

JULY, 2016

Voting is a civic sacrament - the highest responsibility we have as Americans.
Christine Pelosi



INSIDE ST. CLAIR SHORES

POLICE & FIRE MILLAGE...MORE STRAIGHT TALK

Q&A Every year we look at the 5-year forecast and it shows that we're going to eventually run out of money. However, we have not run out of money yet. Why is our financial picture different this time around?

Yes, you're correct. We review and continually revise the 5-year plan. So far we have been able to postpone financial problems by tightening up our expenditures or finding new revenue streams. Now the City has done as much as it can in terms of cost savings and efforts, employee cut-backs, reduction in wages, and benefits. We're at a point where there is really nothing left to cut except City services to residents.

Q&A How much did a mill bring in 2009...and today?

In 2009 a mill brought in just under \$2 million; today about \$1.4 million. The difference in the millage between 2008-2009 FY and today is about \$600,000./mill. For every mill of tax we collect, that's \$600,000 a year we've lost. Recent projections show we will not be able to return to the \$2 million/mill until 2035.

PRIMARY ELECTION AUGUST 2, 2016

Q&A What is the purpose of the Primary Election on August 2?

The Primary Election on August 2nd is part of the national parties' nominating process. Basically no candidate is elected; rather candidates are nominated to run on the General Election on November 8.

Q&A Can I "split" my vote or cross over and vote for candidates from several parties?

No. You can only vote in one party selection. Voters can choose to vote either Republican or Democrat. If you cross over and vote both, none of the partisan votes will be counted.

Q&A I voted by absentee ballot and I just realized that I "split" my ballot between both parties. Will my ballot count and if "no" what can I do?

No your vote will not count. Call the City Clerk's Office at 586-447-3303 as soon as possible (open Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) and ask to have your ballot invalidated and to send you a new ballot.

Q&A What happens if I cross over parties when I go to the polls in person?

The City uses the OptiScan® system. If you vote for both parties the tabulator will beep and let the election volunteer know that you need a fresh ballot.

Q&A I will be out of town on August 2nd, can I still vote?

Yes. You can apply for an absentee voter's ballot. Every voter is required to complete a written request to receive an absentee voter's ballot that includes an area to check off one of six statutory reasons to be eligible to receive the ballot. One of the reasons may be "I am absent from the community in which I am registered for the entire time the polls are open on election day." You may pick one up at the City Clerk's Office in City Hall or go to the City's website at scsmi.net under *City Hall/Elections/Absentee Voting*. Fill out the application, sign it and submit to the City Clerk's Office by mail at 27600 Jefferson Circle Drive, 48081 or drop it off in the white mailbox in front of City Hall.

The City Clerk's Office is also open on Saturday, July 30 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to issue absentee ballots. City Hall is located at 27600 Jefferson, just South of 11 Mile Road.

Q&A What time are the polls open on Election Day, August 2?

The polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Sample ballots and voting locations are available online at Michigan.gov/vote. Enter your name, zip code and date of birth, and you will see a sample ballot for your precinct.

Q&A What can I expect to see on the ballot?

In addition to the party nominating process for major seats, the ballot also contains a circuit court judgeship and three proposals. It is always a good idea to familiarize yourself with the ballot proposals before the election. They include the Macomb County Veterans Millage, the Zoological Authority Renewal Millage, and the St. Clair Shores Police & Fire Millage.

Q&A Do I need a picture ID to vote at a precinct on Election day?

Yes. Picture Identification is required to vote and poll workers will ask for it before you receive a ballot. Acceptable forms of identification include a Michigan driver's license, a state-issued personal ID card, a US Passport or military ID with a photo, or a student ID. If you do not have a picture ID, you can vote after completing an affidavit at the polls on Election Day.



