



# CITY OF PORTLAND

## NEWSLETTER

www.portland-michigan.org

# December 2023



### CITY HALL HOLIDAY HOURS

City Hall will be **CLOSED** Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at Noon through Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> for the Christmas Holiday and Friday, December 29<sup>th</sup> through Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup> for the New Year's Holiday.

### FALL LEAF REMOVAL

The leaves are just about finished falling! DPW crews can serve you better for loose leaf pickup if leaves are placed in long narrow rows at the curb. Please keep limbs, branches, and rocks out of leaf piles as these items can damage the leaf machine. Leaves can also be placed in paper yard waste bags for pickup. Residents can also self-haul leaves to the compost pile located behind the horse arena at Bogue Flats. Please **DO NOT** place any animal waste in leaf piles; these piles will not be picked up. Under the Refuse Ordinance the burning of brush and leaves is prohibited.



**The last day for loose leaf pickup will be Monday, December 4, 2023. Please have leaves raked to the curb by 7:00 A.M. on December 4, 2023. After that date, leaves may be placed at the curb in paper yard waste bags for pickup.**

### RECEIVE YOUR UTILITY BILL VIA E-MAIL

Did you know, you can receive your utility bill via email? The E-bill will contain the same information that you are accustomed to seeing on your paper bill. The bill date, due date, amount due and other information will be the same. E-mail Bill Enrollment Forms are available at City Hall or online at <http://mi-portland.civicplus.com/301/Utility-Billing>. Please call 517-647-3205 if you have any questions.



### SEEKING BOARD OF REVIEW MEMBER

The Board of Review is responsible for overseeing and approving the annual Assessment Roll after it is prepared by the City Assessor. The Board hears appeals of individual assessments in March and determines if the value placed on the appealed parcels is accurate. The Board also approves changes made to correct clerical errors and make other adjustments to the Roll in July and December. Members must be a registered elector and property owner in the City of Portland.

Please contact the City Clerk at 517-647-3211 for more information or apply at City Hall or online at: <https://www.portland-michigan.org/.../Board-Commission...>

### NO PARKING 2 AM – 6 AM



For City crews to safely clear streets during the winter months and to allow for the easy passage of emergency vehicles the winter parking ban went into effect on **November 1<sup>st</sup>**. Per City Ordinance, NO PARKING is allowed on any City Street between the hours of 2 A.M. and 6 A.M. Please call the Police Dept. at 517-647-4111 with questions.

### CLEARING DRIVEWAYS

City Ordinances prohibit blowing or shoveling snow into the streets. Residents or contractors can be fined for leaving piles of snow in the street. These piles can cause a real hazard to motor vehicles if they are large or become frozen.



### PORTLAND COMMUNITY FUND NEWS



**Christmas Giving Program** – The Portland Community Fund Association (PCFA) is asking for your assistance in making our Christmas Giving Program a success. We will be collecting non-perishable food items and gifts for family members 18 and under. Each family will receive a complete Christmas dinner.

Donation boxes are in place at Tom's Food Center, Health Source Physical Therapy, Family Farm and Home, Huntington Bank, Studio 176, Hometown Sports, Portland Federal Credit Union, the Portland District Library, and most churches. All donations will be used for residents of the Portland School District.

Wooden trees with brown grocery bags are placed around town to fill and return. We are requesting the following items of food: instant potatoes, rice, boxed stuffing, gravy, canned broth, canned fruit, and vegetables, Bisquick, Jiffy Mix, Jello, and instant pudding. All extra food not included in the Christmas dinners will be donated to the local food banks. Perishable food items will be purchased by PCFA.

Giving Trees are located at St. Patrick's Church, St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Congregational Church, United Methodist Church, Independent Bank, Epic Church, and Tri-County Electric Cooperative. Please take a tag, buy a gift, and return it unwrapped with the tag securely attached to it by Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>.

Distribution of the Christmas dinner and gifts will be on Thursday December 14<sup>th</sup> at the Portland Church of the Nazarene at 9466 Cutler Road, from 3:00-7:00pm.

For more information or questions, contact Lisa Balderson 517-930-1651 or Beth Theis 517-490-9710.

The Portland Community Fund members THANK everyone who donates or helps to make our Christmas Giving Program a success.

*We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*



**CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR PET**

Please pick up after your dog. According to City Ordinance all dogs must be secured by a leash while on any public property. Also, dogs are not allowed to defecate on any premises other than their own, unless the person in possession of the dog promptly cleans up any feces deposited by the animal. Violators may be cited and fined up to \$500.

**SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE**



The City Ordinance requires property owners to clear snow from all sidewalks within 10 hours. If you are headed south for the winter, please arrange to have the sidewalk in front of your property cleared after it snows. Please be considerate of the people who walk on the sidewalks and senior citizens who need help clearing theirs. Let's all pitch in and have a safe winter!

For more information on the recreation programs below please contact Erin at 517-647-3207 or at [efair@portland-michigan.org](mailto:efair@portland-michigan.org)

**NEW RECREATION SOFTWARE:**

This user-friendly and mobile-friendly system allows for easy program registration and, new this year, online pavilion rentals. Families will need to create a new account for their household; your old login information will no longer work. Visit [portlandmi.recdesk.com](http://portlandmi.recdesk.com) to get started.



**PUZZLE-PALOOZA:**

**NEW!** Join Portland Parks & Recreation for its first Puzzle-Palooza on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, from 6:30pm-8:30pm at City Hall! Once the clock starts, it's a race to the finish! Teams of up to 4 will receive

the same 500-piece puzzle and compete to see who can complete it the fastest. Prize awarded to the winning team. All ages are welcome. Only one team member needs to register; sign up at [portlandmi.recdesk.com](http://portlandmi.recdesk.com). Cost: \$25/Team

**YOUTH BASKETBALL:**

**DK/KINDERGARTEN (COED)** – Leagues operate throughout March. Two league options available; Mondays and Wednesdays OR Tuesdays and Thursdays (new!). Each session consists of team practice followed by a scrimmage with another

team; total session time is approximately one hour. The registration deadline is **Monday, February 5, 2024**. Online registration is available at [portlandmi.recdesk.com](http://portlandmi.recdesk.com). Cost: \$40 Res/\$50 NR



**COMMUNITY LAKE PARK**

Will be closed to vehicle traffic beginning Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>.



**PARKS & CEMETERY:**

**PAVILION RENTALS** – Available through the Parks & Recreation Department. Reservations can be made up to one year in advance for the pavilions at Community Lake, Bogue Flats, Thompson Field, William Toan Park, Joe Tichvon Park, and the Red Mill. For more information or to make a reservation visit [portlandmi.recdesk.com](http://portlandmi.recdesk.com), call Parks & Recreation at 517-647-7985, Portland City Hall at 517-647-3205 or visit City Hall to make a reservation. City Hall hours are Monday-Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

**CEMETERY DEPARTMENT** – Grave blankets may be placed on plots from November 1<sup>st</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup>. Grave blankets that remain after April 1<sup>st</sup> will be removed and disposed of. *Reminder: glass vases, urns, or other glass containers are not permitted. Flowers not securely placed in an urn will be removed by staff.* Please call 517-647-7985 with questions.

**CITY MEETING SCHEDULE**

**City Council** meets the first and third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at City Hall. *City Council members are Mayor Jim Barnes, Mayor Pro-Tem Joel VanSlambrouck, Patrick Fitzsimmons, Amanda L. Johnston, and Erica Sheehan*

**Downtown Development Authority** meets at City Hall at 7:00 p.m., on the fourth Monday of each month.

**Portland Area Fire Authority** meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Portland City Hall.

**Zoning Board of Appeals** meets at City Hall at 7:00 p.m., on the second Monday of the month as needed.

**Planning Commission** meets at City Hall at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month.

**Parks Board** meets at City Hall at 5:30 p.m., on the third Thursday of each month.

**Board of Light & Power** meets at the Electric Department, 4:00 p.m., on the last Tuesday of each month.

**Mayor Barnes** is available to meet with citizens at City Hall on the Sat. following Council meetings from 9:00–11:00 a.m.

**CITY OF PORTLAND**

**259 KENT ST • PORTLAND, MI 48875**

**PHONE 517-647-7531 • FAX 517-647-2938**

**HOURS (M-F) 8:00-4:30**

[www.portland-michigan.org](http://www.portland-michigan.org)

*The City of Portland is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

**CITY HALL 647-7531**

Assessor	647-2943	Income Tax	647-2941
Ambulance	647-2935	Parks	647-7985
Cemetery	647-7985	Police(Records)	647-2947
City Clerk	647-3211	Police(NonER)	647-7521
City Manager	647-2931	Recreation	647-3207
Code/Zoning	647-2931	Streets	647-6129
DDA	647-5027	Wastewater	647-6926
Electric	647-6912	Water	647-2948
Fire/Burn Pmt	647-4111	Treasurer	647-2933
Fire/Business	647-2950	Utility Billing	647-3205

