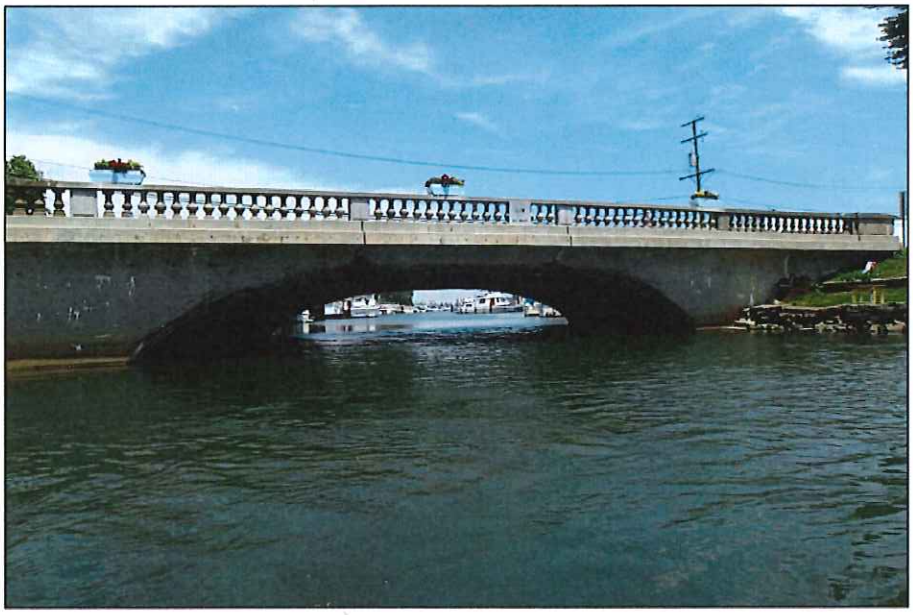
City of Gibraltar Community Newsletter

October 2015 – January 2016 *61st Edition*

Gibraltar, Michigan 48173 *www.cityofgibraltar.net*

City Awarded $2.64 Million Dollar Grant for the Replacement of the Middle Gibraltar Rd. Bridge

The City of Gibraltar is proud to announce the recent award of a $2,640,000 million dollar grant from the State of Michigan for the replacement of the bridge over the Gibraltar Waterway Canal located on Middle Gibraltar Rd. This bridge, built in 1932, located near Humbug Marina serves as the primary access point to the main island.



The grant, provided by the Michigan Department of Transportation was awarded this fall after the first application for the same project in 2015 was unsuccessful. Awarded in November of 2016, the grant was obtained under a competitive format. Communities throughout the state submit applications for funding to Michigan Department of Transportation, these applications are weighted based upon a variety of factors and awards are made through a committee voting system. Applications are divided by region. The City of Gibraltar fell into the Metro Region (Southeast Michigan). For our region, 24 applications were received which totaled $32 Million. Of the 24 applications, three (3) projects were

funded totaling $7.1 Million.

Funding for the project is significant because of the magnitude of the need for the replacement of the bridge, as well as the cost of replacement. The City's annual budget on a given year averages $3.3 million. At a total replacement cost of approximately $3,100,000 million, the City could essentially shut down all services for an entire year and still not be able to cover the cost of the replacement of the bridge. Because of the size and scope of the project, without the grant the City would likely have to levy a millage to replace the bridge which would have cost tax payers significantly on their tax bill.

Reconstruction of the bridge will commence in 2019. During the next 24 months the City will be required to discuss design, engineer, permit, bid, and contract the work. The City will look to commence discussions in January with the City's Planner and Engineer to discuss design components including look, feel, and capabilities of the new bridge as well as grant mandates and restrictions. These discussion will be at a public meeting in which residents are encouraged to attend. Please look to the Gibraltar City Council's meeting scheduled provided at the end of this newsletter for meeting dates/times.

City Seeks to Clarify Trash Hauler Pick Up Information

The City of Gibraltar wishes to clarify to residents how trash pick-up is performed by the City's contracted waste hauler, Rizzo Environmental. Tuesday trash pick-up is performed using three trucks. The first truck is automated and picks up the blue trash cans. A second truck (non-automated) picks up bulk trash, trash located outside your blue container, and trash containers other than the blue City provided waste totes. A third trash truck picks up yard waste as it cannot be comingled with the standard household waste material. Yard waste pick up starts April 1st each year and ends December 15th.

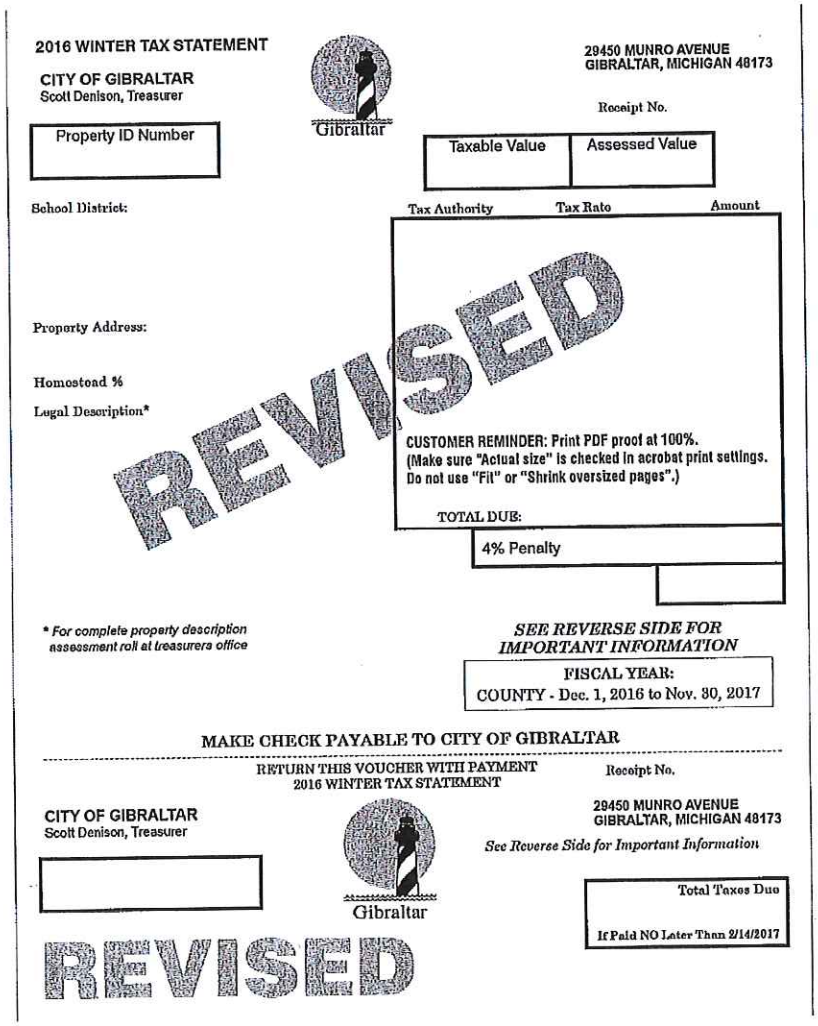
Please be advised, if the trash hauler arrives at your home and does not take all of your trash, a second truck will be coming to pick up the remainder of the waste. If all of your waste has not been picked up by 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, please contact City Hall at 734-676-3900 and advise us of your issue. The waste hauler stops by City Hall at the end of the day and the following day to check with the City regarding missed pick-ups.

