

Message from the Mayor

With a new bridge and warm weather on the way, we all look forward to another great summer in the city we love. We have some great activities and events planned, highlighted by the return of our annual Freedom Festival. Looking back at the founding of our city, visionary leaders knew what our city could be and went to work building the city we know today. Moving here in 1964, just one year after the founding of our city, I remember the challenges facing the city including the complete lack of adequate infrastructure and frequent flooding that devastated the area. Some residents saw beyond the bleak outlook and went to work making the city what they knew it could be. From a dike system, drains, city water and sanitary sewers, paved streets and street lights and more, their vision took shape in the form of the place we know and enjoy today. What was the real driving force behind this epic transformation? Residents with a vision who went to work to make it happen.



While many of the challenges we face today are different than they were in 1963, the core solution remains unchanged, people with a vision, willing to make a difference. As we move on from the financial setback of losing our coal fired cash cow that financed progress in the early days, we face a bright future and a new vision with a wealth of talented people who have the skills and insight to thrive. Together we can make this community all that we envision and more.

We need your help to make the difference. Talking with people in our city and hearing your stories always leaves me impressed, thankful and hopeful. I know our future will be bright. We need your input on our boards and commissions. Our problems are not insurmountable as long as we focus our energy on solutions that work. Most of our committees meet once a month with some equally important but requiring less of a time commitment. From Parks & Recreation, Planning, Flood Protection, Zoning and more, we have opportunities to fit your talents. Just getting involved in a supporting role helps immensely.

Let's talk some time. You can make a difference. Meet some of our amazing volunteers who work on our boards and commissions. The meeting times and dates are posted on our website and you probably know many the residents who already serve. Stop in any time at City Hall or catch me when I'm out and about in the city. We would love to hear from you. It has been a tough past decade but I truly believe we are on the cusp of a new era with unprecedented opportunity if we step up to the challenge.

It's a great time to live in Luna Pier!

Jim

Mayor Jim Gardner



Blight: A Growing Concern

Blight is becoming more noticeable across several neighborhoods as spring comes — abandoned houses, overgrown lots, and structures in disrepair not only affect property values, but also community pride and safety. We also need to look at the boats, trailers and motorhomes, we own. We need to consider if we use them enough to justify keeping them around. Town officials are working on initiatives to clean up problem areas, but real progress takes all of us.

Let's work together to keep our town beautiful and welcoming — one block at a time.

Seniors, Beware: Scam Activity on the Rise

Unfortunately, there's been an uptick in scam attempts targeting older residents. These schemes often come by phone, email, or even in person — promising prizes, threatening legal trouble, or pretending to be from Medicare or the IRS.



Common red flags:

- Calls demanding immediate payment or gift cards
- Emails asking for personal information
- Strangers claiming they “need access” to your home
- Text messages for packages or unpaid toll



Protect yourself and your loved ones:

- Never give out personal information over the phone unless you initiated the call.
- Hang up on suspicious calls and don't click unfamiliar links in emails.
- If someone comes to your door and makes you uncomfortable, don't open it — call a neighbor or the police if needed.

If you're ever unsure, talk to a trusted family member or call the local police department for guidance.



As fire chief, one of my primary concerns is the safety and well-being of our community. Smoke detectors are your first line of defense against the devastating effects of a fire. They provide precious seconds to escape and save lives, but only if they're functioning properly. Please make sure to check the batteries regularly. A non-working smoke detector is as good as no smoke detector at all.

If your smoke detector doesn't work or is older than 10 years contact me at lunapierfire@gmail.com or go to cityoflunapier.com and fill out the form to have a *new smoke detector and/or new carbon monoxide detector installed for free*. These are made available due to a grant from the State of Michigan. So far, we have installed 20 smoke detectors and 17 carbon monoxide detectors.



Did you know that without an address sign your house location can be a mystery? In the dark it is especially difficult to locate the correct house and time is crucial when there is an emergency. The fire department has the solution for that – an easily readable sign for just \$15! They are available to display the address either vertically or horizontally, just let us know at the time you place the order. Orders may be made at City Hall or by emailing me at the address above.

