

## 2022 Winter Newsletter

Check out our new website:  
[www.whitelaketwp.com](http://www.whitelaketwp.com)



**Rik Kowall**  
Supervisor

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### SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE



Every Department at the Township has been incredibly busy! The Building Department alone has issued over 2,600 building permits, all while implementing the Township's new rental ordinance. Recently, the Assessing Department worked closely with our garbage collection company to get White Lake Township its own direct phone line to GFL at **248-702-4618** used for missed pick-ups, replacing damaged trash cans,

etc., so residents do not have to wait on hold for long periods of time. And what can I say about our outstanding Police and Fire Departments! I am very proud of the whole Township staff and all the hard work they do for White Lake. I know we are looking forward to serving you in 2023.

The Civic Center project continues to pick up steam. I have appointed different committees during this process to dive into the nuts and bolts of this venture to assure the best possible decisions are made for the Township. Elizabeth Lake Rd will take on a major change over the next year. Roundabouts at Elizabeth Lake and Teggerdine and Oxbow, and a major change in the corridor in front of the Township property. These are the first steps in moving forward in creating something unique and exciting for White Lake.

*Rik Kowall, Supervisor*

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES

Aspen Meadows Iron Filtration Plant construction began March 15, 2022. The project is experiencing some delays due to material shortages. Most of the underground work is complete. The new filters will be delivered by the end of December. Once the filters are onsite, the project will be full speed ahead again. We expect the plant to be producing iron free drinking water around August 2023.

The Bogie Lake Road watermain project is clicking along on schedule. Currently, the new watermain is live and online all the way to just south of Lake Neva with the rest of the main in the ground and in varying stages of testing and completion.

The North Hulbert and Oak Ridge Park SADs are now complete and accepting connections.

DPS has applied for a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) for sanitary relining projects that are part of the next five years Asset Management Plan for the sewer system. This is a \$2.85 Million project that was approved by the Township Board of Trustees by resolution in May. DPS was notified on October 31<sup>st</sup> that the project qualified for \$285,000 in grants through The American Rescue Plan Act and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Engineering proposals for the project will be going to the Township Board for the November meeting.

*Aaron Potter, DPS Director*

### DUBLIN SENIOR CENTER

The Dublin Community Senior Center 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. Please feel free to stop in to take a tour of our center or call **248-698-2394** for more information. Go to [www.whitelaketwp.com/senior-center](http://www.whitelaketwp.com/senior-center) to view our current newsletter of programs.

*Kathy Gordinear, Director of Dublin Senior Center*

### CLERK'S OFFICE

#### Elections —

Thank you to all the residents who voted! We made it through the Mid-Term Elections and redistricting as well as the addition of a new precinct. With all the moving parts not to mention some of the last minute legal challenges, this was quite the accomplishment.

This success could not happen without the hard work and civic commitments of over a hundred residents and volunteers. Your diligence is commendable. I would also like to acknowledge the absentee ballot counting board who worked tirelessly behind the scenes processing ballots. This year they even made it through the training for our new high speed scanner. Thank you to all the dedicated staff in the Clerk's Office and from all the other departments who give of themselves to help into the late night hours. I can't thank you all enough. I am proud to serve as your Clerk.

#### Permits —

Under Chapter 32 of the Township Ordinance, any person engaged in solicitation within the Township must obtain a license. These licenses and other permits are issued through the Clerk's office. The licensees are required to carry the permit at all times during solicitation activity. Solicitation is prohibited from 8:00 P.M. to 10:00 A.M. Please feel free to contact the Clerk's Office at **248-698-3300 ext. 7** if you have any questions or concerns.

*Anthony L. Noble, Clerk*



### TREASURY DEPARTMENT



**Property Tax Payments**— Payments in the form of cash or check is accepted at the counter of the Treasurer's Department in the Township offices. Payment may also be made online at [www.whitelaketwp.com](http://www.whitelaketwp.com). See the "Pay Local Taxes" link on the Treasurer's section of the website. Fees are charged for online payments.

