

## AGENDA REPORT

TO: Mayor & City Commissioners  
FROM: Ken Hibl, City Manager  
DATE: January 14, 2016  
RE: \*Communications

For the Agenda of January 18, 2016

**\*Note: This is a Consent Agenda item and is considered as routine by the City Commission. As such, this matter shall be automatically enacted by one motion with all other Consent Agenda items unless a Commissioner or citizen requests this item be individually discussed, in which event it shall be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered and acted upon in its designated sequence on the approved Clare City Commission agenda of January 18, 2016.**

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The following major items of correspondence were either received by or transmitted by the City since the last regularly scheduled City Commission meeting:

*AOPA Newsletter.* Kudos for our illustrious Airport Manager for recognition in the attached edition of this national periodical for the aviation ground school he started at the Clare Airport.

*Complaint.* We received a complaint from a City resident via our website suggesting that the City was clearing snow from the Clare Public School Parking Lots. We provided the attached initial response advising that the City was not clearing these lots. The resident insisted we were; the attached string of emails ensued with the City offering its final response and advising her accordingly. As indicated by her last email, she again insisted that she was correct; we did not respond to her last missive. This particular resident has offered her consistent criticism of the City and its many flaws, to include our poor streets, our wasteful use of taxpayer dollars, the Amish, horse doo-doo on our streets, and dead trees. As indicated in her email trail, she claims she is a taxpayer and has a right to complain. In reality, she is not a City taxpayer but resides in a rental unit with a companion. We've offered to meet with her to discuss her many verbalized concerns regarding our community; to date she has declined our offers.

*Letter of Support.* The City offered the attached letter of support to the Clare County Council on Aging for their grant application to construct a Senior Day Care Facility for the County on their owned property in Harrison.

*Letters of Support for National Historic District Designation.* We've received copies of the attached letters of support for our application for National designation. A public hearing is scheduled for tomorrow in Lansing to receive comment related to our application.

*Kudos for DPW Snow Removal Operations.* Our DPW crews received accolades outlined in the attached email from a new Clare resident for their efficient snow removal efforts.

*Thank You Note.* The City received the attached thank you not for contributions indicated.

*Attachments.* As outlined above.

**Ken Hibl**

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**From:** Gary Todd  
**Sent:** Monday, January 11, 2016 1:11 PM  
**To:** mlsmithactg@gmail.com; steve@nocor.net; candlewood@chartermi.net; 22earththers@chartermi.net; Betty Haggart; rodleslie63@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Ken Hibl; Steven Kingsbury  
**Subject:** FW: January 8, 2016 - Able Flight announces pilot successes

It looks like Friday was a slow aviation news day as AOPA picked up the Clare County Review article about our ground and flight training in little ole Clare Muni.

Best,

Gary Todd  
**Airport Manager**  
**Clare Municipal Airport (48D)**  
W: 989-386-0445  
C : 989-802-2005

---

**From:** Aviation eBrief [mailto:aopa@smartbrief.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 08, 2016 2:13 PM  
**To:** Gary Todd  
**Subject:** January 8, 2016 - Able Flight announces pilot successes

Created for [gtodd@cityofclare.org](mailto:gtodd@cityofclare.org) | [Web Version](#)

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JANUARY 8, 2016

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**News of the day**

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**Able Flight announces pilot successes**

Able Flight is a nonprofit organization that provides flight-training scholarships for people with disabilities. The group announced one of its scholarship recipients has secured a pilot's license, and another has purchased an

airplane. [General Aviation News](#) (1/7)

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## Aviation Update

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### Tips for funding your flight training, and how to keep your budget in check

Blogger Sarina Houston outlines several ways to make flight training affordable on just about any budget and offers tips for keeping your budget in check. "Many flight students pay for flight training through careful budgeting combined with a set training pace," she writes. [GlobalAir.com](#) (1/3)

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### NASA aims to cut airplane fuel consumption, emissions and noise

NASA announced that new innovations developed as part of its Environmentally Responsible Aviation project could cut airplane fuel consumption, pollution and noise, while saving airlines billions of dollars. The goal of the research was to develop solutions for each area, rather than sacrificing one goal to reach the other. [The Washington Post](#) (tiered subscription model) (1/7)

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## Readback

### What do you feel is the biggest issue facing general aviation in 2016?

Check out the results of this poll in the AOPA eBrief Best of 2015 report scheduled for Jan. 12.

