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### *A Message from Mayor Fedell*

We are more than a year into the "I Am Newaygo" project, intended to connect stakeholders – like city residents – with elected and appointed community leaders. It is never too late to get involved. The best and easiest way to stay in touch is to join the Facebook group at [www.facebook.com/groups/iamnewaygo/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/iamnewaygo/). This page will help you stay up-to-date on meetings and projects, and will allow you to voice your opinion in an ongoing basis.

I want to congratulate Newaygo

Schools on their completion of the rebuild and renovation of Newaygo Elementary School. All students and staff moved into the building last fall, and I know that they are enjoying their new, beautiful building.

In addition to the school construction, there are building projects throughout our area, which is always a sign of a healthy community. The Industrial Park is undergoing some big changes, with the expansions of both Magna and GM Wood Products, and there are

new home starts scattered throughout Newaygo.

We are lucky to live in a vibrant community in a four-season climate where so many people take advantage of all we have to offer. Please do your part to be a Good Ambassador of Newaygo.



*Ed Fedell, Mayor  
City of Newaygo*

### *Newaygo Economic Development Organization*

With all of the excitement of business expansion in the Industrial Park, and business expansions in downtown thanks to some MEDC assistance, comes a related challenge for our City: Where are the hundreds of new workers supposed to live? Part of city planning involves anticipating needs in the marketplace, and nowhere is the need more obvious than in workforce housing for Newaygo.

In fact, a recent survey conducted of over 500 local workers revealed that three-quarters of the respondents would prefer a single family setting, and prefer to own a home vs. rent. A full 65% see a substan-

tial benefit to their family for making walking distance to work a possibility, underscoring the importance of investing in Walkability projects. Also, a full 50% require 3+ bedrooms, and more than half have an income that could qualify them for a small entry level home. The market is here.

In the coming months, our City will be making every effort to inspire developers, parcel owners, and home-seeking residents alike to address this challenge head-on, rather than taking a "wait and see" attitude. The West Michigan economy and our



*Photo courtesy of Fuze Media Group*

own are linked together, and are poised for expansion in a way that has not been seen in a generation. Our city is committed to addressing this challenge, while doing all that is needed to preserve the small-town character of the City we love.



## Public Safety



During the months of October and November, City police officers grew beards to support the ministry of Hope 101 House. Thanks to a last-minute donation, the NPD raised \$1,150 for the cause. Other sponsors of this program included Resonate Church, Family of God Community Church and the River Country Chamber of Commerce of Newaygo County.

The mission of Hope 101 House is to "provide a home-based program which offers Christian support, friendship, and direction to empower participants to reach beyond their circumstances to a place of stability and self-sufficiency."

School Assigned Police Officer Mitch Rood (right) attends the weekly True Blue Academy, a partnership among the NPD, Newaygo Public Schools and True North that provides mentors to help middle school students find their passion in life.



School Assigned Police Officer Mitch Rood, Crime Prevention Officer Ryan Dornbos (shown above) along with Officer Brian Brown and Sgt. Lloyd Walerczyk assisted students from Newaygo Public School cross city streets on their way to see Santa and decorate the City Christmas Tree.



The NFD appreciates the community support during the Christmas Walk. Thanks to donations of chili by Sportsman's Bar and Jimmy's Roadhouse, and Wesco hot chocolate, the fire department raised over \$300.

The Newaygo Fire Department is one of many in the county that provides medical coverage to its citizens with licensed Medical First Responders (MFR). To qualify, members must take and pass an MFR class and a national test. Once certified, they are required to continue their education in an ongoing basis.

The NFD is excited to announce it has earned certification as an *initial education facility* at the MFR level, a first for any department in Newaygo County. This was made possible through many hours of dedication to research and organization by Firefighter/EMT-IC Jason Newfer, and Fire Chief Jason Wolford.

This certification will benefit the Newaygo Fire District and surrounding communities with local training that ensures all first responders are trained to the same level of competency.

*Newaygo Fire Department members vote each year to nominate their own for special recognition. Congratulations to the 2018 recipients (below from left): Medical First Responder - Jason Newfer, Officer of the Year (tie) - Captain Travis Kroll and Lt. Dave Otteren, and Firefighter of the Year - Chris Crittendon.*



## From the City Manager's Desk



Once again we enter the New Year with optimism and anticipation for a good year here in Newaygo.

The past 12 months have seen many positive changes and some exciting construction projects, including the new Newaygo Elementary School, expansions at both GM Wood Products and Magna, and some new housing starts with plans for more.

"I am Newaygo" continues moving forward with plans to improve our Walkability, and the City has made some minor changes resulting in several new downtown parking spaces. If you have not spent much time exploring our downtown, now would be a good time to do so. The Walkability project aims to calm vehicular traffic, thus making it safer for both pedestrians and cyclists.

