



## Internal Memo

October 7, 2014

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Mark C. Meyers, City Administrator

*MEMO*

SUBJECT: October Information Update

1. Planning Commission Meeting – Please note in your Planning Commission packet that the meeting will begin at 5:00 p.m. (1/2 hour early) on October 14, 2014.
2. Flu Clinic – Please take advantage of the walk-in employee Flu Clinic scheduled for Thursday, October 16, 2014 from 9 – 11 a.m. and 4 – 6 p.m. in the City Hall conference room. Flu shots are free to City officials, employees and members of their household.
3. Muskegon County Juvenile Transition Center Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – A ribbon cutting ceremony related to the construction of the new Muskegon County Juvenile Transition Center will take place on Thursday, October 16, 2014 at 2:30 p.m. The facility is located on the corner of Pine and Delaware Streets in Muskegon.
4. Temporary Parking – Due to the construction of the Police Department garage and addition, employees will be required to use alternate parking beginning October 8. Attached is a memo from Public Works Director Jerry Bartoszek relaying temporary parking instructions. Employee parking is available in the Lake Harbor United Methodist Church north lot on Henry Street opposite City Hall. Employees may also elect to park along Churchill Drive. Parking spaces between City Hall and the Recreation garage are reserved for City vehicles.
5. Street Reconstruction Update – Local roads being reconstructed include portions of Green Street, Rood Road, Torrent Street and Davis/Mount Garfield Roads intersection. Green Street between Seaway Drive and Lakeshore Boulevard and Torrent Road received its base course of asphalt on Tuesday. The final course should be placed tomorrow. Current work on Rood Road includes replacement of the old cast iron water main with new ductile iron. Widening and paving should be completed by the end of the month. Removal of the existing pavement at the Mount Garfield Road and Davis Road intersection is complete. New storm sewer and the replacement of cast iron watermain with ductile iron pipe is coming next. Of course, the timing of the reconstruction work is weather dependant.

6. PA 54 Exemption – Last week the Senate approved an exemption to Public Act 54, a law that, among other things, prohibits retroactive wage increases and step increases after expiration of a collective bargaining agreement and until a new one is settled. The new law specifically exempts police and fire union employees from that particular feature in the law. However, it still applies to other unions including public works employees. Attached is information from the Michigan Municipal League regarding this amendment.
7. Economic Development Projects – Attached is a list of projects occurring during 2014 in Muskegon County. You will note a number of them are in Norton Shores. In fact, there are several more to add to the list with the recent tax abatement applications from Lakeside Surfaces (\$1,471,591.00), J & M Machine Products (\$619,970.00) and Intelligent Machine Solutions (\$284,376).
8. Public Works Director Receives Service Award – Please join me in congratulating Public Works Director Jerry Bartoszek for receiving the Edward Dunbar Rich Service Award from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for completing 25 or more years of faithful service providing safe, dependable and adequate public water supply (please see attached certificate). Congratulations Jerry!
9. Council Requests List – Attached is a revised list for City Council's information.
10. Public Works Snowplow Roadeo – Congratulations to Public Works Director Jerry Bartoszek, Streets and Drainage Superintendent Terry Sladick and their staff and employees for hosting a successful American Public Works Association Midwest Michigan Snowplow Roadeo and Equipment Show yesterday. Event organizers were impressed with our facility and commented that they would like to return. Mayor Nelund, Council Member Moulatsiotis and I enjoyed participating in the 'celebrity drive'. Unfortunately, we did not take home the traveling trophy but there is always next year. Please see the attached media coverage of the event.

/ss

Attachments

# Muskegon County Juvenile Transition Center **RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY**

Thursday, October 16, 2014 • Ceremony begins at 2:30 p.m.

Facility tour to follow immediately after Ceremony

Refreshments to be served

Event to be held in the parking lot of the new facility, on the corner of Pine and Delaware Streets in Downtown Muskegon





## Internal Memo

October 6, 2014

TO: All City Employees  
County Equalization Employees

FROM: Jerry Bartoszek, Public Works Director

RE: Parking During Construction



Construction on a Police Garage and Department addition is planned to begin on Wednesday, October 8, 2014. As a result of the work, all of the employee parking areas at the City Hall/Police Department will be disrupted. Therefore, effective October 8 and until further notice, parking arrangements will be as follows:

- Employee parking of all personal vehicles will be in the Lake Harbor United Methodist Church north lot on Henry Street opposite City Hall. DO NOT park in the Rhodes Engineering lot. Overflow parking is available behind the church.
- Employees may park along Churchill Drive if they desire except on Tuesday, November 4 due to the general election.
- The parking area between City Hall and the Recreation Garage will be used for the parking of City vehicles only.
- The area immediately in front of City Hall on the Churchill Drive side is to be reserved for City Hall/Police Department visitors.

