

2019 Summer Newsletter

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**Rik Kowall
Supervisor**

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SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE



Summer is right around the corner and the Township is greening up beautifully! The winter newsletter touched on the opportunity for the Township to Purchase the old Brendel Lake Campground on Elizabeth Lake Road in an effort to preserve this natural resource for residents to enjoy.

I would like to update you on the progress of this purchase. In December of 2018, White Lake Township was awarded \$1,372,400.00 by the Michigan Natural

Resources Trust Fund to purchase the property. The MNRTF grant provides 74% percent of the funding needed for purchase. On Tuesday, May 14, 2019, Governor Whitmer signed Public Act 12 of 2019 providing funding for the park purchase. The Township is presently working to provide the State of Michigan the necessary documentation needed to move forward with the property closing. The formal grant agreement will go before the Township Board on June 18, 2019.

The Civic Center Development Committee is studying the new Civic Center area and considering options for its configuration and development. The spatial planning for the new Public Safety Building is under way and a proposal has been requested for spatial planning of a new Township Hall as well. We are moving forward and will continue to update the residents as things progress.

Rik Kowall, Supervisor



Supervisor Kowall with 3rd Graders from Lakewood Elementary on their annual fieldtrip to the Township learning about local government.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Several new developments have made their way through the department and are nearing final approval. Some of these projects will provide much needed "empty nester" residences. Trailside Meadow is one of those developments. The 78 acre property near Elizabeth Lake and Williams Lake Roads will provide options not only for "active adults" but it will have single family housing products as well. Clearing will begin soon at Preserve at Hidden Lake. The mixed residential development will have single family condos, townhouses, and duplexes. Other new residential projects along the Union Lake corridor are moving along as well. West Valley will be a ranch style apartment complex and Lakepointe will consist of 57 attached single family homes. Demolition has been completed at Centerpointe Plaza on M-59 where there will be a new retail development adjacent to AutoZone.

While the Township does not receive funding for road construction or repair, we continue to work closely with the Oakland County Road Commission to address road concerns. Some of the current projects expected to be constructed this year include paving Grass Lake Road from Ormond Road to Steeple Hill Road and a roundabout on Carroll Road at Cooley Lake Road.

Sean O'Neil AICP, Planning Director

CLERK'S OFFICE

By the time you receive this newsletter the May election will be in the books. Congratulations to the Walled Lake School Board for the passing of a new school millage. We look forward to seeing the new Dublin Elementary School on the current site. The passage of recent legislation allows for **no reason** absentee voting. The 2020 elections are around the corner. If you wish to be added to the permanent absentee voter list, please contact the Clerk's Office at 248-698-3300 (ext.7).

I want to express my gratitude and thanks to our township staff and all our election workers for their attention to detail and a job well done. We want you to know your help is greatly appreciated. I also want to thank the voters for participating on Election Day. If you are interested in becoming an Election Inspector, applications are available in the Clerk's Office and at www.whitelaketwp.com. We encourage our students and seniors to apply.

Enjoy a safe and restful summer!

Terrence E. Lilley, CMC, CMMC Township Clerk



TREASURER

The Treasurer's Dept. accepts cash or checks at the counter. Taxes can also be paid on-line at www.whitelaketwp.com. See the "Pay Local Taxes" link on the Treasurer's section of the website. Please know that fees are charged for on-line payments.

Passports – White Lake Township is an Acceptance Agent for U.S. Passport applications. We process applications by appointment only. Please call for appointments: **248-698-3300 ext. 4**

Dog Licenses - Dog license expire on December 31st each year. Dogs require a license once they become 4 months old. Dog licenses can be purchased online through Oakland County at <http://land.oakgov.com/ops/>

Property Taxes - Summer taxes are payable through September 16th, 2019 without late fees. Please include your phone number on your check or tax remittance slip in case we have issues with your check.

Retirement - Amy Curtis retired from the Treasurer's Office after 18 years of service to our residents. *We wish Amy a happy retirement!*

Mike Roman, Treasurer



IMPORTANT GARBAGE INFO...

Green For Life (GFL) is the waste hauling company contracted by the Township to pick up garbage, recycling, yard waste, and bulk items. For garbage concerns call GFL Customer Service at **1-844-464-3587**. -Residents no longer need to call GFL ahead for bulk item pick-up. Large items will be picked up on the same day by a different truck. -If your pick-up day falls on or after a holiday during the business week, services will be delayed ONE day. Holidays observed by GFL are; New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. -Please make sure that garbage is bagged before placing in the cart. On windy days, loose garbage does not always make it into the truck. -Yard waste pick-up runs April 1 - November 30. After November several landscape companies offer drop-off yard waste services for a fee. Check the White Lake Township website for suggestions. See garbage and recycling.

