



The Village of Friendliness – Since 1870

City Administration Week in Review: Week of September 4th- 8th, 2023

School is back in session: With Douglas Elementary back in session, the police department's dayshift is at the school interacting with students, staff, and parents with the goal to keep the school safe and continue to build strong relationships with our youth.

Taxes are due: This is just a reminder that taxes are due by September 14th at 4:30 p.m. City Hall hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Wayfinding Signage Project: If you notice wooden sticks throughout the downtown area and on Blue Star Highway, please do not remove them. The city is excited to get the wayfinding signage project underway and the sticks are placed in the locations where the new signs will be placed.

Mount Baldhead Challenge: The event is at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, September 9th at Oval Beach in Saugatuck. For more information, please visit mtbaldheadchallenge.com.

2024 Tri-Community Parks and Recreation Plan: There will be a public input open house on Thursday, September 21st from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at the Library located at 174 Center Street, Douglas, and an online survey is also available through October 21st. There is a QR code on the attached flyer, or the survey can be accessed at bit.ly/3qW5ySJ.

City Council: The next City Council meeting will be on Monday, September 18th at 7:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall. Please visit the City website at <https://douglasmi.gov/> for more information.

Thank you: The City would like to thank all of the event coordinators and sponsors, the Douglas Police Department, and the Douglas Department of Public Works for helping to make the Labor Day Bridge Walk a big success!

City Manager: Lisa Nocerini commenced in her role as City Manager on Tuesday, September 5th.

Thank you: We would like to offer a great big thank you to Councilmember Seabert who took care of removing the dead plants from the planters and beds in front of city hall and replaced them with beautiful mums for the season. They look amazing!

PROJECT TRAFFIC ADVISORY, I-196/US-31, ALLEGAN COUNTY, September 6, 2023: The bridge rehabilitation work on 5 bridges over I-196/US-31 is *in construction* near the Cities of Saugatuck and Douglas.

Bridge Rehabilitation work on Blue Star Highway over I-196/US-31 (Exit 36) requires the existing deck to be demolished. To improve safety for the motoring public and highway workers, I-196 will be shut down while the bridge deck is being demolished over the travel lanes.

The information below is the anticipated traffic changes while traveling within the construction influence area of the Bridge Rehabilitation work.

- Blue Star Highway at I-196/US-31 (Exit 36)
- NB/SB Blue Star Highway Bridge over I-196 will be closed and detoured.
- NB I-196/US-31 Exit ramp to Blue Star Highway will be closed and detoured.
- SB I-196/US-31 Exit ramp to Blue Star Highway will be closed and detoured.
- NB I-196/US-31 will have a FULL FREEWAY CLOSURE from 9:00pm on 9/6/23 to 6:00am on 9/7/23.
- SB I-196/US-31 will have a FULL FREEWAY CLOSURE from 9:00pm on 9/7/23 to 6:00am on 9/8/23.
- SB I-196/US-31 Entrance Ramp will remain open.
- NB I-196/US-31 Entrance Ramp will remain open.



City Administration Week in Review: Week of September 11-15th, 2023

General Election: The preparation for the November 7th, 2023, General Election is well underway. The State of Michigan dates and deadlines for the General Election began in July and will continue after Election Day. The deadline for local proposals to be placed on the ballot has now passed, and the City received word from Allegan County that there will be no proposals on November's ballot. The only item on the Douglas ballot is the City Council race. Absentee Voter Applications have been sent out, and ballots will begin to be sent out on September 28th. Please contact the City Clerk's office if you have not received an Absentee Voter application or have any questions about the upcoming election.

2024 Tri-Community Parks and Recreation Plan-Reminder: There will be a public input open house on Thursday, September 21st from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Library located at 174 Center Street, Douglas, and an online survey is also available through October 21st. There is a QR code on the attached flyer, or the survey can be accessed at bit.ly/3qW5ySJ.

City Council: The next City Council meeting will be on Monday, September 18th at 7:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall. Please visit the City website at <https://douglasmi.gov/> for more information.

National Policewomen's Day: This annual observance, held on September 12th, serves as an opportunity to recognize the invaluable role that women play in law enforcement and their unwavering commitment to serving and protecting their communities. The City would like to thank Douglas Police Department Corporal, Lori Warsen, and Douglas Police Department Office Clerk, Ashley Janik, for their incredible service to the community.

Blessing of the Animals: Please stop by Beery Field on Sunday, October 1st, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. with your furry friend(s) and have them blessed.

Oktoberfest in Douglas: Get out your Dirndls and Lederhosen and stop by Oktoberfest in downtown Douglas on Saturday, October 14th, 2023. The parade will line up at Center and Mixer at 11:30 a.m. followed by the Tapping of the Keg opening ceremony at Beery Field. There will be food, dancing, and other fun activities.

Douglas Halloween Parade: The giant parade mascot, The Pumpkin King, will rise from the ashes at 10:00 p.m. on October 28th, 2023, to kick-off this annual tradition. At 9:30 p.m., the parade lineup will commence on Center Street by Beery Field.

