



CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

February 2024

Baldwin Public Library

Library Board

The Library Board will meet on Monday, February 26 at 7:30 p.m. for its regular meeting. Board meetings are held in the second floor Board Room. The Board will be approving several policy updates at their February meeting.

Snow Crash Nebula

David Bloom and Laura Host have collaborated with artist Michael Andrews on a new artwork display on the east side of the Youth Room along Bates Street. The show, entitled "Snow Crash Nebula" (pictured below), is visible from Shain Park.



Fourth Saturday Sale

The Friends of the Baldwin Public Library will host their monthly Fourth Saturday Sale on Saturday, February 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Stop by the Friends Sorting Room on the lower level to shop exciting new inventory!

Phase 3 Construction Project

Interior work on the Phase 3 addition has begun and contractors are installing drywall on ceilings and walls. Once glass production is completed, the curtain walls on the exterior of the building will be installed. The project is scheduled to be completed by early April and we will be celebrating the new addition with an open house and ribbon cutting on May 18. More information about the project can be found online at www.baldwinlib.org/renovation.

Library Tour

If you would like to learn even more about the library, join Director Rebekah Craft for a Behind the Scenes Tour. You'll visit staff areas, learn how items are added to the collection, and hear about new programs and services. The next tour will meet in the Library's Claudia Ireland room on Tuesday, March 5 at 4 p.m.

Upcoming Events of Interest

The Second Middle Passage: America's Domestic Slave Trade

Tuesday, February 13 at 7 p.m.

In the thirty years after the Revolution, a new type of American slave trade rose to compete with, eclipse, and replace transatlantic slave trade. This new slave trade took place wholly within the United States as more than a million enslaved African Americans made this massive forced migration from the Upper South to work on cotton plantations in the Deep South. Join Dr. Richard Bell as he explores the development of this domestic slave trade called the Second Middle Passage.

NYT & WSJ from Home

Thursday, February 29 at 3 p.m.

Learn how to access popular newspapers, including the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal with your Baldwin Public Library card.

After Hours Teen Study Night with Therapy Dogs

Saturday, March 2 from 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Is school stressing you out? Maybe petting dogs will help! After the library closes to the public, it will remain open for students in grades 9-12. Pizza will be provided.

Suffragettes at the DIA: The Changing Role of Women in America

Tuesday, March 5 at 7 p.m.

