

City of Gibraltar Community Newsletter

February 2016 – April 2016

59th Edition

Gibraltar, Michigan 48173

www.cityofgibraltar.net



Rehabilitation Work Underway At Ferragon Steel – Jefferson Location

Rehabilitation work has commenced on the old McLouth Steel Plant- 27800 West Jefferson. Purchased by Ferragon Corp. in February 2015 from Steel Rolling Holdings Inc., the parcel located between Vreeland Road and North Gibraltar Rd., totals 42.5 acres and encompasses the 600,000 sq. ft. facility. Work on the facilities facelift started this fall and is planned to be completed by the end of the calendar year 2016.



Work is necessary on the facility to prepare for the installation of new equipment which will process cold rolled, high strength, automotive-grade steel. Total cost of the upgrades to the facility are planned to be \$53,000,000. Funding for the upgrades will come from Ferragon, Economic Development Grants, and a Tax Increment Financing Structure, developed via a Brownfield Plan, created by the Wayne County Brownfield Authority. Work will include, interior and exterior upgrades such as the following:

- New exterior siding
- New roofing
- Drainage improvements
- Electrical Upgrades
- Interior Retrofitting- Including Crane Replacement
- Rail line work

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- Interior painting
- Environmental Remediation
- Surface repaving in and around the facility
- Expansion of the rear section of the building by adding on approximately 100 ft. of structure.
- Lighting upgrades
- Etc.

The City of Gibraltar is excited about the redevelopment of this facility, and looks forward to a long standing relationship with Ferragon Corp.



City Starts SAW Grant Work- Residents May See Surveyors Around Property

The City of Gibraltar was recently notified by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality of the successful application of a grant request to assist the City in Storm and Wastewater Asset Management. This award totals \$2,000,000 and will assist the City in the process of more adequately managing its critical infrastructure through activities such as:



1. Development of a Global Information System tied to existing utility infrastructure allowing for efficient and effective asset management, location, design, and troubleshooting.
2. The activity of sewer cleaning and televising
3. Infrastructure inspections
4. Topographical surveys
5. Illicit connection research and remedy
6. Capital project planning
7. Storm water management planning and permitting

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8. Development of asset management plans
9. Infrastructure condition analysis and review

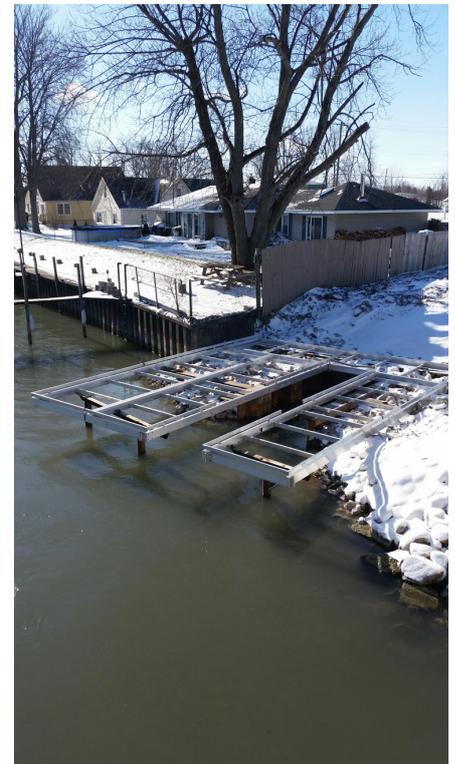
All of these activities will be performed with the goal in mind of better managing the City's critical infrastructure and assisting in becoming more efficient and effective in its operation and maintenance.

Work on the above grant will commence during the month of January. First in the process is the surveying of all of the City's storm and sanitary manholes, catch basins, lines, and outfalls. In order to perform these activities, the City's civil engineers- Charles E. Raines Company and Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber (FTCH) will be working on behalf of the City of Gibraltar. During most of the winter months, both of these consultants will have field staff throughout the

City. You will see their trucks and staff performing work around the sanitary and storm manholes, sewers and lift stations. All individuals will be identified via appropriate signage and have ID's. Should you question their activities, please do not hesitate to contact the City Department of Public Works 734-676-3900 or the City's Engineering Office- Telephone No. : 734 285-7510 and ask for Mr. Bruce Hammond or Mr. Souheil Sabak.