PROJECT TRAFFIC ADVISORY, I-196/US-31, ALLEGAN COUNTY, September 14, 2023: The bridge rehabilitation work on 5 bridges over I-196/US-31 is *in construction* near the Cities of Saugatuck and Douglas.

Bridge Deck Rehabilitation work on 109th Avenue over I-196/US-31 has been completed and the bridge is now OPEN TO TRAFFIC. Intermittent left lane closures on NB and SB I-196/US-31 at 109th Avenue will still be required to complete bridge paint work. Bridge Rehabilitation work on Blue Star Highway over I-196/US-31 (Exit 36) will continue and is anticipated to be completed mid-November.

The information below is the anticipated traffic changes while traveling within the construction influence area of the Bridge Rehabilitation work.

- Blue Star Highway at I-196/US-31 (Exit 36)
- NB/SB Blue Star Highway Bridge over I-196 will remain closed and detoured.
- NB I-196/US-31 Exit ramp to Blue Star Highway will remain closed and detoured.
- SB I-196/US-31 Exit ramp to Blue Star Highway will remain closed and detoured.
- NB I-196/US-31 will have intermittent left lane closures in place weekly beginning Mondays at 7:00am and removed Friday at 4:00pm.
- SB I-196/US-31 will have intermittent left lane closures in place weekly beginning Mondays at 7:00am and removed Friday at 4:00pm.
- SB I-196/US-31 Entrance Ramp will remain open.
- NB I-196/US-31 Entrance Ramp will remain open

City of the Village of Douglas Contact Information:

Website: <https://douglasmi.gov/>

City Hall: 269-857-1438

Police Department Non-Emergency: 269-857-4339

Saugatuck Township Fire District Non-Emergency: 269-857-3000

Department of Public Works: 269-857-2763

Kalamazoo Lake Sewer and Water Authority: 269-857-2709

Saugatuck-Douglas District Library: 269-857-8241

For emergencies, please call 911



City of the Village of Douglas Administration Week in Review

Week of September 18th-22nd, 2023

Trash Receptacles Placement and Storage: Please remember to follow the guidelines under city ordinance number 54.07 *RECEPTACLES*, as it relates to the set-out, and storage of trash containers. The City has received numerous complaints about trash cans being left out beyond the times cited in the ordinance and will address any violations accordingly.

***All portable receptacles shall be stored upon the premises and shall not be set out for collection prior to 12:00 p.m. proceeding the day of collection, and after the receptacles are emptied, they shall be returned to their place of storage on the same day collections are made. No empty portable receptacles shall be stored on city property, including the public right-of-way, sidewalks, and streets. ***

Pedestrian Crosswalks: Please be mindful that yielding to pedestrians in designated (and marked) crosswalks is the law. We want to ensure everyone's safety. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Job Postings: The City of Douglas has posted three job opportunities on the City's website. They include Planning and Zoning Administrator, Deputy Clerk – Level 1/Office Assistant, and Department of Public Works Equipment Operator – Laborer. Please visit the City's website at <https://douglasmichigan.gov/> for more information.

Congratulations: The City would like to formally congratulate Laura Kasper on her appointment by the City Council to the position of City Clerk at the Monday, September 18th, 2023, meeting.

Blessing of the Animals: Please stop by Beery Field on Sunday, October 1st, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. with your furry friend(s) and have them blessed.

Oktoberfest in Douglas: Get out your Dirndls and Lederhosen and stop by Oktoberfest in downtown Douglas on Saturday, October 14th, 2023. The parade will line up at Center and Mixer at 11:30 a.m. followed by the Tapping of the Keg opening ceremony at Beery Field. There will be food, dancing, and other fun activities.

Douglas Halloween Parade: The giant parade mascot, The Pumpkin King, will rise from the ashes at 10:00 p.m. on October 28th, 2023, to kick-off this annual tradition. At 9:30 p.m., the parade lineup will commence on Center Street by Beery Field.

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Week in Review

Week of September 25th-29th, 2023

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services COVID-19 Testing Options: As fall season begins, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) encourages Michiganders to get free COVID-19 at-home tests through the federal government's COVID-19 tests website and provides additional information about state-specific testing resources.

- As of Monday, Sept. 25, all U.S. residents are able to go to COVIDTests.gov to sign up to receive up to four free at-home tests per household delivered via the U.S. Postal Service.
- For Michiganders who are thinking about plans for on-site testing, Michigan.gov/COVIDTest remains in place to assist in locating a testing location.

More information about MDHHS-sponsored testing is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus.

415 Wiley Road: On August 8, 2023, the City Council approved the purchase agreement for the consolidation of municipal services at 415 Wiley. The City officially closed on the property on September 25, 2023, and will commence with plans to move some of the City's operations into the facility in 2024. This is slated to be a multi-year project.

Reminder-Trash Receptacles Placement and Storage: Please remember to follow the guidelines under City Ordinance number *54.07 RECEPTACLES*, as it relates to the set-out, and storage of trash containers. The City continues to receive numerous complaints about trash cans being left out beyond the times cited in the Ordinance and will address any violations accordingly.

