the attached flyer to know when he will be in town at certain stores.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 105 calls for service. There were no real calls of significance to report.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 34 calls for service. Fire Continued to prepare for our state EMS inspection on Friday.

In the past week, Firefighters Sean Wethington and Russ Bell have continued to speak with local elementary classes about fire safety.

Director Jim Eddinger and other board member of Open Arms Child Advocacy Center had an open house at Evergreen. The goal of the Open Arms Child Advocacy Center is to protect those vulnerable victims by providing a safe space where counselors, investigators and other agencies can do their work.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

272 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

537 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

883 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (158) and Disabled (587) passengers of which 257 used the wheelchair lift to board

73 Free Riders – (35) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (38) children 4 and under with an adult

63 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

1,257 Out of City

1,751 Ferris Shuttle

Ferris Shuttle is back and the main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), University Center, Arts and Science, 7:30 am -7:00 pm (M-F) and 7:30 am-2:00 pm Fridays.

16 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

3,595 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,765 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Hook up watermain on S. Warren
- Storm on S. Warren
- Filled potholes
- Farmer's Market signs

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks, downtown, and disc golf course
- Took care of See, Click, Fix issues
- Mowed parks, ballfields, and Public Safety
- Trimmed trees
- Replaced lights and flags at dog park
- Blew River Walk and White Pine Trail

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 18, 2018

DEPOT AND HANCHETT PROPERTY DISCUSSION

The City Commission and the Planning Commission will hold a joint meeting on October 22nd, 5:30 p.m., at City Hall, to discuss the future of both the Depot and the Hanchett projects. Attending the meeting will be Kathleen Duffy and Jerry Misiolek from Smithgroup. Kathleen is the City's Planning Consultant and Jerry is an Architectural Consultant.

NATIONAL FITNESS CAMPAIGN – ROTARY PARK

The \$45,000 fundraising goal for the National Fitness Campaign project has been met and exceeded! To date, 18 donors have committed \$51,300 towards the project. Having met the goal through the Patronicity program, the City will receive \$45,000 in matching funds from the State. Huge thank you to all that donated. Funds above the targeted amount will be used to add lighting, Wi-Fi and a water fountain to the park.

WARREN AVENUE UPDATE

Concrete work on Warren is scheduled to start Wednesday, October 24th, weather dependent.

LIBRARY

What's October if you don't decorate for Halloween. We're putting up our scary and fun creatures, and have one display on the first floor with lots of kids' books on Halloween, pumpkins, witches, and more. Come and check out some new books.

We're getting ready for our first "Teen Zombie Prom" on Friday, October 26th, 6 PM. If you know a teen, please encourage them to join the party.

Reminder: on Halloween, the library's story time at 10:30 will be celebrating the day with stories and treats, of course. Costumes encouraged for all. And everyone is invited to come and get into our "All Ages Book Character Costume Contest." Should be lots of fun; some prizes will be given too.

The library has created a new display of books centered on the topic of domestic abuse. Like human trafficking, all of us need to be aware of this problem and get more information and knowledge about stopping this from happening to anyone.

The library will be joining in the fun on Saturday, October 27th at the Fall Festival. Look for us on Michigan Avenue.

RECREATION

The Walking Program through the Middle School will be starting on November 1st and end on April 30th. The days will be Monday thru Thursday from 4 pm till 8 pm. Whenever there is no school due to a holiday, bad weather, etc., the program will be cancelled for that day.

A sign up sheet will be on Josh Pyles Desk in the Parks and Recreation office at City Hall.

FARMERS MARKET

We are nearing the end of the season with no more Tuesday Markets and only one more Friday Markets.

After the season is done there is one more special Holiday Market that will be taking place on Friday November 16th from 10 am-2 pm.

UP COMING HOLIDAY EVENTS

Fall Fest is coming October 26th and 27th with several events to enjoy.

Festival of Lights parade and festivities will be happening on November 17th. If interested in the parade please contact Josh Pyles at 231-592-4038

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 102 calls for service. There were no calls of significance to report.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 28 calls for service. There were no calls of significance to report.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Violations:

(2) Animals	(7) Blight
(3) Furniture	(2) Garbage & Rubbish
(7) Grass & Weeds	(8) Parking
(6) Permits	(14) Polycart Placement
(3) Property Maintenance	(2) Sidewalks / Streets
(12) Signs	(5) Yard Waste

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

273 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

510 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

794 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (158) and Disabled (587) passengers of which 221 used the wheelchair lift to board

81 Free Riders – (51) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (30) children 4 and under with an adult

64 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

634 Out of City

1,816 Ferris Shuttle

Ferris Shuttle is back and the main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), University Center, Arts and Science, 7:30 am -7:00 pm (M-F) and 7:30 am-2:00 pm Fridays.

