

City of Alpena

News Release of January 19, 2021



City reorganizes to form the Planning, Development, and Zoning Department

With the retirement of Don Gilmet, Building Department Head/Building Official; a new Department, the Planning, Development, and Zoning Department was formed. This new Department combines the former Planning and Development and Building Departments. With the combination of the two departments, there will be increased efficiency and cooperation, along with significant savings in the City budget.

Andrea Kares is the Department Director; Mike Kieliszewski, Building Division Head, Billy Vogt, Building Inspector; and Kathleen Sauve, Administrative Assistant. The Harbormaster duties once performed by Gilmet are now part of the City Engineering Department.

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The Planning, Development, and Zoning Department is located on the ground floor of City Hall at 208 N. 1st Avenue, Alpena. The Department is responsible for enforcement of the building code, including all permit issuance, plan reviews, and inspections; administration of the Municipal Zoning Ordinance including zoning compliance permits, certificates of occupancy, and site plan reviews; rental registration and inspections; enforcement of property maintenance code; coordination of construction inspection with the State of MI; City planning functions and administration of the Planning Commission; coordination of the City's Capital Improvement Plan, coordination of the development and maintenance of the City's Comprehensive Plan, assistance with City community and economic development initiatives.

“Department staff look forward to a productive 2021, and to serving residents and contractors in person now that City Hall is back open.” – Andrea Kares