A map showing the employee parking area is attached. If you have any questions, please let me know.

GAB/ts



City Vehicle Parking

Employee Parking

Overflow Employee Parking

S HENRY ST

W CHURCHILL DR

W BROOKSIDE DR

W BROOKSIDE DR

897

873

847

833

4801

864

862

852

4817

890

874

869

896

886

876

885

875

865

855

4861

866

860

848

4875

4885

4895

4868

4878

790

760

750

785

731

775

700

720

730

735

770

## Costly PA 54 Exemption on its Way to the Governor

Posted on **October 2, 2014** by **Samantha Harkins**

We were told a costly PA 54 exemption, HB 5097, was a priority for the Governor. Now it is on its way to his desk for his signature.

**House Bill 5097** exempts police and fire from Public Act 54 so that they can have retroactive pay increases after a contract expires. In the House-passed version they included retroactive health care language that references PA 152 of 2011 (the 80/20, hard cap, opt out legislation). The language is confusing and unnecessary, and we suspect it will result in major issues during negotiations.

The Michigan Municipal League has strongly opposed this bill due to the detrimental financial implications for our communities.

In 2011 the legislature passed a number of reforms to help employers control costs and be better stewards of taxpayer resources. One of the, if not the, most significant reform was to prohibit retroactive pay increases after a contract has expired. This game changing statute, PA 54 of 2011, has helped communities settle contracts more quickly and provides more certainty in municipal budgets.

*HOWEVER*, according to the Michigan Employment Relations Commission there were only 43 PA 312 filings in 2013 as opposed to 69 in 2011. PA 312 filings are significantly lower than they were before enactment of PA 54. In addition, even if the legislature only intended this for teachers, it has been a game changer for municipal budgets, and it's critical that we keep this tool to allow local units the opportunity to settle contracts expeditiously and save taxpayers money.

Unfortunately these arguments fell on deaf ears in the legislature, and HB 5097 passed both chambers overwhelmingly.

*Samantha Harkins is the Director of State Affairs for the League. She can be reached at [sharkins@mml.org](mailto:sharkins@mml.org) or 517-908-0306.*

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**Muskegon County  
Economic Development Projects  
2014 (Source: Muskegon Area First)**

<u>Company</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Real &amp; Personal Property Investments</u>
Leading Edge	City of Montague	\$303,000
Diversified Machine	City of Montague	\$13,000,000
ADAC Automotive	City of Muskegon	\$1,651,000
Ameriform	City of Muskegon	\$5,000,000
Bold Furniture	City of Muskegon	\$403,031
Muskegon County Jail & Juvenile Ctr	City of Muskegon	\$39,000,000
Muskegon County Transit Center	City of Muskegon	\$2,000,000
Muskegon Community College	City of Muskegon	\$28,300,000
Baker College Health Science Center	City of Muskegon	\$8,000,000
Versatile Fabrication	Muskegon Heights	\$2,000,000
American Glass	City of Norton Shores	\$2,545,000
Intelligent Machine Solutions (IMS)	City of Norton Shores	\$263,120
J&M Machine Products	City of Norton Shores	\$729,000
Non Ferrus Cast Alloys	City of Norton Shores	\$1,228,285
Philos Foods	City of Norton Shores	\$3,350,000
Cinema Carousel	City of Norton Shores	\$2,500,000
CWC Textron	City of Roosevelt Park	\$5,928,000
Eagle CNC	Dalton Township	N/A
Motion Dynamics	Fruitport Township	\$4,804,700
Bayer Crop Science	Muskegon Township	\$23,000,000
Production Fabricators	Muskegon Township	\$745,000
Erdman Machine	Whitehall Township	<u>\$1,744,837</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$146,494,973</b>
 <b>Other projects In The Works</b>		
High Point Flats Apartmarts	City of Muskegon	\$8,000,000
Holiday Inn Renovations	City of Muskegon	\$1,500,000
Parkland Waterfront Housing Project	City of Muskegon	\$14,000,000
Mercy Health	City of Muskegon	\$220,000,000
Sappi Redevelopment	City of Muskegon	N/A
Consumers B.C. Cobb Plant	City of Muskegon	N/A
Walmart	Whitehall Township	<u>\$14,000,000</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$257,500,000</b>

STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

OFFICE OF DRINKING WATER AND  
MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE



CONFERS

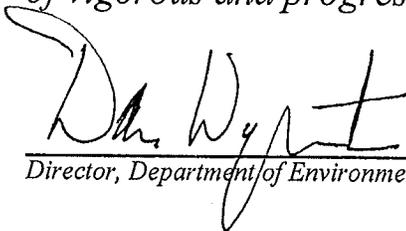
**THE EDWARD DUNBAR RICH  
SERVICE AWARD**

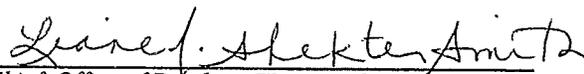
for 2014 upon

**Gerald A. Bartoszek**

*for completing 25 or more years of meritorious and faithful service in providing and maintaining a safe, dependable and adequate public water supply.*

*This award is made in commemoration of the career of Edward Dunbar Rich, a career devoted to the public interest through a conscientious administration of vigorous and progressive public health policies.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director, Department of Environmental Quality

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Office of Drinking Water and  
Municipal Assistance



## City Council Requests – October 2014

Date Requested	Requested By	Received Via	Request	Action Taken	Date Completed	Completed By
3/14/12	Council Member Wiersma	Email	Consider consolidation of garbage carriers bid by regions within the city.	<p>The matter was discussed at the July and October 2012 work sessions. Staff surveyed rates and included a FAQ piece in the Spring 2013 Community Newsletter. The item was brought back for further consideration at the May 2013 work session. On Council's direction staff met with local haulers on July 17, 2013 to discuss alternatives other than a single contract and a report on the meeting was presented at the September 24, 2013 work session. City Council directed staff to survey residents regarding a single hauler contract. Survey results were shared with Council at the June 24 work session. Sixty (60) percent agree or strongly agree on a single hauler if price is the same or less and service is the same or better. Staff will also review the feasibility of using a millage to pay for the service. Further discussion was held at the July 22 work session. Staff developed a request for proposals which Council reviewed at the September 23, 2014 work session. The RFP has been issued.</p>	Pending	DPW Director
04/2013	Council Member Beecham	Council Meeting	Look into regulating "donation boxes" that are popping up in business parking lots.	<p>Staff is researching what other cities are doing to manage the drop boxes and also observing installations of drop boxes to determine if the practice is growing. Staff is also reviewing pending legislation regarding what local government can and cannot do to manage the drop boxes.</p>	Pending	Administrative Services Director

09/03/13	Council Member Rood	Council Meeting	Review EEOC Policy and City employment statistics related to race and gender including comparison with other municipalities.	Staff issued a report.	Completed	Administrative Services Director
03/25/14	Council Member Ostrom	Work Session	Consider building a boat launch ramp at Ross Park.	The item will be placed on the October work session agenda.	Pending	Parks & Recreation Director
03/25/14	Council Member Jurkas	Email	Reconsideration of Rental Inspection Program.	City Attorney was asked to research and render a legal opinion. He presented options to the City Council at the April 22 work session.	Pending	City Attorney

\*Revisions since the last update are highlighted

Forms/councilreq.responses

Norton Shores hosts "Snowplow Roadeo"

## Norton Shores hosts "Snowplow Roadeo"



Norton Shores hosts "Snowplow Roadeo"

WZZM 6:53 p.m. EDT October 8, 2014



(Photo: WZZM)

NORTON SHORES, Mich. (WZZM) -- The men and women who will work this winter to clear area roads of snow and ice were testing their skills Wednesday in Norton Shores.

The American Public Works Association "Snowplow Roadeo" and equipment show took place at the Norton Shores Department of Public Works building.

The event included the newest equipment to push, scrape, and throw snow.

Members of area road crews also competed in a timed obstacle course.

Drivers say the event is a good way to brush up on the skills they need to effectively operate the big plows. It's work that includes long hours, and they say it's rarely fully appreciated.

