



“This institution is an equal opportunity provider”

THE VILLAGE CRIER

Website: www.kentcitymi.org

Issue #17: Summer 2009

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Sewer System 2008/09

Operation, maintenance, replacement & Debt Retirement

\$ 19,389 Salary & Wages	\$12,705 Repair & Maintenance
\$ 18,114 Professional Services	\$ 8,556 Insurance
\$ 1,765 Office Supplies & Postage	\$11,288 Utilities
\$117,525 Depreciation	\$ 2,012 Miscellaneous
\$ 72,000 Bond Debt for Series 1998A & B issued 06/25/98	
\$ 69,120 Bond Interest	

Reminder: Quarterly sewer fees are billed the months of **March, June, September** and **December**.

Election News

Date to Remember: Tuesday, September 15, 2009, Village Election

The village election will be held in the village meeting room. A schedule of the filing dates has been posted in the posting notice at the village office. Check out the dates for deadlines. You can obtain information also from the web site at www.Michigan.gov/sos. then you will select Michigan Elections. Please feel free to stop in at the village office if you need assistance or have any questions. As required, certain dates will be published in the Northwest Advance News as reminders.

Talking Taxes with the Treasurer



This year's Village property tax bills will be mailed out on or about July 1st, 2009 and are due by: **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2009.**

Taxes can be paid at the Village Office during regular business hours or by mail. For your convenience, **we also have a mail slot located in the front office door for after hour's payments.**

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- When paying by mail, please enclose the bottom tear-off copy of your tax bill and make out the check to Kent City Village Treasurer
- If you want a receipt, you must enclose a self addressed stamped envelope.
- If you pay at the office by cash, **PLEASE HAVE EXACT CHANGE.**
- All late payments made after September 14, 2009 will be assessed a late fee of 1% per month or any part of a month and will be turned over to the **Kent County Treasurer** for collection. You will need to call the office or the Kent County Treasurer for the exact amount due before mailing your check.
- Please check your tax bill carefully for any errors. Call the Village Office with any changes that need to be made – including name or mailing address.

Thank you,
Darrell Rotier, Village Treasurer

DPW Department



Equipment Street/Sidewalk Information:

General Reminders – Village ordinance prohibits persons to allow sidewalks that adjoin property owned by them to fall into a state of disrepair or to be unsafe. A permit is required prior to repair of sidewalks. Please contact the Village Office @ (616)-678-7232.

****Important:** If you have sprinkler heads near the edge of the street or sidewalk, please mark them and contact the Village Office to let us know where they are marked. The Village is not responsible for damage to sprinkler heads that are placed in the street right-of-way.

Parking- The municipal parking lot south of Matthews & Associates is owned by the Village. No vehicles are to be left parked overnight in this lot.

****Remember;** please do not park on or over sidewalks.

Leaf Pickup



The Village of Kent City has scheduled its fall leaf pickup for October 14 until the first snowfall. Remember that leaves should be placed next to the curb but not in the street itself. For complete policy information or any questions please contact the Village Office.

Yard Maintenance –



The Village’s Dept. of Public Works will pick up the

following items (at no charge) when placed next to the street surface:

- Small bundles of tree limbs-no larger than 6” in diameter & no longer the 6’ long-tree butts must face the street. Dead limbs or small trimmed limbs only – No full trees or tops.
- Small piles of brush
- Thorned brush needs to be put in separate small piles
- Christmas trees (after holiday season)
- **Grass Clippings that are put into 30 gallon or less plastic or vinyl containers. The grass shall be put in the container loose; not bagged. The container shall be identified “Grass” with 6” letters or larger.**

The weight limit on each “package” shall not exceed 30 lbs. so that it can be loaded onto a truck by one person.

****Reminder:** If you cannot lift the container over your shoulders – neither can we.

Recommended Container Examples:

Contact your local hardware stores or search online for availability.