In addition to the above, as you may have heard in the news Rizzo Environmental has been purchased by GFL Environmental. The only change to your service will be the color of the truck picking up your waste. All conditions of the City's contact and services provided will remain unchanged.

Revisions on Winter 2016 Tax Bills Required

Revised Bills to be Mailed Prior to 12/15/2016

Residents whom have received a winter 2016 tax bill should be aware that due to a Wayne County error, an incorrect tax millage was placed upon your bill. Listed on your tax summary is the following assessment- "WC Transit Authority". This assessment/error was caught by the City but not before some tax bills were issued. If you have already made payment on your bill, you will receive a refund from the City in the amount listed under the WC Transit Authority line item. The City asks that you wait until you have received this revised bill before you make payment. When making payment, please pay based


2016 WINTER TAX STATEMENT
CITY OF GIBRALTAR
Scott Denison, Treasurer
Gibraltar
29450 MUNRO AVENUE
GIBRALTAR, MICHIGAN 48173
Receipt No.
Property ID Number
Taxable Value
Assessed Value
School District:
Tax Authority
Tax Rate
Amount
Property Address:
Homestead %
Legal Description*
REVISED
CUSTOMER REMINDER: Print PDF proof at 100%.
(Make sure "Actual size" is checked in acrobat print settings.
Do not use "Fit" or "Shrink oversized pages".)
TOTAL DUE:
4% Penalty
* For complete property description assessment roll at treasurers office
SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION
FISCAL YEAR:
COUNTY - Dec. 1, 2016 to Nov. 30, 2017
MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO CITY OF GIBRALTAR
RETURN THIS VOUCHER WITH PAYMENT
2016 WINTER TAX STATEMENT
Receipt No.
CITY OF GIBRALTAR
Scott Denison, Treasurer
29450 MUNRO AVENUE
GIBRALTAR, MICHIGAN 48173
See Reverse Side for Important Information
Gibraltar
Total Taxes Due
If Paid NO Later Than 2/14/2017
REVISED

upon the total listed on the bill marked "revised." This will minimize the amount of refunds that will need to be issued. For those residents that wish to pay their bill prior to the end of the calendar year, revised bills should be received with ample time to make payment prior to December 31st, 2016. Should you have any questions regarding your tax bill, please contact the City of Gibraltar Finance Department at 734-676-3900

Improvements nearly complete at HyCAL (Mclouth Steel) Property

Over the past 18 months, residents may have noticed the substantial improvements at the previous Mclouth Steel (HyCal) Property. As showcased in Crain's Business, the Detroit Free Press, Bloomberg News, and others, the previous Steel Rolling Holdings Inc. (McLouth Steel) facility was purchased by Cleveland-based metal processor Ferragon Corp. in the winter of 2015. Subsequent to the purchase, through the efforts of Ferragon Corp., the City of Gibraltar, Wayne County, Detroit Wayne County Port Authority, MEDC and the Michigan Departments of Transportation and Environmental Quality, $53,000,000 was secured to aid in the redevelopment of this 600,000 sq. ft., 42.5 acre facility. The work, performed by the property owner Ferragon, is nearly complete. As of publication, work was underway to put into operation the new hydrogen cooled annealing line which was the catalyst for the purchase and improvements to the facility by Ferragon. HyCal expects product to roll off of the

new line within the next 14 months. Certification of material requires substantial lead time and mandates the long approval process required for any automotive supplier. Additional work to be completed by HyCal includes the eventual demolition of the only remaining building bordering Jefferson Ave. which still exhibits the previous, blue siding.

Residents Encouraged to Be Mindful of Outside Storage Ordinances

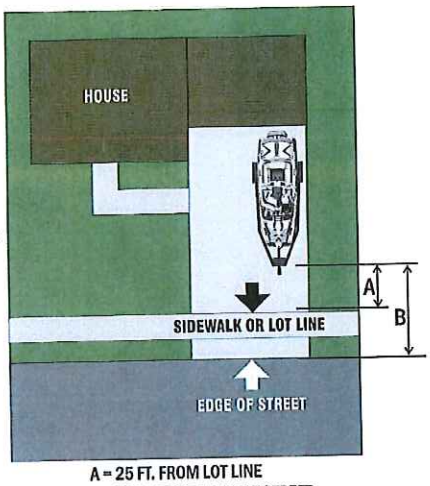
City of Gibraltar
Department of Public Safety

As Winter approaches, residents are reminded the storage of boats, watercraft, RVs and trailers on residential lots are required to meet location restrictions as detailed in Zoning Ordinance Sec. 44-170 (2a.)

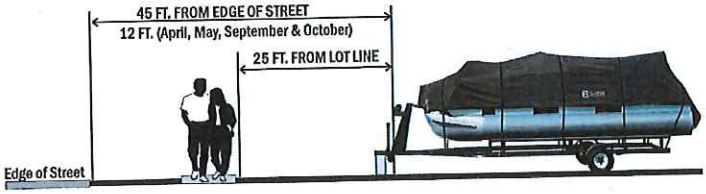
During the months of Jan., Feb., Mar., June, July, August, Nov., and Dec. at least 45 feet from the edge of the street or at least 25 feet from the street lot line, whichever is less; and during the months of April, May, September and October at least 12 feet from the edge of the street.

This zoning ordinance also limits this type of storage to one-third (1/3) of the total yard space. All items must be licensed and registered to the property owner or the property owner's immediate family.

Please review Sec. 44-170 (2b.) for additional information about storage on vacant lots.



