

October
2022

— THE CITY OF —
CHARLOTTE
— MICHIGAN —

Charlotte Chronicles



HALLOWEEN TRICK-OR-TREATING SAFETY TIPS

The City of Charlotte does not establish trick-or-treating hours. Generally, trick-or-treating takes place on October 31st from 6p until 9pm. Charlotte Chamber is hosting downtown trick-or-treating on Monday, October 24 (see flyer on page 8). Below are some safety tips for those participating in the downtown event or going door-to-door on Halloween:

- When selecting a costume, make sure it is the right size to prevent trips and falls.
- Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and, if possible, choose light colors. Have kids use glow sticks or flashlights to help them see and be seen by drivers.
- Children and adults should put electronic devices down; keep heads up and walk, do not run, across the street.
- Children under the age of 12 should not be alone at night without adult supervision. Please remind kids that are mature enough to be out without supervision, to stick to familiar lighted areas and trick-or-treat in small groups.
- Teach your children **never** to enter a stranger's home or car.



PUBLIC HEARING—FENCES

The City of Charlotte Planning Commission is holding a public hearing on **Tuesday, October 4th at 7pm**. We are seeking public feedback on proposed updates to fencing regulations city-wide (continued on page 3)



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

City Meeting Calendar.....	2
City News.....	3
Public Safety Updates	4
Rave Alerts	5
Assistance Programs.....	6-7
Almost Midnight Event.....	8
Events—Alive!.....	9
Events— Library.....	10-11
City Council Update.....	12

CITY MEETING CALENDAR

October

- Monday, 3 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 4 Planning Commission
- Tuesday, 4 Parks Advisory Board, City Hall Community Room—basement
- Tuesday, 11 Camp Frances Board, 6:30pm, Camp Frances Bldg, 1501 S Cochran
- Thursday, 13 City Council workshop , in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Monday, 17 Airport Advisory Board, 8:00am, Fitch Beach Airport, 1325 Island Hwy
- Monday, 17 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 18 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30pm

November

- Tuesday, 1 Planning Commission
- Monday, 7 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 8 General Election, Polls open from 7:00am to 8:00pm
- Tuesday, 8 Camp Frances Board, 6:30pm, Camp Frances Bldg, 1501 S Cochran
- Thursday, 10 City Council workshop , in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Friday, 11 City Hall Closed—Veterans Day
- Tuesday, 15 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30pm
- Monday, 21 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Thursday, 24 to Friday, 25 City Hall Closed—Thanksgiving

December

- Monday, 5 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 6 Planning Commission
- Thursday, 8 City Council workshop meeting, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 13 Camp Frances Board, 6:30pm, Camp Frances Bldg, 1501 S Cochran
- Monday, 19 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 20 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30pm
- Friday, 23 and Monday, 26 City Hall Closed—Christmas Observance
- Friday 30; and Monday, Jan 2 City Hall Closed—New Years Observance

Agendas, meeting details, and zoom links are available online at www.charlottemi.org.

Meetings are in-person at City Hall Council Chambers at 7pm unless noted otherwise.

NEWS FROM CITY HALL



VOTE

November 8th General Election- Absentee Voting, Michiganders can apply to vote absentee in the Nov. 8 general election now. Clerks will begin mailing out absent voter ballots by Sept. 29. Ballots will be available for early, in-person voting in clerks' offices on that date as well. To view a sample ballot, visit the Clerk's Office at City Hall or view online here: <https://mvlc.sos.state.mi.us/PublicBallot/Index>

In addition to state-wide elections, the City has a ballot proposal asking voters to consider amending the City Charter to make the mayoral term length four (4) years, beginning with the 2023 mayoral election. The current mayoral term length is two (2) years and City Council members current term length is four (4) years. Passage of this amendment would not affect the current term of the Mayor or the terms of City Council members.

For more information on voting, or to register to vote, go to Michigan.gov/

Fences (cont. from pg 1). The new rules could provide relief for homeowners who live on corner lots, and provide clarity on several issues that current regulations do not adequately address. Corner lots are especially restrictive when it comes to the structures that can be built on them, and this includes fences. Corner properties essentially have two 'front yards,' one facing each street, and regulations strictly limit what can be constructed in a front yard area.

