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**ALGONAC CITY
COUNCIL**

Rocky Gillis, Mayor
Ray Martin, Mayor Pro Tem



Mike Bembas
Corey Blair
Ed Carter
Dawn Davey
Cathy Harris

Denice A. Gerstenberg
City Manager

CITY HALL HOURS

Monday thru Thursday
8AM to 6PM

Closed 12:30PM to
1:30PM.

City Council Meetings
1st & 3rd Tuesdays
at 6PM

www.cityofalgonac.org

**Chat with the
Mayor**

Talk with Mayor
Rocky Gillis
1st & 3rd Tuesdays
4:00 PM
Algonac City Hall

A Letter from the Mayor...

Dear Algonac Resident:

In 2024, residents will be asked to shape the future of the Fire Department.

When you call 911, the Algonac Fire Department responds within three to five minutes. The faster the response, the better for you. The faster the response, the less damage to your property and the better chance of your survival. When a cardiac arrest occurs, serious brain damage is likely after 3 minutes and after 10 minutes, the chances of recovery are unlikely.

For many years the Fire Department operated efficiently with paid-on-call employees. However, it is more challenging than ever before to find people who want to do a part-time job, and far fewer applicants can pass the required background check.

Calls for medical services in Algonac have increased 118% since 2010, and it is becoming more and more difficult for staff to maintain current service levels.

Due to lack of full-time staff, some St. Clair County communities have decided that they will only respond to medical calls if the local ambulance provider cannot respond within 8 minutes.

Algonac wants to continue to respond within three to five minutes.

In 2024, residents will have an opportunity through a ballot proposal to provide dedicated funding to maintain medical first response services and fire protection. A proposed 1 mill special assessment would cost the average residential home with a \$62,000 taxable value \$62 per year, or \$5.16 per month or just \$0.17 per day.

This proposed special assessment would help fund the staff needed to provide the minimum coverage required, 7 days per week.

The city of Algonac has been trying to maintain outstanding fire services using current sources of revenue, but it is very difficult when revenues grow at 2% or less annually. This is because the city property tax revenues are largely capped by the annual rate of inflation under Michigan's Headlee Amendment. As a result, Algonac collects fewer tax dollars today than collected in 2007!

The overall millage rate for Algonac will remain the lowest of all St. Clair County cities.

This is your opportunity to shape the future of this great community. Your vote makes a difference.



Respectfully yours,

Rocky Gillis

Rocky Gillis
Mayor