A = 25 FT. FROM LOT LINE
B = 45 FT. FROM EDGE OF STREET
B= 12 FT. (April, May, September & October)

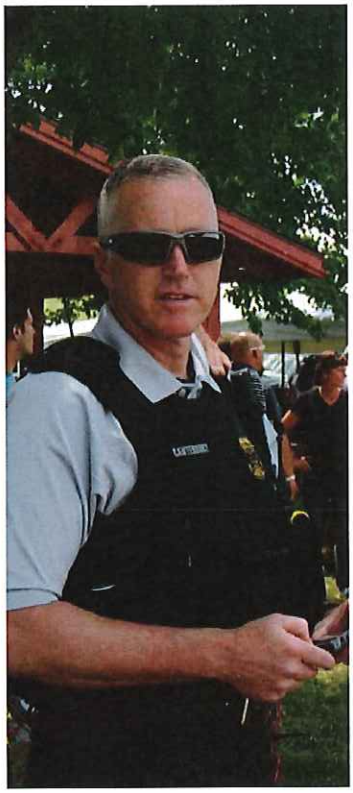


A complete copy of Zoning Ordinance Section 44-170 is available on the city website; printed copies are available at the police department front desk.

Due to stepped up enforcement efforts, some residents may have received notice from the City of Gibraltar Public Safety Department regarding storage of boats, trailers, and other equipment along roadsides and property lines. This ordinance, originally written in 1998 and then revised in 2008, was established to protect pedestrians, maintain vehicle lane lines of sight, and property from damage during plowing and other road maintenance activities. If you receive a notice from the ordinance officer, please note that first contact is generally a warning which allows ample time to gain compliance. Additional enforcement actions (including ticketing) is normally only pursued when residents do not comply with the initial time period stipulated in their warning.

The City of Gibraltar would like to remind residents that the ordinances as written were developed through the legislative format mandated by the City's Charter. This format mandates public notice, public input, and required opportunities for the general public to voice concerns. If at any time, you wish to voice your concerns regarding any of the ordinances within the City of Gibraltar, the City's Planning Commission meets during the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Gibraltar City Hall- 6:30 p.m. Until which time ordinances are revised through the established legislative process, the City of Gibraltar Ordinance Officer is required to enforce the regulations as written. Should you have any questions, residents can contact the City of Gibraltar Ordinance Officer at 734-676-1022.

Lieutenant Raymond Canterbury Retiring



After 25 years of service, Lieutenant Ray Canterbury is officially retiring from the City of Gibraltar Police Department. The City will miss Lieutenant Canterbury's vast experience, strong work ethic and dedication to the City. Hired on October 14th, 1991, Lieutenant Canterbury has held the rank of Sergeant, Lieutenant, Gibraltar Fire Department EMT, and Police Chief. Lieutenant Canterbury was also the Department's detective for several years and was assigned to the Michigan State Police Downriver Auto Theft Team (DRATT). Lieutenant Canterbury was the recipient of the City of Gibraltar Officer of the Year Award multiple times during his 25 year career as well as received numerous Local and State accommodations for excellence in service. The City of Gibraltar would like to wish Lieutenant Canterbury well in his retirement.

Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge Happenings

like us on facebook

DETROIT RIVER INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

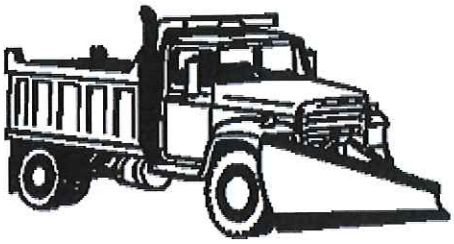
Save these dates!
Calendar of Events 2017

*Shiver on the River - February 4 *at the Belle Isle Casino*
*Kids Free Fishing Day- February 18 &19-*STATEWIDE*
*Movie at Trenton Theater - February 28
*World Wetlands Day-March 10 *at Gibraltar Carlson H·S·*
*International Migratory Bird Day- May 13
*Kids Free Fishing Day- June 10 & 11-*STATEWIDE*
*Hawkfest at Lake Erie Metropark- September 16 & 17
*Pointe Mouillee Waterfowl Festival-September 16 &17
*Point Pelee Festival of the Birds - May 1-22 *at Point Pelee-Parks Canada*
*The Biggest Week in American Birding at *Ottawa NWR*- May 5-14
*Grosse Ile Island Fest - June 2-4

For more details about these events, please contact Jennifer Braatz at jennifer_braatz@fws.gov or at 734-362-7736

To learn more about the refuge, please visit our website at www.fws.gov/refuge/detroit_river

Snow Plowing Notice:



The City of Gibraltar would like to remind residents of a variety of items regarding snow plowing by the City on public roadways:

- The City of Gibraltar is responsible for snow and ice removal during winter snow events. Depending upon the nature and amount of precipitation, as well as short and long term forecasts, The Gibraltar DPW Department may choose to salt, plow, or perform both activities during a winter event.

- Because the City employs a small staff of employees, the City must choose based upon short and long term forecasts and daily traffic levels, when the best time is to deploy it's resources. As a result, you may not see plowing/salting activity throughout a storm. The City may wait until accumulations of snow are significant enough to start the removal processes. This insures the City has enough manpower resources to have the streets in the best condition for high traffic periods (i.e. when residents commute to and from work and school traffic hours).

- The City staff does its best when plowing roads to direct snow away from residential drives. Unfortunately, the direction DPW employees plow snow is often determined based upon the equipment they have available. Some of the City's larger trucks cannot make turns in smaller areas (i.e. cul-de-sacs). As a result snow may be pushed to the outside rather than the inside of the lane. In addition, during winter events, the City's main priority is to clear the roads quickly and efficiently. This often results in some snow being left in the road or along the roadway. Once the snow emergency has concluded, the City often will come back and clean up areas that may have received minimal removal during the event.

- If a snow emergency is declared (if snow accumulation is set to exceed 4 in.) all residents are requested to remove their vehicles from the roadway. This allows for quicker, more efficient and complete removal of snow from the roadways, as well as the preservation of private property. Residents will be notified of a snow emergency through Nixle alert system (to subscribe please note the instructions listed elsewhere in this newsletter), as well as the electronic sign located at the intersection of Jefferson and Middle Gibraltar Rds.

- To avoid ticketing, please do not push snow into the road while cleaning your driveway. When plow trucks pass by your house, this snow will be plowed back into your drive. Please cast snow to the left and right of your drive when removing it from your property.

