



City of Otsego Agenda

A Publication of the City of Otsego

Spring 2019

FORMER MAYOR GILMER RECEIVES KEY TO THE CITY

Thank you former Mayor Gilmer!

He was recognized for the decades of service he has given to the City of Otsego and Otsego Public Schools. Mayor Trobeck presented Mr. Gilmer with a key to the city along with a framed resolution. Don't worry, Tom's not going anywhere though, as he will continue to be the Planning Commission Chairman, Election Worker along with an overall asset to our community. Thank you Tom.



Mayor Trobeck presenting Key to the City to Tom Gilmer.

OTSEGO FIRE DEPARTMENT PINNING CEREMONY, RECOGNITION, & INTRODUCTION OF NEW OFFICERS

The Otsego Fire Department would like to proudly recognize Lieutenant, David Kranz; Lieutenant, Todd Campbell; and Lieutenant, Mike Bush for their formal service pinning and their outstanding accomplishments. We would like to also recognize their continued service to the Otsego Fire Department, City of Otsego, and Otsego Township, for going above and beyond for the communities they serve.



HYDRANT FLUSHING SCHEDULE

The City of Otsego Water Department will flush all fire hydrants April 22 through May 3. This is done to remove any stale water that may be in the system and ensure 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.

DOOR TO DOOR SALES

Remember to make sure that the salesperson has a signed permit from the City. Just a reminder that the City is in no way endorsing any of the salespersons or their products by signing the permit. The signed permit only means that they filled out the proper paperwork and a background check has been completed, per the City's Ordinance. If you have a complaint - call the Police Department or City Hall.



ROCK-TENN POWER HOUSE DEMOLITION



As you look down Helen Avenue to the west of town you will soon notice a change to the landscape; the Rock-Tenn power house will no longer be found in the distance. The EPA and their contractors are currently in the process of demolishing the asbestos filled building. This work is the product of a \$1M EPA grant to abate the building. The removal of the power house has been a long time coming and that time is now! The 100 year old building has served the City of Otsego well, but it is time to clear the property for redevelopment for the next generation to serve the city and its residents. The City of Otsego is incredibly grateful for the EPA's work. All parties involved are eager to get this project completed, to continue the progress of transforming the entire Rock-Tenn site.

CLOSED

CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED May 27, July 4, & Sept. 2, 2019

City Manager's View



City Manager
Aaron Mitchell

Back Alley Redevelopment

The city has big plans for the north back alley of the 100 block of E Allegan St.! This alley has been vital to the downtown businesses along that stretch as not only the source of deliveries but also as the rear entrance for the establishments. However, recently it has become more of a liability than anything else. With the alley being trafficked by speeding drivers, whom more often than not are just trying to get around the Farmer St. stop light. Plus, if you look across the alley it is no longer inviting, visually. It has aged, beaten up asphalt with each buildings' approaches at different heights. As the DDA looked at ways of improving the alley, we have decided to totally redevelop the area. The goal is to create an area that the local businesses can utilize for their own operations and allow for them to use their buildings in ways that were previously not possible. The city has entered into agreements with the restaurants and bars along that stretch with hopes they will have new and exciting ways to operate in downtown Otsego with outdoor seating and special events. Meanwhile making the common space more inviting to attract more traffic for the entire downtown. The first step of that was the closure of the alley from vehicles, which we did this last fall. The prohibition of vehicles immediately made the alley safer for patrons coming and going from each of the establishments. The next step will be substantial.

The plan is to have all of the existing alley asphalt removed.

The area from Fair St. to The Lock Master will be leveled and will have stamped concrete along with some greenspace included with all new original landscaping. The smaller portion from The Lock Master to Farmer St. will be concrete, but will remain a location to receive deliveries. In addition there will be two curb cut outs that will allow for deliveries to be received from the rear parking lot. The city has worked hard at including all of the businesses along the alley in the decision making processes, wherever possible. One example of that has been requesting for the project contractors to give the business owners an option of installing the necessary conduit for a later hookup for heated sidewalks during the upcoming work. Which will drastically make their maintenance of the area in the winter months much easier. The finished product will be a park-like setting that has uniform heights for entering/exiting of all buildings making for a safe more welcoming common space.

