

# CITYnews



VOL. 14 ISSUE 5

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2016

## City Council Meeting Time and Public Input Changes

The City Council recently voted to make two changes to the format of their regular meetings, held on the first and third Monday of each month.

### Meeting Start Time

Effective Aug. 15, 2016, all regular City Council meetings will begin at 6 p.m. Previously, meetings started at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are held in the City Council Chambers on the second floor of the Historic Federal Building at 350 W. Sixth St. and are broadcast live on CityChannel Dubuque, the local government television station. Meeting agendas are available in the City Clerk's Office and posted to [www.cityofdubuque.org/agendas](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/agendas) at 9 a.m. on the Friday before each meeting. If you are interested in receiving meeting agendas and minutes notifications through email or text, please subscribe by visiting [www.cityofdubuque.org/notifyme](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/notifyme).

### Public Input

The City Council also recently moved the public input portion of their meeting agendas from the end of each meeting to the middle

of the meetings, after the public hearings and before action items. During the public input portion of the meeting, anyone in the Council Chambers may address the City Council on the action items on the agenda or on matters under the control of the City Council. At this point in the meeting, residents and stakeholders are invited to approach the podium and state their name and address before proceeding with their comments. Individual remarks are limited to five minutes, and the overall public input period is limited to 30 minutes. Under the Iowa Open Meetings Law, the City Council can take no formal action on comments given during public input which do not relate to action items on the agenda.

For more information on City Council meetings and agendas, contact the City Clerk's Office at 563-589-4100 or visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/councilmeetings](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/councilmeetings).

## IN THIS ISSUE

- | 2 | The Jule Monthly Swipe Cards  
Accessibility Rehabilitation Program  
State of the City Address - Sept. 8  
Growing Sustainable Communities Conference - October 4-5  
Carnegie-Stout Public Library Hours  
New Property Maintenance Code  
Successful Rental Property Management Program
- | 3 | City Manager's Message  
Help 'Imagine Dubuque!'  
City Seeking Volunteers for Resilient Community Advisory Commission
- | 4 | New Faces and Retirements Calendar

D B Q E  
"U" make Dubuque.

**Connected and informed residents are critical to local government.**

CityLife is a free program in which participants meet one evening per week for six weeks to tour city facilities, meet with staff, and learn more about city services and programs and ways to stay engaged with local government. Refreshments are provided and assistance with transportation, translation, and childcare may be arranged. Next session begins Sept. 20. Register today!

[www.cityofdubuque.org/citylife](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/citylife)  
563-589-4182



## CityChannel Dubuque Changes



CityChannel Dubuque, Dubuque's local government television channel, will move to a new digital channel location, channel 117.2, on Aug. 30, 2016. Cable subscribers who

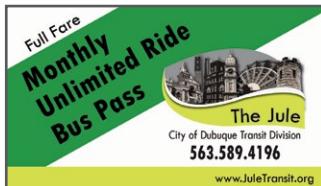
have a Mediacom cable box will continue to find it on channel 8. Only cable subscribers who do not use a Mediacom box will need to tune to 117.2.

The City's Cable TV Division also operates a second channel, CityChannel Graphics, which airs graphic announcements around the clock accompanied by audio from the NOAA weather radio station serving Dubuque. This channel can be found on channel 80 (with a Mediacom cable box) or channel 117.3 (with no cable box). Mediacom is making other digital channel changes on Aug. 30 as well, so cable viewers who don't have a cable box should auto program their televisions that day to make sure they are receiving all the channels. Consult the television's owner manual to find out how.

For more information on CityChannel Dubuque, including archived programs and a live stream of programming for residents and stakeholders who do not subscribe to Mediacom, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/cabletv](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/cabletv).

## The Jule Offers Monthly Unlimited Ride Swipe Cards

The Jule passengers now have the option to purchase a monthly unlimited ride swipe card. The Jule has replaced outdated paper bus passes with more permanent, reloadable swipe cards for monthly pass customers.



Monthly passes will be activated when payment for the month is received. There is no penalty for not purchasing service during any month and cards will be reactivated the next time monthly service is purchased.

Passes may be purchased by visiting the Intermodal Transportation Center located at 950 Elm St. between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, or at City Hall during regular business hours. Costs for the swipe cards are Monthly Full-Fare: \$45/month and Monthly Half-Fare: \$22.50/month.

