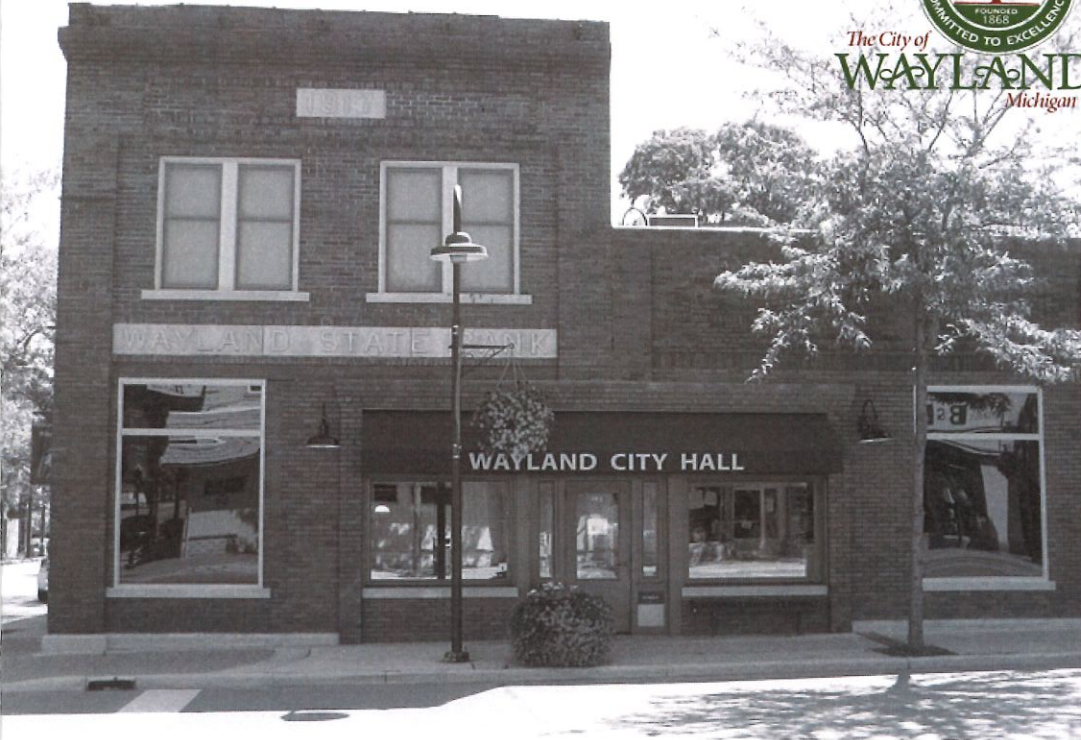


Wayland Insider

Wayland Michigan's Newsletter



The City of
WAYLAND
Michigan



Winter Items

Gov. Whitmer signed a law in July that discourages drivers from driving too close to snowplows. The new law makes it illegal to drive within 200 feet of a snowplow. Drivers can be fined up to \$100 for breaking the law

Prepare Your Car for Winter - In addition to annual maintenance

- Test your battery; battery power drops as the temperature drops
- Make sure the cooling system is in good working order
- Have winter tires with a deeper, more flexible tread put on your car
- If using all-season tires, check the tread and replace if less than 2/3 of an inch
- Check the tire pressure, which drops as the temperature drops
- Check your wiper blades and replace if needed
- Add wiper fluid rated for -30 degrees Fahrenheit
- Keep your gas tank at least half full to avoid gas line freeze
- Remember to keep your car's emergency preparedness kit fully stocked, too.

