



Dear Residents,

Winter is almost upon us and the Village has done a lot this past summer.

The drainage tubes beneath Walnut and Duane streets are completed (Church street was done earlier). Paving will be done in the spring after the soil has settled.

Fleis & Vanderbrink Engineering has outlined two major water infiltration areas that need correcting on Duane and State streets. The whole Village had all sewer lines checked this summer.

Leaf pick up will continue until the majority of the leaves are down or until the snow flies and the DPW switches over to the removal of the “white stuff”.

This will be my final message to the residents as my tenure of President is over. I've had many fulfilling and a few trying times, it goes with the job but I have no regrets.

Please support our new President and council in the coming year. We have employees that do a great job working for our Village. Remember, its your Village and we have voted these people to represent us.

Lastly, go to council meetings and become involved.
Respectfully,

Gayle H. Steele

Welcome New Village Council

Kristin Van Dusen: Village President
Scott Ethington : Trustee (Re-elected)
John Rosser: Trustee (Re-elected)
Matt Kimmer: Trustee

There are still two vacancies on Council, if you are interested please submit a letter of interest to the Village office.



Notice of Public Hearing



The Council will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on December 21, 2016 at Village Hall to consider adopting proposed amendments to the following sections of the Village Code of Ordinances:

Village Council	Flood Plain
Planning Commission	Municipal Civil Infraction
Dogs	Breach of Peace
Dangerous Buildings	Medical Marihuana
Building Code	Fireworks
Property Maintenance Code	Rubbish Containers
Rental Dwelling	Sidewalks
Peddlers and Solicitors	House Numbering
Licenses	Subdivision Control
Junk Storage	Sewers
Open Burning	Noxious Weeds

The public is encouraged to attend. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed amendments, but unable to attend the meeting may send their comments to: Village of Vernon Attn: Code Amendments, P.O. Box 175, Vernon, MI 48476. A copy of the proposed text is available for inspection at Village Hall between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and is available on the Village website at www.villageofvernon.org.

****Dates to Remember****

In observance of the upcoming Holidays the Village will be closed November 24, 25, December 23, 26, 30 and January 2.

December 3	Christmas in the Village	6 p.m.
December 7	Council Work Session	6 p.m.
December 21	Council Meeting & Public Hearing	7 p.m.
January 18	Council Meeting	7 p.m.
February 1	Council Work Session	6 p.m.
February 15	Council Meeting	7 p.m..

THE SCOOP

Winter Snow Removal

Fall has been very kind to us this year, but this past weekend was a brutal reminder of how quickly Michigan weather can change. Snow accumulation is near, which brings with it the yearly discussion and reminders of snow removal.

In order to ensure the safety of pedestrian traffic and avoid any liability risk for yourself and the Village, our ordinance requires that the occupant of every premises shall clear all ice and snow from sidewalks adjoining their property in a timely manner. Our current ordinance requires snow to be removed by 10 a.m. in the event of a snowfall that occurred overnight. If snowfall happens during the day, then within 12 hours of that event sidewalks are to be cleared.



Even if the property is vacant or you leave for the winter months, arrangements still need to be made to clear sidewalks. Failure to do so will result in snow removal by the Village for which the property owner will be billed.

Also our DPW work hard to make sure roads are cleared quickly for residents. They clear all major streets (Main, Maple, Washington, Walnut and Elm) first, then secondary streets and alleys will follow. To help with timely snow removal please make sure you do not park on any major street in the Village from December 1 through March 31 between the hours of 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.

Michigan winters, as we all know, are usually too long and very daunting, All well seasoned Michiganders also know that if shoveling were an Olympic sport, we would have more medals than Michael Phelps. So please have patience, be a good neighbor and do your part with snow removal to help alleviate the winter frustrations.



SAW Grant Update

During our televising this past summer of our sanitary and storm sewers, several areas of concern were identified. Those areas are allowing a large amount of ground water infiltration into our system. With that infiltration brings unnecessary debris and damages our lift station pumps. The Village has contracted with Pipeline Services to correct three of those areas. Weather permitting we will be able to complete those repairs before the first of the year. The areas to be repaired include one area on State St. and two areas on Duane St.

