

Northville Matters

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City of Northville • 215 West Main Street • Northville, Michigan 48167

Downtown street closures will continue

The short-term decision about whether to keep both downtown streets closed has been resolved. City Council unanimously voted to continue the street closures at N. Center from Main to Dunlap and at E. Main from Center to Hutton until Nov. 7. This decision was made at the council's June 6 meeting in response to a recommendation by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Board to reopen N. Center Street.

The impact on traffic is being studied, along with other inputs, as council prepares to decide how to handle traffic on those streets going forward. The streets have been closed since June 2020 as a means of helping businesses survive the state's COVID-19 commercial restrictions early on. The majority of people who responded to a DDA-sponsored survey favored keeping the streets closed.

The closures combined with the launch of a social district have been a boon for business and made Downtown Northville a prime example of an inviting, vibrant destination during a pandemic. Swift action taken by the DDA, City Council and merchants, with the support of residents and visitors, made this plan successful.



Photo of E. Main provided by DDA.



Brownfield Redevelopment Authority members, from left, seated: Ryan McKindles, Patrick McGow and Michelle Aniol; standing: Barbara Moroski-Browne, David Hay, Don Webb and John Carter.

Photo by Liz Cezat

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority hears first case

The redevelopment of Foundry Flask from a former manufacturing site to an apartment complex with commercial space was the first case brought before the newly established Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (BRA).

Proceedings for the contaminated, obsolete site at 456 East Cady began on March 30 and continued through the April 27 and May 23 meetings. (For details, see minutes on the city website.) The brownfield was approved by the authority and has been sent to City Council. It will be used to fund environmental cleanup and other eligible activities.

Members are Michelle Aniol, John Carter, David Hay, Patrick McGow (chair), Ryan McKindles, Barbara Moroski-Browne, and Don Webb, with City Treasurer Sandi Wiktorowski also serving as BRA treasurer. Members serve a three-year term. Brownfield consultants are Samantha Seimer and Brian Westhoff, both of AKT Peerless.

The BRA established operations in February. At their first two meetings, the members, aided by consultants, defined their role and set up administrative procedures, including policies and procedures; an intake process; and a process for formal brownfield plan approval. They also established a process

for reimbursement and compliance for developers who are granted a tax abatement in exchange for property remediation. Generally, the property contains toxic substances or is distressed (environmentally or functionally) and its revitalization would add value to the city in terms of new use and an expanded tax base.

City Council voted to establish the BRA on Jan. 7, 2019; members were appointed and trained that year. The board was established in accordance with the Brownfield Financing Act, Act 381 of the Public Acts of the State of Michigan of 1996, as amended (Act 381). By the time the first case came, some of the initial directors' terms had expired and new members were added to the board.

The BRA is authorized to allow the use of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) revenues to pay for or reimburse public or private costs of eligible activities as defined in Act 381. These include such items as Baseline Environmental Assessment (BEA) activities, due care activities (which limit exacerbation of, or exposure to, contamination on a site), demolition (above and below ground), lead and asbestos assessment and abatement, certain administrative and consultant costs,

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Notices

GFL to collect trash, recyclables, brush

GFL Environmental USA, Inc. is the city's new vendor for garbage collection and recycling (commercial and residential), yard waste collection and other services. Their contract began June 1. The company mailed customers a brochure detailing the new program.

GFL delivered new carts to customers. There are two sizes for trash: 95-gallon and 65-gallon and a 65-gallon cart for recyclables. Bags and bins with a 35-gallon capacity can also be used with the carts or alone. Residents who still need a cart should contact GFL at 844-464-3587 or DPW at 248-449-9930.

Bulk items, yard waste, and brush chipping can be put out on trash day. There is no longer a separate collection day for brush. Items with freon require a \$36 sticker available at City Hall.

Watch for 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. Payment can be made by mail, in person, online or by automatic deduction from your bank account. Visit the city website/services/finance to view payment options.

New utility rates in effect 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 refuse and recycling program is a weekly service that includes household trash pickup, recycling and brush chipping, and seasonal fall leaf pickup and composting. The meter replacement program replaces aging water meters. The service charge defrays the cost of reading meters and the billing process. The rates for these services are reviewed and adjusted annually, and go into effect on July 1.

Service	Current Rate	Rate on July 1	Frequency
Water	\$10.35	\$11.03	Per unit *
Sewer	\$7.88	\$8.35	Per unit *
Service charge	\$4.84	\$4.84	Bi-monthly
Meter replacement charge	\$6.67	\$6.67	Bi-monthly
Refuse & recycling	\$41.06	\$42.00	Bi-monthly

*1 unit = 1,000 gallons

Control your water use on lawns and gardens

Summer brings an increased use of water to keep lawns and gardens green. To keep the cost of water as low as possible, remember to follow the city's odd/even watering system regulations.