0 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

3,538 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,658 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Finished work on Olaf and blackdirted near church
- Continued working on S. Warren Ave.
- Picked up dead animals around town
- Removed tree bags
- Farmer's Market signs

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks, downtown, and disc golf course
- Brush hogged cross country trails
- Blew leaves

- Cleaned up fallen trees on Clay Cliffs walking paths
- Blew Riverwalk and White Pine Trail
- Pulled flowers from planter boxed downtown
- Cut grasses at City Hall and Public Safety
- Cut Hostas at Pocket Park
- Pulled bases at ballfields
- Blew out drinking fountains for winter season
- Took planter liners and hanging baskets to Karnemaat's Green House

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WWTP –

- Some filamentous growth and foam have developed in our aeration basins, likely due to an unknown petroleum substance that came into the plant on September 28-29th.
- Dr. Franklund (FSU Biology) is analyzing a filamentous growth sample for us. If it is the variety that thrives on fats, oils and grease, the unknown petroleum substance is likely the cause of our trouble.
- A WWTP CIP meeting was held on Oct. 10th with Fleis & VandenBrink in attendance.
- Steve Dagovitz (Kaeser) and Mike Robinson (Professional Pump) visited on Oct 10th to discuss ongoing problems with Kaeser Blower #4. They have agreed to remove the faulty blower module and send it back to Kaeser for evaluation.
- Update: Professional Pump will be here Oct 29th to remove the blower module from Kaeser #4. It will be rebuilt, returned and re-installed here, at no expense to the City.
- U.V. Channel #2 is producing good disinfection and Channel #1 is not. We have cleaned it again and are searching for other issues that may be causing poor disinfection.
- A Leadership Mecosta group toured the Wastewater Plant on October 11th, followed by an Artworks group tour on October 15th.
- Dr. Franklund brought 3 Biology classes for Wastewater Plant tours on October 18th.
- Mic is working on a renewal of the discharge permit issued to Big Rapids Components.
- A supply of new U.V. bulbs and sleeves has been ordered from Uveon Technologies.
- Received a case of United De-Scaler solvent for cleaning/de-scaling our U.V bulb sleeves.
- Final mowing and weed trimming in and around the plant, prior to the Winter season.
- Performed weekly lift station checks and meter readings.

WTP-

- **Safety topic: Weld Well To End Well.**
- Checked generators.
- Ran customer samples.

- Checked cathodic protection.
- Answered call-ins.
- Mowed lawns at plant, well house, HMC, and all four tower locations.
- Painted walls, doors, and shelves in boiler room at the plant.
- Read all water meters.
- Worked with Jay Norris on SCADA communication upgrades.
- Worked with Jerry from Tradition Electric on the new HMC building.
- Completed power washing both reservoirs at the plant.
- Disabled and blew out sprinkler system at the plant for winter.
- Worked with Jerry from Tradition Electric on a power issue at the HMC caused by a contractor digging.
- Removed leaves from the lawn at the plant and hauled them to the leaf pit.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 26, 2018

WINTER PARKING

On-street parking restrictions start on November 15th. Overnight on-street parking is prohibited from November 15th to March 15th from 2:00 a.m. till 6:00 a.m. daily.

LEAF PICK-UP

The City will begin picking up leaves the week of October 29th. Attached is the schedule.

CITY COMMISSION MEETING LOCATION CHANGE FOR NOVEMBER 5, 2018

The City Commission will be meeting in the Cardinal Room at the Big Rapids Middle School on November 5th. The location change is to accommodate the election on November 6th.

JOANN FABRICS

JoAnn Fabrics had their ribbon cutting this morning and are open for business starting today, October 26, 2018.

WARREN AVENUE UPDATE

Concrete work is nearly complete, gravel will be laid down next week with paving late in the week or the week of November 5th, weather dependent.

RECREATION

The Walking Program through the Middle School will be starting on November 1st and end on April 30th. The days will be Monday thru Thursday from 4 pm till 8 pm. Whenever there is no school due to a holiday, bad weather, etc., the program will be cancelled for that day.

A sign-up sheet will be on Josh Pyles Desk in the Parks and Recreation office at City Hall.

FARMERS MARKET

The regular season for the Farmer's Market is over but there is one more special Holiday Market that will be taking place on Friday November 16th from 10 am-2 pm.

HALLOWEEN HOURS

Trick or Treating in the City of Big Rapids will be from 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on October 31, 2018.

FALL FESTIVAL IN DOWNTOWN BIG RAPIDS

Friday, October 26, 2018

Chili Cook Off in front of City Hall from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm.

For Adults

The Balsam Brothers Free Concert from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Boos and Booze from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm (Wristbands available for drink discounts at downtown bars)

Halloween Costume Contest at 8:00 pm under the tent.

Saturday for Families

9:30 am – Skeleton Scurry—5K Run/Walk

10:30 am – Costume parade

11:00 a.m. Trunk or Treat

See attached flyer for more details.

LIBRARY

The library will join in the celebration downtown on Saturday, 10/27 for Fall Fest. Please stop and say hello to Lauren, the new director while you are there.

On Tuesday, October 30, at 6 PM, we have a new speaker for the discussion/presentation related to the Muskegon River (tied to the Water Ways Smithsonian exhibit at ArtWorks). Dr. Carl Ruetz III, Professor of Water Resources at Grand Valley State University in Muskegon is stepping in to join us because Jeff Alexander has had to cancel his scheduled visit. Expecting great discussion and information on our Muskegon River.

One of the displays at the library focuses on the horror and scary movies that we have in our collection. Hard to believe the library has so many scary movies to check out!

Story times will cover “pumpkins” on Monday, 10/29, 10:30 AM and “Halloween” on Wednesday, 10/31, 10:30 AM – with extra treats for the Halloween story/craft time.

Also, all day on Halloween, anyone can come in to join our all-age book-character costume contest. Fun prizes and lots of smiles.

The adult computer class on Tuesday, 10/30 at 9:30 AM will be covering the ins and outs of mobile devices; bring your device; let's make it work for you.

