

Escanaba Express

Issue No. 166 | April Edition



April News Roundup

It's official: we made it through a weird and wacky winter! While we still may get the odd snowfall, it is safe to say that we are ready for sun, flowers, and the return of all things green.

Got some spring cleaning coming up? Beginning May 1st, City property owners can get \$10 vouchers to be used at the Delta County Landfill. These vouchers will be available at the City Hall Utility Window and must be used before June 30, 2024. These vouchers are limited and once they are gone the program will be closed out.

We'd also like to remind residents to check out our website for job postings - we're looking for dedicated and hardworking people to help make Escanaba a great place to live. Think you'd fit the bill? Head over to www.escanaba.org and click on the "jobs" button see what is available.

Make sure you check out the new photos on the Community Lens page. Local photographers have sent in some lovely photos!

Have a photo you'd like to share? Send it to becklid@escanaba.org and it could end up in the newsletter.

Did you know that the Escanaba City Band turned 100 years old on March 18th? Check out the Daily Press article in the March 19th paper to learn more about this cherished Escanaba institution.

This month, we are highlighting the Board of Library Trustees on the "Boards & Commissions" page. Check out what they do and how you can get involved with their important work.

April looks like it will be full of events, concerts, and shows to entertain and educate - make sure to check out our "Upcoming Public Events" section to see what fun can be had this month.

We hope you find this edition of Escanaba Express full of helpful information and wish you all a very happy and healthy April.

- City Staff

In this newsletter you can expect:

Community Updates

Community Events

Department Updates

Helpful Information

Community Photos

City Services & Information

Upcoming Public Meetings

04/04/2024	7:00 pm	City Council
04/09/2024	4:30 pm	Housing Commission
04/09/2024	5:00 pm	Harbor Advisory Committee
04/09/2024	6:00 pm	Recreation Advisory Board
04/10/2024	4:00 pm	Electrical Advisory Committee
04/11/2024	6:00 pm	Planning Commission
04/16/2024	6:00 pm	Traffic Safety Advisory Committee
04/18/2024	7:00 pm	City Council
04/22/2023	5:00 pm	Board of Library Trustees
04/23/2024	8:00 am	Public Safety Retirement Board
04/24/2024	8:15 am	Downtown Development Authority

Upcoming Public Events

04/06/2024	All Day	RRN Giant Indoor Garage Sale - Ruth Butler Building
04/09/2024	6:00 pm	Digital Parenting Presentation - Bay College
04/10/2024	7:30 pm	An Evening with Civil Rights Icon: Ms. Bettie Mae Fikes - Bay College
04/12/2024	All Day	Kiwanis Home and Garden Show - Ruth Butler Building
04/18/2024	7:00 pm	Mardi Rouge - Jazz Concert - Bay College
04/20/2024	All Day	Return of Bay-Con - Bay College
04/20/2024	10:00 am	Spring Market - Civic Center
04/20/2024	7:00 pm	Gladstone Lions Club Spring Social - Bluff Country Club
04/27/2024	8:00 am	Bay De Noc Gardening Conference - Bay College
04/28/2024	10:00 am	Children's Fun Fest 2024 - NLYMCA



Library News

Did you know that April is host both National Poetry Month and National Library Week? It's safe to say that April may be one of our favorite months at the library!

A poetry reading kicks off the month on April 3rd. Join us for an evening of words and whimsy as 3 local poets share their work with us.

Ink Society, our local writing group, meets on the 6th and invites all who are interested to attend a meeting. Lego club celebrates the season on the 13th with their April theme of "Spring has Sprung".

Toddler Time meets every Wednesday. It's a fantastic chance for toddlers to make friends, explore new experiences, and dive into the wonders of storytelling. As a reminder, this program does require registration.

Having issues with a new tablet or kindle? Stop in for Tech Tuesday every Tuesday at 11:00 am and one of our librarians will help you.

There is always something for the curious and the creative at the Library. For more information on these events and more, visit us at www.escanabalibrary.org.



Recreation News

March was a busy month full of changes for the Recreation Department. One change you might have noticed is the Department has taken over the Harbor Master Position. While this means some administrative changes have taken place, those who enjoy our harbor should see no major changes to their boating plans. Marina hours are listed, and boaters can expect a full staff of helpful dock attendants this summer.

If you're looking for a fun way to get healthy, spring aerobics classes are starting up on the 8th of April and running for 11 weeks. Of course, the Civic Center still has all of its normally

scheduled basketball, volleyball, pickleball, and free gym events happening.

The Recreation Department would also like to thank Highline and the Community Foundation for their generously sponsoring the After School Program's give-away snack bags. Donations like these make sure that the Civic Center can provide extra food items to the youth in the community.

For more information about our programming and upcoming events, don't hesitate to reach out to us at (906) 786-4141.



Public Safety News

Public Safety officials have received reports from local businesses receiving calls from individuals posing as officers. These individuals request to speak to the business owners about an “urgent matter” and claim to be from Escanaba Public Safety or other local law enforcement agencies.