POLICE DEPARTMENT



I want to thank everyone who attended the 2019 Police Open House. We enjoyed meeting all the newcomers and catching up with those of you who support us year after year! Also, I wanted to let you know that the Police Department initiated several programs in 2018/2019. We created a Dispatch Coordinator position to better facilitate the demands of the Communication Division and to better serve the community. We spent 2018 diligently working on the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Program through the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police. This accreditation is a progressive and time-proven way of helping our Police Department calculate and increase our overall improvement through implementation of written directives, policies, and procedures that are conceptually sound and operationally effective. We became accredited in February 2019 and are only one of sixteen agencies to receive this honor out of approximately 600 agencies in the State of Michigan. We transitioned from D.A.R.E. to T.E.A.M. (Teaching, Educating, and Mentoring). The T.E.A.M. program is a comprehensive program that we offer our elementary and middle school students. We have many services available to you including our Vacation House Check program, Senior Welfare program, Radar Trailer, Prescription Drug Dropoff, White Lake Police Business Program, Vehicle Lockouts, Police Youth Academy, Shop with a Cop, Station Tours and Police Open House. Go to www.whitelakepolice.com for more information. Don't forget to like us on Facebook at **WhiteLakeTownshipPolice** where we post all of our current programs, lost animals, and important notices that matter to you!



Chief Dan Keller with a "future" Police Officer

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The Union Lake corridor is slated for a significant increase in residential construction this year.

Permits are required for roofs and windows. Remind your contractors that permits are necessary for those projects.

Permits are also required for new homes, additions, renovations, decks, new furnaces or A/C units and other building, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing projects. Building permits provide the means for our Building Official and Inspectors to protect us by reducing the potential hazards of unsafe construction. Please call us at **248.698.3300 Ext. 2** for any questions regarding construction projects in the area or permitting questions.

Brent Bonnavier, White Lake Township Building Official

ASSESSING DEPARTMENT

A Homeowner who both owns and occupies his/her home as of June 1st is eligible for a Principal Residence Exemption (PRE), which reduces the tax rate of the property. Homeowners can only claim one PRE at a time. You must file a Request to Rescind PRE when you no longer own and/or occupy the home as your principal residence.

The July Board of Review meets to correct mutual mistakes of fact or clerical errors on the assessment roll. Poverty appeals and affidavits for disabled veterans who meet the criteria for an exemption are also handled during the July Board of Review. For further assessing information, please visit whitelaketwp.com.

Jeanine Smith, Assessor

FIRE DEPARTMENT



PAID ON CALL FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The White Lake Township Fire Department is accepting applications for Paid on Call Firefighters. Training and certifications are provided. Paid on Call (POC) Firefighters generally respond from their homes day and night, however shift work is available. POC Firefighters are a vital component of the Township's Fire department needed for fire suppression and medical and emergency incidents. Please contact Jason Hanifen at 248-698-3335 for more information. Applications are available on-line at www.whitelaketwp.com or in the Township Clerk's Office.

On May 1, 2019 Richard Marinucci was hired as the interim Fire Chief for the Township. The term is for 90 days, at which time it is hoped that a permanent selection will be made. Chief Marinucci has 43 years experience in fire service. The majority of this time was with the Farmington Hills Fire Department. During his career he has served as the President of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and was the Acting Chief Operating Officer of the United States Fire Administration. He has a Master's degree from Eastern Michigan University and 3 Bachelor's degrees. He looks forward to working with the community and department. Please feel free to contact him regarding any issues related to the fire department.

DPS DEPARTMENT

Treatment Plant Maintenance

Over the winters of 2018 and 2019, DPS has been working on many interior plant maintenance projects at our drinking water well houses and treatment plants. The biggest of these projects were interior painting of Aspen Meadows and Twin Lakes II Wellhouses. The project included repairing and repainting of deficiencies in the ceilings and walls, an epoxy paint system on all pipes and appurtenances, and an epoxy floor coating. 100% of these projects were completed by our outstanding DPS staff and funded through our regular maintenance budget. When I signed on to head DPS, former Twp. Supervisor Greg Baroni always said that he "should be able to eat off of the floor in a Township water plant." Not that I have tried it but I think we've reached that goal at several sites!

Aaron Potter, DPS Director



Pictured is Twin Lakes II Wellhouse on 5-16-2019.

DUBLIN SENIOR CENTER

The Dublin Community Senior Center in cooperation with White Lake Township and the White Lake Township Senior Advisory Council offers quality programs and services for adults fifty years of age and older. All social, educational, physical and supportive programs and services are designed to enhance the quality of life and maintain the independence and dignity of our participants.

The Dublin Community Senior Center thrives on empowering seniors to celebrate living.

Upcoming events/Save the Date:

- 8/21- BBQ and Bird show- (Rainbow feathers)
- 10/22- Medicare D- Open enrollment assistance
- 11/14- Thanksgiving Luncheon & entertainment
- 12/18- Christmas Luncheon & entertainment

Daily exercise programs, daily cards or games/clubs

Check out our page on www.whitelaketwp.com under Services and Departments.

Kathy Gordinear, Senior Center Director