- [Vote ▶ Third class medical reform](#)
- [Vote ▶ Finding an avgas replacement](#)
- [Vote ▶ FAA Part 23 rewrite](#)
- [Vote ▶ Preparing for the ADS-B Out mandate](#)
- [Vote ▶ FAA reauthorization and user fees](#)
- [Vote ▶ Cost of flying](#)

## Airport Focus

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### Mich. airport celebrates first ground school student to solo

Clare Municipal Airport in Michigan has a new ground school program led by Airport Manager Gary Todd. The airport celebrated the first student in the program who completed a solo flight. Todd says his ground school is the only one in the area. "I hoped for a few students and ended up with 13 for the 10-week course," Todd said. [Clare County Review \(Clare, Mich.\)](#) (1/7)

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## Avionics & Technology

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### Experience live flight using a paper airplane

PowerUp is a high-tech paper airplane equipped with a camera capable of live streaming during flight. "You experience flight as if you were a pilot but on a paper airplane that you folded, which is kind of crazy," said PowerUp Toys CEO Shai Goitein. [Reuters](#) (1/8), [The Register \(U.K.\)](#) (1/8)

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### traca™ Technology on WingX Pro7 — another iPad first!

From the company that brings innovation to EFBs — first with ADS-B Weather and Traffic, Split Screen, GPWS, Synthetic Vision and more. WingX Pro7 with our patent-pending traca™ Technology changes flight planning forever. Web: [hiltonsoftware.com](http://hiltonsoftware.com) Facebook: [hiltonsoftware.com/fb](https://www.facebook.com/hiltonsoftware.com/fb)

## International News

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### China unveils world's first human passenger drone

Chinese drone manufacturer Ehang unveiled the world's first human passenger drone during CES 2016 in Las Vegas this week. The EHang 184 is a single-seat fully electric autonomous vehicle; travel is controlled by a tablet in the cockpit. The company says they have completed 100 successful test flights. [Fortune](#) (1/7), [Bangkok Post/The Associated Press](#) (1/7)

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## Pilot Spotlight

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### Ultralight pilot says flying a trike is the closest thing to being a bird

Heather Davis' first experience with aviation was in the 1980s when she began flying hang gliders. Later, she shifted to flying trikes. "I still wanted to fly weight-shift-control; it offers the only experience of controlling your flight with your hands actually on the wing. It's the closest thing to being a bird," said Davis. [Petaluma Argus-Courier \(Petaluma, Calif.\)](#) (1/7)

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## AOPA News

### Fly the Super Chipmunk

Ride along with AOPA Editor at Large Dave Hirschman in a de Havilland DHC-1 Super Chipmunk and get the story behind this trainer, crop duster, aerobat, and award-winning aircraft. Also, AOPA's brand has a fresh look for 2016; a new film follows rusty pilots (including Ariel Tweto of "Flying Wild Alaska" fame) in "Flying Again"; and Breitling unveils a new watch designed with pilots in mind. [Watch AOPA Live This Week](#).

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## AOPA Member Benefits

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### Air Safety Institute offers new seminar

The AOPA Air Safety Institute's new seminar, "Emergency! Getting it Right when Things Go Wrong," offers expert advice on how to keep abnormal situations from becoming emergencies. Share your thoughts with fellow pilots and knowledgeable instructors, and learn about best practices for off-airport landings during this in-person safety seminar.

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## SmartQuote

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“**The only competition worthy of a wise man is with himself.**”  
-- Washington Allston,  
painter and poet

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## About AOPA

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AOPA, the world's largest, most influential aviation membership association, has achieved its prominent position through effective advocacy, enlightened leadership, technical competence, and hard work. Providing member services that range from representation at the federal, state, and local levels to legal services, advice, and other assistance, AOPA has built a service organization that far exceeds any other in the aviation community. To learn more about general aviation and AOPA, go to [www.aopa.org](http://www.aopa.org).

