

City Manager's Office Status and Information February 10, 2017



*** Of Note ***

**Downtown Bay City
Calendar of Events & Special Activities
February 2017**

*One Day Only!
Sweet Treats
and Special
Promotions!*

Indulge!

*A perfect day to treat yourself,
your special Valentine -- or both of you!*

For additional information, click on the event location.

10&11 State Theatre Comedy Tour
"The legends of Sitcom Comedy Tour" featuring Marc Price, Marsha Warfield and John Henton, 7pm

11 Prime Event Center Music Festival
Excellency Music is pleased to announce the "Excellency Music Festival Winter 2017" from 11:30am to 10pm

11 Downtown Indulge
The *Sweetheart* of an event! Come enjoy great shopping and dining, get chocolate and treats, and win prizes - all over Downtown!

11 Historical Museum Lecture Series
Second Saturday presents "Crossing Bridges: The Evolution of the Bay County Library System" with Mary Penn, 1pm

12 State Theatre Free Movie Sunday
Come enjoy "This is Spinal Tap" (1984) Food donation appreciated for The Safe Harbor Kitchen, 2pm

14 Wirt Library Children's Program
"Candy Land Party" with activities, games, crafts and candy! Children of all ages and their families, 4-5:30pm

Manager's Office

Governor Appoints Task Force on Legacy Costs

The Michigan Municipal League provided the following update: Governor Snyder's office issued a release this week announcing his appointments to a municipal retirement benefits reform task force he alluded to during his recent State of the State address. The [23-member task force](#) includes representation from MML, MTA and MAC, along with representatives from a number of labor groups, legislators from each caucus in the House and Senate, health care and retirement system experts, among others. The Task Force on Responsible Retirement Reform for Local Government has been directed by the Governor to provide their recommendations later this spring. MML looks forward to a fruitful and thoughtful partnership with all of the members of this task force and are hopeful that as a group they will work toward sound fiscal policy that preserves benefits for our employees while at the same time allowing critical flexibility for communities.

Gold Star Families Monument

The Bay City Battery Park site has been selected to be the location where the "Gold Star Families Monument" will be permanently sited. This location will be the only location in the State of Michigan to be honored. The monument recognizes the family members (mom, dad, sisters and brothers) who survive the loss of a family member who have



made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. This recognition is for all wars/conflicts that our Country has been engaged in during the past 100 years.

The monument will cost approximately \$50,000 to \$75,000 and will be financed by fundraising by the Veterans Foundation. An official dedication is planned for September 2017. More information will be provided to the Commission at a later date.

Clerk's Office

2017 Election Information:

Primary Election: Tuesday, August 8, 2017

General Election: Tuesday, November 7, 2017



Offices To Be Elected In 2017*:

City Commissioners from Wards 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 4-year terms, ending November, 2021

Qualifications:

- Registered elector under State laws at the time of filing the nominating petitions
- Resident of City of Bay City for 1 year preceding the date of the election
- Commissioners must reside in the ward from which they seek election at the time of filing their nominating petitions
- Commissioners are limited to serving 2 consecutive 4-year terms

Petitions:

City Commissioner – signatures of 50 registered electors from the ward the individual is seeking to represent. *NOTE: Petitions will be accepted with no more than 75 registered electors.*

Filing Deadline for Petitions & Affidavits of Identity:

Tuesday, April 25, 2017, by 4 pm

Withdrawal Deadline:

Written notice to Tema J. Lucero, City Clerk, not later than 4 pm

Friday, April 28, 2017

***Stay tuned for more Election Information**

Community Development

Housing Improvement Strategy

Two of the most discussed figures from the January 30, 2017, Town Hall meeting were “heat maps” showing the following:

Areas of the city most likely to contain properties of certain condition scores (at-risk, transitional, stable); and

Areas of the city most likely to contain higher, mid-value or lower State Equalized Values (SEVs)

There is strong correlation between the City's property conditions and property values. Much of this relationship actually comes at the block and neighborhood levels, more so than even the individual property level. When multiple homes on a block are blighted, the value of that block of homes is likely to fall substantially; which may bring down the value of surrounding blocks as well. Eventually negatively affecting an entire neighborhood's property values. This partially explains why certain full neighborhoods with stronger property condition scores and few blighted properties tend to hold substantially higher land values than other neighborhoods of the city where increased numbers of blighted homes may be located. The City's working strategy, following recommendations from the 2016 Housing Study, is to ensure that stable (green) neighborhoods remain so, work to stabilize "yellow" areas and maintain our efforts toward code enforcement and investment across the entire community.

Figure 1: (Right) Heat map of property condition scores in the city. Red areas indicate zones more likely to include blighted, poorer-scoring properties, while green zones indicate zones more likely to include fewer or no blighted, poorer-scoring properties.

