Trash to Treasure Day: (Saturday May 11, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)
The City will sponsor a garage sale which will be promoted as “Trash to Treasure Day.” This voluntary, free event is open to all Ferrysburg residents. Participants can display their items for sale on front lawns and driveways from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All residents participating in this event may register their address with the City allowing it to be placed on a map which will be available on the City’s website or for pickup at City Hall. Residents may register their home by contacting City Hall at 842-5803. The deadline to register your address with the City is Monday, May 6.

Spring Residential Trash Pick Up is Saturday, May 18
This year’s City-wide one-day residential trash pickup for City residents will be on Saturday, May 18. This is a one-day, one pickup event. Pickup crews will not make return trips. Please place items for pick up at the curb or street edge by 7:00 a.m. on May 18. Crews from Republic Services will pick up: trash in bags, boxes, or small containers; a maximum of two (2) appliances per residence. Appliances containing Freon must have a sticker certifying the coolant was evacuated by a certified technician. Limited building material boxed or bundled and no more than four (4) feet in length. Crews will not pick up: tires, leaves, brush, yard waste, tree stumps, loose building material, garbage, auto parts, concrete, blacktop, batteries, scrap iron or steel, hazardous wastes, and loose trash items. Property owners will be responsible for any items left at the curb or street edge after completion of the pick up on May 18.

4th of July Parade
The 4th of July Parade is a great way to celebrate our nation’s independence. Begin the day with “Breakfast with the Mayor” at City Hall from 8:00a.m. – 10:00a.m. The parade will begin at Ferrysburg City Hall at 10:30 a.m. and will end at Wm. Ferry Park where there will be a flag raising ceremony, music, games and food.

Coast Guard Festival Community Picnic
The City of Ferrysburg will host the Coast Guard Festival Community Picnic on Sunday, July 28, from 1:00PM to 4:00PM. The event is open to all citizens and is a time to thank those that serve in the United States Coast Guard. There will be games and music, and food available for purchase.

Payments
The City of Ferrysburg will only accept the U.S. Postal Service postmark when determining if a payment is received on time. Postage meter, pre-stamped envelopes, and those without a postmark will be considered late payments when received after the due date. The City offers an automatic payment program, a drop box at City Hall, and payments can be made at Fifth/Third Bank in Ferrysburg. You may obtain our Automatic Payment form on our website at www.ferrysburg.org or contact us at 616-842-5803 for further information.

Chili Cook Off
The 13th Annual Smith’s Bayou Chili Cook-off is scheduled for Saturday, August 24, 2019 from 1:00p-4:00p on Cecelia Lane. The proceeds of this community event will be donated to Four Pointes Center for Successful Aging. This non-profit organization offers a full array of wellness opportunities and community living programs to meet the individual’s physical, social, intellectual and spiritual needs. For additional information, contact Rebecca Hopp at smiths.bayou.chili@gmail.com

Bill Pay Options
The City offers auto-pay for taxes and water/sewer bills. To sign up for auto-pay, contact City Hall at 842-5803. The option to make payments or pay ahead is also available for water/sewer bills.
**Poster Contest**
The Beautification Commission is sponsoring the 2nd annual 4th of July Poster Celebration Contest. All Ferrysburg’s elementary students in grades kindergarten through 6th grade are invited to apply. The winner will be chosen by which poster best depicts the events of the day on July 4: Mayor’s breakfast, 4th of July Parade, and the 4th of July Flag raising ceremony and Picnic at Wm. Ferry Park. Entries must be returned to City Hall at 17290 Roosevelt Road by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 26. For a complete set of rules, contact City Hall at 842-5803.

**Neighborhood Housing Services**
The City of Ferrysburg has partnered with the City of Grand Haven in the Neighborhood Housing Services Collaboration. Ferrysburg residents have available to them educational services, which are foreclosure prevention, homebuyer education, pre-purchase counseling and one on one financial education. Ferrysburg residents also have access to the Neighborhood Impact Program which allows income eligible home owners to receive up to $7,500 in eligible home repairs. To access these services, please contact Neighborhood Housing Services at 616-935-3270.

