

TOWNSHIP TIMES

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EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Terrence J. Spegel
Supervisor

tspegel@charterinternet.com

Pamela J. Wright
Clerk

hamptonclerk@charterinternet.com

William G. Tacey
Treasurer

hamptontreasurer@charterinternet.com

TRUSTEES:

Wayne Esterhai

Paul Hugo

Donald Klass

Donald VanDenBoom

Hampton Township Offices:

801 W. Center Rd.

Essexville, MI 48732

Telephone: (989) 893-7541

Office Hours: Monday — Friday

7:30 a.m.—12 noon

& 1 p.m.—4 p.m.

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 187

Bay City, MI 48707-0187

Hampton Township Board of

Trustees meets the second & fourth Monday of each month at 4:00 p.m.

Planning Commission meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Board of Appeals meets the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

All meetings are held in the Board room at 801 W. Center Rd.

HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR, TERRY SPEGEL

Discussions on forming a water authority are in the initial stages and continue to move forward.

A water authority will give all partners, including Hampton Township, a much better voice in operations of the water treatment plant and transmission system.

Recently, the Saginaw-Midland Municipal Water Supply Corporation passed a resolution con-

firming that they have the capacity to supply 22 million gallons of raw water per day to Bay County and Bay City.

Both partners in the Corporation, the cities of Midland and Saginaw passed similar resolutions. This is great news!

The Saginaw Midland Water Corporation draws water from Lake Huron offshore from

Whitestone Point near Au Gres which is a much better source for raw water.

We will continue to work with the Bay County Department of Water and Sewer representing the out-city customers, Essexville, and Bay City to provide Hampton Township with the best water possible at a fair cost.

Sewer Project Update

The design engineering for the project is nearing completion. The plans and specifications are being submitted to the appropriate permitting agencies for their review and final approval.

We anticipate the project will be out for bidding by the end of November 2009 and we will be opening the bids the end of December 2009.

Construction of the project will be getting started the beginning of March, 2010, and the project completion date is scheduled around the middle of September 2010.

Sewage from Hampton Township will start going to the West Bay County Treatment Plant around the beginning of October 2010.

Consumers Energy's Clean Coal Plant Update

On October 6, more than 2,000 construction workers converged at the state Capitol in Lansing for a job rally urging the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) to approve air permits for new coal plants filed two years ago by Consumers Energy and Wolverine Power. The rally was sponsored by the Michigan Building & Construction Trades Council and the Michigan Jobs and Energy Coalition. Bipartisan legislative attendance at the rally was significant and included House Speaker Andy Dillon, State Senator Jim Barcia, and State Representative Jeff Mayes who was a featured speaker.

We have a good supply of yard signs used during the rally that are now available at the DPW. The signs display the message, "Put Us To Work!" so here's a great opportunity to show support for economic growth in our Township.

It is expected the MDEQ will issue a decision on the Consumers Energy air permit yet this year. Plans will then be on track for groundbreaking of the clean coal plant in 2011.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

2009 A year in Review

The Township Transfer Station underwent major upgrades that are sure to please the residents who use the facility. Black top was applied to the entrance, the area around the recycling bins, and the approaches to the compactor. What a difference these improvements made for our residents.

Improvement projects also included the widening and repaving of Knight Road from Arms to the Transfer Station and repaving of Jones Road.

Our local businesses are struggling due to the current economy and from the reduced traffic flow from the closure of Center Ave from Livingston to Trumbull and the corner of Livingston in the City of Bay City for their construction project.

But our residents, undaunted by the construction, continue to patronize and support our local businesses.

The Business responded by offering specials for their customers.

Chemical Bank is busy remodeling the interior of their bank and drive-thru to improve customer usability, and Catholic Federal Credit Union is open for business.



The Mandarin House decided to relocate from the mall into 3000 Center, the old Texan and is now open for business.



(Sandy Chang
& Mary Ann Tessin)

The move to this great new location has made the restaurant much more convenient for its patrons.

Don't forget to stop in for a delicious meal some time soon.

Finn Road Boat Launch saw an increase in use this summer as the walleye lured in the fishermen in anticipation of the catch. Marine radios were buzzing with details of the number of fish landed in the Saginaw Bay. Excitement was high at the launch.

Camping also increased during the summer. Many people decided to vacation closer to home at our beautiful campground.

Community support continues to grow for the Consumers Energy new coal plant and our Township Board has approved language to allow wind energy in the township.

Plans are underway to provide our residents with new sewer service which, in the long term, will give sewer customers a lower rate on their bills.

Center Ave Business District is decorating the light poles for the holiday's with new banners and lights. Keep your eyes open for them.



Hope abounds in the Township. The worst of times seems to bring out the best in people as we continue to support the community in which we live.

2009 Winter Tax Collection

Our office will be open on Tuesday, December 29th from 7:30 a.m. – noon and 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. for those who want to pay their taxes before the end of the year.

