



# CITY OF PORTLAND

## NEWSLETTER

www.portland-michigan.org

# October 2024



### 2024

### ELECTION



### ELECTION NOTICE NOVEMBER 5, 2024

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that any qualified elector of the City of Portland who is not already registered, may register to vote at the City Clerk's office, the office of the County Clerk, a Secretary of State branch office, or other designated state agency. Registration forms can be obtained at [mi.gov/vote](https://mi.gov/vote) and mailed to the City Clerk. Voters who are already registered may update their registration at <https://mivic.sos.state.mi.us/register/voter>

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the local clerk is **Monday, October 21, 2024.**

After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the City Clerk's Office, located at 259 Kent St., Portland, MI 48875 at the following times:

- Regular business hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
- Sunday, November 3, 2024, from 7:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.
- Election Day, Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Absentee ballots are available by request from the City Clerk. Requests to have an absentee ballot mailed to you must be received by the City Clerk no later than 4:30 P.M. Friday, November 1, 2024. Voters can obtain an absentee ballot in person at the Clerk's office until 4:00 P.M. on Monday, November 4, 2024. The Clerk will be in the office on Sunday, November 3, 2024, from 7:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. to receive in person requests. Please call the City Clerk at 517-647-3211 with any questions or to request an absentee ballot application.

*Completed absentee ballots can be returned to the front counter at City Hall, the drive through or drop box. Ballots may also be returned by U.S. mail.*

Registered voters in the City of Portland **can vote in person** on **Tuesday, November 5, 2024.** Polls are from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.



### NEW \* TORNADO SIREN TESTING \* NEW

Due to recent enhancements to the Emergency Warning System, tornado siren testing will now occur year-round, every Saturday at noon, conducted by Ionia County Central Dispatch, except in the case of severe weather.

If you hear the tornado siren at any other time, it indicates that a tornado warning has been issued for our area, and you should seek shelter immediately.

### ENERGY SMART PROGRAMS



The City of Portland Electric Department offers several Energy Smart Programs to its customers. Visit <https://mienergysmart.com/portland/> to find the programs available to you, along with the links to download rebate applications.

### TRICK-OR-TREATING

Halloween, Thursday, October 31, 2024, from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. Keep our children safe.... only go to homes with lights on, carry a flashlight or light stick, and check all candy.



### PORTLAND COMMUNITY FUND NEWS



**Coat and Boot Drive** – The Annual Coat Drive will begin Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup> and run through Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. The “Stuff the Bus” campaign will be located at Bill’s Party Store at 1153 E. Grand River Ave.

We will collect clean, usable warm weather coats of all sizes along with snow pants, hats, mittens, gloves, and boots. *There is always a greater need for children’s coats and snow pants.* We will also take nonperishable food items. This is the only location to drop off your items. **Please no general clothing or garage sale items!**

The Coat Giveaway will be held **Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 – 1:00 P.M.** at St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church at 8867 Kent St. Coats and outerwear will be available to anyone in need. *There will also be an adult men and women sized shoes giveaway!*

Another option to get a coat is to visit the Portland Community Clothes Closet located at the Methodist Church, 310 Bridge Street. They are open Mondays from 9:00 A.M. to Noon and Thursday 4:00 to 6:00 P.M.

The Annual Coat Drive from The Portland Community Fund is grateful for the support of Portland Public Schools, Ted Goodman of TAG Detailing, Joel VanSlambrouck/ Scott Teachout of G&B Pool Supply and Bill’s Party Store. *Neighbors helping neighbors!*



**Christmas Giving Program** – Applications will be available in October. Any family residing in the Portland School District that may need assistance or know of someone in need should fill out an application. Applications are at City Hall, Tom’s Pharmacy, Portland Public Schools, Churches, Portland Area Service Group, Portland Food Bank, Portland Apartments and the Portland District Library or can be found on our website at [portlandcommunityfund.org](http://portlandcommunityfund.org).

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**Fund Raising** – All donations directly impact residents of the Portland School District. If you would like to donate, please send a check to the Portland Community Fund Association, PO Box 524, Portland 48875. Visit our website at [portlandcommunityfund.org](http://portlandcommunityfund.org) for more information or consider making a one-time donation or committing to a monthly gift via PayPal or as a payroll deduction. You can also visit us on Facebook and Twitter.

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*Thank you for your support!*



## FALL LEAF REMOVAL

The leaves will start falling soon! DPW crews can serve you better for loose leaf pickup if leaves are placed in long narrow rows at the curb. Please keep limbs, branches and rocks out of leaf piles as these items can damage the leaf machine. Leaves can also be placed in paper yard waste bags for pickup. Residents can also self-haul leaves to the compost pile located behind the horse arena at Bogue Flats. Please DO NOT place any animal waste in leaf piles; these piles will not be picked up. Under the Refuse Ordinance the burning of brush and leaves is prohibited.

