

CITY OF ST. JOHNS/CITY MANAGER NEWSLETTER
SUBMITTED TO CLINTON COUNTY NEWS
Submitted: October 26, 2016

LEAF COLLECTION: Autumn is definitely upon us. Fallen leaves are carpeting residential yards. We commend our residents for their widespread use of garden bags for leaf disposal. Please remember it is an ordinance violation to rake leaves into the street. This practice creates a potential public safety hazard and creates backups of the storm water sewer system. Violators will be subject to a civil infraction fine. If a resident needs additional yard waste bags they can be obtained at no charge from the City Offices, Briggs District Library or by contacting DPW Supervisor Jeremy Ritter at 989-224-8944, ext. 229.

ELECTIONS: Remember to vote on Tuesday, November 8th! Exercise your civic right and fulfill your civic duty by going to the polls. A full ballot of candidates could lead to some delays in voting, so arrive as early as you can at your polling place. Any questions concerning absentee ballots, precinct polling locations or other election questions can be directed to City Clerk Mindy J. Seavey by calling 989-224-8944, ext. 223.

MUSIC IN THE PARK REPORT: Bill Tennant attended the City Commission's October 24th meeting at which time he gave a summary report of the highly successful 2016 Music in the Park series. These musical performances are supported by the City of St. Johns and the Clinton County Arts Council as well as the donations of concert goers. Each year we experience better talent and larger crowds. Bill Tennant is to be commended for the many hours of hard work he puts into arranging for and putting on these terrific summer evening concerts. The City appreciates the relationship with the Clinton County Arts Council in providing this quality entertainment venue and the exceptional talent selection by Mr. Tennant.

HICKS PROPERTY: The City is evaluating the possible purchase of land on which the Hicks grain elevator is sited near the railroad depot north of the CIS rail-trail. The City Commission recently approved funds for a Phase II environmental evaluation of the property. This evaluation will determine the extent of environmental contamination on the site, which will then allow the City to then obtain an estimate of the cost of remediation. The staff and Commission are supportive of this acquisition providing the property may be used for intended purpose.

GROUNDBREAKING FOR SENIOR HOUSING: On Friday, October 21st a groundbreaking ceremony was held for Castle St. Johns, a downtown apartment complex being developed for low to moderate income senior citizens. Phil and Garret Seybert of P.S. Equities Inc. represented the development company. Local and state dignitaries attended the event, as well as representatives from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, who provided the tax credits and the financing partner Cinnaire. PS Equities President thanked the City staff and Commissioners the PSD/DDA board and others for the support. Expected completion date for the project is in the fall of 2017. For more information regarding rents and apartment availability please contact P.S. Equities, 805 W. Broadway Ste. 1, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858, or call (989) 779-9995.

CITY COMMISSION SUPPORTS BLUE BUS: The City Commission adopted a resolution at its October 24 public meeting in support of the Clinton Transit Millage Renewal Ballot Proposal. This important public transportation entity serves many citizens who do not drive or have private transportation options. There is a critical need to maintain funding for this service at a time when demand is increasing across the county.

HALLOWEEN HOURS: Trick or Treat hours for Halloween in the City are from **6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.** Please drive carefully on city streets during this time as little ones (and not-so-little ones) navigate the neighborhoods while making their rounds.