

### Message from the Mayor



Now that March has arrived we can realistically look forward to the arrival of spring. But March is also the time when folks can protest their property assessment at the Board of Review meeting.

This year the board meets 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday, March 9 and 3 p.m.-9 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11, in council chambers at city hall. Listening to your arguments will be Sue Whitford, Diandra Messner, Peggy Slavens and yours truly. (Actually, we're short one BOR member. So if you want to make \$500 a year for attending three meetings just drop by city hall and volunteer.)

However, if you want a good result you must do your homework and be prepared. Don't just sit down and say "I think my taxes are too high." That's a non-starter, and your claim will be rejected.

Your first step should be to get hold of the official assessment card for your house to see what the city believes you have. If the card says you have a finished basement, and you don't. You should bring that to the assessor's attention. If the card says you have an outbuilding that was removed, bring that to the assessor's attention. These items add value to your property, and when you remove them your property's taxable value may be adjusted downward at a March Board of Review meeting.

You can also request to be added to the assessor's "field review." Then an assessor will visit your house to compare reality to your assessment card, making changes as needed.

Another thing you can do is see what similar houses in your area have sold for recently. The easiest way to do that is to use the Realtor.com web site. But a friendly Realtor can help you with that, too, and do a better job.

If you can prove to the Board of Review that the assessed value of your house is high when compared to other properties in your neighborhood, you might have a successful appeal.

### Home repairs

Homeowners sometimes postpone improvements for fear of increasing their property taxes. However, many home improvements are exempt from increasing the taxable value of your property.

Generally speaking, if it's not a "structural addition" it won't increase your property's taxable value. If you're merely replacing something you already have (including windows, siding, masonry, roofing, gutters, doors, driveways, wiring, porches, awnings) with basically the same thing, it doesn't affect your taxable value or property taxes.

Call Assessor Kathy Roslund at (989) 463-9515 for details or clarification. Or email her at [kroslund@myalma.org](mailto:kroslund@myalma.org)

### Spring Leaf Pickup



Due to early snowfall, the City was unable to complete the Fall 2025 leaf pickup. As a result, a spring leaf pickup has been scheduled for April 13–17, 2026. A pickup schedule map will be posted closer to the dates to show collection areas and schedule on our website [www.stlouismi.com](http://www.stlouismi.com) and Facebook Page.



Please "Like" our Facebook Page City Hall St. Louis, Michigan to stay in touch with us.

*Board of Review*



The Board of Review will be in session to hear your appeals at St. Louis City Hall on the following dates:

**Monday, March 9, 2026**

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 11, 2026**

3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

There will also be an organizational meeting on  
 March 3, 2026  
 At 1:30 p.m.

*Oak Grove Cemetery Information*

Winter Cleanup will begin **April 1st**. All winter decorations must be removed from grave sites before April 1st.

Spring/Summer decorations may not be placed on grave sites until after **May 1st**.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation!  
 Contact Jamie Long at 989-681-2137 ext. 1050 with Cemetery questions.

*Daylight Savings Time*



Daylight Savings is Sunday, March 8th  
 Happy Spring!

*Spirit of St. Louis*



The Spirit of St. Louis award nominations are officially open. This award is given annually to a community member who exemplifies drive and passion for the betterment of St. Louis. There are few people who can balance work and community participation, but this community member does it with honor. If you know someone who stands out as a leader with aspirational qualities, take a few minutes to nominate them.

You can fill out the form on the City Hall website OR visit City Hall to pick up a form. Submissions are due March 13th at 4:00 PM and can be delivered to City Hall or emailed to [eburton@stlouismi.com](mailto:eburton@stlouismi.com). The winner of the Spirit of St. Louis award will be honored May 7th.

*No Parking on City Streets*



There is no parking on City Streets from  
 2:00a.m. to 6:00 a.m.  
 November 1 to May 1.

It is also a violation to park in any manner which creates a hazard or impedes snow removal.

Brush pickup for the month of March begins March 2, 2026

This Institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.