



202 West Fifth Street
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www.cityofclare.gov

Hours of Operation:
Monday through Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Closed Fridays & Holidays

LETTER FROM THE MAYOR AND CITY MANAGER

As another year draws to a close, we are grateful for the opportunity to reflect on the progress, challenges, and accomplishments that continue to shape the City of Clare. Serving this community is an honor, and we are pleased to share this “State of the City” update with you.

Clare continues to demonstrate what a small city with a big heart can achieve when we work together. Over the past year, we have made meaningful strides in infrastructure, public safety, community development, and quality of life—always with an eye toward long-term stability and responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars.

This year, the City completed several key infrastructure projects that will serve residents for decades to come. Improvements to our water and sewer systems, continued investment in our streets, and updates to public facilities reflect our commitment to maintaining reliable, modern services. These essential upgrades, many supported by grant funding which help stretch taxpayer dollars even further, ensure that Clare remains strong, resilient, and ready for the future.

Public safety remains one of our highest priorities. The Clare Police Department and Clare Fire Department have continued to expand training, modernize equipment, and strengthen community relationships. Their dedication—along with the support of residents—helps ensure that Clare remains a safe and welcoming community for families, businesses, and visitors.

We have also seen renewed energy in Clare’s economic and community life. Local businesses continue to invest in our downtown, commercial corridors, and Industrial Parks and we have welcomed several new enterprises this year. Our parks, programs, festivals, and recreation opportunities continue to bring people together and showcase the spirit that makes Clare truly special. The success of the 50th Irish Festival this year was a shining example of our community pride and the willingness of residents, volunteers, and organizations to work hand-in-hand.

Fiscal responsibility remains a core focus of city leadership. Despite rising operational costs and economic uncertainties, Clare maintains a stable financial position. Strategic planning and careful budgeting allow us to continue vital services while preparing for future needs. We remain committed to transparency and responsible management of the resources entrusted to us.

Looking ahead, 2026 will bring new opportunities and continued investment. From infrastructure improvements to community development initiatives, we are focused on maintaining the momentum of the past year while preserving the small-town character that defines Clare. The City Commission, staff, and community partners will continue working together to ensure that Clare remains a strong, vibrant place to live, work, and visit.

On behalf of the City Commission, our dedicated employees, and the entire leadership team, we want to express our sincere appreciation for your engagement, your support, and your belief in our community. Clare is at its best when we move forward together—and together, we will continue building a bright future.

Warm regards,
Pat Humphrey, Mayor
Jeremy Howard, City Manager

WINTER PROPERTY TAX BILLS were mailed to property owners on November 28th, 2025. If you have not received your tax bill, please contact the City Treasurer at 989-424-4069. Tax bills are due February 17th, 2026. Payments made between February 18th and March 2nd will incur additional fees.

CITY ORDINANCE REMINDERS

It is the city’s responsibility to ensure a clean and safe environment for everyone to work and live in. To maintain the beauty and functionality of our city, we kindly ask for your cooperation in adhering to these regulations. Compliance with city ordinances helps maintain the quality of life we all enjoy in our community. Ordinance codes are available on the city’s website: www.cityofclare.gov.

Overnight Parking: No Parking on City Streets from 3 AM to 6 AM, November 15th-April 1st, Sec. 44-31

We wish to remind you of an important seasonal parking regulation that plays a crucial role in ensuring the safety and efficiency of our city services. To facilitate snow removal and ensure smooth operation for our Department of Public Works (DPW), it is essential that our streets remain clear during the early morning hours. This temporary restriction allows DPW crews to remove snow efficiently and safely, making our roadways safer for all residents. Starting from November 15th and continuing until April 1st, there will be no parking allowed on city streets between the hours of 3 AM to 6 AM. We encourage residents to utilize off-street parking options during the specified hours. Garages, driveways, and designated parking lots are excellent alternatives.

Vehicle Storage and Parking, Sec. 52-308

City ordinance code states: no vehicle shall be parked in any portion of a front yard within the city unless in a prepared driveway or parking area of aggregate or hard-surfaced material. Parked recreational vehicles must also be licensed. The parking or storage of a commercial vehicle, excluding an emergency vehicle, of more than two-ton capacity is prohibited within any residential district. Anyone who fails to comply is guilty of a civil infraction and liable for a civil fine of up to \$500.00.

Seasonal Vehicles (Campers, RVs, Watercraft, ATVs, UTVs), Sec. 52-310

All campers, RVs, watercraft (boats, jet skis, or otherwise), all ATVs, UTVs, and other similar items, if stored upon a designated parcel must:

- Be operable, registered, and licensed if registration/licenses are required for the unit under state law.
- Be stored upon, or in, fully operational trailers registered and licensed under state law.
- Be stored or parked on a prepared driveway or parking area of aggregate or hard-surface material and only during the period each year, between April 15th and October 31st for summer in-season use.
- If storage is in a required front yard, storage must be upon a prepared driveway or parking area of aggregate or hard surfaced material.
- No camper, RV, boat, trailer, or the like may be parked in a rear or side yard closer than five feet from a public sidewalk, ten feet from the curb if present, or ten feet from the edge of a roadway without a curb.
- No vehicle, camper, RV, boat, trailer, ATV, UTV, or the like shall be stored on a vacant lot.
- Total number of campers, RVs, watercraft (boats, jet skis, or otherwise), snowmobiles, ATVs, UTVs, and other similar items is limited to a maximum of four in any combination.
- All residences, including corner lots, are regulated so that the “front” of the house is designated by the street address thereby defining the front yard, side yard, and back yard accordingly.
Violations of this section are deemed civil infractions, punishable by a fine of \$250.00 for a first offense, and \$500.00 for a second offense.

RESIDENTIAL TRASH, RECYCLING, YARD WASTE COLLECTION REMINDER

All items for curbside collection should be placed at the curb before 6:00 AM on the scheduled pick-up day.

- **Bulk Items:** Allowed 1 item per week. Please contact City Hall at (989) 386-7541 before placing the item at the curb.
- **Recycling:** Boxes that do not fit in your recycling tote must be broken down, tied together, and not to exceed 35 pounds. The tote is to be placed curbside with the handle facing the residence. Per the city’s receptacle ordinance (Sec.36-34), containers shall not be placed at curbside more than 24 hours prior to scheduled pick-up and must be retrieved from curbside within 24 hours after pick-up.
- **Garbage:** Items must be placed in the 96-gallon tote provided by GFL. The tote is to be placed curbside with the handle facing the residence. There is a no “bag” limit, but all materials must be bagged (no “boxes” of trash). Per the city’s receptacle ordinance (Sec.36-34), containers shall not be placed at curbside more than 24 hours prior to scheduled pick-up and must be retrieved from curbside within 24 hours after pick-up.

Christmas Holiday Trash and Recycle Pick-Up: Friday, December 26th, 2025.

New Year’s Holiday Trash and Recycle Pick-Up: Friday, January 2nd, 2026.

BRUSH CHIPPING is a service provided by the City of Clare (not the refuse contractor), time and weather permitting. Brush chipping is normally done on the first Monday of the month. The chipping crew drives down each street one time only. The brush should be placed at the curb before 7 AM on the scheduled day; be within 2 feet of the curb with the large ends facing the same direction; be no longer than 6’ in length nor larger than 8” in diameter; AND not include stumps, roots, or vines. If you have a large amount of brush, please call City Hall at (989) 386-7541. **Tentative Chipping Dates are January 5th, February 2nd, and March 2nd, 2026.**

HOLIDAY CLOSURE

City offices will be closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year’s Eve, and New Year’s Day.