Public Safety would like to remind the public that they would never call asking requesting money. If you are unsure about a call's legitimacy, please contact us at 906-786-5912.

Although parking restrictions were lifted due to unseasonably warm winter and spring weather, Public Safety wants to remind residents that during snowstorms, it's essential to keep roads clear to ensure easy access for emergency vehicles and snowplows.

In community news, Lt. Silverstone attended the Hero Lunch, and Det. Madalinski participated in a Hero Ride to School event at Webster School. School Resource Officer Stempki also visited Mrs. Hanson's class for Reading Month.



Planning & Zoning News

The Planning & Zoning Department is preparing for their Planning Commission meeting on the 11th of this month. As always, the public is encouraged to attend.

As the weather warms, permit applications are increasing. Residents are urged to download permit applications online or visit the office to obtain one. Unsure about permit requirements? Please call the department at (906) 786-9402, and our staff will happily assist you.

Residents planning to build fences this spring should consider property and City easements, which may affect fence placement. Similarly, those planning accessory structures like sheds should be mindful of setbacks and lot size.

The Planning & Zoning Department is ready to assist you with any questions regarding permitting, zoning, or planning in the City. Escanaba works better when we act together.



Utilities/ Public Works News

Public Works spent the month of March focusing on safety. They received a safety grant, which allowed them to purchase essential safety equipment for their crew including first aid kits, welding gear, chainsaw chaps, safety barrels & cones, along with other needed items. The Department also attended some aerial platform safety training during the month, which helped the crew learn new techniques to keep safe in all situations.

You've probably seen the Department around town as they stay busy tree trimming, running the street sweeper, repairing, and generally keeping the City clean and safe.

The Water/Wastewater Department is staying busy with some major projects happening throughout the City. While the work can be disruptive, crews are working fast to make sure that residents have access to clean drinking water and safe roads. They would like to thank the public for their understanding and patience during these projects and assure residents that they are doing everything they can to keep the disruptions to a minimum.

The Department is also hosting informational meetings on the 1st Wednesday of the month in the Council Chambers in City Hall at 6:00 p.m. The meeting subjects will vary by month but will help the public understand and prepare for upcoming City projects that may impact them. The public is encouraged to attend.

The Electric Department would like to remind the public about their Energy Optimization Program. The program is for residential, commercial, and industrial customers who would like to reduce their energy usage, lower costs, and earn rebates. To qualify, you must be an electric utility customer through the City of Escanaba and your account must be current. The appliances must also be labeled with a blue Energy Star logo.

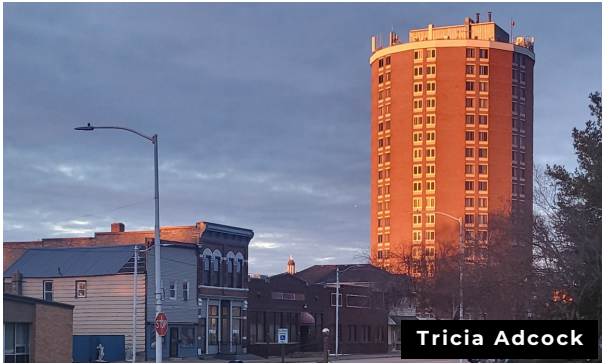
A full listing of rebates and applications are available at:
www.escanaba.org/electric/page/energy-optimization-program

Questions can be directed to 906-786-0061 or cityelectric@escanaba.org

Electrical Department	906-789-0061	Engineering Department	906-786-1842
Water Department	906-786-3291	Wastewater Department	906-786-1301
Public Works Department	906-786-1842		

Community Lens

Calling all residents of Escanaba with a knack for photography! We want to showcase your talent in our newsletter. Send your best photos of Escanaba to becklid@escanaba.org along with your name and contact details for a chance to be featured!



All photos are credited to their photographers, honoring their creativity and ownership. Join us in celebrating photography with respect and recognition for the talented individuals behind the lens.

Boards and Commissions

Board of Equalization and Review - 1st Tues following 1st Mon in March

Board of Library Trustees - 4th Mon of the month at 5:00 pm

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority - at the call of the Chair

City Council - the 1st and 3rd Thurs of the month at 7:00 pm

Downtown Development Authority - 4th Thurs of the month at 8:00 am

Electrical Advisory Committee - Every Jan, April, July, and Oct on the 2nd Wed at 4:00 pm

Harbor Advisory Committee - 2nd Tues of the month at 5:00 pm

Historic District Commission - Every March, June, Sept, and Dec on the 3rd Mon at 4:00 pm

Housing Commission - 2nd Thurs of the month at 6:00 pm

Planning Commission - 2nd Tues of the month at 4:30 pm

Public Safety Retirement Board - 4th Tues of the month at 8:00 am

Recreation Board - 2nd Tues of the month at 6:00 pm

Traffic Safety Advisory Committee - 3rd Tues of the month at 6:00 pm

Zoning Board of Appeals - 1st Tues of Jan, April, July, and Oct at 6:00 pm

Joining city boards and commissions is not just civic duty—it's an opportunity to shape the very fabric of your community.

