



ROOSEVELT PARK REVIEW

December 2024

City Hall Closings

December 24th & 25th

Closed in observation of
Christmas

December 29th

Closed in observation of
New Year's Eve

January 1st

Closed in observation of
New Year's Day

Upcoming Events

Tree Lighting Event

Tues. December 3rd

Water/Sewer Bills Due

Tues. January 7th

Blood Drive

Tues. January 7th

Tax Bills Due

Fri. February 14th



Manager's Message

As the vibrant colors of fall settle in and the snow begins to threaten, I'm excited to share some updates on the many positive developments happening around our City. This season has already brought about beautiful changes, and there's much to look forward to as we head into the holidays and beyond in 2025.

Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration - December 3rd at 6:00 PM

We invite you to join us for the annual **Holiday Tree Lighting** celebration on **Tuesday, December 3rd at 6:00 PM** at the Roosevelt Park Community Center. This special event is a beloved tradition that kicks off the holiday season here in Roosevelt Park. The evening will feature the wonderful sounds of carolers, plenty of hot chocolate and cookies, and a chance to visit with some very important guests from the far reaches of the North Pole! It's a time for all of us to gather, enjoy the holiday cheer, and celebrate our amazing community spirit.

Please also remember to thank the volunteers and the planning committee that donate their time throughout the year to plan and put this event on. If you would like to volunteer to help plan next year's event, contact City Hall and they will get you in touch with the right people!

Exciting New Park Features at Post Road Park and Carsell Park

Thanks to the continued support of our residents through the Parks Capital Millage passed in 2022, we are thrilled to announce the completion of several new features at Post Road Park and Carsell Park (located between Haverhill Street and Chapel). Both parks now boast newly renovated playgrounds with updated, accessible equipment and improved amenities for the whole family to enjoy. These upgrades provide our residents with even more opportunities to connect, play, and relax in these beautiful green spaces. Thank you for your continued support of our parks!



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Manager's Message

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New Playground and Amenities Coming to Davies Park in 2025

We're also excited to share that the City of Roosevelt Park has received an \$83,000 playground grant, which will be matched with our own funds to create a new sprawling playground at Davies Park (between Sherwood and Drexel). This new play space, set to be completed in 2025, will offer children of all ages a wide variety of play options. In fact, we're planning a community-assisted build to help install the playground, which will allow us to maximize the play features and ensure that the design reflects our community's needs and desires. Keep an eye out this spring for opportunities to volunteer your time and talents to help build this exciting new feature. In addition to the playground, Davies Park will also feature new beanbag toss boards, hammock poles, and other relaxing items designed to highlight the park's beautiful mature tree canopy and promote a laid-back, neighborhood-friendly atmosphere. It's sure to become a favorite spot for all of us to enjoy for years to come.

Little Libraries Coming to Our Parks

We're also excited to announce the arrival of nine little libraries throughout Roosevelt Park, which are currently being installed in our parks. These charming mini-libraries have been stocked by communities members with free books for all ages, offering a way to bring the joy of reading outdoors. Several members of our Community and Recreation Commission have helped paint the libraries, and we'd like to extend a special thank you to our local Park resident and business owner Bryan Lambert, who built the libraries with help from the Lambert Brightway Insurance team. This is just one of the many ways our community continues to come together to enhance our City's public spaces. Thank you to all who've helped!

2024 Street and Infrastructure Projects Completed

This year, we've also made significant strides in improving our infrastructure. We're pleased to announce that the 2024 street projects have been completed, including the resurfacing of a block of Ashland Street and the complete reconstruction of Eastland Street between Glenside and Royal Oak. These updates have greatly improved the safety and appearance of our roads. Overall, nearly \$600,000 worth of street improvements were completed, with state grants and outside funding accounting for nearly half of the costs. The City Council and City staff are committed to securing additional grant funding and continuing to prioritize infrastructure improvements to ensure Roosevelt Park remains a great place to live.

Planning for the Future: Citywide Master Plan and Parks & Recreation Plan

Finally, we are all excited to announce that the Citywide Master Plan and Parks & Recreation Plan updating process is set to begin in the coming months. These plans will guide Roosevelt Park's growth and development for years to come, and we're committed to involving the community at every step of the process. The Roosevelt Park Planning Commission, Recreation and Parks Commission, and City Council will all play key roles in ensuring that the final plans reflect the needs and priorities of our residents. In order to ensure this, our teams will hold multiple public input sessions, surveys, and outreach opportunities to gather your thoughts and ideas. This is a multi-year project that will involve extensive community collaboration, so I encourage you to stay engaged and share your voice in shaping the future of our City.

As always, I maintain an open-door policy here at City Hall and I welcome you to come in or call me to help address any issues or questions that you may have. Thank you for being such an integral part of the Roosevelt Park community. Together, we continue to make our City an even better place to live, work, and play. Wishing you a wonderful fall season ahead!