2016 SEASON GOLF COURSE RATES

GREENS FEES PER PERSON:

WEEKDAYS:	9-Holes Walking	9-Holes Riding	18-Holes Walking	18-Holes Riding
Member	\$17.00	\$24.00	\$22.00	\$31.00
Resident	\$18.00	\$26.00	\$24.00	\$34.00
Non-Resident	\$20.00	\$28.00	\$28.00	\$38.00
Senior/Junior Member	\$12.25	\$18.25	\$17.00	\$26.00
Senior/Junior Resident	\$13.25	\$20.25	\$19.00	\$27.00
Senior/Junior Non Resident	\$15.50	\$22.00	\$21.00	\$28.00

***Senior and Junior Rates apply Monday through Friday before 1:00 p.m. only.
 Senior = 60 years of age or older Junior = 17 years of age or older

WEEKENDS:	9-Holes Walking	9-Holes Riding	18-Holes Walking	18-Holes Riding
Member	\$19.00	\$26.00	\$26.00	\$35.00
Resident	\$20.00	\$28.00	\$28.00	\$38.00
Non-Resident	\$22.00	\$30.00	\$32.00	\$42.00

TWILIGHT GOLF:

Weekdays after 6:00 p.m. -- charge the 9-Hole Fee
 Weekends after 4:00 p.m. --charge the 9-Hole Fee

"Electronic golf carts will not be rented more than fifteen (15) minutes prior to tee-off, nor will they be rented to those persons under the age of eighteen (18) years. Persons under 18 years of age are not allowed to drive electric golf carts"

****TEE-TIMES REQUIRED EVERY DAY!!!! Members may call fourteen (14) days in advance. Non-members may call seven (7) days in advance.

"RAIN CHECK POLICY: IF YOU PAY FOR 9-HOLES AND PLAY LESS THAN 3 HOLES, YOU WILL RECEIVE A CREDIT FOR 9-HOLES, PLUS CART IF APPLICABLE. IF YOU PAY FOR 18-HOLES AND PLAY 6-HOLES OR LESS, YOU WILL RECEIVE A CREDIT FOR 18-HOLES, PLUS CART IF APPLICABLE. NO CREDITS GIVEN IF IT'S RAINING WHEN YOU START PLAY!"

JUNIOR GOLF LEAGUE

AGES: 10-17 YEARS OLD
 COST: PRO-RATED RATES AVAILABLE
 (PRE-PAID WITH REGISTRATION)
 INCLUDES: JUNIOR GOLF COURSE MEMBERSHIP

REQUIREMENTS: EXPERIENCE, CLUBS AND A 9-HOLE SCORING AVERAGE OF 55 OR LESS IS RECOMMENDED

STARTS: NOW UNTIL AUGUST 23RD
 EVERY TUESDAY...TEE TIMES 11 AM-1:30 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS, CALL 294-2000 EXT 1

MEMBERSHIP REFERRAL PROGRAM
REFER A FELLOW GOLFER
 FOR EACH NEW MEMBER WHO JOINS THE CLUB, THE EXISTING MEMBER WILL RECEIVE A \$10 OFF COUPON TO BE USED TOWARDS GOLF FEES*
 *NEW MEMBERS MUST NOT HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF THE COURSE FOR THEIR LAST 2 SEASONS.
 *COUPON CANNOT BE USED WITH GOLFNOW OR OTHER GOLF DISCOUNTS.
 CALL 294-2000 FOR DETAILS!

WEEKLY SPECIALS

WEEKDAY 18-HOLE SPECIALS MON., WED., FRI.

- 18-Holes w/cart.....\$28
- Senior 18-Holes w/cart..\$25

WEEKDAY 9-HOLE SPECIAL MON. - FRI. 1 PM to 4PM

- 9-Holes w/cart.....\$18

WEEKEND 18-HOLE SPECIAL SAT. - SUN. 1 PM to 4 PM

- 18-Holes w/cart..... \$31

SATURDAYS AFTER 1:00 PM JUNIORS PLAY FREE!

(17 years of age & under)
 Juniors play FREE with accompanying full-paying adult for each junior.
 Special is for Green Fees only and does not include cart.

- Twilight begins after leagues Mon.-Fri. and after 4 PM on weekends.
- Senior rates available Mon.-Fri. before 1 PM
- TEE TIMES ARE REQUIRED



ST. CLAIR SHORES GOLF CLUB MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES

- 1 FREE 18-Hole Round
- Reward Punchcard (Buy 9-holes, get 9-holes FREE 2X during the 2016 season)
- Preferred Tee Times made in-advance of the general public (14 days for Members/ONLY 7 days for non-members)
- Discounted Green Fees during peak times
- 15% OFF Pro-Shop merchandise (Except Sales Items)
- 10% OFF at Stewart's Restaurant (Must show your membership card for discount)
- Discounted Cart Fees



COUNCIL CONNECTION



**Mayor Pro-tem
John D. Caron**

Pets are very important part of our lives. They provide us with the unconditional love that brings joy to our days and companionship to our homes. Keeping St. Clair Shores pet friendly is very important for this to remain a wonderful place to live.