This rule is commonplace in local zoning regulations; however, the City Council has asked the Planning Commission to consider adjustments to these regulations. In response, City staff and the Planning Commission have proposed a new fence ordinance that would allow the Commission to approve 'exceptions' to these standards on a case-by-case basis. There will be a public hearing on the matter at the October 3 meeting of the Charlotte Planning Commission. Following that hearing, the Planning Commission will make a recommendation to the City Council as to whether the new rules should be adopted.

In addition to the question about corner lots, several other aspects of the City's fence ordinance may be adjusted. This includes adding language clarifying what should be done when there are questions about the location of a property line, specifying what materials are suitable for fence construction, establishing better protections for residents who share driveways, and codifying standards for maintenance.

Questions about the proposed new ordinance should be directed to the Community Development Department at (517) 543-8853. It can be viewed on the city's website at www.charlottemi.org.



Persons with disabilities who require assistance in order to participate in the public meeting should contact the City at the earliest opportunity by emailing the City Clerk at clerk@charlottemi.org or by calling (517) 543-2750.

NEWS FROM CITY HALL



From the Police Chief .

Downtown Residents—Reminder: parking permits will expire at the end of October. Please call 517-543-1552 with any questions on parking permits.



Fall Leaf Collection Curbside collection of bagged leaves will take place on the following dates:



- Monday, October 17th to Thursday, October 20th
- Monday, October 31st to Thursday, November 3rd
- Monday, November 21st to Wednesday, November 23rd

Bags must be placed curbside, no plastic please. Please, leaves only. Brush will not be collected curbside but may be taken to drop-off site.

Please note: Saturday, Nov 5th is final weekend for DPW garage drop-off until spring. Winter drop-off hours are 8a to 4p, Monday through Friday.

Hydrant Flushing. City DPW will be flushing hydrant beginning at 4p on Monday, October 3rd through the day on October 4th. If water is discolored, run cold water until it runs clear.

ARPA Funds Survey Results The City has approximately \$877,000 available for funding projects from federal American Rescue Plan Act funds. City Council asked for feedback on how to invest these one-time federal dollars. In May we conducted a survey on ideas for how to spend these funds and on Thursday, June 9th we held a townhall and reviewed the survey results. A copy of the survey results presentation and more information is available online at:

www.charlottemi.org/ARPA



Volunteers Needed. Are you looking to give back? Do you have skills that can benefit the community? The City has several opportunities for citizens to participate in their local government. The following boards/committees need volunteers.

- Board of Review
- Camp Frances

Interested persons can find more information here:

<https://www.charlottemi.org/volunteers-wanted/>



NEWS FROM CITY HALL



Rave Alerts. The City of Charlotte is now using Rave alerts! Get notified with important information about what is happening in the community such as street closures, water system work, or emergencies that may affect you. There are several ways to register: Text CHARLOTTE to 67283; Download the Smart911 app; or Register for a free and secure safety profile online at [Smart911.com](https://www.smart911.com).

The City also sends out notifications specific to users by address, such as notices when quarterly utility bills are sent out. If you're already registered, make sure to update your profile address so you're receiving accurate information.

Rental Registration. City Ordinance requires that residential dwellings, including homes and apartments, occupied by tenants must be registered and inspected by the City. Contact our Rental Inspector at 517-543-8830 or email pkanuszewski@charlottemi.org You can find out more about our rental program on the city's website here: <https://www.charlottemi.org/rental-registration-program/>



Safe Routes to Schools In 2019, a partnership of Charlotte Public Schools, Sparrow Hospital (formerly Hayes Green Beach), CanDo!, Barry Eaton Health Department, the Eaton County Road Commission, and the City, applied for funds through MDOT from the Safe Routes to School grant program to construct certain infrastructure projects throughout the City, including sidewalks, crosswalks, and signage to enable and encourage children to safely walk and bike to school. In 2021, we received conditional approval of the \$1.3 million in grant funding and we are working on the pre-construction stage of this project. Crews have been out surveying and meeting with affected property owners. The project is going to be re-bid in December and we will have a construction schedule earlier 2023. The prep work and tree removal portion of this project will take place over winter of 2022 and 2023, and sidewalk construction in 2023. Look for more information early next year!