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### Contact AOPA

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421 Aviation Way

Frederick, Maryland 21701

Phone: 800/872-2672

Fax: 301/695-2375

[AOPA Headquarters](#)

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# Ken Hibl

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**From:** noreply@server.mailjol.net on behalf of allForms [noreply@server.mailjol.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 10, 2016 2:50 PM  
**To:** contactus  
**Subject:** Form Submission from www.cityofclare.org

Form Results	
Name	Michelle Brock
Address	Clare
Phone	2314373194
Email	<a href="mailto:Mizur1969@gmail.com">Mizur1969@gmail.com</a>
RadioGroup1	email
Comments	Noticing that you have all these different city people plowing the school. It takes them 8 to 10 hours.how much is that costing? I have never seen so much waste. You should consider hiring a outside private company that could save taxpayer money and get the job done in half the time. Not to mention , the savings could go to fixing these horrible roads instead of asking more money from taxpayers to fix the awful roads in which after all these years u have done nothing with the roads. Where has all the taxpayer money gone for that? Too much government.
Submit	Submit
More Information about this submission and submitter	

## Ken Hibl

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**From:** Michelle Brock [mizur1969@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 12, 2016 5:25 PM  
**To:** Ken Hibl  
**Subject:** RE: Happy Monday

Hi ken. Thanks for checking into this matter. However it is not true it only takes 4 hours. It's been timed twice and it's over 8 hours. With 3 to 4 people. And I am not talking about the big red trucks. I know the difference. I am talking about the regular sized trucks ford or Chevy that do say " city of clare" on them. Not clare public schools. That was my question . Not about the big red snow plows. That was what I wanted answered. You can choose to close the case but I wanted that Paticular question answered... Thank you

On Jan 12, 2016 2:03 PM, "Ken Hibl" <[KHibl@cityofclare.org](mailto:KHibl@cityofclare.org)> wrote:

Happy Tuesday, Ms. Brock.

Thank you again for stating your opinion in this matter. I have thoroughly reviewed and communicated your comments and concerns with our Director of Public Works, with our Police Chief, with our City Treasurer & Finance Director, and with the Superintendent of Clare Public Schools. Cumulatively, we have spent more than three hours of our collective time researching this matter and responding to you. Based on my review, I can provide you the following response with absolute assuredness:

- The City of Clare is not and has not cleared snow from any Clare Public Schools Parking Lot.
- None of our City trucks have been used to clear snow from the Clare Public Schools Parking Lot.
- Clare Public Schools uses its own internal assets to clear snow from its parking lots; they don't have any red trucks, and it only takes them approximately four hours to clear all of the school parking lots and sidewalks of snow.
- There is a Clare Public Schools basketball coach that owns a red pick-up truck with a snow plow that arrives at the school early to voluntarily (using his own time and vehicle) to clear snow from a portion of the school parking lot so his basketball team members have a snow-free place to park during their early-morning (before school starts) practices. He leaves his pick-up truck parked in the parking lot during the pre-school practices.

I consider this matter closed and will not waste any additional City time or resources responding to any further opinions from you regarding this particular subject.

We continue to welcome your comments and opinions regarding any other City-related matter.

We offer our best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.

Ken Hibl

Clare City Manager

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**From:** Michelle Brock [mailto:[mizur1969@gmail.com](mailto:mizur1969@gmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 11, 2016 5:16 PM  
**To:** Ken Hibl  
**Subject:** RE: Happy Monday

I am a taxpayer and want some clarity here. It may seem I am complaining and I am. That's my right. Just like I have complained before about the amish leaving waste all over and driving on roads without lights and reflectors especially on roads that are 45 and 50. You could easily make rules for such a thing as many other places have. If i wanted to live out in the country I would of done so.

