



Dear Residents,

As the winter season unfolds, we are excited to share with you the latest developments in the White Lake Township Civic Center construction project. This transformative initiative, with an estimated investment of \$41 million, is poised to significantly enhance the fabric of our community. We believe it will serve as a cornerstone for fostering unity, engagement, and a shared sense of identity among our residents.

The heart of the proposed Civic Center lies in its commitment to providing a space that caters to the diverse needs of our community. Envisioned as a hub for various activities, the facility will encompass recreational spaces, host events, provide educational resources, and serve as a

venue for public gatherings. By centralizing these services, we aim to enhance the overall well-being of everyone in White Lake Township.

Furthermore, the Civic Center will be a dedicated space for community engagement, collaboration, and civic involvement. It is designed to accommodate public meetings, town halls, and other civic events, encouraging active participation and meaningful discourse among our citizens. This approach ensures that every resident's voice is not only heard but actively considered in the decisions that shape the future of our community.

We invite and encourage community members to actively participate in the ongoing dialogue surrounding the Civic Center's development. Your input and insights are invaluable in shaping a facility that genuinely meets the unique needs and aspirations of our community. Additionally, all pertinent information related to the project, including budget details, funding sources, and progress reports, will be readily available and easily accessible to the public. In conclusion, the proposed Civic Center construction is a monumental endeavor that holds immense potential for the growth and cohesiveness of our community. Your continued engagement and involvement are crucial to its success. Together, we can create a lasting legacy that enriches the lives of current and future generations of White Lake Township residents.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out. Your voice matters, and I am here to address any inquiries you may have. Thank you for your unwavering dedication to our community.

We would also like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays! We hope this season brings you joy, warmth, and precious moments with loved ones. May the new year ahead be filled with good health, happiness, and exciting opportunities. Wishing you a wonderful holiday season and a fantastic start to the coming year!

Warm regards,

Supervisor, Rik Kowall

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Clerk, Anthony Noble

## Community Highlights...

#### PLANNING DEPARTMENT-

- Here is a "sneak peek" of the conceptual site plan for the new Township Hall and Public Safety Buildings at the Civic Center site on Elizabeth Lake Road. The Township will be installing a sign, with this same image on it, at the Civic Center site in the coming weeks. We anticipate that the groundbreaking will take place in late summer or early fall of 2024.
- The Planning Commission is continuing to work on the Master Plan update. A Master Plan Open House is scheduled for December.
- The Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA) Board recommended approval of the Tax Increment Financing Plan, which will be considered by the Board in November.
- Parks and Rec continued discussion on a 2024 millage proposal, as 2023 is the last collection year of the Parks and Recreation millage. The Collection
  - year of the Parks and Recreation millage. The Committee will recommend millage language to the Township Board, and the Township Board will decide what is placed on the ballot.
- Currently under construction or in the permitting process we have VCA Animal Clinic, Beyond Juice, Moe's Southwest Grill, and America's Best.
- 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.

#### **CLERK'S OFFICE—**

Michigan voters approved Proposition 2, signaling a significant shift in the electoral process within the State. This proposition not
only altered the Michigan Constitution, but also spurred our legislators to draft numerous bills aimed at executing this extensive
election reform. The White Lake Clerk's Office is feverishly working to prepare for the 2024 elections. We eagerly anticipate facilitating a more accessible and inclusive voting experience as we prepare to provide our residents with options such as early voting,
absentee voting, and in-person voting.

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE-

- DPS has been working hard to get the new Aspen Meadows plant calibrated and commissioned. We are working with EGLE on bringing the plant online. The plant should be sending water to the system within a few weeks.
- Bogie Lake Rd. watermain is complete. Huron Valley Schools on-site watermain replacement is underway.
- Elizabeth Lake Rd. watermain is complete.
- Hydrant winterizing is complete. If you see anyone other than Township personnel operating a hydrant, please let us know.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT-

- The Fire Department is pleased to announce that we are in our final phases (licensing) for our Emergency Medical Service upgrade to Advanced Life Support (ALS). The transition forecast is to be completed in early spring of 2024.
- Our Annual coat drive with JCPenney is Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m. We receive new or gently used coats throughout the year at Station 1 and JCPenney will collect on our behalf as well.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT-

• The Police Department will host another Citizens Academy class on Wednesdays from 6 – 9 p.m., beginning March 13, 2024. This 11-week course teaches all the inner workings of the Police Department, Fire Department, and the Township. We will also be holding another Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) basic training, on Mondays and Wednesdays beginning Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, and concluding Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. The class runs from 6 – 9 p.m. and will be held at the Waterford Fire Department. Please Contact Amy Petru at 248-698-1042 for more information.

### ASSESSING DEPARTMENT-

- The Governor signed legislation recently to expand the Disabled Veterans Property Tax Exemption to include property acquired by the disabled veteran's spouse after the veteran's death. For more information on this and other property tax exemptions, contact the Assessing Department 248-698-3300 ext. 3 or visit <a href="www.michigan.gov">www.michigan.gov</a>.
- Small Businesses are encouraged to submit the Small Business Property Tax Exemption Claim Under MCL 211.90 Form by February 20th if the True Cash Value of their Personal Property is less than \$180,000.

# **COMING SOON!**

## NEW PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING & TOWNSHIP HALL

