

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Fremont Lake Fireworks
July 3, 2023

Fremont Area Chamber of
Commerce
Summer Concert Series
Free Concerts in Veterans
Memorial Park
Thursday evenings @ 7pm,
July 6, 13, and 27
Food sold by local
non-profits

Fremont Area Chamber of
Commerce
**National Baby Food
Festival**
July 19 – July 22



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WELCOME NEW FREMONT CITY COUNCILMEMBER



The Fremont City Council would like to introduce its newly elected Councilmember, Eric Johnson.

He graduated from Fremont High School and has been a lifelong resident of the Fremont community, Eric lives with his wife Melanie and his stepdaughter Lauren. Eric was previously employed at Bills Shop-N-Save for 32 years,

most recently as the store Director, and is currently employed at Freedom Chevrolet in Fremont.

Eric has served the City well on the Fremont Community Joint Planning Commission as well as the Downtown Development Authority Board. The Fremont City Council is excited and encourages the community to welcome him. Eric has stated "I'm excited to serve the City of Fremont as their newest city councilmember." In his spare time, you can find him grilling and relaxing on the lake!

HONORING JON GEETING FREMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT



Jon Geeting is retiring from the Fremont Police Department as of June 30, 2023.

He was originally hired as a part time Police Officer on October 9, 1992,

then went full time on January 31, 1994, and promoted to Sergeant November 11, 2012. The City has benefited from his almost 31 years of service with the Fremont Police Department. Jon plans to spend time with family, camping and working part time for the Newaygo County Sheriff's Office as an ORV Patrol. We wish him much happiness in his retirement years.

FREMONT POLICE APPOINTS NEW SERGEANT CURTIS FRANKS

Officer Curtis Franks was recently promoted to Sergeant, following Sergeant Jon Geeting's retirement. Sergeant Franks was originally hired as a part-time Police Officer on May 6, 2010, then went full-time on December 9, 2012, after serving Lakeview Police Department, Newaygo Police and Newaygo County Sheriff's Office – Correction Division as Corporal. Sergeant Franks brings many years of experience to his new position.

Sergeant Franks is married to his wife Cassie and together they have a set of triplet daughters. When not doing police work, he enjoys spending time with family, camping and hunting.



CHICKEN REGULATIONS IN THE CITY

The City of Fremont has had an Ordinance prohibiting chickens in town since 1972, and recently amended the ordinance to permit chickens under certain conditions. Since chickens are considered a “barnyard” animal, the conditions/regulations will help maintain a buffer between someone’s chicken coop and the neighboring residential dwellings. New regulating language in the City Ordinance Chapter 3 “Animals and Fowl” is as follows:

“An owner or occupant of a parcel of property ½ acre or greater may keep a maximum combination of four (4) hen chickens and/or rabbits within a fenced enclosure in the rear yard no closer than 125 feet from any adjacent dwelling place structure and comply with zoning regulations. Roosters are prohibited.”

The Zoning Ordinance considers chicken coops an “accessory structure” and regulates size and location within a resident’s backyard. Questions regarding coops can be addressed by the City Zoning Officer.

The City has been receiving complaints of chickens being raised and housed in various neighborhoods, so please make sure you are in compliance to avoid a civil infraction.

STEVE PAULSEN JOINS FREMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT



On April 19, 2018 Steve was originally hired as a part time Police Officer, then went full time on June 8, 2023 within the Fremont Police Department. Steve was previously employed by Hesperia Police Department, Muskegon County Sheriff’s Office and more recently the Grant Police Department as Sergeant, so he brings a wealth of experience to Fremont.

When not performing police work Steve enjoys spending time with family, friends and working out. Steve is married to his wife Brandie and has three children. He is also a Navy Veteran.

2023 NEWAYGO COUNTY PLAT BOOK

The 2023 Newaygo County plat book features standard landownership map pages showing townships and ranges within the county, including property boundaries for all rural parcels over 5 acres. A government directory, School Districts maps, Soils maps, various municipality, and lake maps are also included in the spiral bound, weather-resistant plat book.