***All portable receptacles shall be stored upon the premises and shall not be set out for collection prior to 12:00 p.m. proceeding the day of collection, and after the receptacles are emptied, they shall be returned to their place of storage on the same day collections are made. No empty portable receptacles shall be stored on city property, including the public right-of-way, sidewalks, and streets. ***

Job Postings: The City of Douglas has posted three job opportunities on the City's website. They include Planning and Zoning Administrator, Deputy Clerk – Level 1/Office Assistant, and

Department of Public Works Equipment Operator – Laborer. Please visit the City's website at <https://douglasmi.gov/> for more information.

City Council: The next City Council meeting will be on Monday, October 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall. Please visit the City website at <https://douglasmi.gov/> for more information.

Blessing of the Animals: Please stop by Beery Field on Sunday, October 1st, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. with your furry friend(s) and have them blessed.

Oktoberfest in Douglas: Get out your Dirndls and Lederhosen and stop by Oktoberfest in downtown Douglas on Saturday, October 14th, 2023. The parade will line up at Center and Mixer at 11:30 a.m. followed by the Tapping of the Keg opening ceremony at Beery Field. There will be food, dancing, and other fun activities.

Douglas Halloween Parade: The giant parade mascot, The Pumpkin King, will rise from the ashes at 10:00 p.m. on October 28th, 2023, to kick-off this annual tradition. At 9:30 p.m., the parade lineup will commence on Center Street by Beery Field.

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Week in Review

Week of October 2nd - 6th, 2023

City Offices Closed: Offices will be closed on Monday, October 9th, 2023, in observance of the Columbus Day holiday.

Wildlife Management Discussion: During the Monday, October 2nd, 2023, City Council meeting, West Michigan Wildlife Management did a presentation about the ethical harvest of proper age deer that ensures proper diversity, herd health, and carrying capacity for the area. They also discussed the issues with geese excrement on the docks and ways to effectively deter them from these structures. There will be more discussion on next steps as it relates to both topics during the Monday, October 16th, 2023, City Council meeting.

Keep Catch Basins Clear of Debris: Catch basins ensure rainwater makes its way back into ponds, streams, and lakes. If a catch basin is blocked or covered by leaves or other debris, rainwater can pool and cause street flooding. With the rainy days ahead, and the leaves falling, please keep the catch basins clear of any debris. Thank you!

Ordinance Enforcement Officer: The City Council approved the hiring of an Ordinance Enforcement Officer at the Monday, October 2nd, 2023, City Council meeting. This position will complete a variety of tasks and projects to assist in educating the public about the City's codes & ordinances and working to obtain voluntary compliance. The Ordinance Enforcement Officer will also be called upon to enforce the City's ordinances in an effective, fair, and consistent manner through the issuance of citations when voluntary compliance is not completed in a timely manner.

Posted Positions:

- Planning/Zoning Administrator (Full-Time)
- DPW Equipment Operator/Laborer (Full-Time)
- Ordinance Enforcement Officer (Part-Time)

Please visit <https://douglasmi.gov/> for more information.

Support Small Business: As the peak season winds down, our small businesses need us more than ever. Please continue to support the small businesses in Douglas year-round so that we can ensure their sustainability, support job retention, and contribute to the local economy. By doing this, we are also aiding the businesses with their continued resilience both in off-season and during peak periods. Thank you for supporting small!

Oktoberfest in Douglas: Get out your Dirndls and Lederhosen and stop by Oktoberfest in downtown Douglas on Saturday, October 14th, 2023. The parade will line up at Center and Mixer at 11:30 a.m. followed by the Tapping of the Keg opening ceremony at Beery Field. There will be food, dancing, and other fun activities.

Douglas Halloween Parade: The giant parade mascot, The Pumpkin King, will rise from the ashes at 10:00 p.m. on October 28th, 2023, to kick-off this annual tradition. At 9:30 p.m., the parade lineup will commence on Center Street by Beery Field.

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Week in Review

Week of October 9th-13th, 2023

While You Were Out: Did you remember to follow the guidelines under city ordinance number 54.07 *RECEPTACLES*, as it relates to the set-out, and storage of trash containers. The City continues to receive numerous complaints about trash cans being left out beyond the times cited in the ordinance and will address any violations accordingly.

***All portable receptacles shall be stored upon the premises and shall not be set out for collection prior to 12:00 p.m. proceeding the day of collection, and after the receptacles are emptied, they shall be returned to their place of storage on the same day collections are made. No empty portable receptacles shall be stored on city property, including the public right-of-way, sidewalks, and streets. ***

REMINDER: Keep Catch Basins Clear of Debris: Catch basins ensure rainwater makes its way back into ponds, streams, and lakes. If a catch basin is blocked or covered by leaves or other debris, rainwater can pool and cause street flooding. With the rainy days ahead, and the leaves falling, please keep the catch basins clear of any debris. Thank you!

