



6 CANDIDATES ON NOVEMBER BALLOT FOR MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL SEATS!

On November 7, 2006, in conjunction with the General Election, the voters in the City of Crystal Falls will vote for a Mayor and two (2) City Councilor positions. Two (2) candidates have filed nominating petitions for Mayor and four (4) have filed nominating petitions for Councilor. All of these seats are for terms of 4 years which will expire in November 2010.

Each of the candidates has offered a bit of history on themselves so you can

get to know them before you go to the polls on election day. Check them out on pages 2, 3 and 4 of this edition.



Superior Avenue to be Closed to Through Traffic During Construction in 2007.

On July 17th the City Council held a special meeting with the downtown business owners to decide how the traffic will be controlled during the construction of the water, sewer, and streetscape projects scheduled to begin in May 2007. Department of Transportation officials along with engineers for the water, sewer, and streetscape projects presented the

business owners in attendance with various options for traffic control and the impact each would have on the project and the downtown business district. Mike Premo of MDOT explained the coordination of the 3 projects involved: water mains, sewer separation, and streetscape. He noted that in addition to the work on Superior Avenue Highway M-69 from the Paint River Bridge to Sagola will also be reconstructed (for a mere \$4,000,000). The water and sewer separation projects will be city projects with loans through Rural Development funding the con-

struction. The Streetscape project will be funded by MDOT with some matching dollars from the City. Altogether the cost of these projects combined will be somewhere around \$6,000,000.00.

Scott McNeilis of Coleman Engineering advised that the construction will begin at the bottom of the hill and there will be trenches 9'-10' deep. The construction crews will most likely work on a 3 block section at a time.

Bob Manninen, also of Coleman Engineering, presented 3 options for

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MEET THE CANDIDATES!

On the November 7, 2006 General Election ballot voters in the City of Crystal Falls will elect a Mayor and two Councilors. One of the candidates running for Mayor is incumbent Janet Hendrickson.



JANET A. HENDRICKSON

First elected to serve as a Councilor in November 1998, Janet was re-elected in November 2002. She was serving as Mayor Pro-Tem when former Mayor, David Sabo, resigned his seat in April 2004 after serving 1 1/2 years of his 4 year term. As Mayor Pro-Tem, Janet assumed the Mayor's seat for the balance of the term. She is now seeking election for a full term as Mayor. Janet says "I love Crystal Falls. It is a great place to live, work, play, and raise a family. I want to keep it that way by working as your Mayor to continue providing quality services to the residents and to work toward the realization of 3 major City projects including Superior Avenue, a cooperative water agreement with Crystal Falls Township, and securing a viable reuse of the Crystal Manor building. It has been an honor to serve as your Mayor and I hope to continue in that role." Janet sees the City of Crystal Falls becoming a "vibrant, prosperous community again, attracting businesses with customers, citizens with upgraded services and a greater tax base to continue making improvements

where needed!" She further stated "I am very optimistic that as we work toward revitalization of this beautiful area we live in we will always be known as "The City of Community Pride.""

Janet, born in Crystal Falls, has lived here most of her life. She graduated from Crystal Falls High School in 1955 and shortly thereafter married Richard Hendrickson. (They very recently celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary.) Janet and Richard have 3 children; Joni (Craig) Lindeman of Holt, MI, Dale (Gwen) of Grandville, MI, and Dean of DeWitt, MI. They have 5 grandchildren. Janet's parents are the late William Sikkila and Taimi Pearson.

Also running for Mayor this November is Michael Koszyk.

Mike previously served on the City Council as a Councilor. He was appointed in November 2002 to serve the remainder of a term that expired in November 2004. Mike has been a full-time resident of the



MICHAEL KOSZYK

City of Crystal Falls since 1997.

Born and raised in Chicago, he first visited here in 1979 and then moved here for the "peace and quiet". Mike is retired from 33 years with the Chicago Police Department. He works part-time in the winter for Iron County as a winter road patroller.

Mike has had a life of public service and feels he owes his sanity and well being to the "Friendly Little Town on the Hill" where he frequently came to relax, hunt, and fish. He feels he has something to offer as a kind of repayment for what this City has done for him and his family.

When asked how he sees Crystal Falls 10 years from now he replied that he hopes it will be that friendly little town on the hill with a vibrant Downtown, and industrial base in the area set aside for that. He would also like to see the River Walk extended to the Fairbanks Location. He envisions a trail or bike path that connects the ski hill, golf course, and Runkle Lake park. A lot of happy citizens and a content workforce are also among his goals.