Tax Bills are due beginning Tuesday, December 1, 2009 to Tuesday, February 16, 2010 (By law, the due date is February 14th; which is on Sunday and Monday, February 15th is a national holiday). On February 17, 2009 a 3% collection fee will be added to the delinquent bill.

Unable to reach the office by 4:00 p.m.? Then use our drop box located in the Boardroom door west of the office entrance. This box is checked daily at 7:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

If you are unable to pay your tax bill in full, partial payments will be accepted. March 1, 2010, the unpaid 2009 taxes will be sent to the Bay County Treasurer and payment must be made there.

Holiday Closings

Administrative Office will be closed:
Nov. 26 & 27,
Dec. 24, 25, & 31 & Jan. 1 & 18, 2010

Holiday Closings

DPW, and Transfer Station will be closed:
Nov. 26 & 27, Dec. 24, 25, & 31
& Jan. 1 & 18, 2010

FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Hampton Fire Department personnel were busy this summer painting the inside of the station prior to the arrival of vehicle exhaust system that is currently being installed.

Personnel also did fire prevention programs at the following locations: Hampton School field day, Center childcare plaza, Kroger's, Hampton Meadows, Michigan Behavioral Realty and

Cats Meow.

The week of September 28, Hampton Twp. Fire Department took Bangor Twp. Fire Department's fire safety trailer to Verellen, Hampton and Bethel Lutheran grade schools.

Over 340 Third grade students had the opportunity to learn home escape plans and to practice the drills.

With winter fast approaching remember to have your furnace ser-

vised by a trained professional.

Make sure you have a CO detector in your home and test the detector to make sure the detector is working properly.

For more information on CO go to:

www.carbonmonoxidekills.com

Chimney fires are preventable, if you have a fireplace or wood burner make sure the chimney is clean.

Reminder to test smoke detectors once a month and replace batteries once a year.

Before installing holiday lights make sure cords are free of breaks and frayed wires and don't place extension cords under rugs or carpets.

For a web site on candle and cooking safety visit:

www.befiresmart.com

Welcome to our new reserve fire fighters. Taylor Timm, who was hired in August and Cody Walraven who was hired in November.

Hampton Fire Fighters Association's still have green address signs for sale. The signs cost \$15.00

POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Hampton Township Police Department conducts Neighborhood watch programs **free of charge**. If you would like to host one or attend one, please contact Lt. Mike Wedding at the Police Department. The number is 892-0571. If he is not in, you can leave a message and he will contact you when he returns.

So far this year your Police Department has been dispatched to over 4,300 complaints and written over 3,500 complaints. Larceny crimes have become the most frequent. Hampton Officers apprehended two groups of juveniles and one adult in July. After those apprehensions larcenies dropped by 50% for two months but are again rising. Larcenies from unlocked cars remain the highest category. Keep your vehicles locked and **do not leave** items (purses, wallets, CD players, computers, etc.) in the passenger compartment. Do not leave personal items which can be seen through the windows inside your car.

The majority of these larcenies

occur during the late evening and early morning hours. If you hear suspicious sounds during the night **please call 911** to report it. If you do not wish to be contacted let the 911 dispatcher know that when you call, and we will still send a patrol car to check the area. Often the victims or their neighbor heard a suspicious noise that they did not think to report. If you see someone in your neighborhood who you think is suspicious please call 911 and report their activity. We will send a patrol unit to locate and check.

We again encourage all residents to record the make, model, and serial numbers of all items you own. Keep the list in a safe place so it can be retrieved if items are lost or stolen. If the item does not have a serial or model number inscribe your drivers' license number on it.

Items that are recovered by the police and cannot be identified as belonging to an individual are destroyed. Please make a thorough list...

Hampton Township Police Department has an officer participating in the State Police Drug Enforcement Team know as BAYANET. The officer is assigned to the unit for a period of three months to one year pending

on a grant to pay for wages. The purpose of the assignment is to train one Hampton Officer in investigating drug complaints and curbing drug activity and related crime.

We have received three more Homeland Security Grants for equipment. The first grant has purchased new report writing software and is enabling sharing of information with 36 other police agencies in the region including all Bay County police agencies. The second grant has purchased four more Mobile Data Computers for patrol cars. That will give Hampton Townships six patrol units with the MDC's. The MDC's with mounts and peripheral equipment cost over \$5,600 each. The Township only pays for the software licensing for each. Having the computers mounted in the patrol cars will give the officers instant access to Law Enforcement Information systems and allow officers to write some of their reports in the car. The third grant purchased four more portable radios. The MDC's and radios have been delivered and should be programmed, installed and in use by the end of the year.

We are quickly approaching icy wintry weather. Please remember to leave early & slow down when roads are slippery. Check your tires for proper wear and inflation.