The plat book is sponsored and distributed by the Newaygo County 4-H Council as a community service and fundraiser for the Newaygo County 4-H Youth Program. The 2023 Newaygo County plat book can be purchased for \$30 and can be found at the following Fremont locations:

Choice One Bank
Gerber Credit Union
Fremont City Hall

MSU Extension
Newaygo Conservation District
JNJ Online Auction

For mail orders, contact MSU – Newaygo County at 231-924-0500 or by email at MSUE.Newaygo@msu.edu. Please add \$5.00 for postage and handling. Make checks payable to Newaygo County 4-H Council. Allow 3-4 weeks delivery time.

Fremont’s Late Summer Annual



The late summer date is scheduled for **August 10th – 12th, 2023** the deadline to sign up is July 31st .

To participate, all you have to do is call or come into the Fremont City Office, give us your name, address and phone number, and you’re on the list! You can sign up for all 3 days, or just 1 day. City Offices are

open Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at 924-2101.

Except for the City’s coordinated community yard sales, the City will be enforcing its’ regulations on garage sale signs this summer. While many are thankful the City is doing so; others do not appreciate the effort. The regulations are being enforced because 1) the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) does not allow signs in their right-of-way, and many of the signs are placed along Main Street and Stewart Avenue in the MDOT right-of-way; 2) for safety reasons, signs should not be attached to utility poles; and 3) the signs are unattractive and often the signs are not taken down after the sale. Everyone has worked hard to keep Fremont looking neat, clean and beautiful for all to enjoy, so ridding the City of unnecessary signs is part of that effort.

The City understands that garage sales are important to many people, so as a result, the City organizes community garage sales in May and August. The more people that participate in the community garage sale, the more energy the event will create. This translates into more people attending the various garage sales, which includes having visitors from outside the community take part; visitors who are good for local businesses. The community garage sales could have a positive economic impact not only for the individual home owner but for the community at-large.

2023 CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Every year, the City strives to maintain and improve its streets and water/sewer utility systems. During that time, residents and drivers experience inconvenient detours and construction noise, but the results of every project are always worthwhile. We thank residents for their patience!

Projects expected to be completed in 2023 and potentially 2024:

Street Milling & Resurfacing:

- **W. Elm Street:** between Weaver & Stewart Avenues
- **E. Maple Street:** between Stewart & East Avenues
- **Branstrom Drive:** between north & south entrances
- **M-82:** some W. Main Street sections to be resurfaced
- **Maple Grove Cemetery**



New Construction:

- **Wastewater Lagoon Expansion:** construct 4th lagoon cell (55 million gallons) in 2023-24 to address growth of community
- **Michigan Street Extension:** construct new street between Weaver & Division Avenues to

FIREWORKS LAWS

Fireworks sold within the state are now allowed to be much louder and can leave the ground. Public Act 256 of 2011 legalizes consumer fireworks like bottle rockets and roman candles. Prior to the rule changes, Michigan's firework laws were relatively restrictive. The only fireworks allowed for legal use were novelty fireworks that did not leave the ground or explode, such as sparklers or smoke bombs.

Consumer Fireworks are regulated as follows

- (1) A person shall not ignite, discharge, or use consumer fireworks on public property, school property, church property, or the property of another person without that organization or person's express permission to use those fireworks on those premises.
- (2) Consumer fireworks shall not be sold to a minor.
- (3) An individual shall not use consumer fireworks or low-impact fireworks while under the influence of alcoholic liquor or controlled substance.
- (4) Local Ordinance does not allow for disturbing the peace. No person shall disturb the public peace by loud, boisterous or vulgar conduct, or by making such excessive, unnecessary, or unusually loud noise, whether on public or private property, nor allow others under his/her control or direction to make such noise, which disturbs the peace, good order, health and safety of other persons, a neighborhood or the community in general.