Affordable housing continues to be one of our biggest challenges, and we are taking several steps to address this issue. Not only are we seeing several single-family homes being built, there are some plans for multi-unit housing in the near future.

During the first few months of 2019, you can expect the City to wrap up and adopt a new Master Plan for the community. We will then begin work on reviewing and updating the City Zoning Ordinance to support the new Master Plan.

Happy New Year!



**Stay Tuned.  
Stay Engaged.**

Jon Schneider,  
Newaygo City Manager

### Waste Contract

Recently, the City awarded the residential refuse waste contract to A-Waste, which was then purchased by Republic Services. This change began in early December. *Instead of bag tags, Republic offers blue bags* for the same low price of \$2.00 at City Hall.



Effective January 1, waste and recycling fees will increase from \$10 to \$12 monthly for a 96-gallon trash cart. Recycling services will increase from \$3.75 to \$4. All increases will be included on the next billing cycle.

The City bids these services for a five (5) year cycle.

### Go On-Line

As stewards of your tax dollars, the City of Newaygo wants to be as efficient and budget-conscious as possible. There are some ways that you can help in these efforts.

- ◆ Pay utility bills and taxes online at [www.newaygocity.org](http://www.newaygocity.org).
- ◆ Sign up to have the quarterly newsletter emailed to you. Email your request to [Info@newaygostream.com](mailto:Info@newaygostream.com)
- ◆ Remember that several documents are available on the "City Financial Information" link at <https://newaygocity.org/forms-publications.php>.

Available on this page are Audited financial statements, Citizen's Guide, Performance Dashboard, Debt Service Report, and the Projected Budget.



The city wishes to thank retirees LeeAnn and Steve Clor (above) for their diligence keeping the Peace Memorial looking neat and weed-free.

*Thank You*



## River Country Chamber News



River Country Chamber membership provides excellent opportunities for your organization to attract new customers and share information with our community, the region, and even internationally. Learn how you can join by calling 231-652-3068 or go to [www.rivercountrychamber.com](http://www.rivercountrychamber.com).

Find us on facebook:



River Country Chamber of  
Commerce of Newaygo County

And for Volunteers

RC3 Chamber Champions



Luanne and Dr. Dennis Nelson (shown above with Chamber Board Chairman Scott Swinehart) were the Honorary Chairpersons of the 2018 River Country Chamber of Commerce Christmas Festival in Newaygo. This was a way to say "Thank You" for their dedication to the Newaygo County Communities and for the many ways they have contributed to the quality of life by example of service and commitment that truly represents the Spirit of Christmas.

### Did you know?

According to research by The Shapiro Group, Inc. and Market Street Services, when consumers know that a small business is a member of their local chamber of commerce, they are 44 percent more likely to think favorably of it and 63 percent more likely to purchase goods or services from the company in the future.

<http://www.americanbusinessmag.com/2012/05/why-join-your-local-chamber-of-commerce/>



## Winter Taxes are Due February 14, 2019

If you or someone you know needs help with delinquent taxes, please call the Newaygo County Treasurer's Office at 231-689-7230. They are eager to assist taxpayers and encourage everyone to begin making minimum payments now on any delinquent taxes.

**MSHDA's Step Forward Program** is available to pay Delinquent Property Taxes for qualified applicants. For help, call 866-946-7432 or visit <https://www.stepforwardmichign.org>.



The local agencies listed here may be able to help with delinquent taxes. They typically will consider your income, assets and other circumstances to determine IF you are eligible for help.

**MSU Finance and Home Ownership Educator, Bill Hendrian**  
(231) 757-4789.

**Newaygo County Department of Health and Human Services**  
1025 E. James St. White Cloud  
231-689-5500

**True North Community Services and Center for Non-Profit Housing**  
6308 S. Warner, Fremont  
231-924-0641

**Love, INC of Newaygo County**  
11 West 96 St., Grant  
231-652-4099

**Five Cap Inc.**  
434 N. Evergreen (M-37), White Cloud  
231-689-6688

**Department of Newaygo County Veteran Affairs**  
1087 Newell St., White Cloud  
231-689-7030

## Tax Assessments

The State Tax Commission sets the rate, or multiplier, that is the number used to determine your taxes each year. If you have questions, please contact the **City Assessor at 231-652-1657 Ext. 216**. If you wish to meet with the Board of Review, contact City Hall at 231-652-1657 ext. 210 to schedule an appointment.

**Board of Review Meeting Times:** March 11 3:00 pm—9:00 pm  
March 12 9:00 am—3:00 pm

# City of Newaygo Tax Increment Finance Authority—TIFA

Tax Increment Financing is a method that many communities use to capture incremental increases in taxable value and to then finance different projects within that specific community.