Many are concerned over the spread of the flu virus. Here are seven simple steps to take to prevent the spread of germs. 1) Rinse hands & wrists with water often. 2) Apply a generous portion of liquid soap. 3) Generate a heavy lather and wash well for approx.15 seconds. Clean between fingers, nail beds, under fingernails and backs of hands. 4) Rinse well under running water, keeping hands low in sink to prevent splashing. 5) Hold hands so that water flows from the wrist to fingertips. 6) Dry hands completely with clean paper towels. 7) Use the paper towel to turn off the faucet so your hands remain clean.

Officer Brett Whitman & wife are now the proud parents of a 5 pound baby girl.

Congratulations ...



GSA
(General Services
Administration)
Report

Earlier this year the Township Administration Office received some minor interior remodeling, (work was done by the DPW) to several work areas to make them more user friendly for the staff. New carpeting was installed throughout the offices and Board Room, and new landscaping (by O'Donnell's Earth Works) including trees, shrubs and roses were planted by the front hall entrance.

Beginning December 1, 2009 the office staff will begin issuing the new 2010 Transfer Station Permits (there is a \$30.00 fee for the permit), as well as collecting the 2009 Winter Taxes and December water bills.

There will be Elections in 2010 in May, August & November. Preparations are being made to ensure that we will be ready. Our GSA staff is looking forward to seeing you in the upcoming year!



Finn Road Park

The Park officially closed for the season on October 31. It was a great year for the fishermen, hunters, and campers who came to get away for a while.

The park was a very busy place as it was full most weekends, especially during the months of July, August, and September.

The campers enjoyed fishing, walking the nature trails, playing on the playground equipment ,sitting around the campfires and just relaxing.

If you didn't make it out to the park this year, start making plans for next year! We would love to meet you and help you relax.

Thanks for a great year!



Hampton Happy Hearts

Oh, my...what to have for dinner tonight...I really don't like eating alone.. It's so lonely eating by myself...I would like to be able to talk to someone (besides myself)...I need to get out more often...Have these thoughts crossed your mind? If so, let the Hampton Senior Center help YOU!

The Hampton Senior Center is open Monday through Friday serving delicious meals (cooked on site) at 5:00 p.m.

Mmmm Mmmm Good! If you do not want the entrée of the day, you may choose between a delicious salad or sandwich of the week. Desserts and beverages are included in whatever meal you decide upon. Reservations must be made at least 24 hours in advance and can be made by calling Sandi at 895-5968 between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

You never have to worry about what to prepare for dinner again. You too can enjoy a wonderful meal for the suggested donation of only \$2.50 along with good fellowship and lots of fun!

We have a beautiful building and many seniors take advantage of meeting on a daily basis with their friends and neighbors for a delicious meal and a good time, but there is still room for YOU!

Fun activities happening at the Center throughout the year include:

Fluffer Nutter Day.
Be Bald and Be Free Day
Homemade Soup Day
Hot chocolate and Donut Day
Make Your Own Banana Split Day
Hula-in-the-Coola Day and much more.

We also have serious activities, such as:

- Memorial Day Tribute
- POW/MIA Recognition Day
- Veteran's Day Tribute
- and all of our special holidays

We always honor our folks on Mother's Day, Father's Day and Grandparent's Day.

Come and join us. You'll meet some wonderful people and enjoy a hot delicious meal.

You do not need to be a resident of Hampton Township. If you are 60 years or older or the spouse of someone who is 60 and over, you are eligible to join us. Again, just call Sandi at 895-5968 between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate in calling...can't wait to meet you!

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Site Manger Sandi Fader, was chosen by the Bay City Times and interviewed for their "Meet Your Neighbor" section. Congratulations Sandi on doing a wonderful job for the senior citizens in our community.



DPW REPORT

It's been another busy year for the DPW with taking care of secondary roads, cleaning drainage ditches, cutting grass and re-roofing the Police Dept. A lot of work was done to our transfer station. The addition of asphalt makes it cleaner and user-friendly for those who have purchased their yearly transfer pass card, and our DPW crew has widened Knight Road from Arms to the transfer station.

With the road maintenance fund, working for you , we have been able to black top the following roads:

Orchard Rd
Charles St
Rosemary
Jones Rd.

The Chip & Seal that was applied this year was a new type of seal blend that was utilized on these roads:

Borton Rd (Farley to Knight)
Ridge Rd (Pine to Knight)
Jones Rd (Ridge to Youngsditch)
Boutell (Ridge to Youngsditch)

The DPW is always busy. Currently, they are putting up the banners (purchased by the Essexville Hampton Business Association) and lights (purchased by the DDA) along the Center Ave Business District. for the Holidays.

On Veterans Day, the DPW put up the flags from the different branches of service around the memorial paying tribute to our veterans. **God bless all our veterans for all they have given and God bless America!**