



City of the Village of Douglas Administration Week in Review Week of January 1st-5th, 2024

200 Blue Star Highway: Williams & Works is working on finalizing a document that will be presented at a joint Douglas Brownfield Authority/City Council meeting on February 5th. We are finalizing the time and will have a public notification out next week. This meeting will be open to the public and available to watch via zoom. Thank you to everyone who either filled out the survey or participated in the public input sessions. Your feedback is greatly appreciated.

The Snow is Coming! Please ensure that all vehicles are removed from the streets when heavy snow falls, so that the Department of Public Works can safely and effectively clear the roads without delay. We appreciate everyone's cooperation.

City Offices: City Offices will be closed on Monday, January 15th, 2024, in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. The City Council meeting has also been moved to Tuesday, January 16th, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Congratulations: The City would like to congratulate Chuck Gustafson who was appointed by the City Council to serve on the Interurban Transit Authority, and Patty Hanson, who was also appointed to serve on the Douglas Planning Commission.

Posted Positions:

- Planning/Zoning Administrator (Full-Time)

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

Upcoming City Meetings:

Monday, January 8th, 2024: Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Tuesday, January 16th, 2024: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. 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:

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 Review Week of March 11th-March 22nd, 2024

2024 Leaf and Brush Pick-Up Reminder: This is a reminder that leaf, and brush pickup will for 2024 will commence in April. Please remember to follow the guidelines in the flyer that was sent to all public road residences. If piles are not in compliance with the leaf and brush program, they will not be picked up and a door hanger may be placed indicating what was found and correction action necessary, by the Code Enforcement Officer or Department of Public Works.

- Leaves must be unbagged (paper yard waste bags accepted).
- Leaves and brush **must be separated** and placed behind the curb or road edge of the paved portion of the roadway; however, it must be reachable with the leaf truck or grapple claw.
- Leaves and brush can be placed out up to, but not earlier than, three (3) days before scheduled pick-up. Leaves and brush placed out after 7:00 a.m. on the scheduled day will not be picked up.
- Brush must be stacked neatly in the same direction parallel to the road.
- Leave and brush piles must not exceed 8 feet in length, 6 feet in width, and 4 feet in height. If pile exceeds the required size, please separate them into multiple piles.
- Branches cannot be larger than 6 feet long and 6 inches in diameter.

Pick-up Schedule for the month of April is as follows:

East of Blue Star Highway

April 2nd & 16th: Leaf and Brush

West of Blue Star Highway

April 9th and 23rd: Leaf and Brush

For future pick-up dates, please refer to the leaf and brush pick-up schedule and guidelines.

Open City Council Seat: The City of the Village of Douglas is taking applications to fill an open seat on the City Council, with the term ending November 2025.

Applicants must be a resident of the City of Douglas for not less than one year and shall be a registered voter. Council meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, year-round.

Interested parties should file a Boards & Commission application located online at <https://douglasmigov>

All applications should be returned to the City Clerk's office no later than March 26, 2024. Applications may be submitted by mail: City of Douglas, PO Box 757, Douglas, MI 49406 or by email: clerk@douglasmi.gov

Interviews will be held at the April 1, 2024, City Council meeting.

Thank you!: The City of the Village of Douglas Downtown Development Authority would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to the Saugatuck Douglas Area Convention & Visitors Bureau board for approving a 50% match for the new Gateway signage that will be placed on the corner of Blue Star Highway and Center Street. Supporting projects like this demonstrates your commitment to creating a welcoming and attractive environment for all who visit our great community. Thanks for your continued support!

200 Blue Star Highway: The City is making significant strides with the United States Environmental Protection Agency on the grant that was received to help with some remediation of the site. We are getting closer to our goal of having the site eventually ready for new development opportunities. Thank you to everyone for your continued patience as we work through this process.

Upcoming City Meetings:

DDA Meeting: Wednesday, March 27th, 2024 @ 2:00 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, April 1, 2024: Douglas City Council meeting @ 7:00 p.m. 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

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of March 4th-8th, 2024

2024 Leaf and Brush Pick-Up: This is a reminder that leaf and brush pickup will for 2024 will commence in April. Please remember to follow the guidelines in the flyer that was sent to all public road residences. If piles are not in compliance with the leaf and brush program, they will not be picked up and a door hanger may be placed indicating what was found and correction action necessary, by the Code Enforcement Officer or Department of Public Works.

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East of Blue Star Highway

April 2nd & 16th: Leaf and Brush

West of Blue Star Highway

April 9th and 23rd: Leaf and Brush

For future pick-up dates, please refer to the leaf and brush pick-up schedule and guidelines.

New Planning & Zoning Administrator Appointment: At the City of the Village of Douglas City Council meeting on Monday, March 4th, the Council approved the City Manager's recommendation to appoint Sean Homyen as the Planning and Zoning Administrator. Sean brings a wealth of experience to the position and will do an outstanding job for the City. Congratulations Sean!

Fran Ray: The City of the Village of Douglas would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to Fran Ray who has served as a member of the City Council since November of 2023. Fran has resigned due to relocation to another community. We wish her all the best with her future endeavors.

Open City Council Seat: With the resignation of Fran Ray, the City of the Village of Douglas is taking applications to fill her unexpired term on the City Council. The term will end November 2025.

Applicants must be a resident of the City of Douglas for not less than one year and shall be a registered voter. Council meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, year-round.

Interested parties should file a Boards & Commission application located online at <https://douglasmi.gov>

All applications should be returned to the City Clerk's office no later than March 26, 2024. Applications may be submitted by mail: City of Douglas, PO Box 757, Douglas, MI 49406 or by email: clerk@douglasmi.gov

Interviews will be held at the April 1, 2024, City Council meeting.

Job Opening:

Deputy Clerk – Level 1/Office Assistant
Full-Time Starting Salary \$19.00 per hour

The City of the Village of Douglas is seeking a full-time person to serve as Deputy Clerk – Level 1/Office Assistant. This is an administrative office position and provides assistance to department heads and the City Manager. In the absence of the City Clerk, the individual will be responsible for fulfilling the City Clerk functions presently prescribed in applicable State, City Charter, and City Ordinances. This person is the first contact with the public whether via phone or in person and handles clerical/administrative functions, including Planning and Zoning, Treasurer, Clerk, Assessor, Department of Public Works, and City Manager. As Deputy Clerk this individual will assist the City Clerk with elections, training election inspectors, and any employees assigned to help with Clerk functions. The candidate should be a positive problem solver with excellent communication and computer skills. Associated degree or higher preferred. For a complete list of essential job functions and requirements, visit www.douglasmi.gov.

Interested parties can submit their resume to Laura Kasper, Douglas City Clerk. Please call 269-857-1438 ext. 106 with questions.

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Mailing Address: PO Box 757, Douglas, MI 49406
Email Address: clerk@douglasmi.gov

Join the fun: Calling all people and pets! Don't miss the People and Pets Parade on Saturday, March 9th, 2024, at 11:30 a.m. If you would like to participate, please join the parade participants in front of Respite Cappuccino Court, located at 48 Center Street, in downtown Douglas! All are welcome!

Remember to Shop & Dine Local: In a world where you can shop and dine anywhere, please remember to support small & support local. We have so many amazing places to choose from. Let's continue to support our entire business community year-round. We appreciate you!
#shop&dinedouglasmichigan

Upcoming City Meetings:

Planning Commission Meeting: Thursday, March 14th, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

City Council Meeting: Monday, March 18th, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

DDA Meeting: Wednesday, March 27th, 2024 @ 2:00 p.m. at City Hall

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Women's History Month: At the Monday, March 4th, 2024, City Council meeting, the City of the Village of Douglas will be honoring Women's History Month with an official resolution.

Every year, March is designated Women's History Month by presidential proclamation. The month is set aside to honor women's contributions in American history. This year, the National Women's History Month theme is "Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion."

The 2024 theme recognizes women throughout the country who believe a positive future can only be achieved by eliminating bias and discrimination entirely from our lives and institutions.

Please join the City of the Village of Douglas as we celebrate Women's History Month!

New Gateway Sign: The City of the Village of Douglas Downtown Development Authority's relentless efforts over several years culminated in the approval of a new gateway sign at the corner of Blue Star Highway and Center Street during this week's meeting. Their dedication to revitalizing the area reflects a commitment to enhancing the community's aesthetic appeal and promoting economic growth. Praise Sign's estimate of 8-10 weeks for the project underscores the meticulous planning and execution required for such endeavors. This milestone marks a significant step forward in the DDA's ongoing efforts to create a vibrant and welcoming environment for residents and visitors alike.

Thank you: The City of the Village of Douglas and City Clerk Laura Kasper, wishes to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated election workers who tirelessly supported the democratic process during the 9-days of voting and on the pivotal February 27th, 2024, election day.

Thank you for upholding the integrity of our elections and for your invaluable service in facilitating the fundamental right of citizens to participate in shaping our collective future.

Job Opening: Deputy Clerk – Level 1/Office Assistant
Full-Time Starting Salary \$19.00 per hour

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handles clerical/administrative functions, including Planning and Zoning, Treasurer, Clerk, Assessor, Department of Public Works, and City Manager. As Deputy Clerk this individual will assist the City Clerk with elections, training election inspectors, and any employees assigned to help with Clerk functions. The candidate should be a positive problem solver with excellent communication and computer skills. Associated degree or higher preferred. For a complete list of essential job functions and requirements, visit www.douglasmi.gov.

Interested parties can submit their resume to Laura Kasper, Douglas City Clerk, by March 7, 2024, or until the position is filled. Please call 269-857-1438 ext. 106 with questions.

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of February 12th-16th, 2024

415 Wiley Road: While the City Council did not move forward with the plans provided by ABM Building Solutions, LLC, that doesn't mean the conversation about the 415 Wiley property is over. Please join in person or listen via zoom to the City Council Workshop on Tuesday, February 20th, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. to hear further discussion about the 415 Wiley Road property. Please visit <https://douglas-mi.municodemeetings.com/> to access the zoom link and agenda.

Congratulations Phyllis! The City of the Village of Douglas would like to offer our heartfelt gratitude to Phyllis Yff, who has proudly served as Director of the Interurban Transit Authority for the last 10 years, on her decision to retire.

Phyllis's passion and vision have greatly enhanced public transportation in the surrounding communities, and she has shown exceptional leadership and dedication at the Interurban Transit Authority. As Phyllis embarks on this new chapter in her retirement, we hope that it is filled with joy, relaxation, and all the fulfillment she deserves. Best wishes always, Phyllis!

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City Offices Closure: The City of the Village of Douglas City offices will be closed on Monday, February 19th, 2024, for the President's Day holiday. Therefore, the City Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 20th, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., with the 415 Wiley Road Workshop discussion at 5:30 p.m., the same evening.

Upcoming City Meetings:

Monday, February 19th, 2024: City Offices Closed for President's Day

Tuesday, February 20th, 2024: City Council Workshop at 5:30 p.m. regarding 415 Wiley Road

Tuesday, February 20th, 2024: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of April 22nd-26th, 2024

Flower Bed Adoption: Would you be willing to volunteer to adopt a flowerbed in the downtown district? Frequent weeding, raking, watering, and debris removal, are a few of the responsibilities throughout the spring, summer, and fall, seasons. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please use the link below, scroll down the list of forms under City Clerk, and click on the Flowerbed Volunteer Form <https://douglasmichigan.gov/forms-permits/>. Please turn it back to City Hall in person or email it to citymanager@douglasmichigan.gov. Thank you!

Thank you: On behalf of the City of the Village of Douglas, we want to thank the volunteers who came out last Saturday to help with the Earth Day Weekend downtown clean-up. We were able to tackle seven flowerbeds with the team we had, and everyone made a significant contribution beautifying our downtown district.

We also want to thank the preschoolers at Douglas Elementary for helping the Douglas Department of Public Works plant four new trees at Schultz Park. This event, in honor of Earth Day, will now become an annual tradition. The children also had an opportunity to see and touch the Public Works vehicles and learn more about them.

We love our community!

Gateway Sign Replacement: The new Gateway sign that will be replacing the existing sign on the corner of Blue Star Highway and Center Street, was placed this week. We want to thank the Douglas Downtown Development Authority for all their hard work on this project.

Tower at Beery Field: The tower was removed for safety reasons this week. The weathervane at the top of the tower, that displays the City's name, along with the siren, will be stored as we seek out options for placing these items on display in the future at another location. The City is exploring placing a permanent Christmas tree at the location.

Reminder: 415 Wiley Road: The City Council held a workshop on Wednesday, April 17th, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall to go over the seven proposals the City received to renovate the building at 415 Wiley Road for City Hall and Police services. The Council will be holding three workshops where they will interview five of the seven companies. The workshops will be held on the following dates and times at City Hall and are open to the public:

Monday, April 22nd, 2024 (*Interview Completed*)

- 4:00 p.m. Midwest Construction Group/Edgewater Resources

Monday, April 29th, 2024

- 3:00 p.m. Wolverine Building Group

- 4:00 p.m. Carbon Six Construction

Monday, May 6th, 2024

- 4:30 p.m. GDK Construction
- 5:30 p.m. Lakewood Construction

2024 Leaf and Brush Pick-Up:

- Leaves must be unbagged (paper yard waste bags accepted).
- Leaves and brush **must be separated** and placed behind the curb or road edge of the paved portion of the roadway; however, it must be reachable with the leaf truck or grapple claw. (Leaves are picked up using a vacuum, while brush is picked up using a grapple claw. The leaf vac cannot pick-up anything but leaves. If leaves and brush are mixed, they will not be picked up and a courtesy notice may be placed at the location with directions on how to correct the issue for the next regularly scheduled pick-up.)
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For pick-up dates, please refer to the leaf and brush pick-up schedule and guidelines.

Upcoming Meetings, Events, & Notices:

Monday, April 29th, 2024: City Council Workshop at 3:00 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, May 6th, 2024: City Council Workshop at 4:30 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, May 6th, 2024: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Thursday, May 9th, 2024: Douglas Planning Commission Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of April 15th-19th, 2024

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Monday, May 6th, 2024

- 4:30 p.m. GDK Construction
- 5:30 p.m. Lakewood Construction

Earth Day Events:

1. Saturday, April 20th, 2024: Please join the City and the Downtown Development Authority for a downtown beautification day from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Our primary focus will be prepping the bump outs downtown for new mulch and plantings. The meet up location is Douglas City Hall. Rakes, bags, gloves, gardening tools, and water will be provided to all volunteers.
2. Monday, April 22nd, 2024: The Douglas Department of Public Works will be hosting the Douglas Elementary preschoolers at Schultz Park where they will plant four new trees on the property together. The children will also have a chance to “touch a truck” and learn more about the public works vehicles. This event will start at 9:00 a.m.

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Upcoming Meetings, Events, & Notices:

Saturday, April 20th, 2024: Downtown Douglas Earth Day Clean-up from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, April 22nd, 2024: Douglas DPW/Douglas Elementary School Earth Day Tree Planting at Schultz Park at 9:00 a.m.

Monday, April 22nd, 2024: City Council Workshop at 4:00 p.m. at City Hall

Wednesday, April 24th, 2024: Douglas DDA Meeting at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, April 29th, 2024: City Council Workshop at 3:00 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, May 6th, 2024: City Council Workshop at 4:30 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, May 6th, 2024: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of April 8th-12th, 2024

A Message from Saugatuck Township: Construction Begins on Blue Star Hwy Roundabout Wednesday, April 10th

On Wednesday, April 10th, the Allegan County Road Commission will begin construction on a new roundabout at the intersection of Blue Star Highway and Old Allegan Road. The intersection will be closed during the construction period with plans to reopen to local traffic on July 22nd. Covering a span of 0.33 miles, the single-lane roundabout is designed to optimize traffic movement efficiently and improve safety at the intersection. The approximately \$1.5 million project is funded through an MDOT safety grant, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality grant and local match funds from the Allegan County Road Commission and Saugatuck Township.

During construction, a detour for Blue Star Highway will be established via Route I-196.

Designed by LRE Engineers, the roundabout includes four road islands, two of which are extended, and a 45 ft diameter center circle. With 23 ft of the center circle consisting of a mountable apron, the roundabout is designed to accommodate the types and volume of vehicles that currently frequent the road, including large trucks and emergency vehicles.

