

MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

MARCH 31, 2017

ROGER SCHNEIDT RETIREMENT

After 32 years of outstanding service to the City, Roger Schneidt will be retiring on April 13th. A reception on his behalf will be held on April 13th, at 10:00 a.m, in the City Commission Room at City Hall. Please join us in wishing Roger a very Happy Retirement!

YARD WASTE PICKUP

Yard Waste Pickup will begin Monday, April 3rd and run through the last Monday of November. Yard waste consists of grass clippings, leaves, twigs and small branches. Yard waste bags are available in the Treasurer's Office at City Hall, \$2.25 for 5 bags. Yard waste will not be taken in plastic bags.

EARTH DAY CLEAN UP

The Earth Day Clean Up will be on Saturday, April 22nd. To participate, report to City Hall at 9:00 a.m. For more information please contact Cindy Plautz at 231-592-4036.

LIBRARY

The Big Rapids Zonta Chapter presented the library with a \$100 donation to be used to purchase materials to start building "little free library" structures to be installed in the city. Chris Cook attended the meeting and talked about the various digital resources and myriad programs the library offers, including the seed library, PC and tech classes, the Michigan Electronic Library resources, and much more.

Michigan Notable Author, John Smolens, will be at the library to talk about his book, "Wolf's Mouth", which focuses on an Italian officer who was sent to a POW Camp in the Upper Peninsula and his subsequent life in Michigan. This will be Wednesday, April 5th from 5:30-7:00 pm, (The library applied for, and received a grant to bring Mr. Smolens to Big Rapids for this presentation.)

PUBLIC SAFETY

- The fire division responded to 32 calls for service this past week. Fire division trained on scene size up with strategies and tactics.
- The police division responded to 80 calls for service the past week.
- This Saturday, April 1, the monthly tornado siren testing will be conducted at 1:00 pm. In the event emergency services are busy, the test will be postponed to the following month. This will be a test of the system only and will be conducted through the season.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Violations:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| (4) Blight | (1) Disabled Vehicles |
| (3) Garbage & Rubbish | (3) Parking |
| (9) Poly-cart Placement | (3) Signs |
| (1) Yard Waste | |

PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

DIAL-A-RIDE

173 Adult Riders - (\$2.00 Fare)

387 Children Riders - (\$1.00 Fare) -

801 (\$1.00 Fare) - Seniors (77) and Disabled (724) passengers of which 212 used the wheelchair lift to board

63 Free Riders - Aides that ride with disabled passengers and children 4 and under with an adult

36 No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

65 Safe Riders – (free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights 12:00 am to 2:30 am)

2,188 Ferris Shuttle Bus – (East Campus Mailbox, Lot 28, Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4, Rock Cafe, Lot 50, Arts and Science, 7:30 am -7:00 pm)

3,713 Total Passengers

454 Out of City Riders - Anyone we pick up or drop off outside the Big Rapids City Limits

DPW: STREETS

Safety Topic: "Hazard Communication"

- Cleaned drains
- Emptied sanders
- Picked up limbs
- New light in Paul's office
- Changed flags downtown
- Patched and painted office in city hall
- Put an access in the treasurer office in the ceiling
- Pot holes
- Working on the dugouts at Win Kellum field
- Rotated leaves in pit

- Read meters
- Fixed signs
- Fixed water break on 400 block of Fuller
- Installed flag light at City Hall outside

DPW: PARKS

- cut trees at north end park and chip brush and rake area
- cleaned tree up at disc golf area
- replaced twinkle lights downtown
- picked up litter
- cleaned city bathrooms
- picked up garbage

MOTOR POOL

- Staff vehicles, Miscellaneous vehicles & Equipment:
 - 413 Staff car, replaced front brake pads, rotors and right front wheel bearing. Replaced water pump and did a tune-up (plugs and wires). Did a oil change and replaced all 4 tires.
 - 560 Kubota, serviced front differential and transmission and engine. Replaced air filters.
 - 561 JD Gator, serviced.
- Police & Fire vehicles:
 - 1-2 fire truck. Adjusted brakes
 - 216 pickup truck, replaced 3 U-Joints in the rear driveshaft for a vibration
 - 405 police car, service call to repair power wire to Radar unit

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

- The Plant is running very well on 3 Aeration Basins and biological foam is mostly gone.
- A seized ferric transfer pump was repaired and a replacement pump was ordered.
- The SDC polymer machine failed and the problem was traced to a bad fuse receptacle.
- Performed weekly lift station checks at North State, Waterloo, Novak, Tioga and County.
- The existing sludge feed meter for the SDC machine is working again, and a new Rosemont meter is on order as a spare.
- Jay Norris is working on Aeration Blower control problems, as well as the D.O. and Automatic Control upgrades.
- Three spring/summer projects are out for bid: Digester Blower Inlet Air Piping Modifications, Replacement Digester Blower Motor, and New Plant Stairway.
- Ordered and received our annual DMR-QA Laboratory Certification Test Series Kit.
- Completed forms are still arriving daily, in response to our IPP NDU survey of businesses. Phone calls and questions continue, as well.

- Jake and Amy are attending a Wastewater Test Prep. Class as they continue to study for the Wastewater “D” License test in May.
- Troy signed up for a Microscope Analysis Class relating to Plant Process Control.
- Removed snow plows from both plant vehicles and placed them in summer storage.
- Cleaned D.O. Probes in Aeration Basins 1, 2, and 3. Basin #4 is idling and segregated.
- Repaired a leaking discharge line on pump # 2 at the County Garage Lift Station.
- Scheduled Dixon Engineering to inspect both final clarifiers on May 9th and May 12th.
- The IPP Annual Report was completed and submitted to the DEQ, via MiWaters.

Mark Gifford
City Manager