- Homes with addresses that end in odd numbers can only water on odd days: July 21, 23, etc., while addresses that end in an even number can only water on even days: July 22, 24, etc.
- People with automatic sprinkler systems can only water between the hours of 12 a.m. and 5 a.m., following the odd/even rules.
- Those who water manually with a hose (not attached to a timer), can do so between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m., also adhering to the odd/even rules.

Using sprinklers outside the permitted days/hours contributes to the use of excess water, which results in rate increases for all city of Northville water customers. Notices will be posted on the homes of those watering outside their required times/days, and civil infraction violations may be issued. (See the Code of Ordinances, Sec. 86-48.)

Garage sale sign permits

If you are having a garage sale or yard sale and plan to advertise it with a sign, you will need a garage sale sign permit. The permit is free and the application is available on the city website or at the City Clerk's Office. Garage sale sign permits are valid for up to three days and there is a limit of three permits per year. You will need to provide the proposed sign locations when you apply for the permit.



Tree canopy expands

Northville is welcoming 50 new trees to its verdant tree canopy and living up to its designation as a Tree City. The DPW, advised by arborist Jim Porterfield, purchased the trees from Marine City Nursery as part of a multi-year contract. The project involves planting 35 trees on residential streets in right of ways, five trees in Rural Hill Cemetery and 10 trees in the open space behind City Hall. Several diseased legacy trees were removed from there in recent years. Additionally, Parks & Recreation intends to plant trees at several parks, including Ford Field and Fish Hatchery Park.

Infrastructure news

Street surfaces, water mains and storm sewers will be replaced on five streets (see list below) during the 2022 construction season. City Council accepted Nagle Paving Co.'s bid for \$1,854,426 and the city added a 10% contingency. The Church Street parking lot was repaved in May under a separate contract.

To keep current with work being performed, visit the Fleis and Vandenbrink web page for Northville street/sewer construction projects. <https://tinyurl.com/dudtdhed>

Randolph Street (completed)

Andover Drive

Grasmere Street

Morgan Blvd. (north side)

Lake Street (August)

August 2 primary election update



Mark your calendars for the Primary Election on Aug. 2, where voters will cast their ballot to nominate a party's candidates for federal, state, and county offices to run on the November general election ballot, and also vote on any ballot proposals.

The August primary is an open primary, meaning you do not declare a political party preference to vote. The primary election ballot is partisan and voters may only vote for one party's candidates. You then can vote the proposal section on the ballot. Splitting the partisan ticket on Aug. 2 will invalidate the partisan votes on your ballot. If you want to vote for candidates from multiple parties, you may do so at the Nov. 8 general election.

Absentee ballots

All registered voters have the right to vote by mail without providing a reason. Absentee ballot applications are valid for both the Aug. 2 and Nov. 8 elections. You can complete and submit your application online through this link: <https://mVIC.sos.state.mi.us/avapplication>. The application is emailed directly to the clerk. Applications are also available in the City Hall 24 hour vestibule.

If you signed up to receive automatic absentee ballot applications, the application was mailed in early June. You must check the elections for which you want an absentee ballot, and sign and return the application to have a ballot mailed to you.

The deadline to have a ballot mailed is 5 p.m., July 29. Apply earlier to avoid mail delays. You can also pick up your own ballot in person at the City Clerk's Office June 23 through 4 p.m. on Aug 1. The photo ID requirement is in effect.

Voter Registration

Now through July 18: Register in any manner (online, by mail, in person).
July 19 to 8 p.m. Election Day, Aug. 2: Register in person at the Northville City Clerk's Office, 215 W. Main Street. Residency verification is required and it must have your name and current Northville address. Digital copies are acceptable.

Saturday hours

On July 30, the City Clerk's Office is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for in person voter registration and in person absentee ballots.

Facts at a glance

Polls open: 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

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

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

Am I registered to vote? Where can I view the ballot? Do I need photo ID?

To learn the answers to these questions and more, visit the Elections and Voting section of the city website. In addition to checking your voter information, you can also view and print a sample ballot.

Did you receive your new voter card?

Due to redistricting, the city of Northville has changes to its U.S. Congressional, State Senate, State Representative, and County Commission districts. New voter information cards with those changes were mailed to all registered voters in the city.