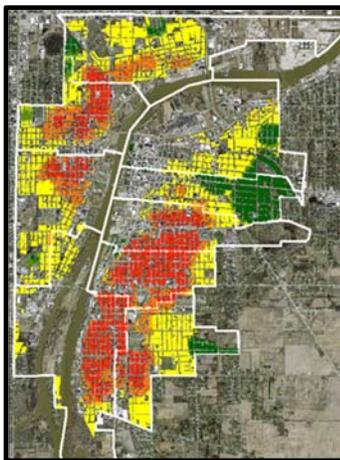
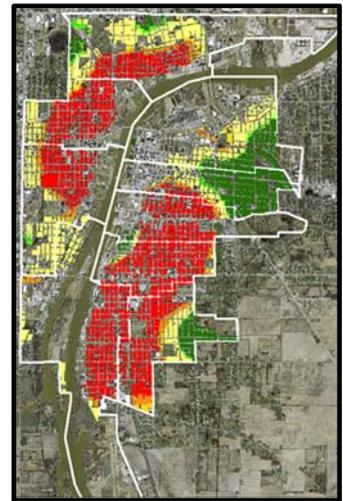


Figure 2: (left) Heat map showing SEVs in Bay City. Red areas indicate zones likely to include lower residential SEVs, whereas green areas indicate zones likely to include higher residential SEVs.

Building Code Enforcement and Rental Housing

Update on Fletcher Property – Staff completed the weekly inspection of the Fletcher property



demolition and found that great progress had been made this week. The environmental contractor started removing the asbestos siding from the building on Monday, February 6th, and upon re-inspection on Thursday, February 9th, the majority of the siding had been removed. It appears that the environmental portion of the demolition will be completed soon and the main demolition contractor will be

able to start removal of the building itself.



Electric Department

Tandem Metering

Work has been completed for the installation of tandem meters at four Time of Use (TOU) metered locations. Dual meters are used at these locations because the Elster Meter does not support our internal process that is currently used at the last three (3) TOU locations. The tandem metering points should be ready to be rolled into the billing cycle for February's 2017 billing once they pass an audit for accuracy.



Public Safety

Fire Operations Division

On February 6th, at 7:04 am, Fire Operations personnel were dispatched to a structure fire located at the Oasis Lounge Bar, 1913 Kosciuszko Avenue. Upon arrival, personnel observed smoke and fire coming from the rear of the building. Crews found the fire had spread into the attic and burned through the roof. The fire was quickly extinguished and was declared under control at 7:58 am. Six on duty full-time firefighters and eight public safety officers were on the initial response. Three off-duty firefighters, four off-duty public safety officers, along with one part-time firefighter also responded to the second alarm request. Oasis employees and customers were able to evacuate the building without injury and no firefighters were injured during the incident. The cause and origin of the fire remains under investigation.



In June 2016, the Fire Operations Division was awarded a FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Assistance to Firefighters Grant for Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) in the amount of \$417,150. After following grant rules, the division ultimately purchased 54 SCBAs, 108 air bottles and 74 face pieces to replace obsolete and outdated SCBA equipment, dating back to 1999. As of February 7th, the entire order has been received and personnel are awaiting training on the new gear.

Patrick Hanley was promoted to Captain on the C-shift at Station 2 on February 9, 2017. Patrick has been with the Fire Operations Division for 22 years, working his way up the ranks. Please join us in congratulation Pat in his new position!



Law Enforcement Administration

The Director and Deputy Director attended the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police Annual Winter Conference in Grand Rapids from February 8th through February 10th. Some of the lecture topics this year included *The War on Cops and its Consequences for Public Safety*, *The New HIDTA Heroin Response Strategy* and *Active Violence Training for Schools*.

Law Enforcement Support Operations

On February 4th, two officers assisted the Dow Bay Area Family Y with its third annual Heave-Ho Dodgeball Battle. This year they had a total (and new record) of 35 teams, including 10 adult teams. The event raised over \$7,000 dollars for our Strong Community Movement, which is the greatest avenue by which the Dow Bay Area Family YMCA gives back to our community as a non-profit. The Movement has given over \$700,000 back to our community since 2011, and in the last year made it possible for over 2,000 people in our community to become Y members, enroll in camps, join youth sports leagues and have a safe place to learn and build confidence through child care and after-school programs. Additionally, 897 kids have received scholarships for memberships at the Dow Bay Area Family YMCA.

During the week of February 6th, a detective attended court for the Kevin Rieman trial. Jurors in the trial of Kevin J. Rieman found him guilty of a single count of embezzlement by an agent or trust more than \$20,000, uttering and publishing and forgery. This was a very complicated case to investigate and the detective spent several months in preparation of a successful prosecution. All of the charges are felonies and Rieman remains out on bond until sentencing while still awaiting trial on other similar charges.