The majority of the work will not require any digging and will be completed from within the sewer line.



Reminders

Leaf Pick-Up

Last day for leaf pick up will be November 23.

Stray Cats

It has been brought to our attention that the cat population in the area has increased lately. In order to control the stray cat population we are requesting that you do keep your pets in at night and do not leave food or water outside after dark.

Permits

Need a new roof? Replacing those drafty old windows? Make sure you pull a permit from the Village office. Please check out the Building and Zoning tab on the website for more information and permits.

Generator Safety

With the winter and inclement weather there is the possibility of power outages. Please make sure if you use a generator that it must be in a well ventilated area, not indoors.

Community Happenings



Our Village website has a new look and lots of useful information. On our Home page look for upcoming events and important information. Check out the helpful link tab for additional resources to the State and County.

Minutes for the Village Council and the DDA are available as well as a current copy of the newsletter.

You will find a dedicated page on our parks and what they have to offer. There are lots of forms available such as the vacation check, park rental, building permits and citizen concern form. Our complete Village Ordinance is also available.

Please take the time and visit our website at www.villageofvernon.org. There is new information being added weekly and we are working on adding a history section and developing a new logo.

Also keep up to date on downtown happenings and our Downtown Development Authority on their facebook page: Village of Vernon DDA.



VERNON DISTRICT PUBLIC LIBRARY

November 28 thru December 2

Gingerbread Creation Contest.

For Rules please check with the Library.

December 5 6:30 p.m. Candy Demo \$5.00

Learn how to make some candy fun treats! Free Children's Crafts. Ages 3-12, Ages 3-5 need an adult to help.

December 6 & 8 - Graham Cracker Gingerbread House Decorating

December 13 & 15 - Birdseed Ornament

December 20 & 22 - Ornament

Annual Christmas in the Village

Join us Downtown December 3 at 6:00 p.m. to come together as a community and celebrate the season. Santa will be here and pictures will be taken courtesy of Moonlight Studios, there will be live ice sculpting, face painting, coloring contest, cookie decorating, horse wagon rides, hot chocolate, roasted nuts, crafts and much more. Bring your family, friends and neighbors and join us.



Downtown Building Restoration

The Village and DDA is excited to finally see the beautiful workmanship revealed at 121 E. Main St Downtown. Owners Joe & Joyce Borkowski have owned the building for over 30 years and dedicated a lot of time and labor into restoring the building.

It's encouraging to our DDA and fellow property owners to see the progress happening and the investment they have made in our downtown. Stop downtown and check it out. Seeing the first class workmanship takes you back in time and allows you to see



what it would have been like over 100 years ago but even gives you a little feeling of that. Can't wait to see what's to come for this gem in our Downtown.

Message from your Incoming Village President

Dear Residents,

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Village President. I am excited for this chance and look forward to working with you to ensure that Vernon remains a great place to live. I would also like to take this time to thank Gayle Steele for his service on the Village Board and as our Village President. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

As the weather starts to get colder, it is time to think about the inevitable....snow. Please remember to clear your sidewalks. If you will be out of town for an extended period, please make sure that you have made arrangements for your sidewalks to be cleared if it should snow while you are away.

Looking forward to 2017, I want to encourage all residents to get involved in our community. Whether it is volunteering for the annual Village Spring clean-up day, assisting with the Memorial

Day parade, or attending Village council meetings, the Village can only be made better by resident involvement.

Over the next couple years, I plan to work with the Village Council to implement a strategy for repair of our aging infrastructure, including replacement of Village streets that are in greatest need of attention. I also plan on teaming with the Downtown Development Authority to see that recommendations in the Downtown Development Strategy are implemented in order to attract new businesses and visitors to our community.

Again, I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Village President.

Wishing you and yours a very safe and happy holiday season!

Sincerely,

Kristin Van Dusen



P.O. Box 175
120 E. Main St.
Vernon MI 48476

Office hours Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 8:30a.m. ~ 5:00p.m.

PH (989) 288-2300 Fax (989) 288-2057

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