

City of Crystal Lake, Illinois CITY LETTER



Lakeside Festival, Fireworks & Associated Events

Don't miss out on the Annual Lakeside Festival, held on the grounds of the historic Dole Mansion from Thursday, July 4th through Sunday, July 7th. The festival features live music, food booths, midway games, carnival rides, and a fun, family atmosphere. The event is made possible thanks in large part to many hardworking volunteers and sponsors.

Lakeside Festival is the largest fundraiser for the Lakeside Legacy Foundation's year-round programs and events.

The Lakeside Festival festivities will conclude with the City of Crystal Lake sponsored 2024 fireworks show on Sunday, July 7th. The fireworks will launch from Crystal Lake at dusk near Main Beach. The fireworks promise a grand show for the entire family to enjoy.

We wish you and your family a safe and happy Independence Day!

For additional information, visit www.thedole.org or call (815) 455-8000.

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Lakeside Fest Schedule	
Thursday, July 4	Noon - 11:00 p.m.
Friday, July 5	Noon - 11:00 p.m.
Saturday, July 6	Noon - 11:00 p.m.
Sunday, July 7	Noon - 10:00 p.m.

Handicap Parking for Festival

Handicapped parking is available on Ringling Road east of the Main Stage in the festival grounds. Please contact the Lakeside Legacy Foundation or visit their website for more information regarding festival accessibility (<https://www.thedole.org/accessibility-information>).

Road Closure on Country Club Road during Festival Hours

During the hours the festival is open to patrons (see hours listed above), Country Club Road will be closed between Ringling Road and Broadway Avenue. Upon the festival closing each night, Country Club Road will be open to all vehicle traffic.

Parking in the County Club/Lake Avenue Lot

The Lakeside Festival entrances remain the same as they have in years past. There are two paved entrances to the Festival on Country Club Road. Similarly, parking locations remain the same as they have in years past. The grass lot at the corner of Country Club Road and Lake Avenue will now only be accessible through an entrance/exit located on Lake Avenue. There will be no vehicle access to that lot from Country Club Road.

Please note, the entrance/exit has a 2-3 inch curb that must be crossed to enter/exit the lot. Additionally, this parking lot will be closed at 8:00 PM on July 7th for the fireworks display, and will reopen upon the completion of the fireworks display.



Independence Day Road Closures

Independence Day Parade Road Closures on July 7th and Notice of Limited/No Access to Side Streets

The Independence Day Parade on Sunday, July 7th, will require multiple road closures. The following are approximate road closure times in which vehicles will not be allowed to pass through:

- Woodstock Street between Walkup Avenue and Dole Avenue at approximately 11:30 AM.
- Dole Avenue between Woodstock Street and Crystal Lake Avenue will be closed at approximately 12:00 PM.
- Crystal Lake Avenue between Dole Avenue and Oak Street will be closed at approximately 12:00 PM.
- Oak Street between Crystal Lake Avenue and Terra Cotta Avenue (Route 176) at approximately 12:00 PM.

Access to the roadways will be restricted until the parade is completed.

Independence Day Fireworks Road Closures on July 7th and Notice of Limited/No Access to Side Streets

On July 7, at approximately 9:30 PM (dusk), the City of Crystal Lake will host a fireworks display at Main Beach. In preparation for the display, the following road closures will take place from 8:00 PM until all post fireworks display pedestrian and vehicular traffic is clear:

- Dole Avenue – from Eagle Street to Lakeshore Drive
- Lakeshore Drive at Eagle Street
- Lake Avenue at Lakeshore Drive
- Lake Avenue at Spruce Lane
- Lake Avenue at Riverside Drive
- Country Club Road – from Ringling Road to Broadway Avenue



Similar to the parade, if you reside in the area around Main Beach, anticipate no access to any roadways in the area prior to, during, and following the fireworks display until pedestrian and vehicular traffic has significantly left the area.

