



# Grosse Pointe NOW

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[www.grossepointecity.org](http://www.grossepointecity.org)

Winter 2017



**Mayor Dale Scrace**

### City Council Members

Christopher Boettcher  
Donald Parthum Jr.  
John Stempfle  
Sheila Tomkowiak  
Andrew Turnbull  
Christopher Walsh

### City Personnel

Peter Dame  
City Manager  
Julie Arthurs  
Asst. City Manager/Clerk  
Kimberly Kleinow  
Finance Director  
Stephen Poloni  
Public Safety Director  
Gary Huvaere  
Public Service Director  
Pete Randazzo  
Public Service Supervisor  
Pat Thomas  
Public Service Supervisor  
Christopher Hardenbrook  
Recreation Director

### Municipal Judge

Russell Ethridge

### Phone Numbers

City Hall 885-5800  
Public Safety 886-3200  
Municipal Court 343-5262  
Neff Park Office 343-5257

## City Looking for Tree Lovers

The City of Grosse Pointe is looking for volunteers to be charter members of the newly created Urban Forestry Commission. The Commission will be made up of five residents appointed by the Mayor and City Council. The goal of the new citizen advisory body is to enhance the management of the City's trees on its right of way and on other City owned property.

One of the first tasks will be to complete an inventory of the City's street trees and develop the City's first urban forestry master plan. When approving this initiative, City Council members expressed hope of adding to its current beautiful tree assets. More trees would further enhance the tree canopy over the streets and sidewalks. City trees have been hard hit by the loss of elms and more recently ash trees through disease. The Commission will work closely with the City's newly contracted on-staff forester, who is a certified arborist. They will seek out grants and funding to supplement and improve the City's current tree replacement and maintenance programs.

Some of the official duties of the Commission will be to:

- Coordinate the City's Arbor Day program
- Coordinate the application for Tree City U.S.A. designation
- Establish and promote educational programs whereby the public may be informed on matters pertaining to urban forestry.
- Seek out grant funding, donations and other sources of outside funding to enhance the City of Grosse Pointe's urban forest and to further the objectives of the City's urban forestry master plan
- Review the list of tree species that are allowed for planting as street trees in the City, taking account of the durability and suitability of the various species
- Review and make recommendations for spacing of planting street trees including distance from other trees, from curb and sidewalks, from street corners and fire-plugs, from utilities, and any other obstructions
- Review and make recommendations for the standards for street tree maintenance and upkeep in accordance with best practices for urban forestry management



If you are interested, please complete the application found on the City's website, [www.grossepointecity.org](http://www.grossepointecity.org), and return it to the City Clerk no later than January 16, 2017.

## Hotel Proposals Expected in 2017

At its October meeting, after learning of potential interest by hotel developers, the City Council directed staff to draft a request for proposals and qualifications (RFP) for a hotel in The Village. The solicitation was published and distributed to more than a dozen hotel developers in the Midwest. There has been a wide range of interest and proposals are due back in January.

The RFP calls for a hotel on a portion of Lot 3, the City owned surface parking area on St. Clair between the Neighborhood Club and the Kercheval businesses. To accommodate the added demand for parking (and the lost parking spaces where the hotel would be built), a parking structure is called for on City Lot 2 across the street on St. Clair (between the Kercheval businesses on the middle block of the Village and Chase bank). The RFP also allows for developers to incorporate additional retail or office space into their development on either lot, as well as encourages inclusion of residential units in the heart of the downtown.

The requirements are drawn from past RFP's issued for development on these two lots. Previous development proposals received by the City for these two lots have included ideas for a movie theatre, a five story condominium development, and a hotel. The ultimate goal, as outlined in the City's Master Plan, is to increase the types of uses and activities available in The Village in order to ensure its continued attractiveness and economic vitality.

After receipt of the proposals, staff will scrutinize the proposals and make requests to developers for any additional information needed to clarify the proposals. Public comments will then be sought on the proposals received. That will allow everyone an opportunity to have input on the alternatives before Council decides whether or not to select a developer with whom to negotiate a development agreement. If there are any public improvements that require TIF financing through the Grosse Pointe Village DDA, that would have to be approved by the DDA Board in addition to the Council. If a development agreement is reached between the City and a developer that is selected, then the project would need to go through the formal site plan/zoning approvals, with requirements for further public comment, before construction drawings could be submitted for issuance of permits to start building the project.