On Jan 11, 2016 5:09 PM, "Michelle Brock" <[mizur1969@gmail.com](mailto:mizur1969@gmail.com)> wrote:

My question is then why are 4 wheel drive trucks with plows that say "city of clare along the side of them. What are those? I know what the regular plow trucks look like that wasn't my concern. I wanted to know who was driving and why city of clare trucks are used for school parking lot. Please explain this

On Jan 11, 2016 5:01 PM, "Ken Hibl" <[KHibl@cityofclare.org](mailto:KHibl@cityofclare.org)> wrote:

Hi Michelle. All of our plow trucks are red in color and are housed in the DPW Garage on Maple Street in Clare. As indicated in my earlier email, the only snow removal operations we conduct in the vicinity of Clare Public Schools is the streets, the public sidewalks (we use a yellow trackless machine for sidewalks throughout the entire City, but we do not plow the internal sidewalk system for the schools – only those that are public), and we remove the snow between curb and sidewalk on E. Wheaton Street at the student drop-off point for the Elementary School on E. Wheaton Street. We conduct no snow removal operations near the CPS Bus Garage area other than those mentioned. And we do not remove snow from the school parking lots.

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The City is responsible for snow removal operations on 30 miles of streets and approx. 40 miles of sidewalks, plus two airport runways, all airport taxiways, the airport tarmac, and five public parking lots. We use five plow trucks, a trackless machine, a loader, a pick-up truck equipped with a snow plow, and typically a crew of eight individuals to complete all this work – and if the snowfall occurs in the evening, we are generally completed with the vast majority of our work except clean-up before most people are out of bed. We consistently receive complements and accolades for our snow removal efficiency and timeliness.

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I again suggest that you should discuss your ideas of snow removal operations at Clare Public Schools with school administration officials there. I am not familiar with the means or methods by which they conduct snow removal operations. I don't know the cost of their operations. I don't know the number of individuals they use or the type of equipment they use. But if you have experience and technical expertise in this field, they may be willing to discuss your ideas on methods to improve efficiency and reduce costs.

Thank you again for your comments and advice. Best Wishes, Ken

Ken Hibl

Clare City Manager

**From:** Michelle Brock [mailto:[mizur1969@gmail.com](mailto:mizur1969@gmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 11, 2016 4:09 PM  
**To:** Ken Hibl  
**Subject:** Re: Happy Monday

They wouldn't take 8 hours

On Jan 11, 2016 4:07 PM, "Michelle Brock" <[mizur1969@gmail.com](mailto:mizur1969@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hi ken. Why do the trucks that say city of clare on them are the ones that are doing the plowing for schools? Isn't that city trucks ? They all come from the bus garage area. That seems to me that you do have city workers plowing the school parking lot. If This Was Totally Privatized With An Outside Company They Would Take 8 Hours To Plow and would use the proper equipment to do the job in half the time with half the people. What exactly is the cost for all these people? Doesn't seem right to me at all and have never seen anything like it anywhere except for here.

On Jan 11, 2016 6:50 AM, "Ken Hibl" <[KHibl@cityofclare.org](mailto:KHibl@cityofclare.org)> wrote:

Happy Monday, Ms. Brock. Thank you for your email regarding snow removal. As the City does not plow or perform snow removal operations from school grounds other than plowing our public streets and sidewalks adjacent to school property, we will refer your suggestions to the Clare Public Schools Administration for response.

In respect to your comments regarding our awful roads and not understanding where we have spent all the taxpayer dollars and done nothing to improve our streets all these years, I offer that we would be very happy to sit down with you at your convenience and provide you a full accounting of what we have spent on road repairs and where we have spent those funds for the past 5, 10, 15, or 20 years if you wish – as well as a full accounting of where all of our taxpayer dollars are spent annually. Please let us know a convenient time and date that works for you. We look forward to the opportunity to personally talk to you regarding this or any other subject related to the operations and management of the City.

We offer our wishes for a Happy New Year.