"I would say under-rated and under-appreciated," said Grand Rapids public services manager Victor Rose. "Everybody knows last winter we had a hard winter. We had drivers that worked 12 hours on and then 12 hours off for six weeks straight. There were no Saturdays and Sundays off. Most of the drivers got 400 to 500 hours of overtime. We did have problems with parked cars, narrowing streets, and some bent fenders -- sorry for that -- but we had to get the roads clear for emergency services."

The plow drivers say they believe the Farmers' Almanac, which is calling for snowy and cold conditions in December, January, and February. That would amount to a winter similar to the most recent one.

Read or Share this story: <http://www.wzzm13.com/story/news/local/muskegon/2014/10/08/norton-shores-snowplow-roadeo/16934583/>

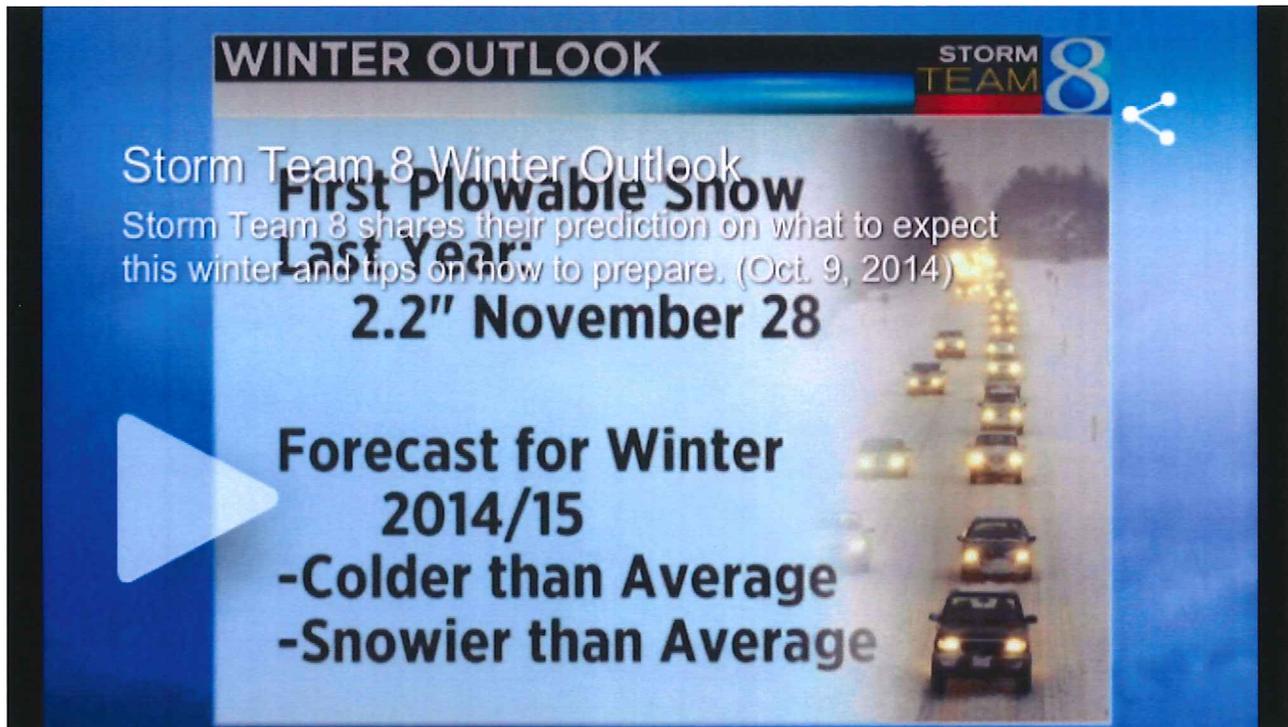
**MORE STORIES**



## Storm Team 8 predicts above average snow, cold

By Matt Kirkwood

Published: October 9, 2014, 7:04 am | Updated: October 9, 2014, 7:06 am



GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (WOOD) — It's hard to believe, but winter is right around the corner and there are several ways to be prepared before the snow flies.

Jerry Byrne, the maintenance director for the Kent County Road Commission, recommends securing mailboxes, prepping vehicles for winter and preparing mentally.

"What it takes you to drive to work in July is different in January. Prep yourself mentally, that means give yourself 15 to 20 minutes extra. Listen to the forecast and give yourself that extra time," said Byrne. "Help us help you get to work, get to school, get to church, wherever you need to go."

