

INSIDE



ST. CLAIR SHORES

Volume #25 • Issue 1

ST. CLAIR SHORES... *Your Hometown!*

April, 2013

"We are strong" declares Mayor

Mayor Kip Walby's first *State of the City* address to citizens painted a picture of optimism and progressive thinking as he looked back on the City's recent accomplishments and looked ahead to future goals. Walby characterized the City's financial position as "strong" with more than \$15 million in the bank in the unrestricted fund balance...commonly known as the "rainy day" fund...a position envied by many of our neighboring communities.

Speaking to about 150 citizens at a special Town Hall meeting at the



New website offers better services

The City's new website offers our residents an inviting design that's easy to navigate and find information quickly and provides a better way for the City and our citizens to communicate with each other. Two important features help us accomplish that goal:

NOTIFY ME: With NOTIFY ME residents can sign up to be notified via email and/or text message about emergency messages, City Council and other meetings, and events. You can self-manage multiple subscriptions at once by simply checking a box. Just click on the NOTIFY ME button on the right side of the home page and get started.

REPORT A CONCERN: With the REPORT A CONCERN button, residents can report issues, concerns and requests directly to a City department any time of the day. Once a request is submitted, it's routed via email to the appropriate employee, who may then reply to the resident regarding the status of the request.,

Visit scsmi.net or scsmi.org and try out these new features today.

Senior Center for Active Adults recently, Mayor Walby summarized the 2012 accomplishments and 2013 goals of each City department as well as his personal accomplishments and goals.

ASSESSING: 2012 & 2013-

Continue the long-term project of measuring, sketching, and taking photographs of 20% of the homes in the City

CITY CLERK: 2012- Modernized Election Day in the voting precincts with the use of laptops to make the voter process faster.

2013- Continue to work on the City Clerk's Page on the City website to provide more information for voters.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: 2012- Successfully re-organized the Code Enforcement Department to contract out inspections. Review and approved more than a dozen new construction projects.

2013- Increase daily inspection for blight and ordinance violations. Continue to encourage commercial development at 9 Mile Road and Harper.

COMMUNICATIONS/COMPUTER

2012 & 2013- Working together the departments continue to revamp the City's website to provide an interactive environment for our citizens.

DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

2012-2013- Continue to operate the 10 Mile Water Tank efficiently. Increase the number of trees being planted in the City.



FINANCE:

2013- Give citizens the ability to pay bills through our City website using e-checks.

FIRE DEPT: 2013- Work within budget limitations to maintain and upgrade our equipment.

LIBRARY: 2013- Offer text messaging to patrons to inform them that their items are on hold.

PARKS & RECREATION: 2012- Built the Maloof Family Pavilion and upgraded Memorial Park.

2013- Seek grants to improve neighborhood parks.

POLICE DPT: 2013- Continue to adapt to the ever changing needs of our citizens to improve service.

SENIOR CTR: 2012- Expanded hours of operation.

2013- Continue to work on building membership.

Turn to page 3 to read all Mayor Walby's personal highlights for 2012 and his vision for 2013.

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Waste contract – Quick View –

At their March 18 meeting, City Council voted unanimously to award an 8-year, \$22 million contract for solid waste and recycling collection and disposal to Rizzo Environmental Services, Inc. Listed below is a quick view of the major portions of the contract:

Duration: 8 years... total \$22.2 million

- Services:**
- Standard curbside waste collection.. the same as our current waste program.
 - Standard recycling collection using our current 18 gallon blue recycling bins
 - Yard waste and large brush collection
 - Yearly household hazardous waste collection

Disposal: Hauling and disposal to a site of the contractor's choice.

Start Date: July 1, 2013

In addition, residents may also choose to...

- Request a 64 gallon recycling container (details to come).
- Purchase a 96 gallon waste container for \$43 or a 64 gallon waste container for \$38 from the City.