**Credit Cards**— Now being accepted for all Water Bills, Building Permits and Dog Licenses. A convenience fee will be

charged for all credit card transactions.

**Winter 2022 Property Taxes**— Winter taxes are payable through February 14, 2023 without late fees. Please include your phone number on your check or tax remittance slip in case there are questions. February 28th is the last day the Township can accept 2022 summer/winter tax payments.

**Dog Licenses**— Dog licenses expire on December 31st each year. A license is required once a dog reaches the age of four months. A current rabies certificate is required. Dog licenses may be purchased online through Oakland County at <https://oaklandgov.com/pet-adoption/pages/doglicense.aspx> or at the Township Office, Treasurer window.

*Mike Roman, Treasurer*

#### ORDINANCE

Contact Jason Hudson via email at [Jhudson2@whitelaketwp.com](mailto:Jhudson2@whitelaketwp.com) to report ordinance issues in the Township.

#### Notice to all owners, agents or occupants of land in the Township of White Lake:

Notice is hereby given that beginning May 1, 2022 the provisions of the White Lake Township Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 8, Article IV - Property Maintenance Code, section 8-89 will be enforced. Additional information regarding grass maintenance can be found at [www.whitelaketwp.com](http://www.whitelaketwp.com)



## POLICE DEPARTMENT

The White Lake Township Police Department wants to extend its most sincere gratitude to the residents of White Lake Township for their overwhelming support during the recent Renew and Restore Proposals that passed with nearly 75% approval at the August 2, 2022 Primary Election. With the continued support from the residents of White Lake Township, the Police Department can maintain its high level of community-oriented policing to continually strive for a safer and more secure White Lake Township community.

As part of its continued commitment to its community partnership, the White Lake Township Police Department graduated twenty-three members of the community through its Citizens Academy. Citizens Academy is an eleven-week course taught by members of the Police and Fire departments and seeks to educate residents on the day-to-day functions of the Police, Fire, and Township operations.

The Police Department also sponsored another Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) Basic Training Session in conjunction with the Oakland County Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. White Lake C.E.R.T. welcomed twenty new volunteers into this vital community service, disaster preparedness, and emergency response organization. White Lake C.E.R.T. continues to make itself available for various community events and/or emergency incidents as an extension of the Police and Fire Department's service capabilities. White Lake C.E.R.T. is a vital part of the White Lake Township community fabric. White Lake C.E.R.T. is looking for additional volunteers to complete the basic training and subsequently volunteer with the community emergency response and service organization.

If you are interested in future sessions or have questions about Citizens Academy or C.E.R.T., please contact Amy Petru at 248-698-1042.

Dan Keller, Chief of Police

## ASSESSING DEPARTMENT

**IMPORTANT!!!** Notices of annual changes in property tax assessments are mailed in February. Under Proposal A of 1994, uncapping of the taxable value occurs in the calendar year **following a transfer of ownership**, which may significantly increase the annual tax amount. Residents who wish to appeal the assessed or taxable value of their property must do so at the March Board of Review. Please visit our website to find information on:

Disabled Veterans (or surviving spouses) who have been determined to be permanently disabled, individually unemployable, or who have received assistance for specially adapted housing are eligible for the **Disabled Veterans Exemption** which is an exemption of property taxes.

**Poverty Exemption** information can be found on our website. Please see our guidelines regarding qualifications and application.

Homeowners, who both own and occupy their home, are eligible for the **Principal Residence Exemption (PRE)** which reduces the tax rate of the property (PRE status is listed on your tax bill as 100% if you are claiming a PRE).

**Special Assessment Districts** can be established by residents of private or public roads for necessary road maintenance/repair.

David Hieber, Assessor

## GARBAGE & RECYCLING INFORMATION

Green for Life (GFL) is the company contracted by the Township to pick up garbage, recycling, yard waste, and bulk items.