Candidates for the new districts will be on the Aug. 2 primary and Nov. 8 General Election ballots. Only the districts have changed; precinct numbers and polling locations remain the same.

For a list of the new districts affecting the city, visit the city website: [government/county, state and federal officials](#).

If you receive a voter information card for someone who no longer resides at your address, please denote that on the card and return it to City Hall (by mail, drop box or in person). The City Clerk's Office will follow up with the voter.

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and environmental insurance. A Local Brownfield Revolving Fund (LBRF) allows the fund to capture Tax Increment Revenue (TIR) for a period not-to-exceed five years after the original reimbursement period is complete.

The board's policies and procedures do not intend to grant interest costs to developers, except in instances of public benefit. Only 20% of brownfield reimbursement agreements in the state paid interest, according to consultant Seimer.

The BRA's administrative capture is 5 percent, as recommended by AKT Peerless. Gap funding is available through the Michigan Community Revitalization Program (CRP). All applicants are strongly encouraged to apply for EGLE and MEDC approval, in part to get a confirming second party, and to potentially reduce the amount being sought from the BRA by securing related government agency grants.

Legal counsel for Downs redevelopment project

The city has engaged the firm of Rosati, Schultz, Joppich and Amtsbuechler to act as special counsel for the Downs redevelopment project and be a legal resource to the Downs Project Advisory Committee (DPAC). Firm founder Carol Rosati will draft development agreements while attorney Elizabeth Kudla Saarela will advise on brownfield legal matters.

DPAC is comprised of the mayor and the chairs of the Planning Commission, Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, Downtown Development Authority, Sustainability Team and the Rouge Restoration Task Force. The committee is charged with examining all of the financial impacts of the project and making recommendations back to their respective bodies on funding mechanisms and development agreements relating to public improvements.

Downs site plan under PC review

The Planning Commission is steadily working its way through all the details of Hunter Pasteur Northville's proposed redevelopment project – the preliminary site plan for the Downs, Cady St. and portions of S. Center. At meetings in May and early June, commissioners and consultants explored the topics of roads, pathways, connections and parking; architecture, landscaping and aesthetics. Due to the abundance of information at each meeting, it's difficult to summarize in Northville Matters. To learn the latest, please read City News, view the website (redevelopment page and board and commission minutes) and view articles posted to the news section following meetings. Notice of meetings (first and third Tuesdays of the month) is on the website and in social media.





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Ukraine’s fight for freedom gains Council’s support

City Council passed a resolution that condemns the violence that Russia is inflicting on Ukraine after invading the country on Feb. 24. It states the city of Northville stands with the people of Ukraine in the defense of their natural rights and for the right to maintain the integrity of their sovereign, national borders. Council members agree to support citizens who draw up practical and creative recommendations for city-wide efforts that could strengthen Ukraine’s resolve and reduce human suffering. The resolution provides several examples, ranging from establishing ties to a sister city in Ukraine to sharing news about how residents are helping Ukraine. The effort was led by City Council Member John Carter after a local citizen, David Reich, petitioned the council to demonstrate support for Ukraine. Mayor Brian Turnbull and all council members signed the document.



City Council Member John Carter holds the resolution that he brought before Council.

Family fun this summer

Tunes on Tuesday

Town Square, Downtown Northville
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Date	Performer
July 12	Guy Louis
July 19	Gemini
July 26	Funny Dumplings
Aug. 2	Kevin Devine
Aug. 9	Susan Harrison
Aug. 16	Earth Angels

Movie in the Park: The Lion King

Ford Field, Downtown Northville
Friday, July 8
Mini-Festival begins at 6 p.m. with activities from Oakland County Mobile Recreation, movie begins at dusk.

These events are managed by the Northville Parks and Rec. Association. For weather cancellations, call 248-449-9951 or visit [NorthvilleParks&Rec](#) on Facebook.



Flowers are a big draw at the Farmers’ Market, held Thursdays, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., at 7 Mile and Sheldon.

Let the music and dancing move you

The DDA has lined up music in the social district with live performances Fridays and Saturdays, 7 to 9 p.m., through October. A stage band will play at Town Square once a month June-August. Also, the DDA is offering free dance lessons every Wednesday, 6 to 8:30 p.m. through August at Town Square. View the DDA website for details and watch social media for updates.

City Directory

Allen Terrace.....	248-349-8030
Assessing Department	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.....	248-305-2851
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
Civic Concern	248-344-1033
Historical Society.....	248-348-1845
Library.....	248-349-3020
Mill Race Village.....	248-348-1845
Post Office.....	248-349-2062
Waste Management.....	800-796-9696

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City News

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