Use of the larger containers for recycling or waste collection is voluntary. There is no change in collection day. For more details watch for the *Waste Disposal Guide* in the June issue of this newsletter that will be inserted into the June 26 issue *The Sentinel*.

BRINGING YOU FUN ON WATER & LAND...



PARKS & REC

2013 Boat Well Rental Rate

Enjoy the convenience and the savings of docking your boat in your own "backyard." Spend less time and less gas driving to your favorite fishing or boating area and more time on the water enjoying your boat!

Call 445-5350 to reserve your boat well today!

Blossom Heath Harbor (123 Wells)

24800 Jefferson... South of 10 Mile Road

Fee includes dockage space only.

	Resident	Non-Res
Motorboat Well Under 20' Length (95"-105" width)	\$595	\$695
Motorboat Well Under 24' Length (114" width)	\$595	\$695
Sailboat Well 25' Length (No beam restriction)	\$595	\$695

Lac Sainte Claire Harbor (236 Wells)

27600 Jefferson... behind City Hall

Fee includes security, electronic gates, wifi, water and electrical services, dock box, concessions stand, ice machine, dog run, family pool/waterslide passes, carts, handicapped services, and keyed bathroom facilities.

	Resident	Non-Res
Motorboat or Sailboat Well 24' Length (114" width)	\$1235	\$1335
Motorboat or Sailboat Well 28' Length (126" width)	\$1465	\$1565
Motorboat or Sailboat Well 35' Length (150" width)	\$1995	\$2095

TRANSIENT WELLS \$20 PER DAY



Adult Softball Leagues

Co-ed (Sunday)
OPEN League
\$500-Single games
(10 + Playoffs)

Women (Tuesday)
"D" League
\$625 -Single games
(12 + Playoff)

Men (Monday)
"D" League
\$675-Single games
(12 + Playoffs)

Teams fees include
a \$50 refundable
forfeit fee
Softballs, field rental
& playoffs

All games are played
at Kyte Monroe
All week day leagues start
the wk of April 15
Co-ed Sunday starts
April 14

Call 445-5350



BOAT RAMPS

Nine Mile Ramp

Jefferson at Nine Mile Rd.
Behind Chapaton
Pumping Station
NON-RESIDENTS
WELCOME!

\$10 Daily OR Annual \$100
Ramp Sticker (\$65 for
Eastpointe & Roseville
residents)

Blossom Heath Ramp

24800 Jefferson
South of 10 Mile Rd.
Behind Blossom Heath Inn

Lac Sainte Claire Ramp

27600 Jefferson
South of 11 Mile Rd.
Behind City Hall

BOTH RAMPS

RESIDENTS ONLY!

\$10 Daily per personal
watercraft WITH Park Pass
\$65 Annual Pass

All boaters must show
driver's license &
boat registration
at the same address.

Learn to Skate...MAY 7 - JUNE 15

TINY TOTS 3 TO 6 YEARS OLD

Tuesday & Thursday	10:00-10:30AM	\$60
Tuesday & Thursday	10:30-11:00AM	\$60
Tuesday & Thursday	1:00-1:30PM	\$60
Tuesday & Thursday	1:30-2:00PM	\$60
Tuesday & Thursday	4:30-5:00PM	\$60
5/25-6/13	6:30-7:00PM	\$60
Saturday (5 weeks)	1:00-11:30AM	\$25

YOUTH TO ADULTS & FREESTYLE

Tuesday	5:00-6:00PM	\$60
5/25-6/13	6:30-7:30PM	\$60
Thursday	5:00-6:00PM	\$60
5/25-6/13	6:30-7:30PM	\$60
Saturday (5 weeks)	11:30AM-12:30PM	\$50

POWER HOCKEY

Saturday	12:30-1:30PM	\$50
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Summer Playground Program

Weekly June 17 - August 16

8:30AM-5PM • Veterans Memorial Park

Ages 5-12 Years Old

• \$110/weeks for residents

• \$130/per week for non-resident

\$10 off for any additional child



Daily Activities:

- 2 weekly trips to SCS pool
- Field trips
- Arts & crafts
- Sports
- Games
- Camp T-shirt
- Educational tips

COUNCIL CONNECTION



Council Member
Anthony G. Tiseo

I have been privileged to serve St. Clair Shores as a Councilman for over 16 months and during that period I have been asked dozens of times by residents why I wanted this job.