For garbage questions, including replacement carts or bins, call White Lake Township's dedicated GFL Customer Service at 248-702-4618.

- A larger, 65-gallon wheeled recycling cart (with lid) may be purchased for \$65 by calling GFL at 248-702-4618.

- No need to call ahead for large item pick-up! Simply place the bulk item(s) at the curb on your regular garbage pick-up day. All items should be placed curbside by 7:00am.

- Remember to bag all garbage before placing in the cart to ensure all items make it into the truck on windy days and to keep carts clean.

- GFL Holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Day. Services will be delayed by ONE day if your pick-up day falls on or after one of the listed holidays during the business week (M-F).

- Annual Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day: Next event is May 20, 2023 from 9am-1pm in the Kohl's parking lot for residents of White Lake Township.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT



Winter has finally arrived. Here are some general safety practices around heating your home during the colder months.

- ~Schedule professional maintenance and cleaning of household heating devices such as furnaces and fire places.
  - ~Do not use a generator inside or in close proximity to the home. Make sure the exhaust is pointed away from combustibles on the exterior.
  - ~Do not use the oven as a primary means of heating.
  - ~Maintain a three-foot clearance of combustibles from heating source.
  - ~Protect your home with working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Also, with winter brings the holiday season which adds components of increased fire risks. Be sure to use these safety tips while preparing your holiday meals.
  - ~Make sure that the device is on a level and non-flammable surface.
  - ~Make sure oil is to the proper fill line to avoid the splattering of grease/hot liquid.
  - ~Make sure the meat is thawed prior to placing in the fryer.
  - ~Utilize recommended oven mitts/gloves while handling utensils, pans and lids.
  - ~Allow the hot device and liquids to cool completely prior to emptying or moving inside.
- Lastly, if you bring a freshly cut tree into the home please remember to:
- ~Keep the tree well hydrated by watering it daily.
  - ~Keep the tree away from heat sources and open flames.
  - ~Inspect and discard any lights that have exposed wiring.
  - ~Remove the tree from the home when it is showing signs of excessive dryness.

John Holland, Fire Chief

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### PLANNING

The Community Development Department is charged with processing and reviewing rezoning requests, site plan applications, special land use permits, variance requests, and private road applications. The Department also provides staff support to the Township Board, Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Parks & Recreation Committee.

The Community Development Department continues to receive significant interest in White Lake Township. Sean O'Neil, Community Development Director, works to bring new businesses and residential developments to the Township. The Capital Improvement Plan update is available to view on the Township website. The Parks & Recreation Master Plan update is progressing and a grant application for the construction of Triangle Trail will be submitted by the end of the year. The Community Development Department will also begin on the Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA) Plan late this year.

The Community Development Department also oversees Parks and Recreation in the Township. We have a White Lake Township Parks and Recreation Facebook page you can follow for updates. Please visit our website or contact us at 248-698-3300 ext. 5 for more information.

Sean O'Neil, Community Development Director

### BUILDING

Currently under construction or in the permitting process we have Nashville Detroit (carryout restaurant), Aqua Dental, VCA Animal Clinic, a new Taco Bell, Ross Dress for Less, Beyond Juice, Detroit Wing Company, Hypershine Car Wash, Moe's Southwest Grill, and US Mattress.

Rental properties (including short term rentals such as Airbnb) are required to be registered, inspected and certified. The rental program is a benefit to our community by certifying rental homes for the landlord, ensuring a safe home for the renter and a well-maintained property for the neighborhood. Contact the White Lake Township Building Department 248-698-3300 ext. 2. (information is also available on the Building Dept. website). If you have any questions, or would like to check on the status of a rental property in your neighborhood, please contact the Building Department. Remember to have a licensed contractor pull your building permit if they are doing the work, the fee is the same for contractors or homeowners. The contractor assumes the liability of the work being performed for you. We recommend you receive an approved final inspection on the project prior to final payment to make sure the project meets code requirements.

Nick Spencer, Building Official