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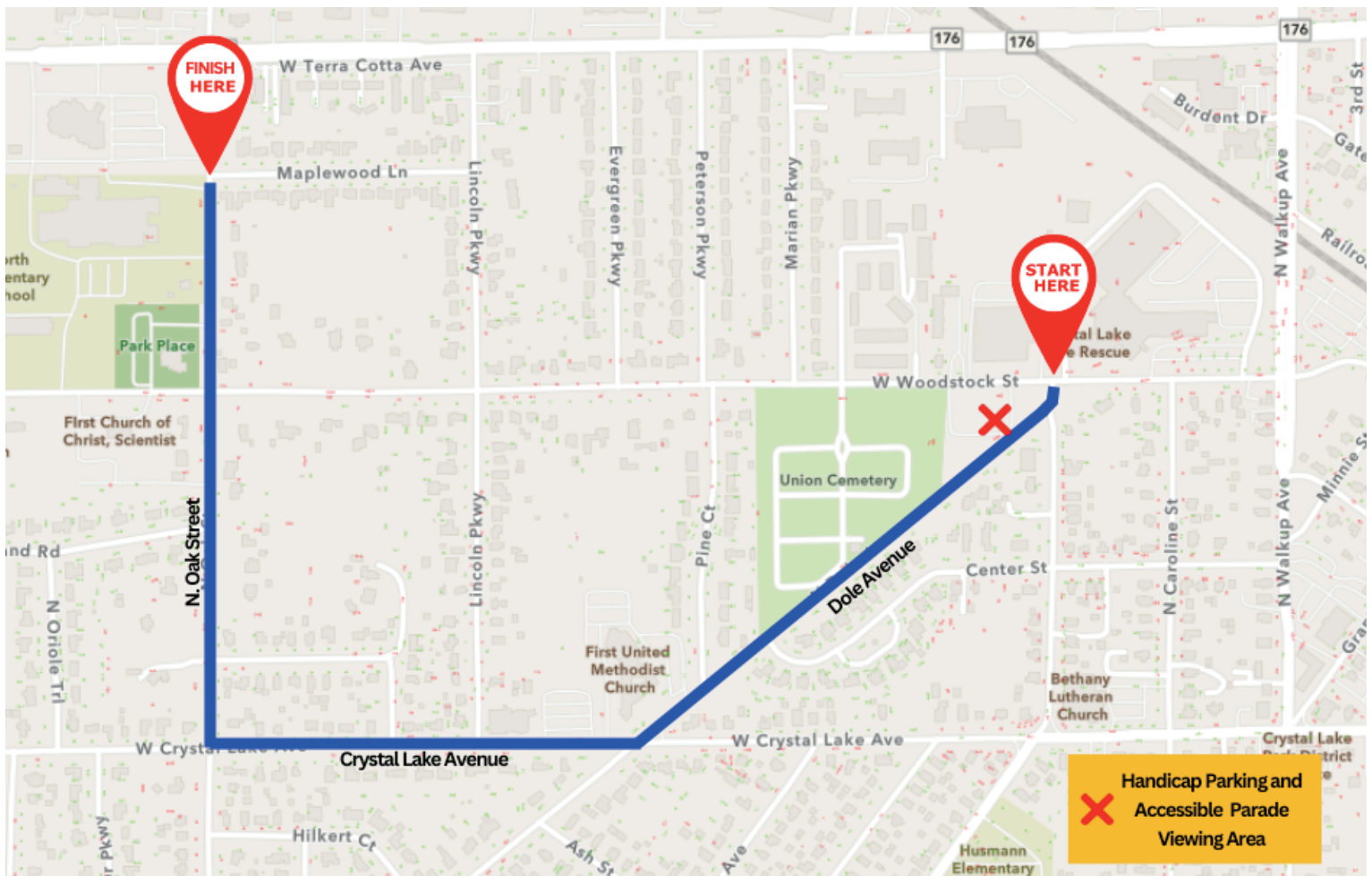
Bicycle Parade the Morning of July 6

The annual bicycle parade will be taking place on Saturday morning at approximately 11:30 AM. While the short parade is ongoing, Lake Avenue will be closed between the Leonard Parkway/Main Beach parking lot entrance and Country Club Road. Country Club Road will be closed from Lake Avenue to Broadway Avenue. It is anticipated Lake Avenue will open to vehicle traffic at approximately 12:00 PM.