In March of 1986 the City of Newaygo established a TIFA in Newaygo, which operates within an area including most, but not all, of Newaygo City Limits.

The local TIFA Board meets quarterly to discuss how funds can be used, and to approve various expenditures. And while the TIFA Board establishes a budget, all of its expenditures must comply with the various guidelines spelled out in Public Act 450.

Residents in the TIFA district do NOT pay any additional taxes because of TIFA; however, any increase in tax revenue due to an increase in assessed property values is captured by TIFA and used in the Newaygo TIFA District.

City Manager, Jon Schneider says that “TIFA is a blessing for the City, because it is a tool that has allowed us to do many projects to keep the city functional and beautiful.” But more importantly, adds Schneider, is that the funds are used to keep the community economically viable, and that growth spreads to surrounding areas.



Both the Newaygo Carnegie Library (left) and the Newaygo HS Track (below) have been recipients of TIFA funds.



## TIFA Voting Members:

Ron Armstrong, Armstrong Design  
Julie Burrell, The Right Place  
Bryce Cronk, Cronk's Hardware  
Nick Looman, Newaygo Brewery  
Joel Phillips, NCRESA  
Mayor Ed Fedell  
Morgan Heinzman,  
Newaygo Auto Mall  
Peg Mathis, Newaygo Public Schools  
Aaron Leestma,  
Community Home Health Care  
John Buckley,  
Gerber Federal Credit Union  
Kelly Tinkham,  
Newaygo Area District Library  
Chris Wren, County Administrator  
Greg Slominski—37 North

## Staff:

Director: Jon Schneider  
Secretary: Kim Goodin

The TIFA Board meets the second Friday of each quarter in the City Council Chambers at 7:00 am.  
Meeting Minutes can be accessed online:

<https://newaygocity.org/forms-publications.php>



*TIFA funds have helped make downtown Newaygo more economically viable and inviting for new businesses and residents .*

Over the past 22 years, TIFA has strategically invested several million dollars in City Improvement Projects:

- ◆ Library Expansion
- ◆ Newaygo HS Track
- ◆ Water and Sewer Improvements
- ◆ Downtown Revitalization, including street and sidewalk improvements
- ◆ Walkability
- ◆ Park Improvements
- ◆ The Stream Building



*The Stream serves as a business incubator, co-working, and training space for local and regional meetings and events.*





## Newaygo Department of Public Works

The Department of Public Works offers guidelines to facilitate snow removal and to help keep all Newaygo Residents safe during the winter months. Please review these procedures carefully.

If you experience water or sewer problems, the DPW is available weekdays from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm. The **emergency after hours number to call is 231-414-7311**. If you want the DPW to respond to your house after hours and learn that the problem is *not* the city's responsibility, you will be billed for overtime.

**Snow removal will occur in a specific order.** Plow drivers will not move to the next level until adequate driving conditions are met.

- ◆ Hills first – Croton, Whiskey Wood, and Quarterline
- ◆ School Bus routes and major roads
- ◆ Local neighborhood and secondary streets.

**NO PARKING** during winter months:

- ◆ Barton Street
- ◆ M-37 from 3:00 AM to 6:00 AM
- ◆ ALL OTHER city streets from 2:00 AM to 7:00AM
- ◆ East Water Street has odd/even parking

**OTHER REMINDERS:**

It is the **resident's responsibility to maintain sidewalks** in front of your residence (with the exception of those living inside the Principal Shopping District, or PSD)

Please remind snowplow services **NOT to push snow onto the sidewalks.**

Apartment Tenants in the PSD must **park in designated parking areas** to avoid being ticketed. Call the City Offices to determine designated parking areas.

Blue "locator stakes" will be placed by meters to easily locate them if the water must be shut off due to a leak. **PLEASE do not remove these stakes.**



## Warm Up Your Winter at Newaygo Library

Winter chills got you down?

Beginning December 17, adults and teens are invited to add a little **heat** to their chilly days by reading great books, and earn chances to win a Kindle. Winning tickets for one lucky adult and one lucky teen will be drawn on Tuesday, March 26, 2019.

Along the way, Newaygo Library offers everyone **warm breaks** to **cozy up** your winter! Drop by to enjoy the new Sun Lamps.

Read, relax and lighten your day.



### Upcoming events

- 12/27 11 am and 2 pm  
Origami exploration
- 1/10 11 am and 4 pm  
Hot cocoa in the lobby
- 1/19 10:30 am  
Watercolors with Lori Eslick
- 2/7 11 am and 4 pm  
Music by Isaac Schneider
- 2/16 10:30 am  
Sketching with Renae Wallace
- 3/17 2-4 pm  
Meet & Greet Rescue Animals
- 3/23 10:30 am  
Watercolors with Lori Eslick



### Self-Defense Class

**Saturday, February 2**

The Newaygo Library will be hosting a **FREE** self-defense class for ages 9-13 at the Newaygo Fitness Club. This class is run by the Newaygo Police Department.

