

The CITY REVIEW

FREE


WATCH OUT FOR SNOWPLOW TRUCKS

While driving along City streets this winter, please be extra cautious when encountered by snowplow trucks during the course of their snow clearing activities. Be sure not to follow or park too close behind a plow truck in operation, as they often are required to back up. Operators have difficulty seeing what may be directly behind the vehicle. Parents should be aware that during winter storm events, which cause school closings, snowplows are busy clearing streets and opening them to traffic as quickly as possible after the storm. Due to school closings, many children are out & about entertaining themselves and enjoying a day off from school.

Parents should be aware of the snow plowing activities and be sure children are kept away from streets and roadsides. Also, please do not allow your children to build snow forts near the streets.



Additional Water System Improvements

Construction will get underway in Spring, 2011, for the Water Main Improvement. This Project will address water quality complaints and water main breaks. The project areas include replacing water mains as follows: North Main Street between Mackinaw Avenue and Lake Street; Duncan Avenue between Eastern Avenue and Marina Drive; Harrison Avenue between Eastern Avenue and Marina Drive; North C Street between East State Street and East First Street; North D Street between Fourth Street and Second Street; North E Street between E. State Street and Third Street; South E Street between East State Street and Sixth Street; East First Street between Coast Guard Drive and Duncan Avenue; Third Street between North B Street and Duncan Avenue; and West State Street between Main Street and North Ball Street. The project also includes disconnecting an old River crossing on East First Street between North B Street and Duncan Avenue; disconnect services from an old 4"-diameter cast iron water main & connect to a new 12" plastic main; abandon a 6" cast iron water main on West State Street between the former railroad track and Ball Street & reconnect services to new water main; and abandon a 4" cast iron water main on South F Street between Abbott Street and East State Street and reconnect services to new water main. [Of interest, the

current water mains date back to 1881 – 1947). Wade Trim, Gaylord, is the engineer on the project. The project is made possible through a 40-year low-interest loan from the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development Program and an increase in water utility rates effective July 1, 2010.

The City asks for and appreciates your patience during this project as it strives to improve the water quality to all its customers. If you have any questions, please contact the Interim City Manager, at 627-9931.

PAYMENT OF YOUR PROPERTY TAX BILLS

Your tax bill that was issued July 1, 2010 is due and payable at the City Hall on or before February 28, 2011 with a 3% penalty. An additional 7% penalty & a 4% property tax administration fee will be added on March 1, 2011 by the County of Cheboygan.

Your tax bill that was issued December 1, 2010 is due and payable without penalty at the City Hall on or before February 14, 2011. If payment is made February 15th through February 28, 2011, it is made at the City Hall with a 3 % penalty assessed.

Any payments after March 1, 2010 shall be made at the County Treasurer's Office in the County Building.

Personal property taxes are payable only at the City Hall.



If you have any questions, please call Kenneth Kwiatkowski, Clerk/Treasurer at 627-9931.

ORV/ATV ORDINANCE

The City's ORV/ATV Ordinance allows people to operate an ORV/ATV on certain designated streets. The streets are published in the Ordinance, which is available online at www.cheboygan.org, at the City Hall or the Department of Public Safety. Most of the City streets coming into the City are permitted on the east and west sides with the exception that at no time are ORVs/ATVs allowed on Mackinaw Avenue and State Street (U.S. 23) or Main Street (M-27). Residents who wish to ride an ORV/ATV but who are not located on a designated street must get a free permit from the Department of Public Safety, which will state the most direct route from the operator's residence to a designated street. At no time are you allowed to operate an ORV/ATV on the MDNRE Snowmobile Trail. If you have any questions, please stop in or contact the Department of Public Safety at 627-4321 between the hours of 8:00 am to 4:00 p.m., Monday-Friday.



INTERESTED IN SERVING THE CITY?

Are you interested in serving the City of Cheboygan on a board or commission? The City is continually seeking persons with interest in serving local government. Opportunities to become involved evolve as current members of respective boards & commissions resign, serve out their terms, have commitments that may limit their ability to serve, or leave the area. These boards & commissions include the Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Recreation Commission, Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, Human Relations Board, Historic Resources Commission, and other committees, which the Mayor & City Council may appoint for special purposes. Serving on a board, commission or special committee is an excellent way to bring your unique expertise in service to the community, as well as an excellent way to learn about local government.

