



City Manager Report

March 25, 2025

Boat Slips

- We still have four boat slips available at Wicks Park.
- The City Clerk put out another lottery notice. Applications are due March 28th by 5p.
 - Application: <https://tinyurl.com/msp4uudj>
- Both real property taxpayers and non-taxpayers may apply.
 - Real property taxpayers will be processed first.

Council Comments on Proposed Boat Ramp

- On Monday, City Council approved a resolution to provide comments to the Army Corps of Engineers related to an application by North Shores of Saugatuck LLC, for a permit to install a boat ramp in the Kalamazoo River.
- A copy of the resolution can be viewed here: <https://tinyurl.com/yj994j6j>

Village Square Park Improvements

- Improvements to the courts at Village Square Park are listed as a Council priority for this fiscal year and next fiscal year.
- Our engineer has provided a \$260,000 cost estimate to enlarge the courts, replace the basketball hoops, tennis net, and perimeter fencing, add bench seating, and resurface both courts.
- A donor has come forward and offered to pay \$100,000 toward a project. Our engineers have recommended applying for a \$150,000 grant to also help fund a project.
- On Monday, City Council approved the submission of a Recreation Passport Grant Program application.
- The conceptual base plan can be viewed here: <https://tinyurl.com/ycx2adyw>
 - Please note the grant application will not include the futsal option. Colors and plant materials are conceptual and will be discussed further as a project progresses.
- A grant announcement will not occur until December 2025. If awarded the grant, design would start fall 2025 and construction would occur in fall 2026. If we are unsuccessful with the grant application, staff will re-evaluate project options and cost and discuss further with Parks and Public Works and City Council.

Maple Street Project

- The improvements currently planned include:
 - Road reconstruction and rehabilitation
 - Water main replacement (including replacement of services, some to inside the home/building)
 - Sanitary sewer repairs
 - Drainage and stormwater management improvements
 - Culvert repairs
 - Concrete sidewalk
- I hope to present the engineering proposal and cost share agreement to City Council at their next workshop meeting.

Airport Property Project

- The Outdoor Discovery Center advised this week that they are ramping up with construction and anticipate more activity on site in the next month or so.
- Based on the consensus feedback from Council, the Parks and Public Works Committee was asked to gather community feedback and recommend a new name for the property. Big thank you to everyone who submitted a suggested name.
- The Parks and Public Works Committee reviewed submissions today and further discussion and review by City Council will be forthcoming.
- We are aiming to open the trails to the public in May.

Interurban Pilot Program

- The Interurban has been hard at work on a pilot to expand service beyond Saugatuck, Douglas, and Saugatuck Township. The pilot program will include service to Laketown Township, Ganges, and Fennville.
- The Holland Sentinel covered this and more in a great article about the Interurban. You can view it here: <https://tinyurl.com/ycxpnj8>

Upcoming Meetings

Full meeting packets are posted on the City website and Facebook prior to each meeting. When available, they can be viewed by selecting the board/commission:

<https://www.saugatuckcity.com/>

- April 3 at 6p – Historic District Commission Meeting
- April 9 at 4p – City Council Workshop Meeting
- April 10 at 6:30p – Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting
- April 14 at 6:30p – City Council Regular Meeting
- April 17 at 6:30p – Planning Commission Meeting