NEWS FROM CITY HALL



Michiganders in crisis now have an easy-to-remember three-digit number to call for help – 988. Michigan has joined the nation in [transitioning to the 988-dialing code](#), which will operate through the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline’s network of more than 200 locally operated and funded crisis centers across the country.

In 2020, Congress designated the new 988 dialing code to operate through the [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#). This action expands the existing Lifeline beyond people who are feeling suicidal to all individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis, including suicidal thoughts or substance abuse issues. Trained counselors will be available 24/7 to field calls. They will listen to the caller’s problems, assess their needs and provide support by connecting them with resources, and alert local emergency crisis teams, if necessary.

Anyone with these concerns can call:

- Mental health-related distress.
- Thoughts of suicide.
- Substance use crisis.
- Emotional distress.
- There are specialized services available for veterans, LGBTQ individuals and other groups.
- People who are worried about a loved one who may need support also can call.

The 988-dialing code does not replace the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (800-273-TALK (8255)) or other locally operated crisis lines. Instead, it serves as a universal entry point to connect individuals in need to trained crisis counselors who can help. MDHHS is working to ensure a solid infrastructure is built through coordination with 911 and other crisis service providers as the 988-dialing code launches.

Prior to the development of 988, the [Michigan Crisis and Access Line](#) (MiCAL) was funded by the Michigan Legislature in December 2018. MDHHS was charged with the development of MiCAL, which is currently operating in Oakland County and the Upper Peninsula, and with 988 implementation.

MiCAL is built on the SAMHSA’s National Guidelines for Behavioral Health Crisis Care which is also the foundation for 988. In Michigan, MiCAL is responsible for answering 988 calls in all areas of Michigan. In Macomb and Kent counties, Macomb County Community Mental Health and Network 180 will answer 988 calls with MiCAL providing back-up call coverage.

For more information, visit [988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline and Michigan Crisis & Access Line](#).

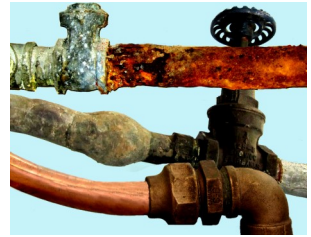
NEWS FROM CITY HALL

Lead Service Line Replacement. A survey of the city's water system is needed to comply with the amended Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act which was changed in 2018 to require all municipal drinking water providers to inventory their water lines by 2025.

Part of that work includes verifying the material of the water service inside the residence. Water service lines can be copper or plastic, but some may be galvanized steel, iron, or lead.

While Charlotte has begun work on the outside portion of the project, a concerted effort will be undertaken soon to verify service material inside a home. If you would like to schedule an appointment for a city employee to verify your service, please call 517-543-8858.

A \$350,700 grant to assist in the effort to identify lead service leads has been obtained from EGLE. This work is mandated by the state, and more information about lead service lines can be found here: [Michigan.gov lead and copper rule](https://www.michigan.gov/lead-and-copper-rule).



Michigan Homeowner Assistance Fund (MIHAF). The Fund was established under section 3206 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (the ARP) to mitigate hardships associated with the coronavirus pandemic by providing funds to prevent homeowner mortgage delinquencies, defaults, foreclosure, loss of utilities or home energy services and displacements of homeowners experiencing financial hardship on or after January 21, 2020 or for those homeowners who experience a coronavirus pandemic financial hardship that began before January 21, 2020 but continued after that date. For more information or to apply, visit [MSHDA's website](https://www.mshda.org/mihaf).

Emergency Home Repair Program. Eaton County administers an Emergency Repair Program. No interest, no payment loans to Eaton County residents who meet federal, state and County Housing Program guidelines may be provided. This program assists with emergency repairs that are causing a health and safety risk to the occupants and the structure of the home.

The program offers up to \$20,000 in no interest, no payment loan assistance to repair and improve program participant's home. A deferred mortgage is recorded against the property for the amount invested into the home. Contact Housing at: 517-543-3710 or visit their website at <https://www.eatoncounty.org/181/Emergency-Home-Repair> for more information.