The project commenced on April 1st. There are a few schedules that have to be lined up for completion. If all goes well and the weather cooperates, the project could be done as early as May 1st. We are going to do all that we can to try and limit the inconvenience to you and the businesses along the alley. We are all very excited to see the finished product. When the project is completed, be sure to come down and check it out. It will be an asset for downtown Otsego for years to come!



OTSEGO FIRE DEPARTMENT FIREFIGHTERS NEEDED

The Otsego Fire Department is accepting applications for the position of firefighter. The Otsego Fire Department is a paid on-call department and firefighters respond to fires and emergency situations as their own schedules allow.

Qualifications for this position include: Minimum eighteen (18) years of age; Residence located within a four minute response time from the Otsego Fire Station; Valid Michigan driver's license, with a good driving record; Successful completion of Otsego Fire Department physical ability test; Ability to successfully complete training courses designated by the department.

Preferred Qualifications may include: Firefighter I & II Certification or equivalent; Hazardous Materials Operations Certification; Confined Space Rescue Operations Certification; Medical First Responder License.

Applications are on the City's website or available at City Hall. Applications are being accepted until June 30, 2019, at Otsego City Hall, Attn: City Clerk, 117 E. Orleans St., Otsego, MI. EOE/M/F/H

"The City of Otsego Citizen's Guide, Performance Dashboard, Debt Service Report and Projected Budget Report are available for viewing at the Otsego City Hall or online at www.cityofotsego.org."

REMINDER



PLEASE **do not** flush **baby wipes, diapers, feminine products or flushable wipes** down your toilets! These items are not really flushable. They do not break down like toilet paper is intended to do. They are beginning to be the cause of major problems and backups throughout the City. Please help yourself, your neighbors and community by not disposing of these items in this way. Please use your local refuse service to dispose of these items. Your cooperation in this would be greatly appreciated by everyone. Thank you.



CITY EMPLOYEE UPDATE

Police Officer - Brady Roberts served as a part-time officer since 2015. He recently was hired as a full time Police Officer. Congratulations Officer Roberts!

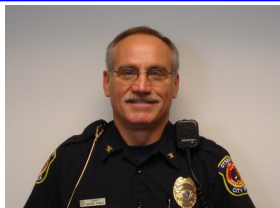


DPW Employee - Tayler Currie was employed as a part-time employee at the DPW. In April, Tayler was hired as a full time employee. Congratulations Tayler!



PLEASE SEE THE CITY'S FIREWORK ORDINANCE ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS - The City has many Ordinances that you might not be aware of, here are a few that may be of interest to you: Barking Dog Ordinance, an ordinance specifying how long your trash bin can be at the side of the road, a tall grass ordinance, no open burning ordinance, and front yard parking ordinance, to name just a few. Ordinances can be found in detail on the City's website www.cityofotsego.org. The City also asks now that mowing season is here to please not blow yard clippings into the road, as they can plug the street drains and increase pollution in the rivers. Please feel free to contact City Hall if you have specific questions.



Police Chief, Gordon Konkle

With the passing of Michigan's Recreational Marihuana Law there is a lot of confusion on exactly what is and is not allowed. This will be a learning curve for the Police, the Courts, and the general Public. I will do my best to hit the highlights of what isn't allowed at this time, but just like the Medical Marihuana Law there is certain to be legislative changes coming in the next few years. So to the best of my understanding here is a thumb nail of the violations you need to be aware of should you choose to use marihuana recreationally in Michigan.