Mike claims that he is not a politician and that he cannot say what people want to hear just to be popular, and as corny as it seems, he wants to do what is right for the whole of Crystal Falls. "I research issues deeply, believe communications are very important and will never refuse a reasonable discussion on an issue. If I leave that discussion with my opinion unchanged at least I will know what the other person believes and why, and he should know the same about me. I will respect his opinion and

MEET THE CANDIDATES! (CONTINUED)

expect him to respect mine even if we don't agree. Finally, this is all business and none of it should be made personal nor taken as personal, disagree with or attack my opinion, but don't make it personal."

Mike lives in a log home on the North end of Briar Hill Street with his wife Deborah. He has a son, Brian, and a daughter, Karen.

Hoping to be granted additional time on the City Council as a Councilor is incumbent Jack Stachowicz.



JACK STACHOWICZ

Jack was first elected to serve the remainder of an unexpired term on the Council in November 2004. He has lived in Crystal Falls with his wife, June, for 20 years now. Prior to that they lived near Alpha. Jack and June have four children; Cheryle (Curt) Spicer, Robin (Michael) Mehrens, Tom (Joy) Stachowicz, and David Stachowicz. They have 11 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. Jack is a retired carpenter who, when asked why he wanted to continue to be on the City Council replied "To be an active and vocal member of our community."

Jack's goal is to try to make Crystal Falls the thriving and beautiful city that it once was in the past. Also, to encourage the people of Crystal

Falls to take more interest and pride to help make it a great city to live in.

Scott Thrasher, also an incumbent, was first appointed to the City Council in August 2002. He was then elected in November 2002.



SCOTT THRASHER

Scott, a resident of Crystal Falls for 25 years, came here from Bloomington, Indiana while exploring for diamonds, and "No" he didn't find any. He now works as a plumber/pipe fitter. Scott and his wife, Wendy, have two children, Kody and Lacy. Scott is stepfather to Jamey McCole, Jared & Jordan Stanek, and Rikki (McCole) Rouse. There are 3 grandchildren and they are Kyler Rouse, Hailey Jardanowski, and Dylan Maki. Scott's parents, Paul and Vivian Thrasher live in Bloomington, Indiana.

Scott says "It has been a pleasure to serve the citizens of Crystal Falls as a member of your City Council during the past 4 years. In that time the Council has dealt with many important issues, completed many projects, and began many new ones. I would like the opportunity to serve you for another term. I will continue to work to see these new projects completed including the streetscape and the water project, and I will work to find a reuse

of the former Crystal Manor that will enhance our downtown, attract additional business, and increase our tax base. I will continue to work towards making Crystal Falls a community we can all be proud of."

Scott hopes that in years to come there will be increased business on the main street. He looks forward to things for the children, such as, a skate park, improvements at the ski hill, and playground equipment at Lincoln Park. He hopes to see things that will attract tourist dollars to our area such as improvements to Runkle Lake Park and campground, a restaurant in the Crystal Manor, and new business on Main street. "I hope to see the Crystal Manor building as a major focal point of our main street. I also hope to see the city continuing to offer its residents the quality services that it does today."

Scott went on to say "If elected to serve you again I will continue to strive to see that the public is informed of all details concerning issues facing the City. That I will act in a manner that is in the best interest of all residents. I will continue to keep an open mind, and I will act with integrity and honesty at all times."

Mike Smokevitch is on the November ballot as a candidate for City Council. Mike appeared in our last newsletter as a retiree from City employment when he was given an "early out" retirement in July 2006. Mike has lived in Crystal Falls all his life, except for 2 years at Bay De Noc College and 5 years in the

Meet the Candidates (Continued)

Navy. Mike lives at his home on Crystal Avenue with his wife Jeannine. They have 5 children; Joe of Johannesburg, Michelle of Stambaugh, Tony of Amasa, Bob of Crystal Falls, and Jake who lives in Marquette. They have 8 grandchildren and 1 more on the way. Mike is the son of Joseph and the late Evelyn Smokevitch of Crystal Falls.



MICHAEL L. SMOKEVITCH

Mike worked for the City as a power plant operator until the automation of the plant and then he worked at the cemetery, park, ski hill, golf course, as a janitor, and a meter reader, and also with the street department until his retirement.