It is an easy answer for me. I wanted this job to serve my community and to help it continue to move in a positive direction.

Positive direction means many things in St. Clair Shores. It means maintaining a positive fund balance, City services you can count on and it includes many amenities such as a Library, a Golf Course, a Senior Center, an Ice Arena, a Disc Golf Course, a Dog Park, a pool and many resident parks. Positive direction also means growth.

Encouraging new businesses to come here as well as help those businesses that are here thrive. Positive direction means the continuous fight against blight, clean streets and safe neighborhoods.

Each year the office of the Macomb County Treasurer offers foreclosed properties to our City for the price of back taxes. It is an opportunity to improve our City, help neighborhoods prosper and attract new residents. Some properties need very little work, some need much more and some are just not worth the investment to save. We have purchased residential homes, empty lots as well as commercial buildings. While it is our intent to recover the initial investment in each one of the properties we approach the project as a whole. Some properties will fetch a profit while some may not.

As a Foreclosed Property Committee member I feel it is very important to recover as much of the investment as possible at the same time I see the importance of improving a neighborhood. When deciding how far a renovation should go, I weigh the cost of demolition against the cost of rehabilitation. Some result in sales that make money, some break even and some take a small loss. It is important to remember a couple of things: 1) It could cost more to demolish a home and take a loss including its purchase price and 2) The project as a whole can still be successful monetarily.

These homes and businesses are sometimes the blight of the neighborhood. Other Macomb County communities around St. Clair Shores are offered properties as well. Some have sold them off in bulk to companies to rehabilitate. Some get sold and some become rentals. It is my opinion that rehabilitating the properties that St. Clair Shores acquires to their fullest potential will attract long term quality residents, improve neighborhoods, fight blight and help our city move in a positive direction.

If you have any comments or concerns, please e-mail me at tiseoa@scsmi.net or call me directly at 586-634-0777.

What you need to know about the Water Meter Replacement Program

The City of St. Clair Shores recently launched a City-wide Water Meter Replacement Program that will take place over the next two to three years. Currently, water meter installers are replacing meters at the south end of the City working north until the entire City is completed. Residents will be mailed an informational brochure (shown right) when meter installers are in your neighborhood. There is no need for residents to call the City at this time.

All water meters will be replaced with a new Automated Meter Reading System that will ensure the most accurate and cost effective method of meter reading currently available. The following are a few of the most frequently asked questions about the program:

WHAT DOES "AUTOMATED METER READING SYSTEM" MEAN?

An automated meter reading system allows a signal to be sent to the Water Billing Department once daily for 1-2 seconds. This system eliminates the costly and labor intensive need for manual house-to-house meter reading. The signal ONLY transmits water usage readings and is a one-way signal. Water Billing cannot transmit any data back to your water meter. The signal requires an output power of 2-watts from the internal battery pack (expected to last 10 to 15 years) and transmits on a FCC licensed low radio frequency of 175 MHz.

WHY DOES MY WATER METER HAVE TO BE REPLACED?

The water meters are on average 25 years old and are at the end of their useful life. Use of older water meters result in all customers paying for unmetered water instead of the resident/homeowner who is actually using the water. The new water meters will ensure that all water customers are billed accurately.

DO I HAVE TO HAVE MY METER REPLACED?

Yes. You can, however, "opt-out" of the automated reading system. If you select to opt-out of the program, you will be responsible for the costs associated with manually reading your water meter. You will also still need to schedule an appointment to have the meter replaced.

WILL I BE BILLED FOR THE NEW METER?

