

CITY OF SYLVAN LAKE

March 2009

City Hall 1820 Inverness, Sylvan Lake MI 48320 Hours: 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
Mayor: Aron Lorenz - 682-7857 , Mayor Pro Tem: Sharon Maurina - 681-5708
Council Members: John Shepp - 683-3982, Eric Wiegand - 682-8746, Mike Zubrzycki - 738-1192
City Manager: John Martin, City Clerk/Treasurer: Dennise Clippert, Police Chief: Mark Silver
Sylvan Lake Web Site: sylvanlake.org , Email Address: SylvanLakeCityHall@Comcast.net
Telephone: (248) 682-1440, Fax Number: (248) 682-7721
Police, Fire or Medical Emergency 911, Police non-emergency (248) 682-2104

Planning Commission Meeting will be held Tuesday, March 3 at 7:30 p.m. They will be continuing their discussion on fences and a noise ordinance.

Council Meeting The regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 11 at 7:30 p.m. Continued discuss on the budget deficit, ways to increase revenue and decrease expenditures and the millage proposal. Also on the agenda will be discussion of getting Community Involvement in the Community Center, use of the Community Center for the July 5th Fireworks and funding for Sylvan Otter lake weed control.

Boat Dock Wait List The boat dock wait list has been updated with those that have submitted their application and paid the required \$100 admin fee. There are currently about 50 people on the wait list. Now is your chance to move up significantly on the wait list. To be added to the list, submit your application and the \$100 fee. Names will be added in the order they are received.

Annual Fireworks Date City Council has approved July 5th, with a rain date of July 11th for the annual fireworks sponsored by the Oakland County Boat Club. The fireworks will be shot from a barge this year. What that means is there will be no fenced off areas at the community center and the boats at the community center will not have to be moved for the event. This is great news and it will open a whole new realm of possibilities for the Community Center that night.

Community Center Use for July 5th Fireworks With the Community Center being able to be used, we are looking for ideas and volunteers for an event for the day. City Council briefly discussed the options at their last meeting. Some of the ideas were to open it for a community event possibly with food and activities to some type of fund raising activity or rent the building at a premium price. If you have any thoughts or ideas and are willing to lead this, please call or email City Hall. We need to plan soon!

Boat Dock Holders into the Electronic age All applicants must make sure City Hall has your current cell phone number and email address. Cell phones are being used instead of land lines and City Hall may not be able to get a hold of you. You may supply City Hall with both of those pieces of information by emailing them to City Hall - sylvanlakecityhall@comcast.net. Please give your name, mailing address email address and phone number. We will then be able to email you pertinent information and reminders.

Rack Storage for non-motorized boats, at the Community Center, is available for \$25 a space. A boat launch sticker will be provided for these watercraft and they may only be stored on the rack from April 1 to November 15 of each year. If you currently have something stored on the rack, please make sure you submit an application to City Hall.

Board of Review: Assessment notices have been sent to you. **Why did your taxable value increase, but your assessed value decreased?** Neighborhoods are now experiencing a decline in the market value. However, Proposal A requires that the Taxable Value increase by the Inflation Rate (1.044), but, it cannot exceed the Assessed Value. So even though your assessed value may decrease due to the market value, your taxable value will continue to increase until the taxable value meets or exceeds the assessed value. Taxable Value may increase for physical additions, such as adding a garage, and decrease for physical losses such as removing a deck.

If you feel the assessment of your property is incorrect and would like to make an appointment to meet with our Board of Review to request a change please do so by contacting **Oakland County Equalization Division, toll-free 1-888-350-0900, Ext. 80768**. The board will meet at the Community Center, Wednesday, March 4, from 6:00P.M. to 9:00 P.M.; Monday, March 9, from 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. and Wednesday, March 11, from 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. and 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

Millage Fact Did you know that our millage rate for general operating is only 6.9 mills? The City's taxable value last year was 105.5 Million dollars which generated about \$727,500 in taxes for the year. Our millage rate was set at 10 mills in 1947 when we incorporated into a City. Our General Operating millage has never been increased. Since the Headlee Amendment, it has remained the same or been reduced to the current level.

The Basics of Composting and Using Decay to Enhance Soil Fertility MSU Extension-Oakland County Master Gardener Program is offering this course for all gardeners interested in learning how to make compost. Participants will learn the theory, methods and uses of compost. Class will be held, Saturday, March 28th, 9 a.m.-noon, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road. The cost is \$20 per person and advance registration is required by March 18th. The brochure with registration form is available at www.msue.msu.edu/oakland For further details, call 248-858-0887 or email smithlin@oakgov.com

Water Quality Presentation by the Clinton River Watershed Council(CRWC) May 14th, 2009, from 7-8 p.m. This is a free presentation on Managing Lakefront Properties. Discover how making small adjustments in our landscaping practices can make a big difference in the health of our creeks, lakes and rivers. Resources provided will assist participants in the planning process for designing native lake/stream buffers. Attendees will receive plant lists, sample landscape plans and other related resources. For more information on how to protect our water resources call (248) 601-0606 or email contact@crwc.org to register. **Registration is required.**

Sylvan Lake Home & Garden Tour will take place on Saturday, June 20, 2009. After 5 years of tours the proceeds from this event have built the kitchen and provided the first phase of the irrigation system for our new community center. Visit www.sylvantour.com or call our hotline (248) 615-6296 to advertise or volunteer or learn more about how you can participate and support your community:

- volunteer as a docent - see the homes yourself on the pre-tour and tell the stories of the homes to our tourists
- place an ad in our tour book - we draw hundreds of people to our community on tour day
- sponsor lunches for our volunteers
- advertise on a banner that will span Orchard Lake Road and be seen by thousands

Website Please take the time and look at the city website www.sylvanlake.org. This is a great source of information, minutes from meetings, a calendar of events, current events information and much more.

E-newsletter The "Sylvan Spotlight" is an excellent way to receive information on Sylvan Lake. The Spotlight contains more information than the paper version. It also contains photos and links to other important sites. We will probably be reducing the frequency of paper newsletters to save on copying and mailing costs. To sign up to receive the *monthly* electronic newsletter or to submit photos or information for possible insertion, Please email your name, address and email address and any information to sylvanlakenewsletter@gmail.com. If you have problems with that address, email the information to Sylvanlakecityhall@comcast.net and put "newsletter info" in the subject box.

March Calendar of Events

- 3th Planning Commission Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 4th Board of Review 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- 9th Board of Review 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- 11th Board of Review 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. & 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- 11th Council Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 17th Happy St. Patrick's Day!
- 26th City Council Study Session - 5:00 p.m.

City of Sylvan Lake
1820 Inverness
Sylvan Lake, MI 48320

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Happy St. Patrick's Day!