REMEMBER THESE FIREWORKS SAFETY TIPS

- always have adult supervision
- use outdoors only
- never re-light a dud (wait 15-20 minutes and put it in the bucket)
- make sure the area is clear of combustibles
- dispose of fireworks, especially sparklers, by soaking in water before placing them in a trash can
- buy from reliable sources
- always have water (a hose and a bucket) nearby
- never throw or point fireworks at other people
- don't mix alcohol and fireworks
- light one firework at a time



REMINDER OF REGULATION OF SKATE BOARDS AND BIKES....

As a reminder, the City of Fremont does not allow skateboards or bicycles on sidewalks in the downtown district. If you have any questions concerning this please call the City Offices @ 924-2101, Monday-Friday, between 8 AM & 5 PM.



FREMONT COMMUNITY JOINT ZONING ORDINANCE

– DID YOU KNOW

In a residential district, no more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the front yard may be used for parking, including driveways. Vehicles may not be parked or stored upon any lawn or landscape area within the front yard. Regulations such as this help keep neighborhoods looking attractive and maintained.

DEER MANAGEMENT

The City of Fremont encourages residents to not feed deer on their property. As part of our deer management program, we ask residents to use deer-deterrent on their plants as needed. Please report any nuisance or property damage caused by deer to the Fremont Police Department. This information is very helpful when we work with the DNR biologists for our deer management program.



FREMONT FARMERS' MARKET SCHEDULE

Dates and Times:

Starting: June 24, 2023

Saturdays: 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Ending: October 7, 2023

Location: The Fremont Farmers' Market is located downtown Fremont in the northeast public parking lot north of Main Street between Merchant Avenue and Division Avenues.

Community Information Booth: At the Farmers' Market in the middle of the pavilion, there will be an information center/promotion area for businesses located in the City. A different retail establishment each market day will promote its business at the booth by displaying its goods. Any Fremont retail establishment will be able to display promotional information at this booth throughout the season.

For more information on the Fremont Farmers' Market, please contact the Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce at 924-0770.



FREMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT SAYS THANK YOU ...

The Fremont Police Department would like to thank the community for their ongoing support. Recently, City Staff have been working on properties that fall out of ordinance compliance for a variety of issues.

These issues have ranged from miscellaneous junk, inoperable cars, blighted properties, and long grass. More than 95% of the complaints have been taken care of by property owners with no enforcement action being necessary, so thank you for keeping our city clean and a great place to live.



CURBSIDE REFUSE SERVICE



Each residential dwelling may choose to use a 65- or 95-gallon rollout cart (garbage container with wheels- see picture) or buy the Mixed Refuse bags with the Republic Services logos. Cart lids must be within 15" of being closed and overloaded carts may not be emptied. In the event an overloaded cart is dumped any refuse that does not make it into the truck is the homeowner's responsibility. Any additional garbage that will not fit into the 65/95-gallon cart must be placed in the specially purchased **Mixed-Refuse Bags** and placed beside the cart.

Trash carts and recycle bins need to be at least 2 feet apart. Recycle bins and trash carts must always be accessible for easy collection by the hauling trucks and when they are to close the garbage hauler does not have sufficient room for the extended pickup arms. Please remember there are two separate companies that collect refuse and recycling, with different pickup processes.

Empty carts and recycling bins must be removed from the curbside and placed in garages or side yards by 12:00 PM (noon) of the day after the scheduled pickup.

Effective April 1, 2023, for the 65-gallon rollout cart will increase to \$36.00/quarter and the 95-gallon rollout cart will increase to \$42.00/quarter. The mixed refuse bags are \$3.00 per bag, or \$36.00 for a box of 12. The bulk item and appliance tags are \$15.00 per tag.

Except for new residents, the City only permits residents to stop and start their refuse service during the first two weeks of January and July of each year, where the property owner of the collection address may elect to change service from a roll-out cart to mixed-refuse bags or vice-versa by notifying the City Offices. **Changes are only allowed during these two-week periods.** Reminder: Any large items require a bulky sticker or appliance sticker which can be purchased at City Hall.