For a complete copy of the Yard Waste Policy visit the village’s website or contact our office.

Trees & Safety

When planting trees it is important to address safety issues that might occur with the location on your property. It is also important to know the location of your property lines. A few guidelines are:

- Before planting in front yards, contact Village Office for right-of-way information.
- Do not plant near high-voltage transmission lines
- If planting near distribution power lines, make sure to plant low growing trees
- For underground utilities – contact MISS DIG @ 800-482-7171 three days prior to planting. This ensures underground utilities are marked for safety.

For more information go to: www.consumersenergy.com/forestry

Goose Hunting Lottery

The deadline is July 30, 2009 to sign up to hunt Canadian Geese at Lagoon #5 for nuisance control. The Goose Hunting Lottery is open to any interested parties. The hunters agree to hunt a minimum of 3 days/week during their scheduled hunt. A hunting group is determined by the people who fill out an application together. Groups with minors must include at least 1 adult. You cannot add/change hunters after the lottery. The maximum number of hunters allowed in a group per day/per season is 4.

Welcome to "The Zone"

Planning & Zoning News

Ordinance Reminders:

Did you know?....

A Village Ordinance (law) prohibits parking on any village street from 12:01a.m. to 6:00a.m. This is especially important during the winter months as our Village employees attempt to keep the streets and sidewalks clear of snow and ice.

The Village has ordinances in effect for the following issues:

- **Grass & Weeds** – **Inoperable Vehicles** - **Trash & Junk** –

For complete ordinances contact the Village Office or check our website @ www.kentcitymi.org.

Zoning & Building Permits:

Zoning Permits –

are required prior to any form of construction or excavation; including – but not limited to the following list:



Dwellings / Additions to existing structures
Swimming pools & hot tubs / Gazebos

Porches & decks / Garages / Barns / Sheds
Freestanding Antennas & towers

Zoning permits are also required prior to the demolition or moving of a building larger than 200 sq. ft. in area. Applications are available by mail, e-mail or faxed through the Village Offices.

Building Permits – are needed prior to construction of most of the above structures. For questions on building codes or to obtain a building permit application contact:

Casey Patterson, Building Inspector, Tyrone Township Offices - Ph: (616)678-4779, 28 E. Muskegon St.,

Fencing & Walls:



Permits are not required

to construct a fence or wall; however, they must comply with the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance. The ordinance regulates the height and location of fences and walls. Barbed wire and above ground electrically charged wire are prohibited in residential districts.

A free, one-page information sheet is available at the Village Office. We will mail or fax upon request.

Signs:



The Zoning Ordinance

requires a Sign Permit for any sign placed or erected within the Village of Kent City, with a few exceptions. Signs are not permitted within the public right-of-way (ex: within the area between a sidewalk and the street, or on a utility pole). Prior to placing any signs within the Village, please contact the Zoning Administrator.

Signs placed within the public right-of-way are routinely confiscated and held for 10 days. If not claimed, signs are disposed of.

Please contact: Tom Knauf @ 616-678-7232 with any Zoning, Fencing & Walls, and Sign questions or application requests.

Kent City Planning & Development

The **Village Council** is always looking for people to help with the development of Kent City by serving on a commission or board. Please contact the Village Office for more information on these public bodies or to be considered for appointment to one. Candidates are appointed by the Village Council and may serve on one of the following:

Planning Commission-Composed of 7 members: Review & amendment of the Master Plan, review of Special Land Use requests, Site Plan review, Review of new residential subdivisions & planned unit developments, etc.

Board of Zoning Appeals-Composed of 5 members, plus 1 alternate: Hear & decide questions arising under the Zoning Ordinance. Requests for dimensional and/or use variances, & appeals concerning administrative decisions are typical items for this board to consider.

Board of Property Maintenance Appeals-Composed of 3 members, plus 2 alternates: Qualified by experience & training to pass on matters pertaining to property maintenance. As with all other boards, it is appointed by the village council and members serve staggered and overlapping terms.

