



September 20, 2018

Meetings

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Meetings

Community Forum - Street Bond - Thursday, Sept. 20, 6-8 p.m. - Community Center

Parks & Recreation Commission Commission - Thursday, Sept. 20, 1 p.m. - Community Center

[Agendas and minutes are available by clicking here](#)

This Just In...

Get street smart at the Community Forum - being held today



A community meeting for the City of Northville will be held on ~~Sept. 20~~ **Sept. 20** for one hour if the street bond on the Nov. 6 ballot passes. The meeting will be held at the Community Center, 505 W. Main. Mayor Ken Roth will present an overview of the ballot proposal: its cost, the impact on area streets, and the strategy of how repairs and replacement will be assessed and scheduled if it passes. Information stations will be set up so guests can speak with professionals in Public Works, Engineering and Finance, who will provide more details and answer questions.

The City has developed a set of questions and answers (Q&As) so voters are well informed when they cast their ballot in the Nov. 6 election pertaining to a 0.98 millage for the issuance of a \$3,050,000 Street Improvement Bond to fund street repairs and upgrades for the next 10 years.

Here is one of the questions:

Q. I pay a lot of taxes to the City. Why isn't it enough to cover street repair and maintenance?

A. Of the total Wayne County tax bill paid by homeowners, only 36% is retained by the City. The other 64% is distributed to other taxing jurisdictions for items such as county operations, schools, parks, library and debt. Northville residents who live in Oakland County only see 40% of their taxes retained by Northville. The City can only budget the revenue received from the current street improvement tax levy. That millage rate is subject to reduction each year due to Headlee. When it was first approved, the millage was established at 1.92 mills. Over the past 21 years, it has declined to 1.6841 mills. Meanwhile, costs for street construction continue to rise.

To see what your cost would be if the millage passes, find your taxable value for Oakland properties, for Wayne County properties. Multiply your taxable value by .00098 to determine your new annual rate during that 10-year period.

To see more of the Q&A, [visit the website](#). If you have a question about the street bond, please contact [City Manager Pat Sullivan](#). Read City News, the City website and our social media sites for more information about the community forum and the street bond in general.

City Council Update of meeting on Sept. 17, 2018

Public comment: John Forslund, of 350 Lake St., in Cabbage Town, voiced his concern about whether the two storm drains on his street were effectively collecting water after heavy rains. He said his garage, which is on the low point of the street, flooded after an August rainfall. He asked about the schedule of cleaning for the storm drains and whether there might be a blockage in the pipes between Lake St. and Mill Pond. Council noted that the City would look into it and respond to him directly.

Status report of historic district - Elaine Robinson, architecture historian with the Commonwealth Group, and Sally Elminger, principal at Carlisle/Wortman Associates, made a presentation during the meeting. They noted that a public hearing is scheduled for Sept. 25, at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers concerning the final draft of the Historic District Study Report. It is one of three documents produced during the year-long, intensive-level survey. The other two documents are the Historic District Survey, a compilation of descriptions and photos of more than 300 properties and structures within the current boundaries; and the National Register nomination form, intended to update the current form on file with the National Register of Historic Places.

Horton Street (Oakwood Subdivision) - City Council approved a resolution to vacate the southern 400 feet of Horton St., between Hill and Maplewood, keeping it open for public access and utility work as needed. The approval came following a public hearing during the council meeting. As a result of the resolution, residents on Horton and nearby Novi Road will continue to be able to access Maplewood Park through this wooded passageway along Horton rather than allow for new homes to be built there.

Joint/crack sealing for streets - City Council approved a contract with Carr's Outdoor Services, of Canton, MI, (low bidder) to perform joint/crack sealing of streets at \$19,985 for 2018-2019. Council also directed that an additional \$5,000 in repairs be made, since funds for this project were budgeted at \$25,000. The only other bidder came in at \$35,249.

Water meters - City Council approved the purchase of 10 new cellular-based water meters in the amount of \$29,300 from Metron-Farnier, providing that the security aspect is sound. The proposal to Council stated that these meters allow for web

connectivity and are user friendly for customers. The ones being purchased will replace meters larger than two inches. It is expected to save money for the City since meters would be read via computer - saving manpower; and prevent lost fees due to lower-than-actual readings.