RECYCLING – SINGLE STREAM

Curbside recycling is a single-stream process, whereas all recyclables can be co-mingled in the blue recycling container. Make sure you place paper products at the bottom of the bin to prevent them from blowing out.



Effective April 1, 2023 curbside recycling will increase to \$15.00/quarter. Residents on refuse bag service who receive a quarterly bill for only recycling services are welcome to pay for their recycling services in advance on an annual basis to avoid writing a check for such a small amount each quarter. Because rate adjustments are done in April, paying ahead could affect your first billing; after the credits have been used, you may receive a bill for the small difference. Paying ahead can also save on the City's printing and mailing costs, thus allowing us to maintain our current low rates.

BRUSH PICKUP

As a reminder, City crews resumed the monthly curbside brush pickup on April 3. The program will run on the 1st Monday of each month, April - October. Brush is not to be placed at the curbside any earlier than the Friday before the 1st Monday of the month. If you have questions regarding the brush pickup program, please call the City Offices @ 924-2101, Monday-Friday, between 8 AM & 5 PM.

FREMONT COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER

YOU HAVE AN EVENT, WE HAVE THE SPACE!

Looking for a space to hold your event?
Fremont Rec Center has a variety of spaces
available:



- Pool
- Gymnasium
- South Commons
- Community Room
- Classrooms

FREMONT RECREATION CENTER
201 E. Maple St. • 231.924.3750 • www.fremontcra.org

CROSSING GUARDS NEEDED

The City of Fremont will be taking applications for School Crossing Guards. The Crossing Guards are responsible for the safety of school children going to and returning from school at an assigned location. This is a part-time position and requires a commitment to be there each day. Applications will be received until the positions are filled.

Please submit Applications/Resumes to:
Fremont Police Department
101 E Main Street
Fremont, MI 49412

For additional information, please call
(231) 924-2100

WEED CONTROL NOTICE TO FREMONT CITY RESIDENTS

Notice is hereby given that the Weed Control Map for the City of Fremont for the 2023 season has been filed with the City Clerk. The growth of grass and weeds, as defined by Section 5-16 of the Fremont City Code may not exceed nine (9) inches in height. It is the intention of the officers and employees of the City of Fremont to enforce this Ordinance in the areas indicated on the Weed Control Map. Copies of the Map and the Ordinance are available at the Fremont City Offices.

Vicci L. TerVeer, City Clerk

REMAIN SECURITY CONSCIOUS

In these economic times, it is important to remain security conscious and to be aware of your surroundings. Keep your homes and garages locked when you are away and be sure to remove your keys from the ignition and lock your vehicles whether your car is in your driveway at home, in store parking lots, or at school. Leave only those items in your yard that you can afford to lose, especially overnight. Finally, be respectful of your neighbors; watch out for each other and each other's property. If you have elderly neighbors, please check on them occasionally. Working together we will keep the City of Fremont a great place to live, work and play.

If you ever need assistance, please contact the Newaygo County Central Dispatch Center for help. During emergencies, please call 9-1-1. If during an emergency and you cannot call, our dispatch center does allow emergency 911 texts to dispatch. Simply send a text to 911 with your location. Non-emergencies should be directed to 231-689-5288. The dispatch center will contact a Fremont Police Officer by way of the radio for a quick response.

"FRIEND" US ON

facebook

Google or search for "City of Fremont, Michigan" and you can keep up on City events and other announcements.

FREMONT FIRE DEPARTMENT IS HIRING! FIRE FIGHTERS AND MEDICAL FIRST RESPONDERS

The Fremont Fire Department is accepting applications for paid on-call firefighters and also medical first responders. The Department has well trained firemen who provide training. You don't have to be both; you can be a fire fighter or a medical first responder!

Applicants must be 18, have a valid driver's license, and live within a 5-miles of the City limits. Applications for either position can be picked up at city hall. If you have any questions, please call the Fremont Fire Department at 231-924-2103.



NEW WAY TO CONTACT 911

The Fremont Police Department would like to share a few ways you can report incidents requiring police, fire, or emergency medical services, as well as how you can get important messages in case of an emergency.