Are you a business owner? Snowbird? Concerned homeowner? The Fire Department has joined the **Knox Rapid Access System**. Trusted by fire departments for over 40 years, Knox Rapid Access Solutions have provided first responders with immediate access into secure buildings, campuses, residences and commercial properties when it matters most. Removing barriers to entry reduces injuries to responders and minimizes property damage. For more information check out knox.com or contact the city or the fire department.

Just a reminder that we do our drills on Monday nights! Please feel free to stop in the fire hall to chat or to find out more about volunteering!

Sincerely,
Chief Robert Dinius

From the Office of Emergency Management

Greetings residents of Luna Pier! With spring in the air, I wanted to take a moment to send out some vital information regarding emergency management. With tornado season upon us, I wanted to remind everyone that the tornado siren is a long solid blast sound that is tested on the last Wednesday of the month at 10:00 am.



Tornados, while rare in our area, are possible. Just a few clarifications about the difference between a watch and a warning and what your police and firefighters do for both. A tornado watch means conditions are favorable for tornadoes to form in or near the area. This will prompt 911 to dispatch the fire department for a roll call to ensure personnel are aware of the watch. The on-duty police officers are notified as well.

A tornado warning means a tornado has been sighted or found on radar in the area. This will prompt the tornado siren to ring and the fire department will do what we call a “fan out”. We will send an engine crew to the Erie Rd. overpass, Luna Pier Rd. over pass, and Gaynier Rd. overpass. The crews will monitor conditions in our local area and are strategically placed in the event a tornado should touch down. Police will patrol the area as well to look out for downed tree limbs, power lines, or any other safety issues.

Should you need shelter during a warning, the fire station will be available for you. Should you find a downed powerline, please call 911 and stay clear of the powerline. The fire department will be called out to block off the area and communicate with the power company. The fire department has tools to determine if the wire is live or not.

Thank you all for your time and please don’t hesitate to reach out if you have any questions regarding emergency management.

Derrick S. Welton

Emergency Management Specialist

City of Luna Pier

Municipal Services News

It's that time of year that many start working in their yards cleaning out flower beds, trimming trees and mowing grass. Please help the city crew keep Luna Pier clean by **NOT blowing grass clippings into the streets.** The clippings tend to get into the storm drains and plug them up. If you have any storm drains in your yard please clean any debris from the grate to help with flooding when it rains. If you have any trees or bushes that are growing into the street, please trim them back. The more people helping with this the nicer the city will look.



Brush and Compost – At the south end of Harold Drive on the Boat Ramp property there is a place to put brush and compost. **Please do not dump trash or concrete of any kind on this property.** This has been happening quite often and when it does it is an added cost to the city.

Brush - The pile for brush is on the southwest corner of the property. PLEASE, NO WOOD, CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL, CARDBOARD, FURNITURE OR ANY OTHER TRASH.

Compost – The pile for compost is on the northwest corner of the property. Grass and leaves only (NO TRASH) and please remove from plastic bags.

Wastewater Treatment Plant – Please check to see if your sump pump or downspouts are connected to the sanitary sewer, if they are please reroute them to drain into your yard or a storm drain. The load to the WWTP that these illegal connections are adding sometimes triples the flow at the plant. This is much higher than what the plant is designed for and adds to the cost of treating the wastewater.



Building Department

The Building Department has a web page at <https://www.cityoflunapier.com/building-zoning/>. Here, you can discover useful information to assist you with questions regarding projects and permits. You can access forms and certain types of permit applications online. Most applications and supporting documents can be submitted by email, with the exception of projects requiring full-sized building plans. Thank you for visiting the Building Department web page, and if you need any additional assistance, please call us at (734) 848-6495 (Ext 202 Building).

Mission

The Building Department is committed to protect, maintain and improve the health, safety, welfare and quality of life for residents and businesses located in our city through the enforcement of the State of Michigan construction Codes and local ordinances established for those purposes.

Responsibilities

The department oversees and approves all residential, commercial, and industrial construction within the city. Permit applications, plan review, and inspections are processed routinely. Staff members assist with the tasks of providing permit information and procedures along with enforcing code compliance.

Code

The City of Luna Pier has adopted the following: 2015 Michigan Residential Code, International Property Maintenance Code, 2021 Michigan Building Code, 2021 Michigan Rehabilitation Code, 2021 Michigan Plumbing Code, 2021 Michigan Mechanical Code, 2021 Michigan Energy Code, as well as related standards.