Please contact the Interim City Manager for additional information and an application at 627-9931.



INSPECT YOUR MAILBOX

Winter is here. Have you inspected the condition of your mailbox and the post it is mounted on? Boxes eventually become loose and/or rusted and are easily displaced from snow being thrown. Even wolmanized posts can become soft and rot.

Check your post for knots. Impact near a knot will split a post easily. Keep the area around your mailbox clear of snow. Remove decorative, oversized and plastic mailboxes during the snow-removal season.

These types of mailboxes do not tolerate impact from snow



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 **Downtown Development Authority** meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.
- The **Historic Resources Commission** meets the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
- The **Human Relations Board** meets the 3rd Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m.
- The **Brownfield Redevelopment Authority** meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

[Board & Commission meetings are subject to change depending on activity & business – (does not include City Council meetings).]

ICE RINK/PAVILION



Call 627-3255 for information, including open skate days/times.

The City of Cheboygan wishes everyone a safe and healthy 2011.

and will not be replaced in kind.

If a City of Cheboygan snow plow truck hits and destroys a mailbox, the City will provide a new standard mailbox. However, if a mailbox is damaged by snow being pushed or thrown, and not by the truck itself, the City will not replace the mailbox.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Steven F. Gall, Sr., Director of the Dept. of Public Works at 627-2582 (7am to 3:30 pm Monday-Friday).



Telephone Numbers for City Departments

City Hall	627-9931
403 N. Huron St.	
Assessor	627-9931
Clerk/Treasurer	627-9931
Police and Fire	627-4321
Non-Emergency	
403 N. Huron St.	
Hearing Impaired Only TDD	597-0315
Ice Rink/Pavilion	627-3255
480 Cleveland Avenue	
Manager	627-9931
Marina	627-4944
Mayor	627-9931
Parks & Rec. Dept.	627-2151
(Recreation Center)	
400 Cleveland Ave.	
Water/Sewer Billing	627-3592
Dept. of Public Works	627-2582
(inc. Water, Wastewater Treatment Plant & Streets)	975 N. Huron St.

NOTE:

City Offices & the Dept. of Public Safety office are open from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday – Friday

Department of Public Works Departments are open from 7:00 am – 3:30 pm Monday-Friday

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.

IMPORTANT WATER/SEWER INFORMATION

SAVE

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.



WATER/SEWER BILLINGS

Since meters cannot be read in the winter months, your next two bills will be estimated based on the previous usage bill, which had actual meter reads.

If you are leaving for the winter and do not want estimated bills, please notify the Utility Billing Department at 627-3592.

RENTAL PROPERTIES

All owners of rental properties are reminded to notify the Utility Billing Dept. at 627-3592 of any tenant changes so that final bills can be calculated. **ALSO**, in order for the billing to be in the tenant's name, a \$100 deposit is required from the tenant, pursuant to policy set by the City Council. This deposit is kept in a separate account until the tenant moves. It can then be used on the final bill or returned to the tenant if there is nothing owing on the final bill.



Water Turn-On Charge

Any customer who has water shut off and requires the City's Water Department to restore service will be charged a \$40 Turn-On Fee. This will include seasonal customers, non-payment customers, and anyone discontinuing service for a period of 30 days or more.



FREEZE-UPS

Customers who have a *history* of freeze-up problems in the winter are reminded to notify the City in writing if you will be running your water to avoid freeze-ups.





SEASONAL REMINDERS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

SNOWMOBILE PERMITS/ROUTES



Snowmobile permits may be obtained at the Dept. of Public Safety after November 1. There is no charge for a permit. Snowmobiles will be permitted only on designated streets, trails, and the most direct route from your residence to the nearest designated street or trail, **by permit**. Operation of snowmobiles is prohibited on City sidewalks except where designated (South Main Street, Taylor Street to City limits & from the Lincoln Avenue Bridge to Huron Street - both sides). The following streets are approved for snowmobiles without a permit: W. State St. from MDNRE Trail to Huron St.; Huron St. from W. First St. to Court St.; Division St. from MDNRE Trail to Water St., Pine St. from Huron St. to Boathouse lot; Taylor St. from MDNRE Trail to Main St.; Water St. from Elm St. to E. State St. (northbound only: one-way from Elm St. to Division St.; Court St. from MDNRE Trail to Huron St.; N. Huron St. from W. State St. to W. First St.; W. First St. from N. Huron St. to Dresser St.; & Dresser St. from intersection of W. First St. to W. State St. (Maps are available at Chamber Commerce, motels/hotels, City Hall & Department of Public Safety and on the trails.) **CAUTION TO 4-WHEELERS & DIRT BIKE OPERATORS:** Michigan Law does not permit operation of these vehicles on designated snowmobile trails.



