SPAULDING TOWNSHIP UPDATE Winter 2020

HIP UPDATE Winter 2017



News from our Supervisor…..

Wow, what a year 2020 has been with Covid-19 and the numerous executive orders that have effected all our lives and the township. But, as a whole, Spaulding Township still had a good year.

We finished our work on Hodges Rd. and put in a new drain tile, along with stone on Mahar Dr. The Saginaw County Road Commission finished work on Francis, Earlham, and Orth roads. They chip and sealed, cleaned out ditches, and put in new culverts. Mower and Peggy roads had pot holes patched and the dips in the roads mended. The Huntington ditch and road project will start soon. We also were able to finish the LED lighting in the township complex.

A new police vehicle was purchased while keeping the older, previous model in the event of adding an officer to our already full-time Deputy Addison Burton, or when one of the patrol vehicles is in repair or maintenance.

The township board also approved new water meters for all residents and businesses WITHOUT imposing an assessment to the property owners. These new water meters will serve our residents with accuracy on a daily basis and enable our staff to notify a customer in the event of high water usage; therefore, warning you of a possible leak when it occurs.

Other exciting news is that we welcome Bethany Figg as chairperson to our newly formed *Spaulding Township Development Committee.* Current basic goals are to improve housing and living conditions, restore properties, clean up blight and debris, and increase the overall well-being of Spaulding Township citizens and our community. Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at the township boardroom. If you would like to be part of the committee, or find out more how you can help with this worthwhile cause, please contact us at the township office.

Due to current circumstances, the Old-Fashioned Christmas in the Park will not be held this year. However, we are looking forward to bringing back our Easter Egg Hunt this spring, and Wednesday Nites in the Park this summer.

For your convenience, we have a new drive-thru drop off box in the complex parking lot for water bill payments, tax payments, or other correspondence you wish to submit to the township. Due to COVID-19 the **office lobby is closed to the public** until January, or perhaps later depending on the state. We will continue serving you by telephone, or a scheduled appointment if necessary, on Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri., from 10am-2pm and Wed. from 1-5pm.

Monthly board meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month (unless otherwise posted). DPW Board starts at 6:00pm and Township Board begins at 7:00pm at the Township Complex boardroom, 5025 East Rd., Saginaw MI 48601.

Feel free to contact me, or other board officials at the township office, 777-0950 to express any concerns. We, the Township Board, are here to serve you.

**– Ed Masters, Supervisor**

**2020 WINTER TAXES**

Enclosed is your 2020 Winter Tax bill which is **due February 16, 2021**. You may pay your tax bill by credit/debit card on the township website; however, there is an access fee for card payments. You may also mail a check or money order to the office, place payment in the locked drop box outside the township office, or in person at the township office using credit/debit card, check, money order, or cash.

**Township Office Hours:**

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. from 10:00am-2:00pm Wed. from 1:00-5:00pm

**Please make checks/money order payable to:**

**“SPAULDING TOWNSHIP”.**

***- Tiffany Fortier, Treasurer***

**BOARD OF REVIEW**

**Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.**

**IF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN’s**

**MANDATES FOR COVID-19 ALLOW**

Pursuant to the provisions of MCL 211.53b, the Spaulding Township Board of Review will meet in the Township Complex, 5025 East Rd., Saginaw, MI on the above date. The purpose of this meeting is to correct clerical errors or mutual mistake of fact, filings for principal residence exemptions (PRE), and to hear poverty exemption applications.

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**A word from our Clerk…**

The November general election saw a record number of votes in Spaulding Township with about 62% of the registered voters casting their ballots.  Absentee voters made up almost half of the votes in this election.  While this method of voting takes significantly more effort for the clerk and staff, it allows many people to vote that may not otherwise be able to.

Spaulding Township voters have decided that the township board will remain the same except for one trustee.  The incoming board will include Ed Masters, Supervisor; Mark Seamon, Clerk; Tiffany Fortier, Treasurer; Tracie Prueter, Trustee; and Jay Bruns, Trustee.  We thank outgoing Trustee, Don Sutto II for his service to the township over the past four years.

Christine Rudd has recently joined the township office staff.  She will be assisting Ginger in the office operations as well as taking on the role of Deputy Clerk.  We welcome Christine and her smile to the team.

 **– Mark Seamon, Clerk**

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**Water Bill Payment Information**

Quarterly water bills are due by the 10th day of February, May, August and November without penalty. Reminder bill/shutoff notice for unpaid balance must be paid in the office no later than 9:00am on the shutoff date on the card. Water will be shutoff the next day if payment is not received, which includes a reconnection fee. The entire balance must be paid to regain water service.

**Drop Box**

The township has two drop-off boxes outdoors. Please use these for all payments.

**Freezing Weather**

If you think your water pipes may be susceptible to freezing, or have had frozen pipes in the past or if you are not going to be home for a period of time you may want to consider leaving a small pencil size stream of water running.

## Water Wasters to Check

Average water bill costs vary depending on your household size and water usage; however, if your water bill seems unusually high, you may have a leak. 100 gallons a day per person is normal water usage. Check the following:

 **Toilets**

The flapper is the most common source of problems.

1. Turn the water supply valve off at the toilet and watch the level in the toilet bowl. If the level drops, replace the flapper and clean the flapper seal in the toilet tank.
2. In addition, check the level in the tank. After flushing, the water should shut off when the tank level is about ½ inch to 1 inch below the overflow. If water does not shut off at this level, adjust the float in the toilet water tank.
3. You can use a dye test or food coloring to confirm a toilet leak.

**Cemetery, Park, and Complex**

New signs have been placed at the township park and the parking posts were repainted. Future plans include placing decorative stone around the boulders for enhanced landscaping. We also plan to repair the pavilion split rail fence. Discussion has begun regarding the possibility of adding an ice-skating rink.

We have been working diligently on improving our township cemetery and plan on trimming trees soon.

The office complex parking lot was re-striped and parking posts painted.

The township utilizes the assistance of Friend of the Court workers who are completing community service hours for an extra hand on certain projects. We have also been busy cleaning up Banner Rd. dumping recently.

**– Dan Kross, DPW Assistant Superintendent**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Spaulding Township Fire Department has been taking extra precautions due to COVID-19 and implement the mandates for the safety and well-being of residents, firefighters, and rescue teams.

We are pleased to have two new volunteers beginning fire academy in December.

The township received a grant for smoke alarms and firefighters distributed many of them during their Halloween trick-or-treating event held outside the department. There are free smoke alarms still available. If you are in need of a new alarm, please contact the township office during business hours to schedule an appointment for pick-up.

We are always looking for women and men to join the Fire Department. If you or someone you know is over 18 yrs. old and interested, you may obtain an application on our township’s website, or contact the office to request an application be mailed to you.

**– Thomas Fortier, Fire Chief**

**– Thomas Fortier, Chief**