

BENGAL TOWNSHIP NEWS

November
2018

Clinton County, Michigan

www.bengaltownship.com

Township Hall Rental

To request rental of the township hall contact Sharon Bassette at **989-640-4750**. Rental charge for Township residents is \$100; non-residents \$150 (plus security deposit of \$150 for each rental). The rental agreement and other rental information may be found at www.bengaltownship.com.

Winter Tax Bills

Winter property taxes are payable December 1 to **February 14, 2019**, by mail to 2801 S Forest Hill Rd St Johns, or in person at:

The Township Hall on M-21 on:

- Wed. December 26, 9am-5pm
- Thurs. February 14, 9am-5pm

2801 S Forest Hill Rd St Johns, on:

- Thurs. February 28, 9am-5pm (past due)

...or by appointment (call 517-927-9273).

Review your tax bill for interest/penalty information on past due taxes. Checks or money orders are preferred; however, cash payments for the exact amount owed will also be accepted (there is no cash kept on hand to make change). Thank you. ☺

Need a receipt? Receipts for tax payments are sent out only upon request. If you need a receipt, please let us know and we will gladly mail one to you. **Did you know you could print your own receipt?** Go to www.accessmygov.com further explained below.

REMINDER: Property info and historical tax payments (only those paid **directly** to Bengal Township) can be viewed by the property owner online at www.accessmygov.com. BS&A provides the technical help using this webpage (1-855-BSA-SOFT).

Election Information

Absentee Voter List: If you wish to be put on the Permanent Absentee Voter list. You may mail your request to: Bengal Township Clerk, 800 S. US 27, Box 124, St. Johns, MI 48879 OR email: bengaltownshipclerk2@gmail.com. Be sure to provide a phone number.

Election Inspectors: If you are interested in becoming an Election inspector, contact Sharon Bassette at 989-640-4750.

Zoning Review Process

If a resident would like to start a project, they must first contact McKenna, the Township's Zoning Administrator at Gelliot@mcka.com or 248-596-0920 to verify the development requirements of the project and McKenna will determine if the project is minor or major per the Interim Zoning Ordinance.

Minor Projects: For minor projects, the Applicant shall submit to the Bengal Township Clerk (**800 S US-27 #124, St Johns MI**) the Zoning Compliance Application, associated fees (per the Bengal Township Fee Schedule) and a basic plot plan for the proposed project. Once the completed application and associated fee are received by Bengal Township, McKenna will review the proposed project and will either approve or deny. Minor projects do not require review by the Township's Planning Commission or Township Board.

Approved plans for minor projects will receive a Zoning Compliance Certificate signed by the Zoning Administrator and will be permitted to apply for construction/trade permits through Clinton County. Denied plans will receive comments and recommendations from McKenna to bring the project into zoning compliance and the Applicant may re-submit revised plans.

Major Projects: Major projects shall require site plan review, special land use, rezoning, or variances before a Zoning Compliance Certificate can be issued. The proposed project will need to be reviewed by the Bengal Township Planning Commission and possibly the Township Board.

For major projects, applications, associated fees (per the Bengal Township Fee Schedule), and site plans must be submitted to the Bengal Township Clerk at least 30 days prior to the next scheduled Planning Commission meeting. McKenna will provide review comments and recommendations prior to the next scheduled Planning Commission meeting. The Planning Commission will approve, approve with conditions, table, or deny the site plan and planning requests.

A Zoning Compliance Certificate is required for all minor and major projects in order for the Applicant to apply for construction, trade, sanitary, soil erosion control permits; all of which will be provided by Clinton County. More information regarding this process may be found on Bengal Township's website at: www.bengaltownship.com.

<i>Supervisor</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Clerk</i>	<i>Trustee</i>	<i>Trustee</i>	<i>Township Assessor</i>
Deborah Schafer 989-593-2325	Denice Schultheiss 517-927-9273	Sharon Bassette 989-640-4750	Bill Kushmaul 616-240-4100	Nick McDonald 517-819-6127	Barbara Moss 989-292-0389

Wanted: Township Inspector

The township will be accepting applications for the position of Township Inspector. This position will be paid on a per site visit basis and will be responsible for inspecting sites in both Bengal and Dallas Townships. Experience in the following areas is preferred: reading site plans, measurement computations, building construction and site inspection. The Township Inspector will be expected to use his/her personal vehicle and must carry personal liability insurance. If interested, e-mail cover letter and resume to Planning Commission Chair, Lori Pung, at pungpitcrew@gmail.com or submit via U.S. mail at 1177 S. Francis Rd. St. Johns, MI 48879 no later than Friday, December 21, 2018.

Burning Permits

REMEMBER: **Burn permits are required by residents.** When either the Dallas Township or St. Johns Fire Department responds to a fire, the PROPERTY OWNER is billed.

- Bengal Township residents living **West of Francis Road** can obtain a burning permit by contacting the **Dallas Township Fire Dept. at 989-593-3146.** Residents will be asked to leave their name, address, and phone number, what they are burning, and which days they wish to burn. Please call at least 24 hours in advance. If residents have any questions, call **Vern Feldpausch, Dallas Township Supervisor, at 989-593-2768.**
- Bengal Township residents living **East of Francis Road** can obtain a burning permit by contacting the **City of St. Johns Police Dept. at 989-224-6721.** You will be asked your name and address, what you are burning, how much you are burning, and when you wish to burn. Here, it is best to actually speak with someone to confirm your permit is approved. You are also able to apply to them for annual burn permits.

Fire and Rescue Runs

In the event of a fire run within the township, **\$1000.00 is charged when a fire truck is dispatched or \$450.00 when a first responder is dispatched.** Bengal Township is charged \$1000.00 for the first two hours and \$500.00 for every hour thereafter for fire service. **When Bengal Township gets billed for these services, the property owner and/or person upon whom the service is provided will be billed.** Please check your insurance to see if Fire or First Responder services are covered. Typically, basic homeowners insurance only covers up to \$500.00. A small increase in your premium could save you hundreds!!

2018 Road Work Completed

Chipseal:

Parks Road: Francis Rd to Forest Hill Rd, Grove to

Bengal Township's east border

Lowell Road: M-21 to Walker Road

Chloride: All 3 Applications Applied

Gravel:

Wacousta Road: M-21 to Walker Road

Various Roads Spot Graveled

Culvert Replacements:

Thelen Road: North of Parks Road

Lowell Road: North of Parks Road

Roadside Mowing

Grove Road Bridge Replacement

Soon/In Process: Culvert Replacement, Centerline Road between Airport & Grove

Notes from the County

--In September the Board of Commissioners approved an improved county-wide emergency notification system called RAVE to replace the current CodeRED system. This new system has the same basic features and will improve the ease of participation for the residents. RAVE Alert also interfaces and takes advantage of SMART 911 features such as text, video, VIOP and more. This service is also about half the cost. It is expected to be up and operating around January 1st 2019.

--Construction at the new cheese production plant on the North end of St. Johns is underway. The improvements are expected to cost \$550 million and anticipated to employ 300 people jobs. It also enhances the dairy opportunities in Michigan as well as all the other related activities in the mid-Michigan area.

--For the past few years The Clinton County Board of Commissioners has been contributing funding to RESA for the Clinton Career Network (CCN). The program offers middle and high school students the opportunity to explore a wide range of careers, assistance and some motivation to pursue the educational path necessary to reach their area of interest and continued support as they follow that path. We have felt that the best way to enhance the future of our community is to enhance the future of our youth.

---David W. Pohl, Clinton County Commissioner

**The Bengal Township Board wishes everyone a
Safe and Happy Holiday Season!!**