Fish Hatchery Park retaining wall - City Council approved a change order to the contract with TSP Environmental for \$8,500 to reinforce the pond with sheet piling while the retaining wall is being repaired. This new method is being deployed because a previous attempt at draining the pond only drew water from other nearby ponds. (This was a new agenda item.)

Council Comments - Mayor Pro Tem Nancy Darga attended the Conference of Western Wayne September meeting (CWW) where Wayne County Executive Warren Evans updated attendees on the opioid crisis. He reported the number of deaths due to opioid overdoses has increased steadily in recent years in Wayne County. Nationally, it continues to be a problem in urban and rural communities.

[Watch the video here.](#)

Fun in the City during Heritage Festival 2018



Photo by Liz Cezat

The Heritage Festival kicked off a weekend of fun with the Victorian Parade on Friday evening. The temperature was a sizzling 86 degrees. Third graders from Northville schools dressed in period attire along with parents and other adults. The Northville High School Marching Band played, followed by the Plymouth Fife and

Drums band. Other delights were unicyclists dressed in period costumes; a duck float pulled by a Model T on behalf of the Northville Historical Society; and a throwback Women's Suffragette Group wearing period attire and carrying umbrellas as they marched in formation.



Photo by Liz Cezat

"For the kids, it's exciting to dress up in period clothing and walk through the (Mill Race) village on Friday, then take part in the parade," said Leanie Bayly, executive director of Mill Race Village. "They get such a thrill out of showing off their costumes."



Photo by Liz Cezat

Shawn Riley and his band drew a big crowd to the "outdoor saloon" (the big tent) behind City Hall on Friday night. "It was outstanding. It was one of the best attended. We loved it. We played four hours with one 20-minute break," he said.

Lindsey Butzin, event manager for Northville Chamber of Commerce, which manages the Heritage Festival, said, "People who came out had a great time. It's hard to compete with all that's going on around Southeastern Michigan, but people are still drawn to this festival."

Among the attractions were the free carriage rides that departed across from City Hall and went around the neighborhood blocks.

Also adding horsepower to the festival was the Makers Auto Faire, which featured 75 cars ranging from the 1930s through a current model McLaren and Ferrari. It was held at the Village Workshop, which drew hundreds of people. Cindy Lou and the Red Hot Royals played while people oohed and aahed over the cars.

"The eclectic mix of automobiles was top-flight - it's the best that we've ever had," said Carter Guider, director of community relations. "A number of people who hadn't been to Northville before came in for the car show and went uptown. It draws people in."



Photo by Vahan Nazarian

In related events, Karen Gourlay, Maybury State Park Explorer Program coordinator, led a history tour of the park on Saturday morning, telling the story of the tuberculosis sanitarium and showing the hikers remnants of the former buildings and sites. About 40 people, from kids to seniors, attended the hike.

Also that morning, the Rotary Club held its annual pancake breakfast with a great turnout. Proceeds will go toward new, accessible playground equipment at Maybury.

The petting farm on Main Street attracted kids of all ages who couldn't resist petting the baby pigs, goats, donkey and other frisky but friendly animals.

Saturday night, about 500 people attended the concert in Town Square where the 80s Inc. was playing.

On Sunday at Mill Race Village, the big draw was the 30th annual duck race. "The kids sit along the bank and cheer as the ducks come through," said Bayly. "This was our biggest year yet with the most ducks in the river."

Also in the village, the Northville High School TrebleMakers and BackBeat sang as groups and did skits. With temperatures in the high '80s, Guernsey ice cream, being sold on site, never tasted so good.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection is coming up this Saturday

This free event is open to residents of Northville (City and Township) and Livonia. It will be held at City Yards, 650 Doheny, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sept. 22.

This event is for the disposal of residential hazardous waste only. The wastes that will be accepted at this event are listed below:

- Aerosol cans, any household chemicals
- Antifreeze/Transmission Fluid
- Batteries: Automobile/Household/Marine
- Caustic/Acids
- Computer Equipment/Modem/Printers
- Compact Spiral/Fluorescent Light Bulbs
- Electronics; keyboards, mouse, cell phones
- Expired Medicine*
- Fax machines, VCR's and televisions
- Fuel oil/Gasoline/Gasoline and Oil Mixes
- Herbicides/Insecticides/Fungicides/Pesticides
- Kerosene
- Medical Waste (sharp items in containers only)
- Mercury items and mercury-contaminated debris
- Oil based Paints/Stains**
- Primers/Turpentine/Varnishes
- Propane Tanks 1# and 20#

* expired Medicine can be taken to the Northville Township Police Department at any time.

