



June 13, 2019

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Mark C. Meyers, City Administrator *WCM*

SUBJECT: General Information Packet

Attached are general items of information you may find interesting. If you have any questions or comments regarding the information, please contact me.

mm/co
Attachments

Administration/City Clerk (231) 798-4391	Assessing Division (231) 799-6806	Building Division (231) 799-6801	Finance/Treasurer (231) 799-6805	Fire Prevention (231) 799-6809	Fire Department (231) 798-2255
Parks/Recreation (231) 799-6802	Planning/Zoning (231) 799-6800	Police Department (231) 733-2691	Public Works (231) 799-6803	Streets Division (231) 798-2156	Water/Sewer (231) 799-6804

Restructured Muskegon Area First taps former exec as new CEO

BY MARK SANCHEZ Tuesday, June 04, 2019 03:00pm

MUSKEGON — After restructuring into a private-sector-led group, the economic development organization for Muskegon County brought back a prior chief executive.

Jim Edmonson started Monday as president and CEO at **Muskegon Area First**.



Edmonson previously ran Muskegon Area First from 2004 to 2007. Directors hired his firm, Baton Rouge, La.-based Edmonson Associates, to help transition the organization from a public to a private-led organization and ended up hiring him for the new version of Muskegon Area First.

“Every era in a community’s history has different economic development needs,” said Mike Olthoff, board chairman at Muskegon Area First and CEO of **Nichols Paper & Supply Co.** in Norton Shores.

“In 2019, Muskegon County needs to support its current employers with a skilled workforce as it continues to grow the county’s manufacturing base with local company expansions and attraction of new companies to fill needed niches in our economy,” Olthoff said in a statement. “The MAF board feels that Jim Edmonson is perfectly suited to launch a new direction for Muskegon Area First and have the agency address the current economic development needs of Muskegon County.”

Edmonson has worked for 43 years in economic development. His initial months will focus on establishing the new organization, which retains ties with local governments in Muskegon County. The early work will include developing revenues and a first-year budget, as well as reorganizing staff.

“Honestly, I did not consult with MAF to become its next president and CEO,” Edmonson stated. “But board members were very persuasive and this is an incredible time to be involved in Muskegon County economic development. Look around, Muskegon County is going through a historic community transformation. As a county resident, I am thrilled to be asked to be a part of it.”

In the prior structure, Muskegon Area First was supported by service fees and memberships by cities, villages and townships in Muskegon County. The board of directors consisted of public and private sector representatives.

The previous board of directors at Muskegon Area First, first formed in 1999, began to explore a transition after former President and CEO Ed Garner left in October 2017 for a regional small business development position. Interim President and CEO Darryl Todd led the organization through the transition and remains to work on business and talent development.

The Muskegon Area First Procurement Technical Assistance Center will continue to provide businesses government contracting support services throughout a 13-county region.

Watch Muskegon campaign invests in beautification efforts

May 31, 2019 in [Press Releases](#)

MUSKEGON, MI – The Watch Muskegon’s beautification campaign makes another investment in beautifying the Sherman Blvd. corridor. The Watch Muskegon campaign in collaboration with the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce and the cities of Muskegon, Norton Shores and Roosevelt Park have worked to add over 50 large-scale floral planters at multiple locations along Sherman Blvd. The planters are located at the main crossroad intersections that include: Lincoln, McCracken, Glenside, Wickham, and in the front of the Sherman Bowling Center. Planters were designed, grown and will be maintained by a Muskegon owned business, Barry’s Flower Shop & Greenhouse. This project was made possible through grants obtained by the Community Foundation for Muskegon County, Arconic Foundation, and donations by local partners including Nichols and the Mart Dock.



The Watch Muskegon campaign has completed many projects that have helped to beautify the Sherman Blvd. corridor. These projects include organizing community cleanups, creating a green space which includes a new bus shelter on the corner of Sherman Blvd. and Hoyt St., and adding permanent trash receptacles all in the city of Muskegon Heights. Plus, installing banners that identify each city along Sherman Blvd. The Watch Muskegon campaign has also created lasting relationships with municipalities, local residents, and businesses along the Sherman corridor to implement positive changes in the community.

The Watch Muskegon Community Image campaign was started in 2015, when community partners rallied together to improve the overall image of Muskegon County. The Watch Muskegon campaign is comprised of three pillars: education, beautification, and marketing. Community pride, positive word-of-mouth, education and multiple advertising campaigns help to draw new residents, tourists, and businesses to the Muskegon Lakeshore Area.

