

March  
2023

— THE CITY OF —  
**CHARLOTTE**  
— MICHIGAN —

## Charlotte Chronicles

### CONSTRUCTION 2023

The City is gearing up for three major projects this construction season. Safe Routes to Schools program will install sidewalks through \$1.8mill grant funding in partnership with Charlotte Public Schools; Hall/Washington/McClure streets will be completely reconstructed, including underground utilities; and Island Hwy will be reconstructed in partnership with the Eaton County Drain Commissioner's Office.



Want to keep up-to-date on the latest construction news? Check out the city's website here: [www.charlottemi.org/construction-updates-2023/](http://www.charlottemi.org/construction-updates-2023/)

### EATON CONSERVATION DISTRICT—TREE SALE

The Eaton Conservation District runs a spring tree and shrub sale. This event offers ever-green seedlings and transplants, shrubs, hardwoods, fruit trees, berries and various supplies for all your tree planting needs. Native wildflower and pollinator seed mixes are available as well. Orders must be placed no later than **March 22, 2023**. To place an order or for more information, visit their website here: [www.eatoncd.org/tree-sale.html](http://www.eatoncd.org/tree-sale.html)



Several varieties are available including pines, spruces, maples, oaks, dogwood, redbuds, and more. Funds received from tree sales support local conservation programs.



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# CITY MEETING CALENDAR

## March

- Monday, 6 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 7 Planning Commission
- Monday, 13 Board of Review hearings, 3:00 pm - 9 pm
- Tuesday, 14 Board of Review hearings, 9:00 am - 3 pm
- Tuesday, 14 Camp Frances Board, 6:30pm, Camp Frances Bldg, 1501 S Cochran
- Wednesday, 15 City Council workshop meeting, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Monday, 20 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 21 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30pm, Community Room—Basement City Hall

## April

- Monday, 3 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 4 Planning Commission
- Tuesday, 4 Parks Advisory Board, Community Room—Basement City Hall
- Tuesday, 11 Camp Frances Board, 6:30pm, Camp Frances Bldg, 1501 S Cochran
- Wednesday, 12 City Council workshop meeting, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Monday, 17 Airport Board, 8:00am, Fitch H 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, Community Room—Basement City Hall

## May

- Monday, 1 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 2 Planning Commission
- Tuesday, 2 Parks Advisory Board, Community Room—Basement City Hall
- Tuesday, 9 Camp Frances Board, 6:30pm, Camp Frances Bldg, 1501 S Cochran
- Wednesday, 10 City Council workshop meeting, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Monday, 15 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 16 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30pm
- Monday, 29 City Hall Closed—Memorial Day

Agendas, meeting details, and zoom links are available online at [www.charlottemi.org](http://www.charlottemi.org).

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

# NEWS FROM CITY HALL

## 2023 BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE

CITY OF CHARLOTTE  
111 E Lawrence Ave  
Charlotte, MI 48813

## 2023 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The Charlotte Board of Review will be held at City Hall, 111 E Lawrence Ave, on the following dates:

Tuesday, March 7, at 10:00 a.m. Organizational Meeting  
Monday, March 13, from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for Appeals  
Tuesday, March 14, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for Appeals

To schedule a Board of Review appointment

Email: [sosborn@charlottemi.org](mailto:sosborn@charlottemi.org)

Or call: 517-543-8844

By Board resolution, residents can protest by letter, provided the protest letter is received prior to March 12th.

The City will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 7 days' notice by contacting the City Clerk at [clerk@charlottemi.org](mailto:clerk@charlottemi.org) or 517-543-2750.

Interested persons can find out more about assessing and Board of Appeals process online here:  
[www.charlottemi.org/councilboards/board-of-review/](http://www.charlottemi.org/councilboards/board-of-review/)

# NEWS FROM CITY HALL



## From the Police Chief

Did you know the police department does vacation checks? If you are going to be out of town for an extended period of time, just let us know and we'll check on your property while you are gone. Either stop down to the police department or call us at 517-543-1552 and we'll take care of you.

