

# City Beat

## News Briefs

**Mayor Armitage Takes Office.** On July 13, City Council selected Michael Armitage to serve the remainder of Yvonne Ridge's term as Mayor. Ms. Ridge resigned to accept employment as city manager in White Cloud.

**VanStee Appointed To Council.** Nathaniel VanStee was appointed to the City Council on July 27 to fill the District 1 seat formerly held by Mayor Armitage.

**City Council Meetings.** Recent City Council meetings have been held using Zoom, permitting residents to "attend" and comment while following distancing recommendations. The City also streamed its July 27 meeting to Facebook Live. Information about joining Zoom meetings is published on the City's website.

## August 2020

**August 4.** Election Day. Polls open 7AM–8PM.

**August 10.** City Council meeting, 7PM. Details to be announced.

**August 11.** Planning Commission meeting,, 7PM. Details to be announced.

**August 24.** City Council meeting, 7PM. Details to be announced.

**Contacting Staff.** Some staff members are working remotely. Please consult the City website for contact information, including email addresses, or call 517-543-2750 for a phone directory. For public works emergencies, call 517-543-8858 during business hours and 517-543-8874 after hours.

**Improvement Projects.** The 2020 construction season has brought some needed improvements to the community. Parking Lot #1 in downtown has been rebuilt with banner poles yet to be installed. The layout includes a row of parking facing the backs of buildings and a concrete plaza adjacent to Beach Market that can be used for gatherings. Friends of Beach Market expects to begin work on upgrading that facility in the near future. Independence Boulevard, which runs through the Eaton County government complex, has been completely resurfaced and connects to Courthouse Drive which was also repaved recently. The City is accepting bids now for rehabilitation work on several streets around town. If favorable prices are received, that work will be completed this fall.

**City Hall Re-Opening Postponed.** City Hall was closed to the public on March 24 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The re-opening of City Hall, originally planned for July 6, was postponed due to a spike in cases identified in Eaton County. The most recent report from the Barry-Eaton District Health department found that active case rates in Eaton County remain elevated. City administrators are interested in limiting opportunities for spreading the disease among residents and also among staff members who are performing essential functions. No new date has been set for re-opening City Hall. Members of the public are encouraged to call City offices before visiting City Hall to arrange for alternative service delivery while the building remains closed.