Master Plan Update

This City Commission has started the process to update the Master Plan for the City of Auburn. The Planning Commission is charged with updating our current plan for the purpose of guiding development and planning efforts in the city. Basically, it is saying what we want the City of Auburn to look like over the next 20 years.

We want and need your input through this entire process so the finished plan is what you, our residents, want Auburn to become. All of us living & working here in Auburn have a stake in this. Auburn is our town and we are proud of it. The Planning Commission is going to meet monthly during this process. You are welcome to come to any of the meetings and join in the discussion. We need your ideas and thoughts on how you want Auburn to be. Please contact City Hall for the dates and times.

City Notes

Winter Parking Rules

The city has an ordinance against parking on any public street from 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. from Nov 1st to April 30th in order to facilitate snow removal. This gives DPW workers adequate time to clear the streets for morning traffic after a night of snowfall.

If your vehicle is left on a city street during the times above it may be ticketed.

The City also asks for your cooperation:

- Do not shovel, plow or blow snow into the street. It makes it more difficult to clear streets.
- Please keep your mailbox clear and secure to ensure postal delivery.
- While clearing the snow off your sidewalks, please clear snow & ice around fire hydrants near your house.

Above all, be safe. Dress for the weather conditions. Snow shoveling is hard work & can cause excessive stress on your spine and heart. Don’t over do it.

For those who are able bodied, please remember your neighbors who might not or should not be removing their own snow. Be a good neighbor!

Contact the City

Police/Fire: 911
Police Office: 989.662.6768
City Hall Office: 989.662.6761
City Hall Hours: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm Mon-Fri

Feedback:
Please mail or email your comments to:
Mayor Lee Kilbourn, 113 E. Elm St, Auburn MI 48611 or mayorkilbourn@auburnmi.org
City Park rentals now being accepted for 2017

It’s time to start planning your events, gatherings, parties and celebrations this year using the Auburn City Park.

January 1st through January 31st – Auburn / Williams Township non-profit groups exclusively have first rights to the city park. No one else will be permitted to schedule a reservation during this period with exception for rentals in the months of January and February.

February 1st through February 28th – this period is open to Auburn / Williams Township residents only on a first come, first served basis.

Beginning March 1st – any person or organization is allowed to reserve the park for any dates that are still available.

Rental Fees are due by cash or check at the time the reservation is booked. Dates will not be held for inquiries over the phone or by email. Please stop into city hall or call 662.6761.

Rental Rates are as follow:
- Auburn/Williams Township: $125.00
- Out of District/Non Profits: $150.00
- Corporations: $250.00

Auburn Downtown Development Authority Update

Winter is upon us now and we hope you all enjoyed the new holiday decorations, lights and banners that the DDA put up along the entire stretch of Midland Road. It sure was beautiful to look at, especially at night. That is part of the reason for the DDA being here. The DDA is responsible for many of the improvements in the downtown area and along Midland Rd. Our mission is for prosperous and thriving retail areas in the City of Auburn. We hope to accomplish this by improving the infrastructure of these areas to both help our existing merchants and encourage new ones to come to Auburn. We offer façade improvement grants to help fix up the exterior of the buildings in the district. We work hard to make the environment more comfortable and enjoyable for people to want to be in, with streetscape improvements like the benches and new street lighting. We want to create unique places, encourage cultural and entertainment events throughout the year. Our latest project is the new planned pavilion over top of the ice rink at the park. We hope to make this a multi-use facility for year round use. We want to help establish with the Chamber of Commerce, a larger, better Farmers Market here. It will have a new community meeting room and real ADA bathrooms. This facility can house concerts or craft shows, can be rented out for large parties or wedding receptions. This is all being done for the people of Auburn. We want to work with you to make Auburn better every day.

The public is welcome to attend our 2017 monthly meetings - in the City Hall meeting room on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 10AM (except for November & December)

Steven VanTol, DDA Director
Mary Williams, Chairperson
Gary DeShano, Secretary
Jim Klida, Co-Treasurer
Diane McNally, Co-Treasurer
Jane Berry
Alan Carrol
Robert Feinauer
Chad Fournier
Lee Kilbourn, Mayor
City of Auburn 2017 Trash Calendar

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<tr>
<th>January 2017</th>
<th>April 2017</th>
<th>July 2017</th>
<th>October 2017</th>
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<th>February 2017</th>
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Notes:
- Trash days are bolded and recycle days are marked with a box. Normal trash pickup is every Wednesday. Highlighted days are holidays observed by City Hall.
- Yard Waste Stickers will no longer be provided by Waste Management. Please mark yard waste containers clearly with a permanent marker or spray paint.
- For large item pickup please call Waste Management at 800-796-9696. Christmas trees are collected the first two weeks of January.

### Tips on Reporting Suspicious Activity

The Sheriff’s Office cannot function effectively without the assistance of responsible citizens. We need your help in reporting suspicious activity. Some people fail to call because they are not aware of what is considered suspicious. Others notice suspicious activity and assume someone else will call. Still, others fail to call because they feel they are bothering the police.

We encourage everyone to call the Sheriff’s Office IMMEDIATELY if they feel a situation or circumstance is suspicious.
- **DO NOT** think you are bothering the Sheriff’s Office; this is why we are here!
- **DO NOT** be embarrassed if your suspicions prove unfounded.
- IF IN DOUBT, CALL! It is better to err on the side of safety.

