



AT A GLANCE:

CITY OFFICES CLOSED:

- 4/10/2020 @ Noon - Good Friday
- 5/25/2020 - Memorial Day

IMPORTANT DATES:

- 2/14/2020 - Deadline to pay 2019 winter taxes without interest or penalty.
- 2/15/2020 - 2019 Dock Slip rentals must have 1/2 paid to maintain 2020 spot.
- 3/9/2020 - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. March Board of Review Taxpayer Appeal Hearings.
- 3/10/2020 - 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. March Board of Review Taxpayer Appeal Hearings continued.
- 3/10/2020 - Presidential Primary Election, 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m at the Hillsdale Community Library
- 5/1/2020 - "Principal Residence Exemption (PRE) Active Military Duty Affidavit" (form 4660) deadline.

Remember to check the City's website and Facebook page for up-to-date information!

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

CITY ASSESSOR

(517) 437-6440

assessor@cityofhillsdale.org

2020 Assessment Change Notices should be received by the end of February. Please review the information in those notice and contact this office with any questions or concerns.

The **2020 March Board of Review** will hear Taxpayer appeals on **Monday, March 9, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. and Tuesday, March 10, 2020 from 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

At the March Board of Review, Taxpayers **may** appeal their 2020 Assessed and Taxable Values, Property Classification, or Taxable Status. Taxpayers may also submit requests for various exemptions along with the appropriate supporting documentation for the Board to review.

With any questions, concerns, or to reserve an appointment with the March Board of the Review, please contact this office at the information provided above.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES

(517) 437-6490

publicservices@cityofhillsdale.org

Road projects for the 2020-21 fiscal year will include the reconstruction of Fayette Street (from M99 to Hillsdale Street).

Keep your eyes peeled for updated brush and leaf pickup information.

HILLSDALE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

(517) 437-6470

info@hillsdale-library.org

The Hillsdale Community Library offers a variety of adult programs in 2020:

Adult Reading Program:

December 21, 2019 - March 19, 2020

Adult library card holders may register at any time during the duration of the program. Patrons read books for a chance to win a gift card from "The Local Eatery".

Adult Coloring:

4th Tuesday of every month, **6:00 - 7:30 p.m.**

"Life With Words" Writers' Group:

4th Saturday of every month, **Noon - 2:00 p.m.** Anyone with an interest in writing of any kind is welcome to attend.

The Hillsdale Library Book Club:

2nd Tuesday of every month, **6:30 - 7:30 p.m.** Contact the Library for the current title.

PARKS & RECREATION

(517) 437-6457

recreation@cityofhillsdale.org

Reserve one of the beautiful parks for your event, rent a dock, or register for youth or adult organized sports for the 2020 year! Contact City Recreation, visit the City Website, or check Facebook for more information.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:

Laura Sergent

Human Resources Director

Laura received her Bachelors in Business Administration from the University of Toledo where she majored in Human Resources and minored in Marketing.

Before becoming HR Director for the City of Hillsdale, Laura has worked for The Toledo Zoo, The American Red Cross, and Infinisource.

Laura enjoys spending time with family and friends, reading, boating, and watching her kid play sports.

Welcome aboard, Laura!

THANK YOU!

NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH

Thank you to all that took part in the New Year's Eve event at the Hillsdale County Fairgrounds! We truly appreciate the support of the community and the many sponsors:

Arrowswift Printing | Belson Asphalt | Braman Roofing | Coffee Cup Diner | Comcast | County National Bank | Drews Place | DuPont | Edward Jones of Hillsdale County | Ervans Insruacne Agency (AAA) | Fleis & VandenBrink Engineering | Gelzers Hardware/Furniture | Hillsdale Board of Public Utilities (BPU) | Hillsdale College | Hillsdale County Chamber of Commerce | Hillsdale Hospital | Hillsdale Jewelers | Hillsdale Marketing Group | Hillsdale Terminal | Hillsdale's Economic Development Corporation (EDC) | Metal Technologies | Michigan Gas Utilities | Modern Waste Systems | Paragon Metals | Precision Metal Art | Public Title Company - David Knoll | Simply Her's Magazine | Small Town Sweet Boutique | Sonit Systems | Stillwell Ford Lincoln | Vested Risk & Auto Owners Insurance | White's Welding

From all of us at the City of Hillsdale, Happy New Year!

TAX INCREMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY (TIFA)

(517) 437-6449

abeeker@cityofhillsdale.org

The City of Hillsdale Tax Increment Finance Authority (TIFA) was established in 1986 under the TIFA Act of 1980, to promote economic development through programs and public improvement projects that create opportunity, provide entrepreneurial support, and preserve property values, all while maintaining the historic nature of Downtown Hillsdale.

The TIFA derives its funds from a geographically defined district, defined roughly as running south from Monroe Street to Barry Street, and east from the alley between West Street and Manning Street to Ferris Street. The assessed value of properties located in the district at the time it was created established the baseline value. Any incremental increase in property taxes above this baseline are captured by TIFA to be reinvested into the district. Incremental taxes captured by TIFA may only be spent within the district.

Hillsdale's Post Office is the longest, continually operational post office in the state. In the early nineties they had considered moving out of the downtown due to lack of parking. TIFA purchased property and created downtown parking in order to retain the USPS in its historic home. Likewise, when the County threatened to relocate out of the downtown, TIFA purchased property in order to ensure physical space for them to remain in their longtime seat. During the last six years, TIFA has reinvested over \$403,704 into the district, which led to an additional \$603,511 being invested by the private sector. The recent

purchase and sale of the historic Keefer Hotel is spurring a potential \$12 million investment into our downtown.

As an organization, TIFA functions as an independent authority under a Board of Directors with its own budget and Rules of Procedures. The TIFA Board is made up of a group of local volunteers as defined by the Act. TIFA meets bi-monthly and is subject to the Open Meetings Act so notice of the meetings are posted, minutes are published, there is public attendance, and public comment.

The TIFA must periodically amend its Development Plan which dictates the projects and goals that the TIFA wishes to pursue in the coming years. Since the boundaries of the TIFA district coincide almost perfectly with Hillsdale's National Register of Historic Places commercial district, the preservation of historic buildings is a priority. Over the years, TIFA funds have typically been spent on infrastructure improvements and a successful Facade Grant program which has provided funds to restore and maintain the facades of Hillsdale's historic commercial buildings. The 2015 TIFA Development Plan set as a priority the redevelopment and reuse of vacant and underutilized downtown buildings. TIFA funds will continue to be reinvested in the preservation of Hillsdale's historic buildings and in programs that promote economic activity and increase property values in downtown Hillsdale.

If you have any suggestions, concerns, or comments regarding the City of Hillsdale's Quarterly Newsletter, please contact Olivia Jones at ojones@cityofhillsdale.org