

City of Leslie

Newsletter Volume IV

Sept. 2008

Greetings!

Welcome to the City of Leslie electronic newsletter.

We will be using this newsletter to keep you up to date on what is happening in Leslie. Your e-mail has been added to our database as an interested community member. If you do not wish to receive the newsletter, please see the bottom of this newsletter for the unsubscribe link.

We are interested in your feedback. Over the coming weeks and months our format and content will evolve to provide the best product for you. We will keep you up-to-date on the latest important news and events in the City of Leslie.

Please let us know how we can improve this newsletter by e-mailing us at reedb@cityofleslie.org.

We hope you enjoy our efforts! Thank you!



DDA/City to fix four corners crosswalks



The Leslie DPW and McKearney Asphalt will remove and replace the brick crosswalks at main Street and Bellevue Street on Monday, October 6, 2008. The intersection will be closed for the day. Alternative routes will be posted. The repairs were originally scheduled earlier in September but had to be postponed due to the excessive rain.

At the August DDA meeting, the DDA voted to repair the four corners crosswalks by taking out the brick pavers and replacing it with normal asphalt. The City along with the DDA examined several different options, but the asphalt crosswalks made the most financial sense saving thousands of dollars.

The decorative aspect of the crosswalks will be revisited once the North Main Street project is planned. There is currently no timetable for the reconstruction of North Main Street as the City is investigating funding options.



Community Newspaper Discussion Informative

On September 18th at 6pm the City along with Leslie Public Schools sponsored a Community Newspaper discussion. A variety of topics were covered including past efforts and assets which the community could build on for the future. Several good ideas were discussed. A smaller workgroup was established to explore possibilities of bringing a local paper to Leslie.

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John Stewart Appointed to City Council

At the September City Council meeting, the Council voted unanimously to appoint John Stewart to fill Paul Wood's term of office. Councilmember Wood resigned his seat in July.

John Stewart is a member of the Downtown Development Authority, Co-Owner of Bigby Coffee in Mason, and has been active in the Leslie Community for many years.

Quick Links

Approximately 20 people attended the discussion.

City of Leslie
Ingham County

Leslie Public Schools to hold Headlee Ballot Proposal Information Session

The Leslie Public Schools will host an informational session regarding the Headlee Ballot Proposal on Monday, October 6, 2008 at 6:00 PM in the Leslie High School Commons.

Parking at Woodworth Elementary

You may have noticed that the no parking at Woodworth Elementary is being strictly enforced. Parents must understand this is for the safety of students, especially in the morning hours as buses pull in and out.

Newsletter Archive

Past issues of the Electronic Newsletter will be available on the City of Leslie website. You may visit <http://www.cityofleslie.org/news-archive.shtml> to view past issues.



Crack Sealing in Town

You may have noticed that we recently had several streets crack sealed. Crack sealing is a preventative maintenance method that seals the cracks in the roadway which prevents water from infiltrating through the road to the road sub base. Once water gets through the cracks and makes its way to the sub base water will deteriorate the sub base which in turn deteriorates the road at a much faster pace. Because it has been such a long time since we crack sealed we will spend the next

few years playing catch up. Next year we will focus on roads that have been paved in the last 5 years so we can catch the cracks while they are still very small. Some of our roads are beyond crack sealing that is why we did not attempt crack sealing on roads such as N. Main St., Race St. or Armstrong. We will look at alternative preventative maintenance methods for preserving Armstrong St. and other streets in similar condition. Our efforts are focused on saving money in the long run. Reconstructing streets is very expensive and crack sealing can prolong the life of our roads.

Flood Damage September 12-14th

The rains that fell on the weekend of September 12-14th were extreme and overwhelmed the capacity of both the City Storm and City Sewer system. More than 8 inches of rain fell on those three days. Nearly every other City in the area experienced flooding or damage due to the excessive rains. During these rare rain events, DPW crews work to keep storm drains and catchbasins from getting plugged with debris.

For our records, we would be interested in determining if you experienced water damage as a result of the rains through flooding or drainage backup. You may fax [this form](#) back to City Hall at 589-0156 or call 589-8236. This information will be shared with Ingham County's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and you may be eligible for low interest loans to address flood damage.

City Passes Annual Audit With High Marks

Each year the City Charter requires the City to receive an independent audit of all its financial activities and accounting procedures. At the September Council Meeting, an Auditor from Willis and Jurasek presented the findings from the 2007-2008 Audit Report. The City received very high marks for its financial statements relating to its governmental activities, business-type activities, and all of its major funds.

The audit also examines the City's internal control, accounting standards, and financial reporting. The audit found that the City is meeting or exceeding the Government Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States. A copy of the audit is available for review and will be posted online in the near future.