Sledding Safely

- Make sure all equipment is in good condition, free of sharp edges and cracks
- Sled on spacious, gently sloping hills with a level run-off at the end to safely stop
- Check slopes for bare spots, holes and obstructions, such as rocks, poles or trees
- Do not sled on or around frozen lakes, streams or ponds
- Sit on top of the sled with feet pointing downhill; never sled head first
- Dress warm, and wear thick gloves or mittens and heavy boots to protect against frostbite and injury

Calendar

January

- All Month Long - Between the Buns
- 1 & 2 - City Hall Closed for New Years
- 6 - City Council Meeting at 7pm, Wayland City Hall
- 14 - Recycling
- 14 - Planning Meeting at 7pm, Wayland City Hall
- 20 - City Hall Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 21 - City Council Meeting at 7pm, Wayland City Hall
- 28 - Recycling

February

- 3 - City Council Meeting at 7pm, Wayland City Hall
- 11 - Recycling
- 11 - Planning Meeting at 7pm, Wayland City Hall
- 12 - Chocolate Walk Downtown - 5pm-9pm
- 14 - Fish Fry at VFW
- 17 - City Council Meeting at 7pm, Wayland City Hall
- 19 - Early Voting Starts at City Hall
- 21 - Fish Fry at VFW
- 25 - Recycling
- 28 - Fish Fry at VFW

March

- 3 - City Council Meeting at 7pm, Wayland City Hall
- 7 - Fish Fry at VFW
- 11 - Recycling
- 11 - Planning Meeting at 7pm, Wayland City Hall
- 14 - Fish Fry at VFW
- 15 - Everybody's Irish downtown (streets closed) from 2pm-7pm
- 17 - City Council Meeting at 7pm, Wayland City Hall
- 21 - Fish Fry at VFW
- 25 - Recycling
- 18 - Recycling



Free Smoke Alarms and Combination Smoke/Carbon Monoxide Alarms

The Wayland Fire Department has free smoke alarms and combination smoke/carbon monoxide alarms available for residents of Wayland. To schedule installation for the free alarms, please contact Firefighter Ryan Penny at 269-509-1703 or rpenny@cityofwayland.org.



Tracy Bivins Being Sworn into Wayland City Council

2024 Council Member Election

The November election included 3 spots for Wayland City Council and Mayor. Joe Kramer and Norm Taylor were re-elected for a 2-year term along with Jen Antel for a 4-year mayor term. Tracy Bivins was elected as a new member and was sworn in on November 18th.

Meetings

When: Held on the first and third Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Where: City Hall, 103 South Main Street
If a meeting falls on a holiday, the meeting will be moved to the following day (Tuesday)

Free Lead and Copper Testing

The City of Wayland is required to test 20 sites per year for lead and copper levels in our drinking water. With lead line replacements ongoing, we are continuously looking for new sites to take samples from. Per The Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), we must prioritize and collect samples from "Tier 1" sites to meet our annual requirements. A Tier 1 site is defined as: A single-family residence with either a Lead Service Line (LSL) or interior lead plumbing. If you have galvanized pipe where your service line first comes into your house, we assume your service line was previously connected to lead or is still connected to lead. This qualifies your service line as an LSL. If we determine your residence is a Tier 1 sample site candidate, and you wish to request lead and copper testing, there are just a couple more steps that we have to take:

1. Setting up an appointment to record the material of the service line and interior plumbing.
2. Determine if you have a cold-water kitchen or bathroom tap that is not connected to a water softener or filtration system. If it is connected, would you be willing to bypass the softener or filtration system 24 hours before sampling?
3. The water that needs to be collected for sampling must sit stagnant in the plumbing for at least 6hrs. We typically rely on the homeowner to follow a simple set of instructions, fill out a small amount of paperwork and collect the sample first thing in the morning (usually the easiest way to satisfy the 6hr stagnation period, and takes 5-10 minutes to complete). Would you be willing to do this for us, or would you rather schedule a time for us to take the sample?

If you would like to request free testing for lead and copper, please email David Paul, dpaul@cityofwayland.org or call (269) 792-0686 to set-up a time to verify the above information ASAP. Once verified, we will add you to our Sample Site Plan. We conduct lead and copper testing June – September, annually. Please contact us ASAP for proper amount of time.

Downtown Wayland Events

Between the Buns - For the month of January, several area restaurants will be competing in a sandwich competition. Make sure to try them all and cast your vote for the favorite! Go to downtownwayland.com/betweenthebuns for more information.

Chocolate Walk - Enjoy walking around local area businesses downtown that are featuring chocolate based items, giveaways, and vendors. The event is from 5pm-9pm on February 12th in downtown Wayland.