Jared Olson, City Manager



From the Front Desk

Happy Holidays from the City Hall! Where does the time go? We hope your Thanksgiving was amazing and you were able to spend it with your loved ones. Christmas is just a few weeks away and decorations are up on Broadway Ave to get everyone in the holiday spirit! Stop down at the Community Center Tuesday December 3rd at 6:00 to enjoy the annual Christmas Tree Lighting event and all the beautiful decorations and lights that are sure to be on display throughout Roosevelt Park, bringing joy to the chilly winter months. We are happy to say City Hall is a Toys for Tots donation site again this year! When you visit City Hall bring a toy to donate. Let's make the boxes overflow with toys to help make a less fortunate child's holiday joyful. Everything that is donated here goes to local children, so let's put a smile on a lot of faces this year.

We also want to make you aware of the fee schedule changes that take place December 1st with the start of the City's fiscal year. The Community Center rental fee will be \$450 for the day and the Gazebo rental fee will be \$100 for the day. Security deposit fees will remain at \$200 for the Community Center and \$50 for the Gazebo. The deposits will be returned when keys/signs are turned in to the front desk so long as the building and grounds are left in acceptable condition when inspected. As always, you must be a resident to rent the Community Center and the Gazebo.

Wishing you all a blessed and happy holiday season! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all residents and we will see you at the front desk.

Cheryl and Sue



DPW Dirt - Winter is coming!



Did you know? Covering City owned sidewalks or roadways with snow is prohibited per section 3.26 of the City Charter. Please help us keep our streets and sidewalks safe for public travel by putting your snow on your property and not parking vehicles on roadways or over sidewalks.

You may see crew members placing plow markers in the right of way near your house. We mark these areas in advance to help avoid tearing up the shoulders of the road.

Please feel free to mark your sidewalk on the house side to keep our guys on target while in your area. If you would like you can put markers on the shoulder of the road as well.



For our residents with curbside mailboxes, this is the time of year to "shake your mailbox" to see if it can handle another brutal Roosevelt Park winter. Please take the time to get it tightened up to make it through the winter.

Ben VanHoeven, DPW Superintendent



Pointers from the RPPD

Cultivating Civility in Our Community

In an increasingly fast-paced world, the value of civility cannot be overstated. Whether in public spaces, workplaces, or even within our own neighborhoods, the way we interact with each other can significantly impact the overall atmosphere and well-being of our community. Recently, incidents across various settings have highlighted the need for a renewed commitment to kindness, patience, and mutual respect in our daily interactions.

**We need to talk.
This is serious.**



Civility is more than just politeness. It's about recognizing and valuing the dignity of those around us, even in situations where we may feel frustrated or wronged. Small acts, such as showing patience in a checkout line or handling misunderstandings calmly, can help create an environment where everyone feels safe and respected. When we approach challenges with respect and understanding, we foster a sense of unity and set a positive example for others, including the younger generations who look to us for guidance.

Consider public spaces like our stores, parks, or community events here in Roosevelt Park—places where diverse individuals cross paths every day. These spaces thrive when community members treat each other with courtesy and understanding that everyone may face unseen challenges. Conflict is inevitable, but the way we respond to it makes a difference. Addressing issues with empathy instead of anger or frustration, opens the door to productive communication and often quicker, more satisfactory resolutions for all parties involved.

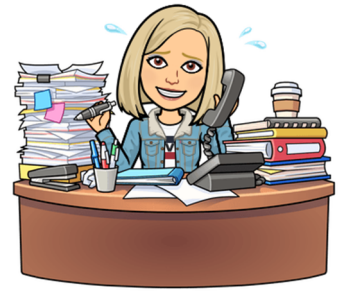
In our professional settings, civility has an even more profound impact. It enhances cooperation, builds trust, and reduces stress, which, in turn, increases productivity and job satisfaction. For workplaces, emphasizing civility is not just beneficial, but essential to creating an environment where employees feel valued and motivated.

As we navigate our busy lives, let's remember the power of a thoughtful word, a polite gesture, or a patient response. By working to improve our own behavior, we contribute to a culture of respect and consideration in which our entire Roosevelt Park community can thrive. In doing so, we not only improve our own experiences but also enhance the lives of those around us.

Shawn Bride, Chief of Police



CLERK'S CORNER



As we approach the final stretch of the 2024 election year, it's clear that this has been one of the busiest and most eventful election cycles in recent memory. From local ballots to national races, our city and country have seen significant engagement, spirited debates and a renewed focus on civic participation. One of the standout features of this past election has been the overwhelming turnout. Not only was the number of absentee voters up, the number of residents at the polls broke all records. Our City Council race has brought forward the reelection of one City Council member and a new resident, bringing a fresh prospective. I'm looking forward to the council working together to shape the future of our community. Behind every successful election is a hard-working team of dedicated volunteers, local law enforcement and city staff who ensure the process runs safely and smoothly. Thank you to all of them.