1. You can't operate, navigate, or be in physical control of any motor vehicle, aircraft, snowmobile, off-road recreational vehicle, or motorboat while under the influence of marihuana.
2. You can't transfer (give or provide) marihuana or marihuana accessories to a person under the age of 21.
3. No person under the age of 21 can possess, consume, purchase or otherwise obtain, cultivate, process, transport or sell marihuana.
4. No person can separate plant resin by butane extraction or another method

POLICE BEAT



that utilizes a substance with a flashpoint below 100 degrees Fahrenheit in any public place, motor vehicle, or within the cartilage of any residential structure.

5. No person can consume marihuana in a public place or smoking marihuana where prohibited by the person who owns, occupies, or manages the property, except for purposes of section, a public place does not include an area designated for consumption within a municipality that has authorized consumption in designated areas that are not accessible to persons under 21 years of age.

6. No person can cultivate marihuana plants if the plants are visible from a public place without the use of binoculars, aircraft, or other optical aids or outside of an enclosed area equipped with locks or other functioning security devices that restrict access to the area.

7. No person can consume marihuana while operating, navigating, or being in physical control of any motor vehicle, aircraft, snowmobile, off-road recreational vehicle, or motorboat, or smoking marihuana within the passenger area of a vehicle upon a public way.

8. No person can possess marihuana accessories or possess or consume marihuana on the grounds of a public or private school where children attend classes in preschool programs, kindergarten programs, or grades 1 through 12,

in a school bus, or on the grounds of any correctional facility.

9. No person can possess more than 2.5 ounces of marihuana within a person's place of residence unless the excess marihuana is stored in a container or area equipped with locks or other functioning security devices that restrict access to the contents of the container or area.

There is nothing in this law that limits any privileges or rights already afforded under the Medical Marihuana Act. Also, businesses, employers, and landlords under most circumstances may regulate or prohibit the use of marihuana on their property or workplace. This outline barely scratches the surface of the new law and is not intended to be an all in compassing list. I have not even touched on the penalties for violations, age limits, or repercussions involving child custody or visitation. We will be happy to answer any questions or concerns by contacting the Police Department.

Thank you, Chief Gordon Konkle



CITY OF OTSEGO CALENDAR

APRIL, 2019

1	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
2	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
2	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY	
4	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY	
8	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	7:30 A.M. CITY HALL
15	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
16	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
19	CITY HALL CLOSED—GOOD FRIDAY	
22	PLANNING COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL

MAY, 2019

2	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY	
6	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
7	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
21	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
27	CITY HALL CLOSED—MEMORIAL DAY	
28	PLANNING COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL

JUNE, 2019

3	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
4	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
4	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY	
6	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY	
10	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	7:30 A.M. CITY HALL
17	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
18	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
24	PLANNING COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL

JULY, 2019

1	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
2	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
2	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY	
4	CITY HALL CLOSED	
5	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY** DAY LATER DUE TO HOLIDAY	
8	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	7:30 A.M. CITY HALL
15	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
16	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
22	PLANNING COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL

AUGUST, 2019

1	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY	
5	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
20	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
26	PLANNING COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL

SEPTEMBER, 2019

2	CITY HALL CLOSED	
3	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
3	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY	
4	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY ** DAY LATER DUE TO HOLIDAY	
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
17	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
23	PLANNING COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL

OCTOBER, 2019

1	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
1	CITY BRUSH PICK-UP DAY	
3	CITY TRASH PICK-UP DAY	
7	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
14	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	7:30 A.M. CITY HALL
15	CURBSIDE RECYCLING DAY	
21	CITY COMMISSION	7:00 P.M. CITY HALL
28	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

Cyndi Trobeck.....	Mayor
Stacey Withee.....	Mayor Pro-Tem
Nick Breedveld.....	Commissioner
Lauri Krueger.....	Commissioner
Brent Milhiem.....	Commissioner
Aaron Mitchell.....	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
Joel Saukas.....	Main Street Manager

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