Mike wants to be a City Councilor for the same reason he was told he had to retire, for "the betterment of the City". He says he "would much rather work for the City than run it, however, you can't always have what you want". Mike says that if the City continues on the path its on now, in 10 years it won't be growing with young people and families. They will be moving to where they can find work. "If you give people a reason to, they will come to work, live, play and enjoy Crystal Falls."

Some of Mike's goals for the city include the installation of a concrete slab for the skating rink and coin operated batting cages at Runkle Lake park. The concrete slab would allow for a longer skating season each year, and in the summers, a place to hold flea markets, basketball, skateboarding, and parties. "If you build it, they will come."

Jack Bicigo is also a former City employee. He retired in May 2006 after 30 years of service with the City police department, the last 13 years as its chief.

Jack has lived in Crystal Falls for the past 40 years. He and wife Cheryl, have three children, Melanie, Allyson (Tim) Oysti, and Josh. He has one grandson, Bryce. Jack's parents are Emil and Dorothy Bicigo of Crystal Falls.



JACK BICIGO

Jack is seeking election to the office of Councilor for the City because "After 30 years as a City employee, I would like the City to stay on an even keel". He is hopeful that in the next 10 years the City will realize an economic recovery.

CITY/TOWNSHIP WATER AGREEMENT NEARS SIGNING

The City and Township of Crystal Falls have tentatively agreed to a 40 year water agreement. The agreement gives the particulars of the City's purchase of water from the Township. At this writing, the agreement is in the hands of Rural Development, the main source of funding for the project. Upon Rural Development's approval, this document will be officially signed by the City and Township and we will embark on an intergovernmental cooperative that will serve for the betterment of both units. AHHH—good clean water—can't you taste it already!?!?

DON'T FORGET TO REMOVE YOUR FLOWERS FROM THE CEMETERY BY SEPT 15TH!!!!

If you don't, we will, and we don't save them.

FALL YARD WASTE PICK-UP

The week of October 23rd the City crews will be busy picking up your yard rakings (leaves, pine needles, etc) and your garden waste (dead plants, vines, etc) and brush trimmings. Branches must be cut in lengths of 4 feet or shorter and MUST BE KEPT SEPARATE FROM THE YARD RAKINGS.

To assist in the ease of this year's pick up you are asked to pile your yard rakings onto the side of the street, however, brush and branches must be piled separately on the terrace, not on the roadway.

Debris left on the streets after the week of October 23—27 will not be removed by the City crews so get busy early and don't miss the deadline.

THE END OF CURB SIDE YARD DEBRIS PICKUP?

The City Council is at odds with what to do about brush and yard debris collection. At the August City Council meeting, Manager Nordeman asked the Council for direction. The yard waste debris piles continue to accumulate at the old Bristol Mine site, yet the City has no means to dispose of it.

In the past, the City would burn the pile annually to get rid of the yard waste. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) ordered that this practice stop immediately when upon the inspection of an adjoining property they observed building materials and furniture in the burn

pile. Although, the placement of these items in the pile was not authorized by the city the un-gated area provided a place for people to "dump" unwanted items. Now, even though gated for security, the City is restricted in the disposal of the debris with the DEQ's order to cease burning.

There are some options such as chipping and mulching, labor intense alternatives that the City may or may not be able to do.

For now, the City will pickup the yard debris this fall, however, next spring may be a different story.

HYDRANT FLUSHING

The City will be flushing hydrants beginning on Sunday, October 1, 2006 and ending on Friday, October 6th. This is part of the semi-annual maintenance on the water distribution system. As the hydrants are flushed the force of the water will remove sediment built up on the inside of the water mains. This will cause water to appear to be dirty. When this occurs at your house simply let a cold water faucet run until the water clears up. You may also experience low or no water pressure during this process. Be patient and your water service will return to normal after a short time.

Superior Avenue Closed

(Continued from page 1)

traffic control during the construction. Of the options proposed, the Council opted to go with a total closure of Superior Avenue and to utilize Crystal and Marquette Avenues to detour the traffic flowing east and west. The side streets will remain open as much as possible to allow for access to the downtown business area. No two consecutive side streets will be closed at the same time. In addition, an alternate truck route of Wagner to Fair-

banks to North 6th Street will be offered during the construction.