**Election Updates**
With the success of Proposal 3 on the November 6, 2018, there have been a few changes that the voter will see. The Clerk’s office at City Hall will open on the preceding Saturday of an election from 8 am-4 pm. A voter who wishes to vote with an Absentee Ballot will not need to give a reason as to why they want to vote by absentee ballot. You will still need to show a photo ID.

A resident can now register to vote up to the close of the election on election day. If you would register within 15 days of the scheduled election you can register by mail, City offices, or County offices. If you would register less than 15 days of the scheduled election or on election day you must do it at the City offices and proof of residency is required.

A voter can also request to be put on the permanent absentee voter list for the City and receive an application to vote absentee for each election in your mailbox. The application can be mailed back or brought into City Hall to receive a ballot.

If you have any questions or would like to be put on our permanent absentee voter list contact 842-5803 or email dwierenga@ferrysburg.org.

**City Election**
In 2019 the offices of the Mayor and three Council Members will expire. Petitions to be on the November 5 ballot are available at City Hall and must be turned in by 4 pm on April 23. The term for Mayor is for 2 years and the term for Council Members is for 4 years. If you have any questions or would like to obtain an application and petitions contact City hall at 842-5803 or email dwierenga@ferrysburg.org.

**Fire Department**
Firefighters wanted: Did you know firefighters get paid? Have you wondered what is involved to become a firefighter, or how much time is required? On Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., the Department will have an informational question and answer meeting for residents to answer these questions and any other questions you may have. Personnel from the Fire Department will give a brief overview of the fire department, its operations and the training requirements. A station and equipment tour will also be included. The meeting will be at the Fire Station located at North Shore Road & 174th Avenue and is expected to last one hour and no reservation is required.

**Tree City USA**
The City is working on obtaining the Tree City USA designation. To qualify for the Tree City USA designation, four (4) Standards must be met: create a Tree Board, adopt a Community Tree Ordinance, have a Community Forestry Program with an Annual Budget of at Least $2 per capita, and have an Arbor Day Observance Event. The first three (3) items have been accomplished. For the 4th Standard, the Tree Board has selected April 26, 2019 for the Arbor Day Observance event. A tree planting ceremony will take place at Ferrysburg City Hall, all are welcome to attend.
**Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA)**

Spring is when most creatures start to wake up from the cold of winter to begin their lifecycles once again. There is an invasive pest however, that has used the winter months to slowly feed on hemlock shoots and branches and develop into adults in the spring.

This invasive pest is the hemlock woolly adelgid, an aphid-like insect that sucks the nutrients from hemlock trees, slowly killing them over time.

During this feeding time, the adelgid secretes a white waxy coating that looks like a small, round, cottony mass. That makes it possible to identify infested trees in the spring. These woolly masses are attached at the base of hemlock needles and can be spread by wind, mammals, and birds; with birds being one of the primary ways HWA can move. Humans can also spread HWA through vehicles, trailers, and campers that come in contact with infested trees, then move to a different location.

Michigan has more than 170 million hemlock trees that we want to protect. They provide important habitat and winter cover for many wildlife species, add diversity across the landscape, help stabilize and protect dune and riparian systems, and provide shade to create a cooling influence on rivers, streams, and creeks.

HWA has been found so far in four west Michigan counties and it’s important to keep it from spreading.

You can do the following to help prevent the spread of the hemlock woolly adelgid.

- Consider placing bird feeder at least 100 feet away from hemlock trees, or
  - take them down from April – June, or
  - treat your hemlock trees with insecticides to prevent HWA from being established or to destroy existing HWA

Identify hemlock trees: Generally dark green and have somewhat droopy, lacy-looking branches. Needles are flat and attached individually to the branch. There are two white stripes on the underside of the needle.