**The last day for loose leaf pickup will be Monday, December 2, 2024. Please have leaves raked to the curb by 7:00 A.M. on December 2, 2024. After that date, leaves may be placed at the curb in paper yard waste bags for pickup.**

For more information on the recreation programs below please contact Erin at 517-647-3207 or at [efair@portland-michigan.org](mailto:efair@portland-michigan.org)



## NEW RECREATION SOFTWARE:

This user-friendly and mobile-friendly system allows for easy program registration and, new this year, online pavilion rentals. Families will need to create a new account for their household; your old login information will no longer work. Visit [portlandmi.recdesk.com](http://portlandmi.recdesk.com) to get started.

## WINTER SPORTS REGISTRATION:

Registration for winter sports will open on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Available programs:

- **1ST/2ND GRADE BASKETBALL:** Season begins in early January and runs through the middle of February. Teams will practice one night a week and play games on Saturday mornings. Practice days and times will not be established until the December coaches' meeting.
  - Deadline: Monday, December 2, 2024
  - Cost: \$55 Res/\$65 NR
- **DK/KINDERGARTEN:** Leagues will take place in March. There are two available options: Mondays and Wednesdays OR Tuesdays and Thursdays. Teams will practice and scrimmage each hour-long session.
  - Deadline: Monday, February 3, 2025
  - Cost: \$45 Res/\$55 NR
- **ADULT BASKETBALL:** Games are played on Sundays at Portland High School. There are leagues for both men and women. The four men's divisions available range from A (upper) to D (lower). League play will begin in early December and run into February.
  - Deadline: Monday, November 11, 2024
  - Cost: \$450/team

## PROGRAM PROPOSALS:

Portland Parks & Recreation is looking for talented people (just like YOU!) to help bring programs and events to our community. If you have a particular talent or skill that you would like to teach others and earn a little extra money at the same time, let us know! The program proposal form is available online at <https://www.portland-michigan.org/415/Program-Proposals>. We look forward to working with you! Areas of interest include:

- Arts & Crafts
- Sports & Fitness
- Education & Development
- Culture & Language
- Culinary & Lifestyle

Anything you can teach!

## PARKS & CEMETERY:

**PAVILION RENTALS** – Available through the Parks & Recreation Department. Reservations can be made up to one year in advance for the pavilions at Community Lake, Bogue Flats, Thompson Field, William Toan Park, Joe Tichvon Park, and the Red Mill. To make a reservation visit [portlandmi.recdesk.com](http://portlandmi.recdesk.com). For more information call Parks & Recreation at 517-647-7985, Portland City Hall at 517-647-3205. City Hall hours are Monday-Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

**CEMETERY DEPARTMENT** – Cemetery staff will begin dumping urns on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Flowers securely placed in urns and still in good condition will be left in the urns. Those that are not secured or are in poor condition will be disposed of by cemetery staff. Grave Blankets may be placed on plots beginning November 1<sup>st</sup> but must be removed by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Reminder: glass vases, urns, or other glass containers are not permitted. If you have any questions, please call 517-647-7985.

## CITY MEETING SCHEDULE

**City Council** meets the first and third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at City Hall. *City Council members are Mayor Jim Barnes, Mayor Pro-Tem Joel VanSlambrouck, Patrick Fitzsimmons, Amanda L. Johnston, and Erica Sheehan*

**Downtown Development Authority** meets at City Hall at 7:00 p.m., on the fourth Monday of each month.

**Portland Area Fire Authority** meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Portland City Hall.

**Zoning Board of Appeals** meets at City Hall at 7:00 p.m., on the second Monday of the month as needed.

**Planning Commission** meets at City Hall at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month.

**Parks Board** meets at City Hall at 5:30 p.m., on the third Thursday of each month.

**Board of Light & Power** meets at the Electric Department, 4:00 p.m., on the last Tuesday of each month.

**Mayor Barnes** is available to meet with citizens at City Hall on the Sat. following Council meetings from 9:00–11:00 a.m.

### CITY OF PORTLAND

259 KENT ST • PORTLAND, MI 48875

PHONE 517-647-7531 • FAX 517-647-2938

HOURS (M-F) 8:00-4:30

[www.portland-michigan.org](http://www.portland-michigan.org)

*The City of Portland is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

## CITY HALL 647-7531

Assessor	647-2943	Income Tax	647-2941
Ambulance	647-2935	Parks	647-7985
Cemetery	647-7985	Police(Records)	647-2947
City Clerk	647-3211	Police(NonER)	647-7521
City Manager	647-2931	Recreation	647-3207
Code/Zoning	647-2931	Streets	647-6129
DDA	647-5027	Wastewater	647-6926
Electric	647-6912	Water	647-2948
Fire/Burn Pmt	647-4111	Treasurer	647-2933
Fire/Business	647-2950	Utility Billing	647-3205

