

**City of East Tawas**  
**760 Newman Street**  
**PO Box 672**  
**East Tawas, MI 48730-0672**  
*www.easttawas.com*  
*cityhall@easttawas.com*

## IMPORTANT DATES IN 2017-18

### Oct

9.....Columbus Day  
*City offices will be open*

31 ..... Halloween Parade 4:30pm  
Trick or Treating 5pm-8pm

### Nov

7..... Election Day  
23-24 Thanksgiving  
*City offices will be closed*  
24.....Christmas parade & tree lighting 6pm

### Dec

1 ..... Winter taxes mailed  
22-25 Christmas Eve & Christmas Day  
*City offices will be closed*

### Jan

1 .....New Year's Day  
*City offices will be closed*

### Feb

2-4 ..Perchville USA  
14 .... Winter Taxes due

### Mar

30 ....Good Friday  
*City offices close at noon*

# CITY OF EAST TAWAS

760 NEWMAN STREET • PO BOX 672 • EAST TAWAS, MI 48730-0672  
PHONE: 989-362-6161 • FAX: 989-362-6736 • cityhall@easttawas.com  
www.easttawas.com

## FALL - WINTER 2017-18

### CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Have you ever thought of volunteering to serve on a City Board, Commission or Authority? It can be a very satisfying and rewarding experience to learn more about city government and help make our City a better place to live. The City Council reviews board members this time of year and appointments are made by the 1st of the year. The City's boards, commissions or authorities currently include: Board of Review, Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, Housing Commission, Park Board, Planning Commission, Tax Increment Finance Authority, Urban Development Action Grant Reuse Board and Zoning Board of Appeals. If you are interested in serving on any of our boards, please notify City Hall at cityhall@easttawas.com or (989) 362-6161.

### ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Absentee ballots for this election are now available at East Tawas City Hall, located at 760 Newman Street, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday and will also be available on Saturday, November 4, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. An application for an absentee ballot must be completed and a driver's license is required if obtaining an absentee ballot in person. Absentee ballots must be returned no later than 8:00 p.m. on election night, November 7, 2017.

### NEW VOTING EQUIPMENT

The State of Michigan recently required all voting jurisdictions to obtain new voting equipment. The tabulator will still be the optical scan reader based on marking the ballot. We will be changing from connecting the two halves of the arrow to filling in an oval to cast your vote. Instructions will be provided for you when you obtain your ballot. We also have a new Voter Assist Terminal (VAT) available to those electors with disabilities.

### SPECIAL ELECTION

The City of East Tawas will be holding a Special Election on Tuesday, November 7, 2017. The purpose of the election is to vote on a millage proposal for the Intermediate School District for the Iosco Regional Educational Service Agency (IRESA) to establish an area career and technical education program, which is designed to encourage the operation of area career and technical education programs. The annual property tax levied for this purpose is limited to .65 mill (\$0.65 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2017 to 2026.

**"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."**

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD)  
Or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-replay)



## CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Electors of the City of East Tawas will also be voting in the Special Election on the following three proposals to amend sections of the City Charter.

### ***PROPOSAL 1***

Shall Sec. 12.3 (c) of the city charter be amended to delete the minimum dollar amount requiring competitive bidding for each contract for construction of public improvements or for the purchase or sale of personal property and delete the procedures for soliciting, accepting, or rejecting bids, and instead provide that any such contract be made pursuant to Ordinance providing for the letting and procedures for such construction of public improvements or for such purchase or sale of personal property?

This proposal deletes the minimum dollar amount of \$2,500 requiring competitive bidding for each contract for construction of public improvements or for the purchase or sale of personal property and deletes the procedures for soliciting, accepting, or rejecting bids, and instead provides that any such contract be made pursuant to Ordinance providing for the letting and procedures for such construction of public improvements or for such purchase or sale of personal property.

### ***PROPOSAL 2***

Shall Section 7.13 of the city charter be amended to include electronic transactions as authorized by the City's Automatic Clearing House (ACH) and Electronic Transactions policy as a method to withdraw city funds?

The proposal would include appropriations made by electronic transactions as authorized by the City's Automatic Clearing House (ACH) and Electronic Transactions policy.