For more information about the new swipe card bus passes, visit [www.juletransit.org](http://www.juletransit.org) or call 563-589-4196. §

## Accessibility Rehabilitation Program Extended to Homeowners

The Housing & Community Development Department offers an Accessibility Rehabilitation Program which was originally for renters, but has been expanded to owner-occupied residences in an effort to help homeowners stay in their homes as long as possible. The program offers a three-year forgivable loan up to \$5,000 to income-qualified homeowners to make ADA/accessibility upgrades to a property for physical accessibility or such improvements in order to make mobility safer. For more information, contact the Housing & Community Development Department at 563-690-6094. §

## growing sustainable communities

October 4-5, 2016  
Grand River Center

Register now for this two-day conference packed with **education, inspiration and collaboration** on topics of interest to anyone who cares about the convergence of **economic prosperity, ecological integrity and social/cultural vibrancy** in community design and development.

[www.gscdubuque.com](http://www.gscdubuque.com)  
563.690.6038

## New Property Maintenance Code

The 2015 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC), along with local amendments adopted by the Dubuque City Council, went into effect on July 1, 2016. This code, along with local amendments, replaces the housing regulations previously located in Title 6, Chapter 6 of the City Code.

The code provides a standard for property maintenance and establishes minimum requirements for light, ventilation, and occupancy limitations; plumbing facilities and fixture requirements; mechanical and electrical requirements; and fire safety requirements in existing structures and properties. The differences expected to be most significant between the old housing code and the new property maintenance code include: repairs must be executed in a workmanlike manner, equipment and appliances must be properly installed and maintained in a safe working condition and in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations, and required addition of smoke alarms inside each sleeping room.

The IPMC and local amendments were adopted following an extensive review with input from stakeholders including the Dubuque Area Landlord Association, several neighborhood associations, the Housing Commission, Community Development Advisory Commission, and Housing Code Board of Appeals. For more information, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/PMC](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/PMC). §

## DUBUQUE 2016: An Enterprising City

### Mayor Roy D. Buol's 10th Annual State of the City Address

Thursday, September 8 - 7 p.m.  
City Council Chambers  
Historic Federal Building  
350 W. Sixth Street

*If you are unable to attend, the address will be aired live on CityChannel Dubuque and streamed at [www.cityofdubuque.org/videos](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/videos)*

## Carnegie-Stout Public Library Sets New Hours

Carnegie-Stout Library will now remain open on Sundays year round. New library hours are:

Monday - Wednesday:	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Thursdays:	Noon - 8 p.m.
Friday - Saturday:	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday:	1 - 5 p.m.

For more information on library services and programs, visit [www.dubuque.lib.ia.us](http://www.dubuque.lib.ia.us). §

## Successful Rental Property Management Program

The City of Dubuque is sponsoring an educational program for property owners and managers on all aspects of managing rental property. According to the City Code of Ordinances, all Dubuque rental property owners or their property managers **must** attend this program. *Licensed real estate professionals or those who have already completed this program are exempt.* The next sessions are scheduled for **Saturday, Oct. 22**, from 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. at NICC Town Clock Center, 680 Main St. **Pre-registration is appreciated.** Register online at [www.nicc.edu/solutions](http://www.nicc.edu/solutions) and enter "Successful Rental Property Management" in the search box or call Northeast Iowa Community College at 563-557-8271, ext. 380. Additional information about the program, registration details, and training manual are available at [www.cityofdubuque.org/srpm](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/srpm). §



## A MESSAGE from the CITY MANAGER

Michael C. Van Milligen

The Bee Branch Watershed has experienced six Presidential Disaster Declarations since 1999. National studies have revealed that the frequency and intensity of rainstorms is continuing to steadily increase. In mid-July, storms dropped heavy rain on Dubuque three times in one week. They resulted in flash flooding in several problem areas of the Bee Branch Watershed including Kaufmann Ave., Central Ave., E. 22nd St., and W. Locust St. The rains came shortly before the five-year anniversary of the 2011 flood when more than 14 inches of rain fell in just 12 hours.

The brief, intense rainfalls experienced in July were clear reminders of the importance of the Bee Branch Watershed Flood Mitigation Project. The subsequent flash flooding on streets in the downtown area were also a reminder that, while progress is being made and the work completed so far is making a difference, the 20-year project is not yet complete. Fire Chief Rick Steines reported a significant sign of progress at the Aug. 1 City Council meeting when he advised that despite these rain storms, the Fire Department received no calls to pump water from basements.

The Bee Branch Watershed Flood Mitigation Project consists of several types of infrastructure improvements that will reduce

the volume of stormwater, slow the rate of stormwater through the upper watershed, and move stormwater safely through the flood-prone area without flooding adjacent properties.

Multiple phases of the flood mitigation project have been completed including the Carter Rd. Detention Basin, W. 32nd St. Detention Basin, Lower Bee Branch Creek, and 16th St. Detention Basin. In addition, over 60 alleys have been converted into permeable pavement. Dubuque is better prepared for flooding than it was five years ago and there are incremental benefits as each phase of the Bee Branch project is completed. However, it is important to remember that several improvements still need to be made before the full flood mitigation benefits of the project are realized.