Best Wishes, Ken

Ken Hibl

Clare City Manager



## CITY OF CLARE

202 West Fifth Street | Clare, Michigan 48617-1490

Office 989.386.7541 | Fax 989.386.4508

[www.cityofclare.org](http://www.cityofclare.org)

### CITY HALL

Ph 989.386.7541

Fx 989.386.4508

[www.cityofclare.org](http://www.cityofclare.org)

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Treasurer x107

January 13, 2016

Ms. Daria Potts, Grants Coordinator  
Alden and Vada Dow Family Foundation  
315 Post Street  
Midland, MI 48640

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Ph 989.386.2182 or

989.386.7541 x202

Fx 989.386.4508

Dear Ms. Potts,

On behalf of the City of Clare, I offer our unequivocal and total support for the proposed Clare County Senior Services/Council on Aging Adult Day Care Construction Project and the related Clare County application for funding.

### UTILITY BILLING

Ph 989.386.7541 x201

The senior population in the City of Clare and in Clare County is increasing. And a consistently growing sector of that population is in real need of adult day care services due to the respective senior's family member's inability to care for them during the daytime hours. A dedicated facility to provide adult day care is absolutely essential to ensure we provide our senior population in Clare County the care they need.

### W/WWT PLANT

Ph 989.386.2321

Fx 989.386.2387

### POLICE DEPT. NON-EMERGENCY

Ph 989.386.2121

Fx 989.386.0440

The Clare County Senior Services/Council on Aging is an impeccably managed, exceptionally efficient, and highly productive organization with an outstanding reputation for providing top-notch services and care for Clare County seniors. I am absolutely confident that this entity will be a faultless and effective steward of any funds provided for this essential project.

### FIRE DEPT. NON-EMERGENCY

Ph 989.386.2151

Fx 989.386.3020

Thank you for your consideration.

### PARKS & RECREATION

Ph 989.386.7541 x213

Fx 989.386.4508

Respectfully yours,

Ken Hibl  
City Manager

### AIRPORT

Ph 989.386.0445

Fx 989.386.4508





BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720-2520

January 1, 2016

Mr. Robert Christensen  
National Register Coordinator  
State Historic Preservation Office  
Michigan Library and Historical Center  
702 Kalamazoo Street  
P.O. Box 30740  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-8240

Dear Mr. Christiansen,

I write to support most strongly the people of Clare in the bid to have their downtown designated a Historic District. I believe I know the history well having written two books focused on the town, *Clare: 1865-1940* and *Mystery Man—Gangsters, Oil, and Murder in Michigan*.

Clare is an outstanding example of a town that cares for its history and, especially in recent years, has taken active steps to preserve and enhance its architectural and historic legacy. As you drive around Michigan's small towns, one disconcerting sight after another meets the eye: dilapidated buildings, vacant storefronts, unsightly modern 'enhancements', and new, architecturally unbefitting buildings injected onto lots that once held fine, period structures. But drive along McEwan in Clare and an altogether different prospect meets the eye: fine examples of 19<sup>th</sup> century brick buildings remain; early 20<sup>th</sup> century structures virtually fill whole blocks. Of course some rebuilding after fires such as the 1956 disaster or the Dunlop Café's destruction has broken the historic lines; that could hardly be avoided. But overall, the newer structures do not much diminish the powerful impression of the rest of the Downtown from the grandeur of the Doherty Hotel to the Ideal Theater's magnificent marquee, the fine Clare Bakery (now Cops and Doughnuts), the old Davy's Department Store (now The Venue) and so forth.

But Clare's Downtown is more than just a fine example of a main street of the early-mid 20<sup>th</sup> century. It was the hub of a town that showed how American values of hard work, investment, and leadership carved a town out of a green wilderness. Then, rather than dry up and blow away as so many lumber towns did, Clare took on new life as a market center for the agriculture, grazing, and industry of the area. Among its citizens, forward looking investors built factories to produce furnaces and wooden ware and even travel trailers when cars began to turn the town toward the booming tourist business wrought by the advent of the automobile. A.J. Doherty, state senator and erstwhile candidate for governor, represented the importance of small town America in the larger political landscape—as did Dennis Alward, Clare's 'boy mayor,' who went on to prominence in the national Republican Party.