2024 Independence Day Parade Route Change

The City of Crystal Lake, in keeping with tradition, will be celebrating Independence Day with the much-anticipated parade and fireworks. This year's Independence Day parade offers a fresh twist. While Dole Avenue is receiving a much needed makeover, the parade will take a new route, bringing the excitement to a different neighborhood. The parade will kick off on Sunday, July 7th at 1:00p.m. at City Hall

(100 W. Woodstock Street), head down Dole Avenue, and proceed west onto Crystal Lake Avenue. At Oak Street, the parade will continue north and end at the Oak Street entrance to St. Thomas Church. The parking lot at St. Thomas will be used as a float unloading area and drive through to pick up parade participants. The lot will not be available for parade spectator parking.



Accessible Parade Viewing Area

An accessible viewing area and handicap parking area for the Independence Day parade will be located in the parking lot at the corner of Woodstock Street and Dole Avenue at the start of the parade route. Signage will mark the designated area and access point.

The location is shown to the right and on the previous page.



Downtown Sidewalk Sales

The annual Sidewalk Sales in Downtown Crystal Lake will return on July 18, 19, and 20 from 10:00a.m. to 5:30p.m. Call a friend, pick up some iced tea or coffee, and enjoy perusing great finds and great deals. If you've never shopped the Sidewalk Sales before, it's a limited time when all of the great sale items move from the back of the stores, out to the sidewalk. You don't want to miss this fun outdoor shopping event!

To stay on top of all events and happenings within downtown, visit downtowncl.org/events.



Crystal Lake Youth Commission

The City Council approved the formation of a new Youth Commission in May 2024 to study, investigate, plan, implement and advise the City Council on matters related to youth. In particular, the Commission is charged with recommending policies, programs and services that empower, support and inform youth; that create a family friendly community; and that enable and encourage youth to be productive members of the community.

The Crystal Lake Youth Commission is committed to advocating for youth by providing them the opportunity to learn, lead and serve through community outreach,

service projects and establishing youth-adult partnerships.

The Youth Commission will hold its first meeting in the Fall of 2024 and the City is seeking interested applicants from the community. Applicants must be age 16 to 20 years old and attend Crystal Lake Central High School, Crystal Lake South High School, Prairie Ridge High school, Haber Oaks, Crystal Lake Private High schools, home school (in Crystal Lake), or McHenry County College.

Interested applicants are encouraged to contact Nick Hammonds, Deputy City Manager, at (815) 356-3675 or nhammonds@crystallake.org to obtain an application.



FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Fireworks & Sparklers



Fireworks are a fun way to celebrate, but they present a fire safety and injury risk to the people who may handle them. Every Fourth of July, thousands of people are injured using consumer fireworks. Most of these injuries are incurred by children and teens. Injuries could include severe burns or death. If you want to enjoy fireworks, please attend a professional show!

If you are looking for some alternatives to fireworks to celebrate with at home, consider using glow sticks, silly string, a piñata, noise makers, hanging lights, light-up balloons, or giant bubble wands.

Facts

- Over 19,500 reported fires are started by fireworks every year.
- Half of all firework injuries seen in emergency rooms were to extremities: hands, fingers, and legs.
- Children between the ages of 10 and 14 have the highest rate of firework injuries.
- Sparklers are responsible for approximately one-quarter of emergency room firework injuries.
- In 2022, 73% of firework injuries occurred in the weeks before and after the 4th of July.

Skip the Sky Lanterns

Sky lanterns used to be a beautiful way to celebrate a special occasion, however, their use poses a significant fire safety hazard. Sky lanterns are made out of materials that can easily catch fire. Lanterns can travel over a mile, but may fall to the ground before their flame is fully extinguished. If a lantern that still has a flame were to fall on a rooftop, in a dry field, or get tangled in power lines, a destructive fire could start.