Thursday is November 1st – and the library community is celebrating “Picture Book Month”. Our library has hundreds of fabulous picture books, old and new. Fun to read and peruse, no matter if you are working with your children or grandchildren, or just want to enjoy a good story yourself. Please consider looking at a picture book again.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 104 calls for service. Of significance were Detective Miller, Sergeant Hauger and Officer Kuiawa assisting the Mt. Pleasant PD with their Central/Western Detail on Saturday evening. It was a calm and uneventful evening. Later in the evening these same officers assisted the Mecosta County Sheriff Office in Morley with their homicide investigation. The suspects were captured later on Sunday morning.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 22 calls for service.

Last Friday, CPR instructors from the department provided CPR instruction for health care providers in the area.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

221 Adult.Riders.(\$2.50.Fare)

505 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

775 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (150) and Disabled (625) passengers of which 215 used the wheelchair lift to board

104 Free Riders – (51) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (45) children 4 and under with an adult

51 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

588 Out of City

1,967 Ferris Shuttle

Ferris Shuttle is back and the main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock

Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), University Center, Arts and Science, 7:30am -7:00pm (M-F) and 7:30am-2:00pm Fridays.

41 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am)

3,664 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,605 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Banners
- Signs
- Working on S. Warren
- Move tables back to Public Safety
- Dug out for curb on the 500 blk. of Chestnut
- Sawed sidewalks and curbs on S. Warren
- Hauled 12” pipe back to the shop
- Took out sidewalk on Perry for repair around a sanitary manhole
- Graded alleys and gravel roads
- Brined gravel roads

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks, downtown, and disc golf course
- Mowed downtown and ballfields
- Trimmed grasses in parking lots and Riverwalk
- Blew Riverwalk and White Pine Trail
- Trimmed trees
- Blew leaves
- Took extra supplies for Fall Fest
- Picked up extra trash cans from parks for cleaning and painting
- Picked up extra picnic tables for repairs
- Picked up broken bench from the Bandshell

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn-ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2, 2018

RECREATION

The Walking Program through the Middle School has begun and will run until April 30th. Monday thru Thursday 4 pm till 8 pm, days of no school (holiday or weather closing) the program is cancelled for the day.

Sign in for the program will be on Josh Pyles Desk in the Parks and Recreation office at City Hall.

DOWNTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

The Veterans Day Festivities will be happening next weekend November 9-11. The parade will be happening on Saturday but see the flyer for more details about the other activities taking place.

The Festival of Lights parade, and festivities will be happening on November 17th. If interested in the parade, please see the attached registration form or contact Josh Pyles at 231-592-4038

If you are interested in visiting with Santa while he is in town then see the attached flyer to know when he will be in town at certain stores.

FARMERS MARKET

The regular season for the Farmer's Market is over but there is one more special Holiday Market that will be taking place on Friday November 16th from 10 am-2 pm. See the attached flyer for more details.

LIBRARY

Giving Day on November 1st was a chance for folks to donate to the library and other non-profit organizations in the area, plus it gave Lauren and Chris the opportunity to meet and talk with the people from these local organizations about the work they do and if there are any partnering opportunities for the library. It was a great day.

It's "**dinovember**" at the library this month. Dinosaur books for kids and adults, movies for kid and adults, and dinosaurs too can be found at the library. Fun; come and check us out.

It's Picture Book Month too – so we'll be showcasing some fabulous books that are great for any aged reader.

Don't forget to see our shout out to Veterans with books, sound recordings and movies covering Americans in World War I and II, Korea, Vietnam and more.

The library is looking for volunteers to help us build our float for the Festival of Lights Parade. We are working on the float this week: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 3-5. We need your help to do the work and help us "create" a fun float. Our float features a snowman reading a story to woodland creatures.

The teen writing club kicks off on Monday, November 5th at 4 PM – "NaNoWriMo", National Novel Writing Month. For 4 consecutive Mondays, kids can come to write, talk about their writing, get help with their stories, and more.

Tuesday is the Teen Maker Space program at 4 PM; this month's it will be printmaking.

The Friends of the Library's monthly meeting is Wednesday, November 7th at 4 PM.

Gratitude Card-Making is happening on Thursday, November 8th, 4-6 PM. We are coming up on Thanksgiving, which is a national holiday focused on giving thanks.

The Camera Club meets on Thursday, at 6 PM, with the program called "Street Beat" being presented by David Banta.

The foreign film, "About Elly", will be shown on Saturday, November 9th at 7 PM

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 135 calls for service. Of these, 62 were taken between Friday morning and Sunday morning, due to the Halloween holiday and the parties associated with it.

In the past couple of weeks, officers have taken a larger amount of minors attempting to purchase alcohol with fake id's. These appear to be purchased online.

Officers continued to be trained on Zuercher, the new reporting management system that law enforcement agencies in the area are transitioning to.

In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 13 calls for service.

The purchase of winter gear for kids in need has been completed by the firefighters. Distribution in the schools has begun to take place.

Firefighter Wethington completed a seminar for instructors this past weekend in Traverse City. We are looking forward to the information he brings back with him from the seminar.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

192 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

542 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

721 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (135) and Disabled (586) passengers of which 184 used the wheelchair lift to board

63 Free Riders – (30) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (33) children 4 and under with an adult

54 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

509 Out of City

1,799 Ferris Shuttle

Ferris Shuttle is back and the main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), University Center, Arts and Science, 7:30 am -7:00 pm (M-F) and 7:30 am-2:00 pm Fridays.