Following is a list of incidents that should be reported to the Sheriff’s Office by dialing 9-1-1.

This list is not intended to be complete. Use your own judgment when calling the police.

- Someone needing police, fire, or medical assistance
- Alarms sounding or glass being broken
- Someone loitering around cars or going car to car peering into them
- Slow moving vehicles (at night without lights) driving aimlessly
- Apparent business transactions being conducted from a vehicle
- Someone seen being forced into a vehicle
- Abandoned vehicle parked on your block
- Someone seen with a weapon
- Someone loitering, entering or leaving a business before or after hours

While some, if not all, have the above situations could have innocent explanations, the Sheriff’s Office would rather prevent illegal activity than be called to investigate a crime after it is committed.

Please remember, timely reporting is important.
Dial 9-1-1 as soon as you witness suspicious activity!
Notes from the Mayor

So much we can learn by listening…

Things are going well here in Auburn. We are in the middle of a search for a new city administrator. We are currently taking applications. Once that is completed we will start narrowing it down to just a few which the City Commission will meet, interview and select from. We will keep you updated on progress.

This past December many of you came into city hall to pay your water/sewer utility bills and told us that having to pay their utility bills was hard at Christmas time. Well, we heard you and the Auburn City Commission acted by moving our billing cycles. Our current billing cycle this year is Dec/Jan/Feb, then Mar/Apr/May. Changes will start with June being a one-month billing cycle then the new billing cycles will start with July, August and September, followed by October, November and December, which will be due in January. The City Commission hopes this will make your lives better. Thanks for letting us know.

The City received a $25,000 grant from the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation. This grant will help the city to install an ADA accessible floating fishing pier at the pond in the city park. We’re working on other funding to complete this project.

Auburn is a great town; we really do want to hear your suggestions & thoughts for a better Auburn. We can make this town better with your help. Thank you for letting all of us on the city commission serve you.

IRS

Tax Scams/Consumer Alerts

Callers claiming to be employees of the IRS but are not. These con artists can sound convincing when they call. They use fake names and bogus IRS identification badge numbers. Victims are told they owe money to the IRS and it must be paid promptly through a pre-loaded debit card or wire transfer. If the victim refuses to cooperate, they are then threatened with arrest, deportation or suspension of a business or driver’s license. In many cases, the caller becomes hostile and insulting. Or, victims may be told they have a refund due to try to trick them into sharing private information. If the phone isn't answered, the scammers often leave an “urgent” callback request.

Note that the IRS will never:
• Call to demand immediate payment using a specific payment method such as a prepaid debit card, gift card or wire transfer. Generally, the IRS will first mail you a bill if you owe any taxes.
• Threaten to immediately bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.
• Demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.
• Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

Remember; do not respond to these calls or emails or threats. Forward emails to phishing@irs.gov.
City Notes:

You can renew your licenses at City Hall.

State law requires that all dogs over 4 months of age must be vaccinated against rabies and licensed through the county. Bay County ordinance requires that all cats over 4 months of age must be vaccinated against rabies and licensed through the county.

Please note that licenses are to be purchased in the month that your animal has been rabies vaccinated and will be good for one year from that month. Licenses are to be renewed on a yearly basis, unless you have purchased a three-year license.

Be sure to bring your renewal notice from Bay County and your rabies vaccination paperwork.

City Warning Siren

Bay County and Midland County 9-1-1 Central Dispatch monthly performs tests of our outdoor warning system. The Outdoor Public Warning System is intended to notify individuals who patronize outdoor areas of severe weather and other potential threats. (e.g.: Tornado Warning and Chemical Release)

A steady siren wail signals that a warning has been issued. After hearing the siren, seek shelter and tune to a local television or radio station for additional information.

Please DO NOT CALL 911 as this will tie up lines that are reserved for emergencies only.

The Bay County system is tested the first Wednesday of every month at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Information Regarding your Utility Bill

Please remember to adjust the date your payment is mailed so it is received by the due date. Payments mailed on the due date will not be considered paid on time. Allow 3-5 business days when mailing payments or save a stamp and drop off your payment in the drop box at City Hall (center of the parking lot).

An update to the utility billing process will require an adjustment to the billing cycle. In order to transition to a standard quarterly billing cycle the City of Auburn will be sending out a 1-month bill in the summer. You should expect bills in March, June, July, and October for 2017. Standard quarterly bills will be mailed in January, April, July, and October.

Utility Billing Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 1, 2017</td>
<td>Bills delivered to the Post Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>Due Date to avoid penalty</td>
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<td>Note: Payment must be received by this date.</td>
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<td>Postmarks will no longer be accepted as of Dec. 31, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 22</td>
<td>Penalties added</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 27</td>
<td>Past Due Notices delivered to the Post Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 14</td>
<td>Due Date to avoid disconnection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 17</td>
<td>Disconnection Tags are delivered and water turned off for nonpayment.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Go paperless! Submit a request to UtilityBilling@auburnmi.org
CITY DIRECTORY

City Clerk
Pam Reinhardt • 989.662.6761
preinhardt@auburnmi.org

City Treasurer
Judy Volk • 989.662-6761
jmvolk@auburnmi.org

DPW Director
Patrick Stanley • 989.662.7275
pstanley@auburnmi.org

City Assessor
Patti Peltier • 989.684.4863
ppeltier0364@hotmail.com

Stop in and meet our new City Clerk
Pam Reinhardt

Meetings agenda & minutes can be found on the city website.

www.auburnmi.org