**Lift Stations**

The City’s Lift Station will undergo major renovations beginning in May. The project entails conversion of three (3) existing can-type pump stations to submersible pump stations, and demolition and abandonment of the existing can structures. One can-type pump station will be retrofitted and one (1) grinder station will be upgraded. Each Lift Station project is expected to take three (3) weeks to complete. During this project noise will be heard, from the contractor working, trucks bringing in equipment, and de-watering equipment running 24 hours a day.

**Fire Barn Park**

The Recreation Commission is working to raise funds to replace the play equipment at Fire Barn Park. The total project cost is $100,000.00. The new park equipment will be universally accessible to serve the needs of all. The project will be constructed by volunteers from the community. Thus far, over $40,000 has been raised for this project. We need your help to raise the remaining funds for the new playground equipment and would greatly appreciate any donation you can make. Please consider making a donation using the form below and returning it to City Hall.

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**Level of donation:**

- $50
- $100
- $200
- $500
- $1,000
- **Other $**

I understand that at this time I am making a pledge to the Fire Barn Park project. If the necessary funds are raised I will pay this pledge in the form of a check payable to the City of Ferrysburg.

**Signature:**

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**Date:**

**Names(s):**

**Address:**

**City, State, Zip:**

**Pledge:**

$_________

- Willing to volunteer on the Community Build Team
Brush chipping will take place in the months of April, June, August, and October. During these months, brush chipping will take place on the second full week, streets west of US-31; on the third full week, streets east of US-31. Brush must be stacked all in the same direction. There is a 30 minute time limit at each stop. Generally, crews can chip in 30 minutes what you can stack in 30 minutes. DPW crews will pick up brush after storms.

Cops with Cones
On Saturday, June 8 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. the Ottawa County Sheriff’s Officers in Spring Lake/Ferrysburg will hold the 2nd annual “scoop”, a meet-n-greet at Miss Lisa’s Ice Cream located at 307 Oak Street in Ferrysburg. Cops with Cones is an informal time where residents of all ages can meet their local law enforcement team, ask questions and introduce concerns.

North Shore Drive
The City of Ferrysburg and the City of Grand Haven have embarked on a joint venture to reconstruct North Shore Drive, from Main Street at the projects southerly end to the south side of North Beach County Park at the north end. The project will begin in the Grand Haven section in May with the Ferrysburg section starting after Labor Day. The street will be reduced to one travel lane during construction. There will be a signalized traffic lights on the north and south side of the project. If you are stopped for a red light, the wait may be up to ten (10) minutes to allow all oncoming traffic to clear. Prein & Newhof engineers are providing construction oversight and inspection services. The estimated cost for the Ferrysburg section of North Shore Drive is $700,000 and is being partially funded with a $286,000 MDOT grant.

Leaf Pick-Up
The City of Ferrysburg does not have a Spring street edge leaf pick up. Residents with leaves in paper bags only may drop them off at the West side of the Public Services Garage. Paper bags are available at City Hall for $.40 each. Thank you for your cooperation.

Greening Your Spring Cleaning
As you’re cleaning up your home and yard this spring, take special care to dispose of household hazardous wastes appropriately so that you protect people’s health and the environment. Products such as paints, cleaners, oils, batteries, and pesticides can contain hazardous ingredients and require special care when you dispose of them.

What is a household hazardous waste? A product is considered hazardous if it has one or more of the following properties:
- Toxic-poisonous or lethal when ingested, touched or inhaled;
- Flammable-ignitable and burns easily;
- Corrosive-eats through materials & living tissue; or
- Reactive-can possibly explode or react with other chemicals.

Improper disposal of household hazardous wastes can include pouring them down the drain, on the ground, into storm sewers, or in some cases putting them out with the regular trash. The dangers of such disposal methods might not be immediately obvious, but improper disposal of these wastes can pollute the environment and pose a threat to human health. Certain types of household hazardous waste have the potential to cause physical injury to sanitation workers or to contaminate septic tanks or wastewater treatment systems if poured down drains or toilets. They can also present hazards to children and pets if left around the house. Storm sewers lead directly to surface waters without being treated, so dumping waste in storm drains pollutes nearby creeks, rivers and lakes.