A couple of years ago, City Council changed our animal control enforcement when we contracted with Macomb County Animal Control to provide these services to St. Clair Shores. That gave us access to highly trained animal loving personnel to care for our lost pets and help reunite them with their owners. I have also been very impressed with Chief Jeff Randazzo's focus on greatly increasing adoptions from the shelter for those animals who have been abandoned.

Earlier this year, I became the council liaison for the City's Animal Care and Welfare Committee. These are dedicated volunteers who work to improve our city services to make the lives of our pets better. They do a regular segment on SCSTV's Local Matters called "Nautical Tails" which provides great information for pet owners. Past segments can also be seen at the City's Vimeo page (an online viewing site for many of the past SCSTV's programs).

Recently, the committee has been focused on updating our animal control ordinance. These updates are to align the City with the County's Animal Control regulations. New changes will also update the ordinance that continues to enable Trap/Shelter/Release programs from the County that manage feral cat populations. A correctly managed program provides a local benefit for controlling rodents.

Another great benefit our City has is our Statler-Maloof Dog Park located in Brys Park. It is part of my daily routine to take my Alaskan Malamute Kaos to the park to hang out with his canine friends. It provides the City with a safe, secure place for dogs to play and for dog owners to come together to socialize. The volunteers I work with on the Dog Park Committee monitor the behavior at the park to keep it a safe and fun place for the dogs to play.

Great volunteers in our City work every day to keep St Clair Shores pet-friendly and a safe place for pets to be a part of lives. It's an honor to work these volunteers to keep St Clair Shores moving forward.

If you have any comments, please e-mail me at caronj@scsmi.net or call me at 586-777-0611.

INSIDE OUR CITY



Mayor Kip C. Walby

After five months of meetings, hearings and workshops, the City Council Adopted the budget for FY 2017, which began on July 1, 2016, at their Council meeting on June 6th. The budget totals \$102 million in expenditures for all funds. Some of the highlights include:

#1) City services continue to be maintained at a high level in all areas—Police, Fire, Code Enforcement, Parks, Recreation programs, senior programs, pool, marinas, Blossom Heath, Library, Golf Course, water, sewer, storm sewer streets and more.

#2) The General Fund budget was balanced using over \$4 million in reserve revenues (also known as "the Rainy Day Fund). Per State law, a municipality must present its citizens with a balanced budget before the next fiscal year begins.

#3) The total millage rate decreased by .2% to 21.2278 based on the Headlee rollback requirements.

As a comparison, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) showed a .3% increase for 2015.

#4) The average resident of the City owns a home with a Taxable Value (TV) of \$44,412 (Market Value of about \$88,824)/ While the millage rate went down, the Taxable Value went up with the net result of an increase of 2% or \$18.34 on the City portion of the tax bill.

#5) Some user fees for building permits and recreation programs will see increases to offset the costs for those programs.

#6) The proposed new Senior Center expansion has been approved by HUD and is in the final design stages. HUD is loaning the funds to the City and the loan will be repaid with Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG).

#7) The City continues its long-term plan to repair and replace the aging infrastructure of water mains and sewer lines.

#8) The City website will undergo enhancements to make it more user-friendly and allow it to be used as a portal for utility customers to review usage history.

#9) As a result of increases from the Great Lakes Water Authority, the City must pass along an average increase of 7% in water rates to residents.

A copy of the 2016-2017 FY budget and an overview are currently available on the City website at scsmi.org. For more information or questions about the budget, contact the Finance Department directly at 447-3322.

As always, I welcome your comments and concerns. You can email me at walby@scsmi.net or call me directly at 445-3983.

2016 Special Needs Golf Tournament

A great opportunity to golf with your friends and help a worthy cause too!

Wednesday, August 3, 2016

St. Clair Shores Golf Club • 22185 Masonic Blvd.

Entry Fee: \$100/Person (\$400/team)

"Shotgun" Start at 8:00 a.m.

Skins Game: \$20/team (optional)

**Entry Fee Includes: Greens Fees and Golf Cart,
Continental Breakfast, Lunch at the Turn and
Banquet After the Tournament**

Prizes and more....

Call 445-5350 or 294-2000 for reservations.

