

PART 2 - ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

The Hampton Charter Township Board has the ultimate responsibility for all planning, development, funding and operation and maintenance of all Township recreation facilities. It has gained broad recognition over the years as being one of the most active and dedicated legislative bodies in the state.

The Board meets at least twice a month and operates on an annual budget which exceeds \$3,000,000. Its success is evidenced by numerous Township services and facilities including a Township wide water distribution system, a sanitary sewerage collection system serving the entire developed portion of the Township, an extensive storm drainage system, fully staffed police, fire and public works departments, a fully staffed township office and hall, a newer senior citizens center and three major parks.

The responsibility for Parks and Recreational facilities is delegated to a Recreation **Committee** which was created by resolution of the Township Board. All members of the Recreation **Committee** are also members of the Township Board. The Committee has broad ranging responsibilities including long range planning, site planning and development, operation and maintenance, grants and donations and public involvement and coordination. During the last fifteen years the Committee, working with the Township board, has acquired land and developed three parks and has a grant pending for a fourth facility at the present time. The capital cost of these facilities exceeds \$1,000,000.

The Recreation Committee works closely with other Township agencies and departments in fulfilling their duties. The Township Planning Commission recently completed a Comprehensive Plan which places greater emphasis on recreation facilities. Historically, the primary aim was to satisfy the needs of Township residents.

A new strategy and role is to use recreational facilities as an economic resource by encouraging recreational development along the Saginaw Bay for use by tourists as well as local residents. Participation is proposed by both public and, private sectors. This strategy is consistent with the goals and objectives of the, Bay County Waterfront Task Force and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources "Saginaw Bay Strategy".

Township planning and engineering consultants are available to the Recreation Committee on an as needed basis to assist in both long-range planning and site planning and development. The Township Department of Public Works staff is responsible for the day-to-day operation and maintenance of facilities. In addition, a full-time parks manager oversees the operation of the Finn Road Park during the summer months.

The annual maintenance cost of existing facilities budgeted to the Department of Public Works is approximately **\$30,000**. In addition to the regular maintenance, funds are also budgeted for park improvements. The improvement budgets for the last three years are indicated in the following table.

Recreation Improvement Budget

	1988	1989	1990
Improvements	\$143,301	\$40,030	\$ 87,090
Utilities	445	386	2,809
Insurance	2,292	2,292	5,485
Development	1,078	20,000	5,485
Supplies	1,529	1,152	73,962
Contracted Service	-	622	2,638
Wages		-	10,716
TOTAL	\$148,645	\$64,482	\$182,700

Consultant fees and regular maintenance funds are not included in the above budgets.

To date, all site improvement funds have come from State and Federal grants, County contributions, private donations and Township funds allocated for park purposes. No bonded debt has been incurred in the development of existing recreational facilities.

**HAMPTON TOWNSHIP
ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE
FOR PARKS & RECREATION**