A traffic study completed in 2021 indicated a need for the inclusion of additional safety measures at this intersection given high seasonal traffic and the potential for increased pedestrian activity given plans to construct a non-motorized path along Blue Star Hwy.

A roundabout was specifically recommended, as roundabouts are recognized as a Proven Safety Countermeasure by the Federal Highway Administration for reducing speeds and conflicts, minimizing severe crashes, and offering more crossing points for non-motorized traffic.

In addition to the roundabout construction, the project includes the installation of an approximately 500 ft section of non-motorized trail on the west side of Blue Star Highway, as well as a pedestrian crossing south of the intersection. A concrete landing pad will be installed on the east side of Blue Star Highway in preparation for a future path connecting pedestrians to the Township's River Bluff Park.

Concurrently, Saugatuck Township has partnered with Viridis Design Group of Grand Rapids on a landscape design for the site. "Our goal was to integrate sustainable solutions into traditional infrastructure practices, seamlessly blending pedestrian and vehicular safety and circulation with the local ecology and artistic community" said Viridis landscape designer, Lindsey

Gadbois. Design features include low-maintenance, drought resistant plantings such as dune grass, with hardscaping in the center of the road island.

"The location of the roundabout, with its proximity to Downtown Saugatuck and a growing Blue Star business corridor, presents an opportunity to create a welcoming gateway into the Saugatuck Township community," said Daniel DeFranco, Saugatuck Township Manager. This is the first time that the Allegan County Road Commission has partnered with a municipality on a landscape design for a road improvement project.

For inquiries or further information, interested parties are encouraged to reach out to the Allegan County Road Commission or Saugatuck Township.

What is the New Sign at 200 Blue Star Highway? On February 20th, 2024, the Douglas City Council and the Douglas Brownfield Authority met together with Williams & Works, to discuss the results of the 200 Blue Star Highway public survey and public input session. Three conceptual designs were presented to the group and have been forwarded to the United States Environmental Protection Agency as a requirement for our clean-up grant. Residents who attended the meeting asked if the City could place a sign at the site indicating any progress that has been made. The sign was placed this week and states, "We're Moving Forward," and shows a depiction of the conceptual design that received the most support, with an explanation of where we are with the USEPA grant process. This project is going to take time, but we are indeed moving forward and will continue to make significant progress on the site. We appreciate everyone's patience.

The Douglas Brownfield Authority will meet in May to discuss the status of the project and USEPA grant with PM Environmental who is working with the City on the grant compliance.

415 Wiley Road: The City reissued requests to rehab the building at 415 Wiley Road with the goal of moving City Hall and the Douglas Police Department to the site. Seven proposals were received, and the City Council will be discussing them at a scheduled workshop meeting on Wednesday, April 17th at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall. No final decisions have been made.

Earth Day Events:

1. Saturday, April 20th, 2024: Please join the City and the Downtown Development Authority for a downtown beautification day from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Our primary focus will be prepping the bump outs downtown for new mulch and plantings. The meet up location is Douglas City Hall. Rakes, bags, gloves, gardening tools, and water will be provided to all volunteers.
2. Monday, April 22nd, 2024: The Douglas Department of Public Works will be hosting the Douglas Elementary preschoolers at Schultz Park where they will plant four new trees on the property together. The children will also have a chance to "touch a truck" and learn more about the public works vehicles. This event will start at 9:00 a.m.

2024 Leaf and Brush Pick-Up REMINDER: This is a reminder that leaf, and brush pickup will for 2024 will commence in April. Please remember to follow the guidelines in the flyer that was sent to all public road residences. If piles are not in compliance with the leaf and bush program, they will not be picked up and a door hanger may be placed indicating what was found and correction action necessary, by the Code Enforcement Officer or Department of Public Works.

- Leaves must be unbagged (paper yard waste bags accepted).

- Leaves and brush **must be separated** and placed behind the curb or road edge of the paved portion of the roadway; however, it must be reachable with the leaf truck or grapple claw.
- Leaves and brush can be placed out up to, but not earlier than, three (3) days before scheduled pick-up. Leaves and brush placed out after 7:00 a.m. on the scheduled day will not be picked up.
- Brush must be stacked neatly in the same direction parallel to the road.
- Leave and brush piles must not exceed 8-feet in length, 6-feet in width, and 4-feet in height. If the pile exceeds the required size, please separate them into multiple piles.
- Branches cannot be larger than 6-feet long and 6-inches in diameter.

Pick-up Schedule for the month of April is as follows:

East of Blue Star Highway

April 16th: Leaf and Brush (First pick-up on April 2nd-Complete)

West of Blue Star Highway

April 9th and 23rd: Leaf and Brush (First pick-up on April 9th-Complete)

For future pick-up dates, please refer to the leaf and brush pick-up schedule and guidelines.

Upcoming Meetings, Events, & Notices:

Monday, April 15th, 2024: Budget Workshop #2 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, April 15th, 2024: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Tuesday, April 16th, 2024: Douglas Harbor Authority Meeting at 4:30 p.m. at City Hall

Tuesday, April 16th, 2024: Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority Meeting at 5:30 p.m. at Saugatuck Township Hall

Wednesday, April 17th, 2024: City Council Workshop Meeting at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall (Subject: 415 Wiley Road Proposal Responses)

Thursday, April 24th, 2024: Douglas DDA Meeting at 2:00 p.m. 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

Matthew Balmer, Councilmember

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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 Review Week of April 1st-5th, 2024

Earth Day Events:

1. Saturday, April 20th, 2024: Please join the City and the Downtown Development Authority for a downtown beautification day from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Our primary focus will be prepping the bump outs downtown for new mulch and plantings. The meet up location is Douglas City Hall. Rakes, bags, gloves, gardening tools, and water will be provided to all volunteers.
2. Monday, April 22nd, 2024: The Douglas Department of Public Works will be hosting the Douglas Elementary preschoolers at Schultz Park where they will plant four new trees on the property together. The children will also have a chance to “touch a truck” and learn more about the Public Works vehicles. This event will start at 9:00 a.m.

Congratulations: The City of the Village of Douglas would like to offer our heartfelt congratulations to Matthew Balmer, who was selected to fill the vacant position on the Douglas City Council, during the Monday, April 1st, 2024, City Council meeting. The City would also like to thank residents Laura Peterson and Demetrhea Terrien for applying for the open seat.

Beats on Beery & Sidewalk Sales: This week, the Douglas City Council approved two amazing events taking place this summer. First, on June 28th, there will be live music at Beery Field from 4:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. This is a free event. The performers have not yet been announced.

Next, on August 15th, there will be both Beats on Beery and sidewalk sales. The sidewalk sales will commence at 10:00 a.m. and run through 5:00 p.m. Beats on Beery will be from 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. at Beery Field.

Vendor sale/show space will be available for the sidewalk sales for \$30.00. For more information, please contact April Gundy at eventssaugatuckdouglas@gmail.com.

The City would like to thank the Saugatuck Douglas Convention & Visitors Bureau and April Gundy for organizing these fantastic events.

2024 Leaf and Brush Pick-Up REMINDER: This is a reminder that leaf and brush pickup will for 2024 will commence in April. Please remember to follow the guidelines in the flyer that was sent to all public road residences. If piles are not in compliance with the leaf and bush program, they will not be picked up and a door hanger may be placed indicating what was found and correction action necessary, by the Code Enforcement Officer or Department of Public Works.

- Leaves must be unbagged (paper yard waste bags accepted).
- Leaves and brush **must be separated** and placed behind the curb or road edge of the paved portion of the roadway; however, it must be reachable with the leaf truck or grapple claw.
- Leaves and brush can be placed out up to, but not earlier than, three (3) days before scheduled pick-up. Leaves and brush placed out after 7:00 a.m. on the scheduled day will not be picked up.
- Brush must be stacked neatly in the same direction parallel to the road.
- Leave and brush piles must not exceed 8-feet in length, 6-feet in width, and 4-feet in height. If pile exceeds the required size, please separate them into multiple piles.
- Branches cannot be larger than 6-feet long and 6-inches in diameter.

Pick-up Schedule for the month of April is as follows:

East of Blue Star Highway

April 16th: Leaf and Brush (First pick-up on April 2nd-Complete)

West of Blue Star Highway

April 9th and 23rd: Leaf and Brush

For future pick-up dates, please refer to the leaf and brush pick-up schedule and guidelines.

Upcoming Meetings:

Thursday, April 11th, 2024: Planning Commission Meeting at 7:00 pm. At City Hall

Monday, April 15th, 2024: Budget Workshop #2 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, April 15th, 2024: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Tuesday, April 16th, 2024: Douglas Harbor Authority Meeting at 4:30 p.m. at City Hall

Wednesday, April 24th, 2024: Douglas DDA Meeting at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of May 20th-24th, 2024

Memorial Day Parade in Douglas: Please join us in downtown Douglas on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27th at 10:30 a.m., for a heartfelt parade and ceremony honoring our fallen heroes. The event will feature local veterans, and moving tributes, contributing to a spirit of unity and remembrance. Gather with friends, family, and neighbors to pay tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. Let's come together to reflect on their bravery and dedication, ensuring their legacy lives on in our hearts.

Thank you: Have you noticed how beautiful the flowerbeds in Downtown Douglas look? We have, and it is due to the incredible volunteers who have adopted the flowerbeds and will be maintaining them throughout the seasons. We want to offer our heartfelt thanks to everyone who is participating. It is a lot of hard work and dedication, and we are most grateful to every one of you. Recognition is forthcoming!

Pardon our dust: The City continues to make improvements in our parks and in the public lots. Please be patient with us as we work to complete these projects as expeditiously as possible. You will not be disappointed!

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 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.

Nominating Petitions: Nominating Petitions are now available for the office of Douglas City Council for the November 5, 2024, General Election. Four (4) non-partisan positions will be filled for terms of two-years each. Candidates must be a U.S. Citizen, registered elector in the City and shall have been a resident of the City for not less than twelve (12) months. (per Sect. 3.3 of

the City Charter). Petitions can be obtained from the City Clerk's Office. The filing deadline is July 23, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. Please contact the City Clerk for more information.

Upcoming Meetings, Events, & Notices:

Monday, May 27th, 2023: City offices will be closed in observance of Memorial Day

Monday, May 27th, 2024: 10:30 a.m. Veteran's Parade in Douglas followed by a Ceremony at the Veteran's Memorial.

Thursday, May 30th: City offices will be closed temporarily for a staff appreciation picnic from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 30th-Sunday, June 2nd: Community Pride Events in Downtown Douglas

Monday, June 3rd, 2024: 5:30 p.m..415 Wiley City Council Workshop Discussion

Monday, June 3rd, 2024: 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting

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Randy Walker, Mayor Pro-Tem

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Jerry Donovan, Councilmember

John O'Malley, Councilmember

Greg Freeman, Councilmember

Matthew Balmer, Councilmember

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of May 13th-17th, 2024

Memorial Day Parade in Douglas: Please join us in downtown Douglas on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27th at 10:30 a.m., for a heartfelt parade and ceremony honoring our fallen heroes. The event will feature local veterans, and moving tributes, contributing to a spirit of unity and remembrance. Gather with friends, family, and neighbors to pay tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. Let's come together to reflect on their bravery and dedication, ensuring their legacy lives on in our hearts.

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.

Nominating Petitions: Nominating Petitions are now available for the office of Douglas City Council for the November 5, 2024, General Election. Four (4) non-partisan positions will be filled for terms of two-years each. Candidates must be a U.S. Citizen, registered elector in the City and shall have been a resident of the City for not less than twelve (12) months. (per Sect. 3.3 of the City Charter). Petitions can be obtained from the City Clerk's Office. The filing deadline is July 23, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. Please contact the City Clerk for more information.

Upcoming Meetings, Events, & Notices:

Monday, May 20th, 2024: City Council Budget Workshop at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, May 20th, 2024: City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Wednesday, May 22nd, 2024: DDA Meeting at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall

Thursday, May 30th-Sunday, June 2nd, 2024: Community Pride Fest in Downtown Douglas

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Randy Walker, Mayor Pro-Tem

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of May 6th-10th, 2024

Affordable/Attainable/Workforce Housing: The City Council has enlisted the help of Ryan Kilpatrick, Owner of Flywheel, to collaborate with the community to produce plans/options for more housing geared towards workers. We understand that this has continued to be a significant concern, and are delighted to be taking this first, crucial step in the process.

Happy Mother's Day: Happy Mother's Day to all the incredible Moms out there, including those with our beloved four-legged companions! This Sunday, we will celebrate the boundless love, care, and nurturing you provide every day. From the City of Douglas, we send our warmest wishes for a beautiful day filled with joy and appreciation.

Upcoming Meetings, Events, & Notices:

Monday, May 20th, 2024: City Council Budget Workshop at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, May 20th, 2024: City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Tuesday, May 21st, 2024: Douglas Harbor Authority Meeting at 4:30 p.m. at City Hall

Wednesday, May 22nd, 2024: DDA Meeting at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of April 29th-May 3rd, 2024

Derby Day in Douglas this Saturday, May 4th: This is the absolute best time of the year to wear your best flair. Hats, dresses, suits, shorts, boots, shoes, whatever you prefer. Let's Derby up the town on Saturday and make this a fun, and an annual event. There might even be a few surprises at many of the local participating businesses throughout the day and evening. Hints? Gift card drawings, scratch off tickets, specialty food and drinks, and of course, fun!

Dazzle it up Douglas! Show 'em what we've got! See you in downtown Douglas this weekend!

Veteran's Memorial at Beery Field: We have been making some incredible strides at the Veteran's Memorial at Beery Field. A new cement slab has been added, weeds and other debris have been removed, and a new planter is going to be placed at the site along with new mulch. We are seeking out an organization to donate a bench, so if there is interest, please email the City Manager at citymanager@douglasmi.gov. Thank you in advance!

Reminder: 415 Wiley Road: The City Council held a workshop on Wednesday, April 17th, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall to go over the seven proposals the City received to renovate the building at 415 Wiley Road for City Hall and Police services. The Council will be holding three workshops where they will interview five of the seven companies. The workshops will be held on the following dates and times at City Hall and are open to the public:

Monday, April 22nd, 2024 (*Interview Completed*)

- 4:00 p.m. Midwest Construction Group/Edgewater Resources

Monday, April 29th, 2024 (*Interviews Completed*)

- 3:00 p.m. Wolverine Building Group
- 4:00 p.m. Carbon Six Construction

Monday, May 6th, 2024

- 4:30 p.m. GDK Construction
- 5:30 p.m. Lakewood Construction

2024 Leaf and Brush Pick-Up: Please make sure that your leaves and brush piles are separated and there are no other items in these piles. If they are not separated or do not follow the guidelines set forth in the leaf and brush policy, pick-up will not occur, and a courtesy notice will be left at the location with directions on how to correct any issues for the next regularly scheduled pick-up. Also, please do not place these items in the public right-of-way, as this creates significant safety concerns for pedestrians and vehicles.

Items including grass, potted plants and dune grass will not be picked up. Please find alternative options for the disposal of these items.

We appreciated everyone's anticipated cooperation!

Flower Bed Adoption: Our call for volunteer assistance with the flowerbeds was received and we have the help we need. However, if anyone is still interested in helping, please fill out the form on the City website, using the link below. Thank you Douglas!

<https://douglasmi.gov/forms-permits/>

Upcoming Meetings, Events, & Notices:

Saturday, May 4th, 2024: Derby Day in Douglas! All day!

Monday, May 6th, 2024: City Council Workshop at 4:30 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, May 6th, 2024: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Thursday, May 9th, 2024: Douglas Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Meeting at 1:00 p.m. at City Hall

Thursday, May 9th, 2024: Douglas Planning Commission Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, May 20th, 2024: City Council Budget Workshop at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, May 20th, 2024: City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Tuesday, May 21st, 2024: Douglas Harbor Authority Meeting at 4:30 p.m. at City Hall

Wednesday, May 22nd, 2024: DDA Meeting at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of June 17th, 2024

415 Wiley Road: The City Council has agreed to hire Carbon Six Construction to commence the design phase for the 415 Wiley Road space where the goal is to move City Hall, the Police Department, and add office space for the Department of Public Works. Once the design phase is complete, and Council is comfortable with the direction and pricing, the next step will be to pass an agreement to start construction.