Requirements for Building Permit Plan Review

A Building Permit Application that requires a plan review must be submitted to the Building Department with 2-sets of plan drawings. Typically plans are not required for maintenance type work, but are required for all new construction.

Does My Application Need Plan Review?

Residential, Commercial, and Industrial permit applications that typically require plan review are not limited to: Accessory Structures, Additions/Alterations/Dormers, Repairs/Relocations, New Construction, sheds, garages and decks, Communication Towers, signs, and similar type projects.

What is the Fee for Plan Review?

Most review fees are based on the time required to review your construction plans for code compliance. The better and more detailed your plans are, can expedite your review and limit the fees.

Zoning Review Fees

All building/zoning permit applications received through the Building Department are subject to a Zoning Review Fee. A zoning review is performed to determine if the project you are proposing meets the requirements of the City of Luna Pier Zoning Ordinance.

Typically, this fee is required for most new projects that do not require a building permit, but do require a review for Zoning Ordinance compliance. The ZRF does not include plan review fees and/or permit fees. Permits exempt from a Zoning Review: removal and replacement of existing roofing, siding, windows or concrete.

Right-Of- Way Permits

For any work to be performed within the Road Right-Of-Way, a review and permit are required. This includes all work, even though a building permit may not be required. This most often would be driveways for residential projects. A Right-Of-Way permit can be obtained from the office staff at City Hall.

Flood Safety Tips

Actions You Can Take!

KEEP ALL BRUSH AND DEBRIS OUT OF STREAMS AND DITCHES; THIS HELPS FLOOD WATER TO FLOW FREELY

STORE VALUABLES AND INSURANCE PAPERS IN A WATERPROOF CONTAINER

VISIT <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search> OR CALL 734-848-6495 TO FIND OUT IF YOUR PROPERTY IS IN A FLOOD RISK ZONE

GET A BUILDING PERMIT BEFORE BUILDING IN A FLOOD ZONE

IF THE ROAD IS UNDERWATER, TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN!

ASK YOUR INSURANCE AGENT IF YOU ARE COVERED FOR FLOOD DAMAGE



CITY OF LUNA PIER



From the Assessing Department

The City of Luna Pier is currently seeking Board of Review (BoR) members. BoR vacancies are filled by the Mayor, with the approval of the City Council. Vacancies will be filled as they occur. The function of the Board of Review is to examine and review the current property tax assessment roll, to hear assessment appeals, and to correct errors on the roll. The Board of Review serves as an appeal board and can adjust individual assessments if necessary.

Desired Background

The only formal membership requirements for the Board of Review are that it shall consist of three tax-paying City residents. The appointment of members shall be based upon their knowledge of and experience in property valuation. Board of Review members serve 3-year terms.

Members should have a general interest in or working knowledge of accounting, finance, banking, property valuation, real estate.

Members are expected to:

1. Attend all meetings,
2. Complete training sessions,
3. Review all materials before meetings,
4. Carefully process all facts, documents, and rules pertaining to cases.



If you are interested in serving on the Board of Review, please stop by City Hall or email your letter of interest to Mayor Gardner at jgardner@cityoflunapier.com.

From the Treasurer Department

SUMMER TAXES

Summer Taxes will be payable July 1, 2025 thru July 31, 2025. Summer taxes are payable through to February 28 with a 1% penalty added each month. Taxes are payable in person during regular office hours we accept cash, personal check, or credit card payments (there is a fee of 2.6% for all credit card transactions). The office also has a drop box slot located on the front door of City Hall that you can drop your tax payment in. Please no cash if you use the drop box, and if you would like a receipt, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Taxes are also payable on-line using a credit card: The City of Luna Pier's website at www.cityoflunapier.com. 1. Go to: Departments 2. Click on Treasurer 3. Pay your taxes online. If you have any questions or need help with this service, please contact me at 734-848-8120 x203 during our regular business hours.

Amber Crane, Treasurer

MESSAGE FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE

All is going well here at City Hall. I've been City Clerk for just over 9 months now and I believe I've gotten into the rhythm of this job. There is also a new City Treasurer who started December 1st, Amber Crane. We invite you to come down to City Hall and take advantage of the services we provide.