The Illinois State Fire Marshal has banned sky lanterns in Illinois as they present a risk for fire and injury. Sky lanterns were placed on the Prohibited Consumer Fireworks list on May 14, 2013.

For more information about Illinois firework laws, visit the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal at <https://sfm.illinois.gov/iam/business/fireworks.html>.



Sources: NFPA.org, Consumer Product Safety Commission, and the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal

Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department (815) 356-3640

Follow the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department on Facebook for safety tips, events, and community updates!





POLICE DEPARTMENT

National Night Out

Get ready for National Night out on Thursday, August 8, 2024 from 5:00p.m. - 8:00p.m. in Downtown Crystal Lake (Williams Street, South of Brink Street)!

National Night Out is a national community-building event that promotes police-community partnerships. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring first responders and neighbors together under positive circumstances. The Crystal Lake Police Department believes the best way to build a safer community is to know your neighbors! We look forward to seeing you at this annual event with the following activities:

- K-9 Demo
- Touch-a-Truck
- Food and Entertainment from local businesses
- Music
- Games/Activities

If you'd like to set up a table to share information about your business or organization, host a game, activity, or hand out products, we'd love to hear from you! Please email Officer Stolzman at kstolzman@crystallake.org.



Golf Carts on Roadways

Did you know there is a local ordinance as well as an Illinois State Statute (625 ILCS 5/11-1426.1) that prohibits the use of operating a golf cart within the City of Crystal Lake?

Our local ordinance, "[Certain wheeled vehicles prohibited from streets](#)" states:

It shall be unlawful for any person to skateboard or be on a coaster, toy vehicle or any type of other wheeled vehicle other than a motor vehicle, motorcycle or bicycle on any public street or City-owned property except when crossing a street at a designated crosswalk.

Additionally, golf carts cannot be driven on the sidewalk.

If you have any questions about the use of golf carts, please call the police non-emergency number, 815-356-3620 and ask to speak to an officer.



Crystal Lake Police Department (815) 356-3620

Officer Kristiana Stolzman - (815) 356-3673 or kstolzman@crystallake.org



Follow The CLPD on Facebook and Instagram to stay up to date on the latest news, events, and safety tips!



THREE OAKS RECREATION AREA

Park Hours
6:30 A.M. - Sunset

Pet Rules

Dogs may walk on the trails, if they are kept on a short leash. Owners must abide by the City's Rules and Regulations relating to leashes and removal of animal defecation.

Litter bags and drop stations are provided at the start of the East Trail and West Trail. Dogs are not allowed to enter the water, picnic grounds, Marina, or Lake House Complex.

Native Plants in Three Oaks

We are proud to have such an array of native plants in Three Oaks Recreation Area. Some of the native plants at the park include:

- Black-Eyed Susan
- Wild Bergamont
- Wild Quinine
- Common Spiderwort
- New England Aster
- Rattlesnake Master
- Wild Lupine



Native plants provide food sources such as nectar, pollen, seeds, leaves and stems as well as shelter for native butterflies, insects, birds and other animals. Since native plants are just that—native, they adapt

well to our climate, soils and rain patterns. By preserving our natural heritage and protecting the biodiversity of the landscape, we are also providing carefree beauty and enhancing the quality of the area. Planting native plants in your own yard can have the same effect!



Open Water Swim

Open Water Swim is described as distanced swimming beyond the boundaries of the regular swim beach on select dates and times only. This is a special session that is in addition to the regular swim beach operation hours.

Registration and check-in begins 60 minutes prior to scheduled start times. The Open Water Swim fee is \$5.00 each session, per participant.

OWS Thursdays | 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

June 6, 13, 20, & 27

July 11, 18, & 25

OWS Saturdays | 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

June 8, 15, 22, & 29

July 13, 20, & 27

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Picnic Grounds

Three Oaks Recreation Area has many picnic grounds located throughout the park. The Picnic Grove surrounding Pavilion A is open to the public for lawn games, picnicking at the many available tables, and grilling out. Next, you'll find grassy sections of property adjacent to the swim beach, surrounding the playground and splash pad for guests to sunbathe, picnic, and play. Large overhead umbrellas to provide shade are included at the beach's picnic grounds.

