

BENGAL TOWNSHIP NEWS

July
2022

Clinton County, Michigan

www.bengaltownship.com

CHANGE IN TOWNSHIP BOARD

Effective May 20, 2022, Lori Pung was appointed as Township Treasurer. Denice Schultheiss was appointed as Deputy Treasurer and will continue to administer property taxes and other duties. **Note the change in address below** and please update your records to ensure future tax payments and other related correspondence are directed to this new address.

SUMMER TAX BILL MESSAGES

Summer property taxes are payable July 1 to September 14 by:

- (Preferred) **Mailing to: 1211 Hampshire Drive, St. Johns MI 48879**
- In person at the Bengal Township Hall on M-21 on Wednesday, September 14, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- By appointment (call 517-927-9273)

Review your tax bill for interest/penalty information for 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 drawer in the office to make change). Thank you. ☺

Deferment of Summer Taxes: Remember that September 14 is the last day to file for the Summer Deferment per MCL 211.51(7). Certain taxpayers can apply to have their summer property taxes deferred until February. All the requirements and application may be found at www.michigan.gov/treasury. There are generally two ways to qualify for this deferment: 1) gross household income of \$40k or less and falling into an exemption classification or 2) owning an agricultural or horticultural operation for which gross receipts are not less than household income.

Need a receipt? Receipts for tax payments are sent out only upon request. If you need a receipt, please indicate so when you make your payment or call 517-927-9273. **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).

TOWNSHIP ZONING

If you are considering renovations, new construction or splitting land, you must fill out a Zoning Compliance Application which can be found under "Ordinances & Policies" on the Township's website. Additionally, these actions require ESCROW funding as outlined in the Fee Schedule which can also be found on the Township's site. Specific questions regarding Zoning can be directed to Chris Khorey, Township Planning Administrator, at CKhorey@mcka.com or (248)596-0920.

PLANNING COMMISSION (PC)

PC Member Updates: Effective May 20, 2022, Nolan Solomon was appointed as the PC Chair, Sam Nielson and Lori Pung were appointed as PC Members, and Tom Miller's term expired. Please join us in congratulating Nolan, Sam and Lori on their appointments and thank Tom for his many years of service to the Township!

Questions regarding Zoning: You may contact Nolan Solomon at bengaltownshippc1@gmail.com or at the number listed below.

Monthly Meeting: The PC meets on the last Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 27th at 7:00 p.m. at the Township hall. Meeting dates are posted on the notification board in front of the hall and on-line.

Inspections: Please note that all Township projects, including Ag Buildings, must be inspected by the Township Inspector. A preliminary site inspection AND a final inspection is required. If your application is approved, you will receive a letter from the Township's Planning Administrator, McKenna Associates, instructing you to contact Tom McComb at (517)230-7144 to set up the inspections. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in fines and project delays.

Supervisor	Treasurer/PC	Clerk	Trustee	Trustee	Township Assessor
Nick McDonald 517-819-6127	Lori Pung 989-620-0728	Sharon Bassette 989-640-4750	Stanley Sillman 989-640-0419	Eric Boak 517-449-4283	Dr. Mark Holley 989-834-5611

* OPEN POSITION *

The Township is seeking a Township Inspector/Enforcement Officer to inspect township activities and enforce the Zoning Ordinance. Please contact Nolan Solomon if you are interested or submit your resume to him at bengaltownshipcl@gmail.com. More info regarding the preferred experience and job duties can be found on the Township's website.

BURNING PERMITS

Residents living **West of Francis Rd** can obtain a burning permit by contacting the **Dallas Township Fire Department 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 24 hours in advance. If you have any other questions, please call Vern Feldpausch 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 burning permit is approved.

REMEMBER: Burn permits are required by residents. When either the Dallas Township or St. Johns Fire Department responds to a fire/rescue call, the **property owner** is billed.

PARK EXPLORATION COMMITTEE SURVEY

Enclosed with this newsletter, you will find a survey regarding a park. The proposed area for a park is located directly behind the Township Hall on Township property that borders the CIS Rail Trail. Our goal is to make the park self-sustaining, and no property taxes will be assessed to build or maintain the park. To fund the park, grants will be sought, non-tax-based Township income will be used, and we will partner with organizations to assist with the design and sponsor the park. Dependent upon the amenities chosen, there may be additional income generated by the park itself.

The first survey was sent in November 2021 to gather input on interest and approximately 75% of the responses favored a park. After reviewing the details, a second survey was developed to narrow down options. You may fill out the enclosed survey or complete it on-line at the Township's website by September 2022.

BOARD OF REVIEW

The next meeting will be held:
July 19, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

If you have questions regarding what can be addressed during this Board of Review meeting, please contact Dr. Mark Holley, Township Assessor, at mholley4444@gmail.com or at 989-834-5611.

2022 ROAD MAINTENANCE

The road maintenance projects planned for 2022:

- Chloride
- Various Brush Spray, Roadside Mowing
- Overband & Crack Seal Black Top Roads
- Chip Seal: Parks: Wacousta to Francis
- Gravel: Wacousta: M-21 to Townsend and Taft: Grove to Airport

BOARD MEETINGS

The Township Board meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 at the Township Hall. The next meeting is July 13, 2022.

TOWNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

If you are interested getting involved in the Township, we are always looking for residents to assist with planning/zoning activities, elections and other opportunities. Please call our Township Clerk, Sharon Bassette, or you may email her at bengaltownshipclerk2@gmail.com.



We wish you all a healthy and fun-filled summer season!