

# NORTHVILLE Matters

City of Northville  
215 West Main Street  
Northville, Michigan 48167

[www.ci.northville.mi.us](http://www.ci.northville.mi.us)

## Northville City streets are in “poor” condition Ballot proposal asks voters to fund street repairs

At its May 21 meeting, Council voted to put a ballot proposal before voters in the November election, to ask if they would support the issuance of a \$3,050,000 Street Improvement Bond, paid for over 10 years.

An assessment of the City’s streets made in a 2016-17 report by the engineering firm Spalding DeDecker reported that 46.5% were in “poor” condition. The engineers used the “PASER” rating system, an industry standard for rating streets. A comprehensive financial analysis performed this year by Vettraino Consulting and Municipal Analytics recommended a combination of bonding and spending some of the City’s reserve funds as the most cost-effective approach to stop the deterioration of the City’s street network.

### Engineers’ estimate of street conditions (if ballot issue is approved)

	Current	End of 10 years	End of 15 years
<b>Good (6-10)</b>	32.7%	63.1%	67.8%
<b>Fair (4-5)</b>	20.8%	2.8%	5.0%
<b>Poor (1-3)</b>	46.5%	34.1%	27.3%

If the ballot proposal is approved, the bond funds would be combined with the City’s existing street millage and \$1,050,000 from reserve funds to finance an infusion of \$6.25 million into street repairs and replacement over the next four years. After spending the bond funds, the City would continue to use its existing street millage (currently 1.68 mills), which generates about \$550,000 annually, to repair and maintain the improved street system.

**Engineers estimate that the bond program would increase the amount of streets rated as “good” from 32.7% currently to 63.1% at the end of 10 years. Streets rated as “poor” would decrease from 46.5% currently to 34.1%.**

If the ballot issue is approved, the estimated millage to be levied beginning in 2019 would be 0.9787 mills (98¢ per \$1,000 of taxable value).

**The average residential taxpayer, with a taxable value of \$139,943 would see an increase of \$137 on their 2019 City tax bill. That increase would continue for a total of 10 years.**

To calculate the exact cost for your home, multiply your taxable value by 0.00098. If you need to find your taxable value, either look on your July 2018 tax bill or go to the City’s website ([www.ci.northville.mi.us](http://www.ci.northville.mi.us)), and go to “property tax and assessing lookup.” The taxable value is no more than half of the market value. If taxable values across the City rise over the next 10 years, the millage rate will decrease.

The engineer’s projections show that spending these funds now is less expensive than the City’s current method of funding repairs, as reconstructing failed streets later is much more expensive than repairing and resurfacing streets now.

**If the bond issue is approved, total costs of maintenance and street reconstruction are projected to be \$2.5 million lower over the following 15 years than if the City continues its current spending program.**

For more information about the ballot proposal and street conditions, please visit the City’s website.

## Mayor’s speech to the community spans range of topics

City of Northville Mayor Ken Roth provided a comprehensive overview of the City’s challenges and opportunities during the annual State of the Community Address, April 18, at Schoolcraft College’s VisTaTech Center. Some of the key points from the mayor’s speech were: road infrastructure; master plan taking



root; new signage and website in the works; funding legacy costs; and water loss prevention. In closing, Mayor Roth said, “I look forward to working with you to keep Northville one of the best small cities in America.”

Watch the video of the mayor’s full speech: <https://tinyurl.com/y7lxbooc>.

# Notices

## City of Northville will adjust utility rates on July 1

Northville residents have the benefit of timely, cost-effective City services that keep neighborhoods and the entire City operating smoothly – from weekly trash pickup to providing clean water and safely disposing of sewage. The rates for these services are reviewed and adjusted annually. See the new rates below, which take effect on July 1.

Service	Rate	Frequency
Water	\$9.27	per 1,000 gal
Sewer	\$6.25	per 1,000 gal
Service charge	\$3.37	bi-monthly
Meter replacement charge	\$5.57	bi-monthly
Refuse & Recycling	\$38.20	bi-monthly

The refuse and recycling program is a weekly service that includes household trash pick-up, recycling and brush chipping, and seasonal fall leaves pick-up and composting. The service charge defrays the cost of reading meters and the billing process. The meter replacement program replaces aging water meters throughout the City.

## Primary election, Aug. 7, 2018

Polls open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Polling locations:

Precinct 1 (Wayne County voters) Northville Community Center, 303 W. Main

Precinct 2 (Oakland County voters) Amerman School, 847 N. Center

The last day to register to vote is July 9. Visit the City's website (homepage: voter information) for details about absent voter ballots, photo ID requirement, printing a sample ballot and more.

## Days and times to water your lawn and garden

The City of Northville uses mandatory outdoor watering restrictions to reduce the amount of water used during peak hours of demand from its supplier, GLWA.