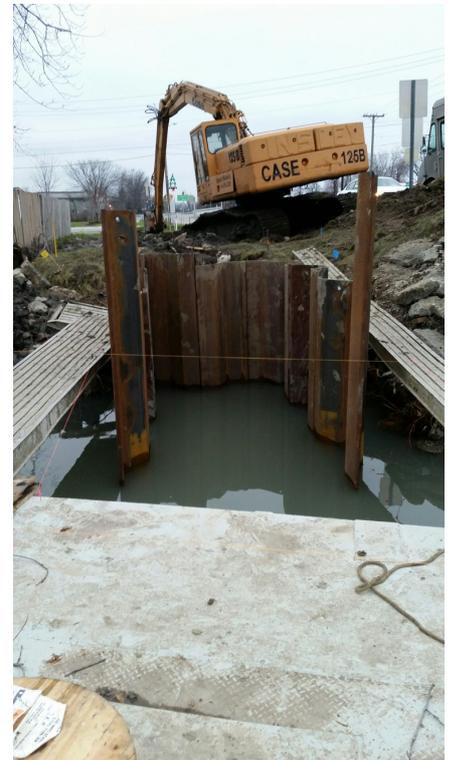
Kayak Dock Work Commences

After much discussion, engineering, permitting, and design, ground breaking took place recently on the Gibraltar/Rockwood Rotary Kayak Launch. The dock is currently being constructed at the intersection of South Gibraltar Rd. and Middle Gibraltar Rd. at the southwest corner of the bridge. Financing for the project will come from a generous donation from the Gibraltar/Rockwood Rotary club and approximately \$60,000 in grants from the Wayne County Parks System. Once completed, the dock will be ADA compliant and fully accessible to those with disabilities. As of the date of publication, the foundations for the dock have been installed and the frame work placed in the location. Unfortunately, the dock deck and hydraulic lift will not be installed until the spring when weather breaks. In addition, the necessary retaining wall, sidewalk, and signage will be completed at that time.





Over the past five to ten years, kayaking has become a very popular activity resulting in the creation of the Detroit Heritage River Water Trail. This increased interest as well as Gibraltar's unique waterfront characteristics makes the construction of a kayak launch a good fit for the City. The City is excited about this construction project as it will allow public access to the waterfront and be located in an area of our Downtown District that will allow Kayak users to access a variety of stores and services within close proximity to the launch. The City expects a formal opening of the dock sometime during the month of May, 2016.



Construction Starts on Detroit River International Wildlife Visitors Center

Construction for the NEW Detroit River IWR Visitor Center is underway! Current plans for the 12,000 square foot, Gold-LEED certified facility include exhibit areas, multipurpose classrooms, a wildlife observation room and two outdoor patios for environmental education and refuge sponsored events.



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In addition, Downriver Community Conference, on behalf of Wayne County, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and many other partners, has awarded a contract to E.C. Korneffel Company of Trenton, Michigan for construction of a school ship dock and world-class fishing pier at the Refuge Gateway on West Jefferson. Construction began in December and all underwater substructure construction of the breakwater and fishing pier will be completed by March 15th to avoid the critical fish spawning season in the Detroit River.



The Refuge Gateway, site of both projects, will welcome thousands of projected annual visitors and serve as a hub for outdoor recreation and environmental education in southeast

Michigan. Full project completion for both projects is December 2016. A grand opening celebration is being planned for spring 2017. Follow the progress on the Refuge's Facebook page at: www.fws.gov/refuge/Detroit_River/

City of Gibraltar- EVIP Plan Available Online

In compliance with 2014 Public Act 252, the City of Gibraltar has formulated and recently posted online our Transparency in Government Annual Documentation. This plan is available for public viewing on the City Webpage, www.cityofgibraltar.net. Upon review Gibraltar residents will find valuable information such as the following:

1. 2015 Performance Dashboard
2. Citizens Guide – Pages 1-4 (Revenues, Expenses, Obligations, and Financial Position)
3. FY15 Projected Budget Report (2015-2016), Including Assumptions
4. Bond Schedules (Debt Service Requirements)



Upon review, should Gibraltar residents have questions about any of the information listed in the report, please do not hesitate to contact City Hall at 734-676-3900.

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Gibraltar Continues Berm Maintenance Program

In response to increasing water levels, the City of Gibraltar issued the following letter to all residents:

July 30, 2015

FLOOD PREVENTION MEASURES

Gibraltar Resident,

As I am sure you are aware, Great Lakes water levels are on the rise with Lake Erie being higher currently than it has been in many years. This is of particular concern to the residents of Gibraltar since we have experienced flooding in the past when lake levels are high and if Lake Erie continues to rise the possibility for the City to experience flooding increases. The last time the City experienced any significant flooding due to high lake levels was 30 years ago in 1985. In the weeks to come it will become necessary to do all that we can to protect ourselves and our property from possible flooding.

As a result of that 1985 flooding it was decided by the City and its residents at that time to initiate flood prevention measures throughout low flood prone areas. These flood prevention measures primarily consist of berms that were installed on most of the waterfront property in town and completed by 1987. Most of these measures have been maintained since then and are still in place. However, some have been altered, some may have been removed and some have settled lower than the commonly agreed upon height of 577.2 ft. above sea level. Since all of the berms must be in place, in tact and at or near the required height to provide flood protection, it will be necessary for some level of inspection. Inspections will be performed in the very near future on those properties where berms have been substantially altered, neglected, missing or removed. This first inspection is intended to identify obvious breaches in the overall berm system and for those properties that are non-compliant the berm ordinances will be enforced. If it is determined that a City wide inspection of the entire berm system is required to ensure adequate flood protection that will be the next step after this first inspection.