### ***PROPOSAL 3***

Shall Section 8.7 (a) of the city charter be amended to allow the appointment for one (1) year terms of up to two (2) alternate members of the Board of Review who may be called to serve in the place of regular members for the purpose of carrying out the duties and functions of the board at those times when one or more regular members of the board are unable to act?

The proposal allows the appointment of two alternate members for one year terms to the Board of Review who may be called upon to serve in the place of regular members for the purpose of carrying out the duties and functions of the board at those times when one or more regular members of the board are unable to act.

Polls will be open on November 7th at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m.

## HYDRANT FLUSHING

The Department of Public Works will begin flushing fire hydrants October 2-6, 2017. You may experience rusty water or low water pressure during this flushing period. Flushing of the hydrants is necessary to provide better water quality. Please watch our website or the Iosco County News Herald for our flushing schedule.



## TREE REMOVAL

Once per year, usually in the fall, the City arranges with an outside contractor to have dead trees on City property removed. If you have a tree in front of your house that is dead and needs to be removed, please contact City Hall to have the tree inspected and added to the list for removal. Please note that trees are removed only once a year and that, once approved by the City, your tree may not be removed for several months. Homeowners may remove trees on City property but only after receiving permission from the City Manager, Blinda Baker.

## DOG LICENSES

Dog licenses may be purchased at City Hall from December 1st to March 1st. The fee is \$10.00 for male and female dogs, and \$5.00 for unsexed dogs. Proof of Rabies Vaccination is required. After March 1st dog licenses may be purchased at the County Treasurer's Office.

## SNOW PLOWING

With winter drawing near, we are asking for your cooperation in keeping the City streets and parking lots cleared of vehicles from 3:00 a.m.-6:00 a.m. allowing our Department of Public Works to efficiently plow snow off the City streets and downtown parking spaces.

## NEW LIBRARY HOURS

Starting Monday, October 2, 2017, the East Tawas Library will be open an additional 5 hours per week. The new library hours are as follows:

Monday: 8 am – 6 pm  
Tuesday: 10 am – 8:30 pm  
Wednesday: Closed  
Thursday: 8 am – 6 pm  
Friday: 8 am – 6 pm  
Saturday: 8 am – 12 noon

Our after hour's book return is located at the corner of the library under the covered colonnade walkway to the East Tawas City Hall and Community Center.

Books can also be returned to any of the other Iosco-Arenac District Library branches which are located in: Au Gres, Hale, Omer, Oscoda, Standish, Tawas City, and Whittemore.

If you go away for the winter and need to mail books back to us please mail them to our Post Office Box (Box 672) since the Postal Service does not forward media mail.

Luann Elvey  
East Tawas Library  
760 Newman Street  
PO Box 672  
East Tawas, MI 48730  
989-362-6162  
libraryet@yahoo.com



## CLEAR SNOW FOR READING

During the winter months, the Department of Public Works would like to remind all homeowners and landlords to maintain a path to your meter pad for monthly meter readings. If your meter pad becomes buried with snow or ice, an estimate will be used to compute your monthly bill.

## SANTA CLAUS

Unfortunately, Santa Claus will not be making his annual stop at the East Tawas Fire Hall this year. Since Santa makes appearances at many other places in the community and the number of children visiting him at the fire hall has significantly decreased, we have decided not to schedule a visit this year.

## FIRE PREVENTION

East Tawas Fire Chief Bill Deckett wants to remind you that your smoke alarms should be checked monthly and the batteries changed twice a year. A perfect time is when you change your clocks for daylight savings time. You are more than twice as likely to survive a house fire if you have working smoke alarms. So, remember,

"CHANGE YOUR CLOCK, CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES!"



## WINTER TAX BILLS

2017 Winter Tax bills will be mailed on December 1, 2017 and are due February 14, 2018. If you would like your tax payment made by automatic payment initiated by the City of East Tawas, please contact our office at 989-362-6161 or visit our website [www.easttawas.com](http://www.easttawas.com) to complete the required form. After February 28, 2018, all delinquent tax amounts will be forwarded to the Iosco County Treasurer for collection.

## REMINDER

Garbage pickup for East Tawas residents is Thursday, unless following a holiday listed below. If you need to put your garbage out the night before, please do so after 7 p.m.