The Upper Bee Branch Creek, which is currently under construction, is designed to move stormwater through Dubuque's North End Neighborhood to the Lower Bee Branch and ultimately to the Mississippi River. The recent rain events provided an example of how stormwater will slowly fill the creek channel and then slowly drain out. When the creek is completed and additional culverts connecting the Upper Bee Branch to the Lower Bee Branch are installed through the

railroad right-of-way, it will fill and drain in a similar way, but much more efficiently.

It is important to understand that the Bee Branch Creek is only one phase of the multi-phased project. While providing more storage volume for stormwater than previously existed, the completion of the creek will not mitigate all flooding. It is expected that some flash flooding will continue to occur in problem areas until improvements to multiple storm sewers are completed.

Over the next five years, the City will expand the capacity of the storm sewers along 17th Street from Elm to W. Locust, along 22nd Street from Elm to Kane, and throughout the North End Neighborhood. However, the storm sewer improvements would not provide benefits unless the downstream Upper Bee Branch Creek provided a place for the stormwater to go. That is why these improvements are being made from "downstream to upstream," working from the 16th St. Detention Basin and Lower Bee Branch to the Upper Bee Branch and then storm sewer improvements.

Exciting progress is being made on this huge infrastructure project to protect homes and businesses from flash flooding. The Upper Bee Branch Creek phase of the project is scheduled to be functional this fall with landscaping and other details to be completed in the spring. For more information about the Bee Branch Project, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/beebranch](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/beebranch). §

## Help 'Imagine Dubuque!'

A city's Comprehensive Plan is a roadmap for the community's future. It helps guide the community's physical, social, and economic development.

Cities develop plans for the same reason people plan a home improvement project or a household budget. It creates efficient and informed steps toward achieving community goals.



The 14-month process to develop a new Comprehensive Plan for Dubuque is just beginning. It is important that the plan reflect the goals of the community, so public participation is essential to the process. Keep an eye out for opportunities offered to participate and provide input both in person and online. Please help "Imagine Dubuque" and be a part of the process to help shape Dubuque's future. §

## City Seeking Volunteers for Resilient Community Advisory Commission

In June 2016, the City Council approved transitioning the Environmental Stewardship Advisory Commission to a new, Resilient Community Advisory Commission (RCAC). Earlier this year, over 200 residents defined what resiliency would look like in Dubuque: "The ability of individuals and systems to prevent, prepare for, and recover from adverse vulnerabilities while adapting to long-term changes."

The City is now accepting applications for this new nine-member commission as well as vacancies on a variety of other boards and commissions. You can apply online or view the complete list of opportunities at [www.cityofdubuque.org/boards](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/boards). For additional information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 563-589-4100. §

# New Faces & Retirements

The City of Dubuque welcomes these new employees:

<b>Danielle Abitz</b> - Parking	<b>Shirley Lanners</b> - Library
<b>Trevor Blum</b> - Airport	<b>Deborah Meyer</b> - Transit
<b>Brianna Bronell</b> - Airport	<b>Angel Miranda</b> - Transit
<b>Crystal Campbell</b> - Emergency Communications	<b>Roberto Miranda</b> - Transit
<b>Benjamin Dalsing</b> - Emergency Communications	<b>Connie Mueller</b> - Finance
<b>Sherry Driscoll</b> - Transit	<b>Brian Noonan</b> - Water & Resource Recovery Center
<b>Quinten Dukes</b> - Transit	<b>Hannah Petersen</b> - Library
<b>Jillian Funk</b> - Engineering	<b>Scott Schlichte</b> - Library
<b>Emily Hagerty</b> - Emergency Communications	<b>Russell Stecklein</b> - Transit
<b>Nathan Kratz</b> - Airport	<b>Michelle Wessels</b> - Library

The City of Dubuque welcomes these new board or commission members:

<b>Robert Armstrong</b> - Library Board of Trustees
<b>Nicholas Bratcher</b> - Arts & Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission
<b>Wesley Heimke</b> - Housing Commission
<b>Richard Kirkendall</b> - Park & Recreation Advisory Commission
<b>Christina Monk</b> - Library Board of Trustees
<b>David Schmitz</b> - Arts & Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission
<b>Leslie Terry</b> - Historic Preservation Commission
<b>Mary Thomas-Armstrong</b> - Arts & Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission

Congratulations to the employees who recently retired from the City of Dubuque:

<b>John Callahan</b> - Emergency Communications	<b>Robert Lange</b> - Fire
<b>Thomas Firzlaff</b> - Public Works	<b>Julie Mueller</b> - Fire
<b>John Gillen</b> - Public Works	<b>Robert Papenthien</b> - Police
<b>Charlie Klein</b> - Leisure Services	<b>Randy Root</b> - Fire

## Contact Information

The City of Dubuque welcomes comments and suggestions about your city government or news appearing in this newsletter. Please contact:

City Manager's Office  
50 W. 13th Street  
Dubuque, Iowa 52001-4864  
(563) 589-4110  
ctymgr@cityofdubuque.org



[facebook.com/CityofDubuque](http://facebook.com/CityofDubuque)  
[twitter.com/CityofDubuque](http://twitter.com/CityofDubuque)

## Editorial Information

City News is published by the Public Information Office and is inserted in the City of Dubuque utility bills six times per year. For the most up-to-date City news and events, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org](http://www.cityofdubuque.org).