The option to close Superior Avenue allows for an unobstructed construction area and will hopefully result in completion of the projects before July 2007. It is important to the downtown business owners to return traffic to Superior Avenue as soon as possible.

When all is done, Superior Avenue will be yet another reason to lay claim to our slogan "City of Community Pride".

SMOKEY THE BEAR DOES NOT LIVE HERE!

A confused bear found himself up a tree in "Smokey's" back yard. He must have heard that Smokey lived in the neighborhood, however, it was not the Smokey he was looking for and instead he found Mike "Smokey" Smokevitch! Mike said that his dog began to bark at about 10:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 20th and would not be quiet. He thought maybe a raccoon or porcupine lurking in the backyard had the hound stirred up. In the morning he ventured out to find this bear in the tree behind his house. The DNR was called, they tranquilized the young bear, got it safely down from the tree, and moved it to a less populated area.



Eric Peterson Photo

CALENDAR

SEPT 4: Closed—Labor Day

SEPT 11: City Council meets 5:00

SEPT 23: First Day of Autumn

SEPT 26: Recycle day

SEPT 30: 6TH ANNUAL HARVEST FEST

OCT 1—6: Hydrant flushing

OCT 9: City Council meeting 5:00

OCT 10: Last day to register to vote for November election

OCT 23-27: Fall yard debris pick up week

OCT 29: Daylight savings time ends—Fall Back 1 Hour

OCT 31: Recycle day

NOV 7: Election Day—go vote!

NOV 13: City Council meeting 5:00

NOV 15: Deer Hunting Season opener

NOV 23& 24: Thanksgiving Day Holiday—City offices closed both days.

NOV 28: Recycle day

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- Janet Hendrickson, Mayor 875-3291
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- Scott Thrasher, Councilor 875-3648
- Mark Valesano, Councilor 875-6043
- Jack Stachowicz, Councilor 875-3950
- Charles Nordeman, Manager 875-6647
- Dorothea Olson, Clerk/Treas 875-3212
- Robert Sherwin, Police Chief 875-3012
- John Ahola, Fire Chief 875-6614



ORDINANCE NO. 1.11 - FIRE CALL FEE ORDINANCE

The following is an excerpt of the Fire Call Fee Ordinance that was adopted by both the City of Crystal Falls and Crystal Falls Township and became effective June 12, 2006. The entire ordinance is available at the City Clerk/Treasurer's office. This ordinance is also available on the City's website www.crystalfalls.org

Fire Authority fire department operation which remains, in part, an at-large governmental expense based upon the general benefits derived by all property owners within the city from the existence of the Crystal Falls Fire Authority fire department and its availability to extinguish fires within the city and perform other emergency services.

- Truck Fire \$300.00
- Forest Fire \$250.00
- Emergency rescue service \$300.00
- Other services not specifically enumerated \$250.00

The foregoing minimum charges may be modified by resolution of the City Council, provided such resolution becomes effective not less than ten (10) days after such resolution is adopted.

- Introduced: April 10, 2006
- Approved: May 8, 2006
- Published: May 24, 2006
- Effective: June 12, 2006

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH CHARGES FOR CRYSTAL FALLS FIRE AUTHORITY SERVICES AND TO PROVIDE METHODS FOR THE COLLECTION OF SUCH CHARGES AND EXEMPTIONS THEREFROM.

THE CITY OF CRYSTAL FALLS, IRON COUNTY, MICHIGAN ORDAINS:

Section 1- Purpose

The within ordinance is adopted for the purpose of providing financial assistance to the City in the operation of the Crystal Falls Fire Authority fire department from those receiving direct benefits from the fire protection service; to provide for full funding of the Crystal Falls

Section 2- Charges

- The following minimum charges shall hereafter be due and payable to the Crystal Falls Fire Authority on behalf of the city from a recipient of any of the following enumerated services from the Crystal Falls Fire Authority fire department:
- Grass Fire \$200.00
 - Rubbish Fire \$200.00
 - Automobile Fire \$250.00
 - House Fire \$300.00
 - Fire in a commercial establishment \$400.00
 - Fire in an industrial or manufacturing establishment \$400.00
 - Fire in a multiple-family building \$300.00
 - Hotel or motel Fire \$400.00
 - Aircraft Fire \$400.00
 - Train Fire \$300.00



FIRE TRUCK FLEET AT THE BASS FESTIVAL PARADE