



# The CITY REVIEW

**FREE**

## PLANNING EFFORT TO ASSIST START-UP & NEW BUSINESS

A study led by Northern Lakes Economic Alliance (NLEA), the Cheboygan Area Chamber of Commerce and the City of Cheboygan is being conducted to determine the feasibility of a business incubator in the Cheboygan community. A business incubator is a business support process/system that accelerates the successful development of start-up and fledgling companies by providing entrepreneurs with a structured environment where they can receive a wide range of support services, business related training, technical and professional assistance, access to capital, and a network of connections that will help them successfully establish their business model. ***The success of an incubator is highly dependent on the support received from the community and the local professionals who are willing to participate in assisting new business.***

A Steering Committee has been formed to work with the community to assess the need, desire and community support for such an initiative. City Manager, Scott E. McNeil, is serving on the Committee.

Over the next several months, there will be outreach to civic organizations, clubs and others as well as an online survey. **To make this relevant and meaningful to the community, it is critical that we get sufficient feedback.** Please make every effort to respond to the survey and to communicate your thoughts and ideas. The Survey will be available on-line at <http://www.zoomerang.com/recipient/survey-intro.zgi?p=WEB227CSGSZ9TY>. Your feedback is welcome. Please contact Lori Meeder at NLEA at 231-582-6482 or Scott E. McNeil, City Manager at 627-9931 with questions.



### May 6<sup>th</sup> – City Biennial Election

Registered voters may pick up the application for an absentee ballot at the City Hall.



### Water Main

#### Construction Restoration

The City of Cheboygan would like to thank property owners and water customers for their patience during the recent water main construction. Full restoration of property will be completed as soon as weather permits. More water main replacements are now in the planning stages in different locations throughout the City.



### Lincoln Avenue Bridge Wins State Award

The Michigan Chapter of the American Public Works Association announced that the Lincoln Avenue Bridge Replacement has been awarded Project of the Year in the category of structures two million dollars to ten million dollars.

The Michigan Chapter of the American Public Works Association will recognize the City's award during their annual meeting in May 2008. The Project has also been submitted to the American Public Works Association National Awards Competition with a recommendation from the Michigan Chapter.

**The City offices are open  
8:00 am to 4:00 pm,  
Monday through Friday**

### Straits Regional Ride Servicing Cheboygan

Straits Regional Ride has been providing a Dial-A-Ride bus service for almost a year that operates anywhere within 5 miles of the center of Cheboygan with rates starting at \$2.00. Along with this service, they still offer services in Cheboygan, Emmet and Presque Isle Counties daily, all of which are open to the public. This service is provided by the County of Cheboygan in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Transportation. Give them a try. You will be amazed how simple, affordable and dependable they are.

Phone 597-9262, 597-0175 or 1-866-731-1204 with any questions or to schedule your ride.



**PLEASE WATCH FOR THE DATES OF THE CITY'S SPRING CLEAN-UP (LEAVES, BRUSH, SMALL LIMBS, ETC.) IN THE TRIBUNE AND ALSO AS A PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT ON WCBY/WGFM RADIO. DO NOT PLACE LEAVES, BRUSH, ETC. ON THE STREET UNTIL THE DATES ARE ANNOUNCED.**





**PUBLIC MEETINGS**

Public Meetings are held in the City Council Chambers, located in the City Hall, 403 N. Huron Street.

- ❖ The **Cheboygan City Council** meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
- ❖ The **City Planning Commission** meets the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
- ❖ The **Zoning Board of Appeals** meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
- ❖ The **Recreation Commission** meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
- ❖ The **Historic Resources Commission** meets the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
- ❖ The **Downtown Development Authority** meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.
- ❖ The **Human Relations Board** meets the third Thursday of each month Sept.–May & the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month June–Aug. at 4:00 p.m.
- ❖ The **Brownfield Redevelopment Authority** meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. of the month at 7:00 p.m.