Brush Pick-Up: Brush pick-up will take place on Tuesday, June 18th for locations on the East side of Blue Star Highway, and on Tuesday, June 25th on the West side of Blue Star Highway.

The City WILL NOT pick up: material from lot clearing operations, tree removal (including stumps), large landscape debris, railroad ties, pet waste, bricks, lumber, fence debris, construction material, grass clippings, dune grass, leaves, yard waste, or garden waste (unpotted/potted plants), and brush piles that are left from contracted work or commercial landscapers.

Leaf pick-up will commence in the fall. Please refer to the City website for a copy of the pick-up schedule, or visit City Hall, where you can access the information sheet in the vestibule.

Please do not place debris in the public right-of-way and be mindful of the issues with safety this can cause.

Farmer's Market in Douglas: The Douglas Farmer's Market kicked off the season at the Beery Field picnic area on Tuesday, June 18th with great success with over 200 patrons visiting and shopping at the market in the first 90 minutes. Thank you for your support! The market hours are from 10 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., and the future dates are listed below:

- June 25th
- July 2nd; 9th; 16th; 23rd; 30th
- August 6th; 13th; 20th; 27th

Please spread the word so we can ensure that the market is successful moving forward.

Art in Douglas: Art in Douglas takes place the second Saturday of each month through September. If you missed the June event, please join the galleries in Downtown Douglas on Saturday, July 13th. Future dates:

- July 13th
- August 10th
- September 14th

Support small. Support local.

Keep our City and Parks Clean: We all love our community and want to ensure it remains beautiful. We encourage everyone to ensure that trash is picked up and placed in the appropriate containers when you see it. Every bit helps. Thank you for being an amazing community partner!

Upcoming Meetings, Events, & Notices:

- Monday, June 24th, 2024: Special Council Meeting at City Hall @ 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 25th, 2024: Farmer's Market @ Berry Field from 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 26th, 2024: DDA Meeting at City Hall @ 2:00 p.m.
- Friday, June 28th, 2024: Beats on Berry at Beery Field, from 4:30p.m.- 9:00 p.m.

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of June 10th, 2024

Farmer's Market in Douglas: The Douglas Farmer's Market will kick off the market season at the Beery Field picnic area on Tuesday, June 18th. Market hours are from 10 a.m.- 2:00 p.m., and the future dates are listed below:

June 25th

July 2nd; 9th; 16th; 23rd; 30th

August 6th; 13th; 20th; 27th

Please spread the word so we can ensure that the market is successful moving forward.

Beery Field Playground Perimeter: The City appreciates all the hard work that the Douglas Department of Public Works has been doing at the Beery Field Playground. They are sprucing things up and continuing to make it a beautiful place for families to enjoy. Please check it out!

415 Wiley Road: The City Council conducted a workshop on Monday, June 10th, for discussion regarding the 415 Wiley Road property build-out for a future City Hall and Police Department, with Carbon Six Construction. I will have more to report in the future about this project, but we appear to have started a path forward. The former doctor's space on the opposite side of the building has been vacated and the City will be advertising the approximately 5252-square foot space for rent. Please direct any questions about the project and rental space to the City Manager, Lisa Nocerini at - citymanager@douglasmi.gov or call 269-857-1438.

200 Blue Star Highway: This is a work in progress. The weeds will be cut down to the ground, and the City will continue efforts to do as much as possible while we continue to work through the U.S. EPA grant requirements. The City is making progress on the grant, but we are on a federal timeline, which can be quite cumbersome. In the meantime, we have had discussions with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, EGLE, and will be convening a conversation with the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MHSDA), about future opportunities including funding options to address the sites conditions.

Root Beer Barrel: The Root Beer Barrel is having a successful first month and continues to improve the property and grow the menu. We are excited about the new plumbing, parking spaces, refrigeration upgrades, bathrooms, ability to accept debit/credit cards, and the option to order online and pick-up soon. Todd continues to make many of these improvements at no cost to the City. We are grateful to Todd for stepping up to help ensure the Root Beer Barrel continues to be a cool attraction for those who live, work, and visit Douglas. P.S.- The menu now includes a veggie brat with more options coming soon!

Art in Douglas: Art in Douglas takes place the second Saturday of each month through September. If you missed the June event, please join the galleries in Downtown Douglas on

Saturday, July 13th. Future dates: July 13th, August 10th and September 14th. Support small. Support local.

Keep our City and Parks Clean: We all love our community and want to ensure it remains beautiful. We encourage everyone to ensure that trash is picked up and placed in the appropriate containers when you see it. Every bit helps. Thank you for being an amazing community partner!

New Signs: The City Council approved new signage in the upcoming budget, for Beery Field, Schultz Park, Wade's Bayou, and the Douglas Marina. The signage will match the wayfinding theme that you see throughout the City. We hope to have it designed and installed soon! Keep an eye out! You will love them!

Upcoming Meetings, Events, & Notices:

- Monday, June 17th, 2024: City Council meeting @ City Hall at 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 18th, 2024: Farmer's Market @ Berry Field from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 26th, 2024: DDA Meeting at City Hall @ 2:00 p.m.
- Friday, June 28th, 2024: Beats on Berry at Beery Field, from 4:30-9:00 p.m.

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week June 3rd, 2024

Farmer's Market in Douglas: There will be a Farmer's Market at the Beery Field picnic area on Tuesday, June 18th, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Please spread the word so we can ensure that the market is successful moving forward. Thank you!

Gateway Sign Ribbon Cutting: On Tuesday, June 4th, the Douglas Downtown Development Authority was joined by members of the City Council and our amazing business community to officially cut the ribbon, acknowledging the new sign. We want to thank the DDA, City Council, City Administration, Department of Public Works, Lewis Corbin, Williams & Works, and the Saugatuck Douglas Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau, for all their help and support to make this project a reality.

Flowerbeds in the Downtown: At the Monday, June 3rd Douglas City Council meeting, Mayor Cathy North publicly acknowledged the incredible volunteers who adopted the flowerbeds throughout the downtown:

Michael Rash
Neal Seabert-2 beds
Tina Zmich & Alex Harris
Saugatuck Douglas Garden Club-3 beds
John Kerr
Mr. Miller's Art Emporium -Linda Laakso
Robin Bauer
Bracke and Company-Lincoln
Brad Hopkins
happystance-Katie Fris
Rosemont Inn-Tammy Cunnion
Douglas Congregational United Church of Christ
Shelley Rogers
Connie Vorderman
Mary Ellen Shanahan

Thank you so much for your commitment to ensuring our downtown remains beautiful.

Beery Field Playground Perimeter: The City would like to thank the Douglas Department of Public Works for all their work around the perimeter of the Beery Field playground area. They are sprucing things up and continuing to make it a great place for families to enjoy. Please check it out!

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 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.

415 Wiley Road: The City Council conducted a workshop on Monday, June 3rd, where a decision was made to start discussions regarding the 415 Wiley Road property build-out for a future city hall and police department, with Carbon Six Construction. The Council will be hosting another workshop, on Monday, June 10th at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, to discuss the build-out a bit more, and ask follow-up questions. The City Council has not yet determined if the project will move forward, but is performing their due diligence to ensure whichever direction they decide to move into, is in the best interest of the community.

Upcoming Meetings, Events, & Notices:

Monday, June 10th, 2024: 5:30 p.m. City Council Workshop RE: Carbon Six Construction-415 Wiley Road Build-Out

Thursday, June 13th, 2024: 7:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting

Monday, June 17th, 2024: 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting

Tuesday, June 18th, 2024: Farmer's Market at Beery Field from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Friday, June 28th, 2024: Beats on Berry at Beery Field, from 4:30-9:00 p.m.

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:

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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 of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of May 27th, 2024

The Root Beer Barrel: The Root Beer Barrel, located at 501 W. Center Street in Douglas, officially opened on May 24th. They are open seven days a week, rain, or shine, from 11:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. Check it out!

Farmer's Market in Douglas: There will be a Farmer's Market at the Beery Field picnic area on Tuesday, June 18th, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Please spread the word!

Gateway Sign Ribbon Cutting: Please join the City of Douglas Downtown Development Authority for a Gateway Sign Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Tuesday, June 4th at 5:30 p.m. The sign is located at the corner of Blue Star Highway and Center Street (east side). Everyone is welcome!

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 has received numerous complaints about trash cans being left out beyond the times cited in the ordinance and will address any violations accordingly.

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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.

Upcoming Meetings, Events, & Notices:

Monday, June 3rd, 2024: 5:30 p.m..415 Wiley City Council Workshop Discussion

Monday, June 3rd, 2024: 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting

Tuesday, June 4th, 2024: 5:30 p.m. DDA Gateway Sign Ribbon Cutting Ceremony (corner of Blue Star Highway and Center Street)

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Randy Walker, Mayor Pro-Tem

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Jerry Donovan, Councilmember

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of June 24th, 2024

Root Beer Barrel

The new team at the Douglas Root Beer Barrel has created this amazing signage on a billboard on the west side of the highway between Saugatuck and Holland, just south of the rest area, at their own cost. The sign ended up being placed this week and the billboard looks amazing! Thank you for being such a great community partner!



Douglas Spinner

The spinner that was at the top of the Beery Field tower has been donated to the Saugatuck Douglas History Center. The City would like to thank the history center for adding the spinner to their collection.



Thank you Douglas Saugatuck Pickleball Club

The Douglas Saugatuck Pickleball Club was out this week to help spruce up the bump out by the bike path on Blue Star Highway. Thank you for being great community partners! We love our volunteers!



Happystance

Happystance Dinette opened up this week in Downtown Douglas! We want to congratulate Katie Fris and her team on a great first week! Welcome Katie!



Upcoming Meetings & Events

Monday, July 1st, 2024: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Thursday, July 4th, 2024: City Offices will be closed for the 4th of July Holiday

Thursday, July 11th, 2024: Planning Commission Meeting at 7:00 p.m. @ City Hall

Monday, July 15th, 2024: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Wednesday, July 24th, 2024: DDA Meeting at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall

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Randy Walker, Mayor Pro-Tem

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Jerry Donovan, Councilmember

John O'Malley, Councilmember

Greg Freeman, Councilmember

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of March 25th-March 29th, 2024

Earth Day Event: With Earth Day on Monday, April 22nd, the City of the Village of Douglas, and the Douglas Downtown Development Authority invite the public to join us a few days prior, on Saturday, April 20th, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for a downtown cleanup event. We will be focusing on sidewalk and streetscape cleanup; bagging of any leaves/debris in the downtown; and prepping the bumpouts for new mulch and plantings. The City will provide gloves, rakes, gardening tools, bags, and water to all volunteers. Please meet us outside of City Hall in downtown Douglas where we will be assigning tasks. Thank you!

City Hall/Department of Public Works Closure: City Hall and the Douglas Department of Public Works will be closed on Friday, March 29th, starting at 12:00 p.m., in observance of Good Friday. We wish everyone a safe and fulfilling holiday weekend!

2024 Leaf and Brush Pick-Up REMINDER: This is a reminder that leaf and brush pickup for 2024 will commence in April. Please remember to follow the guidelines in the flyer that was sent to all public road residences. If piles are not in compliance with the leaf and brush program, they will not be picked up and a door hanger may be placed indicating what was found and correction action necessary, by the Code Enforcement Officer or Department of Public Works.

- Leaves must be unbagged (paper yard waste bags accepted).
- Leaves and brush **must be separated** and placed behind the curb or road edge of the paved portion of the roadway; however, it must be reachable with the leaf truck or grapple claw.
- Leaves and brush can be placed out up to, but not earlier than, three (3) days before scheduled pick-up. Leaves and brush placed out after 7:00 a.m. on the scheduled day will not be picked up.
- Brush must be stacked neatly in the same direction parallel to the road.
- Leave and brush piles must not exceed 8 feet in length, 6 feet in width, and 4 feet in height. If the pile exceeds the required size, please separate them into multiple piles.
- Branches cannot be larger than 6 feet long and 6 inches in diameter.

Pick-up Schedule for the month of April is as follows:

East of Blue Star Highway
April 2nd & 16th: Leaf and Brush

West of Blue Star Highway

April 9th and 23rd: Leaf and Brush

For future pick-up dates, please refer to the leaf and brush pick-up schedule and guidelines.

Upcoming Meetings, Events, & Notices:

Friday, March 29th, 2024: City offices will close at noon for the Good Friday Holiday and limited staffing.

Monday, April 1, 2024: Council Seat Vacancy Interviews from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, April 1, 2024: Douglas City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, April 15th, 2024: Budget Workshop #2 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall

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Greg Freeman, Councilmember

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**City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review
Weeks of January 29th- February 2nd, 2024 & February 5th- February 9th, 2024**

200 Blue Star Highway- City Council/Douglas Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Joint Meeting: The City Council and Douglas Brownfield Redevelopment Authority meeting on Monday, February 5th, 2024, regarding the 200 Blue Star Highway survey and public input results was incredibly productive and a great step forward for the City and community.

A total of 467 responses were analyzed by the Williams & Works engineering and planning team, with the highest percentage of responses from individuals living inside the City of the Village of Douglas. Three concepts were generated, utilizing the thorough response data from the survey to create concepts for the public input session discussion. Out of the three concepts, one received the highest favorability with 41%, which included options for specialized commercial, mixed use, and small-scale apartments. For more information or to see the preliminary concepts, please visit <https://douglas-mi.municodemeetings.com/>.

415 Wiley Road: The City Council turned down the proposal presented by ABM Building Solutions, LLC for the buildout of the 415 Wiley Road property for City Hall, Police, and Public Works.

The decision not to move forward with the rehabilitation project was reached after thorough consideration of numerous factors, with cost being a significant concern. While the proposal presented by ABM Building Solutions, LLC highlighted potential benefits, including the consolidation of municipal services into a single location, the associated financial requirements were deemed prohibitive at this time. Furthermore, the City is currently facing pressing capital needs across multiple areas, necessitating a strategic allocation of resources. We must prioritize projects that directly address critical infrastructure and service delivery demands to ensure the well-being and safety of our residents.

In light of these considerations, the City Council has opted to convene a workshop on Tuesday, February 20th, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. to explore alternative options for the site. This workshop will provide an opportunity for the council to collaboratively evaluate potential solutions that align with our community's needs and financial realities.

The City would like to emphasize that the decision not to proceed with the proposed rehabilitation project does not diminish Douglas's commitment to enhancing our municipal facilities and services. We remain dedicated to finding innovative and cost-effective solutions that best serve the interests of our residents and contribute to the overall prosperity of our City.

Thank you once again to ABM Building Solutions, LLC for their involvement in the process, and we look forward to engaging with the community and stakeholders as we work towards a viable path forward for the site.



Election Information: The Presidential Primary Election for Michigan is February 27, 2024. In November 2022, voters passed Proposal 2 which amended the State Constitution to include additional voting rights and protections and created additional options for Michigan voters to vote. Michigan voters now have three ways to vote: Early Voting, Absentee Ballot, and Election Day. To check voter registration, request a ballot, and access all voter information resources visit - <https://mVIC.sos.state.mi.us/Home/Index>

All registered voters within the City of the Village of Douglas cast their ballots at – Douglas City Hall, 86 W. Center Street, Douglas, MI 49406

Election questions may be directed to the City Clerk at – 269-857-1438, or by email – clerk@douglasmi.gov and please visit - <https://douglasmi.gov/elections/> for helpful links and additional information.