Downtown Development Authority-

A 9-member board: Purpose is to promote economic growth & to maintain property values in the Downtown District. They also attempt to halt deterioration of property & encourage the upkeep of buildings & grounds.

Special Services

Recycle for Tomorrow!

North Kent Recycle & Transfer Station is located @ 2908 Ten Mile Road in Rockford, Michigan. For a complete list, please stop by the Village Office or contact North Kent Recycle: 616-866-5070.

The Kent County Dept. of Public Works Saturday collections are scheduled each year. No appointments needed for Saturday collections- if you have a large amount of material to dispose of or if you have containers larger than 5 gallons, please call ahead.

North Kent Transfer Station 2908 Ten Mile Road, Rockford Open to all Kent County residents	June 6, 2009 9 am until 1 pm
Grand Rapids 1500 Scribner Open to all Kent County residents	June 20, 2009 9 am until noon
Kentwood 5068 Breton Open to all Kent County residents	July 18, 2009 9 am until 1 pm
Grand Rapids 1500 Scribner Open to all Kent County residents	August 1, 2009 9 am until 1 pm
North Kent Transfer Station 2908 Ten Mile Road, Rockford Open to all Kent County residents	August 15, 2009 9 am until 1 pm
Wyoming Clean Water Plant 2350 Ivanrest SW, Grandville Open to all Kent County residents	September 12, 2009 9 am until 1 pm
Kentwood 5068 Breton Open to all Kent County residents	September 26, 2009 9 am until 1 pm
North Kent Transfer Station 2908 Ten Mile Road, Rockford Open to all Kent County residents	October 10, 2009 9 am until 1 pm
Grand Rapids 1500 Scribner Open to all Kent County residents	October 24, 2009 9 am until 1 pm

The Kent County Department of Public Works has 4 permanent collection sites in the County located at:

[Kentwood](#) [Rockford](#)

[Northwest Grand Rapids](#)

[Wyoming](#)

These sites allow us to offer year-round collections for residents across Kent County



Bluewater Sanitation Waste Tags

Village residents who have signed up with Bluewater Sanitation for their waste tags can now purchase them at the Village Office. If you have any questions regarding your service, please contact Bluewater Sanitation at: (616) 887-2300.

Kent City / Casnovia Historical Society

The Kent City/Casnovia Historical Society Museum is now open monthly on the second Tuesday from 2:00-4:00 pm. or you can schedule an appointment by calling Maynard Klein @ 675-5421.

Flu / Pneumonia Vaccination Clinic

We will be hosting another flu/pneumonia vaccination clinic at the Village Office on October 15, 2008. More information and the times will be in our fall newsletter and posted around the Village.



In January 2007 Public Act 480 of 2006, MCL 484.3301 et seq, the “Uniform Video Services Local Franchise Act” took effect. The Michigan Public Service Commission is designated to implement the Act. If customers have complaints and cannot resolve video/cable problems with their suppliers then they contact MPSC by the following means:

PH: (866) 552-7725

FX: (517) 241-2400

Mail: Michigan Public Service Commission

Attn: Video Franchising

6545 Mercantile Way

Lansing, MI 48909

Web: www.michigan.gov/mpsc

Calendar

June

- June 4 & 30 – Planning Commission Meetings
- June 11 – Council Meeting
- June 16 – BZA Meeting

July

- July 4 – Independence Day
- July 9 – Council Meeting
- July 16 – BZA Meeting



Rockford Ambulance – Hearsaver CPR & First Air Combo courses: \$55.00

Locations: Newaygo, 2nd Saturday each month – 9am to 4:30pm
Sparta, 4th Saturday each month – 9am to 4:30pm



Looking for information? Check out these sites!

Village of Kent City: www.kentcitymi.org

Kent County: www.accessKent.com/services

MI Gov.: www.mi.gov

Michigan DNR: www.mi.gov/dnr

Many events/activities are listed online through community websites. We encourage you to take a moment and check them out.