Clare's main street was a stage for playing out some of America's biggest dramas. The drive for Prohibition brought Carrie Nation to town. Depression saw suffering with the failure of a

pillar of the community, the Clare County Savings Bank, located right on McEwan and still standing today. Prohibition brought gangsters from Detroit to play an important part in Clare's next life, the oil boom of the 30s. The murder of one of their henchmen took place in the venerable Doherty Hotel.

As calm settled into Clare after the disruption of the Second World War, main street continued to be the focus of the community, the place where traditional 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parades were held as well as the then new Clare Irish Festival, now a famous fixture among Michigan celebrations of our roots.

Clare's downtown buildings have seen a lot and been a part of a lot of history. Today, there is widespread determination and enthusiasm to preserve and enhance that architecture. The recent award of a façade enhancement grant is but one indication of the business persons' determination to recapture even more of the essence of those by-gone days. Who could not rejoice in the prospect of modernizing siding being pitched into landfill, the old, stately brick once again brought to light of day? In the town as a whole, the herculean task of saving, moving, and repurposing the Union Depot shows in another way the zeal of Clarites to save their heritage. Likewise, there is now determination to preserve two Depression-era city bridges, rare examples of such WPA work surviving in small towns. This legacy expands on the beautiful Depression era murals in the Middle School and in the Post Office.

Clare Downtown Historic District. That is a designation Clare richly deserves. It recognizes Clare's striking main street architecture as well as its past, present, and future dedication to recognizing and preserving an important slice of American history and culture. Thank you for all your hard work in helping the citizens of Clare reach this point in the process. I very much hope and, of course, strongly recommend that the designation be granted.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Knapp", written in a cursive style.

Robert Knapp

Professor (emeritus)

University of California, Berkeley



97TH DISTRICT  
STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 30014  
LANSING, MI 48909-7514  
PHONE: (517) 373-8962  
FAX: (517) 373-7195  
E-MAIL: joeljohanson@house.mi.gov

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**JOEL JOHNSON**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**COMMITTEES:**  
CHAIRMAN, WORKFORCE AND  
TALENT DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURE  
COMMERCE AND TRADE  
JUDICIARY

January 6, 2016

Mr. Robert Christensen, National Register Coordinator  
State Historic Preservation Office  
Michigan Library and Historical Center  
P.O. Box 30740  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Mr. Christensen,

I am writing in support of the City of Clare's application to have the downtown area added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Clare is a premier example of small-town Pure Michigan in the heart of the Lower Peninsula. Founded with the coming of the Pere Marquette Railroad in 1870, it was incorporated as a city in 1891. Institutions such as the Doherty Hotel and the Ideal Theater, and even newer additions including Cops and Doughnuts (the former Clare Bakery), add a richness to Clare that is rarely found in similar towns. McEwan Street is the epicenter of a city that has seen considerable change, but has evolved and grown along the way while still maintaining its considerable charm. Old buildings meet new downtown and none look out of place.

History lives in Clare, especially through the recent project of moving and restoring the Union Depot, built in 1895, and efforts are currently underway to preserve bridges built under the Works Progress Administration during the Great Depression, expanding on the WPA's art legacy in the post office and middle school.

I am in strong support of Downtown Clare being added to the National Register of Historic Places. As its state representative, I am confident that the city would welcome sharing its heritage with not only Michiganders but with people throughout the United States as well.

Warm regards,

**Joel Johnson**  
State Representative  
97th District

cc: Mayor Pat Humphrey, City of Clare  
Mr. Ken Hibel, City Manager, City of Clare



# Clare County Historical Society

c/o Jon H. Ringelberg, Treasurer  
3062 E. Colonville Rd.  
Clare, MI 48617-9448

A 501(c)3 organization

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January 6, 2016

Robert Christensen  
National Register Coordinator  
State Historic Preservation Office  
702 Kalamazoo Street  
P.O. Box 30740  
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Mr. Christiansen:

On behalf of the Clare County Historical Society, I want to add my voice to that of the people of Clare who wish to see their downtown designated as a Historical District.