- The Department of Public Works is conscientious in performing their duties, but cannot avoid occasional damage to mailboxes. As a result, the City has adopted the following policy regarding damage reimbursement:

  - The City will reimburse upon receipt of a paid invoice, any property owner up to $40.00 to cover the cost of materials for the repair or replacement of the mailbox from any damages caused by snow plowing activities, only when it has been determined that:
    - The damage was caused by actual physical contact with City snow plowing equipment. Such examples would include, but are not limited to, the mailbox and/or support being cut, bent, or having paint on it from the snow plow;
    - The mailbox is of a standard design and installed in conformance to the standards established through this policy by the City; and
    - The mailbox and support were in good condition.

    - The City will not reimburse for mailboxes damaged along City streets when the City has determined that:

- The mailbox was not of standard design or not installed in conformance to the standards established through this policy by the City, even though it might have been damaged by City snow plowing equipment;
- The mailbox and support were not in good condition;
- The mailbox and/or support were damaged by snow or ice thrown by snow plowing equipment; or

- The weight of plowed snow resulted in the damage to the mailbox and/or support structure.
- Please note that the crew tries not to hit mailboxes but they do get knocked down occasionally due to wet, heavy snow or improper placement. These can be reduced if you make sure your mailbox is behind the back of the curb and in a good condition prior to the snow removal season. Our policy is not to replace a mailbox not properly installed and not actually contacted by the snow plow.

Community News and General Information

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

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 Assessor, WCA Assessing, has assigned David Yack 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 he can also be reached by email at assessing@cityofgibraltar.net.

Winter Tax Bills

The 2016 Winter Tax Bills 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.

Senior Alliance

The Senior Alliance is available to Gibraltar Residents to assist with insuring and preserving the independence of older adults and those with disabilities. Some services that are provided include:

- Transportation
- Housing Options
- Nutrition Programs
- Legal Assistance
- Meals on Wheels
- Medicare/Medicaid Assistance
- Home Healthcare Services
- Caregiver Support

For information on services provided:
Please call 1-800-815-1112
or visit www.aaa1c.org
or email: info@tsalink.org

Water Department 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.

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.

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.

Diameter of Stream	Gallons
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.

POLICE/ FIRE DEPARTMENT GENERAL INFORMATION

Christmas Tree Fire Safety If you are planning on having a real tree this year for Christmas, please keep in mind the most important thing is to keep the tree watered. On average Christmas tree fires account for 13 deaths annually in the United States and in excess of 240 fires. These fires are generally the result of shorts in electrical lights or open flames from items such as candles, lighters, cigarettes, and matches. When shopping for a tree this year make sure that the tree you choose is freshly cut. A fresh tree when properly watered is very safe and makes for a festive and enjoyable holiday season.

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

Nixle- Resident Notification System Reminder

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.

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.

Community Center/ Recreation Events

Family Storytime-

Gibraltar Community Center- Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m. Stories, Music, Crafts, and more. $3.00/family. Class runs through January. 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 is currently ongoing.

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

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. - 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 2017 season, now is the time to reserve it. Call (734) 671-1466 for reservations.

Flood Information

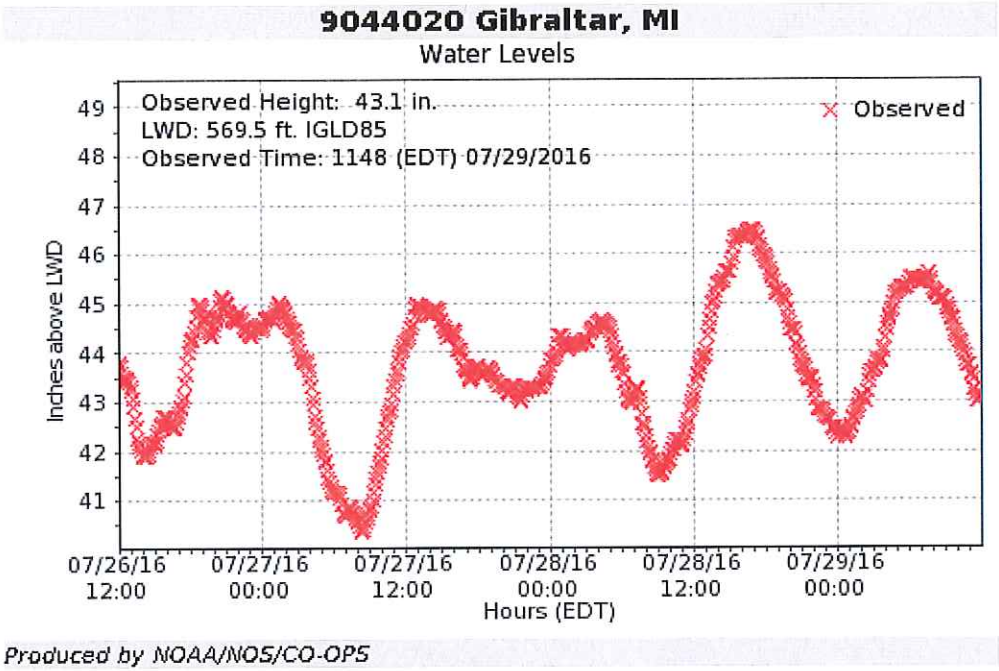
Flood and storm drain brochures are available for properties that may be in or near Special Flood Hazard Areas in the City of Gibraltar. Other flood hazard and watershed information is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in our information center located in the foyer of the Municipal Complex.

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.

Detroit River Water Level Information Available Now

Water level monitoring numbers for the City of Gibraltar are available now on-line at the City's webpage- www.cityofgibraltar.net. If you scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the water level link, you will be directed to the NOAA webpage. Click the Gibraltar Monitoring station link on the left. Levels are shown in 6 minute increments.



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.semcog.org.

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

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) 676-3952
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	emanion@cityofgibraltar.net
Bill Baker	bbaker@cityofgibraltar.net
Robert Saunders	bub.saunders@comcast.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
Rodney Branham@cityofgibraltar.net