Job Opening: Deputy Clerk – Level 1/Office Assistant Full-Time Starting Salary \$19.00 per hour - The City of the Village of Douglas is seeking a full-time person to serve as Deputy Clerk – Level 1/Office Assistant. This is an administrative office position that assists department heads and the City Manager. In the absence of the City Clerk, the individual will be responsible for fulfilling the City Clerk functions presently prescribed in applicable State, City Charter, and City Ordinances. This person is the first contact with the public whether via phone or in person and handles clerical/administrative functions, including Planning and Zoning, Treasurer, Clerk, Assessor, Department of Public Works, and City Manager. As Deputy Clerk this individual will assist the City Clerk with elections, election inspectors, and any employees assigned to help with Clerk functions. The candidate should be a positive problem solver with excellent communication and computer skills. Michigan State QVF certification along with associate degree or higher preferred. For a complete list of essential job functions and requirements, visit www.douglasmi.gov. Interested parties can submit their resume to - Laura Kasper, Douglas City Clerk, by March 7, 2024, or until the position is filled. Please call 269-857-1438 ext. 106 with questions.

Physical Address: 86 W Center St., Douglas, MI 49406

Mailing Address: PO Box 757, Douglas, MI 49406

Email Address: clerk@douglasmi.gov

Remember to Shop & Dine Local: In a world where you can shop and dine anywhere, please remember to support small & support local. We have so many amazing places to choose from. Let's continue to support our entire business community year-round. We appreciate you!
#shop&dinedouglasMichigan

City Offices Closure: In observance of President's Day, Douglas City offices will be closed on Monday, February 19th, 2024, Therefore, the City Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 20th, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., with the 415 Wiley Road Workshop discussion at 5:30 p.m., prior to.



Upcoming City Meetings:

Monday, February 19th, 2024: City Offices Closed for President's Day

Tuesday, February 20th, 2024: City Council Workshop at 5:30 p.m. regarding 415 Wiley Road

Tuesday, February 20th, 2024: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

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Greg Freeman, Councilmember

Fran Ray, Councilmember

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**City of the Village of Douglas Administration Week in Review
Week of January 22nd-26th, 2024**

200 Blue Star City Council/Douglas Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Joint Meeting: Please join the Douglas City Council and the Douglas Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for a joint meeting at City Hall on Monday, February 5th, at 5:30 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is to hear a presentation from Williams & Works, about the 200 Blue Star Highway survey and public input session feedback and responses.

Thank you: We would like to thank Sharon and Robin Bauer for their generous donation of the Douglas Clock to the City. The City Council approved the donation of the clock at their last meeting.

Snow on the Sidewalks: If you are not on the safe routes to school map, please clear the snow from the sidewalk in front of your home or business. If you are not sure whether your home or business is located in this area, or if you would like a copy of the map, please contact the Douglas Department of Public Works to inquire at 269-857-2763. We appreciate everyone's cooperation as we work together to ensure the sidewalks are always accessible.

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.

***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. ***

Upcoming City Meetings:

Monday, February 5th, 2024: Joint City Council/Brownfield Authority Meeting at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall (200 Blue Star Input Update)

Monday, February 5th, 2024: City Council Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. 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



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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Report-Week of August 12th, 2024

Ferry Street: Limited Access on Ferry Street Bridge/Culvert

The City of Douglas remains steadfast in its commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of our community. As part of our ongoing efforts to address infrastructure concerns, steel plates have been installed on the Ferry Street Bridge/Culvert. These plates have been placed exclusively to allow public safety vehicles to cross the bridge safely.

Please be aware that this temporary measure is intended strictly for emergency use. No passenger vehicles or any other types of traffic, apart from public safety vehicles, will be permitted to access the bridge. The area will be closely monitored, and any unauthorized vehicles will be ticketed.

Public safety has always been and will continue to be our top priority. While we have concerns about the weight the bridge can bear, these steel plates provide a temporary solution that allows our emergency responders to operate without interruption.

Pedestrians and cyclists may still cross the bridge at this time, but we urge everyone to use the designated paved area of the road on the east side of the bridge, which is currently marked. Bicyclists are strongly urged to walk bicycles across the bridge for safety reasons and we ask that all walkers/bicyclists avoid using the steel plate crossing. Please exercise extreme caution when approaching the area. There are marked warnings to help avoid any potential trip and fall hazards.

The next steps involve obtaining quotes to replace the culvert and advancing the project as quickly as possible. We understand the inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your cooperation and patience as we work towards a permanent solution. The City Engineers will be presenting a project update and proposal at the Douglas City Council meeting on Monday, August 19th, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will also be available to attend via zoom. All city meeting agendas and information can be found at www.douglasmi.gov.

To stay informed, the city has a constant contact link that anyone can sign up for to receive city notifications. Please use the attached link below:

<https://douglasmi.gov/subscribe-mailing-list/>

We will keep everyone informed of any further developments and appreciate your continued support as we continue to work on this project.



Lane Closures: Please use extreme caution when approaching areas with employees directing traffic due to lane closures or emergencies. We realize the frustrations that can follow a detour route, but please be patient and keep your speeds low at these locations.

The City Team: Over the past few weeks, the City of Douglas has faced some incredibly challenging times. This was especially true for the DPW, Douglas Police Department, and our partners at the Fire Department and Allegan County. What we are most proud of is that the safety of our community continues to be a top priority, and the resilience that everyone has shown, is phenomenal. Thank you to everyone who has continued to show their support!

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Monday, August 19th, 2024: City Council Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Tuesday, August 13th, 2024: Farmer's Market at Beery Field from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

City of the Village of Douglas City Council:

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City Hall Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of July 22nd, 2024

City of Douglas Announces Closure of Ferry Street Due to Bridge Structural Concerns:

The City of Douglas announces the closure of a section of Ferry Street from Westshore Street to Campbell Road, effective Friday, August 2nd, 2024, until further notice. This decision follows the discovery of structural concerns at the bridge over the Warnock Drain, where a sinkhole recently appeared.

Ensuring the safety of our residents and travelers is Douglas's utmost priority. The closure is necessary to assess and address the underlying structural issues thoroughly. We understand that this may cause inconvenience, and we are committed to minimizing disruptions as much as possible.

Detours will be clearly posted to assist drivers in navigating alternative routes. We advise all commuters to plan accordingly and allow for additional travel time. Please note that the schedule for the closure may change, and adjustments might be made as the situation develops.

To receive the latest updates and information about the closure and bridge repairs, we encourage everyone to sign up for constant contact updates from the city using the attached link <https://douglasmich.gov/subscribe-mailing-list/>.

"As Mayor, my top priority is the safety and well-being of our community," said Mayor North. "The decision to close Ferry Street was not made lightly, but it is a necessary step to ensure that we address the structural concerns promptly and prevent any potential hazards. We appreciate the patience and understanding of our residents as we work to resolve this issue and keep Douglas safe for everyone."

The city remains committed to transparent communication with residents as this project progresses. Updates and information

REMINDER-Douglas Marina Residential Buildings Demolition Notification: The City of Douglas will be demolishing the residential buildings located at the Douglas Marina. We understand that having a demolition site in the vicinity of a residence or boat slip can be less than desirable. It is our goal to do our utmost to consider the impact on the neighborhood and slip holders when planning the upcoming demolition work. The demolition work will start on August 5, weather permitting, and should be completed by the end of the week. Restoration work will include 3" of topsoil and hydro seed. No road closure is expected to take place and dust will be mitigated with the use of water if needed. Please use the parking across from the marina during this demolition.

We apologize for any inconvenience that this work causes, and we appreciate your cooperation while we complete this demolition. For everyone's safety, please stay away from any active work zone and obey all signs or requests from the Department of Public Works.

Closure of Ferry: The City of Douglas would like to take this opportunity to thank our neighboring communities (Saugatuck/Saugatuck Township), the Saugatuck Douglas Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau, the Allegan County Drain Commission, the Allegan County Sheriff's Department, the Saugatuck Township Fire District, and everyone else who has been assisting the city with the Ferry Street Closure process. Many of our business partners have been stepping up to help as well. We are grateful for all your support as we try to identify the best viable solutions.

Constant Contact: If you want to stay in the loop on city matters, the City of Douglas is pleased to offer an online E-News Service. When you subscribe to this service, you will receive emails with agendas and minutes and other important City information. Your privacy is important to us. We will not share your e-mail address with anyone! Please use the link below to sign up!

<https://douglasmi.gov/subscribe-mailing-list/>

Beats on Beery: Please stop by Beery Field in Downtown Douglas on Thursday, August 15th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. for "Beats on Beery", a free concert event in the park, featuring Wealthy Soul.



The poster features a blue border and a background of musical notes. At the top, it says "Beats On Beery" in a blue font. Below that, it says "Brought to you by Saugatuck Douglas Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau". The event dates are listed as "Friday, June 28" (Beery Field, Douglas 4:30-9:00pm, Don Middlebrook & The Pearl Divers and 10 Years Late) and "Thursday, August 15" (Beery Field, Douglas 6:00-8:00pm, Wealthy Soul). At the bottom, it says "Thank You to Our Sponsors" and lists several logos: JPD CONSTRUCTION, INC., Jaqua Realtors, State Farm (Kabri Martyniek), KEVIN & SARAH COASTAL LIVING ADVISORS, LAKE VISTA SUPERMART, Lakeshore PET BOUTIQUE, shopyouneed, BEERWEG, and TIME.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Saugatuck Venetian Fest: July 26th-28th, 2024 in the City of Saugatuck

Tuesday, July 30th, 2024: Farmer's Market a Beery Field from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Monday, August 5th, 2024: City Council Workshop at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, August 5th, 2024: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Tuesday, August 6th, 2024: Primary Election Day at City Hall

City of the Village of Douglas City Council:

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Jerry Donovan, Councilmember

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Matthew Balmer, Councilmember

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of July 15th, 2024

Douglas Marina Residential Buildings Demolition Notification: The City of Douglas will be demolishing the residential buildings located at the Douglas Marina. We understand that having a demolition site in the vicinity of a residence or boat slip can be less than desirable. It is our goal to do our utmost to consider the impact on the neighborhood and slip holders when planning the upcoming demolition work. The demolition work will start on August 5, weather permitting, and should be completed by the end of the week. Restoration work will include 3” of topsoil and hydro seed. No road closure is expected to take place and dust will be mitigated with the use of water if needed. Please use the parking across from the marina during this demolition.

We apologize for any inconvenience that this work causes, and we appreciate your cooperation while we complete this demolition. For everyone’s safety, please stay away from any active work zone and obey all signs or requests from the Department of Public Works.

Social District Expansion: The City Council approved revising the existing social district map to include Beery Field. The Michigan Liquor Control Commission just needs to review the new map, along with the management and maintenance documentation, and then give their approval. If an event is taking place in Beery Field and there is a vendor selling alcoholic beverages, social district beverages cannot be taken into Beery Field. Outside of these events, social district beverages served by those businesses who have a state license to do so, can be consumed in that area. They must be in an approved social district cup with the date and time the beverage was sold written on the cup.

Recycling Bins: Please adhere to the curbside recycling schedule which is every other week. Do not place bins at the curb when it is not a recycling week. We appreciate your cooperation.

Brush Pick-Up: If debris other than brush (wood), is left at the curb on a scheduled brush pick-up date, it will not be picked up. Please do not place dune grass, grass clippings, potted plants, mulch, flowerbed/pot material, large landscaping project material, or leaves at the curbside. (Leaf pick-up will resume in the fall). Thank you again for your anticipated cooperation.

Beats on Beery: Please stop by Beery Field in Downtown Douglas on Thursday, August 15th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. for “Beats on Beery”, a free concert event in the park, featuring Wealthy Soul.

Beats On Beery

Brought to you by
Saugatuck Douglas
Area Convention and Visitors Bureau

Friday, June 28
Beery Field, Douglas 4:30-9:00pm
Don Middlebrook & The Pearl Divers
and 10 Years Late

Thursday, August 15
Beery Field, Douglas 6:00-8:00pm
Wealthy Soul

Thank You to Our Sponsors

JPD CONSTRUCTION, INC. **Jaqua Realtors** **DOUGLAS**
Help You. City Cost.

State Farm **KEVIN & SARAH**
Kabri Martyniek COASTAL LIVING ADVISORS

LAKE VISTA **Lakeshore** **shy resistance** **BEFORENIGHT** **B TIME**
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Upcoming Meetings & Events

Tuesday, July 23rd, Farmer's Market at Beery Field from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 24th, 2024: DDA Meeting at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall

Saugatuck Venetian Fest: July 26th-28th, 2024 in the City of Saugatuck

Tuesday, July 30th, 2024: Farmer's Market at Beery Field from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

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

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

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For emergencies, please call 911

City Hall Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

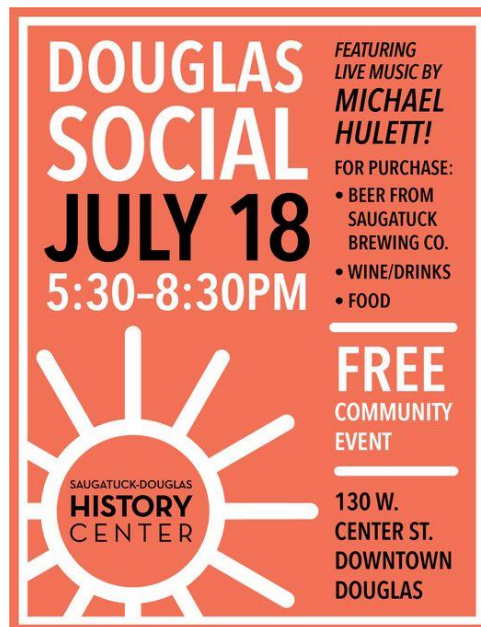


City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of July 8th, 2024

New City Treasurer: The City is pleased to welcome Jennifer Tien, the new City Treasurer to the team. Jennifer officially started her role on July 8th. We are incredibly fortunate to have Jenn on board.

Volunteerism: We are always seeking volunteers to partner with us on several projects. Douglas appreciates everyone who adopted a flowerbed downtown, and the Pickleball Club who tackled the weeds in the flowerbed located on Blue Star Highway, next to the bike path. If you or your team are interested in future opportunities to volunteer, please reach out to the City Manager, and we would be delighted to collaborate with you. Every bit helps.
citymanager@douglasmi.gov

Saugatuck-Douglas History Center: The Saugatuck-Douglas History Center is holding a Douglas Social event on Thursday, July 18th. Please see the flyer below for details.



City Facebook Page: If you are on Facebook, please like and follow the City of Douglas Page entitled, “The City of the Village of Douglas, MI Administration-Community Updates.” We started a new page in September of 2023, and have grown to three hundred likes. We aim to provide updates on City matters, and positive community news, along with promoting the businesses and amenities throughout Douglas. We appreciate your support, and shares. 😊

July 5th Fireworks: Thank you to Lisa Mize and the Saugatuck Douglas Area Convention and Visitors Bureau for leading the effort for the 5th of July Fireworks, and the Douglas Police Department, Douglas Department of Public Works, and the Saugatuck Township Fire District for all their assistance throughout the day and evening.

Beats on Beery: Please stop by Beery Field in Downtown Douglas on Thursday, August 15th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. for “Beats on Beery”, a free concert event in the park, featuring Wealthy Soul.



Upcoming Meetings & Events

Saturday, July 13th, 2024: Art in Douglas starting at 11:00 a.m.

Monday, July 15th, 2024: City Council Workshop at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, July 15th, 2024: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Tuesday, July 16th: Farmer's Market at Beery Field from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 18th: Douglas Social from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the History Center

Tuesday, July 23rd, Farmer's Market at Beery Field from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 24th, 2024: DDA Meeting at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall

Saugatuck Venetian Fest: July 26th-28th, 2024 in the City of Saugatuck

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week August 19th, 2024

Recognition & Honor: Monday, September 16th, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. We are proud to announce that the City of Douglas will be recognizing and honoring the heroic efforts of five brave individuals who saved a man's life on August 15th. When he fell unconscious and his vehicle entered Kalamazoo Lake, these incredible individuals immediately jumped into action, ensuring his safety, and saving his life.

Please join us in celebrating these local heroes at the upcoming City Council meeting on September 16th at 7:00 p.m. We look forward to acknowledging their courage and quick thinking.

Let us come together as a community to honor these amazing individuals! The meeting will also be available via zoom. The link will be provided on the city website at www.douglasmi.gov.

Tri-Community Wildlife Committee: The City of Douglas is working with the City of Saugatuck and Saugatuck Township on plans to create a Tri-Community Wildlife Committee.