Other Assistance Programs Available. There are other programs for those having trouble paying rent/mortgage or utilities. Persons who are in need of assistance due to financial or other hardships can find information on available programs online at www.charlottemi.org/assistance-programs-available/ or by calling 2-1-1.

EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

CHARLOTTE CHAMBER & OTHER EVENTS



DOWNTOWN
CHARLOTTE

HALLOWEEN
Almost Midnight
Madness

10.24.2022 | 4-7 PM
SPONSORED BY:

 **Sparrow**
Eaton Hospital

 Renée L.I. Owen, DDS P.C.
Charlotte, NC

Eaton County Fairgrounds

The events at Eaton County Fairgrounds are managed by the Eaton County Agricultural Society. The Eaton County Agricultural Society is a Non-Profit 501(c)(5) corporation established in 1855. ECAS is operated by the Board of Directors, AKA the Fairboard. The Fairboard consists of 15 members who make the majority of the decisions regarding the operation of the Eaton County Fair and the grounds. Learn more here: <https://eatoncountyfair.com/pageserver/ag-society>.

The Fairboard has a full slate of exciting events planned for 2022. We hope you've enjoyed the fairgrounds for all the fun events this year. As the season winds down, there are events scheduled for October:

October 1: Horse Show

October 14-15: Horse Show



EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

ALIVE! EVENTS-OCTOBER

October

10/3 6p – 8p	Gift of Heart	A support group for foster, adoption and kinship families in Eaton County and the surrounding areas. Free childcare provided. Please contact Amy Nierenberger at 517.749.4136 for more information	Free
10/4 6p – 6:30p	Kids' Table: Healthy Holiday Pie Baking	Kids ages 5-12 learn valuable culinary skills and new recipes with a hands-on cooking experience. Our goal is to expand young taste buds to discover that "real food" can be delicious and fun to prepare.	\$12/ Child
10/13 6:30p – 8p	Fall Foliage Pressing	Let the colors of fall inspire you in this harvest-themed offering. Participants will learn how to preserve fall leaves in their vibrant colors while taking home a lasting keepsake. Fall refreshments included.	\$20
10/14 6p – 8p	Date Night: Tasty Thai	Bringing the flavors of Thailand to you. Grab a spouse, best friend or family member to enjoy the elements of Thai cuisine while creating your own custom noodle bowl. A variety of toppings, spices and sauces will be available to satisfy your taste buds. Dessert and soft drinks beverages included.	\$30/ Couple
10/17 5:30p – 6p 10/19 12p - 12:30p	Weigh Beyond: Info Session	Weigh Beyond is a medically-supervised weight loss program utilizing Health Nutrition Technology meal replacements in addition to whole foods. Participants focus on behavioral, nutritional, and environmental topics in weekly group coaching sessions, as well have access to private weigh-ins and a check-in outside of regular class time. Join to learn more about the curriculum, pricing, and structure and have questions answered by a Weigh Beyond Coach.	Free
10/18 12:15p – 12:45p	Beginner Meditation	Feeling the need to be a bit more present? Wanting to become the calm within the chaos? Help center yourself and cultivate calm through this meditation workshop.	Free
10/19 6p – 8p	Wood Burning: Holiday Cutting Board	Learn how to use a Cricut to create a custom cutting board utilizing Cricut stencils and a heat gun (provided). Learn to design the stencil as well as how to make the special gel to transfer onto a cutting board using a heat gun. You will choose from 2-3 premade designs. Class is limited to 15 registrants.	\$30
10/22 5p – 9:30p	Parents' Great Escape: Brewing Something Spooky!	Parents, drop the kids off for some fun at ALIVE while you take the evening to relax or go out. Supervised activities include themed crafts/snacks, singing songs, group games, group stories and more. Dinner Provided. Ages 3-12 (young children must be fully potty-trained). Pre-registration is required by the Wednesday prior to the event; call 517.541.5803.	\$25 First Child \$20 per add'l child GROW: \$20 First \$15 add'l child
10/25 5p – 6p	Exercise & The Aging Population	Exercise is for anyone at any age. As we earn our years, exercise can aid in preventing and managing diseases, decreasing pain, increasing bone density, strength and balance and many more positive benefits. Discover how simple and easy exercise can improve your quality of life.	Free
10/27 1p – 2p	Diabetes Support Group	Assistance for all individuals with diabetes and their families. Healthcare professionals and speakers present topics ranging from new medications and treatments to healthy eating. Please contact Deborah.dillon@sparrow.org for more information.	Free 9

EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

CHARLOTTE PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS—OCTOBER



CRAFT CLUB

Edible Haunted Houses!