Upcoming Meetings:

- City Council Meeting, Monday, October 16th, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m. at City Hall
- Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority Meeting, Tuesday, October 17th @ 5:30 p.m. at the Saugatuck Township Offices

Posted Positions:

- Planning/Zoning Administrator (Full-Time)
- DPW Equipment Operator/Laborer (Full-Time)
- Ordinance Enforcement Officer (Part-Time)

Please visit <https://douglasmi.gov/> for more information.

Oktoberfest in Douglas: The rain isn't stopping this event from happening. On Saturday, October 14th, 2023, starting at noon, come to Beery Field where there will be an extra large enclosed, and heated, tent so everyone can enjoy a variety of bier, great food, and dancing. Bavarian dress encouraged!

Party Before the Halloween Parade: The Saugatuck-Douglas History Center will be holding a Halloween Parade Party Fundraiser at the museum on Saturday, October 28th, 2023, from 6:00-10:00 p.m. Tickets are available online at www.mysdhistory.org. A costume contest will also be held.



Douglas Halloween Parade: The giant parade mascot, The Pumpkin King, will rise from the ashes at 10:00 p.m. on October 28th, 2023, to kick-off this annual tradition. The parade lineup will commence by the Old School House at 9:00 p.m.

*** (The parade line-up location was incorrect in previous reports. This report has the correct location.) ***

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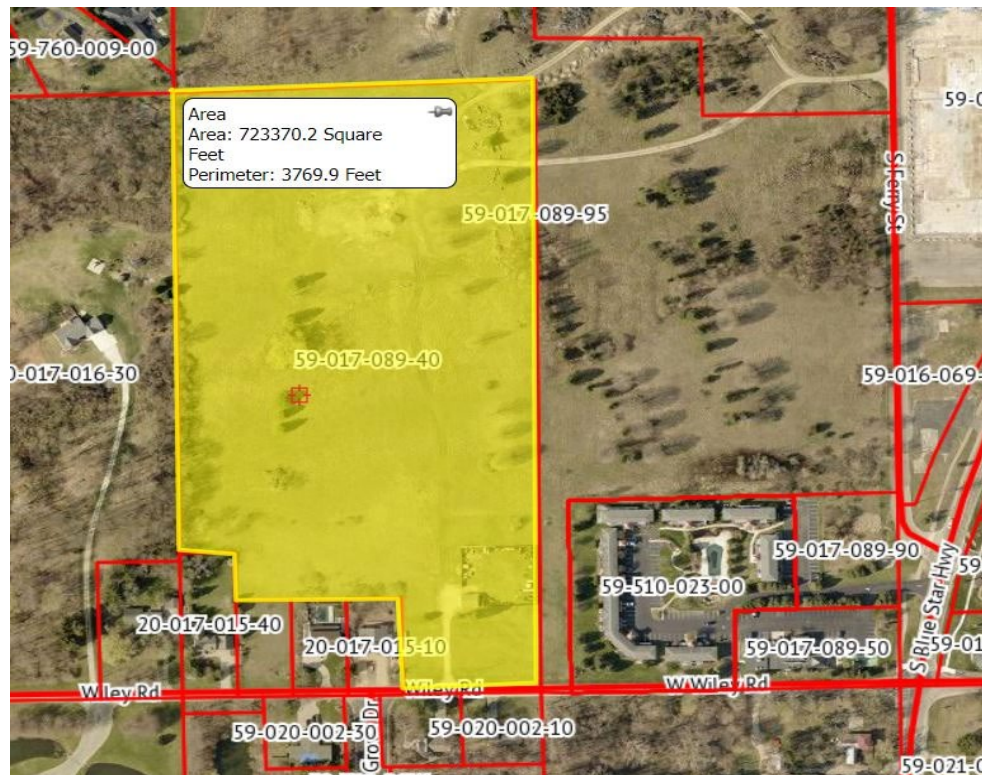
For emergencies, please call 911

City of the Village of Douglas Administration Week in Review Week of October 16th-20th, 2023

Managed Deer Harvest:

Over the past few years, there has been a significant rise in the deer population within our city limits. While the presence of deer can be a charming aspect of our natural environment, it has come to our attention that this growth has begun to pose challenges to public safety and property. We understand the importance of maintaining a balance between human activities and wildlife, and we are committed to addressing this issue responsibly. After careful consideration and in consultation with experts in the field, we have decided to undertake a managed deer harvest (up to 15 deer) on the designated 17-acre open city-owned property (see map below) using only bows and arrows. This decision has been made in line with state standards and regulations. The City of the Village of Douglas City Council discussed this matter during the Monday, October 2nd, 2023, council meeting, and voted to move forward with the deer harvesting plan at the Monday, October 16th, 2023, council meeting. The harvesting will take place in early November of 2023, through the month of December 2023, and will be managed by West Michigan Wildlife Management. A letter was sent to homeowners who live within 300 feet of the property on Wednesday, October 18th, 2023.