Follow

A simple checklist to prepare your vehicle for winter includes snow tires, good windshield  
Follow "WOODTV.com"

wipers, and good headlights.

Byrne said this past winter depleted a lot of their supplies, so they have been busy stocking up on salt and other materials.

Storm Team 8 meteorologist Matt Kirkwood joined the Kent County Road Commission by participating in the American Public Works Association's annual Snowplow "Rodeo" in Norton Shores on Wednesday.

The competition helps snow plow drivers get prepared and back in the habit before the upcoming winter season.

Meteorologist Matt Kirkwood predicts this winter will be both colder and snowier than average.

The first plowable snow in West Michigan last year occurred on November 28. Storm Team 8 predicts this year it will occur sooner.

Watch the entire interview with Jerry Byrne for more tips on how to get ready for winter by clicking on the video player above.

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## APWA Snowplow Roadeo and Equipment Show brings hundreds to Norton Shores

Loading Photo Gallery

**Dillon Davis | ddavis11@mlive.com** By **Dillon Davis | ddavis11@mlive.com**

on October 08, 2014 at 5:27 PM, updated October 08, 2014 at 7:50 PM

NORTON SHORES, MI – The snowplows were out in full force in Norton Shores on Wednesday. And though there's still no snow to speak of, it's only a matter of time now.

Several hundred people came out Oct. 8 to the City of Norton Shores DPW building, 1174 E. Mt. Garfield Road in Norton Shores, to take part in the **American Public Works Association (APWA) Midwest Michigan Branch 2014 Snowplow Roadeo and Equipment Show.**

The majority in attendance were on hand for the event's snowplow competition, which challenged 31 two-person teams to an obstacle course behind the DPW building. Each driver raced around the course in a Norton Shores snowplow and punctuated by challenges on a race course lined with traffic cones.

John Gorney, Snowplow Roadeo Committee chairman, said the event, which originally started in 1985 in Grandville, is an adept training method for many of the drivers, who often spend the winter seasons out on the road.

"We're always ready; that's just how we operate," Gorney said. "Everybody that's in public service is a 24-7 person so if it snows tomorrow, we're gonna be ready to go."

This was the first stop the event ever has made in Norton Shores after splitting time in Grandville, the city of Wyoming and Kent County, among other locales. Gorney said the reason the location shifts from year to year is to eliminate the burden of one location having to host it each year.

The cost of the event ended its run in 2005, but Gorney said the APWA brought it back in 2011 with the help of volunteers and community sponsors. Since it returned, it's been held at locations in Kent County, Ottawa County and the City of Kentwood.

Vendors and exhibitors were inside the venue, displaying different aspects of their business. Many also took part in a vendor bingo contest for participants, awarding door prizes to the winners.

Superior Asphalt, Inc., public relations director Stacie Newmann said she enjoys taking part in the Snowplow

Roadeo and Equipment Show because of the opportunities it provides the area's snowplow operators and businesses.

"This is not my first time at the rodeo," she said. "I was here last year and that was my first time and the excitement of the drivers and the competition, it really gets them ready for a very long season."



#### **Midwest Michigan Snowplow Roadeo Competition**

31 communities competed in the Midwest Michigan Snowplow Roadeo at the City of Norton Shores Department of Public Works in Muskegon on October 8, 2014.

Most of the participants in the snowplow competition come from West Michigan agencies and the Michigan Department of Transportation, according to Norton

Shores Public Works Director Jerry Bartoszek. The winner is provided \$2,500 to compete in the 2015 Western Snow & Ice Conference in Colorado.

Hailing from cities and municipalities all over Michigan, each competitor brought his own distinct flair to the competition.

City of Muskegon equipment operators Max Beegle and Kyle Morningstar, who both operate snowplows during the winter, ran the race on Wednesday. Beegle was one of the first of the 62 competitors to race the course and he came away enthusiastic after a strong overall performance.

"It's pretty challenging, yeah, but it's more mental than anything," Beegle said. "You know how to drive a truck and operate it, but it's just trying to get through the course and you've got to remember certain things."

For more information about APWA, **visit online at [apwa.net](http://apwa.net)**.

*Dillon Davis is a staff writer at MLive Muskegon Chronicle. Email him at [ddavis11@mlive.com](mailto:ddavis11@mlive.com) and follow him on **Facebook** and on **Twitter**.*

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