# CALENDAR

## September

5	City offices closed for Labor Day (curbside collection on Sat., Sept. 3)
6	Environmental Stewardship Advisory Commission, 5 p.m., Conf. Room I, City Hall Annex
6	City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Bldg.
7	Cable TV Commission, 4 p.m., Conf. Room I, City Hall Annex
7	Zoning Advisory Commission, 6 p.m., Historic Federal Building
8	Transit Advisory Board, 4:15 p.m., Intermodal Conf. Rm., 950 Elm St.
12	Human Rights Commission, 4:30 p.m., Conf. Room II, City Hall Annex
13	Park and Recreation Commission, 4:30 p.m., Iowa Pavilion, Miller Riverview Park
13	“Source of Income” dialogue session for <b>housing providers</b> , 5:30-7:30 p.m., Dodge Street Hy-Vee Club Room.
14	“Source of Income” dialogue session for <b>renters</b> , 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Prescott Neighborhood Resource Center, 1151 White St.
14	Community Development Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
15	Assisted Housing Resident Advisory Board, 11:30 a.m., Historic Federal Building
15	Historic Preservation Commission, 5:30 p.m., Historic Federal Building
19	City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Bldg.
20	“Source of Income” dialogue session for <b>housing providers</b> , 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Multicultural Family Center, 1157 Central Ave.
21	“Source of Income” dialogue session for <b>renters</b> , 5:30-7:30 p.m., Multicultural Family Center, 1157 Central Ave.
20	Housing Code Appeals Board, 4:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
21	Long Range Planning Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., Historic Federal Bldg.
22	Carnegie-Stout Public Library Board of Trustees, 4 p.m., Lacy Board Room
22	Zoning Board of Adjustment, 5 p.m., Historic Federal Building
26	Civic Center Commission Meeting, 3:30 p.m., Five Flags Civic Center
26	Airport Commission 4 p.m., Dubuque Jet Center
27	Housing Commission, 4 p.m. Suite 312, Historic Federal Bldg.
27	Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission, 4:30 p.m., Lacy Board Room, Carnegie-Stout Public Library

## October

3	City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Bldg.
3, 10, 17, 24	Home Ownership Make Easy (HOME) workshop, 5:30 p.m., Historic Federal Building, call 563-589-4239 to register.
4	Environmental Stewardship Advisory Commission, 5 p.m., Conf. Room I, City Hall Annex
4	“Source of Income” dialogue session for <b>renters and housing providers</b> , 6-8 p.m. Carnegie-Stout Public Library Auditorium
4-5	Growing Sustainable Communities Conference, Grand River Center. Visit <a href="http://www.gscdubuque.com">www.gscdubuque.com</a> to register.
5	Cable TV Commission, 4 p.m., Conf. Room I, City Hall Annex
5	Zoning Advisory Commission, 6 p.m., Historic Federal Building
10	Human Rights Commission, 4:30 p.m., Conf. Room II, City Hall Annex
11	Park and Recreation Commission, 4:30 p.m., Bunker Hill Golf Course Snack Bar
13	Transit Advisory Board, 4:15 p.m., Intermodal Conf. Rm., 950 Elm St.
17	City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Bldg.
18	Housing Code Appeals Board, 4:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
19	Long Range Planning Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., Historic Federal Bldg.
19	Community Development Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
20	Assisted Housing Resident Advisory Board, 11:30 a.m., Historic Federal Building
20	Historic Preservation Commission, 5:30 p.m., Historic Federal Building
22	Successful Rental Property Management Program training, NICC Town Clock Center. Register at <a href="http://www.nicc.edu/solutions">www.nicc.edu/solutions</a> or call 563-557-8271, ext. 380.
24	Airport Commission 4 p.m., Dubuque Jet Center
25	Housing Commission, 4 p.m. Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
25	Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission, 4:30 p.m., Lacy Board Room, Carnegie-Stout Public Library
26	Investment Oversight Advisory Committee, 3 p.m., City Hall Annex, Conf. Rm A
27	Zoning Board of Adjustment, 4 p.m., Historic Federal Building
27	Carnegie-Stout Public Library Board of Trustees, 4 p.m., Lacy Board Room