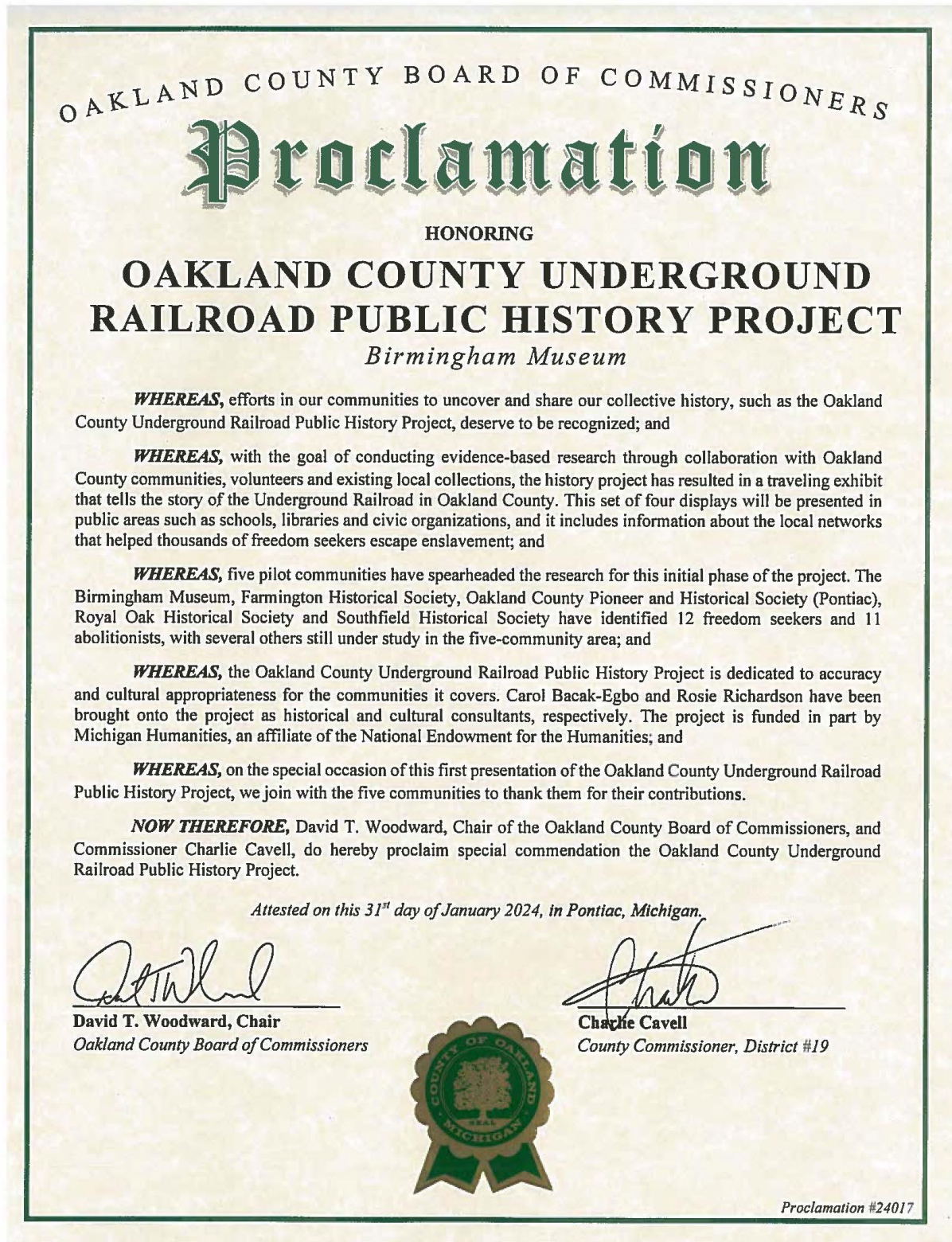
Join us as we continue to honor women's voting rights by exploring both works by suffragette artists and art which exemplifies the challenges women faced before the adoption of the 19th amendment. Detroit Institute of Arts docent, Kathleen McBroom, will discuss the roles of women throughout history through the perspective of art and artists.

Learn more about these events and other programs coming to Baldwin at www.baldwinlib.org/calendar/.

The Birmingham Museum

The Birmingham Museum recently received a Proclamation (pictured below) issued by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners for its contributions to the study of the Underground Railroad and its leadership in the five-community project, which has created a public history-based traveling exhibit and interactive web map. The four other participating organizations (Farmington Historical Society, Oakland County

Pioneer & Historical Society/Pontiac, Royal Oak Historical Society, and Southfield Historical Society) also received a separate proclamation.



The traveling exhibit is circulating to public locations throughout Oakland County for two months at a time. The four-panel display will be featured in the City of Birmingham's municipal building during May and June 2024 to celebrate Juneteenth.

Birmingham Shopping District

The annual assessment and *Year in Review* was mailed late-January. Over the past year, the district welcomed over 20 new businesses, with eight more scheduled to open in 2024. Fifteen commercial, residential and mixed-use development projects are currently underway (totaling over 825,000 sq. ft.) throughout the district. While there has been some turnover of space recently, steady retailer interest and a waiting list for space remains. Retail and office occupancy are at 99% (of 1.5 million sq. ft.) and 89% (of 2 million sq. ft.), respectively, and the local/national business mix is 75%/25%.

BSD Interim Director

Melissa Fairbairn, City of Birmingham Assistant City Manager, was appointed to Interim Director of the Birmingham Shopping District following Cristina Sheppard-Decius' separation of employment on February 1. All BSD operations will continue as planned.

Special Events

The inaugural BRRmingham Blast event in January was a success, drawing hundreds to downtown Birmingham for free entertainment and activities. The BSD distributed more than 2,500 marshmallows for roasting and hundreds of zip line ride bands, completed over 1,000 crafts at Kids' Zone, and food trucks reported high-volume sales. Some retailers reported an uptick in sales and foot traffic during the event.

The BSD is preparing for the Spring Stroll event on April 13, and its 22nd Farmers Market season, which will begin on May 5. The Farmers Market vendor application opened this week and we already have over 50 applications.

Business Development

Warby Parker celebrated its grand opening on Feb 3. Recruitment/retention projects in progress include new business welcome materials, recruitment videos, business anniversary recognitions and more.

