

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

## **IMPORTANT DATES IN 2020-21**

### **Oct**

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

### **Nov**

11 .....Veterans Day  
26-27 Thanksgiving  
*City offices will be closed*  
27 .....Christmas tree lighting 5:30pm

### **Dec**

1 .....Winter taxes mailed  
24-25 Christmas Eve & Christmas Day  
*City offices will be closed*

### **Jan**

8.....Robert Elliott Day  
31-1 ..New Year's Eve Day & New Year's Day  
*City offices will be closed*

### **Feb**

6-9...Perchville USA  
14 ....Winter Taxes due  
15 ....President's Day  
*City offices will be Closed*

### **Mar**

1-12.Capital Improvement Planning

# CITY OF EAST TAWAS

760 NEWMAN STREET • EAST TAWAS, MI 48730-0672

PHONE: 989-362-6161 • FAX: 989-362-6736 • cityhall@easttawas.com

[www.easttawas.com](http://www.easttawas.com)

## FALL - WINTER 2020-21

### **CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

The City is looking for volunteers to serve on a City Board, Commission or Authority. This would be an experience that would be satisfying and rewarding, giving you the opportunity to learn more about city government and help to 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 submit a letter or email of interest to Julie Potts, City Clerk, 760 Newman, East Tawas, Michigan 48730 or [jpotts@easttawas.com](mailto:jpotts@easttawas.com) or call City Hall at (989) 362-6161 for more information.

### **CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING**

On Friday, November 27, 2020 at 5:30 pm the City of East Tawas will hold the annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony. We encourage all of our City staff, board and commission members to join us to help Mayor Bolen count down the tree lighting. There will be cookies and refreshments for all to enjoy!

### **EAST TAWAS FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE "MI PREVENTION" PROGRAM**

In a recent meeting, Michigan State Fire Marshal Kevin J. Sehlmeier told Michigan fire chiefs that from January to the end of July, there have been 84 home fire fatalities. He is spearheading a program called "MI Prevention" which gives smoke alarms to fire departments to install in the homes of people who can not afford them. The East Tawas Fire Department is taking part in the program which Fire Chief Bill Deckett says can help save lives. He also reminds residents about the importance of sleeping with your bedroom door closed. A closed door can keep out smoke and heat for a period of time, giving residents time to exit another way or give firefighters time to stop a blaze before it enters the sleeping area.

The "MI Prevention" program is open to anyone in the fire department coverage area that needs a smoke alarm and cannot afford one. The fire department covers all of the City of East Tawas, all of Baldwin Township, and 15 sections of Wilber Township. If you are in need of a smoke alarm, you can contact the East Tawas Fire Station at (989) 362-3685 to set up an appointment to have one installed or call East Tawas City Hall (989) 362-6161 and leave a message for Chief Deckett.

### **INTERVIEWS FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS**

The East Tawas Fire Department is holding interviews for residents who have an interest in joining the fire department. The work is very rewarding, but can also be very strenuous. Regular trainings are held twice a month in the evenings, and in addition, certification is required within a two year period, which involves about 200 hours of training, a practical and a written exam. If you are at least 18 years of age and would like to schedule an interview, please call the East Tawas Fire Department during the day at (989) 362-3685.

## PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION AND ABSENTEE BALLOTS

The 2020 General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020. Absentee ballots are now available at East Tawas City Hall located at 760 Newman Street between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. City Hall will also be open on Saturday, October 31st from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to issue absentee ballots or to drop off your voted absentee ballot.

Absentee ballot applications were previously mailed by the Secretary of State near the end of May 2020 before the August Primary election. That application was a dual application for both the August and November 2020 elections. If you believe you should be receiving an absentee ballot for the November General Election and have not received it by October 16th, please contact our office by phone at 989-362-6161 or stop in at City Hall and we can issue you an absentee ballot if you choose. You will need to present your Michigan Driver's License or ID card to receive a ballot in person.