61 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

3,432 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,518 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Picked up leaves and moved to the leaf pit
- Graded alleys
- Worked on South Warren: installed gravel and started black dirt
- Lights at Triangle Park
- Fixed water service on 1310 Darwin
- Installed new water service at Waterloo and Sheridan
- Helped with the electric in Hemlock Park

DPW: PARKS –

- Opened and cleaned restrooms daily at parks and City Hall
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown

- Blew Riverwalk and White Pine Trail
- Trimmed trees
- Blew leaves
- Repaired holes on soccer fields
- Installed Honor Roll sign at Holland Park
- Cleaned up camp site at Osceola Park

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WWTP –

- Dr. Franklund's analysis shows 3 types of filamentous growth in our aeration basins: Nostocoida, Microthrix, and Nocardia. Cold weather will minimize additional growth.
- New U.V. bulbs and sleeves were installed in Channel #1, which is now working well.
- Fleis and VandenBrink is finalizing details so the North State Lift Station project can go out for bid by the end of this week.
- A "Part 41" construction permit application has been signed and submitted to the DEQ for approval to proceed with our WWTP Water Improvements CIP.
- Professional Pump was here on Oct 29th to remove the blower module from Kaeser #4. It will be rebuilt, returned and re-installed here, at no expense to the City.
- Replaced 2 failed metal-halide bulbs in the Headworks Building.
- Aaorn Kuhn and Amanda Vogel toured the Wastewater Plant on October 24th.
- JW participated in multiple interviews to fill the Laborer position at DPW.
- Mic revised and mailed a discharge permit renewal for Big Rapids Components.
- The ERA WP-283 pH re-test results and corrective action plan were submitted to our DEQ Lab DMR-QA Coordinator, Chris Veldkamp.
- Replaced one set of failed fluorescent bulbs in our shop, with LED bulbs that plug right in. A bonus is that the original failure-prone ballast is not needed and was removed.
- Biotech will be here any day now, for the "Fall Haul" to empty our sludge storage tanks.
- Performed weekly lift station checks and meter readings.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 16, 2018

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS PARADE AND SANTA

Festival of Lights parade, and festivities begins at 6:00pm, on Friday, November 17th.

If you are interested in visiting with Santa while he is in town then see the attached flyer to know when he will be in town at certain stores.

LIBRARY

The library will be participating in the Holiday Market on Friday, plus having a float in the Festival of Lights parade on Saturday. This is the first year we have participated in these events and look forward to having lots of fun and meeting many new community members.

The Teen Writing Club will meet again on Monday, November 19, at 4 PM. Chance for young writers to talk over plots and story lines, share problems they are having with their writing, get advice about some writing techniques for short stories or even novels. Please spread the word.

Story times will be on Monday and Wednesday, 10:30 am – with some “Thanksgiving” themed stories and crafts.

Tuesday, 11/20, the adult PC/tech class will be about cloud storage – where you might want to back up, share and keep your digital files. Lots of different options now. Join us at 9:30 a.m. at the library.

NEWS for all you film fanatics and casual viewers too – library patrons just got access to streaming video of more than 30,000 of adult and kid movies. The library has just subscribed to a service called Kanopy which has unique movies like those in the Criterion collection, documentaries and indie films, to highlight just a portion of the available kinds of films. We will be sharing more information about this new service in the coming weeks. Watch for more details that will be posted on our website plus posters and handouts will be forthcoming too.

The library will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday Thursday, 11/22 through Saturday, 11/24.

Want to create something on the 3-D printer. Sign up now for a 2 or 3-hour slot to make some Christmas gifts or fun items. (We will be using the 3-D printers the weeks of December 3 and December 10.)

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Danielle Haynes accepted the newly implemented Police Deputy Director position. She began her duties this week. Everyone at the department is looking forward to working with Deputy Director Haynes.

- The Big Rapids Department of Public Safety Police Division welcomed the snowy season with 16 traffic crashes, taking a total of 86 calls for service.
- The 2 am-6 am parking ban also took effect this week with 149 parking tickets being issued in just 2 nights.
- The police division has completed Taser/PPCT and Narcan re-cert training.
- Staff met with Crossroads Charter School and Fleis and VandenBrink regarding the upcoming traffic study at Crossroads schools.
- The Police Department is continuing to move forward and train with Zuercher records management system.
- In addition, to that, all DPS employees and families are working on a float for Saturday's Festival of Lights Parade!!
- In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 23 calls for service.
- Fire personnel assisted with teaching Osceola EMS Pre Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS).
- Shift personnel trained on responding to structure fires in the county. Topics covered were hose deployment, truck positioning, IC goals and size up, 1st and Second firefighter responsibilities. Each member took the time to understand what the other persons task was to ensure that no matter the roll being filled the responsibility would was understood.
- Shift personnel walked through the Alumni Building and Prakken Building on FSU to identify the building layout, hazards, alarm panel location and access points. To conclude the evolution, members drove through campus and Identified FDC locations on various buildings noting hydrant locations along the way.
- Shift personnel provided medical standby for police training.
- Crews trained on search and rescue.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Violations:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| (4) Blight | (6) Permits |
| (1) Disabled Vehicles | (7) Polycart Placement |
| (2) Furniture | (8) Signs |
| (4) Garbage & Rubbish | (6) Uninhabitable Dwellings |
| (9) Parking | (6) Yard Waste |

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

192 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

542 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

721 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (135) and Disabled (586) passengers of which 184 used the wheelchair lift to board

63 Free Riders – (30) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (33) children 4 and under with an adult

54 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

509 Out of City

1,799 Ferris Shuttle

Ferris Shuttle is back and the main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), University Center, Arts and Science, 7:30am - 7:00pm (M-F) and 7:30am-2:00pm Fridays.