Residents with automatic sprinkling systems or who connect a hose to the City water system may water their grass between midnight and 5 a.m. on odd or even days of the month, based on your house address. If your address ends with an even number, e.g. 200, you may water during unrestricted times only on even days, such as the 20th. If your address ends with an odd number, e.g. 201, you may water during unrestricted times only on odd days, such as the 21st. Residents who do not follow these restrictions may be issued a ticket.

## New Public Works director on the job

Lloyd Cureton joined the City of Northville staff on March 5 as director of the Department of Public Works (DPW). In this role, Cureton manages the delivery of essential services to the community, including water service, sewer, snow plowing and roads maintenance.

He will develop and implement projects that impact the city infrastructure and capital improvements, and will provide oversight to new development in the city, working with community leaders to ensure new construction is built to quality standards set forth in the city code. "I like to interact with the staff and people in the field, and love being out in rain and snow," Cureton said. "I will be available and approachable. I want to get to know what people's concerns are."

He comes to the City from Ferndale, where he served as DPW director. He has more than 26 years of experience at all levels of government, from planning and zoning to building and road systems, and has managed a cemetery. A graduate of Northville High School, he has numerous certifications in the public works field. Cureton and his wife, Dianne, live in New Hudson. They have three grown children and three grandchildren.

## Free Household Hazardous Waste Event

Saturday, Aug. 12 • 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Westland Shopping Center at Warren Road and Nankin Blvd.

Sponsored by Wayne County Dept. of Environment; for information contact 734-326-3936.

Watch for upcoming events in City News and on social media.



## Planning a garage sale? Don't forget the sign permit

If you are having a garage sale (or yard sale) and plan to use a sign, you will need a garage sale sign permit. The free permit is valid for up to three days with a limit of three permits per year. The permit details the requirements for the size and placement of signs. Apply on the City's website or at the City Clerk's office.

## Watch for your summer tax bill in the mail

Summer property tax bills will be mailed July 1. If you don't receive yours by July 10, please contact the Tax Department. Residents can pay their tax bill online at <https://tinyurl.com/y89pa3wc>



## Communication survey responses are on target

A communications survey conducted from March 7 to April 13 received 234 responses. The goal was to learn whether people are reading City News, a weekly e-newsletter; and Northville Matters, a quarterly print newsletter mailed to all city residents; and whether people are following us on Facebook and Twitter. Of each of these formats we asked respondents what they liked about it and how we could improve.



### Comments on print publications

Northville Matters drew mostly positive responses. Survey-takers said they read it and like the way it's organized. Respondents prefer reading about downtown Northville, followed by garbage and recycling, and neighborhood services. More than 60% read about the Historic District and the arts.

Many did not know that City News existed. You can sign up on the home page of our website or here: <http://tinyurl.com/gpw15lf>.

Nearly 90 percent of respondents want to read about Northville businesses. Of City services, respondents most want to read about the police department, roads and sidewalks, garbage collection and election news. For feature articles, respondents ranked special event recaps as their favorite, followed by City Council recaps and environmental news.

Other popular articles focused on business owners, the mayor and City Council members. Regarding civic organizations and places, most want to read about the Northville District Library, Maybury State Park and the Chamber of Commerce.

Respondents said they wanted to see more photos of people at events. Many want to see photos of neighbors and friends, community leaders and city leaders – in that order. Ninety percent of respondents read photo captions.

### Social media needs more followers

On social media, only 40% of respondents follow us on Facebook and fewer follow us on Twitter. Most social media followers like to read about community events (85%), and City services (63%), followed by 50% who want to read about their neighbors and friends.

Thank you to all who took the time to answer the survey. If you have questions or comments, please contact Liz Cezat, manager of Communications.

## How the national opioid crisis affects Northville

Across the nation, the rate of opioid overdoses and deaths has become a national crisis and the Midwest is among the hardest hit. The opioid crisis affects nearly every community. The City of Northville is no different, which is why all of the police officers are equipped with a kit that contains Narcan® (naloxone).

The police department started using the drug in 2017 to counteract the toxic effects of an opioid overdose. That year, it was administered seven times. Each time, after receiving Narcan, the affected individuals were taken to a local hospital by EMS.

All seven incidents of overdose came via dispatch calls. It's vital for individuals who find someone who appears to have overdosed to call 911 immediately. Signs of an overdose include: slow breathing, small pupils, and fingernails and lips turning blue.

"Police are often the first on the scene. It's important to have this product accessible to our officers because in overdose situations, seconds can matter," said Police Chief Michael Carlson.

"This epidemic is wide-ranging," said Sgt. Ken DeLano, who trains fellow officers how to use Narcan. "Many are heroin addicts.

But others may have accidentally taken a bad combination of prescription drugs and suffered an overdose." All Northville emergency front-line responders have Narcan.

### Save a life rather than make an arrest

As of late spring, police have not administered Narcan in 2018. People who are susceptible to overdosing no longer need to fear that the police will arrest them for drug possession. Michigan's Good Samaritan law, passed in 2016, prevents drug possession charges against those seeking medical assistance for an overdose in certain circumstances, according to the Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services website.