It is recommended that water front property owners with berms and/or other flood control measures make sure they are maintained and in tact. Openings and lowered areas in berms for walkways, drainage or any other reason should be closed with compacted clay based material as was required in the original berm construction. Open pipes or drains of any kind that go under berms or other flood control measures should be removed to prevent inflow. The cooperation of waterfront property owners to maintain the flood control measures on their individual properties is necessary to insure the maximum possible flood control with those measures. The City encourages those property owners

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to voluntarily make any necessary repairs or upgrades to their berms or other flood control measures to help protect the community from flooding and to avoid future ordinance enforcement.

In addition to the inspection and remediation of berms and other flood control measures additional portable diesel powered pumps will be deployed at various strategic locations throughout town. These pumps will be in addition to those already deployed and ready to run should the need arise to alleviate flooding from storm water due to significant rain fall and/or a rising lake level.

In conjunction with these measures the City is currently in the process of soliciting bids from marine contractors for a storm water outfall maintenance project. This project is intended to make sure that all of the outfalls in the City's storm water drain system are clear and functioning properly. Sediment, debris and any other under water obstructions will be removed from around the valves on the end of these outfalls to allow them to function properly. The valves will be inspected for proper function and broken or damaged valves will be replaced.

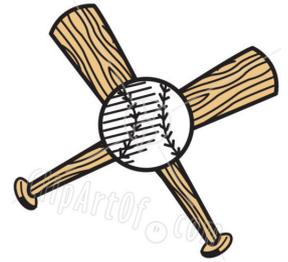
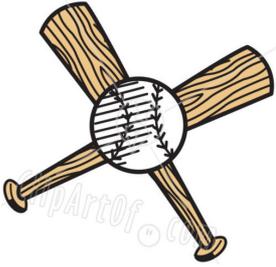
Non water front property owners can also help by not allowing yard waste like grass clippings, leaves and other debris from accumulating in street gutters and keeping drain grates cleared in front of their homes.

Rising lake levels with easterly winds and significant rain events truly are at the control of "Mother Nature" however, the actions described in this letter are in our control. The City of Gibraltar with the cooperation of its residents, officials and employees working together to accomplish the objectives described in this letter can provide the best possible opportunity for flood prevention with the flood prevention measures currently in place. Residents with questions regarding voluntary compliance and maintenance can contact either me or City Administrator Derek Thiel at City Hall.

Regards,
Mayor James Gorris

As is mentioned in the letter, inspections have been performed on those properties where berms have been substantially altered, neglected, missing or removed. All residents that received this additional layer of inspection have been notified of their deficiency and have been mandated to correct their violations. Should you have any questions regarding the ongoing process of compliance review, please do not hesitate to contact Gibraltar City Hall at 734-676-3900.

Community Events and Activities



Gibraltar Youth Baseball is now Gibraltar Mini Marauders

Those residents whom are interested in Gibraltar Youth Baseball can now participate in an organized league called the Gibraltar Mini Marauder's. This league is for K-7 kids that are enrolled in one of the four (4) Gibraltar Elementary schools or the middle school. The league offers tee ball, coach pitch, and kid pitch. Participants will play not only members of the Gibraltar Mini Marauder's league but also some outside Gibraltar, Downriver teams. Partnership with the Southeast Michigan Baseball Association allows for this, and presents the opportunity for participants to have "home" and "away" games, yet travel is limited to other Downriver communities for convenience. The Mini Marauder program has been in existence since 2014. If your child is interested in participating, please note the following information:

Registration #1: Wednesday, January 27, 6-8 pm, Carlson Gym Lobby

Registration #2: Saturday, January 30th, 9:30- 11:30 a.m. Carlson Gym Lobby

*Space is limited. Registration after these dates is based upon availability.

Please bring cash or check made out to Mini Marauders. No other documents are needed to register.

Mini Marauders Divisions:

T-Ball (4-U): Boys and Girls, age 4
Game Day: Saturday Mornings
Coach Pitch (6U): Boys and Girls, Ages 5-6
Game Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays
Coach Pitch/Kid Pitch (8U): Boys and Girls, Ages 7-8
Game Days: Mondays and Wednesdays
Practices start early May, Season runs May-July
Practice days determined by coaches
Games played at Gibraltar Schools.

Cost:

T-Ball (4U): \$45 per player
Includes T-shirt, hat, and medal

SEBA Divisions:

10U Baseball: Boys, Ages 9-10/Mon/Wed
10U Softball: Girls, Ages 9-10/Tues/Thurs
12U Baseball: Boys, Ages 11-12/Tues/Thurs
12U Softball: Girls, Ages 11-12/Mon/Wed
14U Baseball: Boys, Ages 13-14/Mon/Wed
14U Softball: Girls, Ages 13-14/Tues/Thurs
Practices start early May, Season runs May-July
Practice days determined by coaches
Games played downriver (Wyandotte, Trenton, Grosse Ile, Etc.)