61 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am)

3,432 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,518 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Picked up leaves and moved to the leaf pit
- Graded alleys
- Worked on South Warren: black dirt and base coat
- Completed intersection of Locust/Warren
- Completed intersection of Linden/Warren
- Fixed alley 500 blk Chestnut
- Patched hole behind Schuberg's
- Asphalt patch 1000 blk. Bjornson
- Started watermain on S. Bronson
- Picked up downtown picnic tables and took umbrellas down
- Barricades for weekend Veteran's Day events
- Getting stuff ready for winter
- Plowed streets

DPW: PARKS –

- Closed parks restrooms for the season
- Opening and cleaning of City Hall restroom
- Trimmed downtown trees
- Removed twinkle lights from downtown trees
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Blew Riverwalk
- Took care of pumpkin downtown
- Took corn stalks down
- Took tennis court nets down for the season
- Blew leaves at all parks

- Put Christmas tree up and decorated
- Took stages downtown for Parade of Lights

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn-ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WWTP –

- The plant is operating well. Colder weather is minimizing filamentous growth.
- New U.V bulbs and sleeves have been ordered from Uveon, our traditional source.
- A second set of U.V. bulbs and sleeves has been ordered from U.V. Doctor, who is slightly cheaper. An operational comparison with Uveon parts will be made.
- The North State Lift Station project is out for bid, with a scheduled bid opening of Monday November 26th at 2:00 pm.
- The WWTP Water Well Improvements CIP is out for bid, with a scheduled bid opening of Monday November 26th at 2:30 pm.
- Tradition Electric made an unsuccessful attempt at diagnosing Kaeser Blower cooling fan power issues. Top Line Electric will now give it a try.
- New computers were installed in the WWTP Lab and IPP Office locations. Thanks, Tim!
- Replaced a failed moyno transfer pump in the Ferric Chloride Building.
- Ann Spain's Microbiology class toured the wastewater plant on Monday Nov. 12th.
- Biotech finished our Fall Biosolids haul. 772,500 Gallons were hauled and land-applied.
- Completed weekly Lift Station Readings and checks.
- Screw Pump grease hoppers were re-filled and waste jugs emptied.
- Replaced additional sets of failed fluorescent bulbs in our shop, with LED bulbs.
- Operators rebuilt our portable vactor unit and it is ready to go back into service.
- Ordered and received a bagger accessory kit for the Gravely plant lawnmower.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 30, 2018

WINTER PARKING ON CITY STREETS

Please be reminded that there is NO parking on City Streets starting November 15, 2018 through March 15, 2019 between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.

DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

Paula Priebe started work on November 26th as the new Director of Neighborhood Services. Paula comes to the City with a strong educational background in planning and having worked for a number of years in the field in Wisconsin. Paula is an excellent addition to the community!

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Stacey Johns has accepted a new position with the City of Grand Rapids. Stacey's last day will be December 7th. Stacey has been an exceptional employee and taken many steps to professionalize the code enforcement efforts for the City. We thank her for her efforts and wish her nothing but the best for the future.

BUDGET PROCESS STARTING

City Staff is initiating the beginning stages of preparing the 2019/20 budget. One of the first steps is the Capital Improvement Process. A Capital Improvement Project is defined as having cost greater than \$5,000. If a member of the public would like to discuss the process or suggest a project, please contact Mark Gifford at 231-592-4020.

LIBRARY

The 3-day Printers are here and folks can sign up for 2 and 3-hour slots for the next two weeks (December 3-8 and December 10-15) – to create fun gifts during our “gift workshop” event.

The week of December 3rd is “Computer Science Education Week”. The library will be offering free coding classes for ages 8-14 to have fun with the Google software to learn about some of the ins and outs of coding that produces an animated story with characters you program. 4-5 PM, Monday through Friday, we'll be learning more about the steps needed to create something with simple computer programming software.

Wednesday, December 5th, 4 PM is the monthly Friends of the Library meeting. All are welcome to attend and become a member too.

Knit Night is Thursday, December 6th, 6:30-8:30 PM. Perfect knitting weather; come to socialize while you knit or crochet.

The Foreign Film Series is showing "Tangerine" on Saturday, December 8th at 7 PM at the library.

Save the Date: Library hosting a "Solstice Social" on Friday, December 21st (5-8 PM) to include opportunity to buy baked goods, small craft items, as well as take part in a snowball fight/contest (using yarn snowballs). We hope anyone who is not already booked for that evening will come and visit with us and their neighbors at the library, on the "shortest day of the year" as we call it.

NEWS for all you film fanatics and casual viewers too – library patrons just got access to streaming video of more than 30,000 of adult and kid movies. The library has just subscribed to a service called Kanopy which has unique movies like those in the Criterion collection, documentaries and indie films, to highlight just a portion of the available kinds of films. We will be sharing more information about this new service in the coming weeks. Watch for more details that will be posted on our website plus posters and handouts will be forthcoming too.