Treasurer: Scott Denison

Finance Director: Barbara Meyer
meyerb@cityofgibraltar.net

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

Assessor: David Yack
assessing@cityofgibraltar.net

Housing Rehab: DCC
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

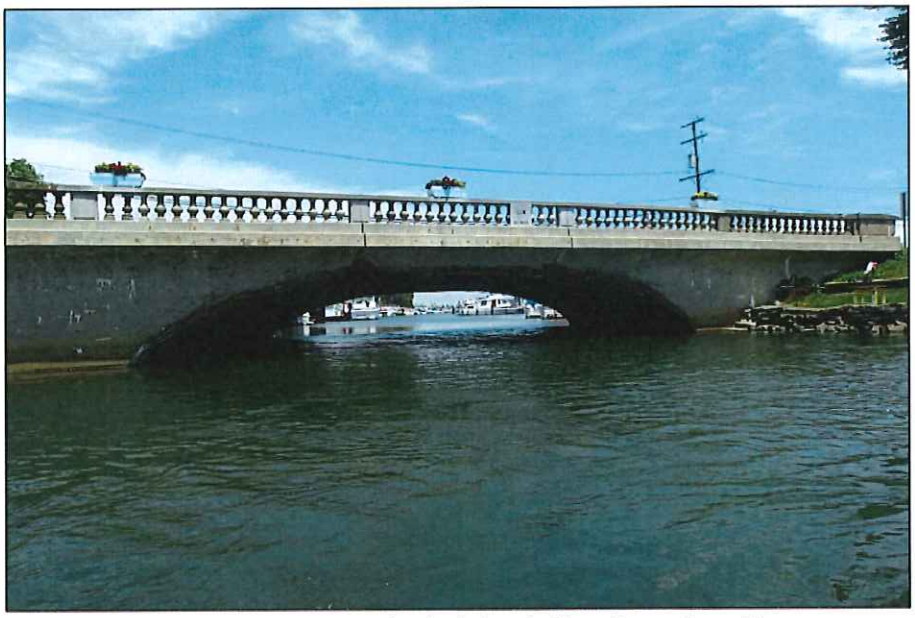
City of Gibraltar Community Newsletter

December 2016 – March 2017 *61st Edition*

Gibraltar, Michigan 48173 *www.cityofgibraltar.net*

City Awarded $2.64 Million Dollar Grant for the Replacement of the Middle Gibraltar Rd. Bridge

The City of Gibraltar is proud to announce the recent award of a $2,640,000 million dollar grant from the State of Michigan for the replacement of the bridge over the Gibraltar Waterway Canal located on Middle Gibraltar Rd. This bridge, built in 1932, located near Humbug Marina serves as the primary access point to the main island.



The grant, provided by the Michigan Department of Transportation was awarded this fall after the first application for the same project in 2015 was unsuccessful. Awarded in November of 2016, the grant was obtained under a competitive format. Communities throughout the state submit applications for funding to Michigan Department of Transportation, these applications are weighted based upon a variety of factors and awards are made through a committee voting system. Applications are divided by region. The City of Gibraltar fell into the Metro Region (Southeast Michigan). For our region, 24 applications were received which totaled $32 Million. Of the 24 applications, three (3) projects were

funded totaling $7.1 Million.

Funding for the project is significant because of the magnitude of the need for the replacement of the bridge, as well as the cost of replacement. The City's annual budget on a given year averages $3.3 million. At a total replacement cost of approximately $3,100,000 million, the City could essentially shut down all services for an entire year and still not be able to cover the cost of the replacement of the bridge. Because of the size and scope of the project, without the grant the City would likely have to levy a millage to replace the bridge which would have cost tax payers significantly on their tax bill.

Reconstruction of the bridge will commence in 2019. During the next 24 months the City will be required to discuss design, engineer, permit, bid, and contract the work. The City will look to commence discussions in January with the City's Planner and Engineer to discuss design components including look, feel, and capabilities of the new bridge as well as grant mandates and restrictions. These discussion will be at a public meeting in which residents are encouraged to attend. Please look to the Gibraltar City Council's meeting scheduled provided at the end of this newsletter for meeting dates/times.

City Seeks to Clarify Trash Hauler Pick Up Information

The City of Gibraltar wishes to clarify to residents how trash pick-up is performed by the City's contracted waste hauler, Rizzo Environmental. Tuesday trash pick-up is performed using three trucks. The first truck is automated and picks up the blue trash cans. A second truck (non-automated) picks up bulk trash, trash located outside your blue container, and trash containers other than the blue City provided waste totes. A third trash truck picks up yard waste as it cannot be comingled with the standard household waste material. Yard waste pick up starts April 1st each year and ends December 15th.

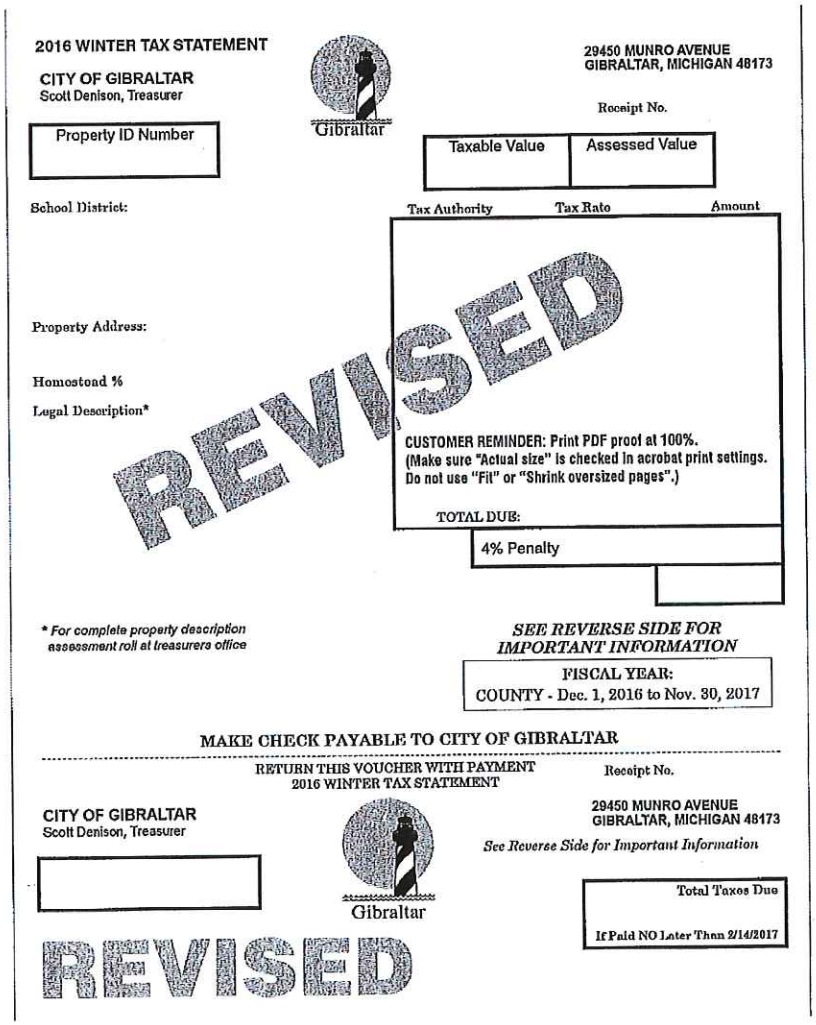
Please be advised, if the trash hauler arrives at your home and does not take all of your trash, a second truck will be coming to pick up the remainder of the waste. If all of your waste has not been picked up by 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, please contact City Hall at 734-676-3900 and advise us of your issue. The waste hauler stops by City Hall at the end of the day and the following day to check with the City regarding missed pick-ups.