Eligibility:

Open to children ages 4-14 who resides within the Gibraltar School District

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Coach Pitch (6U), Coach Pitch/Kid Pitch (8U):
\$60/per player, Includes t-shirt, hat, and medal

T-Ball players must be 4 years old by April 30, 2016

SEBA Divisions:
\$100/per player, Includes Hat and Jersey

Players will be placed in the appropriate division based upon birthdate:

4U/6U/8U- age determined as of 4/30/16

SEBA Baseball- age determined as of 4/30/16

SEBA Softball- age determined as of 1/1/16

Family Discount:
\$10 discount per each additional child in the same family

For the latest news and events join Mini Marauders Facebook page “Mini Marauders Baseball League”

Questions?: minimarauders@gmail.com



Recreation Sets 2016 Schedule for Music in the Park

The Gibraltar Recreation Department has set the 2016 Schedule for Music in the Park, it is as follows:

July 21st
August 25th
September 22nd

August 11th
September 8th
October 6th



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In addition to the above, additional dates which will have live entertainment will be the second annual Rotary Duck Race- August 13th. Also the annual Beatification Commission Car Show- July 17th.

As in previous Music in the Park Events- all shows start at 6:00 p.m. and run until 9:00 p.m.

Gibraltar Clean Up Day- Saturday- May 7, 2016

The City of Gibraltar’s Beautification Committee will host its annual Clean Up Day on Saturday, May 7, 2016. Volunteers are asked to meet at the Gibraltar Community Center by 9:00 a.m. Activities will include grounds maintenance and the following:



Painting



Planting



Mulching

Pizza for all volunteers

**Keep Gibraltar Beautiful
Please volunteer**

In conjunction with Keep Michigan Beautiful – May Clean Up Initiative

[Sponsored by Gibraltar Beautification Commission](#)

For more info please call city hall 734 676 3900



C E L E B R A T E S P R I N G ! ! !

**2016 Spring Perennial Plant Exchange
and Hanging Flower Basket Sale**
(rain barrels also available for purchase)

Sponsored by:
Gibraltar Beautification Commission

Saturday May 14, 2016
10:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Rain or Shine

Bob Lo Pavilion – Middle Gibraltar Road

Exchange plants and ideas with fellow gardeners
Master Gardeners available to answer questions

Tables available for displaying your “treasures”

No plants to exchange?
No Problem!

Gardeners happily share their extras

Some Plant Exchange suggestions

*Bring bags to carry your plants

*Pot or wrap & label the plants you bring

PLEASE bring only healthy plants, bulbs or seeds

This event is free and open to the public

Breakfast With The Easter Bunny
March 26, 2015

For 2016 the Gibraltar Recreation Commission and the Gibraltar Firefighters Association will once again be sponsoring Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on Saturday, March 26, 2016 at the Gibraltar Community Center (29340 South Gibraltar Rd.). A Pancake Breakfast will be served from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The cost is \$5.00 per person. Children under 3 are free. A marshmallow drop (weather permitting) will begin at 11:45 a.m. There will also be an Easter basket give away, face painting and a lot more fun. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.



Gibraltar Historical Museum

Open:

**1st Sunday of every month
from 2- 4 pm**

Located on 2nd floor of City Hall

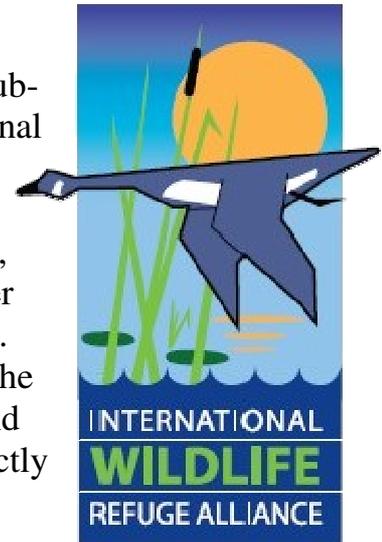


Come see what you've been missing...

For more info please call:
Dorothy Wood 734 675 9633

International Wildlife Refuge Alliance to Hold Annual Fundraiser – May 14, 2016

A benefit will be held from 5-10 PM, May 14, 2016 at the Ford Yacht Club-Grosse Ile for the purpose of raising funds for the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge Alliance. The Alliance assists the refuge with activities that support the mission and purposes of the DRIWR. The Alliance provides many vital services to the Refuge such as community outreach, education programs, habitat restoration, special events support, volunteer staff, advocacy and fundraising. Tickets are \$75/person or \$125/couple. They can be purchased via the Alliance website at iwralliance.org. At the event there will be Dinner, Live Entertainment, Raffles, Photo Booth, and Many other activities. More information can be obtained online or by directly contacting the office IWR Alliance Office at 734-692-7671.