RECREATION

- Winter Recreation programs are set and most of those registrations are open.
- Co-ed Volleyball registration is open and begins January 13th.
- If you are interested in visiting with Santa while he is in town then see the attached flyer to know when he will be in town at certain stores.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- In the past week the Police Division has responded to 69 calls for service. There were no real calls of significance to report.
- On Thursday members of the Police Division received a legal update from the Mecosta County Prosecutors Office, with an emphasis on the new marijuana laws and their impact, along with training on the new reporting system.
- This week Officer Ryan Myers was promoted to sergeant. He will begin his responsibilities next week.
- In the past week the Fire Division responded to 22 calls for service.
- On Sunday, fire crews prepared for a class with ems on Monday and a training for Barryton on Tuesday. R. Bell built model houses to show area departments how ventilation can influence fire conditions in a structure. Crews also continued working on the department training program.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

202 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

268 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare) **Thanksgiving Break**

500 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (91) and Disabled (409) passengers of which 160 used the wheelchair lift to board

97 Free Riders – (61) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (36) children 4 and under with an adult

41 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

443 Out of City

911 Ferris Shuttle Thanksgiving Break

Ferris Shuttle is back and the main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), University Center, Arts and Science, 7:30am -7:00pm (M-F) and 7:30am-2:00pm Fridays.

0 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am)

1,978 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total) **Thanksgiving Break**

1,067 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Picked up leaves and moved to the leaf pit
- Signs
- Plowed streets, Airport, sidewalks, alleys, parking lots
- Sanded and salted several times
- Installed and pressure tested new 8-inch water line on Bronson for new fire hydrant
- Rotated leaves
- Installed sign case at City Hall
- Banners
- Fixed lights at Public Safety
- Fixed 2 catch basins
- Cleaned drains
- Fixed window at Win Kellum press box

- Patched potholes
- Put up sand for winter
- Put up cold patch for winter
- Washed trucks

DPW: PARKS –

- Opening and cleaning of City Hall restroom
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Picked up remaining picnic tables for winter season
- Trimmed trees
- Plowed snow
- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn-ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WTP-

- Safety topic: Powerful Protection from PPE.
- Checked generators.
- Ran customer samples.
- Checked cathodic protection.
- Answered call Ins.
- Plowed snow in parking lot at the plant.
- Removed paint from old door in basement and refinished it.
- Read all water meters.
- Shoveled snow off front sidewalk and salted.
- Painted and cleaned downstairs at the plant.
- Performed Lab QA/QC.
- Winterized pits down by the reservoirs.
- Replaced fluoride pump.

WWTP –

- The plant is operating well. Colder weather is minimizing filamentous growth.
- One box of used U.V. bulbs has been boxed up and is ready to ship back for recycle. A second U.V. bulb recycle box has been ordered from Uveon.
- 24 bulbs and 24 quartz sleeves arrived from U.V. Doctor, as a trial order.
- The North State Lift Station project bid from The Isabella Corporation came in as the low bid, at \$288,000. This bid is being forwarded to the Commission for approval.
- The WWTP Water System Improvements bid from Northwest Kent Mechanical came in as the low bid, at \$80,880. This bid is being forwarded to the Commission for approval.

- Professional Pump has agreed to replace the failed (rebuilt) blower module from Kaeser Blower #4. A new blower module will be delivered and installed at no cost to the City.
- New computers were installed in the WWTP Lab and IPP Office locations.
- Some ShoreTel phone problems have continued, here at the Plant.
- Ordered 4000 gallons of Ferric Chloride from Webb Chemical.
- Pursuing service and repair options with Agile Safety, for our portable gas detectors.
- Completed weekly Lift Station Readings and checks. Also, weekly Plant work orders.
- Screw Pump grease hoppers were re-filled and waste jugs emptied.
- Received the wrong bagger accessory kit for our Gravely lawnmower. The correct kit has been re-ordered by State Street Hardware.
- Working with Fleis & VandenBrink and the DEQ, to finalize details of our Draft NPDES Operating Permit, and hopefully minimize or eliminate new monthly Copper sampling.

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 7, 2018

WINTER PARKING ON CITY STREETS

Please be reminded that there is NO parking on City Streets starting November 15, 2018 through March 15, 2019 between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.

RECREATION

- Winter Recreation programs are set and most of those registrations are open.
- Co-ed Volleyball registration is open and begins January 13th.
- If you are interested in visiting with Santa while he is in town then see the attached flyer to know when he will be in town at certain stores.

LIBRARY

Still a chance to make some gifts, ornaments, or fun stuff with 3-D printers, through Friday, December 14th. Sign up now.

Gingerbread cookie decorating is Tuesday, December 11, 4 PM.

Santa is coming to the library on Thursday, December 13, 5-7 PM. We haven't had him there in many years, so pass the word, please.

Friday, December 14th, Noon, Mary's Book Club will be meeting at the library.

Also, on Friday, December 14th, Teen Movie Night, 6 PM -- watching the holiday favorite, "Elf".

The library had a great turnout for the Computer Science Education Week, with kids and parents doing coding -- creating animated stories. Fun stuff.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- In the past week, the Police Division responded to 90 calls for service. Of significance was 18-4302 @ 0259 on Wednesday morning, when a T/S at N Warren/Hemlock led to

arrest of a 24 year old male from Grand Rapids for OUID, driving without a license, warrant out of Kent County, open intox in a MV, and UDAA. Vehicle was also uninsured.