If you wish to drop off your ballot in person without entering the building, please use the drop box located under the awning in the north parking lot (basketball courts). If you cannot bring your ballot to our office before the day of the election, we ask that you bring your ballot inside to the Clerk's office on election day.

*(Note: Election law states that a ballot can only be given to the person requesting the ballot. Applications for an absentee ballot can be presented at City Hall but only those persons appearing in person will be given an absentee ballot. Ballots for those not appearing in person will be sent their ballot by mail or hand delivered by the Clerk. Please contact City Hall if you have any questions.)*

### POLLING LOCATION

The General Election will be held in the Community Center Gym with COVID-19 safety measures and social distancing in place. The polling entrance will be located on the South side of the Community Center (Library side) for parking and entering to assist with social distancing. The north parking lot (basketball court side) will be closed to the public for parking and entry into the building.



### ELECTION NOTICE

The City of East Tawas will be holding a non-partisan election on Tuesday, November 3, 2020. The purpose of the election is to elect a Mayor for a two-year term and three Council members to be elected at large for four-year terms.

### CHARTER AMENDMENTS

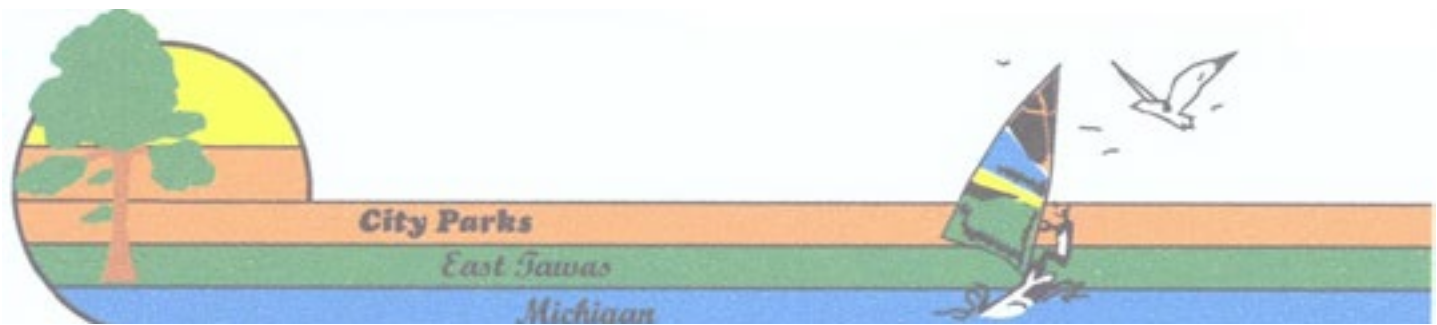
Electors of the City of East Tawas will also be voting in the General Election on the following proposal to amend Chapter VII. Budget Procedure and General Finance, Section 7.2 of the City Charter.

#### PROPOSAL 1

PROPOSED CITY OF EAST TAWAS CHARTER AMENDMENT TO SECTION 7.2

Shall Section 7.2 of the City Charter be amended to allow the proposed budget to be presented to the Council at or before the first regular meeting in August?

This proposal allows the budget to be presented to the City Council "at or before" the first regular meeting in August instead of at the first regular meeting in August to assist staff in the ability to prepare budgets prior to the establishment of millage rates in June.



## **EAST TAWAS COMMUNITY CENTER**

Due to COVID-19 and the Community Center being shut down from March until September, the Park board approved a 50% discount for all annual passes for the fiscal year October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

### Resident Rates:

	Regular Rate	Discount Rate
Single	<del>\$15.00</del>	\$7.50
Double	<del>\$25.00</del>	\$12.50
Family	<del>\$30.00</del>	\$15.00

### Non-Resident Rates:

	Regular Rate	Discount Rate
Single	<del>\$35.00</del>	\$17.50
Double	<del>\$50.00</del>	\$25.00
Family	<del>\$60.00</del>	\$30.00

### **REOPENING GUIDELINES:**

The Center will reopen Monday, September 14, 2020 in limited capacity:

- ▷ Monday thru Friday only from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- ▷ Due to stringent sanitization requirements, the circuit training room and exercise equipment on the track will not be available at this time.
- ▷ There will be no facility rentals due to the 10 person limit on indoor gatherings.
- ▷ There will be limited capacities (15 on the track at one time, 12 on the gym floor at one time and 10 in the Multi-Purpose waiting room).
- ▷ According to the Governor's order, face masks must be worn at all times, even while exercising (including when walking, playing pickleball, playing basketball, etc.).
- ▷ All patrons will be required to practice social distancing while in the Community Center/City Hall Facility.
- ▷ Patrons will be required to fill out and sign a "health screening form", a sign-in sheet and allow staff to take their temperature. All patrons will be required to sign in and out (as required in the Governor's order) in order to aid in contact tracing.

Failure to comply with these requirements could result in the closure of the facility.

## WINTER TAX BILLS

Winter tax bills will be mailed on December 1st and will be due on February 14, 2021. A 3% penalty will be added to all taxes unpaid after February 14, 2021. Winter taxes may be paid at the East Tawas City Hall until March 1, 2020 after which all taxes remaining unpaid will be turned over as delinquent to the Iosco County Treasurer. If you would like your tax payment to be 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.

## STREET LIGHT OUTAGE

When reporting a street light outage to Consumers Energy the City needs the following information:

1. Closest address or pole #
2. Nearest intersection/street
3. What type of light: hanging, pole or decorative.
4. Is the light burned out? Flickering? Won't stay on?

## WATER AND SEWER RATES

The City of East Tawas continues to plan for the long term integrity of our water distribution systems and sanitary sewer collection systems. To avoid spikes in utility rates, our objective is to "truth the systems" and account for operational costs and replacement costs within our rates to align with our long term capital improvement needs. This process began this year with our sanitary sewer rates and will continue to be implemented over the next several years. You can contact City Hall for more information. Thank you for your support and to our exceptional Department of Public works for the care of our system.

## HYDRANT FLUSHING

The Department of Public Works will be flushing fire hydrants September 28- October 2, 2020. You may experience rusty water or low water pressure during this flushing period. Flushing of the hydrants is necessary to provide better water quality long term. Please watch our website or the Iosco County News Herald for our flushing schedule.

## 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. to 6:00 a.m. allowing our Department of Public Works to efficiently plow snow off the City streets and downtown parking spaces. Please refrain from blowing and pushing the snow from driveways into the City streets. Keeping it on your property will decrease the amount placed back into the end of your driveway during the plows second passing.



## Compost Facility

Thank you for your patience as we refine our City's composting program. Curbside pickup of compost will continue on Monday's starting May 1st through the second Monday in November with direct access only by appointment by calling City Hall at 989-362-6161.

## 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!"

## 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
- 4th of July

## GREENWOOD CEMETERY

The City of East Tawas is looking for people to share ideas and provide guidance to the City for the improvement and betterment of Greenwood Cemetery. If interested contact City Hall at 989-362-6161.

## 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.



Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 noon  
 Days closed: Wednesday and Saturday

Hello!

Your East Tawas Library is here for you! We want to thank you all for being such a supportive, patient, and understanding community throughout this unprecedented time, and for caring so deeply about your local library. We sincerely missed seeing our customers.

During the time the library had to close, we were still open virtually and offered enhanced electronic materials, which continues today.

Whether in the physical building or at home, your East Tawas Library, in conjunction with the Iosco-Arenac District Library System, continues to provide valuable services throughout two counties. From home, you can continue to access downloadable or streaming materials such as e-books, audiobooks, music, movies, magazines, etc.

Please remember, anyone, regardless of residency, may use the library at no charge. Please call the library for more details.

Below please find just a few of the websites accessible through the Iosco-Arenac District Library website ( <https://www.ioscoarenaclibrary.org/> )



Michigan Legal Help



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Audible.com is allowing free access to tons of audiobooks right now!

<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>