Your voice, expertise, and passion can drive positive change, influencing local policies and decisions directly. It's a chance to be a proactive force in building a better, more vibrant Escanaba for everyone.

Join today, and let your commitment be the catalyst for a brighter tomorrow!

If interested in applying, or for more information, go to www.escanaba.org/bc or email clerk@escanaba.org.

Board of Library Trustees

The work that boards and commissions do shouldn't be a mystery. Each month we go over one board or commission, explain what they do, and give you information on how you can get involved!

The Board of Library Trustees plays a foundational role in the formulation of policies and procedures relating to library operation. The Board does a myriad of different jobs including the preparation of the annual budget, planning future operations, hiring & overseeing nonunion library employees and any other duties that help the library with its day-to-day operations.

Board members are fierce advocates of the library and promote its services and resources to those in the community who may not know the role our library plays in fostering an informed and creative community.

Carolyn Stacey, Library Director, explains that the Board works in partnership with the library director in striving to provide the best services possible. They are library advocates and are an essential component of operating a successful and flourishing library.

Good candidates for board membership might include individuals with a background in education, nonprofit work, or public administration. Above all else, good members are those with a passion for the library, who are interested community involvement and have a commitment to inclusion and learning.

The Board of Library Trustees meets on the 4th Monday of each month at 5:00 pm.

You can find more information about the Board of Library Trustees by going to www.escanaba.org/bc-library

Recreation Rental Information



Ludington Park Pavillion

Located near the south end of Ludington Park, the pavillion has ample 110-volt electric service, potable water, and a large capacity BBQ grill. Included are 10 eight- person picnic tables with ample green space surrounding.

1/2 day fee of \$75 resident and \$100 non-resident. Full day fee of \$100 resident and \$125 non-resident .



Ludington Park Gazebo

Located across from Sand Point Lighthouse, the 20' x 20' gazebo is equipped with electrical outlets and external lighting. On street parking is available with bathrooms available at the Municipal Marina.

\$50 fee per two-hour block for resident and \$75 for non-resident.



Band Shell

Located on the south end of Ludington Park, the facility can seat up to 300 people with plenty of green space for other spectators. Parking for up to 100 vehicles and restrooms are available close by.

Day fee of \$75 for resident and \$100 for non-resident. Full-day fee of \$100 for resident and \$125 for non-resident.



Escanaba Marketplace

Located across from the Upper Elementary, the Marketplace boasts an 8,000 sq. ft. pavilion, restrooms, commercial kitchen, sound stage, fire pit, and a fenced in playground! Included are 40 tables, 200 chairs, and a parking area.

Day fee for residents is \$150. Please contact the DDA for reservations at 906-789-8696

Important Reservation Info

- For reservations, call the Recreation Department at 906-786-4141.
- Advanced reservations are required for all rentals.
- Multiple rooms in the Civic Center are available for rent with seating ranging from 30 to 75 people. Please call the Recreation Department or go to www.escanaba.org/parks-rec/page/parks-facilities for more information on pricing and availability.

City Services & Information

City Manager - James McNeil	jmcneil@escanaba.org	906-789-7322
City Controller - Melissa Becotte	mbecotte@escanaba.org	906-786-0605
Water/Wastewater Sup - Jeff Lampi	jlampi@escanaba.org	906-786-3291
Public Works Sup. - Kent Dubord	kdubord@escanaba.org	906-786-1842
Electric Sup. - Gerald Pirkola	gpirkola@escanaba.org	906-786-0061
Public Safety Director - John Gudwer	jgudwer@escanaba.org	906-786-5911
Recreation Director- Kim Peterson	kpeterson@escanaba.org	906-786-4141
City Clerk - Phil DeMay	clerk@escanaba.org	906-786-1194
Library Director - Carolyn Stacey	cstacey@escanabalibrary.org	906-789-7323
HR Director/Treasurer- Heather Calouette	hcalouette@escanaba.org	906-789-7305
City Assessor - James McNeil	assessor@escanaba.org	906-789-7381
Planning & Zoning Admin. - Tyler Anthony	tanthony@escanaba.org	906-786-7302

Important Phone Numbers

Public Safety	906-786-5912
Garbage/Recycling	906-786-1842
Wastewater Issues	906-786-1301
Potable Water Issues	906-786-3291
Public Library	906-789-7323
Electrical Issues	906-786-0061
Civic Center	906-786-4141
Complaint Hotline	906-789-7317

City Council

Mayor Mark Ammel	mammel@escanaba.org
Mayor Pro Tem Karen Moore	kmoore@escanaba.org
Council Member Ronald Beauchamp	rbeauchamp@escanaba.org
Council Member Tyler DuBord	tdubord@escanaba.org
Council Member Todd Flath	tflath@escanaba.org

Thank you for reading!