In addition to the above, as you may have heard in the news Rizzo Environmental has been purchased by GFL Environmental. The only change to your service will be the color of the truck picking up your waste. All conditions of the City's contact and services provided will remain unchanged.

Revisions on Winter 2016 Tax Bills Required

Revised Bills to be Mailed Prior to 12/15/2016

Residents whom have received a winter 2016 tax bill should be aware that due to a Wayne County error, an incorrect tax millage was placed upon your bill. Listed on your tax summary is the following assessment- "WC Transit Authority". This assessment/error was caught by the City but not before some tax bills were issued. If you have already made payment on your bill, you will receive a refund from the City in the amount listed under the WC Transit Authority line item. The City asks that you wait until you have received this revised bill before you make payment. When making payment, please pay based


2016 WINTER TAX STATEMENT
CITY OF GIBRALTAR
Scott Denison, Treasurer
Gibraltar
29450 MUNRO AVENUE
GIBRALTAR, MICHIGAN 48173
Receipt No.
Property ID Number
Taxable Value
Assessed Value
School District:
Tax Authority
Tax Rate
Amount
Property Address:
Homestead %
Legal Description*
REVISED
CUSTOMER REMINDER: Print PDF proof at 100%.
(Make sure "Actual size" is checked in acrobat print settings.
Do not use "Fit" or "Shrink oversized pages".)
TOTAL DUE:
4% Penalty
* For complete property description assessment roll at treasurers office
SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION
FISCAL YEAR:
COUNTY - Dec. 1, 2016 to Nov. 30, 2017
MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO CITY OF GIBRALTAR
RETURN THIS VOUCHER WITH PAYMENT
2016 WINTER TAX STATEMENT
Receipt No.
CITY OF GIBRALTAR
Scott Denison, Treasurer
29450 MUNRO AVENUE
GIBRALTAR, MICHIGAN 48173
See Reverse Side for Important Information
Gibraltar
Total Taxes Due
If Paid NO Later Than 2/14/2017
REVISED

upon the total listed on the bill marked "revised." This will minimize the amount of refunds that will need to be issued. For those residents that wish to pay their bill prior to the end of the calendar year, revised bills should be received with ample time to make payment prior to December 31st, 2016. Should you have any questions regarding your tax bill, please contact the City of Gibraltar Finance Department at 734-676-3900

Improvements nearly complete at HyCAL (Mclouth Steel) Property

Over the past 18 months, residents may have noticed the substantial improvements at the previous Mclouth Steel (HyCal) Property. As showcased in Crain's Business, the Detroit Free Press, Bloomberg News, and others, the previous Steel Rolling Holdings Inc. (McLouth Steel) facility was purchased by Cleveland-based metal processor Ferragon Corp. in the winter of 2015. Subsequent to the purchase, through the efforts of Ferragon Corp., the City of Gibraltar, Wayne County, Detroit Wayne County Port Authority, MEDC and the Michigan Departments of Transportation and Environmental Quality, $53,000,000 was secured to aid in the redevelopment of this 600,000 sq. ft., 42.5 acre facility. The work, performed by the property owner Ferragon, is nearly complete. As of publication, work was underway to put into operation the new hydrogen cooled annealing line which was the catalyst for the purchase and improvements to the facility by Ferragon. HyCal expects product to roll off of the

new line within the next 14 months. Certification of material requires substantial lead time and mandates the long approval process required for any automotive supplier. Additional work to be completed by HyCal includes the eventual demolition of the only remaining building bordering Jefferson Ave. which still exhibits the previous, blue siding.

Residents Encouraged to Be Mindful of Outside Storage Ordinances

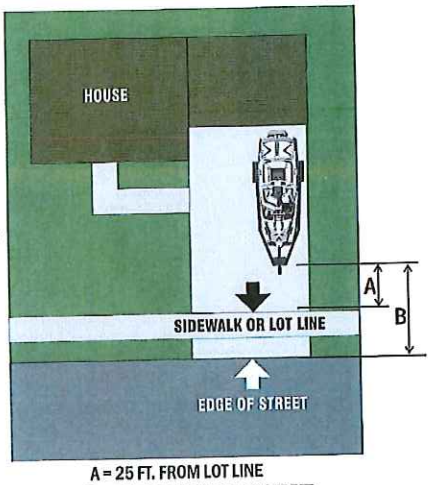
City of Gibraltar
Department of Public Safety

As Winter approaches, residents are reminded the storage of boats, watercraft, RVs and trailers on residential lots are required to meet location restrictions as detailed in Zoning Ordinance Sec. 44-170 (2a.)

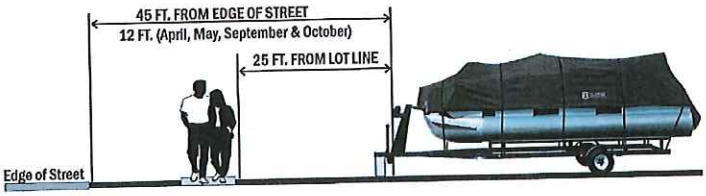
During the months of Jan., Feb., Mar., June, July, August, Nov., and Dec. at least 45 feet from the edge of the street or at least 25 feet from the street lot line, whichever is less; and during the months of April, May, September and October at least 12 feet from the edge of the street.

This zoning ordinance also limits this type of storage to one-third (1/3) of the total yard space. All items must be licensed and registered to the property owner or the property owner's immediate family.

Please review Sec. 44-170 (2b.) for additional information about storage on vacant lots.



A = 25 FT. FROM LOT LINE
B = 45 FT. FROM EDGE OF STREET
B= 12 FT. (April, May, September & October)

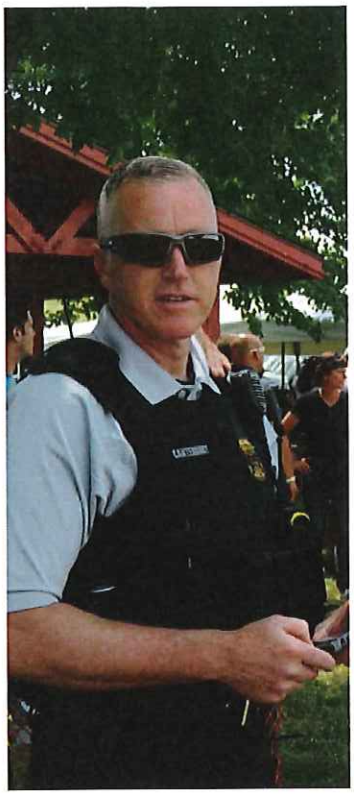


A complete copy of Zoning Ordinance Section 44-170 is available on the city website; printed copies are available at the police department front desk.