All tables within the park's picnic grounds are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.



Hours

Marina

6:30 a.m. to Sunset, weather permitting

Swim Beach

10:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., weather permitting

Scuba Zone

8:00 a.m. to Sunset, weather permitting

The Marina, Swim Beach, OWS and Scuba Zone may close at any time due to inclement weather. This includes, but is not limited to, high winds, anticipated thunderstorms, heavy rainfall, cold temperatures, severe weather, or if our lightning detection system sounds.

www.crystallake.org/three-oaks-recreation

Information Line: (815) 356-2447 | Rainout Line: (815) 506-9333 | threeoaks@crystallake.org
5517 Northwest Highway, Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Watering Restrictions Reminder

Water is one of the area's greatest resources, but a finite supply is available. It is important to conserve water resources, especially in times of high demand and limited rainfall. Increased outdoor watering can lead to strains on the City's water system. To help reduce water system demands, the Public Works Department has implemented a water conservation plan and color-coded water regulation program.

The City's current watering restrictions are "yellow". Yellow watering restrictions states:

Lawn & landscape watering is permitted on odd / even days between the hours of 5:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Property addresses ending in odd numbers shall be permitted to use water on odd-numbered calendar days and even-numbered addresses on even-numbered calendar days.

The City will inform residents if the water system status changes from yellow to any other color.

CRYSTAL LAKE'S MOST POPULAR LIFEGUARD

DIANA KENNEY

A headline found on the front page of the June 3, 1943 Crystal Lake Herald reads, "Girl Lifeguard is Employed for Lake Beach". A paragraph of the accompanying article reads, "Difficulty has been experienced in finding lifeguards for the beach because of the lure of defense plant work. William Adams has been employed as one of the guards. For the first time in the history of the beach, there will be a girl lifeguard. She is Betty Kreicker, high school junior, who is a capable swimmer."

The addition of Betty to the lifeguard staff was such an event that Superintendent Fred Morgan brought Betty to the June Park Board meeting and introduced her to the members of the Board of Commissioners.



Betty Kreicker on duty in 1943

Throughout the summer of 1943, the newspaper included several photos of Betty on duty and repeatedly reported that Betty was the first female lifeguard in Crystal Lake. At the end of the season, the newspaper reported that in spite of the many thousands of swimmers at the lake, 1943 marked the third

year free of drowning victims under the watchful eyes of William Adams and Betty Kreicker.

A look back at the Main Beach lifeguard history starting in 1926 when the Main Beach building opened shows there was one lifeguard, Fred Boomer, on staff that year. From 1927 to 1933, Max Kuehnert was the head lifeguard. However, the August 29, 1929 Crystal Lake Herald indicates there were two lifeguards on duty that summer—Max Kuehnert and Miss Helen Kitchen. It was reported the two, Kurt and Helen, were unusually efficient. Under their constant vigil, the two saved six people from drowning at the lake in 1929. It appears The Herald had incorrectly reported Betty Kreicker as the first female lifeguard in 1943.

Helen Kitchen graduated from Crystal Lake Community High School in 1926. After high school, she attended the University of Illinois. At the end of her freshman year of college, Helen's father, James B. Kitchen, died. Her mother, Adelaide 'Addie', held the family together by working odd jobs. Helen helped by working as a lifeguard during the summer of 1929. In 1930, she married John R. Beebe, and the couple moved away from Crystal Lake.

Betty was born February 6, 1927 in Chicago. Her family moved to Crystal Lake when Betty was a teenager. After graduating from Crystal Lake Community High School in 1944, Betty attended Carlton College in Northfield, MN studying Zoology. She met and married Joseph J. Petit, moved to California and had five children. Betty passed away in July 2021.

Although research has proven that Betty Kreicker was not the first female lifeguard in Crystal Lake, the photos of her during the summer of 1943 suggest that she certainly was one of the most popular lifeguards!

