



City of Otsego Agenda

A Publication of the City of Otsego

Fall 2016

GENERAL ELECTION November 8, 2016

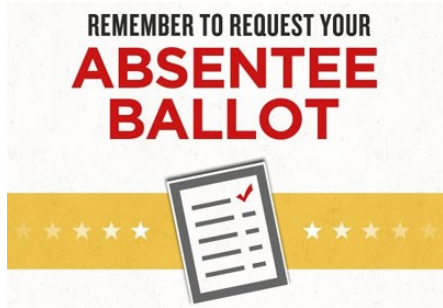


The polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and remain open until 8:00 p.m. **Tuesday, November 8, 2016**, for the General Election. Electors will be voting for National, State, Local candidates, ballot proposals. Because this is a Presidential election year, voter turn-out is likely to be very high. In order to expedite the process at the polls, please check prior to election day to make sure that you are a registered voter of the City of Otsego.

**PLEASE, HAVE YOUR PHOTO ID
READY AT THE POLLS!**

You may call Angela Cronen, City Clerk, at 692-3391 or email at acronen@cityofotsego.org to check on your voter registration status.

**Absentee Voter Applications
are available at City Hall. Call City Hall to
see if you qualify.**



FALL LEAF PICK-UP

As the end of summer draws near, it is once again time to think about our annual FALL LEAF PICK-UP. Dates for the pick-up have not yet been decided; however, this pick-up usually occurs sometime in mid-October to mid-November. Actual dates are determined after leaves begin to fall. Watch for the announcement of actual dates in the "Shoppers Guide", "Union Enterprise", Facebook, and the City's website.



The City's policy is to canvass all streets twice during the two week pick-up period. **REMEMBER: With the exception of Allegan & Farmer Street, all leaves are to be raked into the street next to the curb.** Announcement of actual dates will advise residents when the leaves should be out to be picked up. **If the leaves are not in the street they will not be picked up.**

Please do not place anything except leaves in the street. The City places these leaves on a compost pile and therefore, branches, twigs and other yard waste must not be included. (Brush and other yard waste may be taken to the City's Transfer Station at any time free of charge). It is the City's policy to canvass the City two times. If leaves are placed in the street after completion of the canvassing, they will not be removed. It is the resident's responsibility to dispose of the leaves at the Transfer Station.



Otsego Chamber Of Commerce

Mark your Calendar for September 24!

Just a few short weeks until the **29th Annual Otsego Creative Arts Festival** occurs and there is still plenty of time to get involved. The Chamber is expecting another great turn out! This year, the festival will include: **Car Show, Parade, Motorcycle Show, Tractor Show, Pet Parade, Children's Activities, Arts & Crafts, Corn-Hole Tournament, Entertainment Stage, and much more!** Let's show our visitors and residents why Otsego is such a great place to Work, Play and Stay! We appreciate your support of this event. For more information Visit - otsegocreativeartsfestival.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Otsego Water Department will flush all fire hydrants **September 26 through October 7**. This is done to remove any stale water that may be in the system and insure that the fire hydrants are working properly. You may experience some reduced pressure and discoloration during this process. If discoloration occurs, let your water run until it clears.



**RECYCLE PICK-UP IS THE
FIRST AND THIRD MONDAY
OF THE MONTH**



**FALL BACK
NOVEMBER 6, 2016**



City Manager, Thad Beard

CITY MANAGER'S VIEW

SOUTH FARMER STREET IMPROVEMENTS: The City of Otsego was fortunate enough to be awarded \$375,000 in funding for the reconstruction of South Farmer Street. This funding is made available through Michigan Department of Transportation Small Urban Program. The reconstruction project includes replacement of water main, sanitary sewer main, storm sewer and sidewalks, besides the street surface from Orleans to Hammond. The project began the first week of August and is scheduled to be completed the first week of October. With this total reconstruction and replacement of all utilities, we will have detours available on Fair and Kalamazoo Streets.



PRESENTATION OF AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION'S MISSION- LIFELINE EMS BRONZE AWARD - Kathie Thomas from the American Heart Association recently presented the American Heart Association's Mission – Lifeline Bronze Award to the Otsego Fire Department, Plainwell Public Safety, and the Plainwell Area EMS. Ms. Thomas stated that this award shows the commitment of the teamwork of these agencies to provide certain services to the community.