Maintenance & Capital Improvements

Concepts and budgets for the VIAs, specifically Pierce Street, are being developed, as part of the BSD's initiative to create a more pedestrian friendly environment for the alleys.

Marketing & Advertising

Advertising and branding initiatives for spring/summer are in progress. Planning and contract development for FY24/25 is underway.

Building Department

Board of Zoning Appeals

There were five cases on the agenda for the January 7, 2024 Board of Zoning Appeals regular meeting:

1. 631 Ruffner: The owners of the property requested variances regarding the side yard setbacks, minimum distance between houses and the distance an attached garage must be set back from the front façade to construct an addition on an existing nonconforming home. The variances were approved by a 6/0 vote.
2. 1215 Cedar: The property owner requested variances regarding the minimum side yard setbacks and minimum distance between houses to construct an addition to their existing nonconforming home. The variances were approved by a 6/0 vote.
3. 172 George: The owner requested a variance to construct a detached garage closer to a house on a neighboring lot than the ordinance allows. The variance was denied by a 6/0 vote.

4. 220 Lake Park: The owner requested a variance to construct an attached garage to the existing house that would not be set back the required five feet from the front façade. The variance was approved by a 5/1 vote.
5. 460 Wimbledon: The property owner requested variances from the minimum front yard setback and minimum combined side yard setbacks to construct an addition to the existing nonconforming home. The variances were approved by a 6/0 vote.

Online Permit Applications

We processed 404 permits online in the month of January, up from 245 last year in January.

Monthly Report

The [Building Department's monthly report](#) provides an update on the following construction activity: building permits issued, building inspections conducted, trades permits issued and trades inspections conducted.

City Clerk's Office

Calling All Election Inspectors!

The City Clerk's Office is taking applications for Election Inspectors. The February 27, 2024 Presidential Primary Election will be a great learning opportunity for election inspectors of all levels of experience as we head into the 2024 election cycle. Becoming an election inspector is a valuable opportunity to actively support our democratic process. As an election inspector, you play an essential role in ensuring fair and transparent elections, while safeguarding the rights of your fellow citizens. With training and experience, election inspectors build a deeper understanding of the election process and all of the safety and security measures in place to ensure that elections continue to be conducted with accuracy and efficiency in a safe manner.

Follow [this link](#) to sign up as an election inspector for the February 27, 2024 election. All training classes are included along with placement requests and additional information the Clerk's Office will need. There have been some updates to the form, so please take your time to fill everything out completely.

Important note for all voters

When completing an absentee ballot application, permanent voter ballot selection form, or in-person voter applications at early voting and on Election Day, please note the "Ballot Without Presidential Primary" is not an option as the City of Birmingham will not have any non-partisan proposals or non-partisan candidates on the February 27, 2024 ballot.

Voters with an absentee ballot can...

1. Return your ballot by mail or drop box
*Keep in mind the spoiling ballot deadlines listed below
2. Vote your absentee ballot at one of the early voting sites (NEW with Prop 22-2)
3. Vote your absentee ballot at your precinct on Election Day (NEW with Prop 22-2)

Early Voting Dates for the February 27, 2024 Presidential Primary:

Saturday	2/17	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Sunday	2/18	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday	2/19	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday	2/20	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday	2/21	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday	2/22	12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Friday	2/23	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Saturday	2/24	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Sunday	2/25	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Early Voting Locations:

- Waterford Oaks Activities Center, 2800 Watkins Lake Road, Waterford, MI 48328
- Bloomfield Township Public Library, 1099 Lone Pine Rd. Bloomfield Twp, MI 48302

Early Voting is a component of proposal 2022-2 and includes a constitutional right to no less than 9 days of early voting in each Statewide and federal election (even year election) for no less than 8 hours per day. The February 27, 2024 Presidential Primary election is a Statewide federal election. Early voting will look and feel just like voting on Election Day.

For more information on Early Voting, visit bhamgov.org/vote.

February 27, 2024 - Presidential Primary Important Deadlines

February 13, 2024 - Election Day	Same-day voter registration with your local clerk, proof of residency required
Friday, February 16, 2024	Deadline for spoiling an absentee ballot
Saturday, February 17, 2024 through Sunday, February 25, 2024	Early Voting
Friday, February 23, 2024	5:00 p.m. deadline for sending absentee ballots by first class mail
Monday, February 26, 2024	4:00 p.m. deadline for voters to spoil their absentee ballot in person at the Clerk's Office (ballots that were lost or destroyed)
Tuesday, February 27, 2024	8:00 p.m. deadline for absentee ballots to be delivered to the clerk for tabulation
Friday, March 1, 2024	5:00 p.m. deadline for a voter to cure a signature on an AV ballot to be received and counted
Monday, March 4, 2024	Deadline to receive and count a ballot submitted by an Overseas Voter postmarked on or before Election Day.