The purpose of the Committee is to seek options and make recommendations to manage the overgrowth of deer and other wildlife within the jurisdictions of the City of Douglas, Saugatuck Township, and the City of Saugatuck. The Authority will discuss wildlife management strategies, particularly focusing on the hunting season periods set by the State of Michigan for culling purposes and make recommendations to the respective councils and boards of each community. Please watch for updates on this matter.

Incredible Volunteer's Alert! Check this out! Eagle Scout Troop 29, you are amazing!

The fantastic young people and their Troop leaders from Eagle Scout Troop 29, stepped up to help the City of Douglas DPW with a Berry Field Dugout Beautification project last weekend.

They spent time power washing the dugouts and benches and will be back to add fresh coats of paint. What a great group.

A HUGE thank you from the City of Douglas goes out to:

Myles Broadwater
Sam Young
Alex Carlotto
Jack Parkison
Frankie Bullinger
Tommy Bullinger
Joey Bullinger

We have such a bright future of young people ahead of us!

We All Love Douglas Beach, Let's Keep It Beautiful Together! We all know how much Douglas Beach means to our community—it is a treasure we are lucky to have. But with the high number of visitors we have been seeing, we are also facing more challenges, like increased trash and less tidy facilities. As a city with limited staffing, we are doing our best to keep up, but we could use a little extra help from our amazing community.

If you are at the beach or in the parking area and happen to see any trash or debris, we would be so grateful if you could lend a hand in picking it up. We will provide bags, and our DPW team will take care of picking them up—every little bit helps as we work to balance all our responsibilities.

We also want you to know that we are making plans to either rehab or replace our outdated bathroom facilities and hope to add more options that will keep everything in better condition. We are even considering bringing on a few part-time folks during the summer months to check the facilities more often.

Thank you to everyone who is willing to pitch in. We love our community, and together we can keep Douglas Beach a clean and welcoming place for everyone. We have so many amazing volunteers already stepping up to keep our city looking great. A few more helps greatly! Who is in?

New Park/Marina Signage: The City Council approved new signs in the most recently passed budget for Schultz Park, Wade's Bayou, Douglas Marina, and Beery Field. We are excited to see them installed soon, they are going to look amazing and really improve the entrances to our parks/marina.

Reminder: The Ferry Street Culvert/Bridge is only open for public safety vehicles until further notice. Any unauthorized vehicles attempting to pass through the area will be ticketed. We appreciate everyone's cooperation as we continue to work on plans for the bridge replacement project.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Tuesday, August 27th, 2024: Last Farmer's Market Day at Beery Field for the Season from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 28th, 2024: DDA Meeting @ 2:00 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, September 2nd, 2024: City Offices are closed for Labor Day

Tuesday, September 3rd, 2024: City Council meeting @ 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Tuesday, September 12th, 2024: Planning Commission 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

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of February 19th-23rd, 2024

415 Wiley Road: At the Tuesday, February 20th, 2024, City Council Workshop, the City administration was directed to resubmit public requests for proposals/bids for both the rehabilitation of the building, and options should the City demolish the property and build a new facility on the site.

Housing Stock: The City administration participated in a meeting this week with individuals from around the region, to discuss the need for affordable housing stock throughout Allegan County. It is estimated that 6000 homes/apartments are needed over the next five years to meet the current demand. The Douglas City Council is discussing opportunities for affordable, attainable, and workforce housing on the City's 17-acres off Wiley Road. This could become an opportunity for our community to participate in the housing shortage in the future.

Taft Law: At this week's City Council meeting, the Council approved to continue working with Taft Law (environmental attorneys) to identify those responsible for contaminating the 200 Blue Star property. It is our hope that a settlement can be reached that will aid the City with our goal to clean the property up and make room for future development.

Capital Improvements: Please tune into the last Council meeting where you can hear presentations by the City's engineering firm, Prein & Newhof, about the state of our roads and water system, and the need to make critical investments in both areas. The meetings can be accessed by visiting the City's website at - <https://douglas-mi.municodemeetings.com/>

Water Charges: As part of our ongoing commitment to providing residents and businesses with reliable and high-quality water services, the City Council approved a water rate increase in November of 2023, which were reflected in the February 2024 water bills. This increase will continue to be an annual increase. Why did the City have to raise rates?

1. **Aging Infrastructure:** Much of our water infrastructure is aging, and regular maintenance and upgrades are essential to ensure the continued functionality and safety of the system.
2. **Population Growth:** The increase in population has led to a higher demand for water services, necessitating the expansion and enhancement of our current infrastructure to meet this growing need.
3. **Environmental Compliance:** There are evolving environmental regulations that mandate improvements to our water treatment and distribution systems. Meeting these standards

is essential not only for regulatory compliance but also for the well-being of our community.

4. Rationale for Capital Improvement Charges: Implementing capital improvement charges on water bills is a fair and transparent way to generate the necessary funds for these vital projects. Here are some key reasons to consider this approach:
 - a. User-Pay Principle: Charging residents and businesses for capital improvements ensures that those who directly benefit from the enhanced water infrastructure contribute to the costs associated with these improvements.
 - b. Dedicated Funding Source: Establishing a separate line item on water bills for capital improvement charges creates a dedicated funding source, earmarked specifically for infrastructure projects. This ensures that funds are allocated appropriately and transparently.
 - c. Long-Term Financial Stability: By implementing these charges, we can create a sustainable financial model that enables us to plan and execute long-term capital improvement projects without relying solely on unpredictable budget allocations.

The water increases should have been implemented incrementally, decades ago so that the City had the funding necessary to continuously make improvements to the system. These capital improvement charges on water bills are a necessary and critical step to secure the future of our water infrastructure and maintain the high level of service our residents and businesses expect. We must also ensure that we remain in compliance with state regulations.

Job Opening:

Deputy Clerk – Level 1/Office Assistant

Full-Time Starting Salary \$19.00 per hour

The City of the Village of Douglas is seeking a full-time person to serve as Deputy Clerk – Level 1/Office Assistant. This is an administrative office position, provides assistance to department heads and the City Manager. In the absence of the City Clerk, the individual will be responsible for fulfilling the City Clerk functions presently prescribed in applicable State, City Charter, and City Ordinances. This person is the first contact with the public whether via phone or in person and handles clerical/administrative functions, including Planning and Zoning, Treasurer, Clerk, Assessor, Department of Public Works, and City Manager. As Deputy Clerk this individual will assist the City Clerk with elections, training election inspectors, and any employees assigned to help with Clerk functions. The candidate should be a positive problem solver with excellent communication and computer skills. Associated degree or higher preferred. For a complete list of essential job functions and requirements, visit www.douglasmi.gov.

Interested parties can submit their resume to Laura Kasper, Douglas City Clerk, by March 7, 2024, or until the position is filled. Please call 269-857-1438 ext. 106 with questions.

Physical Address: 86 W Center St., Douglas, MI 49406

Mailing Address: PO Box 757, Douglas, MI 49406

Email Address: clerk@douglasmi.gov

Early Voting:

Sunday, February 25th, 2024: Last day to vote early at City Hall from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Election Day:

Tuesday, February 27th, 2024: Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. at City Hall

Upcoming City Meetings:

Wednesday, February 28th, 2024: Downtown Development Authority Meeting @ 2:00 p.m. 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

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Report-Week of August 5th, 2024

Ferry Street: On August 5th, after many hours of investigative work and discovery by the Douglas DPW and the City Engineers, we were able to confirm where the sinkhole is located underground and that the areas of the culvert that we were able to see and touch are in severe condition, which means the road must remain closed for everyone's safety while we try to identify possible short-term options, if there are any available to us short of a full replacement. It is, however, inevitable that the culvert will need to be replaced soon and a long(er) term closure is likely. We are not there just yet. It is also important to note that there are water and sewer utilities running next to the culvert that must be protected at all costs to avoid the possibility of those services also being impacted.

This has been a priority for the City since the sinkhole was first discovered, and we will continue to keep this matter at the top of our list. We have an incredible team of engineers working closely with us.

The photos show the ditch where the sinkhole was identified, a piece of the culvert that was removed by hand indicating the weakness of that infrastructure, and the work to secure the embankment where the sinkhole is located to stabilize it with the goal to prevent further damage. We will keep the public posted on our findings and progress.

We want to thank the CVB for stepping up to help with the business signage that will be located on the route. Your support has been incredible, and we appreciate each one of you.



Douglas Marina: The buildings at Douglas Marina were demolished the week of August 5th. The area will be filled with three inches of topsoil and grass seed for now. The city is working on plans for the marina which include cleaning up the property and hopefully adding a few amenities like a pavilion, restrooms, and a picnic area for the public. This is going to take some time, but we are excited to see what the future holds for this property. The beam from the basket factory that was included in the interior of the house has been salvaged and delivered to the Historical Center in Douglas if anyone is interested in seeing a cool piece of history.



415 Wiley Road: Carbon Six Construction presented a plan for the 415 Wiley Road build-out to the City Council on Monday, August 5th. The next step is to move forward with a comprehensive cost estimate for the project which we hope to receive by mid-October. If everything stays on track, Carbon Six Construction can commence their work in January of 2025. The project would take approximately 7 months to complete.

Early Days of Voting/Primary Election: The City would like to give huge props to City Clerk Laura Kasper and all the incredible volunteers for a successful 9 days of early voting and the primary election. You all did a phenomenal job! Great leadership, Laura!

Also, a big thanks to Deputy Clerk Dawn Raza, Planning and Zoning Director Sean Homyen, Project Manager Jenny Pearson, and Jenn Tien, City Treasurer, for all their election assistance too!

The Red Flame Art: Due to its current condition, the red flame art at Wade's Bayou is going to be deconstructed in October. It has served the area well, but there is quite a bit of wear and tear that is going to be difficult to fix, so it is going to be removed and hopefully we can look at another option soon. We want to thank the SCA for sharing this piece with us over the past few years.

Rowing Dock at Wade's Bayou: Thanks to the generous donation of two floating docks, the City of Douglas was able to replace the former rowing dock at Wade's Bayou with new structures. The before and after is amazing!



Art in Douglas: This weekend all throughout Downtown Douglas! Art, music, shopping! Check it out! Saturday, August 10th, 2024. Walkable. Bikeable. Dog friendly!



Sidewalk Sales & Beats on Beery: Please stop by Beery Field in Downtown Douglas on Thursday, August 15th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. for “Beats on Beery”, a free concert event in the park, featuring Wealthy Soul. But first, check out the sidewalk sales in Downtown Douglas from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

One Day, Two Great Events!
Thursday, August 15

Sidewalk Sales
10am-5pm
In Downtown Saugatuck
A one-day shopping extravaganza
not to be missed!

Beats on Beery
6pm-8pm
In Downtown Douglas
Free Family Friendly Concert
Featuring Wealthy Soul

Brought to you by
Saugatuck Douglas
Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
Visit Saugatuck.com for more information

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Saturday, August 10th, 2024: Art in Downtown Douglas starting at 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, August 13th, 2024: Farmer’s Market at Beery Field from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 15th, 2024: Sidewalk Sales in Downtown Douglas from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 15th, 2024: Beats on Beery from 6:00-8:00 p.m. @ Beery Field

Monday, August 19th, 2024: City Council Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of July 29th, 2024

Vote Early: Voters who are registered in the City of Douglas have the option of early voting for the upcoming August 6th state primary election. Early voting started at City Hall on July 27th, 2024, and will run through August 4th, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Voting on Election Day at Douglas City Hall and Absentee voting are still available; early voting is just one additional option for voters to cast their ballot.

For more information, please reach out to the City Clerk at 269-857-1438.



REMINDER: City of Douglas Announces Closure of Ferry Street Due to Bridge Structural Concerns:

The City of Douglas announces the closure of a section of Ferry Street from Westshore Street to Campbell Road, effective Friday, August 2nd, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., until further notice. This decision follows the discovery of structural concerns at the bridge over the Warnock Drain, where a sinkhole recently appeared.

Detours will be clearly posted to assist drivers in navigating alternative routes. We advise all commuters to plan accordingly and allow for additional travel time. Please note that the schedule for the closure may change, and adjustments might be made as the situation develops.

To receive the latest updates and information about the closure and bridge repairs, we encourage everyone to sign up for constant contact updates from the city using the attached link <https://douglasmi.gov/subscribe-mailing-list/>.

The city remains committed to transparent communication with residents as this project progresses. Updates and information

REMINDER-Douglas Marina Residential Buildings Demolition Notification: The City of Douglas will be demolishing the residential buildings located at the Douglas Marina. We understand that having a demolition site in the vicinity of a residence or boat slip can be less than desirable. It is our goal to do our utmost to consider the impact on the neighborhood and slip holders when planning the upcoming demolition work. The demolition work will start on August 5, weather permitting, and should be completed by the end of the week. Restoration work will include 3" of topsoil and hydro seed. No road closure is expected to take place and dust will be mitigated with the use of water if needed. Please use the parking across from the marina during this demolition.

We apologize for any inconvenience that this work causes, and we appreciate your cooperation while we complete this demolition. For everyone's safety, please stay away from any active work zone and obey all signs or requests from the Department of Public Works.

Constant Contact: If you want to stay in the loop on city matters, the City of Douglas is pleased to offer an online E-News Service. When you subscribe to this service, you will receive emails with agendas and minutes and other important City information. Your privacy is important to us. We will not share your e-mail address with anyone! Please use the link below to sign up!

<https://douglasmi.gov/subscribe-mailing-list/>

A Big Thank You! A great big thanks to Jennifer Roe Lazzaro and Beth Stefanchik for clearing out the bump out (porkchop), on Chestnut and Blue Star Highway. They filled an entire trailer with weeds and the difference is remarkable. We have a fantastic volunteer base!



Improvements at Schultz Park!

- A new parking lot barrier to keep the playground separated safely from vehicles!
- Cement pads under the bleachers!
- Next: New signage for the park, coming soon!



Beats on Beery: Please stop by Beery Field in Downtown Douglas on Thursday, August 15th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. for “Beats on Beery”, a free concert event in the park, featuring Wealthy Soul.

The poster is titled "Beats On Beery" and features a graphic of musical notes on a treble clef. It is brought to you by the Saugetuck Douglas Area Commission and Visitors Bureau. The event is scheduled for Friday, June 28 at Beery Field, Douglas from 4:30-9:00pm, featuring Don Middlebrook & The Pearl Divers and 10 Years Late. The second event is on Thursday, August 15 at Beery Field, Douglas from 6:00-8:00pm, featuring Wealthy Soul. The poster also includes a "Thank You to Our Sponsors" section with logos for JPD Construction, Inc., Jaqua Realtors, State Farm (Kabri Martyniek), Kevin & Sarah (Coastal Living Advisors), Douglas (Wings Vibe City Club), Lake Vista Supermarket, Lakeshore Pet Boutique, Harpstance, Bopwood, and B Time.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Monday, August 5th, 2024: City Council Workshop at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, August 5th, 2024: City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Tuesday, August 6th, 2024: Primary Election Day at City Hall

Tuesday, August 6th, 2024: Farmer's Market at Beery Field from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

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City Hall Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week September 2, 2024

9-11 Remembrance Ceremony: Please join the City of Douglas on Wednesday, September 11th, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. for the 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony. The event will take place at the corner of Center Street and Main Street in Downtown Douglas.

Ferry Street Culvert Project: We wanted to provide the public with an important update on the status of the Ferry Street Culvert closure and the efforts being made to address this critical infrastructure issue.

Our engineering team is currently hard at work finalizing the plans necessary for the full closure and subsequent repair of the culvert. These plans are essential for ensuring that the project is completed safely and efficiently. Once the plans are in place, we will be able to move forward with the next steps, including the scheduling of the full closure and the commencement of the repair work.

We are also pleased to report that Allegan County has been actively assisting us in expediting the permit process with the State of Michigan. Their support has been invaluable in helping us navigate the regulatory requirements, and they are doing everything within their power to ensure that we receive the necessary approvals as quickly as possible. This collaboration with the county is a key factor in keeping the project on track. The city will be meeting with the City Engineers, Prien and Newhof and EGLE next week as a first step in the permitting process.

In addition, we are currently working on identifying and securing the funding needed to expedite this process. We understand the urgency of this project and are exploring all available options to ensure that the necessary resources are in place to move forward without delay.