Law Enforcement COPS

The 2017 Bay County Youth Leadership Academy visited the Bay City Department of Public Safety on February 10th. Students had the opportunity to learn about the function of the public safety department, fingerprinting and evidence collection, along with a special presentation on narcotics investigations. Around 25 high school students from participating Bay County schools attended.

Public Works

Parks

Equipment maintenance and repair is one of the projects undertaken each winter in the Parks Division to prepare for the resumption of seasonal work routines in the spring. The Division's rotary mowing fleet includes 9 machines ranging in cutting width from 6' to 16' and flail, bush hog and boom mowers which are both tractor mounted. All mowers are cleaned and inspected, blades sharpened and minor mechanical and body repairs completed.



In addition, a variety of small gas engine powered maintenance tools are inspected and prepared for use. Those tools include 3 maintenance carts, the recently acquired power washing unit, 3 hand mowers, 3 commercial landscape vacuums, 8 chain saws, 10 string trimmers, 4 backpack blowers, power generators and hedge shears. An inventory is also performed to repair or replace a variety of of hand tools including shovels, rakes, hammers, sledges, drills and saws.



Street/Sanitation/Fleet Department

The fleet department is in dire need of relocating to a different facility, we are consistently dealing with problems due the deteriorating building. We have made minimal repairs to the boiler system to “get us by”. The latest issue has been the collapse of the low pressure stream line for the return pump that fell from the ceiling, when the anchor points failed. The overhead heating system in the Fleet repair area of the garage was in need of replacement. Staff has tried to make it last until we moved; however, it has completely failed and we are in the process of replacing some of the heating units.



Another issue been plagued with is rust. Rust holes are completely through the metal in several areas of our vehicles. One complete cab was replaced on a unit #184, a 2001 tandem dump truck where the cab mounts were completely rusted off at the frame. The entire cab was so rusted that it was beyond repair. A new cab costs about \$16,000 and another \$4,000 for labor to paint and swap the interior components.



Also in the process of being replaced is the cab on unit

#185, a sister truck to #184. Cab replacement is the most economical and quickest way to get these trucks operational and available for snow plowing. Our 2010 Rear load trash truck #156, has rust holes in the floor pan that are also in need of repair. Staff is checking to see if floor pans are available and can be cut out and replaced with a new floor pan assembly. Staff washes these units outside on a regular basis in the spring through the fall; however, during the winter months, there is no place to wash these units inside. A wash station has been proposed in a facility to help reduce the rust issues and improve the appearance of our fleet. The last five new units have been sent out for undercoating to help prolong the bodies and cabs.



Staff has worked with the Lake State Railroad and Huron-Eastern Railroad to submit funding applications with MDOT for Local Agency Highway-Railroad Grade Crossing Surface Improvement Projects. The application process encouraged local agencies to work with the Railroads in order to submit an application. If approved, MDOT would pay for 60% of the project cost, if the Railroad committed to paying for the other 40%. There was no project cost to the City, other than providing recent traffic counts, approving the temporary traffic control plan and submitting the applications (the Railroads were not allowed to submit the application themselves). Staff did agree to update the signage and markings at several crossing where needed. Four applications were submitted for the following crossing, Cass Avenue near Garfield Avenue, Henry Street near Smith Street, N. Union Street near Blend Street and S. Chilson Street near Salzburg Avenue.

Water Distribution

Water Metering Department:

Water Metering employees are handling customer service related work orders such as high bill complaints, zero usage/stuck meters, low pressure, turn on and turn off for repair or non-payment, seasonal shuts, water meter repairs, obtaining special water meter reads and changing larger commercial type water meters and “no water” calls due to customers water distribution lines being frozen or having frozen water meters.

Metering employees have been on the move responding to calls such as no water, frozen meters, frozen pipes in customers’ homes and “water flying” due to broken pipes/plumbing in customers’ homes. Metering staff generates a “Continuous Use Report” daily. Staff then investigates and/or makes a call to the name listed on the active utility account. To date, 13 customers have been notified; mostly residential, of continuous water use through the water meter. Approximately 75% of these calls are running or defective toilets. The remaining 25% are frozen pipes and/or frozen meters.

Metering employees are currently utilizing “tablets” out in the field; which is very helpful to them having a great deal of important information at their fingertips. Such information includes tap dates, location of valves and their measurements, customer information, all kinds of meter information and most importantly the Water layer in GIS.



AMI Meter Changes

AMI meter changes are still taking place. As new owners are taking ownership of vacant houses, staff is able to enter the house and get the water meters upgraded to the new AMI meter. As it stands, there are approximately **384** meters left to change with the majority of that number being vacant homes. In December 2016, four water meters from the list to be upgraded were completed, one upgrade was a vacant home. A new domestic water meter was installed for the recently constructed “multi use” building in Uptown, 2nd Floor. Three AMI Repairs took place and a total of 11 compound meters were returned as the HI/LO information had to be re-entered to accommodate both Electsolve Elster.

