



City of Luna Pier Spring 2022 NEWSLETTER



FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR GARDNER:

Mayor's Report Spring Newsletter 2022

Springtime in Luna Pier is always an exciting time and after all that we have been through the last two years, this spring is especially refreshing. It's a great time to get out and enjoy the natural resources that make Luna Pier such a great place to live. I look forward to seeing everyone out in the community and at city functions that we have missed out on the past couple of years. As always, we have some challenges ahead navigating this changing world but I believe we have the right leaders in elected and appointed positions and in our community in general to build a bright future here.

Road funding continues to be a challenge as our streets show their age. Michigan ranks among the lowest states in the country in road funding per lane mile which comes at no surprise seeing the condition of our state and local roads. In Luna Pier it is even more challenging as many of our streets were paved at about the same time and are all reaching the end of their designed life cycle. When Lakewood Road and Luna Pier Road reached a state that posed an immediate safety risk due to the condition of the streets and sidewalks, we were only able to correct the problems through low interest loans that we are now paying back with current road funds. It was the right decision to protect public safety but limits our ability to address all of the needs we see and would love to correct now. A safe walkable community is a top priority for me and is vital to any vibrant community. I wish we could do more. There is some light ahead as road funding has been slightly increasing and we will continue to do the most with what we have. We hear you and will keep exploring every option to improve our streets.



The next phase of the I-75 repaving project has started with limited prep work scheduled for 2022. The project ramps up significantly in 2023 with the demolition of the northbound lanes from Erie Road to S. Otter Creek. Two-way traffic will be maintained on the current Southbound Road through 2023. Some work will be done to the Gaynier Rd bridge deck which will result in two-way traffic reduced to one lane with a temporary signal at some point. All work there is scheduled to be completed in 2023.



2024 kicks off the bulk of the project with the southbound lanes being demolished and repaved along with the replacement of all ramps at Luna Pier Road and the replacement of the overpass. All exit and entrance ramps will remain open at Luna Pier Road throughout the project including the demolition and replacement of the overpass. Southbound I-75 traffic from Luna Pier will be routed north on I-75 to exit and re-enter southbound I-75 at S. Otter Creek Rd. Southbound I-75 traffic entering Luna Pier will be directed to the Erie Rd. exit for re-entry northbound to exit 6. At no time will I-75 traffic be routed through Luna Pier. No round-abouts are planned for exit 6.

The new overpass will be significantly wider and over two feet higher. In addition to the two travel lanes, there will be a 10-foot shoulder on the south side and a dedicated pedestrian and bicycle lane on the north side separated from vehicle traffic by a barrier. It is a huge improvement over the original bridge still standing since 1955 when I-75 was constructed. MDOT is funding the project, including the non-motorized lane with barrier and fence to protect cyclists and pedestrians. The construction project will present challenges and will be quite inconvenient at times but when it is complete, it will be well worth the wait.

It's great to get out and enjoy the spring and summer in a great community of neighbors who care.

Mayor Jim Gardner

CITY GRANT ACTIVITY UPDATE:

Grant activity during Fall-2021 to Spring-2022 is as follows:



NEW AWARDS:

- DENNIS LEARY FIREFIGHTER FOUNDATION – the LPVFD was awarded \$47,693 for the purchase of a new Ford F150 Rescue Vehicle. This exciting acquisition will be outfitted with safety/security equipment and cabinetry for the storage of life-saving tools. Thanks to Terry Mueller and Derrick Welton for their contributions. The vehicle should be in the LPVFD fleet by March 1, 2022.

FAILED ATTEMPTS:

- Our attempt to get the LPPD two speed signs for Harold Drive unfortunately was denied.
- Our attempt to acquire two Evidence Lockers and a Gun Cabinet for the LPPD was denied.

IN-PROGRESS (AWARDED) GRANTS:

- FEMA/SAFER grant – Project Manager – Jim Gardner, \$89,020 – This grant is to give the present Volunteer Fire Department membership a larger stipend per call and incentives for service and merit awards. It also is funding the recruitment of 8 new members over the next 2-3 years which includes their training, equipment costs, as well as a long-term recruitment process to be created. We have received \$11,600 of the award so far.