Please rest assured that we are doing everything possible to address the Ferry Street Culvert issue promptly and effectively. I will continue to keep you informed of any significant developments as we progress through the planning and permitting stages. Thank you for your patience as we continue to work through this process.

Authority Positions Open: Please spread the word! Open Authority positions! The City of Douglas offers citizens a variety of opportunities to participate in local government.

Currently, there are open seats available on the:

- Douglas Harbor Authority
- Brownfield Redevelopment Authority
- Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority

If this is something that interests you, please visit the city website for an appointment application or stop by City Hall during normal business hours which are Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

City of Douglas Announces Support for the Formation of Tri-Community Wildlife Committee with Saugatuck and Saugatuck Township: The City of Douglas is pleased to announce their support for the formation of a new Tri-Community Wildlife Committee in collaboration with the cities of Saugatuck and Saugatuck Township. This initiative aims to address the growing concerns related to wildlife management, with a particular focus on the increasing deer population that has been impacting our communities.

In response to the challenges posed by nefarious wildlife, the Tri-Community Wildlife Committee will bring together experts, local leaders, and community members to explore and develop effective management strategies. The committee will focus on creating a coordinated approach to handle wildlife issues, ensuring the safety and well-being of residents while maintaining the ecological balance.

The City Council of Douglas discussed the formation of the committee and its objectives at the September 3rd, 2024, council meeting, and the by-laws were voted on favorably.

“The Douglas City Council is committed to ensuring a balanced and inclusive approach,” said Mayor Cathy North. “To this end, we invite residents who hold differing views on wildlife management—both those in favor and those opposed—to apply for a position on the committee, as this balanced representation will help ensure that all voices are heard and that the committee’s recommendations reflect the diverse opinions of our community,” the mayor added.

The Committee shall consist of three (elected) representatives, one from each community, and three to four citizens, who will be selected by their respective councils or boards.

More information is forthcoming as it relates to applying for a board position. Currently, the City of Douglas is providing an opportunity for the City of Saugatuck and Saugatuck Township to review the committee by-laws with their council/boards before proceeding with this partnership.

We look forward to the public’s participation and to working together for a harmonious coexistence with local wildlife.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Tuesday, September 10th, 2024: City offices will close at 11:30 a.m. for the day for a staff picnic hosted by the City Council

Wednesday, September 11th, 2024: 9-11 Ceremony on the corner of Main/Center @ 8:30 a.m. (City offices will close from 8:30 a.m. -9:00 a.m. for the ceremony)

Thursday, September 12th, 2024: Planning Commission Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

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

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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 Report Week of September 16th-20th, 2024

Six Good Samaritans Honored for Saving a Man's Life After Car Plunges into Kalamazoo Lake: On September 16th, 2024, six brave individuals were honored for their lifesaving efforts after a man lost consciousness and his pick-up truck veered into Kalamazoo Lake. The quick and heroic actions of Richard Beaudreault, Jason Lott, Michael O'Brien, Maxwell Klemm, Amie Shanahan, and Austin Waalkes prevented a potential tragedy and saved the man's life.

The incident occurred on August 15th, 2024, when the driver, suffering a medical emergency, lost control of his vehicle and ended up submerged in the lake. Without hesitation, these six good Samaritans jumped into action, working together to break the truck's windows and pull the unconscious driver to safety. Their teamwork and quick response allowed the man to be rescued before emergency responders arrived. Douglas Police Chief Steve Kent praised the rescuers, saying, "These individuals went above and beyond, risking their own safety to save a life. Their actions were nothing short of heroic, and the community is truly grateful."

Mayor Cathy North added, "We are incredibly proud of these six residents whose quick thinking and courage made all the difference. They represent the very best of our community, and we thank them from the bottom of our hearts."

The City of Douglas honored Richard Beaudreault, Jason Lott, Michael O'Brien, Maxwell Klemm, Amie Shanahan, and Austin Waalkes at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, September 16, 2024, where they were presented with plaques to recognize their outstanding bravery and service to the community.



Upcoming Meetings & Events

Wednesday, September 25th, 2024: DDA Meeting @ City Hall at 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 28th, 2024: Michigan Downtown Days in Douglas

Monday, September 30th, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m. Special Meeting of the Douglas City Council at City Hall

Monday, October 7th, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m. 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

Matthew Balmer, Councilmember

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City Hall Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



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

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Neal Seabert, Councilmember

Jerry Donovan, Councilmember

John O'Malley, Councilmember

Greg Freeman, Councilmember

Matthew Balmer, Councilmember

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City Hall Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week August 26th, 2024

REMINDER: Recognition & Honor: Monday, September 16th, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. We are proud to announce that the City of Douglas will be recognizing and honoring the heroic efforts of five brave individuals who saved a man's life on August 15th. When he fell unconscious and his vehicle entered Kalamazoo Lake, these incredible individuals immediately jumped into action, ensuring his safety, and saving his life.

Please join us in celebrating these local heroes at the upcoming City Council meeting on September 16th at 7:00 p.m. We look forward to acknowledging their courage and quick thinking.

Let us come together as a community to honor these amazing individuals! The meeting will also be available via zoom. The link will be provided on the city website at www.douglasmi.gov.

9-11 Remembrance Ceremony: Please join the City of Douglas on Wednesday, September 11th, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. for the 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony. The event will take place at the corner of Center Street and Main Street in Downtown Douglas.

Incredible Volunteer's Alert! PART 2: Check this out! Eagle Scout Troop 29, you are amazing, again!

These fantastic young people and their Troop leaders, stepped up to help the City of Douglas DPW, finalizing their work on the Berry Field Dugout Beautification project. A week ago, the Troop spent time power washing the dugouts and benches. This past weekend, they returned to add fresh coats of paint. What A HUGE DIFFERENCE!

A HUGE thank you to:

Myles Broadwater

Sam Young

Mark Young

Simon Carr

Daniel Carr

Christopher Aumaugher

Sara Aumaugher

Alex Carlotto

Jack Parkison

Frankie Bullinger
Tommy Bullinger
Joey Bullinger

We have such a bright future of young people ahead of us!

Reminder: The Ferry Street Culvert/Bridge is only open for public safety vehicles until further notice. Any unauthorized vehicles attempting to pass through the area will be ticketed. We appreciate everyone's cooperation as we continue to work on plans for the bridge replacement project.

Authority Positions Open: Please spread the word! Open Authority positions! The City of Douglas offers citizens a variety of opportunities to participate in local government.

Currently, there are open seats available on the:

- Douglas Harbor Authority
- Brownfield Redevelopment Authority
- Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority

If this is something that interests you, please visit the city website for an application or stop by City Hall during normal business hours which are Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Monday, September 2nd, 2024: City Offices are closed for Labor Day

Tuesday, September 3rd, 2024: City Council meeting @ 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Tuesday, September 10th, 2024: City offices will close at 11:30 a.m. for the day for a staff picnic hosted by the City Council

Wednesday, September 11th, 2024: 9-11 Ceremony on the corner of Main/Center @ 8:30 a.m. (City offices will close from 8:30 a.m. -9:00 a.m. for the ceremony)

Thursday, September 12th, 2024: Planning Commission Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

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

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City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of October 21st, 2024

Public Message from the City of Douglas Mayor, Cathy North

RE: The 415 Wiley Road Build-Out Project: The City of Douglas had been exploring the purchase and redevelopment of the 415 Wiley Road property as part of its long-term plan to enhance city services and create new opportunities for the community. The aim is to relocate City Hall and the Police Department to this site, providing more space for city operations and opening up downtown buildings for sale. This move will help create new opportunities for businesses and housing in the heart of Douglas.

In the fall of 2023, the City officially purchased the 415 Wiley Road property. After reviewing the initial developer's plan, which projected \$12.5 million in rehabilitation costs, the City Council decided to discontinue that plan due to its excessive price. The city reissued a Request for Proposals (RFP) and received seven responses, ultimately interviewing five contractors. The city selected Carbon Six Construction to design the build-out for the first phase of the project, with the new estimate coming in 70% lower than the original—now ranging between \$2.7 and \$3.2 million.

There have been questions about how the project will be funded. The City Council's plan has consistently been to use proceeds from the sale of surplus city properties to cover the costs. Based on the bids received, the sale of these properties has the potential to fully fund the project, with a possible surplus that could be allocated to the general fund for future capital needs. The City has already engaged a realtor to assist in selling surplus properties in the near term, and potentially more in the future, as the 415 Wiley project progresses.

In line with state law, the city will use Public Act 34, which outlines the bond process for securing project funding. The City plans to issue bonds to finance the build-out, and the proceeds from surplus property sales will be used to pay down the bond debt.

****Importantly, this project will not require any new taxes for residents or businesses. Any claims suggesting otherwise are inaccurate. **** The city is committed to ensuring that a sustainable and responsible funding source is in place before moving forward with a project of this magnitude.

This project will bring several benefits to the community, including a larger meeting space at 415 Wiley Road for public meetings and events. Additionally, it will transform a long-vacant building into a functional and valuable city asset.

If you have any questions about the 415 Wiley Road project, please contact City Hall or reach out to a City Council member. We welcome your inquiries and look forward to discussing the exciting future of this project. The City of Douglas is growing, and we believe this project will play a key role in supporting that growth and enhancing the quality of life in our community.



CARBONSIX
CONSTRUCTION

DOUGLAS CITY HALL
Entry Addition Perspective

CR3ATE
ARCHITECTURE

City of Douglas Receives a \$100,000 Consumers Energy Foundation Grant for Douglas Marina Park Improvements:

The City of Douglas has been awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Consumers Energy Foundation to enhance Douglas Marina Park through the addition of a new pavilion and accessible sidewalks. These improvements aim to create a welcoming space for outdoor recreation, including small events, picnics, and other community activities.

The City of Douglas acquired the Douglas Marina property with the goal of transforming it into a vibrant public space that serves as a central gathering spot for residents and visitors alike. The planned pavilion will provide a sheltered area for relaxation and social gatherings, while the accessible sidewalks will ensure that everyone, regardless of mobility, can enjoy the park's natural beauty and amenities.

“This grant marks a significant step forward in realizing our vision for Douglas Marina Park,” said Greg Freeman, Douglas City Councilmember and Chair of the Douglas Harbor Authority. “We are thrilled to receive this support, which will help us create a vibrant space for our community to gather, enjoy outdoor activities, and make lasting memories. With these improvements, we hope to see the park become a favorite spot for both residents and visitors to connect with nature and with each other.”

The City of Douglas extends its heartfelt gratitude to the Consumers Energy Foundation for their generous support. This grant will help kickstart the work to make Douglas Marina Park a dynamic community space, enhancing recreational opportunities and

making the area more accessible for everyone. Additional future planned amenities include a bathroom, improved parking, and ongoing work to continue to improve the grounds.



Welcome Ruth Crowe Artist Studio: During a ribbon cutting ceremony on October 11th, 2024, the City of Douglas and the Douglas Downtown Development Authority welcomed the newest addition to the Douglas Art Scene, Ruth Crowe Artist Studio. We are excited to have Ruth in the downtown district!



General Election Information for the City of Douglas:

- Early In-Person Voting for Douglas Voters: October 26th-November 3rd, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall
- Election Day Voting for Douglas Voters: Tuesday, November 5th, from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall

Additional Election Information available by visiting:

<https://mvlc.sos.state.mi.us/> or <https://douglasmi.gov/elections/>

Shop & Dine Passport Program: The Douglas Downtown Development Authority will be kicking off the Shop & Dine Douglas Passport Program on November 1st and running through November 30th. Thirteen businesses, listed below, will be participating in the program.

Ox-Bow House; Lakeshore Pet Boutique; L Salon; Wild Dog Grille; Brackett & Company Home Accents; Mr. Miller's Art Emporium; Ruth Crowe Artist Studio; Everyday People Café; Happystance; Borrowed Time; Water Street Gallery; Now and Then; and Button Gallery

How the Program Works:

- Passports: Customers can pick up a passport from Douglas City Hall or any participating business from November 1-November 30th.
- Collecting Stamps: As customers visit participating locations, they will collect stamps. No purchase is necessary for them to receive a stamp – just a visit!
- Completion Requirements: Once customers have collected stamps from at least 50% of the participating businesses listed in the passport, they can submit their completed passport.
- Submission Options: Completed passports can be turned in at:
 - Douglas City Hall
 - Any participating business (including yours)
 - The Light Night in Douglas Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at Beery Field on Saturday, November 30th, at 6:00 p.m.

Drawing & Prizes:

- Prize Drawing: By submitting a completed passport, participants will be entered into a drawing to win one of three “downtown dollars” prizes to spend at participating businesses in the amounts of \$200.00, \$150.00 & \$100.00.
- Event Participation: Customers do not need to be present at the tree lighting event to participate in the drawing.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Thursday, October 31st, 2024: Halloween Trick-or-Treating in Douglas -5:00-8:00 p.m.

Monday, November 4th, 2024: City Council Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, November 11th, 2024: City Council Workshop @ 5:30 p.m. at City Hall

Tuesday, November 12th, 2024: Tri-Community Wildlife Committee Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall

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Neal Seabert, Councilmember

Jerry Donovan, Councilmember

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**City of the Village of Douglas Administration Report
Week of October 28th, 2024**

Veteran's Day Sign Unveiling/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony:

Join us in celebrating and honoring our veterans with the unveiling of the new Veteran's Park Walk Sign. This special event is not only a tribute to the courageous men and women who have served our country, but also a symbol of our community's gratitude and respect. Veteran's Walk Park is located on Washington, just past the Douglas Marina.

When: Monday, November 11th, 2024

Where: Veteran's Walk Park

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Remember and honor. Always.

Veteran's Day Sign Unveiling/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Keynote Speaker

Announced: The City of the Village of Douglas is honored to have Keri Becker serve as the keynote speaker for the Veteran's Day sign unveiling/ribbon cutting ceremony at Veteran's Walk Park, on Monday, November 11th at 4:30 p.m.

Keri Becker served in the United States Army Reserve from 1992-2008 and was called to active duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom from January 2003-February 2004. She was stationed at Camp As Sayliyah in Doha, Qatar, which was a combined joint forces base. While stationed there, she worked in both Transportation and then in Supply, where she became the non-commissioned officer in charge of supply for the Headquarters Commandant at Special Operations Command Central (SOCCENT). She achieved the rank of staff sergeant and was honorably discharged in October 2006.



2024 Election Information: The election is right around the corner. Here is some helpful information that the City Clerk would like to share with you. For any questions, please contact the City Clerk's office by email at info@douglasmi.gov, phone at 269-857-1438, or visit city hall during normal business hours which are Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

- Absentee Ballots: Available for pickup at city Hall starting Thursday, September 26th, 2024.
- Early In-Person Voting for Douglas Voters: October 26th-November 3rd, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall
- Election Day Voting for Douglas Voters: Tuesday, November 5th, from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall

Additional Election Information available by visiting:

<https://mVIC.sos.state.mi.us/> or <https://douglasmi.gov/elections/>

Ferry Street Update: The City of Douglas is pleased to inform the community that the Allegan County Drain Commission has received the necessary pre-approval from EGLE, and we will continue to work together on the final approval for the replacement of the Ferry Street culvert. This advancement allows our city engineers to begin the bidding process in early November, with bids expected to open on December 3rd. This timeline provides adequate time, with a minimum two-week window, for posting and receiving bids, ensuring a fair and thorough selection process. Once the contract is awarded, the selected contractor will initiate planning and procurement of materials, aiming to start work as early as the first week of February, weather permitting.

Given the scope of this project, we must address several underlying complexities to ensure safety and longevity. The project area includes essential utility lines, which require specialized scheduling and relocation by qualified professionals to protect workers as cranes and other heavy equipment are used. The city engineers have dedicated the past several months to identifying experts in this field to minimize risk and uphold project safety.

Winter weather is a factor in our timeline, as seasonal conditions may cause delays; however, the city's goal remains to complete the project before Memorial Day 2025. Should weather conditions cooperate, we hope to complete the work even sooner, and we appreciate the community's patience as we work around these variables.

