City of Alpena

News Release of May 20, 2014

Right-of-Way Permits

With spring upon us, the City of Alpena would like to remind individuals, contractors, or utility companies that prior to performing work within the City right-of-way you need to contact the City Engineering Department and apply for a right-of-way permit.

A permit is required whenever an individual, contractor, or utility company needs to perform work in the public road right-of-way. For example, a right-of-way permit is required to do approach and driveway repairs, construction or repair of a sidewalk access, and private sewer or water line connections. If the work you are performing disturbs or touches the sidewalk or is in the grass area between the sidewalk and street, you are in the City right-of-way and need to obtain a permit.

Also, if you are a contractor performing plumbing work within the City right-of-way, this permit is in addition to a plumbing permit that needs to be obtained from United Water.

The permit process is an opportunity for the City to interact with the contractor and inform them of the rules and regulations as they apply to working within the right-of-way; items such as the condition that an excavation must be left in, driveway and approach widths and depths, utility pipe spacing, tree spacing, and special permit conditions.

Please contact the Engineering Department to obtain a right-of-way permit before commencement of any work within the City right-of-way. The permit fee shall double if a individual, contractor, or utility company is found to have worked, or is working, in the public right-of-way without first having obtained a permit. Generally, irrigation, restoration of grass, tree planting, or general beautification work is a “no charge” permit, although a permit is still required to track these improvements.

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