Information about Betty's life were graciously provided by her daughter.



Betty with beach patrons

About the Author: Diana Kenney serves as the President of the Crystal Lake Historical Society. To contact Diana, email info@cl-hs.org.



Clearly CLEARLY CRYSTAL LAKE CORNER

CRYSTAL LAKE

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

Crystal Lake is home to 2,560 businesses comprised of 27,420 employees. Over the past few months, Crystal Lake's top four largest manufacturers from smallest to largest were highlighted.

In April, Technipaq, Inc. was featured as the fourth largest. In May, Clayens was featured as the third largest. Last month, Aptar was featured as the second largest. See below for Crystal Lake's largest manufacturer.

KNAACK

Knaack is Crystal Lake's largest manufacturing employer with over 500 employees. Knaack LLC was the first company to offer national distribution of jobsite storage boxes and officially moved to its current location at 420 E. Terra Cotta Avenue in 1968, going from a one-room shop to a 16,000-square-foot facility. Along with the move also came expansion with the purchase of the WEATHER GUARD® Truck Equipment brand from a small sheet metal company in St. Louis.

The Knaack facility was the first ever system to clean steel and have an oven for baking enamel paint. Mr. Knaack devoted himself to creating a plethora of distinct boxes, specifically designed to best serve various types of contractors. In the early 1980s, the entire line of KNAACK® tool boxes were redesigned to offer a secure, durable and safer-to-use tool box. Gas

pistons were added making them not only easier but safer. From being one of the industry's first to offer TGIC Polyester Powder Coating to adding gas pistons for safety, they continued to diversify, manufacturing additional truck boxes under the WEATHER GUARD® brand. Over the years the initial 16,000 sq ft facility grew to its current 400,000 sq ft plant in Crystal Lake and the brand is known in the industry as "the most trusted name in jobsite security". In 2012, WernerCo acquired 100% ownership of Knaack joining forces to create a mutually beneficial product portfolio in manufacturing and distribution.

For more information about job opportunities go to their website: https://careers-wernerco.icims.com/jobs/search?ss=1&searchRelation=keyword_all&searchLocation=12781-12797-Crystal+Lake.



The Blue Star Banner Program

The Blue Star Banner Program, a collaborative effort between the City and the Chamber of Commerce, honors active duty members of the military who are Crystal Lake residents as well as city government employees who actively serve. The program purchases and displays 6'X3' personalized banners with the service member's name and branch of service. The banner display is on a section of Route 14, now officially designated as Heroes Row. After the banners have been displayed for a few months, they are given to the families, free of charge, at a formal Presentation Ceremony.

If you have an active duty family member to nominate or would like to become a sponsor of the program, you can find forms to submit at <https://www.bluestarcl.com/>.



The Quarry

Sink your toes into the sand and unwind lakeside on the expansive multi-level patio. Treat yourself to a refreshing cocktail at the lakeside bar, indulge in a delicious meal from the grille, or simply kick back and groove to live music every Friday and Saturday night from 7:00p.m. to 10:00p.m. If you're in the mood for some fun, why not try the 2.0 beginner cable or the advanced full size wakeboarding cable?

July also promises an array of thrilling events. Eagerly anticipating the upcoming Country Night featuring Whiskey Romance, and the highly anticipated annual performance by the dynamic band, Semple!

For more information about events and bands at the Quarry, visit <https://thequarrycablepark.com/>.

CALENDAR

JULY 2024

Tuesday, July 2

City Council Meeting
7:00 P.M. **CANCELLED**

Wednesday, July 3

Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
7:00 P.M. **CANCELLED**

Thursday, July 4

City Offices Closed

Sunday, July 7

Independence Day Parade and Fireworks
1:00 P.M. & Dusk

Monday, July 8

Special Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, July 10

Public Arts Commission Meeting
8:00 A.M.

Tuesday, July 16

City Council Meeting
7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, July 17

Sustainability Committee Meeting
6:30 P.M.

Wednesday, July 17

Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
7:00 P.M.

All Meetings at City Hall,
100 W. Woodstock Street