Permanent Ballot Voters - Ballot Style Request Card

Over 4,500 Birmingham voters have migrated to the "Permanent Ballot" list by sending a request in writing or through an absentee ballot application from the November 7, 2023 election. These voters should have received a postcard to select their ballot style for the February 27, 2024 Presidential Primary Election. **Permanent ballot voters must return the ballot selection postcard for the Presidential Primary Election. Clerk's office staff will be following up by email, phone call, and first class mail for permanent ballot voters who have not returned their ballot selection cards.** Going forward there will only be one ballot style for the August and November elections in 2024, in November of 2025, and in August and November of 2026.

Absentee ballots will be issued as requests are received up until the Absentee Ballot Issuing deadline on Monday, February 26, 2024 at 4 p.m.

Absentee Ballot Applications

Absentee Ballot Applications have been delivered to Birmingham Voters on the "Permanent Absentee Ballot Application" list. This list will be phased out soon as voters migrate to the "Permanent Ballot" list. Pictured below is the absentee ballot application. There is a lot of information on the absentee ballot application, so read carefully!

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
151 MARTIN STREET
P.O. BOX 3001
BIRMINGHAM, MI 48012-3001
(248) 530-1880
elections@bhamgov.org

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TAYLOR, MI
PERMIT NO. 107



FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

OFFICIAL ELECTION MATERIAL
ABSENT VOTER APPLICATION

DO NOT DETACH - RETURN ENTIRE FORM

MI ABSENT VOTER BALLOT APPLICATION 2024 Presidential Primary Feb. 27/Primary Aug. 6/General Nov. 5 See Reverse Side for Instructions →

I certify that I am a United States citizen and a qualified and registered elector in the CITY OF BIRMINGHAM, County of OAKLAND, State of Michigan, and I apply for an official ballot, to be voted by me in the election(s) checked below, and the statements in this application are true.

Other Elections: Complete to join the permanent absent voter ballot list (optional)

Automatically send me an absent voter ballot for each future election for which I'm eligible.

1 Check one Select election(s) to receive ballot (required):
 ALL FEBRUARY 27, 2024 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY AUGUST 6, 2024 PRIMARY NOVEMBER 5, 2024 GENERAL

2 Check one Select only one ballot type for the Presidential Primary (required):
 Democratic Party Presidential Primary Ballot
 Republican Party Presidential Primary Ballot
 Ballot Without Presidential Primary (If available, this choice is for voters not voting in the Presidential Primary who wish to vote on other proposals or candidates only.)

FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

	PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY	PRIMARY	GENERAL
Filed			
Mailed			
Ballot #			
Returned			
Wd./Pct. #			
Clerk			

3 Complete YEAR OF BIRTH
4 Complete VOTER CONTACT INFORMATION
Phone Email

WARNING: A PERSON WHO MAKES A FALSE STATEMENT IN THIS DECLARATION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR.

I certify that I am a United States citizen and that the statements in this Absent Voter Ballot application are true.

5 Sign date **VOTER SIGN HERE** X
Power of attorney is not acceptable Signature of Absent Voter _____ Date ____/____/____

NOTE: Michigan law requires that A.V. Ballots be sent to your registered address unless you request that your absent voter ballot be sent to a different address as provided on this form. A ballot may be mailed to a P.O. Box if you do not have mail delivery to your residence.

Complete Only If You Want Your Ballot Sent To A Temporary Address. USPS will not forward your ballot. If additional addresses are needed or plans change, contact your city/township clerk.

6 Complete if needed

SEND PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY BALLOT TO:	SEND PRIMARY BALLOT TO:	SEND GENERAL BALLOT TO:
TEMPORARY ADDRESS:	TEMPORARY ADDRESS:	TEMPORARY ADDRESS:
DATE LEAVING	DATE LEAVING	DATE LEAVING
DATE OF RETURN	DATE OF RETURN	DATE OF RETURN
____/____/____	____/____/____	____/____/____
____/____/____	____/____/____	____/____/____
____/____/____	____/____/____	____/____/____
____/____/____	____/____/____	____/____/____
City State Zip	City State Zip	City State Zip

Voters who wish to receive an absentee ballot automatically for each election moving forward should check the box in the **yellow** highlighted area.