The venison collected from this operation will be processed, inspected, and then donated to local charities and organizations that serve those in need. Thank you for your understanding and please feel free to contact city hall with any questions you may have at 269-857-1438.



Posted Positions:

- Planning/Zoning Administrator (Full-Time)
- DPW Equipment Operator/Laborer (Full-Time)

Please visit <https://douglasmi.gov/> for more information.

Upcoming City Meetings:

Wednesday, October 25th, 2023: DDA Meeting at 2:00 p.m. @ City Hall

Monday, November 6th, 2023: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. @ City Hall

Thursday, November 9th, 2023: Planning Commission Meeting at 7:00 p.m. @ City Hall

Thank You: The City would like to thank the Community Pride Committee for hosting two incredible community events, Oktoberfest and the Beery Field Free Fun Fall Fest, last weekend. We are grateful for all that you do for the Douglas community.

Party Before the Halloween Parade: The Saugatuck-Douglas History Center will be holding a Halloween Parade Party Fundraiser at the museum on Saturday, October 28th, 2023, from 6:00-10:00 p.m. Tickets are available online at www.mysdhistory.org. A costume contest will also be held.

Douglas Halloween Parade: The giant parade mascot, The Pumpkin King, will rise from the ashes at 10:00 p.m. on October 28th, 2023, to kick-off this annual tradition. The parade lineup will commence by the Old School House at 9:00 p.m.

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony: The Downtown Development Authority has scheduled this year's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony for Saturday, November 25th, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Beery Field.

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Saugatuck-Douglas District Library: 269-857-8241

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Week in Review Week of October 23rd-27th, 2023

200 Blue Star Public Input Survey: We need your input to create a vision for the 200 Blue Star site. Please use the link below to participate. Future in-person meetings are also in the works. Stay tuned! Thank you for helping the city to create a new vision for the site.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/200BlueStarHwyUpdates>

Code Enforcement Officer: The City of the Village of Douglas would like to officially welcome Michael Torrez to the team. Michael has been hired by the City to serve as a part-time Code Enforcement Officer and officially starts in his new capacity next week. Welcome Michael!

Posted Positions:

- Planning/Zoning Administrator (Full-Time)
- DPW Equipment Operator/Laborer (Full-Time)

Please visit <https://douglasmi.gov/> for more information.

Upcoming City Meetings:

Trick-or-Treating in Douglas: October 31st from 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Monday, November 6th, 2023: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. @ City Hall

Tuesday, November 7th, 2023: General City Election

Thursday, November 9th, 2023: Planning Commission Meeting at 7:00 p.m. @ City Hall

Congratulations: We would like to congratulate Lakeshore Pet Boutique in Downtown Douglas on their 4th Anniversary. Thank you for your commitment to our great community!

Party Before the Halloween Parade: The Saugatuck-Douglas History Center will be holding a Halloween Parade Party Fundraiser at the museum on Saturday, October 28th, 2023, from 6:00-10:00 p.m. Tickets are available online at www.mysdhistory.org. A costume contest will also be held.

Douglas Halloween Parade: The giant parade mascot, The Pumpkin King, will rise from the ashes at 10:00 p.m. on October 28th, 2023, to kick-off this annual tradition. The parade lineup will commence by the Old School House at 9:00 p.m.

Douglas Light Night: The Downtown Development Authority has scheduled this year's Light Night in Douglas for Saturday, November 25th, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Beery Field.



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**City of the Village of Douglas Administration Week in Review
Week of October 30th-November 3rd, 2023**

200 Blue Star Public Input Survey: We still need your input to create a vision for the 200 Blue Star site. Please use the link below to participate. Future in-person meetings are also in the works. Stay tuned! Thank you for helping the city to create a new vision for the site.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/200BlueStarHwyUpdates>

Congratulations: The City would like to offer our sincerest congratulations to Douglas Police Officer, Tino Reyes, on his official retirement from the department. Officer Reyes has proudly served the Douglas community since 1993. We wish Officer Reyes all the best in his retirement.

Thank you: The City would like to take this opportunity to offer our heartfelt thanks to Douglas Councilmember, Robert Naumann, who did not seek another term on the City Council, for his public service. Councilmember Naumann's leadership and passion have significantly contributed to the well-being and growth of our community.

Posted Positions:

- Planning/Zoning Administrator (Full-Time)
- DPW Equipment Operator/Laborer (Full-Time)

Please visit <https://douglasmi.gov/> for more information.

Upcoming City Meetings:

Monday, November 6th, 2023: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. @ City Hall

Tuesday, November 7th, 2023: General City Election

Thursday, November 9th, 2023: Planning Commission Meeting at 7:00 p.m. @ City Hall

Monday, November 20th, 2023: Joint City Council/Douglas Brownfield Redevelopment Authority meeting regarding 200 Blue Star at 5:00 p.m. @ City Hall

Monday, November 20th, 2023: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. @ City Hall

Light Night in Douglas: The Downtown Development Authority has scheduled this year's Light Night in Douglas for Saturday, November 25th, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Beery Field.