Many programs were developed out of the Watch Muskegon campaign. The Muskegon Star program educates participants on the many assets Muskegon County has and demonstrates ways to share the message that Muskegon County is a great place to live, work, play and learn. The Care-A-Lot program was born out of the Watch Muskegon campaign. The non-profit organization helps reduce blight by buying distressed properties, improving and maintaining the properties, and then returning them to community members at a minimal cost.

The Watch Muskegon Campaign has just started its fifth year of the six year campaign. For more information, visit watchmuskegon.com.

- [RPOA Member Spotlight](#)
- [Government Affairs News Blog](#)
- [More Great Services & Benefits...](#)



Court Rules Township Can Ban Short-Term Rentals

Court Rules Township Can Ban Short-Term Rentals

An Ottawa County couple hoping to rent their Spring Lake Township home on a short-term basis was recently dealt a blow.

A three-judge Michigan Court of Appeals panel unanimously affirmed the township's denial of Susan Reaume's application for a short-term rental license that would have allowed her and her husband to rent out their 5,300-square-foot home at 18190 Lovell Road.

"Plaintiff's use of the property for short-term rentals was never permitted under the township's R-1 zoning," the court's seven-page published opinion by Judge Amy Ronayne Krause reads. "This is consistent with case law establishing that commercial or business use of property, generally meaning uses intended to generate a profit, are inconsistent with residential uses of property... The township's mere failure to enforce the ordinance does not confer upon plaintiff a right to continue violating the ordinance."

Reaume and her husband, Randy Reaume, purchased the home on Spring Lake in 2003 and lived there until 2014 when they moved to Nunica. In 2015, they hired a property management company and began renting out the home, which is located in an R-1 low density residential zoning area, as a short-term vacation rental.

In December 2016, the township board adopted Ordinance No. 255 banning short-term home rentals of more than 14 days per year in the R-1 and R-2 zoning districts. It went into effect February 2017.

Susan Reaume applied the following month for a short-term rental license, but the township denied the request. She appealed to the Township Zoning Board of Appeals, which denied her appeal. The Ottawa County Circuit Court affirmed the denial.

In its opinion, the court noted that it chose to publish its opinion in light of the plaintiff citing a 2018 unpublished case, *Concerned Property Owners of Garfield Twp Inc. v. Charter Twp of Garfield*. The court noted it didn't use the unpublished case in its opinion, but the "existence of this case supports that the issues presented in the [Reaume] matter are of increasing importance and commonality in Michigan, and that the bench and bar would benefit from the certainty that a published opinion would bring."

Short-term rentals in residential areas is an issue that reached the Legislature in April 2017 when Rep. Jason Sheppard (R-Lambertville) and Sen. Joe Hune (R-Hamburg Twp.) introduced [HB 4503](#) and [SB 0329](#), respectively, that proposed mandating all residential zones allow short-term rentals. Both were referred to committees where they stalled (See "[MLTB: Leave Short-Term Rentals Under Control Of Local Governments.](#)" 10/4/17; "[Short-Term Vacation Rentals Pit Locals, Property Owners.](#)" 4/28/17).

In January, Sheppard introduced [HB 4046](#), which limits regulation of vacation rentals and short-term rentals by local zoning. The proposed bill has been referred to the Committee on Local Government and Municipal Finance (See "[Realtors, Municipals Go Toe-to-Toe Over AirBNB Rental Zoning.](#)" 5/1/19).

Judges Elizabeth Gleicher and Colleen O'Brien joined the opinion.

[More News](#)



West Michigan Regional Water Authority

4814 Henry Street

Norton Shores, MI 49441

Meeting Agenda

June 18, 2019 – 1:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall – City of Norton Shores

- A) Call to Order by Chair
- B) Adoption of Agenda
- C) Adoption of minutes from the Meeting of February 19, 2019
- D) Public forum/Public input
- E) Committee Reports
- F) Treasurer's Report
- G) Old/New Business
 - 1. Water Main Break – 862 Seminole Road – Emergency Repair Approval
 - 2. Information: Unit Price Bid for Regional Water Main Replacement/Upgrade – Broadway Avenue, Getty Street to Bailey Street
 - 3. Discussion: Repair/Replacement of leaking glandular joint at the Airline Road (Smiley) water tank
 - 4. Discussion: Chlorine Residual levels in Fruitport – Conversion of Altitude Valves and SCADA Control at the Airline Road (Smiley) and Broadway Water Tanks
- H) Comments from the Board
- I) Adjournment

WEST MICHIGAN REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY
Minutes of February 19, 2019 Board Meeting

A regular meeting of the West Michigan Regional Water Authority was called to order on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 1:37p.m. in the Small Conference Room, Norton Shores City Hall, 4814 Henry Street.

