

(For September 2019)

Around the City with City Manager David Thayer

April 1, 2020 is Be Counted Day. That is the day the US Census Bureau will tally how many people live in our country, State by State, City by City, and all parts in between. It is important to be counted primarily for financial distribution reasons, but also for elected representation reasons. Back in the day, the Upper Peninsula had two congressional representatives. Now, we have 1/3 of a Representative, all because of population loss and population shifts. Part of the undercounting is due to people stating they live **where they are on April 1st rather than where they are domiciled**. You are domiciled where you are registered to vote, where you register your vehicles, and where you call home. New this year, the Census Bureau will conduct most of the counting **on-line**. Details on how this process will work is just being released. They will still send enumerators to homes to count those that were not counted in the primary phase of the count. If you consider Iron River as your domicile, please **be sure to be counted as an Iron River resident**. Do not fill out two census forms. You will only be counted once and make that address your Iron River address.

The City will conduct an election on November 5, 2019 for the Office of Mayor and for two Councilpersons' seats. All the positions are for a four-year term. Last year, the City changed how Councilpersons are elected by going from precinct representation to an at large, citywide representation. We will have two voting precincts. Precinct 1 will cover the north and northwest sections of our City (formerly precincts 1 and 2) and Precinct 2 will cover south and southeast sections (formerly precincts 3 and 4). Both voting precincts will have the same ballot. There are two names on the ballot for Mayor. You may vote for no more than one candidate. The top vote getter will be sworn into office. There are six names on the ballot for the two council seats. You may vote for no more than two candidates. The highest two vote getters from the total vote tally of both voting precincts will be sworn into office.

The Fall Brush Pick-up Program will start the week of October 21st and continue for the next four days. We will work the same four zoned system as we have in past years starting with the north zone and

working our way south. Properly bagged leaves and garden waste will be picked-up. Leaves raked to the curb will not be picked-up. Brush with a butt end of 4” or less and no longer than 8” with the butt end facing the curb will be chipped and hauled away. Materials placed at the curb after your pick-up date will not be picked-up.

It is expected that the Parks and Recreation Committee will approve the draft Community Recreational Plan and have it available for a 30-day public review period starting October 4, 2019. Copies of the draft will be available for review on the City’s web page, at the City Clerk’s Office, and at the District Library. Comments can be sent to City Clerk Office, 106 W. Genesee St, Iron River, Michigan, 49935 or by E-mail to clerk@ironriver.org.

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