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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Week in Review Week of November 6th-10th, 2023

Brush Pick-Up: Brush pick-up runs from April through September. If you have brush at the curb, please find an alternative option to dispose of it. Also, please do not mix brush or any other items with your leaf piles. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Wayfinding Signage: The wayfinding signage project in the downtown area will be completed on Tuesday, November 14th. Thank you to everyone who participated in ensuring this project's success!

Thank you: The City would like to extend heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated City Council and Board and Commission Members. Your selfless commitment and tireless efforts contribute immeasurably to the betterment of our community. Your service exemplifies civic responsibility and encourages positive change. Thank you for your invaluable contributions and unwavering dedication to enhancing our City's quality of life.

The City has several open positions for Boards and Commissions. Please contact the City Clerk for more information.

Support Small Business: As winter approaches, small businesses face heightened challenges. By prioritizing local shopping and dining we can collectively bolster these businesses. Our support during the winter months is vital for their resilience and the overall well-being of our community. Thank you for continuing to shop and dine small!

Posted Positions:

- Planning/Zoning Administrator (Full-Time)
- DPW Equipment Operator/Laborer (Full-Time)

Please visit <https://douglasmi.gov/> for more information.

Upcoming City Meetings:

Monday, November 20th, 2023: Joint City Council/Douglas Brownfield Redevelopment Authority meeting regarding 200 Blue Star at 5:00 p.m. @ City Hall

Monday, November 20th, 2023: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. @ City Hall

200 Blue Star Public Input Survey: We still need your input to create a vision for the 200 Blue Star site. Please use the link below to participate. Future in-person meetings are also in the works. Stay tuned! Thank you for helping the city to create a new vision for the site.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/200BlueStarHwyUpdates>

Light Night in Douglas: The Downtown Development Authority has scheduled this year's Light Night in Douglas for Saturday, November 25th, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Beery Field.



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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Week in Review Week of November 13th-17th, 2023

Conclusion of Curbside Leaf and Brush Pick-Up for 2023: As the vibrant colors of fall begin to fade, we want to express our gratitude for your cooperation during our curbside leaf and brush pick-up program for 2023. Your efforts in maintaining a clean and beautiful community have not gone unnoticed.

We would like to inform you that curbside leaf and brush pick-up has officially concluded for the year. If you still have leaves or brush to dispose of, we kindly ask that you make alternative arrangements for their removal. Please consider utilizing local composting facilities, and private removal services.

Thank you once again for your anticipated cooperation and assistance.

200 Blue Star Highway: The City Council and Douglas Brownfield Redevelopment Authority will hold a joint meeting on Monday, November 20th, 2023 @ 5:00 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Preliminary options for the site and receive an update on the status of the Environmental Protection Agency grant. This meeting will also be available by zoom. For more information, please visit <https://douglasmi.gov/>

Happy Thanksgiving/City Offices Closed: On behalf of the City of the Village of Douglas City Council and City Employees, we want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Posted Positions:

- Planning/Zoning Administrator (Full-Time)

Please visit <https://douglasmi.gov/> for more information.

Upcoming City Meetings:

Monday, November 20th, 2023: Joint City Council/Douglas Brownfield Redevelopment Authority meeting regarding 200 Blue Star at 5:00 p.m. @ City Hall

Monday, November 20th, 2023: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. @ City Hall

City Offices are closed on Thursday, November 23rd and Friday, November 24th, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Wednesday, November 29th, 2023: Rescheduled Downtown Development Authority Meeting at 1:00 p.m. @ City Hall

For meeting agenda information visit <https://douglas-mi.municodemeetings.com/>

200 Blue Star Public Input Survey: We still need your input to create a vision for the 200 Blue Star site. Please use the link below to participate. Future in-person meetings are also in the works. Stay tuned! Thank you for helping the City to create a new vision for the site.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/200BlueStarHwyUpdates>



Light Night in Douglas: The Downtown Development Authority has scheduled this year's Light Night in Douglas for Saturday, November 25th, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Beery Field.

City of the Village of Douglas Contact Information:

Website: <https://douglasmi.gov/>

City Hall: 269-857-1438

Police Department Non-Emergency: 269-857-4339

Saugatuck Township Fire District Non-Emergency: 269-857-3000

Department of Public Works: 269-857-2763

Kalamazoo Lake Sewer and Water Authority: 269-857-2709

Saugatuck-Douglas District Library: 269-857-8241

For emergencies, please call 911



City of the Village of Douglas Administration Week in Review Week of November 20th-24th, 2023

Root Beer Barrel Contract Update: The City issued a Request for Proposal process for the operation of the city-owned Root Beer Barrel, a beloved landmark and cultural icon within the community, in September and received four responses.

After careful consideration and evaluation of the proposals received, the City of Douglas City Council awarded the contract to Douglas resident, Todd Martinson, member of 505 Water St. Cafe, LLC during their Monday, November 20th, 2023, City Council meeting. 505 Water St. Cafe, LLC also owns and operates the Grilled Cheese Shack, and Basecamp Coffee & Waffles, located in downtown Saugatuck.