Volunteers Solicited to Rehabilitate Boblo Ticket Booth



The Gibraltar Fire Department and Beautification Committee are requesting volunteer support in the rehabilitation of the old Boblo Ticket Booth recently donated by Humbug Marina. Volunteers whom would be willing to paint and perform minor carpentry work on the structure are being solicited. Once complete, this culturally significant structure will be reunited with the Boblo pavilion at the community park located at the intersection of South Gibraltar and Middle Gibraltar Roads. There, the ticket booth will provide a support role to the variety of events (such as music in the park, fall fest, etc.) held at the Boblo Pavilion and surrounding area. If interested in donating your skill and time, please contact Beautification Committee Chairwoman, Dorothy Wood at 734-675-9633 or Gibraltar City Hall at 734-676-3900.

City Hall Notices

ATM Available in City Hall Lobby-

As of the Winter of 2014, the Gibraltar City Hall installed a 24 Hour ATM. The automated teller machine is located in the City Hall Lobby. Fees for use of the terminal are \$2.50 /transaction



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in addition to any additional fees your financial institution may charge.

Prescription Medicine Drop Box Available at City Hall

Any residents looking to dispose of unwanted prescription medication can now dispose of their surplus or expired pharmaceuticals in a purposed drop box located at Gibraltar City Hall. Managed by the Gibraltar Police Department, these unwanted medications will be disposed of properly insuring they will not enter the environment where they can be harmful. Access to the box is 24/7. For any questions relative to the drop box, please contact the Gibraltar Police Department at: 734-676-1022.



Payment Drop Box and USPS Mailbox

The City Hall Payment Drop Box is located in the traffic island across from the Flag Pole in front of City Hall. There is a United States Postal Service mailbox located in front of the Gibraltar Community Center.

City Assessor



The City of Gibraltar Clerk's office has published the following dates for the 2015 March Board of Review:

Tuesday: March 8, 2016 – 6:00 PM –Meeting
6:30 PM- 9:00 PM – Hearings

Tuesday: March 22, 2016: 1:00 PM- 9:00 PM – Hearings

Letter of Appeals must be accepted on or before March 22, 2016 at 4:00 PM

If you wish to appeal the tax values established by the City Assessor for your property, this is your opportunity. If you would like to sit on the City Board of Review as an alternate, please contact the Gibraltar City Clerk at 734-676-3900.

The City of Gibraltar Assessor, WCA Assessing, has assigned Melanie Shaw to provide service to the City. The Assessor's office hours are on Wednesday mornings from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and she can also be reached by email at assessing@cityofgibraltar.net.

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Clerk's Office

March 8, 2016 will be the Presidential Primary. Absentee ballots will be available starting on January 22, 2016.

Fourteen Republicans and four Democrats will appear on the March 8 Presidential Primary ballot, they are as follows:

Republicans:

Jeb Bush

Ben Carson

Chris Christie

Sen. Ted Cruz

Carly Fiorina

Lindsey Graham

Mike Huckabee

John Kasich

George Pataki

Rand Paul

Marco Rubio

Rick Santorum

Donald Trump

Democrats:

Hillary Clinton

Rocky DeLa Fuente

Martin O'Malley

Bernie Sanders



Anyone wishing to vote absentee should contact the Clerk's office at 29450 Munro Street or by phone at: 734-676-3900. Voter applications can be received at the address listed above. The City has two polling precincts, they are both located at 29340 South Gibraltar Rd. Polls will be open 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. The City Clerk's Office is open the Saturday prior to all elections from 8 to 2 p.m. for persons needing to vote absentee.

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Winter Tax Bills

The 2015 Winter Tax Bills were mailed out November 30th and are due no later than February 14th, without penalty. After this date, a 4% penalty will be added. Starting March 1st real property tax must be paid at Wayne County, 400 Monroe Street #320, Detroit MI 48226. If your mortgage company pays the taxes for you, they will receive a copy of your tax bill. If you have delinquent water bills, these balances will be placed on your taxes with the summer billing plus a 25% fee.

Housing Rehabilitation Program

The City of Gibraltar is pleased to offer the Housing Rehabilitation Program through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. This program is designed to assist Gibraltar residents in a low to moderate income range that are in need of eligible home improvements. For more information regarding qualification guidelines and the Program, please contact Derek Thiel at (734) 676-3900 or by email at dthiel@cityofgibraltar.net.

Water Department and DPW Dept. General Information

Water Information Brochure Available at City Hall

In response to numerous consumer requests for Water Department Information, the City of Gibraltar recently developed an informative brochure on water rates and the Water Department. Copies of this report can be found on the City of Gibraltar's website (www.cityofgibraltar.net) or at the Gibraltar City Hall- 29450 Munro. Current water and sewer rates are: \$7.18/unit of water (1 unit = 1000 gallons) and \$12.10/unit of sewer. Fees have remained the same since 2014. Gibraltar City Council choose not to implement rate increases during the 2015 budget cycle.

Water Bill Reminder:

When you receive your quarterly water bill, please remember to check your water meter reading with the listed numbers of gallons on the bill. Your meter should read higher than the billing information. If there are any discrepancies, please notify the Water Department immediately at (734) 676-8982. Discrepancies are the responsibility of the property owner.