### Waste Management Holiday Schedule

*Collection will be delayed one day*

Memorial Day  
Labor Day  
Thanksgiving Day  
Christmas Day  
New Year's Day 2018  
4th of July

## WATER METER MAINTENANCE

We are asking for the cooperation of residents in maintaining water meters in the upcoming winter months. The Department of Public Works has been hard at work this summer updating water meters. The initial meter is free of charge to the home owner, but a replacement meter due to any damages will be at the cost of the homeowner. The cost of a new meter is a minimum of \$150.00.

Our main concern is keeping meters and water lines from freezing and breaking. The first step would be to locate your water meter. (Water meters are normally located in a crawl space or basement.)

*Suggestions for homeowners are listed below:*

- ▶ Make sure that there are no drafts of cold air hitting the meter. Meters that are located in a crawl space can sometimes be located in direct relation to the crawl space access door. If there is any air leaking through the access it could result in freezing the meter.
  - Insulate around the meter or around the access door to keep the cold draft away.
  - Make sure to shut any crawl space vents around the house.
- ▶ Summer homes and cottages that aren't in use during the winter, or not used as often:
  - If the home is not in use during winter months have it properly winterized.
  - If only used on occasion, make sure you take the proper steps to keep the meter clear of cold drafts. Keeping your heat up, keeping it insulated, or, during extreme temperatures keeping a pencil lead size stream of water running at one faucet will help prevent meters and lines from freezing.

← What your new meter looks like



## ZONING PERMITS

Please remember that the City of East Tawas is a zoned community and you need a zoning permit for any construction (including decks, pools, fences, sheds, garages, additions, houses, etc.) or tearing down any structures. Permits and guidelines are available at City Hall. Incomplete permits will delay approval, so please be sure to allow yourself enough time to get all the necessary information and for the Zoning Administrator to review and approve the application.

Any commercial permits must be approved by the Planning Commission which meets at City Hall on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Plans must be submitted by 3:00 p.m. on the Thursday preceding the meeting to be included on the agenda.



## COMMUNITY CENTER REC PASS RATE INCREASE

For the first time since 2010, recreation pass rates at the East Tawas Community Center have been increased. Effective September 1, 2017, the new rates are as follows:

### RESIDENT

Single:	\$15.00
Two Person, Same Family:	\$25.00
Family:	\$30.00 (includes children under the age of 18)

### NON-RESIDENT

Single:	\$35.00
Two Person, Same Family:	\$50.00
Family:	\$60.00 (includes children under the age of 18)

Day Passes did not increase and still remain \$3.00 per day.

Also increasing for the first time since 2005 is the hourly gym rental rates for athletic use rentals. The new rates are:

Full Gym:	\$40.00 per hour
Half Gym:	\$30.00 per hour

Evening Rentals will be allowed from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. only

Even with the increases, the East Tawas Community Center continues to provide recreational opportunities for area residents at very affordable rates. A recreation pass for the Community Center is good for the entire City fiscal year running from October 1 through September 30 annually.

With a full size gymnasium, the Center is ideally suited for basketball, volleyball and myriad other recreational activities. If walking is your exercise of choice, then the facility's elevated synthetic walking track is for you. Many residents and visitors use the track on a daily basis to keep in shape, especially during our cold and inclement winter seasons.

So come on in and get your pass today and start taking advantage of the facilities offered in your Community Center.

## DAY-USE AREA RESTROOM PROJECT

As you may recall from our Spring newsletter, the City of East Tawas was awarded a \$292,500 grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund for construction of a public restroom at the west end of the Park Day-Use Area. The bathhouse will provide free restrooms and showers to the general public and will be located on the former Genii's Restaurant and Verlac Real Estate properties. There will also be two picnic pavilions attached to the facility, one on the east side and one on the west side, an outside shower and foot wash station and a dish washing station so picnickers can rinse off and clean their dishes before leaving. The project also includes expansion of the current Day-Use Area parking lot. The expansion will create an additional 50 parking spaces which will increase the total number of available spaces to 113.

Architects and engineers are currently in the process of putting together the specifications and bid documents for local review. Once the plans are approved at our local level, they will be forwarded to the DNR for their approval. When the documents are fully approved, the project will go out to bid. At this time, we are anticipating a possible spring 2018 construction start.