PRESENTATION OF THE PLAINWELL EMS CARDIAC ARREST FIELD SAVE RECOGNITION AWARD - Ryan Cronk the Operations Manager of the Plainwell Area EMS recently presented certain members of the Otsego Fire Department – Taylor Knight, Jamie Rice, Chris Harris, Brandon Weber; and Officer Aaron LaLone and Chief Gordon Konkle of the Otsego Police Department, for a Cardiac Arrest Field Save Recognition Award. Mr. Cronk commented that the community should be very proud of the Fire and Police Departments. He stated that they take great care of the Otsego community.

Thank you



OTSEGO FIRE DEPARTMENT



Otsego Fire Department would like to welcome its 5 new candidates to the Fire Department. The candidates are as follows:

- MJ Flick**
- Craig Tyler**
- Jeremy Robar**
- Collin Dutton**
- Ryan Welcher**

The candidates will be very busy over the next couple months and years as there are several classes that they will be attending. New candidates have two years from their hire date to successfully complete Firefighter I & II. Additionally, in Otsego we require them to become licensed as a Medical First Responder.

The candidates will also be attending regularly scheduled department meeting, trainings, and running calls. Once they have completed their initial required training, they will then be responsible to attend continuing education training so that they can keep up the licenses and certifications they have obtained.

Otsego Fire Department has recently had some promotions within the officer ranks, as well, and would like to recognize those individuals.

- **Lieutenant, Scott Parsons was promoted to Captain.**
- **Firefighter, Timothy Sheibels was promoted to Lieutenant.**
- **Firefighter, Taylor Knight was promoted to Lieutenant.**

Halloween Safety Tips

- Purchase costumes and props labeled flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Purchase costumes that are bright, reflective and fit properly.
- Remember to keep exits clear of decorations ensuring egress.
- Instead of using candles in jack-o-lanterns, consider using battery operated candles or a flashlight.
- Remind children not to eat the treats until they have been inspected properly.



Candle Safety

- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that burns.
- Use sturdy, safe candle holders that will not tip or burn and large enough to collect dripping wax.
- Extinguish candles when you leave a room. Never leave a candle unattended.
- Be careful not to splatter wax when extinguishing a candle. If available, use a candle snuffer.
- Avoid candles in sleeping areas and bedrooms.
- Always use a flashlight, not a candle for emergency lighting.
- Consider using battery operated flameless candles.
- Trim candle wicks to one-quarter inch.



Happy Halloween and don't forget October is Fire

Winter Parking Rules



Beginning November 1, parking is once again PROHIBITED on any public street in the City of Otsego from 2:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m.. Parking is restricted during the months of November through April in order to facilitate snow removal. Violators will be ticketed.

MAIN STREET EVENTS

- ◇ October 9th - Fall Festival
- ◇ October 15th - Autumn Bliss
- ◇ December 3rd - Hometown Christmas



2016 DECEMBER BOARD OF REVIEW

The December Board of Review will be meeting on December 13, 2016, 8:30 a.m., at City Hall. If you disagree with the percentage shown for your Principal Residence Exemption on your **Winter 2016** taxes, you must contact City Hall **before** Friday, **December 9, 2016**. If you have any questions, please call 692-2741.



Police Chief, Gordon Konkle

OTSEGO POLICE DEPT.

Fall is in the air, well sometime now anyway, school is starting back up, and if not frost well at least heavy dew has been on my windshield every morning before I leave for work. As the nights continue to get colder, please take the extra time to defrost or even scrape (yes, I said scrape) the ice that we all know is coming from all of your vehicle's windows before you pull out of your driveway. Hopefully, the frost and ice will hold off for several months, but it is inevitable here in Michigan. We are always running behind, but there is just no good excuse for someone driving down the road peering through a six inch circle in the windshield while every other piece of glass in the car is frosted or snow covered. This is a disaster waiting to happen and if that's not enough; if one of us sees you it will be a ticket. Again, we all know better and everyone has an excuse, but all it really takes is a few extra minutes and being prepared with a window scraper. An accident or serious injury caused because you didn't clear off your car could haunt you for the rest of your life.

I know that I have talked about this in the past but, it just never seems to go away. We all get phone calls or emails telling us about the fantastic prize or large sum of money that we have just

won. The first sign of something that you know is wrong is that you didn't even enter into a contest or have never heard of whoever it is that is informing you of your windfall.