**NOTICE:**

*The City of Cheboygan does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. The City will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals desiring to attend City hearings or meetings. Three weeks advance notice is requested. Please call the City Clerk at 627-9931 for more information.*



**WATER SHUT-OFF INFORMATION**

Any customer who has their water shut off and has to have the City Water Department restore service will be charged a \$40.00 Turn On Fee. This will include seasonal customers, non-payment customers and anyone discontinuing service for a period of 30 days or more.

**IMPORTANT WATER/SEWER INFORMATION**



**DELINQUENT WATER/SEWER BILLS**

Pursuant to City Ordinance, all water and/or sewer bills that have a delinquent balance as of September 1, 2007 (delinquent for over 6 months) will be placed as a tax lien on the 2008 City Tax Roll on July 1, 2008. Service could also be subject to shut-off status.

**WATER/SEWER EMERGENCIES**

If you experience a water or sewer emergency during normal business hours, please call 627-2582. Should you experience a water or sewer emergency after normal business hours, or on a weekend or holiday, the City wants you to know we are committed to providing you with emergency response. To provide that response, you may dial 290-2900 to reach an employee of the Water and Wastewater Department. Please remember that this system is for emergency situations, not for general information that can be obtained during normal working hours.

*Please help us keep this system up and operating for the benefit of the entire City of Cheboygan.*

**Do's & Don'ts EXPERIENCING A WATER/SEWER PROBLEM???**

*Call the City at 627-2582 first before calling your plumber to find out whether or not your problem is the responsibility of the City. If you call your plumber first, the City will not be responsible for any costs. Thank you.*



**RENTAL PROPERTIES**

Owners of rental properties are reminded to notify the Utility Billing Dept. at 627-3592 whenever there is a change in tenants. A meter read needs to be done in order to calculate a "final bill". Also, in order for the water/sewer bill to be in the tenant's name, a \$100 deposit is required by the tenant pursuant to policy set by the City Council. Otherwise the billing stays in the owner's name. Deposit money is kept in a separate account to be used on the final bill or returned if nothing is owed.

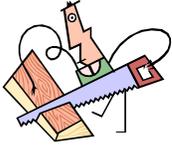


**UNDERSTANDING YOUR WATER/SEWER BILL**

**Codes:** WA=Water; SI=Sewer; FS=Flat Sewer; WO=Out of Town Water; A=Actual Meter Read; E=Estimated Meter Read  
Bills are sent out quarterly; two bills have actual meter reads – the other two bills are estimated on past actual usage since meters cannot be read during the winter months.

Questions? Call 627-3592.

**Planning Home Exterior Improvements? Stop in at City Hall and pick up a Mathieu-Gast form to relieve you of any increase in property taxes, while you own the home, due to these improvements.**



## DOING CONSTRUCTION OR PUTTING UP A SIGN?



Several City Ordinances and also the BOCA Building Code require that a permit be obtained before beginning certain projects. Signs, **new and replacement, (even if you move your business)** as well as all building projects require a permit from the City. The cost of a Sign Permit is \$25.00; the cost of a Zoning Permit is \$25.00. [**Storage sheds, porches, decks, etc. require a Permit, as well.**]

*If a sign or zoning variance is requested a \$125.00 appeals fee must be paid to the City of Cheboygan.*

The Cheboygan County Construction Code and Zoning Department (627-8813) handles all building permits and inspections within the City with the exception of water and sewer connections. You must stop at the City Hall and complete the application for review and approval by the Zoning Administrator before the County issues any permits. (Banners are temporary issue only & require a permit.)



## PERMITS REQUIRED FOR WORK IN STREET RIGHTS-OF-WAY



Anyone planning to perform any type of work within a City street right-of-way **must** secure a Permit from the City of Cheboygan's Street Department. Work requiring a Permit within a street right-of-way includes patch work, culvert installation, curb, sidewalk or driveway repair, tree or shrub planting or any other type of work within the street right-of-way. Please contact the Street Department, at 627-2493 should you plan work in the street right-of-way or have questions concerning street rights-of-way.