The City is confident that Mr. Martinson's vision and expertise will contribute to the continued success and growth of this iconic establishment. The transition of operations will be carefully managed to ensure a seamless experience for Root Beer Barrel patrons. Mr. Martinson indicated that he would ensure consistent operational hours, with some late season adjustments, and will be open through the month of October.

The City would also like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Michael "Mick" White, who operated the Root Beer Barrel for many years. We wish him all the best with his future endeavors.

Leaf Pick-Up: Leaf pick-up has ended for the 2023 season. As stated at the November 20th, 2023, City Council meeting, the City is going to reassess the 2024 plan and make significant improvements as it pertains to the schedule and communication. If residents still have leaves at the curb, please make alternative arrangements to have them removed. We appreciate your anticipated cooperation and thank you for your understanding.

Happy Thanksgiving/City Offices Closed: On behalf of the City of the Village of Douglas City Council and City Employees, we want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. City offices will be closed on Thursday, November 23rd, and Friday, November 24th.

Posted Positions:

- Planning/Zoning Administrator (Full-Time)

Please visit <https://douglasmi.gov/> for more information.

Upcoming City Meetings:

City Offices are closed on Thursday, November 23rd and Friday, November 24th, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Wednesday, November 29th, 2023: Downtown Development Authority Meeting @ 2:00 p.m. at City Hall



200 Blue Star Public Input Survey: We still need your input to create a vision for the 200 Blue Star site. Please use the link below to participate. Future in-person meetings are also in the works. Stay tuned! Thank you for helping the city to create a new vision for the site.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/200BlueStarHwyUpdates>

Light Night in Douglas: The Downtown Development Authority has scheduled this year's Light Night in Douglas for Saturday, November 25th, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Beery Field.

City of the Village of Douglas Contact Information:

Website: <https://douglasmi.gov/>

City Hall: 269-857-1438

Police Department Non-Emergency: 269-857-4339

Saugatuck Township Fire District Non-Emergency: 269-857-3000

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Week in Review Week of November 27th-December 1, 2023

Congratulations: We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Cathy North on her appointment as Mayor, and Randy Walker on her appointment as Mayor Pro Tem. The City would also like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Jerry Donovan, who previously served as Mayor.

The City Administration would also like to both congratulate and welcome Fran Ray to the City of the Village of Douglas City Council. We look forward to working with Councilmember Ray.

200 Blue Star “Burrito Removal” Update: Good news! The large pile of debris, also known as “the burrito” on the north end of the 200 Blue Star site, is slated to finally be removed on December 18th, 2023, and will take approximately 2-3 days. The City will send out a notification via constant contact and will have a public notice at city hall about the event.

This debris may contain some level of contamination, which we want to assure the public, will be handled with the utmost care and in accordance with all applicable environmental regulations. We want to emphasize that the level of contamination in the debris is below a threshold where it will not jeopardize public health when removed. The removal process is being conducted by trained professionals using industry-standard procedures to ensure the safety of both the workers and the surrounding residents and businesses.

Save the Date: The Public Input Session for 200 Blue Star Highway, is being scheduled for Tuesday, December 19, 2023, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall. The session will also be available via zoom. If you cannot make it, an online survey will be available. Please watch for official postings at City Hall, on the City website, and the City’s social media pages.

Community Input Requested: The City of the Village of Douglas Planning Commission is in the process of updating the City’s Master Plan, and needs your input! Please use the link below to participate in this important planning process. We ask for your participation in answering the questions in this community survey so City officials can make informed land use decisions with your opinions. Responses will be confidential, and the survey will take about 10 minutes to complete. The results of the survey will guide future land uses and the decision-making process in Douglas!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DouglasMP2024>

With Warmest Thanks: The City of the Village of Douglas would like to thank the following for making the Douglas Light Night Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony a fantastic evening for all:

Blue Star Tree Farm
Kabri Martyniek, State Farm Insurance



Lakeshore Pet Boutique
Lakeshore Community Chorus & Friends
Brian Verisario (Santa Claus)
Douglas Downtown Development Authority
Douglas Department of Public Works
Douglas Police Department
Douglas City Administration

Posted Positions:

- Planning/Zoning Administrator (Full-Time)

Please visit <https://douglasmi.gov/> for more information.

Upcoming City Meetings:

Monday, December 4th, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.: City of the Village of Douglas City Council Meeting at City Hall

City of the Village of Douglas Contact Information:

Website: <https://douglasmi.gov/>

City Hall: 269-857-1438

Police Department Non-Emergency: 269-857-4339

Saugatuck Township Fire District Non-Emergency: 269-857-3000

Department of Public Works: 269-857-2763

Kalamazoo Lake Sewer and Water Authority: 269-857-2709

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Week in Review Week of December 11th-15th, 2023

200 Blue Star “Burrito Removal” Update: Finally! The large pile of debris, also known as “the burrito” on the north end of the 200 Blue Star Highway site is still on track to be removed on Monday, December 18th, 2023.