**Rave Alerts.** The City of Charlotte is 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://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.



**Lead Service Line Replacement.** The City of Charlotte Department of Public Works (DPW) is verifying the material of water service lines throughout the City as a requirement of the 2018 Michigan Lead and Copper Rule. EGLE is requiring a complete inventory of the water service lines by January 1, 2025. The inventory must include material verification at 3 locations along the service line, including inside the home where the water service comes into the house. The City received a Grant from EGLE to help with the material verification. The City has hired Fishbeck to help complete the in-home inspections.

We ask that you contact Fishbeck at (517) 882-0383 or by filling out this form <https://forms.gle/JbbSFVnGsGU74SJC9> to set up an appointment for the material identification. The inspections require Fishbeck or DPW staff to enter your home for a brief period to identify water service material where your water service enters your home.

All personnel associated with the verification will have identification verifying they are either a Fishbeck or DPW employee.

In place of an in-home inspection, an online survey is available to residents to complete which includes taking a picture of the water service line at the in-home water meter. Scan the QR code below to complete the self-survey of your home's water service.



# NEWS FROM CITY HALL



**Email Billing Feature Now Available!** Ready to ditch the paper utility bill? You can now sign up for emailed billing of your quarterly utility bill. Please complete the form below and return it to City Hall, in-person or drop-box, or you can sign up online at [www.charlottemi.org/email-utility-bill-form/](http://www.charlottemi.org/email-utility-bill-form/)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Service Address: \_\_\_\_\_



**Utility Billing Customer Service.** If you have questions or need to update your utility billing account, contact UB Clerk Mikayla by phone at 517-543-8841 or email [mdensmore@charlottemi.org](mailto:mdensmore@charlottemi.org).

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**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
- Downtown Development Authority
- Airport Advisory Board
- Camp Frances

Interested persons can find more information here:

[www.charlottemi.org/board-and-commission-volunteer-opportunities-available/](http://www.charlottemi.org/board-and-commission-volunteer-opportunities-available/)



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**2023 Park Reservations** Planning a party or event for later this spring or summer? Host your event at one of our beautiful facilities!

**Bennett Park** pavilion rental calendar is now open for 2023 reservations. Find the rental registration information and forms online at <https://www.charlottemi.org/serviceadministration/parks/park-reservation-applications/>

You can also contact the Clerk's Office with questions about reservations and date availability at 517-543-2750 or email [mdensmore@charlottemi.org](mailto:mdensmore@charlottemi.org)

**Camp Frances** is taking reservations for the 2023 calendar year. Visit the website at <https://www.campfrances.org/> Under the tab "Rental Information" you will find the "Guidelines for Use of the facility". By clicking "Rental Request" you will be taken to the City's website where you can complete a request for dates. Please register as early as possible for your date as it could take up to 7 business days to process your paperwork once submitted.



## NEWS FROM CITY HALL



**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](#).

**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/](http://www.charlottemi.org/assistance-programs-available/) or by calling 2-1-1.

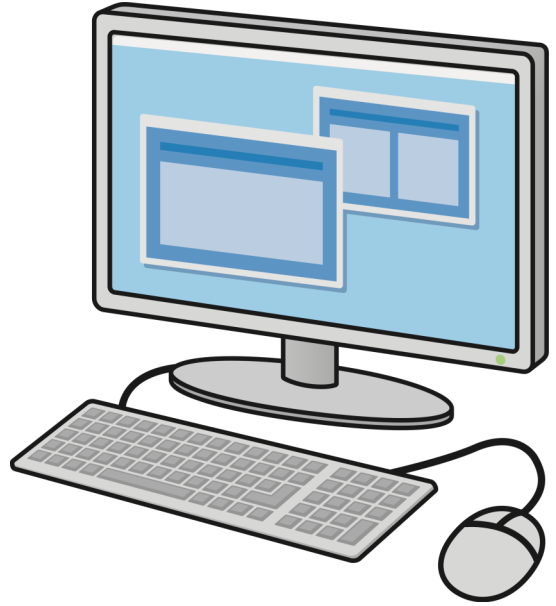


### ► Digging into an outdoor project soon?

Dial 811 or visit 811.com first to protect yourself and underground utility lines. For your safety, Michigan law requires that all utility lines be flagged before beginning any excavation project.