### **Items to Remember**

- *Real Christmas trees will be picked up at the curb until January 27, 2017.*
- *City Offices closed on January 16 for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday*
- *Parks and Rec Winter Fest - see page 4*
- *City Offices closed on February 20 for the President's Day holiday*
- *County & School tax bills are payable without penalty until February 14*



### **Dog Licenses**

Just a few reminders about making sure you are complying with city ordinances and being a responsible pet owner.

- All dogs are required to be licensed on or before March 1 of each year.
- Proof of immunization against rabies must be presented at time of application.
- The fee for a dog license is \$5.00 on or before March 1. After March 1, the fee is \$15.00.
- If your dog is found by the police department and it is necessary to impound the dog, there are several charges that may apply.

If you have any questions related to the dog license ordinance, please contact the Public Safety Department at 886-3200.

## Snow Removal Procedures

In anticipation of winter weather, listed below are some of the key points of the City’s adopted snow removal and salt application policy.



**Plowing and Salting** - Streets will be plowed when snow fall is 3 inches or greater. Streets with less than 3 inches of snow will not be plowed, but will be spot salted. The City does not salt streets to a bare road surface. The four private roads south of Jefferson are not salted or plowed.

**Sidewalks** - The clearing of snow from sidewalks adjacent to private property is the responsibility of the property owner or resident. As a courtesy, when snowfall accumulation is greater than 2 inches, the City will clear sidewalks during regular working hours, Monday through Friday, typically before school starts.

City personnel take every precaution to ensure that snow is removed in a safe manner but sometimes snow-plowing results in property damage. Residents are reminded that the City is not responsible for damage to items in the public right-of-way such as sprinkler heads, shrubbery, plantings/planters, or any decorative materials.

The Public Works and Public Safety Departments monitor specific weather and road conditions to ensure the City roads are safe during snow removal season.

**Rubbish and Recycling Pickup and Winter Holidays**  
Rubbish and recycling pickup will be delayed one day the weeks of:  
January 16 for Martin Luther King Jr. holiday  
February 20 for President’s Day holiday

### Christmas Tree Pickup



Please note that real Christmas Trees placed at the curb will be picked up after the holiday until January 27, 2017.

If a Christmas Tree is placed at the curb more than one month following the Christmas holiday, the homeowner will be charged an Extra Trip Garbage pickup fee of \$50.00.

**Upcoming Meetings**  
Council Chambers - 17145 Maumee Ave.

January 23 (4th Mon.)	City Council	7:00 pm
February 27 (4th Mon.)	City Council	7:00 pm
March 20	City Council	7:00 pm
April 18	City Council	7:00 pm

# Parks and Recreation



## Annual Winter Fest and Pig Roast

Our Winter Fest is in its thirteenth year and is a wonderful opportunity to take pleasure in the winter weather. You will be able to experience various activities like curling, ice sculpting, ice skating, petting farm, scavenger hunt with prizes, a hockey shoot out and broomball. Warming fires along with free hot chocolate and s'mores will be available. Special photo opportunities with famous guest star appearances. There will also be a catered meal for your enjoyment at \$5 per person. Valid park passes required for entry. So let it snow!!!

### Neff Park Winter Fest

Saturday, January 28, 2017 - Activities begin at 1:00 pm.

### Ice Rink and Warming Room

What would winter be without outdoor ice skating? For those who don't take to the cold, the warming room will be available. The warming room will be closed on holidays.

### Neff Park Ice Rink Warming Room

January – March 2017

Everyday, 12:00 – 7:00 pm

### Saturday Warming Fires

This year we will be hosting weekend warming fires catered with s'mores and hot chocolate during each Saturday that the Neff Park Ice Rink and Warming Room is open.

### Sixth Annual All Pointes Daddy Daughter Dance

March 25, 2017

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Held at Grosse Pointe South High School Main Gym. For girls ages 12 and under.

Registration begins February 1 with a March 17 deadline. Registration includes a single stem rose, appetizers, refreshments, photo opts, and dancing.

Please check the City's website or contact the Parks and Recreation Office to register or for additional information.



### Used Ice Skate Donation

Continues during the winter season. All sizes and types in good condition will be accepted.

Please bring your skates to the Neff Park Office.

### Boat Well and Boat Rack Renewal Information

- If you are on any of the waiting list(s), a reminder renewal card has been sent out to you. This card must be returned to the City by **February 1** to maintain your spot on the waiting list(s).
- Remaining 50% balances of boat well deposits are due by **February 1**.
- 2017 Small Boat Rack Renewal Agreements and Fees are due by **March 1, 2017**.
- Late fees imposed.
- If we do not receive payment by the dates above, your space may be offered to the waiting list(s).