If you are a resident of Luna Pier, you can get a parking sticker for your vehicle, which allows you free parking throughout the city. We also provide free notary services for residents. Season boat launch permits are only \$40 for residents, as well. So, stop on by.

Charlie Boyce, City Clerk
734-848-6495 ext. 205
cboyce@cityoflunapier.com

Special Election – Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Notice is hereby given, that a Special Election will be held in the City of Luna Pier on TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2025. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.



The Election will take place at Luna Pier Fire Hall, 4268 Luna Pier Road.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, those in the Mason Consolidated School District will be voting on the following millage proposal: **MASON CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS – SCHOOL BOND PROPOSAL**

Stop by City Hall if you want to register to vote, or if you need an Absentee Ballot application.

Water Tower Park Senior Nutrition Site is open again!

If you are 60 years or older, come join us for lunch at noon, the more the merrier! The center will be open from 10: 00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Enjoy nutritious food and make new friends.



It is located at:

11345 Harold Drive in Luna Pier

RSVP by calling for reservations the day before at 734-242-6800

Luna Pier Freedom Festival: A Celebration of Community and Independence

The Luna Pier Freedom Festival is a cherished tradition that brings our community together to celebrate Independence Day. This event is entirely funded by donations and is organized by dedicated community volunteers who work tirelessly before, during, and after the festival to ensure its success.



A Rich History of Community Spirit

Originally known as the Luna Pier Fireworks Show, this event was initiated by two farmers, eventually taken over by the Luna Pier Fire Department in the late 70s. Over the years, it evolved to include City Wide Garage Sales. In the mid-80s, the city managed the festival and its funding. In 2012, the Non-profit Freedom Festival Committee took over, raising 100% of the funds through various fundraising efforts and recruiting volunteers to continue this beloved tradition.

Raising the funds needed has become increasingly difficult; 2025 has proven to be the most challenging year to date to secure enough funds for the festival. **The committee has NOT yet reached its goal for 2025.** Your donations fund set-up to clean-up including Police/Fire Department presence, Garbage, Porta Potties, and the Fireworks display over the lake. With the cancelation of Sterling State Parks fireworks display (due to lack of donations), and the City of Monroe scheduling fireworks the end of July, this year is expected to be the largest attended festival in our history – weather permitting.

How You Can Help

The Luna Pier Freedom Festival relies on the generosity of donors, sponsors, and volunteers. Your support is crucial to the success of this event and helps us maintain the spirit of community and celebration.

- **Donations:** To make a personal donation, scan the **QR code** below or drop off a check at Luna Pier City Hall payable to the Luna Pier Freedom Festival Committee.
- **Sponsorships and Volunteering:** For more information on sponsorship or volunteering, please email LPFreedomFest@gmail.com.

2025 Luna Pier Freedom Festival Events - June 28th

- **City Wide Garage Sales:** 8am – 4pm
 - Limited spaces available at the Library as a Parks and Rec Fundraiser
- **Vendors Market in 1st Street Park:** 8am – 4pm
 - Featuring 40 vendors plus a Coffee Trailer
- **Food Trucks:** 10am – 10pm
- **Luna Pier Citizen of Year:** 3:00pm – Memorial Park
 - Presented by the City of Luna Pier Mayor
 - **Music:** 12pm – 10pm Courtesy of the Luna Pier Café
- **Face Painters:** 4pm – 8pm
 - Free for kids of all ages in 1st Street Park
- **Fireworks Display:** At dusk
 - Presented by Great Lakes Fireworks



Together, we can ensure the Luna Pier Freedom Festival continues to be a highlight of our community's calendar. Thank you for your support!

Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/Luna-Pier-Freedom-Festival Visit our Website: <https://bit.ly/lpfreedomfest>



City of Luna Pier

Parks and Recreation

FREE DUMPSTER DAY*

&

SCRAP METAL

FUNDRAISER!

May 17, 2025 9am – 1pm*

Water Tower Park

11345 Harold Dr, Luna Pier, MI 48157

Metal, copper, brass, aluminum, steel, electronics (no TVs or computers), & car batteries accepted!