Becoming a Permanent Ballot Voter

Since the passage of Proposal 2022-2, clerks now maintain a Permanent Ballot List. Birmingham voters began opting into the Permanent Ballot List by checking the box pictured below on their November 7, 2023 absentee ballot application. This box is also available on the 2024 absentee ballot applications, both are pictured below.

APPLICATION FOR ABSENT VOTER'S BALLOT SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INSTRUCTIONS

NOVEMBER 7, 2023 ELECTION

I certify that I am a United States citizen and a qualified and registered elector in the CITY OF BIRMINGHAM, County of OAKLAND, State of Michigan, I apply for an official ballot, to be voted by me in the election above, and the statements in this application are true.

COMPLETE TO JOIN PERMANENT LIST
I want to vote absentee in all elections. Automatically send me an absent voter ballot for all elections.

MI ABSENT VOTER BALLOT APPLICATION 2024 Presidential Primary Feb. 27/Primary Aug. 6/General Nov. 5 See Reverse Side for Instructions

I certify that I am a United States citizen and a qualified and registered elector in the CITY OF BIRMINGHAM, County of OAKLAND, State of Michigan, and I apply for an official ballot, to be voted by me in the election(s) checked below, and the statements in this application are true.

Other Elections: Complete to join the permanent absent voter ballot list (optional)
Automatically send me an absent voter ballot for each future election for which I'm eligible.

1 Check One Select election(s) to receive ballot (required):
 ALL FEBRUARY 27, 2024 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY AUGUST 6, 2024 PRIMARY NOVEMBER 5, 2024 GENERAL

Voters can opt in or out of the Permanent Ballot list at any time by sending a written request to the City Clerk's Office.

Voters on the Permanent Ballot List should make sure they keep current contact information on file with the City Clerk's Office including mailing address (especially for those that travel outside of Birmingham during times that ballots are being mailed) as well as phone and email contacts. Ballots are not allowed to be forwarded so the Clerk's Office will be contacting all voters whose absentee ballots bounced back to the Clerk's Office in the mail.

Presidential Candidate List

Under [State law](#), the Secretary of State is required to issue [a list of individuals](#) "generally advocated by the national news media to be potential presidential candidates" for the Republican and Democratic parties for the presidential primary election.

Overseas Voters

Voters who are in the military or will be overseas during the any of the 2024 elections must apply for a MOVE ballot at <https://www.fvap.gov/michigan>.

In 2023, the Governor signed legislation that took immediate effect to allow additional time to receive absentee voter ballots from military and overseas voters. This change comes after Michiganders approved Ballot Proposal 22-2 to amend the State's Constitution last year. The new law states that absentee ballots from military and overseas voters will be counted if the ballot return envelope was postmarked on or before Election Day and received within six days following the election.

2024 Election Dates

- Presidential Primary - February 27, 2024
- State Primary - August 6, 2024
- General Election - November 5, 2024

No Postage Necessary!

Absentee ballot applications and absentee ballot return envelopes for the entire State of Michigan are equipped with a business reply mail permit that will cover the cost of postage for any ballot or application mailed within the United States.

Return Envelopes

Outgoing absentee ballots (to the voter) are blue. All absentee ballot return envelopes (coming back to the Clerk) are purple. The United States Post Office and Michigan Bureau of Elections worked to redesign these envelopes and changed the color from green to purple to increase the efficiency of processing election mail.

Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board (GCAB)

The next meeting for the GCAB is scheduled for April 5, 2024. To view Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board agendas and minutes visit www.bhamgov.org/GCAB.

Board of Ethics

The next Board of Ethics meeting has yet to be determined. To view the Ethics Board agendas and minutes visit www.bhamgov.org/ethics.

Board Appointments

The City of Birmingham is looking for dedicated individuals who want to give back to their community by serving on one of our many boards or commissions. Birmingham’s different boards and commissions make recommendations that shape the City’s future. Serving on a board or commission is a great way to get involved in your community, meet new people and make a positive impact. Visit www.bhamgov.org/boardopportunities to view all the available openings and apply to make a difference.