As a reminder, your quarterly water bills are mailed out at the end of January, April, July, and October. Water bills are then due by the 10th of the following month. Water bills are payable at City Hall, 29450 Munro Avenue, Gibraltar, MI 48173.

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Check for Water Leaks:

- A good method to check for leaks is to examine your winter water usage. It is likely that a family of four has a serious leak problem if its winter use exceeds 12,000 gallons per month. [US EPA Water Sense website]
- To be sure that you do not have a water leak somewhere in your home, go dry for two hours. Turn off all appliances that use water and do not use any water for the two hours – no toilets, sinks or faucets – inside or outside. Check your meter reading before and after the two hours. If the meter reading changes even a little bit, you probably have a leak and each fixture in your home should be checked.
- Identify toilet leaks by placing a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank. If any color shows up in the bowl before you flush, you have a leak.

A continuous leak at 60 psi water pressure from a hole the size shown below would, over a three month period, waste water in the amounts shown.

<u>Diameter of Stream</u>	<u>Gallons</u>
● 1/4"	1,181,500
● 3/16"	666,000
● 1/8"	296,000
• 1/16"	74,000

Chipping:

City chipping service will normally be done once a week. This is subject to change due to emergencies, scheduling, etc. Tree branches for chipping should be left as long as possible, with the larger end of the branch facing towards the road in a neat, uniform pile. **THE CHIPPING SERVICE IS FOR TREES CUT DOWN/TRIMMED BY RESIDENTS THEMSELVES. IF A CONTRACTOR IS HIRED, THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CHIPPING AND REMOVAL OF ALL DEBRIS.**

Property owners should try to cut small branches and limbs into smaller lengths and place them in a yard waste bag. Brush and tree trimmings less than 2" in diameter and tied into bundles not exceeding 4 feet in length and/or 60 pounds in weight can be put out with the Yard Waste for Steven's Disposal to pick up. Chipping by the City is seasonal and usually scheduled for Wednesdays and Thursdays.

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Garbage and Yard Waste Collection Guidelines

Garbage and Yard Waste is picked up by Steven's Disposal. All residential homes will be picked up on Tuesdays.

Yard Waste Collection Schedule

2016 Start Date- April 1st, 2016

Holiday Waste Pick-Up

New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day- Trash and yard waste service will be delayed if one of these holidays falls on a Monday or Tuesday, otherwise pick-up will remain on Tuesdays.

Free Citywide Shred Day:

Where- City Hall Front Parking Lot

What- Shred for free any of your unwanted documents- secure and guaranteed safe disposal

When- Annually, this event will be 3rd weekend in October 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Free Citywide Dump Day:

Where-Department of Public Works Building- 29411 Munro Street-

When: Annually, this event will be 3rd weekend of October

What: Assistance with loading will be provided during the Saturday morning of the weekend the event is held until approx. 1:00 p.m. Exclusions include: No dirt or grass clippings, No concrete or bricks. No hazardous waste. No Tires. Paint that is dried out or has cat litter added to it. Railroad ties must be cut into 18" pieces.

For items that will not be picked up by Steven's Disposal, you may try to contact the Riverview Land Preserve at (734) 281-4262. If you have any questions, please contact the DPW office at (734) 676-8982, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL INFORMATION



City Implements Nixle- Resident Notification System

The City of Gibraltar Police Department recently implemented the Nixle- Resident notification system. This system allows GIBPD to inform our residents of potential problems police/ fire, city events /council meetings, weather/tornadoes/ snow emergencies and general information of importance via various methods of communication.

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If residents are interested in signing up for Nixle all that is necessary is to visit the City of Gibraltar webpage (www.cityofgibraltar.net), go to the Gibraltar Police Department link and sign up at the bottom of the page. Notices will be forwarded to you by both email and phone. Currently the City of Gibraltar has 1400 individuals signed up.

In an attempt to keep residents informed, The Gibraltar Police Department also hosts a Facebook Page- <https://www.facebook.com/Gibraltar-Police-Department-1530875370459582/timeline/> which residents can also visit for the most up to date information related to public safety in the City of Gibraltar.



Animal Reminders: The '2016' Animal Licenses are now available for purchase. Prior to March 2016, license fees are \$5.00, after March 2016 they are \$8.00 per license. Dogs, Cats, and Ferrets need to be licensed in the City of Gibraltar. Bring proof of rabies vaccination to the Gibraltar Police Department to purchase a license at any time. Dogs cannot be allowed to run loose anywhere in Gibraltar, including City Parks. Pets must be on a leash and under your control at all times when away from your property. If you take your animals for a walk, you must also carry a container to pick up after them.

Dog Waste Receptacles Installed

at the Community Center Park: The Gibraltar DDA recently installed two dog waste receptacles at the Gibraltar Community Center Park. Please be reminded that you are responsible for picking up after your pet. Utilize these locations to properly dispose of your pet waste please.