In addition to culvert replacement, we are examining options to extend the road to create a walkable pathway for residents and visitors, and discussions on this enhancement are ongoing. Additionally, the city will address a nearby water main that is approaching the end of its lifespan. The water main will be relocated and buried deeper to improve accessibility and protect it from frost, a proactive measure to help prevent future breaks and other issues.

This project is about much more than replacing a single culvert; it involves careful planning to protect surrounding utilities, reducing the potential for extended timelines and additional costs. If contractors can accelerate the timeline, we will work to do so, but we are mindful of winter conditions, material availability, and other factors that may impact scheduling. The city will continue to keep the public informed on our progress throughout the project. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we work to enhance infrastructure and safety in our community.

Root Beer Barrel: We are ecstatic to report that the Root Beer Barrel team had a fantastic 2024 season. Todd Martinson, who is managing the barrel, will be at the City Council meeting on Monday, November 4th at 6:00 p.m. to provide an update. We want to thank Todd for all of the work he did improving the grounds, including the addition of running water, bathrooms, more seating, parking, and options to use credit/debit cards for purchases both at the barrel and online. Todd has more plans for improvements in 2025 which he will outline at Monday's meeting. Thank you, Todd and team! You are a fantastic community partner!



Thank you to the Rotary Club: The City of the Village of Douglas expresses its deep gratitude to the Rotary Club for their generous \$10,000 donation to support milfoil treatment in Kalamazoo Lake Harbor. This much-needed funding will help Douglas continue its critical work to protect the harbor from the spread of invasive milfoil, a plant that threatens water clarity, native species, and recreational activities. The Rotary's contribution significantly bolsters the city's ongoing efforts to keep Kalamazoo Lake Harbor healthy, vibrant, and accessible for everyone in the community and visitors alike.

During the presentation of the donation, pictured were April Gundy, Mayor Cathy North, City Manager Lisa Nocerini, and Rotary President Wayne Titus, all gathered in recognition of this vital partnership.

Notably absent was Greg Freeman, City Councilmember, and Chair of the City of Douglas Harbor Authority, who is recovering from surgery. Greg shared his heartfelt

appreciation, stating, “We’re incredibly thankful to the Rotary Club for their commitment to our community’s well-being and natural resources. Their generous support allows us to take impactful steps toward safeguarding our harbor from invasive species, ensuring a sustainable future for our waters.”

The Rotary’s dedication to this environmental cause exemplifies the power of community partnerships. With this donation, the city can continue regular treatments to manage milfoil growth, preserving the harbor’s natural beauty and biodiversity. Douglas is proud to work alongside organizations like the Rotary Club that share its vision for a thriving, healthy harbor, and the city extends its sincerest thanks for this invaluable support.



Douglas Downtown Development Authority Shop & Dine Passport Program

Begins: The Douglas Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is excited to announce the launch of the first annual Douglas Downtown Passport Program, running from November 1st to November 30th. This program is a fantastic opportunity for residents and visitors to explore the unique shops and eateries that make downtown Douglas special while earning chances to win valuable prizes.

How the Passport Program Works:

- Participants can pick up their free passport at any participating business or from City Hall starting on November 1st, 2024.
- Visit any of the participating businesses to receive a stamp—no purchase necessary. Each business will provide one stamp per passport. Only one passport per person will be issued.
- Once your passport is at least 50% full, you can submit it at any participating business, City Hall, or bring it to the Light Night in Douglas Christmas Tree Lighting Event on Saturday, November 30th by 6:00 p.m. for a chance to win.
- Three winners will be selected to receive Douglas Downtown Dollars in the form of certificates with \$25.00 increments, which can be spent at any participating businesses.

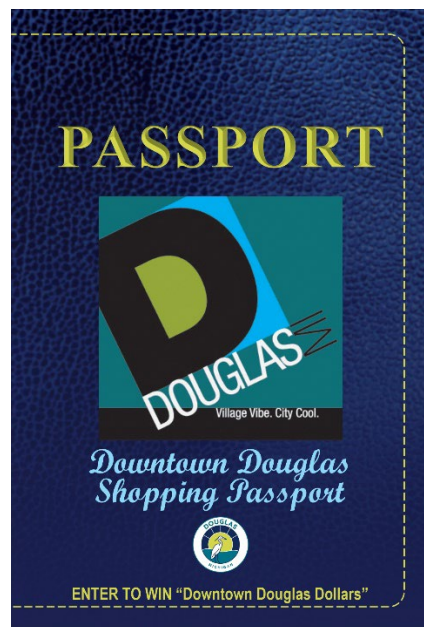
The prize values are \$200.00, \$150.00, and \$100.00. Winners need not be present at the drawing but must ensure their contact information is filled out inside the passport. Participating Businesses Include:

Borrowed Time, Brackett & Company Home Accents, button gallery, Everyday People Cafe, Happystance Dinette, L Salon, Lakeshore Pet Boutique, Mr. Miller's Art Emporium, Now and Then, Ox-Bow House, Ruth Crowe Artist Studio, Water Street Gallery, and Wild Dog Grille.

Douglas Downtown Dollars can be used at any of these locations, encouraging community members to continue shopping and dining locally. The gift certificates must be used in increments of \$25.00, offering flexibility to winners while supporting our local economy.

This program is a perfect way to explore the unique businesses that Douglas has to offer. Whether you're a longtime resident or just visiting, this is your chance to experience the best of our community, support local businesses, and enter to win fantastic prizes.

We look forward to seeing everyone in downtown Douglas throughout November, and don't forget to join us for the Light Night in Douglas Christmas Tree Lighting Event on November 30th at Beery Field at 6:00 p.m.



Upcoming Meetings & Events

Friday, November 1st, 2024, through Saturday, November 30th: DDA Shop & Dine Passport Program

Monday, November 4th, 2024: City Council Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. at City Hall

Tuesday, November 5th, 2024: Election Day **City Hall Offices will be closed for the election with staff working remotely. The doors on the west side of the building will be open for the election. **

Monday, November 11th, 2024: Veteran's Day (City Hall is Open)

Monday, November 11th, 2024: Veteran's Sign Unveiling/Ribbon Cutting at Veteran's Walk Park @ 4:30 p.m.

Monday, November 11th, 2024: City Council Workshop @ 5:30 p.m. at City Hall

Thursday, November 14th, 2024: Planning Commission Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Monday, November 18th, 2024: City Council Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Wednesday, November 20th, 2024: DDA Meeting @ 2:00 p.m. at City Hall (moved to a week earlier due to the Thanksgiving Holiday)

Saturday, November 30th, 2024: Light Night Christmas Tree Lighting at Beery Field @ 6:00 p.m. (Final night to submit passports for the drawing)

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

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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.



City of the Village of Douglas Administration Report Week of September 23rd-October 4th, 2024

2024 Election Information: The election is right around the corner. Here is some helpful information that the City Clerk would like to share with you. For any questions, please contact the City Clerk's office by email at info@douglasmi.gov, phone at 269-857-1438, or visit City Hall during normal business hours which are Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

- Absentee Ballots: Available for pickup at City Hall starting Thursday, September 26th, 2024.
- Mailed Ballots: Sent out beginning Thursday, September 26th, 2024.
- Ballot Public Accuracy Testing: Wednesday, October 16th, 2024, @ 10 a.m. at Douglas City Hall
- Early In-Person Voting for Douglas Voters: October 26th-November 3rd, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall
- Election Day Voting for Douglas Voters: Tuesday, November 5th, from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall

Additional Election Information available by visiting:

<https://mVIC.sos.state.mi.us/> or <https://douglasmi.gov/elections/>

Ferry Street Update: On Monday, September 30th, the Douglas City Council met to consider approving a resolution authorizing the Allegan County Drain Commissioner to expend the necessary funds for maintenance of the Warnock Drain above \$5000 per mile limit, an action that would ensure that the drain system remains functional and provides a financing and funding mechanism for repairing the drain. In addition, this option allowed for important permitting exemptions to occur as the Drain Commissioner projects have special culvert maintenance and repair exemptions with EGLE that municipalities do not have. The Allegan County Drain Commissioner had conducted an inspection of the Warnock Drain, which revealed the need for significant maintenance. The Council did approve the maintenance agreement with the Allegan County Drain Commission, and next steps are to commence with the bid process as soon as EGLE

gives the green light that we can move forward with the project. It is still the City's goal to have the work done at the culvert before Memorial Day 2025.

If you are interested in receiving updates about the project, please sign up for Constant Contact at the following link: <https://douglasmi.gov/subscribe-mailing-list/>

Bumpouts: We want to offer our sincerest thanks to everyone who adopted a bumpout downtown over the summer. These amazing people have also spent time clearing the areas and preparing them for the winter season. We hope each of you will return next year and once again, help to beautify the downtown.

Beery Field Restrooms: Please help us keep the Beery Field bathrooms clean and usable for everyone. Unfortunately, we've experienced some issues with vandalism and improper use of the facilities. To ensure they can remain open year-round, we ask everyone to do their part in maintaining a clean and respectful environment. Your cooperation is essential in keeping these facilities available and in good condition for the entire community. Thank you for your help!

Red Flame at Wade's Bayou: The red flame at Wade's Bayou was removed on Thursday, October 3rd due to the significant wear that it had experienced posing a potential safety risk. We want to thank everyone who contributed to this project.

City Offices Closed: City offices will be closed on Monday, October 14th, for the Columbus Day holiday.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

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

Tuesday, October 8th, 2024 @ 5:30 p.m. Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority Meeting @ Saugatuck Township 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

Matthew Balmer, Councilmember

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City Hall Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Our friend Captain welcomed the fall season this week! Have a great weekend, Douglas!





City of the Village of Douglas Administration Review Week of October 7th, 2024

Tri-Community Wildlife Committee: The City of Douglas, City of Saugatuck, and Saugatuck Township have officially made their appointments to the Tri-Community Wildlife Committee. The City of Douglas will be taking the lead in scheduling meetings for the committee and will be hosting them at Douglas City Hall. The date and time for the first meeting is forthcoming.

The purpose of the Committee is to seek options and make recommendations to manage the overgrowth of deer and other wildlife within the jurisdictions of the City of Douglas, Saugatuck Township, and the City of Saugatuck. The Authority will discuss wildlife management strategies, particularly focusing on the hunting season periods set by the State of Michigan for culling purposes and make recommendations to the respective councils and boards of each community.

We want to officially thank the following individuals for agreeing to serve on this committee:

- *City of Douglas:* Councilmember Neal Seabert, Tammy Cunnion, and Timothy Smith
- *City of Saugatuck:* Councilmember Scott Dean, David Ignasiak, and Keith Walker
- *Saugatuck Township:* Township Trustee Stacey Aldrich, Tony Schippa, and Beth Ramsson

2024 General Election Information for the City of Douglas

The election is right around the corner. Here is some helpful information that the City Clerk would like to share with you.

- Absentee Ballots: Available for pickup at city Hall starting Thursday, September 26th, 2024.
- Mailed Ballots: Sent out beginning Thursday, September 26th, 2024.
- Ballot Public Accuracy Testing: Wednesday, October 16th, 2024, @ 10 a.m. at Douglas City Hall
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Additional Election Information available by visiting:

<https://mVIC.sos.state.mi.us/> or <https://douglasmI.gov/elections/>

Downtown Decorations: The City of Douglas would like to thank the Douglas Downtown Development Authority for approving funds to decorate the downtown for the fall season. It looks absolutely amazing!



Shop & Dine Passport Program: The Douglas Downtown Development Authority will be kicking off the Shop & Dine Douglas Passport Program on November 1st and running through November 30th. Thirteen businesses, listed below, will be participating in the program.

Ox-Bow House
 Lakeshore Pet Boutique
 L Salon
 Wild Dog Grille
 Brackett & Company Home Accents
 Mr. Miller's Art Emporium
 Ruth Crowe Artist Studio
 Everyday People Café
 Happystance
 Borrowed Time
 Water Street Gallery
 Now and Then
 Button Gallery

How the Program Works:

- Passports: Customers can pick up a passport from Douglas City Hall or any participating business from November 1-November 30th.

- **Collecting Stamps:** As customers visit participating locations, they will collect stamps. No purchase is necessary for them to receive a stamp – just a visit!
- **Completion Requirements:** Once customers have collected stamps from at least 50% of the participating businesses listed in the passport, they can submit their completed passport.
- **Submission Options:** Completed passports can be turned in at:
 - Douglas City Hall
 - Any participating business (including yours)
 - The Light Night in Douglas Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at Beery Field on Saturday, November 30th, at 6:00 p.m.

Drawing & Prizes:

- **Prize Drawing:** By submitting a completed passport, participants will be entered into a drawing to win one of three “downtown dollars” prizes to spend at participating businesses in the amounts of \$200.00, \$150.00 & \$100.00.
- **Event Participation:** Customers do not need to be present at the tree lighting event to participate in the drawing.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Saturday, October 12th, 2024: Oktoberfest at Beery Field

***Monday, October 14th, 2024: City Offices are Closed for the Columbus Day federal holiday

Monday, October 21st, 2024: City Council Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

City of the Village of Douglas City Council:

Cathy North, Mayor
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 Neal Seabert, Councilmember
 Jerry Donovan, Councilmember
 John O’Malley, Councilmember
 Greg Freeman, Councilmember
 Matthew Balmer, Councilmember

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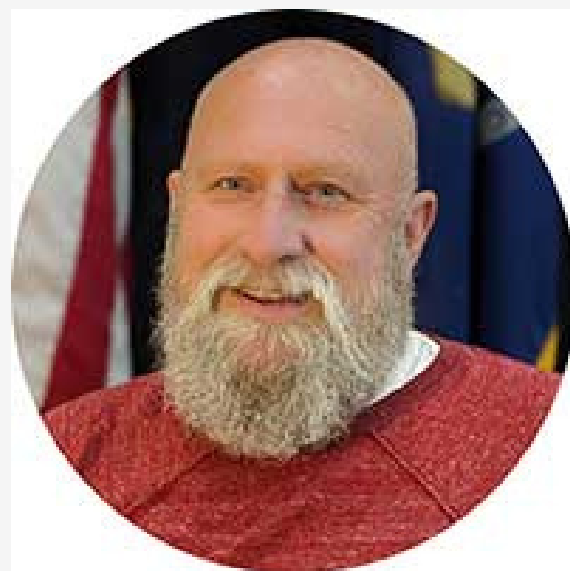


CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS, MICHIGAN WEEKLY UPDATE

NOVEMBER 4TH-8TH, 2024

Congratulations/Thank you: Congratulations to the City Council incumbents, Mayor Pro-Tem Randy Walker, Councilmember Neal Seabert, Councilmember John O'Malley, and Councilmember Greg Freeman on your election victories.

The city would also like to thank Jeff West and Dana White, who also ran for City Council and for an opportunity to serve the Douglas community.



Veteran's Day Sign Unveiling/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: Join us in celebrating and honoring our veterans with the unveiling of the new Veteran's Park Walk Sign. This special event is not only a tribute to the courageous men and women who have served our country, but also a symbol of our community's gratitude and respect. Veteran's Walk Park is located on Washington, just past the Douglas Marina.



When: Monday, November 11th, 2024

Where: Veteran's Walk Park

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Remember and honor. Always.

Veteran's Day Sign Unveiling/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Keynote Speaker

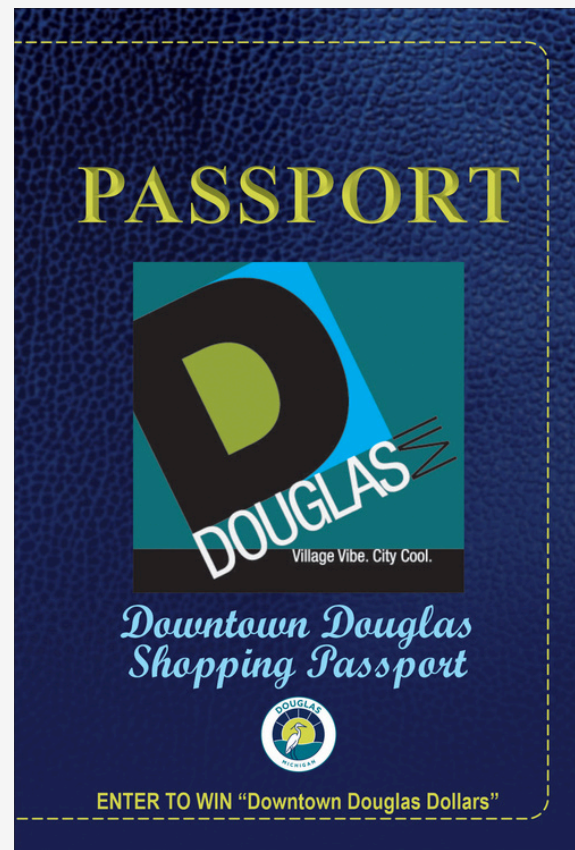
Announced: The City of the Village of Douglas is honored to have Keri Becker serve as the keynote speaker for the Veteran's Day sign unveiling/ribbon cutting ceremony at Veteran's Walk Park, on Monday, November 11th at 4:30 p.m.