Members Present: Board Members Jerry Bartoszek, Mike Huston, Ron Langlois and Heidi Tice

Also Present:

Adoption of Agenda

The adoption of the agenda was accepted by consensus.

Adoption of Minutes

Vice Chair Heidi Tice moved to adopt the minutes from the Meeting of December 18, 2018. The motion was seconded by Secretary Ron Langlois. The motion was carried unanimously.

Treasurers Report

Treasurer Mike Huston reported to the board that the Authority has \$1.9 million in the bank. He reported that there are bills that need to be paid to the City of Muskegon with \$700,000 coming from the rentals at Smilie water tower.

Old/New Business:

1. Budget FY-2020

Chair Jerry Bartoszek presented the board with the FY-2020 budget. Vice Chair Heidi Tice made a motion to accept the budget as presented and Treasurer Mike Huston seconded that motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

2. FY-2020 Water Rates

Chair Jerry Bartoszek presented the board with the proposed rates based on the proposed budget. There is no proposed changes to the water rates. The motion to approve the water rates was carried unanimously.

3. AT&T Cell Site Lease Amendment Request

Chair Jerry Bartoszek presented the board with a request from AT&T for a reduction in their monthly rate from \$45.30 down to \$35.33. Treasurer Mike Huston made a motion to leave the lease agreement as-is for now, until more information can be provided. Vice Chair Heidi Tice seconded that motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

Ron Langlois, Secretary

February 19, 2019
10" Water Main Break Repair Costs
862 Seminole Road

Initial Repair:		
City Labor		\$4,567.79
City Equipment		\$7,383.29
Jackson-Merkey		\$2,015.00
Material:		
Cold Patch		\$1,719.00
Slag		\$125.00
Pipe,Fittings		\$1,980.14
Final Road Restoration:		
City Labor		\$710.90
City Equipment		\$471.02
Asphalt Paving		\$10,000.00
TOTAL REPAIR COST		\$28,972.14

Boating Safety Course

The Norton Shores Police Department is offering a **FREE** Boating Safety Course!

To register call the Norton Shores Police Dept. or email casey.leach@mcd911.net.

231-733-2691



Date : June 25 & 26

Class will run from 8am-2pm

**at the Mona Shores Middle School
1700 Woodside Rd Norton Shores MI**

Those successfully completing the course will be issued their Boating Safety Certificate.





DEAR FRIENDS...

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE WONDERFUL
RETIREMENT SEND OFF. YOUR CARD
AND GIFTS WERE SO THOUGHTFUL. BUT
MOSTLY, THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE
LAST 32 YEARS OF MY LIFE SO MUCH
FUN! YOU MADE COMING TO WORK A
GREAT THING... NOT EVERYONE CAN SAY
THAT. I WILL TREASURE YOUR FRIEND-
SHIPS ALWAYS. CANT WAIT TO SEE
YOU ALL AGAIN SOON. MUCH LOVE,
ROB

Muskegon Area

Career Tech Center

200 Harvey Street
Muskegon, Michigan 49442-1418
Phone 231-767-5600
Fax 231.767.2692
www.muskegonisd.org

June 7, 2019

Karen Reynolds
Criminal Justice Instructor

Chief Jon Gale
Norton Shores Police Department
4821 Henry Street
Norton Shores, MI 49441

Dear Chief Gale:

The school year has come to an end here at the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center. I just wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for yet another great year. It has been a pleasure for us to have professional partners like you in our community.

Thank you for being a mainstay for our program. For years, you and your staff have assisted us in many ways. The interest and leadership you display definitely rubs off on your staff! Thank you again for providing mentorship with a student who appreciated the time you spent on her behalf.

Lieutenant Poel coordinated 50 hours of job shadow opportunity for our Ambassador second year seniors this year. Your officers are routinely professional and eager to assist. We appreciated working with them at the Open House, and their appearance and involvement with our Career Day was amazing!

In closing, I want to thank you again for your continued investment you have made for our students and pass along their appreciation to you as well. We simply could not provide this type of experience without your help and we look forward to continued partnership with the Norton Shores Police Department.

Sincerely,

