

CITY OF DOUGLAS NEWSLETTER

Spring 2007

Volume 3, Edition 2

MEET THE CITY MANAGER

The City of the Village of Douglas is pleased to welcome David Kowal to the position of City Manager.

On February 24th the City Council interviewed five candidates then agreed by a 6-0 vote Kowal was their top choice for City Manager.

Kowal, former Saugatuck interim city manager/finance director, holds a bachelor of business administration and master of public administration from Western Michigan University, plus a master of arts in teaching from National-Louis University in Evanston, IL. A native of Kalamazoo, he held positions in finance and administration in Wheeling, Northbrook and Lake Bluff, IL.

Residents are encouraged to contact David to discuss concerns. Stop by to welcome him to the City of Douglas.

ACTING POLICE CHIEF NAMED AT THE SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Officer Ken Giles has been named Acting Police Chief for the Saugatuck-Douglas Police Department following the retirement of Chief Bill Giles in March.

Officer Ken Giles has served the area for more than 30 years as an officer for the Allegan County Sheriff's Department and a part-time officer for Saugatuck-Douglas.

A recruitment process for a permanent chief is underway.

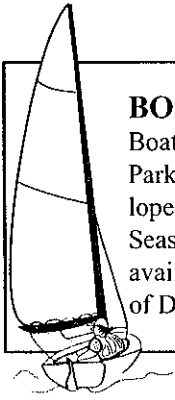
The Police Department may be reached during regular business hours at 857-4339. If assistance from an officer is required after hours you may dial (616) 836-2038, call Allegan County Central Dispatch at (269) 673-3899 or dial 911.



Mark
your calendar!
THE FIRST
SUMMER SOCIAL
WILL TAKE PLACE
ON THURSDAY,
JULY 12TH.

He's back.....Many of you will recognize a familiar face around City Hall.

P.G. Walter has been appointed Interim Zoning Administrator replacing John Wallace. Stop in and say hello.



BOAT LAUNCH FEES

Boat launch fees are \$7.00 daily at Schultz Park and Union Street. A new daily envelope system is in place at both launch ramps. Seasonal passes for Union Street launch are available for \$50 or free of charge to all City of Douglas tax payers.

2007 Summer Tax Statements will be mailed the first week of July. Payment is due without penalty by September 14, 2007. If you have not received a statement by July 15th please call the Treasurer's office at 857-1438. Applications for deferment of summer taxes are available at the City Treasurer's office. Payment of summer taxes may be deferred until February 14, 2008 without penalty or interest charges if gross household income for the preceding calendar year did not exceed \$40,000. Contact Treasurer Mark Rett for the application form that must be filed before September 14th.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

City Council

Matt Balmer, Mayor
Diane Bailey
Martha Hoexter
Steve Laughner, Mayor Pro
Tem
Robert Moore
Jane Mayer
Renee Waddell

Planning Commission

Alexa Urquhart
John Piggins, Chair
David Burdick
Ron Dellartino
Renee Waddell
Karen Van Pelt
Vacancy

Zoning Board of Appeals

Rick Deebe
Ronald Colton
Jeff Greenwood
Kenneth Kutzel
Tarue Pullen
Bill Schumacher, Chair
Alexa Urquhart

DDA

Nancy Ayers
Dan Esterline
Mary Glinski
Rob Goeke, Chair
Tanya Sheridan
John A. Slater
John Thomas
Dick Waskin
Jeffrey Mead
Helen DeGeatano

Assessment Board of Review

Linda Anderson
Herb Conlon
Maria Droz

News from the Department of Public Works.....

Leaf pick up will continue thru June 8th and begin again September 10 to December 7, 2007.

Brush pick up will take place from April 2 through November 15, 2007.

Reminder: no garbage, pet waste, grass clippings or construction materials.

From Kelley Ziesemer, City Assessor:

The Assessing Department will be continuing visits to all properties within the City for the purpose of updating, photographing and computerizing property records.