Persons plowing or blowing snow **cannot** plow snow in the roadway or right-of-way. Depositing of snow across roadways requires permission of neighboring or adjacent property owners.



NO ALL NIGHT PARKING ON CITY STREETS AND IN RIGHTS-OF-WAYS

To allow for efficient snow removal, no overnight parking is allowed on City streets or alleys from November 1 until April 1 during the hours of 2:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. This applies regardless of snowfall and violators will be ticketed. Also, parking is no longer allowed overnight in the City street rights-of-way, which is the area between the sidewalk and the curb. This applies even if there is no curbing and/or sidewalk. Tickets will also be issued for this violation. Particular problem areas are "C", "D" and "E" Streets, as well as others on the east and west sides. If you have questions concerning this, please contact the Department of Public Safety at 627-4321.

PARKING IN CITY LOTS OVERNIGHT

Persons parking in City lots overnight must have an overnight parking permit, which may be obtained at City Hall for the following fees:

	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Res.</u>
Day	\$ 3.00	\$ 4.00
Week	\$ 10.00	\$ 14.00
Month	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00
Seasonal	\$125.00	\$150.00 (5/1 - 11/30)

For add'l information, please call 627-9931. [Fees subject to change.]



ANIMAL CONTROL

Chapter 90, Sections 90.08 and 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.



BURNING PERMITS

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 St., Cheboygan (627-5691).

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.

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 Interim 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 the Interim 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.

SNOW & ICE REMOVAL FROM SIDEWALK REQUIRED

The owners of any property in certain areas are required by City Ordinance to keep sidewalks clear of snow and ice. The areas which are included in the snow & ice removal Ordinance are listed as follows:



- Huron Street from Mackinaw Avenue to Locust Street
- Main Street from First Street to the South City Limits
- Water Street from State Street to Elm Street
- Mackinaw Avenue from Clinton Street to Main Street
- State Street from Huron Street to "F" Street
- Backus Street from Huron Street to Main Street
- Division Street from Dresser Street to Water Street
- Elm Street from Huron Street to Water Street
- Pine Street from Huron Street to Main Street
- Locust Street from Huron Street to Main Street



These sidewalks have been identified as high foot traffic areas and, as such, removal of snow & ice is required by Ordinance in order to assure public safety and limit property owner and public liability. The City of Cheboygan does provide snow removal services within this area, but this does not dismiss the requirement of the property owner to be sure that the sidewalk is clear in the event that the City is unable to keep the sidewalks clear in a timely manner.

The snow & ice removal Ordinance provides for fines in the event a property owner is in non-compliance and also provides for exceptions to these provisions with regard to property that is leased. **DO NOT PILE SNOW IN RIGHT-OF-WAY, ON SIDEWALKS OR IN BERM AREA (BETWEEN CURB & SIDEWALK).** For more information regarding the snow & ice removal Ordinance, you may call the Department of Public Safety at 627-4321, visit the City of Cheboygan's web site or stop at City Hall to obtain a copy of the Ordinance.



Historic Resources Commission Encouraging Historic Resource Designation

The City of Cheboygan Historic Resources Commission among other duties oversees the designation of a historical resource within the City. The Historic Resources Plaque Program provides the ability to designate buildings and other sites as historical resources and provide a means of preserving important historical attributes of the City. The Program is clearly voluntary and owners of property designated as a historic resource may remove the property from designation at any time. Interested property owners may contact the Interim City Manager 231-627-9931 or via e-mail at cityhall@cheboygan.org for an application form and guidelines. The application requests background information about the property and the property's history, including prior owners. Property owners can obtain assistance in completing the application form with Historic Resources Commission members and other resources that the Commission has. Commission members include: Jim Conboy, Chairperson; Ellis Olson; Phil Porter; Ron Crandell; Steve Brisson; Jeanette Bronson; and Matthew Friday. A \$125 fee (subject to change) is required with the application process which covers partial cost of a bronze plaque which is affixed to the resource once the application is approved by the Commission. If an application is denied, the fee is refunded.