People become dependent on opioids for various reasons. Some become addicted to pain relievers, such as morphine and oxycodone. Others are recreational users who turn to morphine, fentanyl and methadone to get high.

"We are constantly training to keep up with changes in laws and trends in public safety. Problems caused by opioids are now common place and cannot be ignored," said Carlson.

For those who need treatment, help is

## "Special alert" process

The boil water advisory drew comments on the survey since the situation occurred while the survey was underway.

Due to changes in the day, time and duration of the boil water advisory, the start/finish time of the boil water advisory changed over the course of two days, which was confusing. We apologize for lapses in communicating the event.

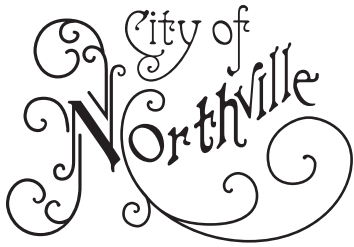
The event was a fast-changing story and our priority was to inform the media first, so they could broadcast the advisory. Social media posts came after that – on Facebook and Twitter. Notices were also put on our website's home page, in City News, and on a recorded line at City Hall. The acting DPW director served as the point of contact for residents, businesses and media.

In the event of a future emergency, the sources of information include: media, City News, social media, after-hours recording on the City's main number, and a designated staffer to take the majority of the calls and respond on a timely basis.

available. County and state medical resource centers offer low-cost services. Growth Works, in partnership with St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, is piloting a peer recovery coaching and detoxification program. Brian Spitsbergen, Ph.D., of Growth Works, and his team are working with area police departments, including Northville, to pair people addicted to opioids with a person who serves as their mentor during treatment and recovery to prevent relapse. Dr. Brian Spitsbergen can be reached at 734-455-4095.



Northville Police Officers Ken DeLano and Melissa Vernon show a Narcan kit.



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<https://www.facebook.com/northvillecityhall/>



Follow us on Twitter  
<https://twitter.com/NorthvilleCity>

## Projects & plans for Downtown Northville

**North 320, 320 Center St.** – All utilities have been installed for the building of 16 luxury townhomes. The building is slated to be ready in spring/summer 2019. Phase I faces Center Street while Phase II overlooks the creek. Homes range from 1,885 to 2,816 square feet, with four different floor plans. Prices start in the low \$600,000s. Some feature private rooftop terraces, with views of downtown and Ford Field. DW Development, owned by former Lions defensive end Dewayne White, and Tekton Development are behind the project. NextHome All Pro Realty is handling sales.

**Cady Street developments in early stages**  
The Planning Commission has approved plans for two condominium projects: the Corner House at Griswold and Cady, and the Cady Project, at Center and Cady, which also plans to have first-floor commercial.

**Northville Downs** – Developers have expressed interest in the Northville Downs property and Foundry Flask site. As of yet, no plans have been submitted to the City. We will report on the proposals when received, along with meeting schedules that allow for public comment.

**New fine dining** - 160 Main, a new Italian restaurant, will open its doors this summer. The newly renovated restaurant is co-owned by cousins Brian Maiorana (general manager) and Salvatore Monteleone (executive chef). They want to bring the Sicilian culture and family-style dining experience to their new restaurant. [www.onesixtymain.com](http://www.onesixtymain.com)  
Bon appetite!

## Farmers Market

Thursdays • 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Shop at the Northville Farmers Market 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.

## SIGN UP for City News

This e-newsletter is delivered electronically every Thursday. Learn about your City, local government and boards, people making a difference, and events around town.  
<http://tinyurl.com/gpwl5lf>

*Jay Wendt served the City for 40 years before retiring on April 17 from the Planning Commission. The City of Northville thanks him for his invaluable service and dedication to making the City a better place to live. Read Jay's profile: <https://tinyurl.com/y9ecrj4e>.*

## City Directory

Allen Terrace.....	248-349-8030
Assessor .....	248-305-2704
Building Department .....	248-449-9902
Cemetery .....	248-305-2702
City Manager.....	248-449-9905
City Clerk .....	248-349-1300
Communications (print, online).....	248-305-2703
DDA .....	248-349-0345
Finance Department .....	248-449-9907
Fire Department .....	248-449-9920
Parks and Recreation .....	248-349-0203
Police Dispatch (non-emergency).....	248-349-1234
Police .....	248-349-5100
Public Works.....	248-449-9930
Community Center .....	248-349-4140
Tax Department/Treasurer.....	248-449-9901
Youth Assistance.....	248-344-1618

## Frequently Called Numbers

Art House .....	248-344-0497
Chamber of Commerce .....	248-349-7640
Library.....	248-349-3020
Mill Race Village.....	248-348-1845
Post Office.....	248-349-2062
Waste Management .....	800-796-9696

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