Do you know about these services?

Notary Service – Village Clerk

Township Library – free computer use

Village General & Zoning Ordinances on the internet @ www.kentcitymi.org

Flag Day

The American Legion encourages you to bring your old flags to them so that they can dispose of them properly. You can also bring flags to the village office and we will forward them to the legion.

On June 14, Flag Day, the American Legion will hold a ceremony for disposal.



Summer Reminders:

With warm weather comes an increase in vandalism and thefts.

The village encourages all residents to report any sightings to either the Kent County Sheriff Department or the village office at the telephone numbers listed on the contact sheet. We also remind everyone to keep your vehicles and homes/garages locked.

This is the time of year when we like to set outside and enjoy the evening weather and stars. As a reminder to all Village Residents, the Burning Ordinance prohibits burning within the village without a permit. Be sure to contact the Fire Department for a permit for a recreational fire. The telephone numbers are listed on the contact sheet.

Kent City Fall Festival

The date has been set for September 12th for the year's festival. For committee meeting date, volunteer information or ideas, contact Mr. John Petruska @ 616-520-7128 or leave a message at the village office.

A list of some of this year's scheduled events includes:

Saturday:

- Parade – 11am on Main St. to High School – Grand Marshal's are
- Kids Street Fair (games, etc.) 12pm-2pm @ Baptist Church
- Tractor Pull (\$5.00 adults/ 12 & under free) 12pm-5pm, Entrance near fire barn
- Car Show 12pm-3pm, Kent City Ford, east lot
- Fireworks – Saturday night – rain date October 16th @ K.C.H.S. Football field

Important Contact Information

Village of Kent City Office Hours & General Information:

Phone: 616-678-7232

Fax: 616-678-4256

- *Mail Slot in door for after-hour drop off
- *Message recording for after-hour calls

Village Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:30 am – 4:00 pm
Friday - Closed

2nd Thursday - Village Council
3rd Tuesday - Board of Zoning Appeals
(meets per applicant request)
Periodically - Downtown Development Authority
*All meeting are open to the public
For more details, schedules are posted at Village Office

Village Officers:

Officers: Clerk – Mary Portell
Treasurer – Darrell Rotier

Village Staff:

Deputy Clerk – Jennifer August
Zoning Administrator – Tom Knauf
DPW Sewer Lagoon Operator – Steve Evink
DPW Sewer Lagoon Operator – Jay Pike

Village Council Members:

President – John Petruska	Merry Barron
Steve Buckner	Thomas Pieper
Jill Krikke	Bert Rose
Sandra Wylie	

Community Building

The Township Community Building is available for events.
Call Tyrone Township at 678-4779 for rental information

Police Protection

The Kent County Sheriff's Department provides law enforcement.



Emergencies: (including crimes & suspicious activities)

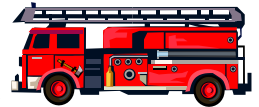
*Always call 911

Non-emergencies: 1-800-442-4661

The Kent County Sheriff's Department Sub-Station is located at:

790 – 17 Mile Rd, Kent City, MI 49330
Phone: (616) 632-6020.

Fire Protection



The Tyrone Township/Kent City Fire Department is located within the Village limits at:
218 E. Muskegon St., NW (next to Leaver Park)
It is a 21 member volunteer department which responds to **911** calls reporting fires and medical emergencies within the area.

Burn Permits:

Required before burning any items on a property.
Please contact one of the following to request a permit:

Fire Chief Mike Rexford- (616) 474-9532 –days/pager
(616) 675-4156 -evenings

Asst. Fire Chief Paul Rogers-
(616) 887-7381 –work
(616) 678-4124 –evenings

Fire Mechanic Mike Helsel-
(616) 678-7641 –days
(616) 678-4347 -evenings