As you’re cleaning up this spring, make sure any household hazardous wastes are safely disposed of according to your community’s guidelines. To find out how and where to dispose of household hazardous waste, visit www.L.GROW.org/disposal. Better yet, swap out chemicals when possible for all-natural cleaning supplies. To find products that are safer for people and the environment, check out www.epa.gov/saferchoice.

By safely disposing of household hazardous waste, you are doing your part to “Keep your Lakes Great and your River Grand”! https://www.epa.gov/hw/household-hazardous-waste-hhw
From The Director

Hi. My name is Steve Patrick and I'm the Interim Transportation Director at Harbor Transit. I took this position because I thought it would be interesting and challenging; I was right. I also took it because I missed working with people for a common goal; plus I heard Harbor Transit had good people and they love what they do. I'm also here to help smooth the transition while the search for a new permanent Director is finalized. I've spent the last 16 years as the City Manager of Coopersville, where I was blessed to be able to work with some outstanding people at all levels in the public sector. They have added value and enriched my life more than I could have imagined. I do not see my job at Harbor Transit as simply maintaining the status quo, but rather doing whatever is required to help build a team that continues to deliver excellent service to our customers. Over the coming months, I look forward to working side by side with the staff in helping to make Harbor Transit the best it can be.

Staff Changes To Enhance Service & Communication

The previous staff position of Customer Care & Compliance Coordinator has been split into two separate functions because of the complexities and time requirements that job demanded in the past. These new positions are now titled Finance and Compliance Coordinator and Customer Care and Dispatch Supervisor. We are pleased to announce that Ms. Dana Appel has been selected to handle the finance and compliance responsibilities while Ms. Shelly Converse has taken on the duties of overseeing the dispatch staff along with customer care. Both of these professionals possess years of experience in the public service sector and will be a real asset to the organization moving forward. In addition, a newly created Assistant Operations Manager position is in the process of being filled which will provide added support with respect to management of the day to day operations of the organization. These changes are in no way a negative reflection on Harbor Transit. Rather, they are simply an effort to help increase efficiencies, improve customer service and reduce certain expenditures.
Survey Results Give Harbor Transit High Marks For Performance

As was the case in 2013, results from the recent Harbor Transit rider survey indicates we continue to do a great job serving the needs of the community. Responses from the 234 riders who completed a survey distributed this past summer indicated that 93.7% of them were satisfied or very satisfied with the level of service provided. Three quarters of them have been riding over a year, 60% ride weekly if not more, and their top two destinations are medical appointments and shopping. Dispatch received high marks both for helpfulness with reservations as well as its handling of calls in a timely manner. The survey reflected the feeling that 81% of respondents feel very satisfied or satisfied with our arrival times. All in all, riders find the drivers to be helpful, the buses clean, and how we get them to their destination satisfactory. This is a great testament to all of our hard working professionals who are the voice and face of Harbor Transit each and every day.

New Buses On Order

Thanks to a grant from the FTA, we have been working with MDOT to get a couple of new buses delivered by to us by May/June of this year. This is obviously good news for our riders, but mostly for all our drivers and especially our two mechanics Ross and Todd. This represents the first wave of vehicles which will ultimately number seven new buses when all is said and done. With a good share of the present fleet exceeding their useful life, we can't get the keys to the new buses fast enough.

Building Expansion In The Works

A fleet of 26 buses and two vans driven by a crew of 65 drivers, seven days a week, places more demand on our operations center than ever before. Even though our facility underwent some improvements four years ago, it still can't provide all the functional space necessary to operate a transportation system of our size. But, help is on the way. Harbor Transit was recently awarded a $1 million dollar grant for facility expansion concentrating on administrative, storage and meeting-training space. Initial steps in the process have begun which include: the hiring of an architect, visiting other agencies that have recently gone through expansion, and determining exactly what can be built based on available land and the awarded funds. The initial phase of this expansion project is expected to take approximately six months. Stay tuned for more details on this exciting new development.