- Officers also continued training on Zuercher, the new reporting system, which the department is implementing, beginning on Monday.
- Sergeants Liz West and Scott Paquette attended supervisory training for 3 days this week.
- The Fire Division responded to 20 calls for service over the past week. On Wednesday, firefighters filled ice rink with water.
- On Thursday, the department hosted Taco Thursday in the community room at the BRDPS. It was very well received.
- Also, on Thursday, members of the department also participated with Shop with a Hero assisting the children with art projects at Heart Full of Art, Dinner at The Rock and Shopping at Walmart. This is always a very rewarding community project for first responders in the area.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

308 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

462 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

753 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (120) and Disabled (633) passengers of which 183 used the wheelchair lift to board

95 Free Riders – (35) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (60) children 4 and under with an adult

63 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

603 Out of City

2,340 Ferris Shuttle

Ferris Shuttle is back and the main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), University Center, Arts and Science, 7:30am -7:00pm (M-F) and 7:30am-2:00pm Fridays.

27 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am)

3,985 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,618 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Plowed snow: streets, airport, sidewalks, alleys, & parking lots
- Sanded and salted several times
- Black dirtied stumps
- Hauled wood
- Worked on signs
- Filled potholes
- Samples for boil water advisory
- Finished picking up leaves

DPW: PARKS –

- Opening and cleaning of City Hall restroom
- Picked up trash at parks and downtown
- Plowed snow
- Trimmed trees
- Installed ice rink
- Cleaned up fallen trees on Riverwalk

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 14, 2018

VAN JOHNSON'S RETIREMENT RECEPTION

Van Johnson will be retiring from the City after 44 years of service. Please join us in celebrating Van Johnson's dedication and commitment to the City of Big Rapids on December 20, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Public Safety Building.

PFAS WATER TESTING

The State of Michigan is testing every community water supply for PFAS contamination. The City's water was tested in September and results of the tests have been received recently. Big Rapids water has zero PFAS or any of the related compounds. This is great news for the community!!

LIBRARY PARK DEVELOPMENT

The City is working towards development of the park property located adjacent to the Library. A plan for additional parking, community gardens and a variety of play areas has been created and fundraising for the project has already begun. Grant opportunities are being evaluated and the goal is to implement the project in Spring/Summer of 2020.

BUDGET PROCESS STARTING

City Staff is initiating the beginning stages of preparing the 2019/20 budget. One of the first steps is the Capital Improvement Process. A Capital Improvement Project is defined as having cost greater than \$5,000. If a member of the public would like to discuss the process or suggest a project, please contact Mark Gifford at 231-592-4020.

RECREATION

- Winter Recreation programs are set and most of those registrations are open.
- Co-ed Volleyball registration is open and begins January 13th.
- If you are interested in visiting with Santa while he is in town then see the attached flyer to know when he will be in town at certain stores.

LIBRARY

December story times continue Monday, at 10:30 with "Reindeer" as the topic; and Wednesday, at 10:30, is the kids' holiday party.

The Going Global Book Club meets Tuesday, 12/18 at 6 PM. This month's book is "I Should Have Honor".

Thursday, 12/20 is Knit Night, 6:30-8:30 PM. All are welcome.

The library's first "Solstice Social" is Friday, December 21st, 5-8 PM. Come and mingle, check out some small crafts available to purchase for last-minute gifts, have some hot cocoa, buy some homemade baked goods, listen to music played on the harp and other instruments, and perhaps join in our "snowball fight". It's the end of the week and perfect time to enjoy relaxing and visiting at the library during the hectic days ahead.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- In the past week, the Police Division responded to a number of calls for service. There were no real calls of significance to report.
- This past week, law enforcement agencies in the area went live with the new reporting system, Zuercher. It will be a learning process for the officers and dispatchers.
- In the past week the Fire Division responded to 23 calls for service. On Wednesday, fire crews assisted with training MOCC students with Forcible Entry, Firefighter rescue, and Hazmat awareness.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

320 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

395 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

727 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (134) and Disabled (727) passengers of which 200 used the wheelchair lift to board

108 Free Riders – (35) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (60) children 4 and under with an adult

57 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

691 Out of City

2,320 Ferris Shuttle

Ferris Shuttle is back and the main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis

Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), University Center, Arts and Science, 7:30am -7:00pm (M-F) and 7:30am-2:00pm Fridays.

17 Safe Riders (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am)

3,944 Total Passengers (no shows included in this total)

1,607 Demand Response Only (no-shows not included in this total)

DPW: STREETS –

- Sewers
- Sanded and salted
- Scraped roads and alleys with ice blades
- Hauled snow from parking lots
- Potholes
- Signs
- Picked up wood

DPW: PARKS –

- Opening and cleaning of City Hall restroom
- Put up back boards for ice rink
- Repaired ice rink goals
- Trimmed trees
- Picked up trash downtown and in parks
- Cleaned up fallen tree on Riverwalk
- Checked lights downtown
- Sanded picnic table boards

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn-ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

Mark Gifford, City Manager

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 21, 2018

VAN JOHNSON RETIREMENT

Street Superintendent Van Johnsons' last day with the City of Big Rapids was December 21st. Van began work with the City in November of 1974. Over 44 years Van served the community with distinction and was a vital component of delivering a variety of services to the Big Rapids citizens. Van's sense of humor and dedication to his job will be missed by all. We wish Van all the best in his retirement.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission met on December 19th and approved two site plans submitted by Campus Village apartments. The projects include the construction of a new leasing office at the corner of Morrison and Division and the construction of a clubhouse in between Park Lane and Rapids Apartments. The Planning Commission also recommended to the City Commission a change in the City's Capital Improvement Process Policy and the Zoning Ordinance to allow Day Care Centers in the Residential/Professional zoning district.

