

# MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

**AUGUST 18, 2017**

## **EDA VISIT**

The Federal Economic Development Administration (EDA) was one of the granting agencies for the Baldwin Street Bridge Project and they are sending a representative here from Washington D.C. on September 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am to review the project.

## **LEADERSHIP MECOSTA**

Mark Sweppenheiser will be a part of the 2018 Leadership Mecosta Class.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES BIKE PATROL**

Staff from Neighborhood Services are initiating a new bike patrol program starting the week of August 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Members of Colt Aviation, along with City staff, met with the airport advisory committee on August 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss the future management of the airport. The group offered numerous ideas for how to best position the airport for future success.

## **LIBRARY**

Monday's Eclipse Party at the library was well attended. Lots of fun and lots of press coverage (9 & 10 News and The Pioneer). The young kids enjoyed making their own slime and some cootie catchers too. The preceding few days before the August 21st eclipse had many patrons coming in to get their eclipse glasses. The Library welcomed back patrons renewing their library cards and many more folks getting new library cards in order to get their eclipse glasses from us.

The Big Rapids schools had registrations/orientations on Wednesday the 23rd. The Library, for the first time, was there to sign up the students (and parents too) for library cards if they needed one. We were at Brookside, Riverview, and the Big Rapids Middle School. As part of the Big Rapids "Let's Read Program", students at the schools who are not in our service area, could get nonresident student cards if their parents were with them. These student cards are to use only in their classroom at school when their teachers have requested books from the library on particular topics of coursework.

The Little Phelps Free Libraries are being painted this week by various local organizations. All kinds of designs and colors being added to the libraries. We'll keep everyone posted as to where the libraries will be mounted/displayed.

Don't forget the Friends of the Library's annual book sale. Friday (9/1) from 9am to 5:30pm and Saturday (9/2) from 9am to 2:30pm at the park behind the library; and the Friends of the Library will also join the festivities on Labor Day at Hemlock Park with books to sell.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

- In the past week, the Police Division has responded to 75 calls for service. Of significance was a complaint, where a 17-year-old male from Holland was arrested for passing a counterfeit \$100 bill during a transaction with a pizza delivery driver. The male was arrested and confessed to having knowledge and intent when passing the bill.
- Investigators continue to investigate a string of thefts from vehicles in District 2 between S Michigan Ave and S Stewart Ave.
- Officers had ALERRT, active shooter training this week at Hillcrest Elementary. It was very worthwhile and educational training.
- In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 15 calls for service. On Tuesday, the Fire Division assisted on a structure fire in Reed City.

### **RECREATION**

- The City picnic was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who both contributed and attended.
- Women's volleyball registration is open until September 1st. Games will be played on Sundays at Big Rapids Middle School.
- Visited Earth Weaver's farm to complete farm inspection per Farmer's Market guidelines.

### **CODE ENFORMENT ACTIVITIES**

#### **Violations:**

- |                       |                             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| (3) Animals           | (4) Blight                  |
| (2) Disabled Vehicles | (7) Furniture               |
| (6) Garbage & Rubbish | (8) Grass & Weeds           |
| (7) Parking           | (4) Property Maintenance    |
| (9) Signs             | (3) Uninhabitable Dwellings |

### **PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES**

#### **DIAL-A-RIDE**

**186** Adult Riders - (\$2.00 Fare)

**172** Children Riders - (\$1.00 Fare)

**684** (\$1.00 Fare) - Seniors (149) and Disabled (535) passengers of which 164 used the wheelchair lift to board

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

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

**NO** Safe Riders – Done for the summer, will start back up in September. Free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am.

**NO** Ferris Shuttle Bus – East Campus Mailbox, Lot 28, Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4, Rock Cafe', Arts and Science, 7:30am -7:00pm

**1,154** Total Passengers

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

### **DPW: STREETS**

- Repaired damaged umbrella
- Dug out drive on Mason and Industrial Drives
- Repaired catch basin on 131 and S State St
- Removed animals caught in live traps
- Worked on Michigan Avenue
- Installed new water valve boxes and manhole covers on S Michigan Ave
- Patched potholes
- Hauled stuff for the picnic
- Sawed patches on Rust Ave and Bailey Dr
- Dug out the patch on Rust Ave for Rieth-Riley
- Graveled the drive on Mason Industrial
- Sewer contractor in town, cleaned and televised around 12,000 feet
- Checked and jetted sewers per normal daily and call ins
- Set out Farmers Market cones and signs, Tuesday and Friday

### **DPW: PARKS**

- Replaced Rain Garden sign
- Used blower on White Pine Trail and Riverwalk
- Sprayed for bees at River Street soccer fields
- Sprayed for bees at Swede Hill
- Sprayed for weeds on Dexter Ave
- Prepped ball fields for games
- Watered and maintained flowers
- Mowed and weed whipped parks, downtown and ballfields
- Picked up trash downtown and in parks
- Opened, cleaned and maintained City Hall and park public restrooms daily

### **MOTOR POOL**

- Police & Fire Vehicles:

- 401- finished installing all the new police equipment and put into service.
  - 402- replaced rear tires and engine motor mounts. Replaced right lower control arm bushing
  - 403- serviced. Replaced all 4 tires and lower control arm bushing. Installed a battery charge guard. Replaced driver's seat cover and pad.
  - 404- serviced
  - 405- installed visor light.
  - 408- serviced and removed radio and installed it in the transport car
  - 416- serviced and replaced heater/water pump main assembly
- Dial-A-Ride:
    - 905- did a grease service. Repaired coolant leak. Replaced exhaust filter and front hub seal. Repaired wheel chair lift controller.
    - 906- serviced and did a safety inspection. Serviced wheel chair lift.
    - 908- did a grease service. diagnosed low oil pressure, changed diluted oil. Rerouted crank case vent system and replaced check valve drain tube.
    - Replaced rear tires. Repaired partition behind driver's seat. Repaired water leak at radio antenna. Replaced A/C fans

## **MAIN MAINTENANCE**

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/ons
- Meter reads, rereads, final reads

Mark Gifford, City Manager