St. Clair Shores Directory

27600 Jefferson Circle Dr.
St. Clair Shores, MI 48081-2093
CITY HALL HOURS
Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
St. Clair Shores Web Site
www.scsmi.net

Michael E. Smith
City Manager

smithm@scsmi.net • 447-3311
Municipal Telephone Directory
Direct Dial Numbers

Assessing 447-3355
City Clerk 447-3303
City Manager..... 447-3311
Code Enforcement 447-3336
Communications Dept. 447-3414
Community Devel. 447-3340
D.P.W. Complex..... 445-5363
Finance 447-3324
Fire Department 445-5380
40th District Court 445-5280
Golf Course 294-2000
Housing-Leisure Manor..... 773-9200
Library..... 771-9020
Parks & Recreation..... 445-5350
Police Department..... 445-5300
Senior Activities Center..... 445-0996
Tax & Water Bills 447-3317
EMERGENCY 911
NON-Emergency 777-6700
For Garbage Complaints:
Rizzo Environmental Services
866-772-8900

City Council Contact Info:

Mayor Kip C. Walby
walby@scsmi.net • 445-3983

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Inside St. Clair Shores

is a community newsletter published by the City of St. Clair Shores eight to ten times per year. It serves to educate and inform the residents and businesses in the City about issues, regulations, activities, and persons who have an impact on the quality of life in our community.

Mayor Kip C. Walby

Mayor Pro-Tem:
John D. Caron

Council Members:
Peter A. Accica
Ronald J. Frederick
Peter A. Rubino
Candice B. Rusie
Chris M. Vitale

City Manager:
Michael E. Smith

Assistant City Manager:
William Gambill

Editor-In-Chief:
Mary Jane D'Herde
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We welcome your comments about the content of this publication. Contact the Communications Department, 27600 Jefferson Circle Dr., St. Clair Shores, MI 48081 or call 447-3414 or email at maryjane@scsmi.net.



A CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO WATERSHED FRIENDLY BOAT & AUTO CARE



For more information contact CRWC!

phone: 248-601-0606
Email: contact@crwc.org
1115 W. Avon Road
Rochester Hills, MI 48309

How we take care of our boats, personal watercrafts, mobile homes, cars and other vehicles greatly influences the health of the Clinton River and Lake St. Clair. You can do your part to prevent pollution at the source by following a few simple tips at home and at the marina!

Car & Boat Washing

- **Wash on the grass and not on the driveway or parking lot.** The soapy water is absorbed and filtered by the ground vs. running off pavement into the rivers and streams through the storm drains.
- **Look for non-toxic and phosphate-free cleansers.** Phosphates add unwanted nutrients into the water and cause problems like toxic algal growth which can affect drinking water sources as well as create poor living conditions for aquatic animals.
- **Use alternative cleaners,** such as baking soda and lemon juice. Avoid those with bleach, ammonia, lye or petroleum distillates.



Useful Tips for Car & Boat Maintenance!

Fuel and Oil

- When fueling, avoid topping off! Remember that fuel expands as it warms up in your tank.
- Store fuel only in approved containers.
- Routinely check for and fix oil and fuel leaks.

Engine care

- Keep boat and car engines properly tuned for efficient fuel consumption and clean exhaust.
- Use a drip pan when doing engine maintenance. Drippings left on the cement get washed into nearby drains and end up in our streams

Sewage control

- Use onshore restrooms when docked, and encourage everyone to use the facilities before casting off.
- Empty portable toilets only at pump out stations or at home.
- Clean up after your pet to prevent pet waste from washing into storm drains.

HERE IS A LIST OF PRODUCTS AND THEIR NATURAL, WATERSHED-FRIENDLY ALTERNATIVES!

Product	Better Alternative
Bleach	Borax or hydrogen peroxide
Chrome Cleaner	Apple cider vinegar to clean, baby oil to polish
Drain cleaner	Boiling water and plunger or plumber's snake
Engine cleaner	Steam clean the engine in a dedicated area
Fiberglass stain remover	Baking soda paste, scrub pad, "elbow grease"
Paint stripper	Physically remove old paint without chemical use. Avoid products containing methylene, chloride, trichloroethylene, benzene, trichloroethane, xylene or toluene
Scouring powders	Baking soda and "elbow grease"
Window cleaner	Vinegar and lemon juice mixed in lukewarm water
Wood polish	Olive oil or almond oil for interior wood; use water - or borax - based products