Due to stepped up enforcement efforts, some residents may have received notice from the City of Gibraltar Public Safety Department regarding storage of boats, trailers, and other equipment along roadsides and property lines. This ordinance, originally written in 1998 and then revised in 2008, was established to protect pedestrians, maintain vehicle lane lines of sight, and property from damage during plowing and other road maintenance activities. If you receive a notice from the ordinance officer, please note that first contact is generally a warning which allows ample time to gain compliance. Additional enforcement actions (including ticketing) is normally only pursued when residents do not comply with the initial time period stipulated in their warning.

The City of Gibraltar would like to remind residents that the ordinances as written were developed through the legislative format mandated by the City's Charter. This format mandates public notice, public input, and required opportunities for the general public to voice concerns. If at any time, you wish to voice your concerns regarding any of the ordinances within the City of Gibraltar, the City's Planning Commission meets during the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Gibraltar City Hall- 6:30 p.m. Until which time ordinances are revised through the established legislative process, the City of Gibraltar Ordinance Officer is required to enforce the regulations as written. Should you have any questions, residents can contact the City of Gibraltar Ordinance Officer at 734-676-1022.

Lieutenant Raymond Canterbury Retiring



After 25 years of service, Lieutenant Ray Canterbury is officially retiring from the City of Gibraltar Police Department. The City will miss Lieutenant Canterbury's vast experience, strong work ethic and dedication to the City. Hired on October 14th, 1991, Lieutenant Canterbury has held the rank of Sergeant, Lieutenant, Gibraltar Fire Department EMT, and Police Chief. Lieutenant Canterbury was also the Department's detective for several years and was assigned to the Michigan State Police Downriver Auto Theft Team (DRATT). Lieutenant Canterbury was the recipient of the City of Gibraltar Officer of the Year Award multiple times during his 25 year career as well as received numerous Local and State accommodations for excellence in service. The City of Gibraltar would like to wish Lieutenant Canterbury well in his retirement.

Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge Happenings

like us on facebook

DETROIT RIVER INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

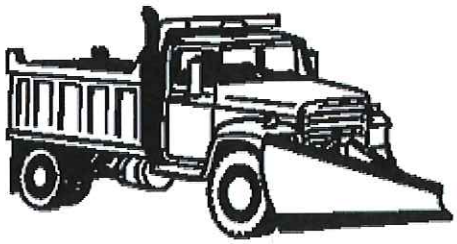
Save these dates!
Calendar of Events 2017

*Shiver on the River - February 4 *at the Belle Isle Casino*
*Kids Free Fishing Day- February 18 &19-*STATEWIDE*
*Movie at Trenton Theater - February 28
*World Wetlands Day-March 10 *at Gibraltar Carlson H·S·*
*International Migratory Bird Day- May 13
*Kids Free Fishing Day- June 10 & 11-*STATEWIDE*
*Hawkfest at Lake Erie Metropark- September 16 & 17
*Pointe Mouillee Waterfowl Festival-September 16 &17
*Point Pelee Festival of the Birds - May 1-22 *at Point Pelee-Parks Canada*
*The Biggest Week in American Birding at *Ottawa NWR*- May 5-14
*Grosse Ile Island Fest - June 2-4

For more details about these events, please contact Jennifer Braatz at jennifer_braatz@fws.gov or at 734-362-7736

To learn more about the refuge, please visit our website at www.fws.gov/refuge/detroit_river

Snow Plowing Notice:



The City of Gibraltar would like to remind residents of a variety of items regarding snow plowing by the City on public roadways:

- The City of Gibraltar is responsible for snow and ice removal during winter snow events. Depending upon the nature and amount of precipitation, as well as short and long term forecasts, The Gibraltar DPW Department may choose to salt, plow, or perform both activities during a winter event.

- Because the City employs a small staff of employees, the City must choose based upon short and long term forecasts and daily traffic levels, when the best time is to deploy it's resources. As a result, you may not see plowing/salting activity throughout a storm. The City may wait until accumulations of snow are significant enough to start the removal processes. This insures the City has enough manpower resources to have the streets in the best condition for high traffic periods (i.e. when residents commute to and from work and school traffic hours).

- The City staff does its best when plowing roads to direct snow away from residential drives. Unfortunately, the direction DPW employees plow snow is often determined based upon the equipment they have available. Some of the City's larger trucks cannot make turns in smaller areas (i.e. cul-de-sacs). As a result snow may be pushed to the outside rather than the inside of the lane. In addition, during winter events, the City's main priority is to clear the roads quickly and efficiently. This often results in some snow being left in the road or along the roadway. Once the snow emergency has concluded, the City often will come back and clean up areas that may have received minimal removal during the event.

- If a snow emergency is declared (if snow accumulation is set to exceed 4 in.) all residents are requested to remove their vehicles from the roadway. This allows for quicker, more efficient and complete removal of snow from the roadways, as well as the preservation of private property. Residents will be notified of a snow emergency through Nixle alert system (to subscribe please note the instructions listed elsewhere in this newsletter), as well as the electronic sign located at the intersection of Jefferson and Middle Gibraltar Rds.

- To avoid ticketing, please do not push snow into the road while cleaning your driveway. When plow trucks pass by your house, this snow will be plowed back into your drive. Please cast snow to the left and right of your drive when removing it from your property.

- The Department of Public Works is conscientious in performing their duties, but cannot avoid occasional damage to mailboxes. As a result, the City has adopted the following policy regarding damage reimbursement:

  - The City will reimburse upon receipt of a paid invoice, any property owner up to $40.00 to cover the cost of materials for the repair or replacement of the mailbox from any damages caused by snow plowing activities, only when it has been determined that:
    - The damage was caused by actual physical contact with City snow plowing equipment. Such examples would include, but are not limited to, the mailbox and/or support being cut, bent, or having paint on it from the snow plow;
    - The mailbox is of a standard design and installed in conformance to the standards established through this policy by the City; and
    - The mailbox and support were in good condition.