Contacting Newaygo County Central Dispatch is still the best way to summon police, fire, or emergency medical assistance. Emergency callers are asked to call 911. However, if you do not feel it is an emergency, please call the non-emergency number to our central dispatch which is 231-689-5288.

Recently our dispatch center opened the possibility of texting 911 through a program called "Texty". Here is a brief description of the program:

"Texty" is a text-based program used for citizens to connect with 911 when you are unable to call. To use this program, simply send a text to 911 with your location. This will connect you to our center, and a dispatcher will be able to send you assistance while getting all the pertinent information from you to keep you and our officers safe. This service should only be used in an emergency and when calling isn't available or could place you in more danger. **Remember, call if you can, text if you can't.**"

Sometimes police/fire/first responders need to get messages out to an entire community during cases of severe weather, criminal activities, severe traffic, missing persons, or other local events. Unfortunately, staff cannot call each business, resident, or person visiting our city since we are dealing with the crisis at hand. The City of Fremont Fire and Police utilize the Nixle program to send out messages during these events. Signing up is easy using the website www.nixle.com and entering in our zip code. You have the option of receiving alerts after "signing up" with Nixle to keep you updated with crucial information. Nixle remains the official source and the best way to stay updated with accurate information.

PARKING RV'S & TRAILERS IN THE STREETS

The City ordinance regulates the parking of recreational vehicles and trailers in the street public right of ways (ROW.) Most street public ROW's include 100% of the street and area between the sidewalks and curbing on each side of the street. If a sidewalk is not present, then the ROW area typically extends 15' from the curb into the yard.

Campers and trailers not connected to a vehicle cannot be parked in the street or the parkway between the curb and sidewalk. While disconnected they are not only a safety hazard, but unappealing to the neighborhood. Residents should be aware that parking of "unlicensed" vehicles, recreational vehicles and trailers is also not permitted in public right of ways or front yards.

BURNING ORDINANCE WITHIN CITY LIMITS

Section 4.1 (D): Public or private bonfires in which material would exceed three (3) feet in diameter require a permit issued by the City Clerk and are subject to prior approval of the City Fire Department. Such approval may be granted at the sole discretion of the Clerk and Fire Department based upon:

- i. The proximity of the proposed bonfire to dwellings, trees and other structures.
- ii. Facilities available for fire management.
- iii. Atmospheric conditions.
- iv. Type of material to be burned.
- v. Any other consideration judged by the Clerk or Fire Department to be required to ensure safe burning.

The City offices are open Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at 924-2101.



Come Join us for our **32nd Annual National Baby Food Festival!**

The National Baby Food Festival Committee and Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce would like to invite everyone to come and enjoy family fun in Fremont, home of Gerber Baby Food for the 32nd Annual National Baby Food Festival July 19 – 22, 2023. TJ Schmidt and Company amusements will be joining us with their midway and carnival rides! There are many activities planned for all ages, from the young to the young at heart:

- **Craft Show:** July 15 from 10-4 pm the White Agency Arts and Craft Show will be held in Veterans Memorial Park. Two Hot Tamales, Greek Tavern, Chic-Fil-A, Soft Pretzels, Grand Traverse Pie Company, and Pork-N-Stein LLC, food trucks will be set up for lunch!
- **Bib Decorating Contest:** Submit a bib in our bib decorating contest and the National Baby Food Festival Queen's Court will choose a winner during the week of the festival and the winner receives \$50 Fremont Fun Cash and the second-place winner receives \$25. Pick up an application and bib from the Chamber office and return it by July 9th to participate!
- **NBFF .1k run:** July 20th, registration begins at 5:45 pm which will be located on Sheridan St. from Merchant Ave. to Division Ave. Even if you do not run in your free time, at least join us for this fun event!
- **Princess/Superhero Party:** July 20th from 4-6 pm, community Main Stage, dress in your favorite princess/superhero costume
- **Baby Photo Contest:** Bring in or mail a current photo of your pride and joy – newborn to 2 years (no larger than 5x7), NBFF – Baby Photo Contest, 7 E Main, Fremont, MI 49412. Entries must be post marked by July 9th, 2022. Two winners will be selected to be crowned prince and princess of the 2022 National Baby Food Festival.
- **FREE Entertainment on Main Stage in Veterans Memorial Park:**
 - July 19 – 7 pm Reeman Church's Tyler Burt & Friends & Mick Hanna for Christian Music Night
 - July 20 – 7pm-9pm Drew Harmon & Crew Comic event
 - July 20 – Movie in the Park - "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang at dusk, so bring your blankets!
 - July 21 – 4 pm Kruel Flamingos Band
 - July 21 – 7pm Big Cadillac Band
 - July 22 – 4-6 pm 6 Pak Band
 - July 22 – 8-10 pm - Crocodile Rockstar an Elton John Tribute
- **NBFF Disc Golf Tournament:** July 22 at 8:00 am at Branstrom Park
- **Grand Parade:** July 22 at 10:30 am, Gerber Products Company and Gerber Life Insurance Grand Parade begins at the corner of Pine Street and Gerber Ave. by Fremont Middle School, then heads north on Gerber Avenue to Sheridan Street, and continues east on Sheridan Street to Division, then heads south on Division, ending at Cedar Street.
- **Car Show:** Hosted by the Fremont Rotary Club on Saturday, July 22 from 11:00-3:00, cars will be on display on Main Street!
- **Worship in the Park:** Sunday 7:00 pm, join us at Veterans Memorial Park as communities come together in worship.

For more information visit our website, www.fremontcommerce.com. Information is also posted on our Facebook pages, so be sure to like us on Facebook!

PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The City sends out property tax bills semi-annually. Summer taxes are mailed June 30th and due by August 10th. A 4% late penalty is added to any unpaid taxes on August 11th. Summer taxes include millages for the Fremont Public Schools (both operating & debt levies), State Education, City, County-Operating and the Fremont Community Recreation Authority.

Winter taxes are mailed on November 30th and due by February 14th. A 4% late penalty is added to any unpaid taxes on February 15th. Winter taxes include millages for Newaygo County specials, the Intermediated School District and the Fremont Area District Library.

For the convenience of our taxpayers, payments (check only, no cash please) may be placed in the drop box at the northwest exit of the City Hall parking lot at any time. Payments can also be made by credit card or E-Check from our website at www.fremontmi.gov. The City accepts tax payments until February 29th. Thereafter, all payments must be made at the County Treasurer's Office, P.O. Box 885, White Cloud, MI 49349.



Fremont City Beat

101 E. Main Street
Fremont, MI 49412

PRE-SORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE **PAID**
FREMONT, MI
Permit No. 12

RESIDENT
FREMONT, MI 49412



If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about the [Fremont City Beat](#), please contact the City Offices at 231-924-2101 or stop by to see us at 101 East Main St., Fremont, MI 49412 Monday-Friday 8AM-5PM

Important Numbers

City of Fremont – Administration	(231) 924-2101
– Police Department	(231) 924-2100
– Fire Department	(231) 924-2103
– Cemetery	(231) 924-2330
– Municipal Airport	(231) 924-7080
Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce	(231) 924-0770
Fremont Area District Library	(231) 924-3480
Spectrum Health-Gerber Memorial	(231) 924-3300
Fremont Public Schools	(231) 924-2350
Dogwood Center for Performing Arts	(231) 924-8883
Newaygo County Sheriff Department	(231) 689-7303
Fremont Community Recreational Center	(231) 924-3750

Emergency – Fire – Police – Ambulance
Call **911**

Refuse & Recycling Pick-up – Place curbside every Tuesday by 7:00 AM

Leaf Pick-up – Begins 3rd Monday in October; continuous for four weeks, weather permitting

Brush Pick-up – Place curbside by 7:30 AM on the 1st Monday of each month, April - October

Watermain Flushing – April and October

Winter Street Parking Ban (2:00 AM to 6:00 AM) – From December 1st - April 1st

