



THE CITY OF GRANT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER
HAVE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE SUMMER

JULY 2015

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 3

www.cityofgrantmi.com

****PLEASE READ YOUR CITY NEWSLETTER. MANY QUESTIONS VIA CALLS/E-MAILS/STOPPING BY CITY HALL ARE OFTEN ADDRESSED IN NEWSLETTERS TO BETTER INFORM CITIZENS****

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****

****These are non-alcohol rates****

Citywide Yard Sales

The "unofficial" citywide yard sales will be Saturday, September 12th.

Summer Property Taxes

Summer tax bills will be sent out July 1st. They are **due by August 10th**. Taxes can be paid at the City Office during regular office hours, the City drop box, or via the City's 3rd party payment vendor for online/phone payments (see pg 1).

Please Keep Our City Beautiful!

The City of Grant has several ordinances regarding parking of vehicles, trash/junk, tall grass/weeds, trash containers and other nuisance violations. As a reminder, these ordinances **will be enforced** so please be sure to read the regulations on the back page of this newsletter and by clicking on the "ordinances" tab on the City website.

Be Involved In Your Community!

Other Public Meetings:

Library Board Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7pm at 122 Elder Ave.

Ashland-Grant Fire District Meetings: Every other month- August 24th and October 2th 6 at 9am at the Fire Building at 62 W State Rd.

Grant Public Schools: 2nd Monday of every month, 7pm, at the Fine Arts Center on E State Rd.

Farmers Market and Public Parking Area

The planned improvements for the new Farmers' Market are finally underway. As soon as winter frost restrictions are lifted, we will begin with excavation of the grounds. Part of work will focus on improving the surface water drainage problem prevalent in the area over the past few decades. Once excavation is complete, we will proceed with concrete work and constructing the sheltered pavilions. We will finish the project up by adding the benches and picnic tables and installing trees, shrubs, and a little bit of landscaping. Once complete, the Farmers Market will also offer the opportunity to host other city-wide events. We are currently looking for individuals who would like to be involved in the planning and development of the market. Please contact the City Manager at (231) 834-7904.

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 and click on the online payment tab, you can go directly to www.officialpayments.com or by phone **1-800-272-9829—The City's Jurisdiction Code is 7124.** You can pay by: Visa, MasterCard, American Express & Discover credit and debit cards and electronic check.

Chickens in the City

Over the past few years a number of Michigan communities have made urban farming a focus of sustainable development. Part of urban farming in some of these communities allow residents to keep and raise chickens. There have been several inquiries here in Grant about permitting this type of activity. Currently, City Ordinance #21-1 prohibits residents from having chickens. There is a possibility that this ordinance could change if there are a number of residents who show interest in raising poultry on their own property. If any resident is interested in exploring this issue further or has an interest in this type of activity, please contact the City Manager at (231) 834-7904.

Movie Night in the Park

Come join us for the first Movie Night in the Park. The featured movie will be Disney's Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, NO GOOD, VERY BAD DAY.

Date: Saturday June 27, 2015
Location: Blanche Lake Park Amphitheater
200 Park Dr. Grant, MI 49327
Time: 9:00 pm

Parking is limited. Be sure to bring either a blanket or chair to sit on. Those wishing to sit on blankets will be closer to the screen and those wishing to sit in lawn chairs will sit a little further back as not to obstruct the view of those sitting on blankets. Please remember your bug spray!! There is only one restroom. Trash receptacles will be available for your convenience. Hope you enjoy the show!!

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 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, 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.**

Ordinance #53 Section 302.4-Tall Grass and Weeds

All premises and exterior property shall be maintained free from weeds or plant growth in excess of **10 inches**. All noxious weeds shall be prohibited. Weeds shall be defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs provided; however, this term shall not include cultivated flowers and gardens as well as wooded or forested lots. The City will serve you written notice sent by U.S. Mail if you are in violation. You will be given 7 days to comply before a **\$50 citation** is issued. If the property is still not taken care of for an additional 7 days, another citation will be issued and the City DPW will mow the property and a bill will be sent for the services rendered. Unpaid bills will be placed on tax bills.

City of Grant Water Quality Report

The annual water quality report is enclosed with the tax bills for your convenience and is also available via the City website:
<http://www.cityofgrantmi.com/publicnotices.html>
If you have any questions please contact the DPW/Water Dept. at 834-7462.

Ordinance #53 Section 303.1-Pools

Private swimming pools, hot tubs and spas containing water more than 24 inches (2 ft) in depth shall be completely surrounded by a fence or barrier at least 48 inches (4 ft) in height above the finished ground level measured on the side of the barrier away from the pool and must have a locked/latched gate.

Grant Police Department Information

The Grant Police Department reminds residents and business owners to call law enforcement authorities when suspicious activity or a crime is occurring.
For Emergencies: Dial 911
For Non-Emergencies: Dial 231-834-7212
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.
Silent observer: Dial 231-924-0641 or newaygocountysilentobserver@gmail.com

Notice of City Commission Meetings:

July 20, 2015

August 17, 2015

September 21, 2015

City of Grant Regular Commission Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00pm at City Hall-280S. Maple St, Grant, MI 49327

Important Contact Numbers:

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

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

DPW Brush Pick Up

Bagged leaf and brush pick-up Starts April 1st

Leaves must be bagged in biodegradable paper bags to be picked up. The city has encouraged local stores to stock these bags for your convenience.

***Pick up of yard waste occurs on the 1st and the 15th of each month.** Please do not place your yard waste out after pick-up on your street, because it will not get picked up until the next scheduled pick-up. The City has had several homeowners come out after DPW staff has been down their street. Just like your solid waste/garbage that is picked up, get it out the night before or very early in the morning to make sure it gets picked up. Otherwise you will have to wait until the next pick up and may receive a citation for violating Ord. # 50. **Size and weight restrictions are strictly enforced, 50 pounds and 4 foot sections for branches.** If the regular pick-up falls on a Saturday or a Sunday, it will be moved to Monday.

Other Local Ordinances to be Aware of:

Ordinance #44 Prohibits loud noise generated by radios or other sound amplification devices. Limits are 50ft from 7am-9pm and 25 ft from 9pm to 7am.

Ordinance #53.301-308 Our local junk ordinance prohibits unlicensed and nonfunctioning vehicles in the city limits, unless they are located in full-enclosed areas of your property. It also prohibits cluttered material present in yards.

Ordinance #21-1 An ordinance regulating the care and custody of dogs. All dogs must be licensed, no more than three dogs per household, no dogs running at large, must be restrained on 6ft or shorter leash, may be unrestrained at home if being supervised. If not supervised, dogs must be inside or in a kennel/fenced in.

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

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

MSHDA'S "Step Forward"

Unemployment Mortgage Subsidy Program is available to pay Delinquent Property Taxes, if you qualify. Visit: <https://www.stepforwardmichigan.org/> or call toll free (866) 946-7432. (A list of MSHDA's programs to assist homeowners is on the back of this sheet.) MSU Finance and Home Ownership Educator, Bill Hendrian, is also available to assist you at (231) 757-4789.

Water Sewer Payments

In order to avoid late payment penalty fees or a shut off, The City of Grant encourages city residents to make payments throughout the quarter as to not have to pay so much out of pocket when the bill is due. Payments can be made weekly, bi-weekly or monthly.

ORV Ordinance #56: The City Commission has approved an ORV Ordinance, similar to Newaygo County, permitting ORV's on the edge of City streets. Please visit the City website and click on ordinances to view the rules and regulations.