## For Your Information!

### How can I find the source of a hydrogen sulfide problem, and what can I do to eliminate it?

The odor of hydrogen sulfide gas can be detected in water at a very low level. Smell the water coming out of the hot and cold water faucets. Determine which faucets have the odor. The "rotten egg" smell will often be more noticeable from the hot water because more of the gas is vaporized. Your sense of smell becomes dulled quickly, so the best time to check is after you have been away from your home for a few hours. You can also have the water tested for hydrogen sulfide, sulfate, sulfur bacteria, and iron bacteria at an environmental testing laboratory. The cost of testing for hydrogen sulfide ranges from \$20 to \$50 depending on the type of test.

- If the smell is only from the hot water faucet **the problem is likely to be in the water heater.**
- If the smell is in both the hot and cold faucets, but only from the water treated by a water softener and not in the untreated water **the problem is likely to be sulfur bacteria in the water softener.**
- If the smell is strong when the water in both the hot and cold faucets is first turned on, and it diminishes or goes away after the water has run, or if the smell varies through time **the problem is likely to be sulfur bacteria in the well or distribution system.**
- If the smell is strong when the water in both the hot and cold faucets is first turned on and is more or less constant and persists with use **the problem is likely to be hydrogen sulfide as in the groundwater.**

### How is Hydrogen Sulfide Gas Produced in a Water Heater?

A water heater can provide an ideal environment for the conversion of sulfate to hydrogen sulfide gas. The water heater can produce hydrogen sulfide gas in two ways - creating a warm environment where sulfur bacteria can live, and sustaining a reaction between sulfate in the water and the water heater anode. A water heater usually contains a metal rod called an "anode," which is installed to reduce corrosion of the water heater tank. The anode is usually made of magnesium metal, which can supply electrons that aid in the conversion of sulfate to hydrogen sulfide gas. The anode is 1/2 to 3/4 inches in diameter and 30 to 40 inches long.



## SEASONAL REMINDERS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



### ROLLER BLADING, SKATE BOARDING & BICYCLING

Use of skateboards, roller blades, and other toy wheeled devices is prohibited on City streets and sidewalks under Section 3.4 and 6.18 of the Uniform Traffic Code, particularly in downtown areas where posted. **Roller blading and skate boarding are permitted** in the Ice Rink/Pavilion parking lots and the City-owned parking lot at the corner of Division and Huron Streets after 5:30 P.M. or when the lots are empty. Children are permitted to use bicycles, roller blades, skateboards, etc. on the sidewalks in their residential neighborhoods; however, they are advised to yield to pedestrian foot traffic. Bicycles are prohibited on downtown sidewalks where posted. (See Chapter 74 of the City Code of Ordinances.)

### ANIMAL CONTROL



Chapters 90, Sections 90.08 & 90.22 of the City Ordinance require that all persons **walk their dogs on leashes** and have them under control and that they clean up all manure deposited or accumulated upon any street, sidewalk, gutter, alley or private property.

### SWIMMING



Chapter 130, Sec. 130.03(N) of the City Ordinance **prohibits** swimming and/or diving into the lower Cheboygan River from the DNR locks and dam north to the mouth of the River at the Straits of Mackinac.



### DISORDERLY CONDUCT - NOISE

Section 9.10 of the Uniform Traffic Code prohibits persons from playing loud vibrating music from motor vehicles. Other sections of City Ordinance (Chapter 95) and State Statute prohibit the playing of home stereos and recording devices in a loud manner, which would disturb the peace and quiet of a neighborhood.



### INOPERABLE MOTOR VEHICLES

Chapter 94, Section 94.02, of the City Ordinance requires that all unlicensed, uninsured and/or inoperable motor vehicles be removed from private properties within the City or stored inside garages.



### BURNING PERMITS

Chapter 95, Sec. 95.08 of the City Ordinance requires all property owners, whether business or residential, are **required to obtain** a burning permit from the City of Cheboygan before open burning of any type is permitted. This includes small piles of brush, grass or leaves. Burning in burning barrels is also restricted and persons wishing to do so must obtain permission through the Cheboygan Department of Public Safety/Police or Fire Division (627-4321). Fines for violation of this Ordinance can amount to \$500.00 or more.



### FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

Dry chemical fire extinguishers can be refilled at CarQuest, 122 S. Main Street, Cheboygan (627-5691).

### GRASS AND NOXIOUS WEEDS



Chapter 95, Sec. 95.04 of the City Ordinances (Grass and Noxious Weeds) requires that property owners keep their lawns and property neat and trimmed throughout the growing season. Penalties for noncompliance may result in the City trimming and placing a bill for this on the tax roll.

**SPEED LIMITS:** All City streets are **25 mph**, unless posted otherwise.

**RADAR LOCATIONS:** W. Lincoln & Loomis; W. Lincoln & Cleveland; Mackinaw & N. Ball; E. State & Eastern; Cleveland & E. Seymour; Lafayette & Abbott; N. Huron & Lake, **and other** locations throughout the City.

### E-MAIL ADDRESSES FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL:

[k.r.jones@cheboygan.org](mailto:k.r.jones@cheboygan.org); [n.ward@cheboygan.org](mailto:n.ward@cheboygan.org); [s.r.warren@cheboygan.org](mailto:s.r.warren@cheboygan.org); [d.frazier@cheboygan.org](mailto:d.frazier@cheboygan.org);  
[r.hartman@cheboygan.org](mailto:r.hartman@cheboygan.org); [c.m.torrence@cheboygan.org](mailto:c.m.torrence@cheboygan.org); [j.derry@cheboygan.org](mailto:j.derry@cheboygan.org); [r.p.white@cheboygan.org](mailto:r.p.white@cheboygan.org);  
[d.engler@cheboygan.org](mailto:d.engler@cheboygan.org); and [r.beaudry@cheboygan.org](mailto:r.beaudry@cheboygan.org)

*The Cheboygan Department of Public Safety urges everyone to cooperate with these ordinances and traffic codes so that we can all enjoy a safe and happy spring and summer season.*

## *Public Notice*

Any citizen having experienced an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system, must file a written claim with the City of Cheboygan within 45 days after the overflow or backup was discovered or in the exercise of reasonable diligence should have been discovered. Notice should be mailed to Scott E. McNeil, City Manager at the City of Cheboygan, PO Box 39, 403 N. Huron Street, Cheboygan, Michigan 49721. Telephone: 231-627-9931. **Failure to provide the required notice will prevent recovery of damages.**

Contact Scott E. McNeil, City Manager at PO Box 39, 403 N. Huron Street, Cheboygan, Michigan 49721 or telephone 231-627-9931 immediately upon discovery of an overflow or backup.

### **CITY RECEIVES GRANT TOWARD FUNDING OF TREATMENT PLANT CAPACITY STUDY**

The City of Cheboygan with assistance from the Northern Lakes Economic Alliance (NLEA) received a grant from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), which will provide funding toward an engineering study that will evaluate the needs of the City of Cheboygan Treatment Plant relative to its ability to increase its treatment capacity and accommodate waste from manufacturing facilities.

The study will include a complete review of the existing facility and current operating procedures, as well as an evaluation of the collection system and future growth projections.

Completion of this study is expected within six months.

### **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION**

Administration - Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm - 627-4321; Emergencies for Police & Fire - 911  
 Personal office contact: The main entrance to the Cheboygan Department of Public Safety is off the City Hall parking lot at 403 N. Huron Street. Enter using the west set of glass doors. The Department of Public Safety is the first door on the right upon entering the hallway. If the door is locked, the administrative assistant is either off duty or out of the office. In that case, pick up the phone on the wall on the left side of the doorway. This will connect you immediately to a CCE/911 dispatcher and, if needed, they will call a police officer into the office to assist you.