** Latex (water-based) paint may be disposed of on your trash collection day if prepared correctly.

Proper disposal of paint requires the lids to be removed (put in trash receptacle) and allow the paint to dry out prior to disposal. (Placing clean kitty litter in the paint speeds up the drying process.) Put open cans of treated paint beside your trash, not in your trash. [Read more...](#)

Are you a lawyer or accountant who likes art?



Viewers engage with the art display at the Northville Art House. The Northville Arts Commission has an opening for a volunteer commissioner who knows about contracts and or budgeting. The Northville Arts Commission (NAC) is currently seeking a volunteer to be a commissioner and champion for the Northville Art House, a community art center located in downtown Northville at [215 W Cady Street](#). Art House Director Amanda Barnett and the current commissioners would welcome a volunteer who can read contracts and/or a balance sheet and advise on those matters. The commission serves an advisory role, and advocates for the arts activities and events directed by the Art House staff. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.

The Northville Art House is a facility of the City of Northville. For questions or inquiries about the volunteer position, please leave a message at 248-344-0497 or send an email to info@northvillearts.org.

Events / Things to Do

**Thursdays, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Farmer's Market**



Photo by Liz Cezat

Shop at the [Northville Farmers' Market](#) at the corner of 7 Mile and Sheldon Road for a bounty of delicious, locally sourced food for your table from farmers and merchants. It's a festive day with 70 stalls of Michigan-made and Michigan-grown products, along with booths of crafts, art, jewelry, furniture and more. Gardeners can shop for plants and flowers and ask questions of master gardeners. Park on site or across the street at Northville Downs. This event is sponsored by the Northville Chamber of Commerce.

Take a gander at the Maybury Farm corn maze

The Maybury Farm corn maze offers nine acres of thick, lush corn with the theme: Farmers feed families. Play games while winding your way through. It's a fun outing for kids and adults alike. A drawing will be held at the end of the season for all who sign up after completing the maze.

Hours:

Through Oct. 28

Fridays, 5 to 10 p.m.

Saturdays, noon to 10 p.m.



Sunday, noon to 7 p.m.

Admission is \$9 per person for the maze, and includes farm admission and a tractor-drawn wagon ride to and from the maze (last ride is one hour before closing). Children ages 2 and under attend for free.

NORTHVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY

BOOKWALK



IN THE PARK!

An interactive reading adventure! Start at the library and follow the signs into the park while reading a story.

Rain or shine, we invite readers of all ages to join our kick-off on Sunday, September 23 from 1 - 3pm. Refreshments provided.

Bookwalk runs from September 23 to October 7.

SEPTEMBER 23 TO OCTOBER 7

NORTHVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY
212 W. CADY STREET NORTHVILLE, MI 48167
248-349-3020 NORTHVILLELIBRARY.ORG



September 28, 2018
Northville High School Homecoming Parade
6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

The Northville High School Homecoming parade will stage behind the Community Center on Cady, stepping off at 6p.m. sharp. The parade will proceed east on Cady to north on Wing, east on Main to north on Center to west on 8 mile and enter the stadium. Please note that some streets will be closed and/or traffic may be held until after the parade passes.

Sept. 28, 2018 - Deadline to register
Bug Hunters Needed for October 13, 2018



Friends of the Rouge needs volunteers to help look for stoneflies, mayflies and other aquatic insects at the annual Fall Bug Hunt on October 13, 2018. Interested volunteers must [pre-register](#) by Sept. 28. Children are welcome when accompanied by a participating adult.

The event begins at 9:00 am at the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College. Volunteers are assigned to teams of 4-8 people that each travel to two sites where they look for living things in samples collected from the river under the direction of a trained Team Leader. The number and type of bugs found is used to assess each site and data are submitted to the state and Rouge communities.

The Fall Bug Hunt is part of a long-term monitoring program that was created in 1998 to train local residents to collect information about the health of Rouge streams. It is coordinated by Friends of the Rouge and supported by the Michigan Areas of Concern Program, Office of the Great Lakes, Department of Natural Resources, and the Environmental Protection Agency; DTE Energy Foundation; Clif

Bar Family Foundation; Washtenaw County; Waste Management and donations.