FIRE DEPARTMENT GENERAL INFORMATION

Volunteers Wanted:

The City of Gibraltar Fire and Rescue Department are looking for dedicated volunteers to serve the community. Available opportunities include openings for Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) and Fire Fighters. Applications are available at the Gibraltar Police Department. For more information, please contact the Gibraltar Fire Department at 734-676-3167



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Winter Fire Safety Tips

- Keep combustibles at least three feet from flames or hot surfaces
- Never heat your house by using your oven.
- Have your house heating system serviced yearly.
- Keep you vents clear.
- While cooking, stay in the kitchen

Portable Heater Safety

- Turn off the portable heater when you are sleeping.
- Only use approved portable heaters such as UL or FM approved devices.
- Keep combustibles at least three feet away from them.
- Plug heaters directly into wall outlets, do not use extension cords.
- Use heaters that are equipped with automatic shut-offs
- Repair loose or defective electrical outlets or wiring.

Community Center Events

Family Storytime-

Gibraltar Community Center- Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m. Stories, Music, Crafts, and more. \$3.00/family. Starting January 13th- May 25th. For more info please call Mrs. Cindy @ 734-379-9801 for more info.

Kids Power Karate

Ages 5 and up- Class emphasizes self-defense, physical fitness, conflict resolution, team work, and anti-kidnapping techniques. This program is designed specifically for children and teaches prevention first. It does not promote active aggressiveness, but teaches children to respect themselves and others and the skills they learn. This is a proven program that is positive, fun, exciting, and educational. Wear loose fitting clothes. A responsible adult must remain in attendance during class.

Class Starts on January 25, 2016

Mondays, 5:30-6:15pm

6 week session for only \$40!

Color Belts – Yellow and Higher- Mondays 6:15-7:00 pm (Must Complete Kids Power Class first)

All classes will be held at: Gibraltar Community Center, 29340 South Gibraltar Rd., To Register: Call 734.931.0199

Food Pantry Fundraiser

Sunday, January 24, 2016- 2:00 pm-4:00 pm- “Hearts for Hunger” Gibraltar Food Pantry Benefit Wine Tasting- Bring your friends and family and join the Gibraltar Food Pantry as you will sample wines, provided by PRP Wines, and raise funds

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for the Gibraltar Food Pantry. Tickets are \$30- and includes Wine, Hors d'oeuvres, Commemorative wine glass, Door prizes, Raffles. Event will be held at the Gibraltar Community Center- 29340 South Gibraltar Rd., Gibraltar MI 48173. Tickets are available at GIB City Hall, Gibraltar Community Center, Gibraltar Food Pantry, or by calling Carol Woggon at 313-910-5871. All proceeds benefit the GIB Food Pantry- a 501c3 organization.

Step into Shape

All age groups welcome. Monday, Wednesday, Friday- 9:15 a.m. For more information please contact (734) 676-1466.

Square Dancing

Square Dancing with Ray Wiles. Held @ the Gibraltar Community Center on Tuesday nights starting at 6:00 p.m. Learn from the best callers and enjoy the newest dance steps. Class is for advanced dancers with 3+ years of experience. Call (734) 676-1466.

Ball Room Dancing

Monday Nights – 7:00 p.m.-New class starts in September- Gibraltar Community Center- (734) 676-1466.

Yoga with Yola

Wednesdays are Yoga days at 6:15 p.m. at the community center. Drop in's are welcome- (734)-676-1466. Cost: \$7:00/class.

AA Group

Babbling Brooks AA Group meets at the Community Center on Friday and Sunday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

Over 50 Club

The Gibraltar Over 50 Club meets on the second and last Friday of every month at the Community Center at 7:00 p.m. Residents 50 years or older are welcome to join. Come join the fun, social activities, and trip planning. For more information please call (734) 692-3119.

Rentals:

The Gil Talbert Community Center is open for rentals in both the small and large hall. If you are planning a graduation party or wedding for the 2016 season, now is the time to reserve it. Call (734) 671-1466 for reservations.

Flood Information

Flood and storm drain brochures are available for properties that may be in or near Special Flood Hazard Areas in the City of Gibraltar. Other flood hazard and watershed information is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in our information center located in the foyer of the Municipal Complex.

As a reminder, with increasing lake levels, residents are encouraged to be mindful of maintaining their berms. These flood measures were installed to minimize flood risk. Maintenance is essential to insure these measures perform as intended.

You can also visit the City website, www.cityofgibraltar.net, for a link to the FEMA website. The link can be found on the Home Page under the Watershed heading.

Watershed Information

Storm drains found in our streets and yards empty into our lakes and rivers. When we fertilize our lawn we could also be fertilizing our lakes and rivers. While fertilizer is good for our lawn, it's bad for our water. Fertilizer in our lakes and rivers causes algae to grow. Algae can form large blooms and use oxygen that fish need to survive. With 1.5 million homes in Southeast Michigan, all of us need to be aware of the cumulative affects of our lawn care practices.