No. The Water Meter Replacement program will be self-funded through the Water and Sewer Capital Fund and through the savings generated from the program. Residents will not be charged.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO INSTALL THE NEW WATER METER?

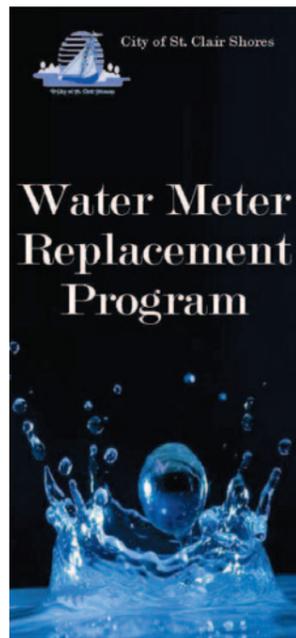
Normal installation time is less than one (1) hour. A person 18 years of age or older must be present for the installation.

HOW WILL I KNOW IF THE PERSON KNOCKING AT MY DOOR WORKS FOR THE CITY?

All City personnel will be wearing uniforms, a photo identification tag, and will be driving a Water Department van (shown right). You can also call the Meter Replacement Program office at 586-447-3305 to confirm his/her employment PRIOR to letting them in your home. Your safety is our first consideration



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE METER REPLACEMENT PAGE AT www.scsmi.org



Inside Our City



Five personal highlights took place in 2012 that I would like to share with you. #1: I am very proud that we were able to put more than \$2 million into the fund balance ("rainy day" fund) in 2012.



Mayor
Kip C. Walby

This accomplishment says a lot about how well we run our government. #2: I am thankful for the \$248,000 donation by business owner Fred Maloof, the largest donation in the history of the City. The Maloof Family Pavilion in Veterans Memorial Park now stands in testimony of the love Mr. Maloof has for our City and her residents. #3: The demolition of the old 40th District Court building and the building of a new facility demonstrate that the City needs to be proud of their own facilities. How can we expect businesses and residents to maintain their property and build top-notch facilities, if we do not do the same? #4: For over a year, the Website Committee gathered input from residents, other cities and vendors and took a tired website and transformed it into a "virtual City Hall." #5: We purchased 27 properties on the tax foreclosure list with the goal of repairing them, putting them back on the market and selling them to future residents. This program is not about making money; it is about making our neighborhoods better.

And now looking forward to what we can hope to accomplish in 2013: #1: We must bring in a balanced budget. It is not only the law, it also keeps costs down so that we can add to our fund balance and continue to keep our City strong. #2: I will do everything in my power to find a City Manager with a vision to continue to move our City forward. #3: It is imperative to pass the upcoming renewal of the Police & Fire Mileage. When we first proposed the millage to help offset Police & Fire expenses, we had hoped that property values would rebound. Sadly, they have not. The mileage supplements our General Fund and allows us to maintain 90 police and 50 fire personnel to keep our City safe. #4: We are aggressively growing economic development by soliciting business opportunities in key spots throughout the City. #5: I want to create two committees...a Blossom Heath Committee and a Winterfest Committee. Blossom Heath is one of the most underutilized areas in the City. We need a team to brainstorm and come up with viable ideas of how to rejuvenate the park. We also need a group of volunteers to spearhead a Winterfest event with ice sculptures and other winter activities. #6: We will host our first bass tournament in June, 2013 at the 9 Mile Ramp. With over 100 boats, it will bring national attention to our City. As a nautical City we should be hosting fishing tournaments. This is just the start! #7/8: Investigate the costs to expand the Senior Center and/build a Community Center.

As an elected official, I feel that it is my duty to plan for the future and strive for something better.

As Teddy Roosevelt said:
The only man who never makes mistakes is the man who never does anything.

As always your comments and concerns are important to me. You can email me at walby@scsmi.net or call me directly at 445-3983.



WHAT IS MY RESPONSIBILITY?