## NEWS FROM CITY HALL

**The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)** is a federal program run by the FCC to assist qualifying low-income households pay for internet service and connected devices such as laptops or tablets. Households may be eligible if their income is below 200% the Federal Poverty Line or if someone in the household receives a government benefit such as SNAP, Medicaid, SSI, WIC, Pell Grant, or Free and Reduced-Price Lunch. If eligible, households may receive up to a \$30/month discount on internet service, up to \$75 a month discount on qualifying Tribal lands, and a one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer (with a co-payment of more than \$10 but less than \$50). Information regarding ACP may be found here: <https://www.affordableconnectivity.gov/>.



Michiganders in crisis now have an easy-to-remember three-digit number to call for help – 988. Michigan has joined the nation with 988, 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 to expand the existing support beyond people who are feeling suicidal to all individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis, including 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, including mental health-related distress; thoughts of suicide; substance use crisis; or 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.

# EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

## CHARLOTTE PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS—MARCH

### MINECRAFT CLUB

Friday, March 10th from 4:00-5:00pm



Play on the Library's private Minecraft server!

For students in 3rd grade and up.

Laptops provided.



**Pre-registration required.**

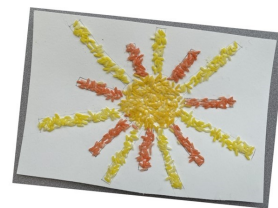
517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org



### Craft Club Jr

### Rice Mosaic

Friday, March 3rd  
4:15-5:15pm



This event will be held in person in the Spartan Room.

**Pre-registration is required.**

For students in 1st-3rd grade.



517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org

### MARCH 1ST MOVIE NIGHT



**WEDNESDAY  
MARCH 1ST, 2023  
5:30 PM  
RATED PG**  
Popcorn and water provided

Anna Brady plans to travel to Dublin, Ireland to propose to her boyfriend on February 29, leap day, because, according to Irish tradition, a man who receives a marriage proposal on a leap day must accept it.



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



Charlotte  
Community  
Library

### Library Hours:

M-F 9am-7pm

Sat 10am-2pm

Address: 226 S. Bostwick Charlotte, MI 48813

Phone: (517) 543-8859



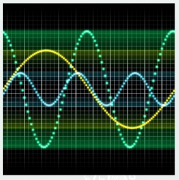
# EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

## CHARLOTTE PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS-MARCH

**ECHOLOCATION & SOUNDWAVES**

Wednesday,  
March 1st  
2:45-4:00pm

Come enjoy exciting STEM activities and a delicious snack!



For children in grades 3rd-6th.  
Pre-registration is required. 517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org

Charlotte Community Library

**NEW! FAMILY STORY TIME**

The Library is taking the show on the road!

*Walton Township Hall*  
6933 Stine Road, Olivet

THURSDAY 10:00AM  
MARCH 9TH & 23RD

**Come on, let's have some fun!**

Drop in for stories, songs, rhymes, games, movement & more! 517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org

Charlotte Community Library

**Children's Author Visit:  
Kara Morales**



Visit with local children's book author-illustrator Kara Morales. She will share parts from her book *Kaydee* and speak about the life lessons Kaydee, a little yorkie, learns. Ms. Morales will share about her illustrations as well.




**Friday,  
March 17, 2023  
at 5:30pm**

Books will be for sale: cash and check only.

Charlotte Community Library Youth Program 517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org

ADULT CRAFT PROGRAM

**PAINTING WITH SHAPES**

Painting made easy! - Paint with shapes!

**THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023 | 5:30 PM**  
**PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.**



**Bird Painting**

Smocks will not be provided, paint at your own risk! Event will be held in the Spartan Room.

Charlotte Community Library 517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org

**CRAFT CLUB**

**Extreme Dot to Dot**

Friday, March 24th  
4:00-5:30pm



This event will be held in person in the Spartan Room.

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

Charlotte Community Library 517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org

# EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

## CHARLOTTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS 2023



The Charlotte Chamber of Commerce and our Chamber Member Partners look forward to **CELEBRATING** with the **Charlotte Community** all year long!

*Check out our webpage*  
**MICharlotte.org**

*Download our new app  
on Android and Apple*  
**MICharlotte**

*Call us today to learn more  
about becoming a member*  
**517-543-0400**

*Office hours are  
Mondays and Wednesdays  
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.*



FOLLOW US ON  
**Instagram**



**Charlotte**  
Chamber of Commerce

### Community Events 2023

- Eaton County Expo: April 22<sup>nd</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Charlotte Artisans & Farmers Market:  
Thursdays 2-6 from May-October (120 W. Lovett St.)
- Summer Concerts on the Lawn:  
Thursdays 6:30 from June - August
- Charlotte Celebrates: June 15<sup>th</sup> - June 17<sup>th</sup>
- Taste of Eaton County: August 17<sup>th</sup>
- Almost Midnight Madness: October 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Small Business Saturday and Lighted Holiday Parade:  
November 25<sup>th</sup>

### Chamber Member Events 2023 *To Be Announced*

- Annual Dinner - February 9<sup>th</sup>
- Golf Outing - August 31<sup>st</sup>
- Quarterly Networking and Education Events



# EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

## 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 2023, below is the tentative schedule: for March and April Events:

March 18: Fairgrounds Fundraiser Dinner

April 1: Winter Storage pick-up

April 14-15: Eaton Conservation District Tree Sale pick-up

April 21-22: Eaton County Home Expo

April 22: Great Lakes Barbeque Association Competition

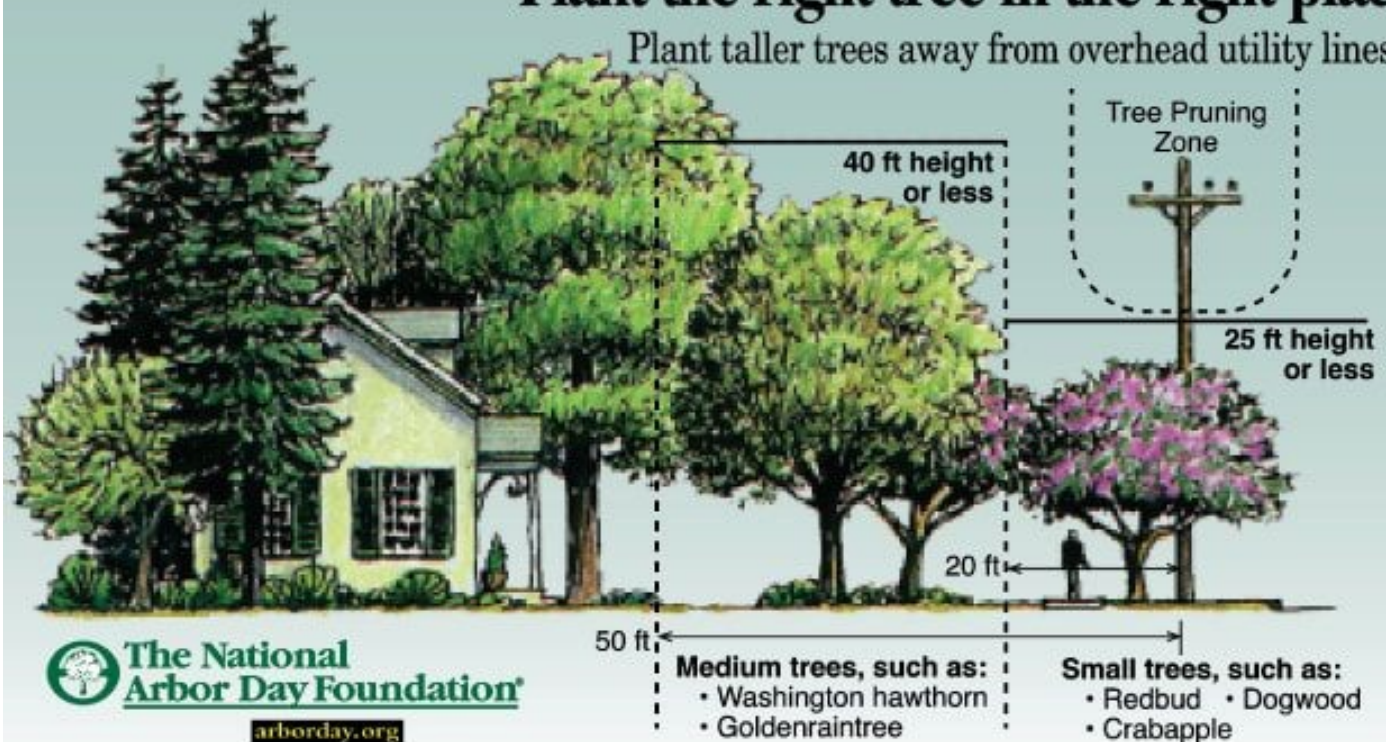
April 28-29: Horse Show

April 29: Fiber Festival



## Plant the right tree in the right place

Plant taller trees away from overhead utility lines



## MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

### 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

**Dan Daly**—Interim Fire Chief

**Bryan Myrkle**—Community Development  
Director

**Randy Jewell**—Assessor



office 517-543-8850  
cell/text 269-223-9809  
email [elapere@charlottemi.org](mailto:elapere@charlottemi.org)

March brings spring—warm weather, flowers and trees budding, and sunshine! As you begin planning your upcoming projects, make sure you contact City Hall for any zoning and permitting requirements.

Spring also means the start of road construction and the City will be seeing a lot of construction activity in 2023. Comcast is installing infrastructure to bring cable/internet services to the city, we have two major road projects, and safe routes to schools sidewalk installation. You will see colored flags and paint markings identifying underground utilities. Please don't remove markers—and if you have a project planned, call MissDig at 811. They can identify any underground utilities for any project big or small.

Do you have an idea? Something happening in your neighborhood that you want to share? Concerned about a city matter? You can reach out to me anytime via phone, email, or stop by the office. You can also reach out to your elected officials, their contact information is available [online by clicking here](#).

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

*- Erin E. LaPere*

### Recent City Council Actions—February 2023:

- Held Public Hearing on proposed ordinance adopting high BAC portion of Michigan Vehicular Code
- Adopted ordinance adopting high BAC portion of Michigan Vehicular Code
- Approved resolution to contract with MDOT for Hall, Washington, McClure project
- Conducted annual performance review and salary evaluation of City Manager
- Established ad hoc committee for City Manager evaluation criteria
- Extend timeframe for filling Fire Chief vacancy
- Discussion on commercial marijuana licensing program
- Discussion on contribution to CharlotteRising
- Discussion on concept of Public Safety Chief
- Discussion on City Attorney Contract
- Held workshop meeting to discuss 2023 Council Priorities
- Presentation on Water Rate Study findings
- Approved resolution for Michigan Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities as an approved investment option
- Awarded auditing service contract to Maner Costerisan
- Approved resolution for purchase agreement to sell land at Combs Park to Charlotte Anodizing

### City Hall

111 E Lawrence Ave  
Charlotte, MI 48813

Phone: 517-543-2750

Fax: 517-543-8845

E-mail: [manager@charlottemi.org](mailto: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



Want to know more? Check out [www.charlottemi.org/](http://www.charlottemi.org/) to see 2023 meeting agendas and minutes.