Clare was born out of the lumbering camps of the 1870s and grew up with the railroad. Like many similar cities and towns, it struggled once the lumber played out and during the Depression years that followed. But unlike many, Clare regained its footing during the oil boom of the late 1930s and continued to prosper as people took to the roads after the war to take advantage of the woods, rivers and lakes for which Clare County is renowned. Some came only to visit while others came to live as full- or part-time residents.

Even in the dark years of the Depression when jobs disappeared around the state and country, residents in Clare never forgot their past. In the Downtown area are two magnificent Depression-era murals; one in the post office and a second in the Middle School that speak to the community's past. There is also a third Depression-era mural in the historic downtown Doherty Hotel that shows beer making by Leprechauns, but that may speak more to Clare's Irish roots and its post-Prohibition longings than its past. I will leave it up to others to interpret that one!

Clare also speaks to its past through its downtown. While other cities and towns in Michigan were tearing down their old buildings in the name of urban renewal, Clarites were working to preserve theirs. Much of the downtown area looks as it did 100 years ago. Recently, the community, with strong support (including financial) of downtown business owners received a grant to restore the facades of seven downtown buildings to as close as possible to their original look.

The Clare County Historical Society mission is to preserve, advance and disseminate the history of Clare County, Michigan.



# Clare County Historical Society

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Nine years ago, the City enacted changes in its zoning codes with the goal of ensuring the historic aspect of our downtown is preserved. Those standards are monitored and enforced by the Downtown Development Authority. It's wonderful to walk the downtown area these days and peek into various businesses that line the streets: A bakery owned by local cops; a shop that recycles old barn wood and ships its creations nationwide; a business that features all kinds of hand-crafted items from area artisans; a bike store that rents kayaks and canoes to use on area waters and that rents bikes to use on a rail trail (a trail that passes through downtown Clare and that stretches from Midland to Reed City); and even an art gallery. Yes, our little city has its own art gallery.

In addition, the community has banded together to save, move to the downtown area and refurbish an old Queen Anne style railroad depot, built in the 1890s and that once served the community and—thanks to community support and work—will open this spring to serve a new generation.

And these are just a few of the businesses and buildings. There are others including a 1930s movie theater that shows first-run movies for only a fin and a downtown Congregational Church, the latter already listed on the National Register. I could go on and on. I expect to see a lot more people walking the streets of Clare should it receive an historical designation.

Our job in the Clare County Historical Society is to help preserve, advance and educate people—residents and visitors alike—about the history of Clare County. The interest and commitment of the people in Clare to its history and to its downtown makes our role that much easier. Adding the downtown as a Historic District will not only reward the community for its past work but set the stage for continued success. We hope that the designation be granted.

Sincerely,

Martin Johnson  
Marketing Coordinator/Board Member  
Clare County Historical Society

## Ken Hibl

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**From:** Edie Hunter  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 07, 2016 4:13 PM  
**To:** Ken Hibl; Alan Jessup  
**Cc:** Steven Kingsbury  
**Subject:** Praise

Good Afternoon

I was at 526 Point Dr today which was purchased in October 2015 by George and Janet Dice. Mrs. Dice wanted me to pass along how impressed she was with the fact that their cul-de-sac was plowed and the excess snow was removed so quickly. She mentioned Norm was the one that was plowing.

*Edie Hunter*

City of Clare

Assessor

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Clare, MI 48617-1490

989-386-7541 ext 103

[ehunter@cityofclare.org](mailto:ehunter@cityofclare.org)



Clare City Commission and City Staff  
202 W 5th St  
Clare, MI 48617-1457

December 31, 2015

Please accept the heartfelt thanks of the staff and volunteers of MidMichigan Home Care for your donation of \$65.00.

Staff members of the MidMichigan Home Care visit many patients and their families who need assistance beyond their means to pay for necessary services and supplies. Donations are utilized to provide these necessities. Contributions are also critical to our ability to expand program for new services. Development of new services requires staff education, training and sometimes new supplies and equipment.

Thank you for truly making a difference in the lives of others.

Sincerely,

Carole Calvert-Baxter, MA, L.L.P.C.  
President, MidMichigan Home Care

*No goods or services were provided to you in exchanges for your gift.*