### **Telephone Numbers for City Offices**

City Hall 403 N. Huron Street	627-9931	Street Department 1003 N. Huron Street	627-2493	Mayor	627-9931
Assessor	627-9931	Ice Rink/Pavilion 480 Cleveland Avenue	627-3255	Parks & Rec. Dept. (Recreation Center) 400 Cleveland Avenue	627-2151
Clerk/Treasurer	627-9931	Manager	627-9931	Utility Billing	627-3592
Police & Fire <b>Non-Emergency</b> 403 N. Huron Street	627-4321	Marina	627-4944	Water & Sewer (inc. Wastewater Treatment Plant) 975 N. Huron Street	627-2582
<b>Hearing Impaired Only TDD 597-0315</b>					

# Recreation Center



400 Cleveland Avenue  
627-2151

If you have any questions concerning the activities at the Recreation Center, please contact Scott Hancock, Recreation Director at 627-2151.



**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN UMPIRING FOR LITTLE LEAGUE or MEN'S FAST PITCH SOFTBALL, PLEASE CONTACT SCOTT HANCOCK AT 627-2151.**



Scott Hancock, Recreation Director, has announced the following schedule for the Recreation Center open for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and up:

5:30 PM to 8:00 PM - Elementary and Junior High School Students

8:00 PM to 10:30 PM - High School Students and Adults

**Monday & Wednesday for boys and men. Tuesday & Thursday for girls and women.**

The Center offers basketball, fooseball, ping-pong, bumper pool, pool, air hockey and two (2) weight rooms (**weight rooms for high school students & adults only**).

**Soccer Players: Mr. B's (Tom Brcic) soccer open gyms are off until April 7<sup>th</sup>. Please call the Recreation Center for more information at 627-2151.**



**Sign up for Little League - Call Judy Reiter @ 625-8134 or pick up a form at the Recreation Center.**

**For Men's Fast Pitch Softball Sign-up contact the Recreation Center.**

Note: If you work nights and are unable to use our schedule, call the Recreation Center at 627-2151 and they will try and work you into a time that fits your schedule. Also, if you would like to use the facility for basketball or volleyball, contact Scott Hancock at 627-2151.



**Special Olympic News:** They practiced for Winter State Games from December through January and 9 athletes and 5 coaches & chaperones went to Traverse City on Jan. 29 -Feb. 1 where athletes participated in snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Medals brought home were 5 gold, 3 silver, 4 bronze, 2-4<sup>th</sup> place in snowshoeing, and 3 gold and 1 bronze in cross-country skiing. Ashley Donnelly (her first medals ever) & Candace each received 2 gold medals. They went to Escanaba on March 7-8 and the Area 33 Hoopsters came in 3<sup>rd</sup>. They are now getting ready to begin practice for **Summer State Games** where they will compete in track & field, swimming, gymnastics, Bocce, and horseshoes on **April 5<sup>th</sup>, 10 am to 12:00 noon, at the Recreation Center.**

*Anyone interested in becoming involved as a coach, volunteer or an athlete, please call Mike Duvall at 597-8015 or Alaina Loehne at 597-9545.*



Congratulations Team Ison – Cheboygan Recreation League Champions 2008 & Cheboygan Recreation League Tournament Champions – Action Logistics



**Mayor:** Winifred L. Riddle, 627-6604  
**Mayor Pro Tem:** Leslie A. Tebo, 627-5947  
**Council:**  
Gerald Boardman, 627-1757  
Charles Charboneau, 627-2159  
Theo Lepp, 627-5830  
Richard B. Sangster, 627-5807

The City Review is a publication of  
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City Assessor: Thomas Eustice  
Fire Chief: Thomas Bancroft  
Street Dept.: Michael LaLonde, Supt.  
Recreation Director: Scott Hancock  
Water & Wastewater Supt: Steven Gall

**May 1<sup>st</sup> Deadline for Homestead Exemption** – If you have not filed for or already receive a homestead exemption on your property taxes, you may stop at the City Hall and complete the necessary form. (There is no need to re-file if you already receive the exemption.) To be eligible, you must own and occupy the home prior to **May 1<sup>st</sup>** as your principal residence.