Board	Openings	Application Due by Noon	Interview/ Appointment at City Commission meeting 7:30 p.m.
Advisory Parking Committee	1 regular member (retail) term ending 9/1/2026 1 alternate member term ending 9/1/2026	Until Filled	
Architectural Review Committee	1 regular member term ending 4/11/2025 1 regular member term ending 4/11/2027	3/13/24	3/18/24
Birmingham Shopping District	1 member shall be a business operator or person with interest in property located within the district, 4-year	Until Filled	

	term ending 11/16/2026		
Birmingham Area Cable Board	1 regular Birmingham resident, term ending 3/30/24 1 regular Birmingham resident, term ending 3/30/26 1 alternate Birmingham resident, term ending 3/30/25	Until Filled	
Board of Review	1 regular member to serve a 3-year term expiring 12/31/2026 1 regular member to serve a 3-year term expiring 12/31/2025 1 alternate member to serve 3-year term expiring 12/31/2026 1 alternate member to serve the remainder of a 3-year term expiring 12/31/2025	Until filled	
Board of Zoning Appeals	1 alternate member term ending 2/18/2026	Until Filled	
Brownfield Redevelopment Authority	1 Regular Member term ending 5/23/2026 1 regular member Term ending 5/23/2024	Until Filled	
Ethics Board	1 Alternate member term ending 6/30/2026	Until Filled	
Housing Board of Appeals	3 Regular Members, term ending 5/4/2026	Until Filled	
Martha Baldwin Park Board	1 Regular member term ending 5/1/2024	Until Filled	

Planning Board	2 alternate members to serve a 3-year term expiring 3/28/27 3 regular members to serve a 3-year term expiring 3/28/27	3/13/24	3/18/24
Stormwater Utility Appeals Board	3 regular members, term ending 1/31/2026 2 alternate members 1/31/2025	Until Filled	
Triangle District Corridor Improvement Authority	1 resident of the developed area or area within 1/2 mile of the development area, term ending 12/15/2027	Until Filled	

City Manager's Office

Ad Hoc Aging in Place Committee (AIPC)

On January 24, 2024, the AIPC held its regular meeting. The guest speaker was Mr. Jim Mangi. Mr. Mangi is the Founder and Director of Dementia Friendly Saline. Mr. Mangi discussed the topic of dementia and what it takes to become a "Dementia Friendly City." The AIPC also addressed all questions received from the public during the December 13, 2023 public engagement meeting.

On Wednesday, February 28, 2024, the AIPC will hold their regular meeting at Next (2121 Midvale, Birmingham MI 48009) for another public engagement meeting. A summary of the AIPC's work to date will be delivered to attendees, and the AIPC will welcome public comments on any aspect of aging in place.

YMCA Building

City staff received eight (8) responses related to the RFP for building assessment and conceptual designs for the renovation/expansion of the YMCA building (400 E. Lincoln) by the January 5, 2024 deadline. The proposals received ranged in cost from \$54,100 to \$187,820. The proposal evaluation committee, consisting of the City Manager, both Assistant City Managers, the Building Official, the DPS Parks and Recreation Manager and Next Director Cris Braun, were provided with copies of each respective bidder's proposal and asked to complete an evaluation sheet. The evaluation committee met on February 2, 2024 and discussed each proposal at length. NORR, LLC and Krieger Klatt Architects, were selected as the top two finalists for consideration by the City Commission. At the February 12, 2024 City Commission meeting, each vendor will provide the City Commission with a ten-minute presentation on their bid that includes discussing key staff, past projects that relate to senior/recreation building projects and what their public engagement strategy will be. The final decision will rest with the City Commission.

Communications

Around Town e-Newsletter

The communications team is working on the March edition of the Around Town e-Newsletter, which will include information about upcoming spring events, golf incentives, new businesses and more. Follow [this link to view the February edition](#) of the Around Town e-Newsletter.



Receive Updates from Birmingham

Receive the latest news from Birmingham by signing up to receive our newsletter and alerts at www.bhamgov.org/enews, and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) @BhamGov. Newsletter and alert subscribers receive important information specific to their neighborhood, emergency alerts and our newsletter featuring upcoming events, meetings, City projects, developments and more.

