



\*THE CITY OF GRANT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER\*

**OCTOBER 2012**

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 3

[www.cityofgrantmi.com](http://www.cityofgrantmi.com)

## THE CITY OF GRANT NEWSLETTER



### Safe Routes to School Sidewalks Project

The City Safe Routes to School Project in collaboration with Grant Public Schools is nearly complete. New sidewalks are on Lake St, Brink St, Commerce St. and Elder Ave. The City wishes to thank property owners for their patience throughout the duration of this project.

### ORV Ordinance-Notice

Newaygo County recently created an ORV Ordinance to permit ORV vehicles on all the shoulders of County Roads. This means COUNTY ROADS ONLY. State roads and City/Village roads do not apply to this ordinance. ORV's are currently NOT PERMITTED on any City of Grant streets (unless the City Commission creates an ordinance) as well as M-37, M-82, M-120, or M-20. If you are interested in having an ORV ordinance in the City, attend a City Commission Meeting or contact a City Commissioner. Newaygo County has created resource information available on its website with the ordinance, pamphlet and map at:

<http://www.countyofnewaygo.com/ORV/ORVHome.htm>

### City Street Resurfacing 2012

#### Street Resurfacing for October:

The City partnered with the County Road Commission bid for materials and will be resurfacing the southern half of Elder Ave, Part of Park Dr, the alley off Front St (Post Office alley) and the small stretch of Commerce St between M-37 and the train tracks near Wilbur Ellis. The resurfacing projects do not have a date scheduled yet, but notice will be sent to adjacent properties in advance as well as put on the City sign and website.

### Community Center

If you or someone you know is interested in renting the Community Center for a reception or party, all information is available at the Community Center, City Office or the City website:

<http://www.cityofgrantmi.com/communitycenter.html>

**City Resident Rate: \$140** (includes tables and chairs)

Non-Resident Rate: \$240 (includes tables and chairs)

\*\*Deposit \$250\*\*

\*\*Non refundable deposit to reserve date \$20\*\*

### Be Involved! Other Public Meetings:

**Grant Public Schools:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month, 7pm, Middle School Cafeteria.

**Grant District Library Board Meetings:** 3<sup>rd</sup>

Tuesday of every month at 7pm at the Library, 122 Elder Ave.

**Ashland-Grant Fire District Meetings:** Every other month-Oct. 29, Dec. 17 and Feb 25 at 9am at the Fire Building at 62 W State Rd.

### Credit/Debit Card Payments Available For Your Convenience

The City has expanded payment options for property taxes as well as water and sewer billing. The company processing the payments will charge a fee of \$5.95 for utility payments and 3% for tax payments. To use this service simply go to the city's website [www.cityofgrantmi.com](http://www.cityofgrantmi.com) and click on the online payment tab, you can go directly to [www.officialpayments.com](http://www.officialpayments.com) or by phone **1-800-272-9829**

**Our Jurisdiction Code is 7124.**

You can pay by:

- Visa, MasterCard, American Express & Discover credit and debit cards.
- Electronic Check

If you have any questions, please contact the city office.

### Water Freezes at 32 Degrees!

Each winter the City DPW responds to several City properties that have not adequately insulated or heated the area where a water meter is located. When the water meter freezes, it will burst and flood the property. Please make sure that there is adequate insulation, heat or appropriate winterization to avoid a mess and costly repair this winter.

### Grant Police Department Tips

Please remember to keep your homes and vehicles secure by locking them. Most property crimes are crimes of opportunity.

The police department recommends property owners purchase and install motion sensor lights to help deter crime.

The Grant Police Department reminds residents and business owners to call law enforcement authorities when suspicious activity or a crime is occurring. **Do not wait to report such activity!** If you wait to report suspicious activity or a crime it makes solving or resolving the complaint difficult.

For Emergencies: Dial 911

For Non-Emergencies: Dial 231-834-7212-Grant PD

For Non-Emergencies if there is no answer at Grant PD: Dial 231-689-5288-Dispatch-They will contact the car out on patrol to assist you.

### Winter Parking Restrictions

The City would like to remind residents and visitors that there is no parking of any motor vehicle upon any public street or alley within the City limits between the hours of 2am and 6am November 15 through April 15 (Ord. #18). This aid City plows removing snow from City streets. Signs are posted around the City that has a number to call if your vehicle is towed.

### Public Notices

The City regularly posts and publishes news items, permits, information regarding changes in the City of the City web page under the "public notices" tab.

<http://www.cityofgrantmi.com/publicnotices.html>

### Sewer Issues, How Do I Handle It?

If you ever experience slow drains or notice drains bubbling up, first call the **City DPW at 834-7462**. City staff will check the main line from the manhole to determine if the main line is obstructed or not. If the main line is obstructed, then the city will clear the line and is responsible for any property damage. If the main is flowing, then it is likely you have roots in your lateral, grease plugging your lateral, or you have an old clay lateral that may have collapsed. If it is determined that the issue is your lateral, then you should **call a local plumber immediately**. **You are responsible for your sewer lateral to the main line, just like you are responsible for your driveway to the street.**

### Please DO NOT Flush Household Refuse Into the City Sewer System!

During routine maintenance of the sewer collection system, City DPW staff has noticed unusual items such as shirts, diapers, rags and other items like pants and nightgowns that have been flushed down toilets. These items should never be flushed, but deposited into a refuse container. These items can cause a sewer back up and creates maintenance problems for DPW staff. Please be courteous and do not flush items down the drain that belong in a refuse container.