**October 28th
4:00-5:30pm**

This event will take place in person in the Spartan Room.

Pre-registration is required.
For students in 4th-12th grade.



*Photos used as an example.

517-543-8859
charlottelibrary.org




BABY & ME

SONGS, RHYMES, AND PLAY!

For babies and toddlers with their caregivers.

**THURSDAYS
10-10:30 am**



This event will take place in the Spartan Room.

517-543-8859
charlottelibrary.org




Craft CLUB Jr

Flying Saucers!

**October 7th
4:15-5:15pm**

This event will take place in person in the Spartan Room.

Pre-registration is required.
For students in 1st-3rd grade.



517-543-8859
charlottelibrary.org



MINECRAFT CLUB

Friday, October 14th from 4-5 pm



Play on the Library's private Minecraft server!

For students in 3rd grade and up.

Laptops provided.

Pre-registration required.

517-543-8859
charlottelibrary.org



Halloween Party at the library

Come dressed up and enjoy an indoor Halloween bash for kids!

- Snacks, games, and more all included.
- For families with kids 3 to 11 years old.
- Kids must be accompanied by an adult or older sibling.
- Pre-registration required.

**Saturday
October 22
11-12pm**



517-543-8859
charlottelibrary.org



Adult Craft Program



Black Widow Venom Moonshine

Come craft a deadly cocktail!

**Monday,
October 17th
@ 6:00pm**



Pre-registration required

517-543-8859
charlottelibrary.org



EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

CHARLOTTE PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS—OCTOBER



Preschool Storytime

- Thursdays at 11am
- For children ages 3–6 and their caregivers
- Please bring a yoga mat or blanket.


STORIES, SONGS, and STRETCHES!

Develop early literacy, physical,
and social-emotional skills.



517-543-8859
charlottelibrary.org

**AGAIN AT
OUR NEW
LOCATION!**



BOOK SALE


OCTOBER 6, 7, & 8

Thursday & Friday | Saturday: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
9 a.m. - 7 p.m. \$3/Bag of Books


Held at Lawrence Avenue United Methodist Church
(Enter sale on Lawrence Ave.)

Movies, music, children's books too!

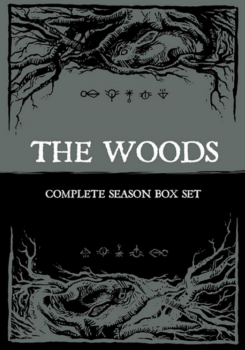
Proceeds to benefit the Charlotte Community Library.

 **Friends of Charlotte Community Library**

**CASH
ONLY**



Supernatural Investigation




Mystery Storyline:


In the isolated forests of West Virginia, a young woman from a family of witches lies unconscious, afflicted by an ancient evil. Comb through her possessions to figure out what happened to her and reconstruct her life in the months before she fell ill.

**Meet Thursday, Oct. 6th
@ 5:30pm for
the second episode!**


Can you use her family's ancient spells and secret rituals to save her before it's too late?



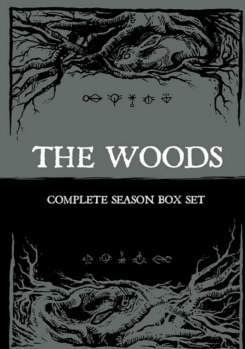
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Supernatural Investigation




Mystery Storyline:


In the isolated forests of West Virginia, a young woman from a family of witches lies unconscious, afflicted by an ancient evil. Comb through her possessions to figure out what happened to her and reconstruct her life in the months before she fell ill.