Looking forward to 2025. Our 151 businesses will renew their business licenses and continue to make Roosevelt Park a wonderful place to do business. We have plans to update our local ordinances. This is a huge undertaking; we hope we will have it completed within a year. The 2025 election schedule is not yet determined by the State, but I am certain there will be an August and a November election. Please note: the 9-day in person early will not take place in 2025, as it was voted in to take place for State and Federal elections only.

May the 2025 year bring smiles, laughter and good will.

Ann Wisniewski, City Clerk

TREASURER'S TIDBITS

December? December! My how the time flies! As the year draws to a close and holiday obligations keep you busy, keep in mind we have ACH payment capabilities. Sign up for ACH on both water and tax bills. Take away having to remember to send in payments or risk those terrible late fees and let us remember for you! We can automatically pull the payment from your bank account on the due date. Contact City Hall or check our website for the enrollment form.

Residents 60 years and greater, do you know all the amazing things AgeWell Services of West Michigan has to offer? I know many of you took advantage of the senior meal distribution we held at the Community Center in November, but coming up at the Driftwood Café in Tanglewood Park on Seminole Rd will be a holiday meal. Check out the flyer on the next page!

Wishing you all a cheerful winter season!

Kate Dibble, City Treasurer



HOLIDAY MEAL

Thursday, December 12th, 2024

AgeWell Services of West Michigan, along with DTE Energy Foundation, Senior Resources, C.A.L.L 211, and the Muskegon County Senior Millage, invites seniors 60 years and older to a special holiday meal.

Please join us at:

Driftwood Café in Tanglewood Park

Serving Time: 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm

560 Seminole Rd., Muskegon, MI 49444

RSVP: Call 211 via landline or
231-733-1155 (Monday-Friday 9am - 4pm)

Reservations are required. Space is limited.

*Please call to reserve your seat between
November 11th - December 6th.*

Donations are encouraged to help provide this special meal to more people.

MENU

Cranberry Brie Stuffed Chicken Breast, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Chunky Applesauce with Cinnamon, Prince Charles Veggies, Ceasar Salad, Dinner Roll Butter, and Dessert



AgeWell Services of West Michigan
275 W Clay Ave, Suite 100
Muskegon, MI 49440
www.agewellservices.org





**ROOSEVELT PARK
HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING
EVENT**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3RD
6:00-7:30PM AT
THE COMMUNITY CENTER**

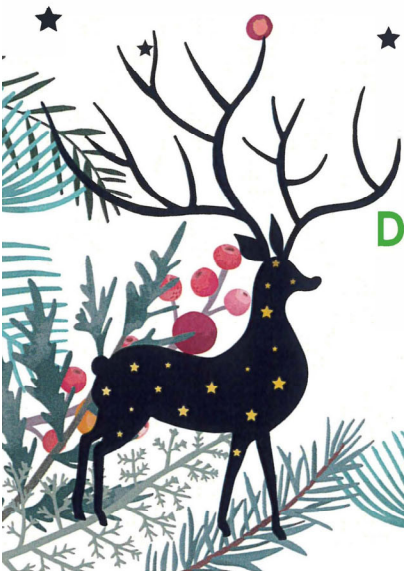
TREE LIGHTING

HOT CHOCOLATE & COOKIES

VISIT WITH SANTA

**DONATIONS ACCEPTED AT
ROOSEVELT PARK CITY HALL.
CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO:
CITY OF ROOSEVELT
COMMUNITY LIGHTING EVENT**

**DROP YOUR LETTERS TO SANTA
IN THE SPECIAL MAILBOX**



Visit us online for updates and news

The official website is www.rooseveltpark.org Find up-to-date information regarding events happening in the City, City Council meeting minutes and other important documents such as the City budget. You can also keep in touch with what is happening in the City on our official "Roosevelt Park Michigan" Facebook page. Have suggestions? Contact City Hall.

City of Roosevelt Park Council Members and Staff



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Kate Dibble, City Treasurer

755-3721 opt. 5

Shawn Bride, Chief of Police 755-3721 opt. 1

Ben VanHoeven, DPW Superintendent

755-3721 opt. 4

Ann Wisniewski, City Clerk 755-3721 opt. 3

Cheryl Christensen & Sue Degen, Front Desk

755-3721 opt. 2

CITY HALL/POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Thurs 8:00 - 5:00, Fri 8:00 - 12:00 Phone 755-3721

Non-Emergency Water/Sewer After Hours: 722-3524