BIRMINGHAM CITY COMMISSION - UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

Meeting	Topic	Dates Addressed	Status
2/5/24	Add cameras to front and back of vehicles.	2/5/24	In progress
1/8/24	Letter to Bloomfield Twp regarding variance for Birmingham Country Club	1/8/24	In progress
1/8/24	Direct Police/Multi-Modal Transportation Board for report back on Torry/Haynes consistency	1/8/24	In progress
12/4/23	Parking system financials	12/4/23	In progress
11/27/23	Process for civic projects	11/27/23 12/4/23	In progress
11/13/23	Vehicular Speed Issues	11/13/23 1/8/24	In progress
10/2/23	Implementation of crosswalk standards	10/2/23 10/16/23 11/13/23	In progress
5/8/23	Woodward noise	5/8/23 6/5/23	In progress
2/27/23	Bench and Little Library for Pat Andrews	3/13/23 5/8/23	In progress

Engineering Department

Illicit Discharge to Rouge River

The City has determined the source of the sanitary sewer discharge. A meeting between the property owner and the City will occur in the month of February. We have been keeping the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) aware of the City's progress in finding the source.

Lead Service Replacement Program

The City will be starting a door-knocking effort to replace water lead services at no cost to property owners. If the property owner is not available, a flier will be left. Please follow the steps in the flier to schedule your water service replacement.

Water Service Verification Program

The City has a deadline of October 2024 to submit material information from 364 water service lines to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE).

The City randomly selected 364 water services to verify the material for this EGLE requirement. The City will be knocking on doors to talk to property owners about verifying the "In-Home/Business" water service line material. If a property owner is not home, a flier will be left with the next steps. Property owners can schedule an inspection by an authorized City Representative at (248) 303-2292 or determine the in-home/business material themselves with the steps provided in the property owner letter.

Redding Road Project

The Engineering Department will host a property owner meeting to provide construction information on the Redding Road project on Thursday, February 15, 2024, from 5:30-7p.m. Property owners received a letter with additional information about this meeting.

Edgewood Road Project

The City received bids on the Edgewood Road project and will be brought forward to the City Commission for approval in March. The Engineering Department will host a property owner meeting to provide construction information on the project on Wednesday, February 28, 2024, from 5:30-7p.m. Property owners received a letter with additional information about this meeting.

For more information about these projects or programs, please contact the Engineering Department at 248-530-1840.

Fire Department

HazMat Technical Class

The Birmingham Fire Department and its OAKWAY mutual aid partners have coordinated putting together a HazMat Technician class. The Birmingham Fire Department has three members attending this training. The HazMat Technician certification allows personnel to operate at a higher level on any hazardous material incident. Firefighters trained at the technician level can perform OFFENSIVE actions, meaning they may shut down and contain a leak of poisonous, toxic, or flammable chemicals and perform rescues during any such incident. HazMat Technicians can enter hazardous environments with the higher level personal protective equipment (PPE) that they get trained on to gather information during unknown chemical spills/releases as well as take any defensive actions if appropriate. The HazMat Technician course is a two-week, 80-hour course taught by several subject matter experts. These additional certified HazMat Technicians will be assets to the Birmingham Fire Department if we are ever needed for a response to any incidents involving hazardous materials.

Human Resources

New Hires

The City of Birmingham extends warm congratulations to our newly hired employees from January 13, 2023 to February 12, 2024. Their skills, expertise, and enthusiasm are a valuable addition to our team.

Department	Name	Position	Type
Parking	Steffanie Rhymes	Parking Facility Maintenance	Full Time
Parking	Kel Howarth	Parking Facility Maintenance	Full Time
Parking	John Squire	Parking Lead Attendant	Full Time
DPS	Tiffany Reid	SSW Operator	Full Time (Teamsters)
Police	Maksym Mishchanchuk	Police Officer	Full Time (BPOA)

February Hiring Anniversaries

The City of Birmingham celebrated the hiring anniversaries of several employees. We extend our heartfelt appreciation for their exceptional service and unwavering dedication. Their contributions are deeply valued and recognized.