Here are seven simple steps you can take in your home and yard to protect our lakes and streams.

- 1. Help keep pollution out of storm drains.** Storm drains lead directly to our lakes and streams. Never dump oil, pet waste, leaves, dirty water, or anything down a storm drain. Remember, only rain in the drain.
- 2. Fertilize caringly and sparingly.** Excess fertilizer that gets into storm drains pollutes our lakes by causing large algae blooms and using up oxygen fish need to survive. Sweep excess fertilizer back onto your lawn, use a low or no phosphorus fertilizer, and have your soil tested to see what, if any, fertilizer is needed.
- 3. Carefully store and dispose of household cleaners, chemicals, and oil.** Instead of putting hazardous products like antifreeze, motor oil, and pesticides in the trash, down the storm drain, or on the ground, take them to a local hazardous waste collection day.
- 4. Clean up after your pet.** Whether on a walk or in your yard, promptly clean up after your pet. Not only will be you a good neighbor, you will also protect our water from harmful bacteria.
- 5. Practice good car care.** Consider taking your car to a car wash or washing your car on the grass.
- 6. Choose earth friendly landscaping.** Protect your pets, kids, and the environment by using pesticides sparingly. Also, water your lawn only when it needs it and choose plants native to Michigan.
- 7. Save water.** Over watering our lawns can easily carry pollution to the storm drains and to our lakes and streams. Consider using a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks and driveways. Direct hoses and sprinklers on the lawn, not the driveway. This will help save our lakes and streams and save you money.

For more easy steps on protecting our lakes and streams, visit www.semco.org.

Remember, our water is our future – and it's ours to protect!

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City of Gibraltar Contact Directory

City of Gibraltar Facilities:

City Hall – 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
29450 Munro, Gibraltar, MI 48173
(734) 676-3900

Police / Fire Station - 24 Hours
29450 Munro - (734) 676-1022

DPW & Water Dept. – 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
(734) 676-3952

Gibraltar Community Center

29340 South Gibraltar Rd.
(734) 671-1466
Available for rent for both small and large parties.

Schools:

Parsons Elementary School – (734) 379-7050
14473 M. Gibraltar Road

Shumate Middle School – (734) 379-7600
30550 W. Jefferson

Carlson High School – (734) 379-7100
30550 W. Jefferson

Gibraltar School Board Office
19370 Vreeland Rd., Woodhaven
(734) 379-6350

City Phone Numbers:

City Clerk, Finances, Assessor	(734) 676-3900
Water Department	(734) 676-3900
Police/Fire/EMS – Emergencies	9 – 1 – 1
Police/Fire/EMS – Non-Emergency	(734) 676-1022
City Administrator’s Office	(734) 676-9021
Mayor’s Office	(734) 676-7287

City of Gibraltar Officials:

Mayor: James Gorris gorrisj@cityofgibraltar.net

City Council:

Dave Riser	riserd@yahoo.com
Ed Manion	
Bill Baker	bbaker@cityofgibraltar.net
Robert Saunders	bob.saunders@wowway.net
Brian Arp	barps137@gmail.com
Denis Boismier	DBoismier@cityofgibraltar.net

City Clerk: Cynthia Lehr
clehr@cityofgibraltar.net

City Administrator: Derek M. Thiel, M.P.A.
dthiel@cityofgibraltar.net

Police Chief: Larry Williams
williams@cityofgibraltar.net

Fire Chief: Rodney Branham
RBranham@cityofgibraltar.net

Treasurer: Scott Denison
denisonscott@hotmail.com

Finance Director: Barbara Meyer
meyerb@cityofgibraltar.net

Parks & Recreation Director: Tamey Gorris
tamey@cityofgibraltar.net

Assessor: Melanie Shaw
assessing@cityofgibraltar.net

Housing Rehab: Derek Thiel
dthiel@cityofgibraltar.net

www.cityofgibraltar.net

CITY OF GIBRALTAR
SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

The following regularly scheduled meetings of the City Council and Commissions for 2016, in compliance with Michigan's Open Meeting Public Act 267 of 1976 are as follows:

CITY COUNCIL – meetings are the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

PLANNING COMMISSION - meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY – meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of each month immediately following the Planning Commission meeting in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION – meetings are the 1st Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Municipal Building.

RECREATION COMMISSION – meetings are the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center, 29340 S. Gibraltar Rd.

BOARD OF APPEALS – meetings are the last Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on an as needed basis or as advertised.

WATERWAYS COMMISSION – meetings are the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Municipal Chambers.

If a regular meeting is rescheduled or a special meeting is called a notice will be posted at the Municipal Building, 29450 Munro Avenue, Gibraltar, MI. 48173.

All meetings are open to the public and your participation is welcome.

CITY OF GIBRALTAR WEBSITE

The City of Gibraltar is continually updating the City website. The City Charter, Code of Ordinances, and a lot of the information that was previously printed in the Community Newsletter is now available on the website.

Check it out and let us know how we can make it better.

www.cityofgibraltar.net