### Water Main-Hydrant Flushing

City DPW staff will be conducting semi-annual water main flushing the weeks of **October 8-12 (hours between 8am-3pm) and October 15-19 (hours between 9pm and 12am)**. Some discoloration of water may occur throughout this time, so let your water runs for a short period until it clears. While the water will continue to be safe to drink, residents are urged to be cautious of discoloration while doing laundry during these times.

### 2012 Elections Information

**October 9:** The last day to register for voting eligibility for the November 6 General Election

**November 3:** This is the last day to request an Absentee Voter ballot. This deadline date is on a Saturday and the City Office will be open from 10am to 2pm to handle these requests.

**November 6:** General Election-Vote at the City Office from 7am to 8pm

**For voter registration forms and other information, please visit:**  
[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/MIVoterRegistration\\_97046\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/MIVoterRegistration_97046_7.pdf)

### Blanche Lake Park Improvements

The City has worked hard to improve City parks, both with amenities and increased upkeep and maintenance. The City obtained and implemented phase 1 of adding a swim beach to Blanche Lake in August. The permit is available on the City website by clicking the public notice tab if any public is interested. The City is also adding 9 light poles and security cameras to increase safety and protect the park from vandalism this fall.

### Notice of City Commission Meetings:

October 15, 2012

November 19, 2012

December 17, 2012

City of Grant Regular Commission Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 PM

280 South Maple Street, Grant, MI 49327

(Clip this out for the fridge):

**City of Grant Office: 834-7904**

**A-Waste (Garbage): 834-9913**

**City of Grant Police: 834-7212**

**City of Grant DPW/Water/Sewer: 834-7462**

**Grant Post Office: 834-5966**

**Newaygo County Sheriff Department: 231-689-7303**

**City Assessor (Newaygo County Equalization): 231-689-7244**

**Building Inspector (Newaygo County): 231-689-7216**

**Grant District Library: 834-5713**

For a list of area business contact information please visit:

[www.grantareachamber.com](http://www.grantareachamber.com)

### DPW Brush/Leaf Pick Up (New/Enhanced Service)

Brush and leaf pick up will finish up on November 15, 2012. The City purchased a commercial leaf vacuum to vacuum up leaves raked into rows on the road right of way for this fall. The leaf vacuum will be in operation from October 15-November 15 only and we ask residents to rake leaves into rows only during this time. The City DPW staff does not know how fast this new piece of equipment will work and we ask for patience and understanding as the City rolls out this enhanced service. Residents may still place leaves in *biodegradable paper bags* for picked up as well. The city has encouraged local stores to stock these bags for your convenience.

**\*Pick up of yard waste (and leaf vacuum) occurs on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.** Please do not place your yard waste at the curb/right of way after DPW staff has completed pick-up on your street, because it will not get picked up until the next scheduled pick-up. However, if the DPW crew misses your yard waste, please contact them as soon as possible at 834-7462. **Size and weight restrictions are strictly enforced, 50 pounds and 4 foot sections for branches.** Also as a reminder, do not place any yard waste at the curb/right of way more than 1-2 days before the scheduled pick-up. If the regular pick-up falls on a Saturday or a Sunday, it will be moved to Monday.

### Snow Removal on Sidewalks

Ordinance #53 section 302.3- Requires property owners to keep sidewalks adjacent to their property free from anything that will obstruct them or cause a hazard to public safety. Please shovel sidewalks. Per City Policy, the DPW will clear them during large snow events of 10 or more inches or as time permits during a regular work day.

### Other Local Ordinances to be Aware of:

**Ordinance #14** Is an ordinance regulating snowmobiles for the winter season. Snowmobiles must be OFF streets, not on any sidewalks, must travel at a speed not greater than 10mph and may not operate between 10pm and 8am.

**Ordinance #53.301-308** Our property maintenance ordinance prohibits unlicensed and nonfunctioning vehicles in the city limits, unless they are located in full-enclosed areas of your property. This prohibits cluttered material present in yards. Please keep your yards and items in your yard, like refuse containers, etc... clean and not left out at the street to help the City maintain a positive image.

**Ordinance #20** Is an ordinance requiring anyone plowing snow for hire to obtain a snow plow permit from the City. Permits are now reduced to \$10 per vehicle.

**Ordinance #37-2** An ordinance that allows for a permit to burn for \$20.

**Ordinance #34** Curfew-no minors under 17 out from 10pm to 6am, no aiding or abetting curfew violations for 17 or older.

All City Ordinances are available on our website:

[www.cityofgrantmi.com](http://www.cityofgrantmi.com)

**\*\*If you see any of these violations, call the Grant Police Department at 834-7212\*\***