**Meet Thursday, Oct. 13th
@ 5:30pm for
the third episode!**


Can you use her family's ancient spells and secret rituals to save her before it's too late?



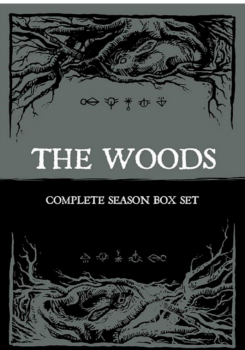
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Supernatural Investigation




Mystery Storyline:


In the isolated forests of West Virginia, a young woman from a family of witches lies unconscious, afflicted by an ancient evil. Comb through her possessions to figure out what happened to her and reconstruct her life in the months before she fell ill.

**Meet Thursday, Oct. 20th
@ 5:30pm for
the fourth episode!**


Can you use her family's ancient spells and secret rituals to save her before it's too late?



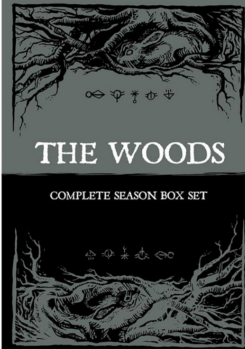
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Supernatural Investigation




Mystery Storyline:


In the isolated forests of West Virginia, a young woman from a family of witches lies unconscious, afflicted by an ancient evil. Comb through her possessions to figure out what happened to her and reconstruct her life in the months before she fell ill.

**Meet Thursday, Oct. 27th
@ 5:30pm for the fifth and
final episode!**

Can you use her family's ancient spells and secret rituals to save her before it's too late?



Brought to you by:



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charlottelibrary.org

CITY OF CHARLOTTE

Michael Armitage—Mayor

Tammy Weissenborn—Mayor Pro-Tem/
Councilmember

Joseph Chin Jr.—Councilmember

Michael Duweck—Councilmember

Branden Dyer—Councilmember

Anthony Rodriguez—Councilmember

Adrianne Van Langevelde—Councilmember

Erin LaPere—City Manager

Mary LaRocque—City Clerk

Eric Smith—Finance Director/Treasurer

Amy Gilson—DPW Director

Paul Brentar—Police Chief

Mark Jordan—Fire Chief

Bryan Myrkle—Community Development
Director

Randy Jewell—Assessor

MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER



office 517-543-8850
cell/text 269-223-9809
email elapere@charlottemi.org

Fall is here and we are celebrating with many Halloween events. There will be trick-or-treating downtown and at the Library. Check out page 8 for more details on the downtown event and pages 10-11 for Library events! We hope to see you at the Michigan Mead Night on October 22, 2022.

Do you have a great idea to improve the City? Are you passionate about something happening in your neighborhood? Contact me via phone/text/email. Or, reach out to your elected officials to share your thoughts: [click here for their contact information.](#)

You can also learn more about what's happening in Charlotte online at the city's website: www.charlottemi.org; the city's [face-book page](#), or twitter: @CityCharlotteMI

- Erin E. LaPere

Recent City Council Actions—September 2022:

- Approved contract for keyless entry project
- Approved agreement for website redesign
- Approved contract for Water Rate Study
- Rezone and grant variance for 243 State St to be MX-1 Mixed Use
- Amended HCSP Participation Agreement
- Approved lease extension for CJO use of Goeble Field
- Approved delegates to MML convention
- Appointed member to Camp Frances Board
- Approved fireworks display for Charlotte Public Schools
- Approved street closure for Michigan Mead Night
- Approved easement acquisition for airport project
- Discussed policies related to tax collection due dates
- Conducted a first reading of proposed fence ordinance

Want to know more? Check out www.charlottemi.org/category/2022-city-council-meetings/ to see prior meeting agenda packets and minutes.

City Hall

111 E Lawrence Ave
Charlotte, MI 48813

Phone: 517-543-2750

Fax: 517-543-8845

E-mail: manager@charlottemi.org

Clerk/Treasurer/Police
In-Person Service Hours
Monday thru Friday
9 am - 1 pm
2 pm - 4 pm

City Hall Staff Hours
Monday thru Friday
8 am - 5 pm

Emergency Services 9-1-1
After-Hours DPW 517-543-8874