New Leslie Firefighters

Two new firefighters were welcomed to the department recently. Scott Davidson and Brian Doherty are both City residents. Mr. Davidson will be attending training to receive his

City Council Mayor:

Ron Schmit

Mayor Pro-Tem:

Pete Zamora

Council:

Pam Beegle

D.K. Beyer

Randy Fox

Shelly Motes

John Stewart

Fire Prevention Week October 5-11

The Leslie Fire Department would like to remind you that October 5th through the 11th is Fire Prevention Week. It is time to check your smoke detectors and talk with your children about fire safety. For more information and facts about house fires you may visit the [National Fire Protection Association](#).

News from the Friends of the Leslie Library

The friends of the Leslie Library are currently working toward their annual Silent Auction. The auction will be held in the Leslie Library during the month of November. Contributions are welcome. If you would like to contribute you may drop off your donation at the library the last week of October. For questions about the contributions, please contact Keneanne Cowden at 589-9636 or the library at 589-9400. The next Friends of the Library meeting will be held on Thursday, October 9th at 6pm at the Library.

October Story Time!

The library hosts storytime for pre-school age children on Tuesday mornings at 11:00. On October 1st and 15th the library will also hold a special Wednesday Storytime. Children can bring their favorite stuffed animal to share the wonderful stories at 7:00pm. For more information, please call the library at 589-9400.

firefighting 1 and 2 credentials very soon. Mr. Doherty is an experienced fire fighter from Concord Fire and already has his certifications.

The Leslie Fire Department is a volunteer fire department with an average of 25 fire fighters. In volunteer departments, fire fighters only get paid when they are called to a situation. These men and women dedicate a great amount of their personal time to keep City and Township residents safe.

Leaf Pickup

The City will provide leaf pickup throughout the Month of October. Leaf pickup will be on Mondays and Fridays weather permitting. Residents must have leaves in a neat pile along the curb (in the street). The leaf vacuum can only stretch so far - leaves piled too far on the grass will not be taken. Please pile leaves the day before or early the day of the Leaf pickup.

Campaign, Garage Sale, and Real Estate Signs

A reminder that these signs must be behind the sidewalk and out of the City Right of Way. Signs that are in the City Right of Way will be collected and thrown away.

Brush Pickup Rules

The Department of Public Works works very hard to pick up brush throughout the summer. The majority of residents follow the rules, however there are always a few who do not and it makes it difficult on the City Staff to provide consistent service to everyone. The current brush pickup rules are as follows:

- Brush will be picked up on Monday each week. If all cannot be picked up on Monday, the Staff will use Tuesday as an overlap day, however brush must be out on Monday.
- Branches should not be bigger than 4" in diameter.
- Piles should not be over 3 feet tall.
- Piles should be neatly stacked, cut ends towards the curb.
- Absolutely NO THORNS.
- No hedge trimmings. Small hedge and pine trimmings may go with leaves in April or October.
- No leaves or grass clippings except in April or October.
- There will be a 15 minute limit for each household.

If your pile was not picked up and the chipper passed by, then your pile did not meet the above requirements. We ask for your cooperation not only for the efficiency of brush pickup for the entire city, but also for the safety of our workers.

Currently staff is discussing brush pickup and will be refining and changing some rules for 2009. We will notify the community of any changes.

November Election

The voter registration deadline for the upcoming November Election is Monday, October 6, 2008. City Offices are open 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and you can register either at City Offices or at the Secretary of State's office.

Absent Voter Ballot applications are now available at City Offices, and the ballots will be ready very soon.

On Election Day, Tuesday, November 4, 2008 registered voters of the City vote at City Hall, 107 E. Bellevue Street between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Remember this is a large, 2-sided ballot with national, state and local offices and proposals. In the next week the ballot will be available on the City Website.

Thank you for voting!

Upcoming Events In Leslie

For information on any of these events, please call 517-589-8236.

Fire Department Fundraiser

The Fire Department wishes to thank the public for raising more than \$1,300 for Muscular Dystrophy on September 5, 2008.

Need Community Service Projects for Your Youth Group?

If you have a youth group that would like community service projects, please contact Martha Owen at 589-5115. Throughout the Fall there will be opportunities for projects.

- LPS Headlee Ballot Proposal Informational Meeting - October 6, 2008
- City Council Meeting - October 7, 2008
- Halloween Trick or Treating - October 31, 2008, 5:30pm to 7:00pm followed by a community party at Woodworth Elementary
- Election - November 4, 2008 - 7:00a.m. - 8:00p.m - Leslie City Hall
- Christmas Parade - December 13, 2008

Contact Information

City Administration:

Phone: (517)589-8236

Fax: (517)589-0156

[Brian Reed](#) - City Manager

[Cheri Neu](#) - Finance Director/Treasurer

[Dotte Weideman](#) - Clerk

[Denae Davenport](#) - Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

[Martha Owen](#) - DPW Director

[Robert Delamarter](#) - Police Chief

Thank You For Making Leslie The Place To Be!

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