It is the property owner's responsibility to maintain the water pipes and shut-off valves in their home (shown left). Please test the shut-off valves before and after your water meter replacement by closing and opening them. If not working, you will need to have them repaired and/or replaced. It is important for these shut-off valves to be working in case of a leak in your home and or if an emergency shut-off is needed. Residents will also need to clear the area around your water meter to allow room for the installers.

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 Smith

Interim 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:
Waste Management

1-800-796-9696 • 1-866-797-9018
miohcustomerservice@wm.com

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:

Peter A. Rubino

Council Members:

John D. Caron
Ronald J. Frederick
Candice B. Rusie
Anthony G. Tiseo
Chris M. Vitale

Interim City Manager:

Michael Smith

Editor-In-Chief:

Mary Jane D'Herde

Communications Director

We welcome your comments and suggestions 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.

take 5 ...TIPS TO RODENT-PROOF YOUR HOME

Rats, like any living organism, require the same basic needs to survive. Take away their food, water and shelter and they'll look somewhere else for a place to live. Below are 5 simple tips to rodent-proof your home.

Don't let your garbage cans go topless. Keep ALL garbage in metal or plastic containers with tight-fitting lids. Do not leave garbage in plastic bags outside. Plastic bags are not rat-proof. And if you compost, make sure to check the City ordinance for the approved containers.

Keep grass mowed to less than 6 inches and remove any overgrown weeds or bushes. The City will cut grass over 6 inches in height and charge the home-owner without prior notification.

Stockpile wood in a neat and orderly manner at least 18 inches off of the surface on which it is stored. Stockpiles cannot exceed a total heights of 4 feet and cannot be more than 16 feet in length. No firewood can be stored in the front yard. Storage must be a minimum of six inches



away from any fence.

Pickup pet waste regularly, bring water bowls in at night, and do NOT ground feed birds, squirrels or other animals. Rodents see this as an easy source of food. Without food or water, they will look for more accommodating quarters.

Remove any abandoned vehicles and repair any holes in structures like garages, sheds or houses. Don't give them the opportunity to set up housekeeping in your home.

LEARN TO RECOGNIZE SIGNS OF RODENTS:

- Droppings – black capsule shaped
- Burrow holes – rats live in nests made in burrows in the ground.
- Nests – mice live in nests made in boxes, under cabinets, unused appliances or furniture, etc. Nesting material includes paper, cardboard, fabric, plastic, and insulation.
- Gnaw marks – rodents like to gnaw on wood, wires, stored material, etc.
- Runways – look outdoors for narrow paths where the ground is beaten down and free of debris.

If you suspect that rodents have taken up residence in yours or your neighbor's home, contact the Code Enforcement Hotline at 447-3409 and leave a message with your address and telephone number for follow-up or visit the City website at www.scsmi.org and register your complaint on the Report A Concern button.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

W
3

Yard Waste & Large Brush Pick Up in Effect Until December 16

1ST Stop for Tots 10AM Library
TOT Time 10:30AM Library
Selinsky-Green Farmhouse Museum Open 1-4PM
Harper Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA) 7:15PM City Hall

TH
4

1ST Stop for Tots 10AM Library
TOT Time 10:30AM Library
Local History Ctr 5-8:45 PM Library
Dog Park Com 6:30PM Civic Arena
Cinema Thursday: *Moonrise Kingdom* 6:30 PM Library
SCS Memorial Parade Committee 7PM City Hall
Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) 7PM City Hall

F
5

Classic Film Friday: *Grand Hotel* 1:30PM Library

SA
6

Paws for Reading 10:30-11:30AM Library
Early Warning Siren Test 1PM (In Good Weather Only)
Selinsky-Green Farmhouse Museum Open 1-4PM
Free Family Movie Matinee: *Wreck-It-Ralph* (PG 101 Min) 2PM Library