CLOSED DURING PERIOD:

- FEMA/COVID grant – Project Manager – Derrick Welton, \$5126 – This grant was for Vinyl Gloves, Electrostatic Sprayer and Solution, a hand washing and hand sterilization station for the LPVFD; however, these COVID PPE products can be used throughout the city. We have received \$4,775 of the award and it will be closed.
- FEMA/AFG grant – Project Manager – Derrick Welton, \$66,426 – This newly approved grant includes three chain saws of varying capability, a Mobile Air Filling Station for our larger Rescue Vehicle, and a JAWS OF LIFE Cutter / Spreader for the LPVFD. We received \$66,375 of the award and it will be closed.
- We decided against submitting a Joint VFD / REGIONAL grant request as mentioned in our last report. There was limited interest which made the large effort unlikely to succeed. We have our eyes on other REGIONAL grant opportunities in the future however.

GRANTS WAITING APPROVAL:

- We submitted a 2021 FEMA AFG grant application for the acquisition of 16 Air Tanks for the ERIE VFD. Since we had success with this grant for ourselves (LPVFD) in 2020, we were asked to replicate the experience. We were happy to do so. The request was for \$137,232
- We submitted a 2021 FEMA AFG grant application for the acquisition of two Battery operated Ventilation Fans for the LPVFD. The request was for \$10,400.
- We played a minor role in assisting the Lotus Manor Apartments in the development of a grant to acquire a Security Camera system. We were very happy to of played a small role.

GRANTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS:

- A meeting with newly installed Police Chief, John Poe, took place where he outlined some of his hopes for grant projects in 2022. A list was formulated and submitted for review and approval by the Luna Pier Police Advisory Council and City Council, where appropriate.
- Discussion is still underway to provide help to the Parks & Recreation Committee to acquire funds to accomplish some of their 2022 priorities.
- Other grants are being considered as opportunities arise.

OTHER NEWS:

- The GRANT MANAGEMENT team is in need of help to plan, develop, maintain, and close these important efforts. The good news is that Megan Niner, a resident of Luna Pier, and a very qualified administrator, has offered to help, as has, Chris Burchett, the energetic chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Committee. If others would like to join our small team, please call Jolene at City Hall so she can connect us together. Effective October 1, 2022, I will be retiring from this volunteer role and hope to have the new team trained and productive well before that date.
- And lastly, just a view of what is possible when good people join forces:
 - o \$645,515 – amount of \$ we have requested from grant providers since Oct. 2017
 - o \$331,695 – amount we have been awarded, so far, and more on the way.....

Submitted by: John Zarb, City of Luna Pier, Volunteer Grant Manager

MESSAGE FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE

The City's General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 8th this year, with a possible August Primary held on Tuesday, August 2th. We will be electing a Mayor for a (2) two-year term and three (3) Council seats (four-year terms). The deadline to turn in nominating petitions for Mayor and Council is April 19th by 4:00 p.m. Anyone interested in running for an elected office can pick-up their nominating petition at City Hall.



If you are asked to sign a nominating petition, please list all the information requested on the form. You may sign one petition for Mayor and three petitions for Council. If you sign more than this, only your first signatures respective to these positions will be counted. If you have not yet registered for the August Primary or the November General election, the deadline for the August Primary is July 18, 2022. The last day to register for the November General Election is October 24, 2022. This can be done at City Hall during regular business hours or at any Michigan Secretary of State Branch office.

If you need an Absent Voter Ballot Application, please stop at City Hall during regular business hours or call 734- 848-6495 ext. 205. I can mail an Absent Voter Ballot Application to you. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. on Election Day at the Luna Pier Fire Hall.



With the passing of Proposal 18-3 in November 2018 all eligible and registered voters in Michigan may now request an absent voter ballot without providing a reason. Simply call the City before an election and request one and it will be sent to you. Also if anyone would like to be added to the city's permanent absentee voter list please me and you will receive an absentee voter application automatically for every election. (734)848-6495 ext. 205

When a registered voter comes to the polls please bring a photo ID. Here are the acceptable forms of identification:

- Michigan driver's license or state-issued ID card
- Driver's license or personal identification card issued by another state

- Federal or state government-issued photo identification
- U.S. passport
- Military ID with photo
- Student identification with photo from higher school or accredited institution or higher learning
- Tribal identification card with photo

I hope to see everyone at the polls in 2022 and exercise your right to vote. If anyone is interested in becoming an Election Inspector please give me a call.

