

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

April 8, 2016

GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

The Government Finance Officers Association has notified the City that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, under the direction of Treasurer Aaron Kuhn the City once again has achieved "The Certificate of Achievement" for excellence in financial reporting. Congratulations to Aaron and the Finance Department for success in this continuing award.

WASTEWATER CONTRACT WITH TOWNSHIPS

Worked on tentative language for provisions of the contract according to the format agreed at the last meeting. Uploaded files to be reviewed by township members. Worked with staff to put together definition of terms for township contract.

FIRE CONTRACT

Discussed fire request issues internally, set date for next negotiation session. The goal will be to have concluded the new contractual arrangement by July 1, 2016.

CHARTER COMMISSION

Members who had been on the Charter Commission met to discuss the purchasing challenges with the present wording. The group was empathetic on the issue and agreed to meet again after City Attorney Eric Williams, drafts some language for their review and discussion. That meeting will take place on April 21, 2016. A recommendation may be forthcoming after that time.

COMMUNITY GARDENS

It is the season to think Spring!!! Individuals interested in planting a plot in the Community Gardens should contact the City in preparation of the upcoming season.

FARMER'S MARKET

The Farmer's Market will start up again for the summer with the first market beginning on May 6th. Meetings of the vendors are ongoing in preparation of this popular summertime amenity.

CLAY CLIFFS

Planning continues for Clay Cliff's use. A trail location has been 'scouted out' and will be built within the next month. Trees and shrubs have been ordered and some will be

planted on Earth Day... Prairie grass will be planted this spring as this natural area is enhanced for the enjoyment of the area residents.

O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE

Permits have been finalized for the new auto parts store and warehouse. Construction is expected to begin shortly.

SPRING EVENTS

Reminder: The Big Event is scheduled for Saturday, April 16 and Earth Day follows the next Saturday, April 23.

PARK & RECREATION

- Volleyball playoffs will begin in two weeks for the Adult Co-ed League.
- Farmer's Market applications are being processed.
- Job Corps of Flint has been pushed back until May 2016 to reconstruct the dugouts due to weather and schedule conflicts.
- BRTCA middle school, after school tennis program begins next Tuesday. There is still room for participants grades 5-8. The program is Free.

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE –

190 Adult Riders - (\$2.00 Fare)

418 Children Riders - (\$1.00 Fare)

854 (\$1.00 Fare) - Seniors (84) and Disabled (770) passengers of which 189 used the wheelchair lift to board

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

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

96 Safe Riders – Free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am.

2,596 Ferris Shuttle Bus – Free rides to anyone on Campus, The new route has nine stops on campus- Lot 28, Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Sports Complex, Lot 4, Rock Cafe', Recreation Center, University Center, Arts and Science, 7:30 am - 7:00 pm Mon – Thur and 7:30 am – 2:00 pm on Friday.

4,279 Total Passengers

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

STREETS & PARKS –

Safety Topic: “Your hearing”

- Filling potholes
- Grading alleys
- Fixed washouts
- Fixing bent sign post
- Cleaning drains
- Sanded, salted roads
- Plowed streets and Airport
- Fenced off dug out areas at Win Kellum
- Fixed water stack at Brookside Court
- Checked and jetted sewers per normal daily and call ins
- Picked up trash downtown and in parks

MOTOR POOL –

- Staff vehicles & Miscellaneous Equipment:
 - 102 replaced under body lift cylinder
 - 224 pickup truck, service call for dead battery, jumped and returned it to shop and replaced battery
 - 311 compressor, replaced starter
 - 554 wing mower serviced
 - 560 kubota, serviced
 - Replaced 4 sets of underbody blades
- Police Cars:
 - 401 serviced, checked brakes and replaced outer tie-rod ends
 - 402 diagnosed running problem, replaced spark plugs
 - 403 serviced and checked brakes
- Busses:
 - 904 replaced top beacon light, and installed rear camera
 - 908 installed rear camera
 - 909 service call to repair shift linkage

MAIN MAINTENANCE -

- MISS Digs
- Miscellaneous reads

Stephen Sobers
City Manager