This debris may contain some level of contamination, which we want to assure the public, will be handled with the utmost care and in accordance with all applicable environmental regulations. We want to emphasize that the level of contamination in the debris is below a threshold where it will not jeopardize public health when removed. The removal process is being conducted by trained professionals using industry-standard procedures to ensure the safety of both the workers and the surrounding residents and businesses.

Public Input Session: The Public Input Session for 200 Blue Star Highway will take place on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall. The session will also be available via zoom. If you cannot make it, an online survey will be available. Please watch for official postings at City Hall, on the city website, and the City’s social media pages.

Community Input “Still” Requested: The City of the Village of Douglas Planning Commission is in the process of updating the City’s Master Plan and needs your input! Please use the link below to participate in this important planning process. We ask for your participation in answering the questions in this community survey so City officials can make informed land use decisions with your opinions. Responses will be confidential, and the survey will take about 10 minutes to complete. The results of the survey will guide future land uses and the decision-making process in Douglas!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DouglasMP2024>

Leaf and Brush Curbside Pick-Up 2023: The leaf and brush curbside pick-up ended in November. A new schedule for 2024 is coming out soon. Please do not place leaves or brush piles in the public right-of-way. This creates a safety hazard for both drivers and pedestrians, and it goes against the City ordinance. If you do have piles at the curb, please make alternative arrangements to have them removed. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Posted Positions:

- Planning/Zoning Administrator (Full-Time)

Please visit <https://douglasmi.gov/> for more information.



Upcoming City Meetings:

Monday, December 18th, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.: City of the Village of Douglas City Council Meeting at City Hall

Tuesday, December 19th, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.: 200 Blue Star Highway Public Input Session at City Hall

Wednesday, December 27th, 2023 @ 2:00 p.m.: City of the Village of Douglas Downtown Development Authority Meeting

City of the Village of Douglas Contact Information:

Website: <https://douglasmi.gov/>

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Saugatuck Township Fire District Non-Emergency: 269-857-3000

Department of Public Works: 269-857-2763

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Saugatuck-Douglas District Library: 269-857-8241

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Week in Review Week of December 18th-22nd, 2023

200 Blue Star “Burrito Removal” Update: Finally! The large pile of debris, also known as “the burrito” on the north end of the 200 Blue Star Highway site has been removed.

Public Input Session: The Public Input Session for 200 Blue Star Highway that took place at City Hall on Tuesday, December 19th, 2023, was incredibly well attended. Thank you to everyone who participated in-person and via the survey. Williams & Works will be compiling feedback from both the survey and the public input session, and the City will share that information publicly once it is received.

A Holiday Message from Mayor Cathy North:

Residents, Businesses, and Friends of the City of the Village of Douglas,
As Mayor of the City of the Village of Douglas, it is my honor to extend warm holiday greetings to each and every one of you on behalf of the City Council and our entire community.

The holiday season is a special time of year when we come together to celebrate the spirit of joy, peace, and goodwill. In the City of the Village of Douglas, this spirit is truly embodied by the wonderful residents and friends who make our community so vibrant and welcoming. As we reflect on the past year and look forward to the opportunities that the new year will bring, let us take a moment to appreciate the strength of our community bonds. The City Council is grateful for the support and collaboration of our residents, businesses, and community partners who contribute to the vitality and success of the City of the Village of Douglas.

May this holiday season be filled with moments of warmth, love, and laughter. Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or another meaningful tradition, may it bring you and your loved one's joy, peace, and the company of those who matter most. In the coming year, the City Council is committed to working together with the community to build on our shared successes and address the challenges that lie ahead. Your engagement, ideas, and dedication are essential as we continue to make the City of the Village of Douglas a great place to live, work, and play.

On behalf of the City Council, I extend heartfelt wishes for a joyful holiday season and a Happy New Year. May the spirit of unity and goodwill continue to thrive in our community throughout the coming year.

Thank you for being an integral part of the City of the Village of Douglas. Here's to a wonderful holiday season and a prosperous and fulfilling 2024!

Warm regards,
Mayor Cathy North
City of the Village of Douglas

**Posted Positions:**

- Planning/Zoning Administrator (Full-Time)

Please visit <https://douglasmi.gov/> for more information.

Upcoming City Meetings:

Monday, December 25th & Tuesday, December 26th, 2023: City Offices are closed for the Christmas Holiday

Wednesday, December 27th, 2023 @ 2:00 p.m.: City of the Village of Douglas Downtown Development Authority Meeting at City Hall

Monday, January 1st & Tuesday, January 2nd, 2023: City Officers are closed for the New Year Holiday

Wednesday, January 3rd, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.: City of the Village of Douglas City Council Meeting at City Hall

City of the Village of Douglas City Council:

Cathy North, Mayor

Randy Walker, Mayor Pro-Tem

Neal Seabert, Councilmember

Jerry Donovan, Councilmember

John O'Malley, Councilmember

Greg Freeman, Councilmember

Fran Ray, Councilmember

City of the Village of Douglas Contact Information:

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