Everybody's Irish - Come downtown Wayland on March 15th from 2pm to 7pm to enjoy a family friendly St. Patrick's Day event! There will be music, vendors, and



Between the Buns



Chocolate Walk



Everybody's Irish



Wayland City Welcomes New City Manager

Greetings,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the residents of Wayland. I very much look forward to getting to know the community and serving you as your new city manager. It is good to be back home in Allegan County and the welcoming community of Wayland. I sincerely appreciate the support I have received in getting started from Mayor Antel, the entire City Council, and staff.

Most recently, I served Texas Township as their Township Superintendent. Prior to my time in Texas, I served over twenty rewarding years as Plainwell City Manager. After college I was fortunate to start my municipal career in the Village of Decatur as their first Village Manager. My wife Laura and I have been married for 22 years and are the proud parents of four young men; two are away at college (Western Michigan and Michigan State) and two are in high school. Most of our free time is spent watching our kids' activities on the soccer field, basketball, and tennis court. With any remaining time, you will see me on a lake or river fishing.

My first priorities as your city manager will be to learn how the city currently operates, get out in the community and meet you and focus on successful delivery of the City Council's goals and vision. As your city manager, you can expect me to be out in the city supporting community events. I hope that you will take a moment, stop in, introduce yourself, and share your vision for Wayland. Customer service has been, and always will be, my focus in serving the community. The residents of Wayland are why we are here.

On behalf of the Wayland Team, I wish you an enjoyable holiday season.

Sincerely,

Erik J. Wilson, City Manager



Erik Wilson, Wayland City Manager

Veteran Banner Program

Wayland Main Street will be continuing the Veteran Banner program for 2025. Families or individuals can purchase a banner (36" x 18") to honor their veteran. The banners will be hung on the Main Street light poles during the month of May. The cost per banner is \$75.00 and it will be used each year at no additional cost. If you would like to have your banners back, free to pick-up when not on display. The deadline for this year is April 1st, 2025. Please email director@downtownwayland.com or call 269-525-2323 for the application.

Note: If you purchased a banner last year and DID NOT pick it up, you do not need to buy a new one. We will rehang yours. If you picked up your banner, you will need to order a new one or drop yours off by March 1st, 2025.



Wayland Veteran Banners

FIRE DEPARTMENT LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

The fire department is also seeking those who would like to serve their community as a paid-on-call firefighter. No experience is necessary, and all training and equipment is provided. Pay is \$22 per hour. Applicants are required to complete a 295-hour fire academy and 70-hour medical fire responder training within 2 years of hire. For more information or to receive an application, please contact Firefighter Ryan Penny at the phone number or email address rpenny@cityofwayland.org or itimmers@cityofwayland.org

WAYLAND MI
103 S. MAIN ST
WAYLAND, MI 49348



Winter Taxes

Winter property taxes are due 2/14/25. On 2/15/25 a 3% penalty will be added. After 2/28/25 delinquent tax bills are forwarded to Allegan County for collection. Payments can be made by check or cash at City Hall. Payments by credit card can be made online or at City Hall. The credit card company does charge an additional 3% fee. City Hall office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



REMINDERS

Please no batteries in the drop box.

Friendly reminder that residents are responsible for snow removal on the sidewalk in front of their property. The City will continue snow removal for the DDA and a limited section of sidewalk including W. Superior from U.S 131 to the City limits on East Superior St. The City will also provide snow removal services on South Main St. from downtown to Sycamore St.

Wayland City Hall will be closed on the following days to observe the winter holidays.

- January 1st and 2nd for New Years
- January 20th for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

CONTACTS

- City Manager - Erik Wilson (269-792-2265)
- City Clerk - Lee Ann Clausen (269-792-2265.)
- Finance Treasury -Katelee Balfourt - (269-792-2265)
- Fire Chief - Johnathan Timmers - 269-792-6300 (Non-emergency) 911 (Emergency)
- Scott Matice - Police Chief (269-673-3899 (Non-emergency)) 911 (Emergency)
- Utilities Director - Dave Paul (269-792-0686)
- DPW Director - Cole Lutz (269-792-0686)
- DDA Director - Holli McPherson (269-525-2323)