These people are getting better and better because people are getting more informed and aware of their scams. But, it never fails, someone thinks they can out smart the scammer and play along. Unfortunately, if you receive a check and deposit it in your bank account even if it looks good it will eventually bounce. This may take weeks to occur because like I said, these scammers are getting better and with computers the checks or money orders they send you are even hard for the bank to tell if they are a fraud. In the meantime, if you spend any of the money or return any of it to them as they will always request, you will be the one left holding the bag and responsible to pay back the bank. Never, never, never (did I say "never" enough?) give anyone your personal information or bank routing numbers. Bells, whistles, and perhaps SIRENS should be going off in your head if you get one of these calls. Just hang up the phone or throw away the letter. Most of these scammers are located outside of the country and there is nothing we can do to help you recover the money you will have lost. Now I know most people reading this will just laugh and think it can't happen to them. You are probably right, but the peo-

ple that seem to fall prey are the elderly and once their bank accounts have been cleaned out it is devastating to them and those who will now need to pick up the pieces for them.

While the winning of a large sum of money is a big one, there is also the phone calls from the IRS with threats that the person is about to be arrested because of taxes they failed to pay, and even calls where the caller will tell the person that one of their relatives has been arrested and they must send them money. We have taken calls from normal people who have fallen victim to these scams and all have said how convincing the person is on the other end of the line. Just remember that if you get a phone call or letter like this don't let them push you into acting immediately. Take the time to check with relatives or the police to make sure the call is legit, if it is it can wait. If they try to scare you into action, then again, that will give you a good idea that it is a fraud.

Call us if you are concerned that you are being scammed. We will probably have already heard about it from someone else and can help ease your mind that it is just something you can ignore.



CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED

November 24 & 25 - December 23 & 26 & 30 - January 2, 2017

CITY OF OTSEGO CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER, 2016

1	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY	
5	CITY HALL CLOSED	
6	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
6	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
6	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY	
12	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	7:30 A.M. CITY HALL
19	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
19	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
26	PLANNING COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL

OCTOBER, 2016

3	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
3	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
4	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY	
6	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY	
9	MAIN STREET - FALL FESTIVAL	
10	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	7:30 A.M. CITY HALL
15	MAIN STREET - AUTUMN BLISS	
17	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
17	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
24	PLANNING COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
31	HALLOWEEN	

NOVEMBER, 2016

1	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY	
3	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY	
7	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
7	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
8	ELECTION	POLLS OPEN 7AM - 8PM
11	VETERANS DAY SERVICE	11:00 A.M.
14	CITY COMMISSION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
14	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	7:30 A.M. CITY HALL
21	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
21	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
24	CITY HALL CLOSED	
25	CITY HALL CLOSED	
28	PLANNING COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL

DECEMBER, 2016

1	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY	
3	MAIN STREET- HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS	
5	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
5	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
6	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY	
12	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	7:30 A.M. CITY HALL
19	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
19	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
23 & 26	CITY HALL CLOSED	
27	PLANNING COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
30	CITY HALL CLOSED	

JANUARY, 2017

2	CITY HALL CLOSED	
2	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
3	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
3	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY	
5	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY	
9	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	7:30 A.M. CITY HALL
16	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
16	CURBSIDE RECYCLE	
23	PLANNING COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL

FEBRUARY, 2017

2	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY	
6	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
6	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
7	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY	
13	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	7:30 A.M. CITY HALL
20	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
20	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
27	PLANNING COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL

CITY CONTACTS

Police & Fire Emergency.....	911
Fire Non-Emergency.....	694-4390
Police Non-Emergency.....	692-6111
Chief of Police.....	692-6111
City Manager	694-6146
City Clerk	692-3391
Finance Director	692-2741
Main Street Office.....	692-2336
Dept. Public Works	694-6636
Treatment Plant.....	694-9194

Website: www.cityofotsego.org



The Agenda is a quarterly publication of the
CITY OF OTSEGO

Tom Gilmer.....	Mayor
Kathy Misner.....	Mayor Pro-Tem
Stacey Withee.....	Commissioner
Ryan Wieber.....	Commissioner
Cyndi Trobeck.....	Commissioner
Thad Beard.....	City Manager
Angela Cronen.....	City Clerk
Mike Bosch.....	DPW Supervisor
Luke Keyzer.....	WWTP Superintendent
Gordon Konkle.....	Chief of Police
Matthew Storbeck.....	Treasurer
Brandon Weber.....	Fire Chief
Kevin Harris.....	Assessor
Josh Owens.....	Main Street Manager

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