



City of the Village of Douglas Administration Report Week of September 9th-13th, 2024

Ferry Street Culvert Project: The City of Douglas and the city engineering team met with EGLE and the Allegan County Drain Commission on September 12th onsite to discuss the permitting process and plans to try and move this project forward as soon as possible. We still do not have a definitive timeframe, but hopefully we can complete the project before Memorial Day, which would have the work commencing in the winter months. Please sign up for the city's Constant Contact messages to hear more about our progress: <https://douglasmichigan.gov/subscribe-mailing-list/>



9-11 Remembrance Ceremony: The City of Douglas, Michigan held its first annual 9/11 Remembrance Event on Wednesday, September 11th, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. at the corner of Main and Center Streets in downtown Douglas. The ceremony served as a solemn tribute to honor the victims, survivors, and heroes of the tragic events of September 11th, 2001. City officials, community members, and local first responders gathered to pay their respects and reflect on the significance of the day. The event featured remarks from city leaders, a moment of silence, and a flag-raising ceremony to honor those who lost their lives and the courage of those who responded. This remembrance event symbolizes Douglas' commitment to never forget the sacrifice and resilience shown on that day, and the city plans to continue this important tradition annually.

The city would like to take this opportunity to give our heartfelt thanks to those who both helped to organize the ceremony and who participated as speakers:

- Ceremony Lead: Randy Walker, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Douglas
- Opening/Closing Prayer: Jody Betten, Interim Pastor, Douglas Congregational United Church of Christ.
- Welcome & Opening Remarks: Douglas Mayor, Cathy North
- Douglas Police Department Remarks: Police Chief, Steve Kent
- Saugatuck Township Fire Department Remarks: Deputy Chief, Chris Mantels
- Reading of the Six Moments of Silence Marking the Key Events of 9-11 & the Tolling of the Bells in Remembrance:
 - Douglas Police Corporal, Lori Warsen
 - Saugatuck Township Fire Department Captain, Chris Bernhardt
 - Saugatuck Township Fire Department Deputy Fire Chief, Chris Mantels

The City would also like to thank Deputy Chief Mantels for all of his help with sound equipment, the tent, and assisting with an event layout map, Anna Ostap, for her assistance with planning the event and providing the 9-11 flag and the turnout gear, Douglas City Manager, Lisa Nocerini, the Douglas Police Department, the Douglas Department of Public Works, the Saugatuck Township Fire Department, and Life Ambulance for their contributions.



Douglas Veteran's Walk/Fishing Dock: As the city works to improve our signage and the look and appeal of the city properties, we did not forget Veteran's Walk Park. New poles and nautical rope have been installed to match the theme throughout the city, and we are replacing the deteriorating sign with a new one. Additionally, the area under the Blue Star Bridge is a hotspot for fishing. The city is exploring the possibility of installing a fishing dock (on land), pending approval from the state. We are seeking donations for both materials and labor and making some considerable progress. Please reach out to us if you are interested in helping to move this project along. We are excited about all the improvements that are being made throughout the city. More importantly, we are receiving a lot of positive feedback from the community and visitors who expressed how much they love the walkability of our great city.



City Council Staff Appreciation Luncheon: The City of Douglas City Council sponsored a staff appreciation luncheon to express their gratitude for the hard work and dedication of the city staff. The event, hosted by Mayor Cathy North along with Mayor Pro Tem Randy Walker, Councilmember Greg Freeman, Councilmember John O'Malley, Councilmember Matt Balmer, and Councilmember Neal Seabert, provided an opportunity for the council to personally thank staff members for their contributions to the success and well-being of the city.

Mayor Cathy North expressed her appreciation, stating, "Our city staff is the backbone of this community, and we are incredibly grateful for the dedication and hard work they put in every day to make Douglas a better place. This luncheon was a wonderful way for us to show our appreciation and let them know how valued they truly are. Our staff is the backbone of our community. Their dedication, professionalism, and commitment to

our residents do not go unnoticed, and the luncheon was our way of saying thank you for all that they do.”

The luncheon reinforced the council's support and recognition of the staff's continued hard work.

The event highlighted the City Council's commitment to encouraging a supportive and appreciative work environment, and the staff left feeling recognized and motivated for the future. Thank you!



Upcoming Meetings & Events

Monday, September 16th, 2024: City Council Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Tuesday, September 17th, 2024: Douglas Harbor Authority meeting @ 4:30 p.m. at City Hall

Tuesday, September 17th, 2024: KLHA meeting @ 5:30 p.m. at Saugatuck Township

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

Matthew Balmer, Councilmember

City of the Village of Douglas Contact Information:

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/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 Hall Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.