    - The City will not reimburse for mailboxes damaged along City streets when the City has determined that:

- The mailbox was not of standard design or not installed in conformance to the standards established through this policy by the City, even though it might have been damaged by City snow plowing equipment;
- The mailbox and support were not in good condition;
- The mailbox and/or support were damaged by snow or ice thrown by snow plowing equipment; or

- The weight of plowed snow resulted in the damage to the mailbox and/or support structure.
- Please note that the crew tries not to hit mailboxes but they do get knocked down occasionally due to wet, heavy snow or improper placement. These can be reduced if you make sure your mailbox is behind the back of the curb and in a good condition prior to the snow removal season. Our policy is not to replace a mailbox not properly installed and not actually contacted by the snow plow.

Community News and General Information

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

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 Assessor, WCA Assessing, has assigned David Yack 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 he can also be reached by email at assessing@cityofgibraltar.net.

Winter Tax Bills

The 2016 Winter Tax Bills 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.

Senior Alliance

The Senior Alliance is available to Gibraltar Residents to assist with insuring and preserving the independence of older adults and those with disabilities. Some services that are provided include:

- Transportation
- Housing Options
- Nutrition Programs
- Legal Assistance
- Meals on Wheels
- Medicare/Medicaid Assistance
- Home Healthcare Services
- Caregiver Support

For information on services provided:
Please call 1-800-815-1112
or visit www.aaa1c.org
or email: info@tsalink.org

Water Department 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.

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.

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.

Diameter of Stream	Gallons
1/4"	1,181,500
3/16"	666,000
1/8"	296,000
1/16"	74,000

Chipping:

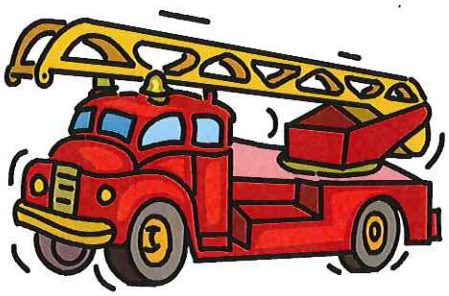
City chipping service will normally be done once a week. This is subject to change due to emergencies, scheduling, etc. Tree branches for chipping should be left as long as possible, with the larger end of the branch facing towards the road in a neat, uniform pile. **THE CHIPPING SERVICE IS FOR TREES 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.

POLICE/ FIRE DEPARTMENT GENERAL INFORMATION

Christmas Tree Fire Safety If you are planning on having a real tree this year for Christmas, please keep in mind the most important thing is to keep the tree watered. On average Christmas tree fires account for 13 deaths annually in the United States and in excess of 240 fires. These fires are generally the result of shorts in electrical lights or open flames from items such as candles, lighters, cigarettes, and matches. When shopping for a tree this year make sure that the tree you choose is freshly cut. A fresh tree when properly watered is very safe and makes for a festive and enjoyable holiday season.

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



Nixle- Resident Notification System Reminder

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.

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.

Community Center/ Recreation Events

Family Storytime- Gibraltar Community Center- Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m. Stories, Music, Crafts, and more. $3.00/family. Class runs through January. 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 is currently ongoing.

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

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. - 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 and non-residents 50 years or older

are welcome to join. Come join the fun, social activities, and trip planning. For more information please call (734) 675-5569.

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 2017 season, now is the time to reserve it. Call (734) 671-1466 for reservations.

Flood Information

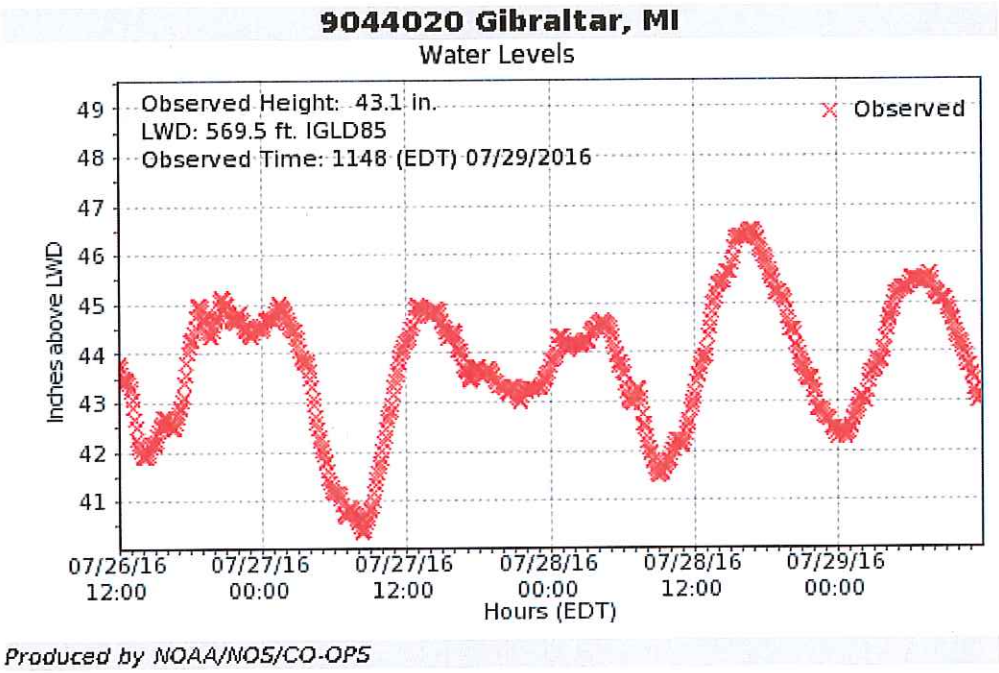
Flood and storm drain brochures are available for properties that may be in or near Special Flood Hazard Areas in the City of Gibraltar. Other flood hazard and watershed information is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in our information center located in the foyer of the Municipal Complex.

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.

Detroit River Water Level Information Available Now

Water level monitoring numbers for the City of Gibraltar are available now on-line at the City's webpage- www.cityofgibraltar.net. If you scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the water level link, you will be directed to the NOAA webpage. Click the Gibraltar Monitoring station link on the left. Levels are shown in 6 minute increments.



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.semcog.org.

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

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) 676-3952
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	emanion@cityofgibraltar.net
Bill Baker	bbaker@cityofgibraltar.net
Robert Saunders	Bob.Saunders@wowway.com
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
Rodney Branham@cityofgibraltar.net

Treasurer: Scott Denison

Finance Director: Barbara Meyer
meyerb@cityofgibraltar.net

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

Assessor: David Yack
assessing@cityofgibraltar.net

Housing Rehab: DCC
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