The neighborhood reviews will be conducted on an area basis until all properties have been visited. Homeowners will receive written notification prior to the visit. Included in the mailing will be a questionnaire requesting basic information regarding the interior of the property to aid in the accuracy of the data. Appraisers will be identified by a Photo Identification Card.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated as we try to maintain accurate and equitable assessment records.

**UPCOMING EVENTS
YOU WON'T WANT TO
MISS!**

Memorial Day Parade
May 28, 2007

Waterfront Film Festival
June 7-10, 2007

Fourth of July Celebration
Parade 2.00 p.m
Fireworks at dusk

Douglas Socials 5:30 p.m.
July 12, 26
August 9, 23
Sept. 6

Home and Garden Tour
July 14th

Venetian Festival
Lighted boat parade and
fireworks
July 28

**9th Annual Blue Star
Bridge Walk and Pancake
Breakfast**
September 3rd

Oktoberfest
Beer and brats at Beery Field
October 6th

Did you know?????

You may look up tax and assessing information on the City website. Log into: www.douglasmichigan.com, then click into the civic information section. On "Our City" page you will see a link to "Tax and Assessing" information.

Recycle bags are available, free of charge, at the City Hall. Homes within the City of Douglas are serviced every other Tuesday. Stop in and pick up bags and a schedule.

You may dispose of used batteries at the City Hall collection canister.

The Mayor of Douglas is available to perform marriage ceremonies.

GET INVOLVED!

The City of Douglas offers citizens a variety of opportunities to participate in local government. The following boards and committees look for new members yearly.

**Planning Commission
Zoning Board of Appeals
Downtown Development Authority
Assessment Board of Review**

If you are interested in serving on any of these committees, please send a letter explaining your qualifications and interest in that board. Applications are kept on file until needed. Send your letter to the attention of the Mayor at City of Douglas, P.O. Box 757, Douglas, MI 49406.

HOURS AND SCHEDULES

CITY HALL (269) 857-1438
Monday-Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm

COUNCIL MEETINGS
First and third Mondays 7:00pm

PLANNING COMMISSION
First and third Wednesdays 7:00pm

ZBA
Fourth Tuesday 7:00p.m.

DDA
Second Tuesday 6:00pm

All City meetings are held in Dutcher Lodge City Hall unless otherwise noticed.

City Manager David Kowal

City Clerk Jean Neve

Zoning Administrator P.G. Walter

City Treasurer Mark Rett

City Assessor Kelley

Ziesemer

Office Hours: Tuesday 12:30-4:30pm
Or by appointment

Police Department Acting Chief
Ken Giles
47 W. Center Street
Douglas (269)857-4339
Dial (616) 836-2038 or 911 after hours
to speak to an officer.

Department of Public Works Max Rodgers
(269)857-2763 Superintendent

Building Permits 1 800 626-5964
Michigan Township Services
111 Grand Street

E-Mail Addresses for City Hall

General e-mail
douglas@douglasmichigan.com

Manager David Kowal
dkowal@douglasmichigan.com

Clerk Jean Neve
jneve@douglasmichigan.com

Zoning Administrator P.G. Walter
pgwalter@douglasmichigan.com

Treasurer Mark Rett
mrett@douglasmichigan.com

Assessor Kelley Ziesemer
assessor@douglasmichigan.com

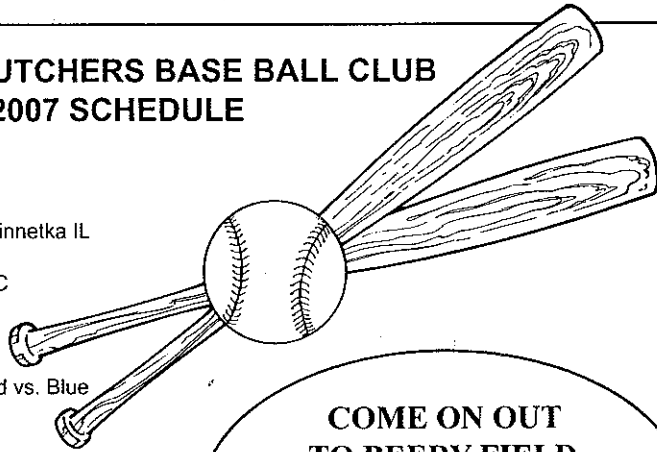
Please Note:

The Douglas City Offices will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

Memorial Day - Monday, May 28th
Independence Day - Wed. July 4th
Labor Day - Monday Sept. 3rd

**Council meeting
minutes and agendas are
available at the City offices, the
Library or on the City website at:
www.douglasmichigan.com**

DOUGLAS DUTCHERS BASE BALL CLUB 2007 SCHEDULE



**COME ON OUT
TO BEERY FIELD
FOR A VINTAGE BASE
BALL GAME!**

MAY

20
1:00 p.m. Chicago Salmon BBC
Winnetka Village Green, Winnetka IL

28
1:00 p.m. Coopersville Muldoons BBC
Coopersville MI

JUNE

2
1:00 p.m. Douglas Dutchers BBC Red vs. Blue
Beery Field, Douglas MI

9
9-5 p.m. Silas K. Pierce Tournament
John Ball Park, Grand Rapids MI

14
7:00 p.m. Freedom Village Ball Club
Windows on the Water Front Park, Holland MI

23
2:00 p.m. Huntington Champion Hilltoppers & Warsaw Fleetfoots BBC
Huntington IN

30
1:00 p.m. Coopersville Muldoons BBC
Beery Field, Douglas MI

JULY

14
2:00 p.m. Bonneyville Millers BBC
Goshen IN

21
1:00 p.m. Fallsburg Cubs BBC
Beery Field, Douglas MI

28
1:00 p.m. Ludington Mariners BBC
Kids' Corner Park, South Haven MI

AUGUST

2
7:00 p.m. Douglas Dutchers BBC Red vs. Blue
Beery Field, Douglas MI

11
2:00 p.m. Bonneyville Millers BBC
Beery Field, Douglas MI

18
2:00 p.m. Rochester Grangers BBC
VanHoosen Farm & Museum, Rochester MI

25
1:00 p.m. Kent Base Ball Club
Beery Field, Douglas MI

SEPTEMBER

1 & 2
9-5 p.m. The Ohio Cup
Columbus, Ohio

15
4:00 p.m. Eau Claire Cherry Pits BBC, Heritage Festival
Beery Field, Douglas MI

30
2:00 p.m. The Village at Winona Lake Blue Laws BBC
Winona Lake IN

19TH CENTURY BASE BALL SLANG

Club nine: team
Boodler: ungentlemanly maneuver
Daisy cutter: well hit ground ball
Dew drop: slow pitch
Duff, muff: an error
Cranks: fans
Aces: runs
Apple, pill, horsehide or onion: ball
Striker: batter
Side out: three outs
Leg it: run
Dish: home plate
Tally: a run or ace
Willow: the bat
Show a little ginger: play harder
Match: game
Huzzah: Hooray!

City of the Village of Douglas
86 W. Center St.
Douglas MI 49406-0757
phone: 269 857-1438
fax: 269 857-4751
www.douglasmichigan.com
douglas@douglasmichigan.com

PRST STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #3
DOUGLAS MI

City Council Seats Open

Three city council board member positions are up for election in the November 6th General Election.

Residents who are at least 18 years of age, a US citizen, and registered to vote in the City of Douglas are eligible to run for office. Persons interested in running for City Council must submit a petition containing not less than 25 signatures from qualified City voters in order to be on the November ballot. Petitions can be picked up at the City Clerk's office and must be submitted no later than August 7th.

A City Council member has one of seven equal votes in the legislative decisions within the City. Board members have the responsibility to attend at least two City Council meetings per month and participate in deliberations and decisions. A Council Member is placed in the position of public trust with fiduciary responsibilities to manage the funds of the City in the best interest of the City.