



Beaver Island  
Michigan

# Supervisor's Lens

Notes to Township Board Members from Supervisor Kathleen McNamara

FEBRUARY 2021

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 2

**SJTGC** = St James Township Governmental Center  
**SJTH** = St James Township Hall



Tuesday February 2 @ 6:00PM via ZOOM  
**Planning Commission Meeting**



Wednesday February 3 @ 5:30PM VIA ZOOM  
**Regular Board Meeting**

**St James Township Board**

## THE FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING AND ALL COMMITTEE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM BECAUSE OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

### **Finance**

Included in this board packet is the draft monthly finance report, minutes from the rescheduled Finance Committee meeting (January 26) are attached. The clerk will send the monthly **Standard Budget Report** which shows adopted budget revenue and expenditure categories compared to what has been received and spent each month. The standard budget report reflects current expenditures compared to the budget as amended at the September 2, 2020 regular board meeting. The clerk will email a copy to board members. She will also forward a copy of the bills for payment – please contact her if you have questions about the bills.

Early next week, I expect to forward to board members a document, **BUDGET NOTES FOR BOARD REVIEW**. The document will include a first draft of an amended current year GF budget and proposed 21-22 budget along with notes and observations about the current fiscal health of the township. I will seek input from the board about items to include or exclude from the 21-22 budget.

### **Waste Management Committee**

The waste management committee has been working on their 2021-22 budget and have been reviewing salaries for the three employees. Paul Cole, chair of the committee, will report to our board about this item.

### **X-Country Ski Trail**

Signs are being set up to identify the Donegal Bay Road bike path as a X-Country Ski Trail beginning at the Resale Shop and looping through the campground. Mark Englesman will keep the trail groomed as soon as we get enough snow to do so. Please spread the word about this winter recreation opportunity!

### **Planning Commission**

The goal setting meeting of the planning commission with its new members and its new Planning Assistant was held on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Due to the resignation of long-time member and chair, Patrick McGinnity, new officers were elected: Bob Tidmore, Chair; Marcy Dean, Vice-Chair; Lori Taylor-Blitz, Secretary. The next meeting of the Planning Commission is February 2 at 6:00pm. At our February 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, we will get an update from the commission on some of the items they are working on including, recreational marijuana enterprises, food trucks and 'social zones' which are State Liquor Control Commission established zones that provide for outside consumption of alcohol, promoting social distancing and helping businesses to survive economically.

Wednesday  
February 17 @  
11:00AM via  
ZOOM **Public  
Works  
Committee**



Thursday  
February 18 via  
ZOOM @ 4:30PM  
BI  
Telecommunications  
**Committee**



Monday  
February 22 @  
1:00PM via  
ZOOM **Finance  
Committee  
Meeting**



### **Charlevoix County EMS Authority**

As I reported in last month's Supervisor's Lens, a Charlevoix County Emergency Services Authority is a fledgling idea that has been gaining interest and support within the county. Currently in Charlevoix County, four municipalities have EMS organizations while the other townships and municipalities either contract for service from them or with private or other neighboring EMS organization. In December 2020, discussions began around researching whether or not a county-wide authority would be feasible from both an operational level and a financial level. Some mainland municipalities asked the four EMS directors in the county (Beaver Island, Charlevoix City, Boyne City and East Jordan) to research the idea. This group, including Cody Randall, BIEMS Director, put in many hours of discussion and research and found that such a structure was operationally and financially feasible and, in late December, they shared that information with local township supervisors and city managers. Another meeting was held in early January at which time all municipalities were suggesting to continue discussions and research. The next meeting of the group is scheduled for February 17<sup>th</sup> and I plan to attend.

### **Purchase of Avigation Easement**

At our last meeting, the board approved a resolution authorizing this purchase; some of the language in the resolution was incorrect, so a new resolution should be approved at the February meeting. Per an agreement reached by the BI Airport Commission, the State of Michigan MDOT Aeronautics will purchase an avigation easement over property purchased by the Hites Revocable Trust from Gustavo Artaza.

### **Upcoming Grants**

At the February meeting, the board will be asked to approve a resolution authorizing application to for 2021 **Charlevoix County Parks Millage Appropriation** for improvements to the Harbor View Park which houses the downtown public restrooms. This grant has a March 1, 2021 deadline.

I am also requesting that the board authorize application for the Natural Resources Trust Fund grant for a floating dock system at the Marina North. This grant has an April 1, 2021 deadline. I will look into the feasibility of the township being able to pull this off in time to meet the deadline and to assess whether or not we have, or can raise, the required match for this grant. Here is a link to the DM [https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-79134\\_81684\\_79209\\_81657---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-79134_81684_79209_81657---,00.html)

### **Annual Meeting**

It is time once again to schedule our Annual Meeting. According to Michigan Township's Association: "When and where do we have to hold the annual meeting? According to state law, the annual meeting has to be held on the last Saturday of the township's fiscal year **unless a majority of the membership of the township board adopts a resolution by roll call vote to hold it on another day during the last month of the fiscal year.** The time of day and location of the meeting are determined by the township board. (MCL 41.8)". I suggest we set the meeting for **Wednesday March 24, 2021 @ 5:30pm.**

### **Salary Resolutions**

At our February 3rd<sup>th</sup> board meeting, we should adopt board salary resolutions. These resolutions must be adopted at least a month before the annual meeting and at the annual meeting, the electors of the township can choose to alter the salaries. More information about that is available on the MTA website. I am recommending that we maintain the salaries from last year with a cola increase of 1.3%. I will have the formal resolutions to approve at the meeting.

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021 Proposed</b>
Supervisor	\$18,546	\$18,787
Treasurer	\$18,662	\$18,904
Clerk	\$17,529	\$17,756
Trustee	\$6,221	\$6,301

### **Board Goals**

I am attaching an updated version of the OUTLINE OF PLAN FOR REMOVAL OF LARGE SCRAP METAL FROM BEAVER ISLAND. The revisions are based upon discussion with the two township supervisors, Waste Management Committee chairperson and Darrell Butler on January 21, 2021. which the board reviewed in November and reached consensus to move forward with a Plan for Elimination of Metal Items. I shared this document with the new Peaine Township supervisor and will follow up with him before our board meeting next week. I would like the board to discuss this further and determine what next steps should be taken if we are going to try to implement something in 2021.

*I WILL BE IN THE OFFICE MONDAY THROUGH WEDNESDAY OF  
NEXT WEEK – FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME IF YOU HAVE  
ANYTHING ELSE FOR THE AGENDA OR IF YOU NEED MORE  
INFORMATION ON A TOPIC.  
KITTY*