There are two classes:  
10:00 AM and 1:00 PM.

*Registration is required.* For questions, or to register, contact Sarah at

231-652-6723

or

[nadl.sdwelch@gmail.com](mailto:nadl.sdwelch@gmail.com).

## OPIOID CRISIS

NCRESA has created a public service announcement to help raise awareness of the current opioid abuse and addiction crises among Newaygo County youth. In some situations, prescription drugs are easily accessible and there is a misconception among kids, teens and young adults of the dangers associated with these.

This PSA is meant to bring to light some of the dangers of drug use and addiction and to give information of

where and how to properly maintain or dispose of prescription medications. For more information visit <https://headwaynewaygo.org/>



The Headway Coalition's Opioid Abuse Video is a group effort involving

many community leaders passionate about keeping our kids safe. County schools will be distributing the PSA and it will be played before each movie at the Fremont Cinemas.

**Please watch and then help distribute this to clients, friends and family via email and social media:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xpa0VIH32y8&feature=youtu.be>

## City of Newaygo Directory

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 7:30am-4:00pm  
Phone (231) 652-1657

City Manager/Zoning Administrator	Jon Schneider	231-652-1657 ext. 211
City Clerk/Treasurer	Kim Biegalle	231-652-1657 ext. 222
Newaygo Police	Chief Georgia Andres	231-652-1655 ext. 215
City Assessor	Dan Kirwin	231-652-1657 ext. 216
Utility Billing Clerk	Ann Quick	231-652-1657 ext. 210
IT Administrator	Brad Peets	231-652-1657 ext. 218
DPW	Ron Wight, Superintendent	
	M-F 7:00 am – 3:00 pm	231-652-7984
	Emergency After Hours	231-414-7311
The Stream	Kim Goodin	231-452-6401 ext.1009
	Colleen Buckley	231-452-6401 ext.1004
City Building Inspector	Duane Cruzan	231-652-1657 ext. 236
North Country Inspection Services, LLC		Newaygo Hours: M, W 1:00pm-3:00pm

### Boards and Committees

(For meeting dates, locations, and contact information, visit our website at [www.newaygocity.org](http://www.newaygocity.org))

<b>City Council:</b>	Ed Fedell, Mayor	Mike Hikade
	Roger Ederer	Lee Black
	Roger Palmiter	Katie Walerczyk
	Eric Johnson	

**Planning Commission:**  
**Tax Increment Finance Authority (TIFA)**  
**Principal Shopping District (PSD)**  
**Newaygo Community Recreation Authority (NCRA)**  
**Newaygo Economic Development Organization (NEDO)**

Dave Chambers, Chair  
 Ron Armstrong, Chair  
 Nick Looman, Chair  
 Jennifer Badgero, Chair  
 George Heartwell, Chair

Visit our website: [www.newaygocity.org](http://www.newaygocity.org)



"City of Newaygo"



CITY OF NEWAYGO

28 N. State Road  
 P.O. Box 308  
 Newaygo, MI 49337  
 Phone 231-652-1657

City of Newaygo financial and performance information can be found on the City’s website at: <http://newaygocity.org/forms-publications.php>  
 On this page select the category “City Financial Information”.

**January—March 2019**

**January**

- 1 City Offices Closed
- 3 **NPS Classes Resume**
- 4 10:30 am NEDO Board followed by NEDO Networking
- 8 6:30 pm Planning Commission Meeting
- 9 7:30 am Principal Shopping District
- 10 8:00 am NCRA Meeting
- 11 7:00 am TIFA Board Meeting
- 14 7:00 pm City Council Meeting
- 18 **Half-Day** for NPS

**February**

- 11 7:00 pm City Council Meeting
- 12 6:30 pm Planning Commission
- 14 Winter Taxes Due
- 15—18 **NO SCHOOL** for Newaygo Public Schools—Winter Break

**March**

- 11 3:00 pm—9:00 pm Board of Review \*
- 11 7:00 pm City Council Meeting
- 12 9:00 am—3:00 pm Board of Review \*
- 12 6:30 pm Planning Commission Meeting
- 14 8:00 am NCRA Meeting
- 29 **NO SCHOOL** for Newaygo Public Schools—Begin Spring Break

Visit our website calendar for up-to-date information:  
[www.newaygocity.org/city-calendar.php](http://www.newaygocity.org/city-calendar.php)

\* Board of Review- contact the City Office at 231-652-1657 ext 210 to schedule an appointment.