Preservation of our history is a vital important component of a well-rounded community and the City of Cheboygan and the City's Historic Resources Commission would encourage anyone with interest to consider requesting a formal historical designation.

RECREATION CENTER

400 Cleveland Avenue – 627-2151

WINTER SCHEDULE – through April 30, 2011

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

Scott Hancock, Recreation Director, has announced the following schedule for the Recreation Center open for 2nd 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.



Friday night youth volleyball – 6:00 p.m.

The Center offers basketball, foosball , ping-pong , bumper pool, pool , table air hockey, mini-basketball with scoreboard, football toss w/scoreboard and 2 weight rooms  (**weight rooms for high school students & adults only**).

*If you can't make our night hours and would like to lift weights or use game room during the day, call Scott at 627-2151 to set up a time.

Friday Night Ping-Pong - Call Scott Hancock at 627-2151 for more information.



Sign up for Spike League & Church League volleyball by calling 627-2151. Leagues to start January 9th.



Special Olympics Basketball on Saturday from 10:00 to 12:00 noon.

If you would like to help, call Scott Hancock at 627-2151.



Soccer players – work on your game with one of the best coaches around – Tom Bric (Mr. B) on Monday, Wednesday & Friday at the Recreation Center from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Call the Recreation Center at 627-2151 for more information.



Men's' league basketball now playing at the Cheboygan Middle School on Sundays at 5:00, 6:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Beginning February 7th there will be open recreation in the game room from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm for middle school and high school students. Please contact Scott Hancock at 627-2151 for more information.

The City of Cheboygan has vacancies on the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board of Dir., Downtown Development Authority Board of Dir., Zoning Bd. of Appeals, Planning Commission and Human Relations Board. If you are interested in serving on this Board, please contact the Interim City Manager for an Application and for additional information.

INFORMATION ON WHY YOUR WATER MAY SMELL LIKE ROTTEN EGGS

Hot water problems usually bring complaints of smelling like rotten eggs. The rotten-egg odor is caused by hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) gas. Although the odor caused by the gas is not pleasant, it is not usually harmful at the low concentrations that are common in a household water system. Although modern steel water heaters are glass-lined to prevent corrosion, the creation of hydrogen sulfide gas can occur in them. A long rod, or anode, is used to prevent such corrosion in water heaters and protects the steel, but it is usually made of magnesium* and corrodes more easily than steel. Steel in water heaters will not corrode as long as the magnesium rod remains in place; however, if corrosion does occur, it will free electrons that provide a protective film over cracks in the water heater. Magnesium often is used for water heaters to reduce manufacturing costs. You can contact a water-heater dealer about regarding a replacement rod that would provide protection without resulting in the sulfate-reduction reaction that causes the H₂S gas. *Your water heater may have an aluminum alloy rod. Considering contacting a plumber to assist you and to answer any questions that you might have.

Mayor: Richard B. Sangster, 627-5807

Mayor Pro Tem: Theo Lepp, 597-9273

Council:

Mark Bronson, 597-8234

Nicholas C. Couture, 420-3644 (cell)

William K. Jewell, 597-8032

Winifred L. Riddle, 627-6604

Michael J. VanFleet, 627-3126

The City Review is a publication of

THE CITY OF CHEBOYGAN

403 N. Huron Street, PO Box 39

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231-627-9931

Editor: Janet M. Gahn (jgahn@cheboygan.org)

Fax No: 231-627-6351

TTD No: 597-0315 (*Hearing Impaired*)

www.cheboygan.org

Management:

Interim City Manager: George Korthauer

Director of Public Safety: Kurt R. Jones

City Clerk/Treas.: Kenneth J. Kwiatkowski

City Assessor: Thomas Eustice

Fire Chief: Thomas Bancroft

Dept. of Public Works Dir., Steven F. Gall, Sr.

Recreation Director: Scott Hancock

Cheboygan Youth Center is now open (old Junior High on Division Street) after school until 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Check it out!