Jolene Upchurch, CMC. CMMC
Deputy Clerk

LUNA PIER PARKS & RECREATION



Hello everyone. We would like to thank everyone who took the time to take the P&R survey. Your opinions matter and help shape the plans for our parks. The team has been actively planning for the spring and summer weather. To make the experience even better, we have plans to replace the old park benches and also the basketball hoop at Water Tower Park.

Many people in our community have been working to keep our parks beautiful and we invite you to join us in that effort on Saturday, May 14th. Meet us at the Memorial Park gazebo at 9 a.m. with any garden tools and we will start here and move on to other parks as time allows. This is a great time to meet other members of the community and share your ideas!

The P&R committee will be hosting a Pickle Ball clinic at the tennis courts on Harold Drive on Sunday, June 5th at 5 p.m.

Equipment will be available to use – come ready to learn. If there is enough interest maybe we can make this a regular thing? Look forward to seeing you!



Look for updates on the Luna Pier Parks and Recreation Facebook page, Luna Pier Community Facebook page, or flyers posted on the Post Office bulletin board.

SUMMER TAXES

Summer Taxes will be payable July 1, 2022 thru August 1, 2022.

You can now pay your taxes on line on the City of Luna Pier's web site at www.cityoflunapier.com.

1. Go to: Departments
2. Click on Treasurer
3. Pay your taxes online

When paying with a credit card, there is a 2.6% service fee that will be added.

We also now have a drop box slot located on the front door of City Hall that you can drop your tax payment in. Please no cash and if you would like a receipt, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

If you have any questions or need help with this service, please contact me at 734-848-8120 x203 during our regular business hours.

Dee Parran, Treasurer



RASEY/LUNA PIER LIBRARY

Come join our Rasey/Luna Pier library Book Club! This book club for adults is the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Come join our stimulating and fun discussions.

Preschool Story Time is held every Monday morning at 10:30 a.m. Please call the library to register, 734-848-4572 or register on-line.

Monday, April 4th thru Thursday, April 14th "Little Holiday Q-Tip Bunny" Take and Make Kits will be available for children. Availability will be limited.

Summer Reading programs begin TUESDAY, June 21st-Saturday, July 30th.

Please check our online event calendar, our outside activities board, and/or give us a call for any questions or information on upcoming programs: 734-848-4572.

Hope to see you soon!

Becky, Noelle, and Shannen



LUNA PIER FARMERS MARKET



We are gearing up for the Luna Pier Farmers Market 2022

outdoor season and look forward to bringing you home grown produce, delicious cottage foods, locally produced honey, home baked goods, soaps, lotions, beautiful hand-crafted items and art products once again. We will kick off the season on Wednesday, May 25th. Mark your calendar and plan to stop by First St. Park from 3-7 pm.

The weekly outdoor market officially begins Wednesday, May 25th and will be open every Wednesday at First St. Park from 3-7 pm in Luna Pier, MI, through Wednesday, October 12, 2022 (weather permitting).

Looking for ways to get involved in our community? The LPFM committee needs volunteers to serve on the committee and assist with the market. We are also looking for new vendors to join the market. Contact Amy Gardner at lunapierfarmersmarket@gmail.com or message us on our Luna Pier Facebook page to receive vendor information, or if you are interested in joining the LPFM committee team. Be sure to like our Facebook page at Luna Pier Farmers Market for market updates. Looking forward to being together again!

The LPFM Committee,
lunapierfarmersmarket@gmail.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE

CONSUMER ENERGY SERVICE INTERRUPTION

On May 3, 2022 there will be a power outage for the City of Luna Pier. We understand power outages are inconvenient and Consumers will work around the clock to minimize the interruption. This outage will be for the whole city, so anyone with health issues or the elderly please take notice to make arrangements for that day.

If Consumers is unable to complete the job the back up date will be May 4, 2022.

If you have any questions you can call Frank Maliszewski, Electric Field Leader at 517-740-8340



POWER OUTAGE