Years Of Service	Employee	Department	Position
1	Hasenfratz, Bradley	DPS	DPS Temporary Laborer
1	Hathon, Suzanne	Library	Librarian
1	Degrieck, Jessica	Library	Librarian Substitute
2	Dabrowski, Sofia	Library	Librarian Substitute
2	Koch, Justin	Museum	Museum Assistant
3	Nock, Ian	DPS	Fleet Mechanic
3	Klobucar, Teresa	Finance	Finance Assistant
4	Elam, Carlton	Library	Library Assistant
5	Bearden, Jr, Randy	Fire	Fire / AEMT

7	Johnson, Wesleyann	Library	Librarian Substitute
7	Linke, Alex	Police	Police Lieutenant
8	Shinozaki, Angela	Library	Librarian Substitute
8	Green, Syntha	Library	Librarian
9	Foley, Gregory	DPS	P&F Specialist
11	Judkins, Christopher	Fire	Fire Lt/AEMT
11	Kabel, Dennis	Library	Library Assistant
11	Dix, Ronald	DPS	Park & Prop Maintenance
11	Lane, Sr., Dominic	DPS	SSW Specialist
19	Faes, Raymond	Police	Police Lieutenant
26	Williams, Christine	Police	Parking Enforcement
28	Hart, Theresa	Library	Library Assistant

Employment Opportunities

The City is currently accepting applications for the following positions. To submit an application or for more information go to www.bhamgov.org/jobs.

Department	Position	Type	Application Closing
Administration	Finance Director/ Designee	Full Time	February 13, 2024
DPS	Office Coordinator	Full Time (AFSCME)	February 18, 2024
Police	Crossing Guard	Part Time	February 25, 2024
DPS	Parks & Forestry Operator	Full Time (Teamsters)	March 1, 2024
Building	Plumbing Inspector	Full Time	Until Filled
DPS	Fleet Mechanic	Full Time (Teamsters)	Until Filled

Police Department

Woodward Noise

Since January 2022, the Police Chief has been very active in contacting our State elected officials to speak about the vehicle noise issues along Woodward Ave. The Chief was able to schedule numerous meetings with both Rep. Natalie Price and Sen. Mallory McMorrow to discuss the noise issues and the effect it is having on our community. During these discussions, options were reviewed to address enforcement issues and the current State statute (257.707c) that is contradictory and extremely difficult to enforce. The Police Department has been requesting our representative's support on two main issues.

First, the current statute contradicts itself. Sec. 257.707c3 states modifications to the exhaust system are illegal and in Sec 257.707c5 it states those same modifications are only illegal if they violate the limits outlined in the act, referring to DBA levels. We have been requesting the elimination of the last section thereby making the modifications illegal with no DBA levels attached.

Second, the current statute has no provisions in place to require an owner to fix their vehicle once a ticket is issued. The current fine for a violation is only \$100. Drivers are paying this minimal fine and continuing to drive their nuisance vehicles down our roadways. We have requested that the statute be updated to a higher fine and that the violation becomes waivable if the vehicle is corrected. By doing this, our goal is to encourage owners to return their vehicles to the stock exhaust system to eliminate the problem from reoccurring in the same vehicle. Also, that new language includes increased fines and possible towing of vehicles for repeat violators.

I am pleased to report that Rep. Natalie Price has agreed with the recommended changes and her legal team has modified the existing State law to include these changes. On January 26, 2024, the Chief was advised that Rep. Price's team met with the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan and had a productive meeting. The Association will be taking this legislative draft before their board for endorsement on February 9, 2024. Additionally, Rep. Price has a meeting scheduled with the State Court Administrative Office on February 15, 2024, to discuss this topic. Assuming they receive the support they are anticipating, Rep. Price plans to introduce the legislation shortly thereafter.

If and when this proposed legislation is introduced, the Chief will begin taking this topic to multiple chief's meetings and the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police to encourage others to contact their representatives to support this legislative change.

Parking Systems Update

Operations

The City is still in the process of bringing parking operations in-house. The Parking Department has hired an Operations Manager, a Lead Attendant, and two maintenance staff members. There are still five open positions we are working to fill.

Occupancy

JANUARY AVG CAPACITY	
Chester Garage (880)	26.60%
Old Woodward (745)	23.11%
Park Garage (811)	20.64%
Peabody Garage (437)	31.34%
Pierce Garage (706)	31.53%

Free Parking Report

Follow this [link to view the free parking report](#). This report shows a two-month snapshot of the total number of parked cars, broken down by how many paid to park versus how many parked for two hours or less, which is free in all decks.

Monthly Occupancy

Follow this [link to view an occupancy report](#) for the month of January. This report shows a breakdown of both transient (daily) and monthly parkers at each garage, and how full each garage is on average by hour for the month.

Future Agenda Items

Download a summary of [future agenda items](#).

Future Workshop Items

Download a summary of [future workshop items](#).