

# BENGAL TOWNSHIP NEWS

November  
2019

Clinton County, Michigan

[www.bengaltownship.com](http://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](http://www.bengaltownship.com).

## Winter Tax Bills

Winter property taxes are payable December 1 to **February 14, 2020**, by mail to 2801 S Forest Hill Rd St Johns, or in person at:

The Township Hall on M-21 on:

- Thur. December 26, 9am-5pm
- Fri. February 14, 9am-5pm

2801 S Forest Hill Rd St Johns, on:

- Mon. March 02, 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](http://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](http://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](mailto:bengaltownshipclerk2@gmail.com). Be sure to provide a phone number.

**Election Inspectors:** If you are interested in working as an election worker please contact Kami Smith at 517-712-3313.

## Planning Commission Updates

### Comprehensive Master Plan

The Bengal Township Planning Commission has been working with its Planning Administrator, McKenna Associates, to update its Comprehensive Master Plan ("Plan"). Public Comment regarding this Plan will be open Wednesday, December 4, 2019 at 7:00 at the Township Hall. The Plan is available on the township's website.

### Zoning Ordinance

The Planning Commission has also been working on updating the Township's Interim Zoning Ordinance. By December 2019, the Ordinance should be final and no longer have an "Interim" status. The DRAFT Zoning Ordinance is available upon request by contacting Lori Pung, Bengal Township Planning Commission Chair, at 989-620-0728 or at [pungpitcrew@gmail.com](mailto:pungpitcrew@gmail.com).

### Fee Schedule

The Zoning Fee Schedule has been updated to include fees for inspections, agricultural affidavit of use and ordinance violations. Please note that ESCROW will be collected as indicated on the schedule. The schedule can also be found on the Township's website.

<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	Dr Mark Holley 989-834-5611

## 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!!

## 2019 Road Work Completed

**Chloride:** All 3 Applications Applied

**Overband Crack Fill** Francis to Forest Hill SB

**Gravel:**

Parks Road, between Wacousta Rd and Bauer Rd

Walker Road, Essex Center to Lowell Rd

Essex Center Road, Walker Road to M21

Bauer Road, M21 to Kinley Road

Wacousta Road, Walker Rd to Kinley Rd

Taft Road, Bauer Rd to Wacousta Rd

Forest Hill Road, Parks Rd to Townsend Rd

Bauer Road, Parks Rd to Townsend Rd

Dexter Trail, Bauer Rd to Centerline Rd

**Culvert Replacements:**

Forest Hill Road South of Taft Road

Bauer Road between Taft Road & Dexter Trail

**Brush Spraying** Various Roads

## Notes from Clinton County

Clinton County Intermediate School District is operating a program called **Clinton Career Network (CCN)**. The purpose is to give the students of the County good exposure to the career opportunities that exist for them and find the resources to pursue their interests. The County has participated in the program and provided some financial support.

The County continues to move forward with the **911 upgrade** which needs to be in place before the end of 2021. To make this change we know that the current phone surcharge will be inadequate and we will likely be seeking between .5 and 1 mill to cover the 911 costs. In this event the plan would be to do some reduction of the surcharge.

The Clinton County Drain Commissioner has been authorized to contract with Spicer Engineering to enhance the County **flood plain maps** so as to provide a more precise basis to challenge the mortgage companies who may want to require flood insurance.

Due to a State grant, the April 25<sup>th</sup> 2020 **Clean Community** event will be able to accept tires for little or no charge. This event is held at the Clinton County Road Commission facility on S-27.

The County Board of Commissioners has adopted a balanced budget for 2020. This could get somewhat more challenging depending on how the Legislature and the Governor address the vetoes in the State budget.

---David W. Pohl, Clinton County Commissioner

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