No hazardous materials, paint, or tires.

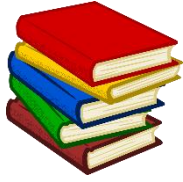
*Free Dumpster for Luna Pier residents only – ID required!

We will take metal until 1, dumpster available until full*

All proceeds from Fundraiser go to improving Luna Pier Parks!

If you have any questions or need help moving anything, please reach out to

Jennifer Drotar at Jen.Drotski@gmail.com



Library News

Rasey Memorial/ Luna Pier Branch Library is springing into spring and looking forward to summer. You can register online at mymcls.com for all programs.

Kids Dinner

At 4:00 pm, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, we serve dinners to children ages 2- 18. This program will continue until Wednesday, May 21st with children's activities following! If you have not attended before, please register online or give us a call for more information. 734-848-4572

Homework Help

Elementary Homework Help is available every Wednesday, 3:30-4 p.m.

Teen Craft

Our final Teen Craft of the school year will be held Wednesday, May 7th at 5:30 p.m.

Story Time

Summer Preschool story times will be held on Mondays, at 10:30 am starting June 16th.

Summer Lunches

Summer lunches will begin Monday, June 16th from 12:30-1:00. Lunches will be served Mondays-Fridays with Weekend Bundles available on Fridays Between 12:30 - 1:00. Again, lunches are available for children 2-18. There will also be a special activity Monday – Friday right after lunches. Please call the library for more information: 734-848-4572.

Lunches and dinners are provided by MDE.

Adults Book Club

For our adults, we have the Luna Pier Book Club on the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm.

Adults Crafts

We have some exciting Adult Craft programs coming up, the last Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm. Our next three programs are:

Charcuterie Board Demonstration

On May 28th, Renee Windell Shiflet will demonstrate how to make Charcuterie Boards. We will be sharing ideas ending with each participant making their own board.

Beaded Bracelets Workshop

May 28th, Bonnie Berry will help us make our own beaded bracelets.

4th of July Wreath Workshop

June 24th, we will be making 4th of July wreaths with the help of Valinda Jonas.

Registration for the adult programs is available online or by calling the library at 734-848-4572. Please register early as spaces are limited.

LUNA PIER PARKS CLEAN UP DAY

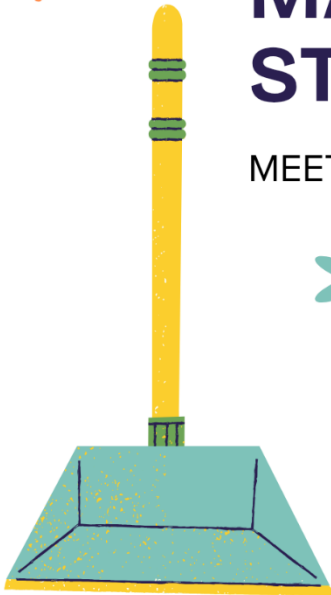


Let's roll up our sleeves, grab some trash bags and gloves, and make our local parks sparkle. Together, we can make a difference!



MAY 17 2025
START 9:00 AM

MEET AT WATER TOWER PARK



**FEEL FREE
TO JOIN!**





City of Luna Pier
4357 Buckeye Street
PO Box 375
Luna Pier, MI 48157

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LUNA PIER, MI
PERMIT NO. 663

POSTAL CUSTOMER – RR18

Calendar of events



April to October	City Council, Water Tower Park - 2 nd and 4 th Thursdays 7:00 PM
April to October	DDA, Luna Pier Lighthouse - 4 th Tuesday 7:00 PM
April to October	Parks & Recreation, Luna Pier Library - 2 nd Tuesday 7:00 PM
April to October	Flood & Erosion Committee, Water Tower Park 3 rd Tuesday 7:00 PM
April to October	Planning Commission, Water Tower Park -4 th Tuesday 4:00 PM
May 17	Dumpster Day, Water Tower Park
June 28	Freedom Festival & City-Wide Garage Sale
September 6	Night Market, Memorial Park, 5-9 PM
City Hall Closed	Good Friday, April 18 & Memorial Day, May 26
City Hall Closed	4 th of July, July 4 & Labor Day, September 1