

CITY OF ST. JOHNS/CITY MANAGER NEWSLETTER  
SUBMITTED TO CLINTON COUNTY NEWS  
Submitted: July 27, 2016

**YOUR ROAD DOLLARS AT WORK:** Phase II of the 2016 street projects will be completed in the next seven to ten days. Portions of Townsend Road, Clinton Avenue, Oak Street, Church Street and Sturgis are being upgraded during this phase. Once the Mint Festival has concluded, Phase III of this year's street reconstruction will begin. Mead Street from M-21 to Sturgis Street will be repaved as will Circle Drive and a portion of Park Street (near the City Park). Please be aware of detours, road cuts and workers in the right-of-way during construction.

**AUGUST 2<sup>ND</sup> ELECTION:** Two millage proposals will comprise the entire city ballot for the August election. The first proposal is a millage request to provide operating revenue for the Briggs District Library. The Briggs Library recently transitioned from a city library to a district library. The Briggs District Library Board has indicated that the passage of this millage will create a more stable revenue source for this important public facility.

Second on the ballot is a proposal that would permit a monthly telephone surcharge to support upgrades to the critical 911 system in Clinton County. Added revenue would be used to fund equipment upgrades, facilities and operations. Please exercise your privilege and duty as a citizen by voting August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**CONSUMERS ENERGY METER UPGRADES:** Beginning this winter Consumers Energy will be replacing its current electric meters with "Smart Energy" meters. Consumers has a well-developed information program that will explain both the benefits of the new meters and the procedure for changing out old for new. This information will be sent in the mail well before the program is implemented. Residents/property owners are not required to be at the residence when the meter change occurs, but can be if they wish by making arrangements with Consumers. The new meters will be read remotely, which eliminates meter readers walking on private property, fending off dogs and trudging through rain and snow. Consumer's customers will be able to access up-to-the minute information concerning their energy consumption on-line once the new meters are in place.

Consumers Energy crews will be completing their natural gas distribution line improvements prior to the Mint Festival.

**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AUGUST 2<sup>ND</sup> AT THE PARK:** National Night Out, sponsored by the St. Johns Police Department, has become one of the premier community events of the summer. This celebration recognizes the law enforcement community for its significant contributions to our city's sterling public safety record, and helps make connections between residents and public safety officers and fire department personnel. But as important, there is free food and games! Added this year is Bubble Soccer, a

cardio drumming demonstration and music by Louis Longoria, our own country music legend. Come join us for fun, food and entertainment at the St. Johns City Park, adjacent to the Spray Park. Time of the event is from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. At a time when Law Enforcement is being targeted, this is one opportunity to show our strong support for all those who put their lives on the line and keep us safe every day.

GRANGER UPDATE: Granger representative Sean McHugh presented its first annual report to the City Commission at its July 25<sup>th</sup> public meeting. Granger has been collecting the city trash and recycling materials since July of 2015 after being awarded a multi-year contract based on its successful low bid. Granger reports city-wide collection of more than 2,600 yards of compacted trash during the last year and a total volume of 537 tons of recycled materials. Residents appear to have adjusted quickly to the new and larger recycling containers. In addition to the weekly pick-ups, Granger reports collecting 276 tons of materials on “Big Trash Day”, also known as our Spring Clean Up. It took 56 loads to get the job done at a cost of \$45,000.00.

We are pleased with Granger’s efforts as our refuse hauler and expect continued superior service from them during the contract term.