Keri Becker served in the United States Army Reserve from 1992-2008 and was called to active duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom from January 2003-February 2004. She was stationed at Camp As Sayliyah in Doha, Qatar, which was a combined joint forces base. While stationed there, she worked in both Transportation and then in Supply, where she became the non-commissioned officer in charge of supply for the Headquarters Commandant at Special Operations Command Central (SOCCENT). She achieved the rank of staff sergeant and was honorably discharged in October 2006.

Douglas Downtown Development Authority Shop & Dine Passport Program: The Douglas Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Shop & Dine Passport Program is underway through November 30th!

Visit a participating business to learn more:

Borrowed Time, Brackett & Company Home Accents, button gallery, Everyday People Cafe, Happystance Dinette, L Salon, Lakeshore Pet Boutique, Mr. Miller's Art Emporium, Now and Then, Ox-Bow House, Ruth Crowe Artist Studio, Water Street Gallery, and Wild Dog Grille.



Leaves only please: The city is currently conducting a leaf collection program and is requesting residents to ensure that only leaves are included in their yard waste piles. It is important to avoid placing these piles on roadways or in public right-of-ways to ensure safety and accessibility. Additionally, make sure that no other debris is mixed with the leaves to facilitate efficient collection. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated as we manage the large volume of falling leaves this season. Thank you for helping us keep our community clean and organized.





Friday, November 1st, 2024, through Saturday, November 30th: DDA Shop & Dine Passport Program

Monday, November 11th, 2024: Veteran's Day (City Hall is Open)

Monday, November 11th, 2024: Veteran's Sign Unveiling/Ribbon Cutting at Veteran's Walk Park @ 4:30 p.m.

Monday, November 11th, 2024: City Council Workshop @ 5:30 p.m. at City Hall

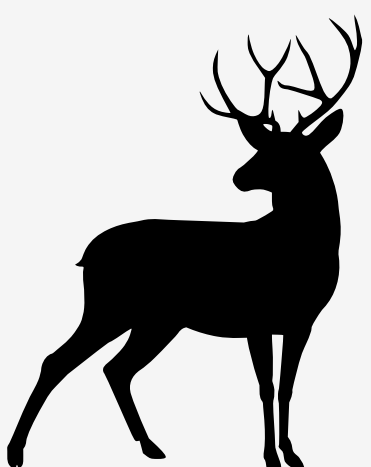
Tuesday, November 12th, 2024: Tri-Community Wildlife Committee Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall

Monday, November 18th, 2024: City Council Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Wednesday, November 20th, 2024: DDA Meeting @ 2:00 p.m. at City Hall (moved to a week earlier due to the Thanksgiving Holiday)

Thursday, November 28th & Friday, November 29th: City Hall offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday

Saturday, November 30th, 2024: Light Night in Douglas Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at Beery Field @ 6:00 p.m. (Final night to submit passports for the drawing)



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City Hall Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



City of the Village of Douglas Administration Report Late November-Early December 2024



We are moving forward: At the December 2nd, 2024, City Council meeting, the council voted unanimously to move forward with the build-out of the 415 Wiley building for the future city hall and police department. Work is expected to commence this month.

Ferry Street: The plan is still on track to start work on the Ferry Street culvert project in late January. We look forward to this project moving forward and the road opening in spring of 2025.

66th Street Property: At the City Council meeting on December 2nd, 2024, the council approved an offer to purchase city owned surplus property on 66th Street in the amount of \$225,000.00. These funds will be added to a restricted account that will help pay for the Wiley property build-out.

DDA Informational Meeting/2024 Annual Report: The DDA will be presenting their annual report at the upcoming meeting on December 18th at 2:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall. Another presentation will be made at the City Council meeting on January 6th, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

City Council Meeting Time Change: Starting in January 2025, the Douglas City Council will be changing their meeting time from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. This is not temporary and will be a permanent change.

New Signs: New signage to match the existing wayfinding signs, were installed on Blue Star Highway as you exit Saugatuck (a replacement), and at the Root Beer Barrel.

The Douglas Downtown Development Authority Shop & Dine Passport Program:

The DDA is discussing another round of the passport program to run through January 31st, 2025. More information will be forthcoming after their December 18th meeting. The November passport program generated 835 visits to the participating locations. 110 passports were turned in for the drawing, and it was an immense success overall. We look forward to continuing this as an annual event.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

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

Wednesday, December 18th, 2024: DDA Meeting at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall. The DDA will also be presenting the 2024 Annual Report

Tuesday, December 24th & Wednesday December 25th: City Offices are closed for the Christmas Holiday

Tuesday, December 31st & Wednesday, January 1st: City Offices are closed for the New Year's Holiday

Monday, January 6th, 2025: Douglas City Council Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. at City Hall

Wednesday, January 8th, 2025: Tri Community Wildlife Committee Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall

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CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS, MICHIGAN WEEKLY UPDATE

NOVEMBER 18TH-22ND, 2024

Subject: Get Involved! Authority Positions Now Open in Douglas: The City of Douglas is seeking engaged and dedicated citizens to fill open positions on several important local authorities. These positions provide an excellent opportunity to contribute your skills and ideas to shape the future of Douglas.

Open seats are available on:

- Douglas Harbor Authority
- Brownfield Redevelopment Authority

For more information about how to apply, visit: <https://douglasmi.gov/about-douglas/>

Spread the word and help us build a stronger, more vibrant community together!

Douglas Saugatuck Pickleball Club Contract Renewed: At the Monday, November 18th City Council meeting, the council voted unanimously to approve a 3 year agreement with the club, with a 45 day out clause should either party not feel the agreement is being adhered to. The club is discussing plans to hold annual fall tournaments at the Schultz Park with funds raised, being used to help maintain the courts well into the future. The club has also committed to helping the city on future volunteer projects.



Ferry Street Culvert: The Ferry Street Culvert project is progressing as planned, with the bid submission deadline set for December 3rd at 10:00 a.m. This milestone will provide the city with a clearer understanding of the project's overall costs, enabling better financial planning and allocation. The city remains committed to beginning the project in January, starting with the relocation of utilities. Despite the challenges of working through the winter months, the project team is dedicated to maintaining the timeline, with the aim of reopening the road to traffic before Memorial Day 2025. This ambitious schedule reflects the city's commitment to improving infrastructure while minimizing disruption to the community.



Douglas Downtown Development Authority Shop & Dine Passport Program: The Douglas Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Shop & Dine Passport Program is underway through November 30th!

Visit a participating business to learn more:

Borrowed Time, Brackett & Company Home Accents, button gallery, Everyday People Cafe, Happystance Dinette, L Salon, Lakeshore Pet Boutique, Mr. Miller's Art Emporium, Now and Then, Ox-Bow House, Ruth Crowe Artist Studio, Water Street Gallery, and Wild Dog Grille.



Fall Leaf Pick-Up: The final sweep for leaves, east/west of Blue Star Highway, will be on Tuesday, December 3rd, 2024***



Small Business Saturday, November 30th: Highlights

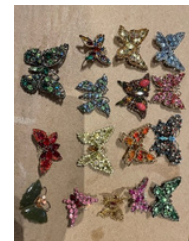
- **Happystance Dinette:** Located at 8 W. Center Street, will be unveiling new menu items to kick off the weekend!




- **Water Street Gallery:** Located at 98 W. Center Street, will be offering a 10% discount on Small Business Saturday!



- **Now and Then:** Located at 23 E. Center Street, is highlighting the arrival of an impressive mint condition collection of quality vintage items.



Shop & Dine Douglas, Michigan



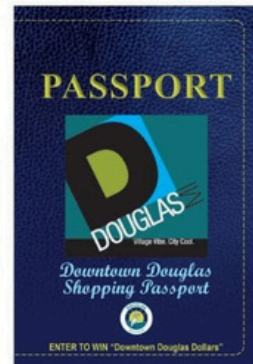
The City of Douglas & the Douglas DDA present....

Light Night in Downtown Douglas

Saturday, November 30, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.
Beery Field

Tree Lighting | Hot Chocolate | Christmas Carols | Santa Claus

The DDA will also hold the drawing for the Shop and Dine Passport Program where three “Downtown Douglas Dollars” prizes will be awarded. You do not need to be present to win.





Upcoming Meetings & Events

Friday, November 1st, 2024, through Saturday, November 30th: DDA Shop & Dine Passport Program

Thursday, November 28th & Friday, November 29th: City Hall offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday

Saturday, November 30th, 2024: Small Business Saturday! Support all local Douglas Businesses!

Saturday, November 30th, 2024: Light Night in Douglas Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at Beery Field @ 6:00 p.m. (Final night to submit passports for the drawing)

Monday, December 2nd, 2024: Douglas City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. @ Douglas City Hall

Tuesday, December 3rd, 2024: Final sweep for leaves east and west of Blue Star Highway

Wednesday, December 4th, 2024: Tri-Community Wildlife Committee Meeting at 6:00 p.m. @ Douglas City Hall

Thursday, December 12th, 2024: Planning Commission Meeting at 7:00 p.m. @ Douglas City Hall

Happy Thanksgiving!



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CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS, MICHIGAN WEEKLY UPDATE

NOVEMBER 11TH-15TH, 2024

New Sign Honoring our Veterans: On Monday, November 11th, 2024, Veteran's Day, the City of Douglas unveiled a new sign to honor the service and sacrifice our Veterans made for our country at Veteran's Park, located on Washington Street. Keri Becker, resident, and a former Sergeant who served in the United States Army Reserves from 1992-2008, was the keynote speaker. We are proud to honor all who served and continue to serve.



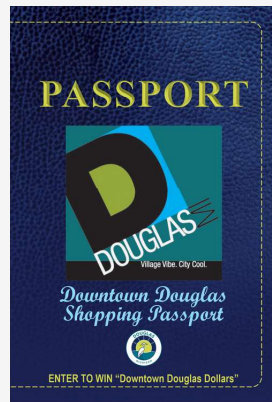
Affordable/Attainable Workforce Housing: The City Council held its first workshop on Monday, November 11th, with Ryan Kilpatrick from Flywheel, to explore options for affordable and attainable housing. They directed Ryan to provide a draft request for proposals that they can review and use to guide their decisions moving forward. Excellent progress was made.



Douglas Downtown Development Authority Shop & Dine Passport Program: The Douglas Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Shop & Dine Passport Program is underway through November 30th!

Visit a participating business to learn more:

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Leaf/Brush Policy: Per the leaf and brush policy passed by the City Council, it states that the City will not pick-up leaf or brush piles that are left from contracted work or commercial landscapers. Please make alternate arrangements with contractors for leaf/brush removal. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Leaf pick-up for the months of November & December:

East of Blue Star Highway: November 19th
West of Blue Star Highway: November 26th

A **final sweep** for leaves, east/west of Blue Star Highway, will be on Tuesday, December 3rd, 2024***





Tri-Community Wildlife Committee Meeting Update: The Tri-Community Wildlife Committee, representing the City of Douglas, City of Saugatuck, and Saugatuck Township, convened for their first meeting at Douglas City Hall on November 12th.

During this meeting, Neal Seabert was elected as Chairperson, Keith Walker as Vice-Chair, and Tammy Cunnion as Secretary. The committee decided that meetings will occur monthly, on the first Wednesday at 6:00 p.m., with the upcoming session scheduled for December 4th. **The January meeting date will be changed due to the New Year's Day holiday, to the following week, unless the committee determines otherwise. **

The committee is addressing pressing concerns about the overpopulation of deer, food scarcity, and their effects on residents and businesses, emphasizing humane solutions.

At the next meeting, Don Poppe, a Wildlife Biologist from the Michigan Department of Natural Resource Wildlife Division, will provide a detailed presentation on these challenges.

The City of Douglas would like to express our gratitude to the appointed representatives from each community for their dedication to tackling this vital issue.

City of Douglas: Councilmember Neal Seabert, Tammy Cunnion, Timothy Smith

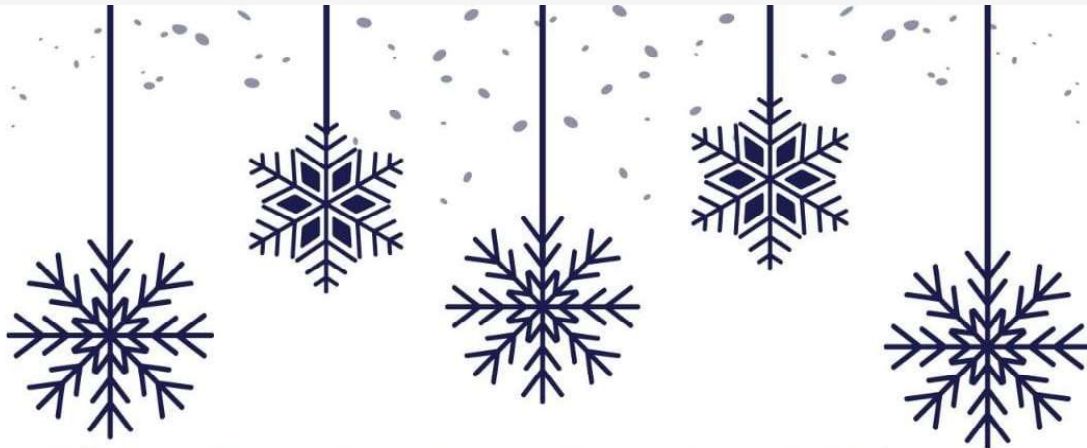
City of Saugatuck: Councilmember Scott Dean, David Ignasiak, Keith Walker

Saugatuck Township: Township Trustee Stacey Aldrich, Tony Schippa, Beth Ramsson



Ferry Street Culvert Project Update: Good news! The project went out for bids this week with the bid opening expected to take place on December 3rd.

We expect to see the prep work for the project commence in January of 2025, and still focused on the project completion before the 2025 Memorial Day holiday. Thank you for your patience. This project remains our top priority!



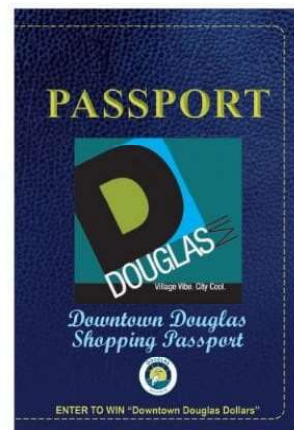
The City of Douglas & the Douglas DDA present...

Light Night in Downtown Douglas

Saturday, November 30, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.
Beery Field

Tree Lighting | Hot Chocolate | Christmas Carols | Santa Claus

The DDA will also hold the drawing for the Shop and Dine Passport Program where three “Downtown Douglas Dollars” prizes will be awarded.
You do not need to be present to win.





Upcoming Meetings & Events

Friday, November 1st, 2024, through Saturday, November 30th: DDA Shop & Dine Passport Program

Monday, November 18th, 2024: City Council Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

Wednesday, November 20th, 2024: City Hall will be closed from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. for a staff Thanksgiving potluck.

Wednesday, November 20th, 2024: DDA Meeting @ 2:00 p.m. at City Hall (moved to a week earlier due to the Thanksgiving Holiday)

Thursday, November 28th & Friday, November 29th: City Hall offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday

Saturday, November 30th, 2024: Light Night in Douglas Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at Beery Field @ 6:00 p.m. (Final night to submit passports for the drawing)



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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.