HANCHETT DESIGN CHARRETTE

To gain public input regarding the development of the Hatchett site and in response to State requirements regarding the Redevelopment Ready Communities process, the City will be hosting a design charrette on January 24, 2019. A charrette is a meeting in which all stakeholders in a project attempt to resolve conflicts and map solutions. More details regarding this event will be forthcoming.

LIBRARY

The library's Solstice Social is Friday, 5-8 PM. Local crafters will be selling small handmade items, with the library offering used books, baked goods, 3-D and other crafted ornaments, and more. Plus, there will be hot chocolate and holiday music. Spread the word and join us to visit and shop with your neighbors.

The library will be closed Saturday-Tuesday (12/22-12/25) for the Christmas holiday, but open Noon-5 PM Wednesday, December 26th through Friday, December 27th.

The New Year's holiday closure is also Saturday-Tuesday (12/29-1/1), with regular hours starting January 2, 2019 and 10 AM.

You don't have to be without books and movies while the library is closed. Remember that our library offers patrons thousands of eBooks, eAudiobooks, and streaming movies – using the Libby and rbDigital apps or websites, with streaming movies from Kanopy.com. All information is on our website. Plus, patrons can renew their checked out items and reserve new items by going online to our catalog and into their accounts, and/or ordering items through mel.org (for items coming from other MeLCat libraries.)

The library staff wishes everyone a great holiday season.

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the past week, the Police Division responded to 62 calls for service. There have been no real calls of significance to report.

The department is beginning to get familiar with the new reporting system used by agencies in the area. This will be a worthwhile tool once individuals become more comfortable with it.

In the past week the Fire Division responded to 23 calls for service. On Wednesday, personnel had EMS training for the month and discussed Trauma and the effects on the body. We reviewed and demonstrated knowledge in splinting and immobilization equipment as well as trauma protocol review.

On Saturday, December 15th, the department had our family Christmas party. Santa made a visit to see everyone in attendance.

<https://preferredperspectivephotography.pixieset.com/brdpschristmasparty2018/>

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE-

245 Adult Riders (\$2.50 Fare)

509 Children Riders (\$1.25 Fare)

808 (\$1.25 Fare) –Senior (142) and Disabled (666) passengers of which 190 used the wheelchair lift to board

59 Free Riders – (27) Aides that ride with disabled passengers and (32) children 4 and under with an adult

79 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

617 Out of City

1,128 Ferris Shuttle

Ferris Shuttle is back and the main route on Campus stops at the East Campus Mailbox area, Lot 28 (behind McDonald's), Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4 (near Travis Circle), Rock Cafe, Lot 50 (next to Granger building), University Center, Arts and Science, 7:30 am -7:00 pm (M-F) and 7:30 am-2:00 pm Fridays.

DPW: STREETS –

- Checked sewers
- Trimmed brush in alleys
- Black dirtied stump holes
- Replaced 25 mph signs with 35 mph signs on Milton per traffic order
- Patched pot holes

DPW: PARKS –

- Opening and cleaning of City Hall restroom
- Put up back boards for ice rink
- Trimmed trees
- Checked downtown lights
- Sanding and painting picnic table boards
- Trimmed brush back from railings above Mitchell Creek Park
- Picked up litter in parking lots and parks
- Picked up remaining wood from Hemlock Park that was cut down

MAIN MAINTENANCE--

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/turn-ons
- Meter reads, re-reads, final reads
- Meter changeouts

WWTP –

- The plant is operating well, but some aerobic digester settling issues continue.
- Ordered and received a second recycle box for the rest of our used U.V. bulbs.
- The North State Lift Station project bid from the Isabella Corporation was approved by the City Commission. The DEQ also approved the Part 41 Permit for this project.
- The WWTP Water System Improvements bid from NWK was approved by the City Commission. The DEQ also approved the Part 41 Permit for this project.
- Professional Pump was on-site to replace our failed Kaeser #4 blower module. A new (not rebuilt) Kaeser factory replacement blower module is installed and operational.
- Plant Operators revised the North and South Digester sample port plumbing.

- Ordered a 275 gallon tote of Polymer from Baileys Street, Ltd.
- Ordered and received 4000 gallons of Ferric Chloride from Webb Chemical.
- Finalized a 1-year contract with Agile Safety for our portable and fixed gas detectors.
- The correct bagger kit was successfully installed on our Gravely lawn mower.
- Completed weekly Lift Station Readings and weekly Plant work orders.
- Screw Pump grease hoppers were re-filled and waste jugs emptied.
- Hach Technician was on-site visit to perform annual maintenance and calibration of our Hach Laboratory and U.V. instrumentation.
- Presented a summary of our new DEQ Draft NPDES Permit to the Green Twp. Board. This presentation for Big Rapids Twp will take place at the January 8, 2019 meeting.
- Presented a summary of our new DEQ Draft NPDES Permit to the City Commission.

Mark Gifford, City Manager