For more information or to sign up, visit www.therouge.org

About FOTR: Friends of the Rouge is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to restore, protect and enhance the Rouge River watershed through stewardship, education and collaboration. The Rouge River covers 466 square miles in three counties and 48 communities in the metropolitan Detroit area. Additional information at www.therouge.org

Business

Scheduling online inspections

Contractors and homeowners in the City of Northville may schedule inspections using the new [online inspection portal](#). The portal allows users to request all types of inspections, such as building, electrical, plumbing and heating. Users must have their assigned permit number when using the Inspection portal.

If you are requesting an inspection for the following business day, it must be scheduled by 3:30 p.m.

Paperless billing option for utilities

Utility bill customers may now sign up to receive email bills or arrange for automatic payment through the City's website. E-bills are emailed on the billing date with a full page bill attached in pdf format. Automatic payment is an arrangement between the customer's bank and our bank by which the amount due is deducted from the customer's account each due date. You can [sign up here](#) or call 248-449-9901 with questions.

Around Town

Historic Resource Council Directory is available

City Hall has a copy of the Historic Resource Council 2017 Directory, which lists architects, contractors, suppliers and others who specialize in historic preservation, rehabilitation and adaptation of historic structures and houses. This directory will interest residents of historic homes, owners of businesses in historic buildings and others who own property or are involved in the City's Historic District. The book can be viewed at City Hall and online at [Michigan Historic Preservation Network's website](#): (see the publications page).

What to do if a water main breaks

Each year the City has between 10 and 20 water main breaks. If residents see water bubbling out of the ground, contact the Public Works Department at 248-449-9930 or 248-349-1234 after hours and report its location. The sooner the leak is identified and reported, the quicker it can be repaired, reducing the chances of contamination entering the water system, and minimizing the cost for lost water.

At Home

Free home fire safety review

The Northville City Fire Department, which serves the Cities of Northville and Plymouth, is pleased to offer home fire safety reviews. Simply contact the Department at 248-449-9920 to schedule an appointment. A team of Fire Department personnel will meet with you at your home and review items such as smoke detectors, electrical outlets, storage of flammable materials, home escape plans and other items that can have an impact on home fire safety. This is a free service.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) reports that in 2014, structure fires caused 2,860 deaths, 13,425 injuries and \$9.8 billion in property damage. Home fire safety reviews can help reduce the risk of fire and its consequences.

Sewage backups

If you experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system and want to file a claim with the City, [please check our website for details](#) or call the Department of Public Works at 248-449-9930.

When presenting a written claim, you will be required to provide the following items:

1. Copies of receipts for cleaning costs, plumbing bills, or other bills.
2. List of the damaged items and receipts to prove the ages of your items.
Reimbursement for the Actual Cash Value of damaged items is the maximum amount payable.
3. Please make an attempt to provide pictures of anything you wish to claim that was damaged due to the sewer backup.

The filing of a claim does not guarantee reimbursement.

Most homeowner's insurance will not cover sewage backups, but insurance can often be obtained as an added item. Ask your insurance provider about this option. Also, consider having a plumber install a check valve - backflow preventer - to help

minimize the risk of backups and related damage.

Northville Police Department has free gun safety locks

Don't take the risk of having an unlocked gun get into the wrong hands - especially if you have young children and teenagers. Stop in at the Northville Police Department lobby to get your free gun safety lock. There are no forms to fill out and no waiting.

Get social with City Hall online

Follow our Facebook page ([Northville City Hall, Michigan](#)) and our Twitter account [@NorthvilleCity](#).



You will be able to see stories, photos and videos of the City's people, places and events. We'll let you know about City services, such as trash pick up, payment of taxes and utility bills, and roads under construction. Plus, we want to hear from you. Share your photos and comments; ask questions. If you "like" the Northville Facebook page, you'll see our posts in your news feed.

Add your name to the City News mailing list

New subscribers to City News can sign up below (if you are viewing the e-mail version). You can also [sign up on the City of Northville website](#) (homepage, left hand column under Quick Links)

If you have comments or requests for specific news items, please e-mail Liz Cezat, Communications Manager, at lcezat@ci.northville.mi.us.

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