Water Distribution Department:

In the month of January 2017, the Water Department had the following excavations:

- 2 – Watermain Breaks
- 2 – Lead service replacements
- 2 – Lead service replaced by Direction Bore Contractor
- 1 – Curbstop Repair
- 2 – Fire Hydrants replaced
- 3 – Shut & Cut old Lead water services (house demolished)
- 4 – Replacement of Top Section of Valve Box

Welcome to the Water Distribution Team

Water Distribution Department welcomes City employee's **Fred Ivey** and **Joe Oszust** to our Water Distribution Division. Joe, having 9 years with the City, joined us on January 30, 2017. Fred, a 21 year veteran with the City, joined us on February 7, 2017. Both employees bring many years of combined experience from other divisions.

Water Quality Monitoring, Testing & Certification:



As a result of a new filtration plant, the DEQ requires municipalities who purchase water from the filtration plant, to perform 2 full rounds of lead/copper testing versus having performed it annually in the past. For the first round, we are currently planning to have delivery of approximately 40 plastic lead sample bottles to the City's sample sites on Tuesday, March 7, with bottle pickup on Thursday, March 9. Sampling is a month away, which still gives ample time to go over current sample sites, ensure that they still qualify, and find replacements should any sample site no longer qualify or are not willing to participate. If we need to replace a site with a new one, *Site Certification* forms have to be completed and submitted to the Water Plant. Several types of tests are performed such as: Bacteriological Testing, Lead & Copper Testing, Disinfectants and Disinfectant Byproducts Testing, Service & Replacement Lead Sampling. The sample collection process is to assure to our water customers that our drinking water meets the federal guidelines of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Test results are included in the Consumer Confidence Report which will be delivered to customers in June. Additional information will be on our website available to all water customers of Bay City and the public.

With the new water plant up and running, City personnel was successful in decommissioning the **48" raw water intake** leading into the old pumping station located at the end of State Park Dr. After 2 weeks of pumping the vault and the wet well, sand bags were placed and 50 yards of concrete was pumped to seal off the intake that lead into the pumping station. This intake line was the connection from the Saginaw Bay leading into the pumping plant.



Of the 17 Water and Metering employees, 5 currently do *not* hold a DEQ Water Certification License. Training is encouraged and endorsed to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our employees. The boundaries differ from job to job so having knowledge or training and certification is crucial.

In January, the following training courses have been completed by Water & Metering staff:

- *Safety Slips/Trips & Falls DVD
- *CompOne's Hazardous Communication Training
- *Ditchwitch Equipment & Safety Training
- *"Miss Dig" Operators Training
- *New AIS Backhoe (715) Safety Training,

- *2017 MRWA Joint Expo & Trade Show
- *MRWA Hands on Asset Management Program & Rate Study Workshop
- *MRWA Water Supply Annual Cross Connection Report Workshop
- *Miss Dig RTE (Remote Ticket Entry) Certification

Greg Kolka, Water Distribution, General Maintenance Worker, retired on January 27, 2017, after 27 Years of City service. We thank Greg for his dedication and strong work ethic!



Congratulations Kevin!

Water Distribution Employee, Kevin Wagner received “Employee of the Month” recognition for February, 2017. Kevin was nominated for his excellent work ethic, job knowledge, and dedication to a job well done. Kevin has been employed with the City for over 9 years. He currently holds an S-3 DEQ Water License Certification.

Wastewater Treatment Plant

Retention Treatment Basin #3 Capital Improvement Project Update - The start-up for the new dewatering screws was held on Tuesday, February 7, 2017. RCL Construction, Spaans Babcock (screw manufacturer) and HRC were present. Both screws were started in auto from the WWTP via SCADA. Each screw ran for a short time before the rain (.25 inches) and flow into the regulator (relief sewer) was too much for an extended run time.



Took #3 raw sewage pump out of service after the pump’s variable speed would not ramp up to keep up with the incoming influent flow in the raw sewage wet well. KEI Controls inspected the pump and found that the problem was not the variable speed, the problem was that the pump was only receiving 2 of the 3 required phases. KEI Controls is currently working on repairing the pump.

The wet weather PCB Carbon Bed testing was completed and all twenty units were non-detect.

Kirk Urban was promoted to Shift Supervisor on February 9, 2017. Since coming to the Wastewater Plant in 2014, from the Sewer Department, Kirk has worked as a Treatment Plant Worker II and as a Plant Mechanic II. He currently holds a Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Class “D” license and is pursuing a Class “C” certification which is a requirement of his new job classification.

Congratulations and good luck in your new position Kirk!