SU
7

All City Boat Ramps Open

M
8

Long Mondays Begin DPW open 7AM-7PM for Trash & Motor Oil Drop Off

TU
9

Local History Ctr 1-4PM Library
Bldg/Property Main 3:30 PM City Hall
Planning Com 7PM City Hall

W
10

NO 1ST Stop for Tots/TOT Time
Selinsky-Green Farmhouse Museum Open 1-4PM
Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale (Members Only) 2-8PM Library
Cultural Com 6PM Library
Communications Com 6:30PM City Hall
Beautification Com 7PM City Hall
Cool City Com 7PM City Hall

TU
11

NO 1ST Stop for Tots/TOT Time
Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale (Public Welcome) 10AM-8PM Library
Local History Ctr 5-8:45 PM Library
Parks & Rec Com 7PM Civic Arena

F
12

Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale (Public Welcome) 10AM-4PM Library
No Classic Film Friday

SA
13

Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale (Public Welcome) 10AM-4PM Library
Paws for Reading 10:30-11:30AM Library
Local History Ctr 10AM-Noon 1-4PM Library
Selinsky-Green Farmhouse Museum Open 1-4PM
4 Paws 1 Heart Fundraiser Disco in the D 7PM Colleen's Irish Pub Go to www.4Paws1Heart.org for details.

M
15

City Harbors Open
City Council Mtg 7PM City Hall

TU
16

Golf Course Com Noon Golf Course
Local History Ctr 1-4PM Library
Gen Employees Pension Brd 3:30PM City Hall
Waterfront Environmental Com 6:30PM Library
Family Storytime 7 PM Library

W
17

1ST Stop for Tots 10AM Library
TOT Time 10:30AM Library
Selinsky-Green Farmhouse Museum Open 1-4PM
Fence Arbitration 2 PM city Hall
Historical Society 6:30 PM
Selinsky-Green Farmhouse Museum

TH
18

Library Brd 9:30AM Library
1ST Stop for Tots 10AM Library
TOT Time 10:30AM Library
Local History Ctr 5-8:45 PM Library
Older Persons Advisory Com 6:30PM Senior Ctr.
SCS Cultural Com Film *Movement: Found Memories* (Portuguese with English subtitles) 6:30PM Library
SCS Memorial Parade Com 7 PM City Hall
TIFA/Brownfield 7 PM City Hall

F
19

Classic Film Friday: *Spellbound* 1:30PM Library

SA
20

Paws for Reading 10:30-11:30AM Library
Selinsky-Green Farmhouse Museum Open 1-4PM
Teen Advisory Brd 2PM Library

M
22

Earth Day
Water Bills for 48080 Due
Yardeners 7PM Library

TU
23

Golf Course Com Noon Golf Course
Local History Ctr 1-4PM Library
Preschool Storytime 1:30 PM Library
Planning Com 7PM City Hall
Friends of the Library 7 PM Library
Council Sub-Com on Boards & Com 7PM City Hall
Family Storytime 7 PM Library

W
24

1ST Stop for Tots 10AM Library
TOT Time 10:30AM Library
Selinsky-Green Farmhouse Museum Open 1-4PM
2013 Historical Society Annual Mtg 6:30PM Library followed by *Tashmoo Park* and the *Steamer Tashmoo* 7PM Library

W
25

Sign Arbitration 9AM City Hall
1ST Stop for Tots 10AM Library
TOT Time 10:30AM Library
Local History Ctr 1-4PM Library
Genealogy Mtg. 7 PM Library

TH
26

Classic Film Friday:
Red River 1:30PM Library

SA
27

Lego Block Party 10AM-Noon Library
Paws for Reading 10:30-11:30AM Library
Local History Ctr 10AM-Noon 1-4PM Library
Selinsky-Green Farmhouse Museum Open 1-4PM

TH
7

Water Bills for 48082 Mailed
Local History Ctr 1-4PM Library
Preschool Storytime 1:30PM Library
Family Storytime 7 PM Library