



Beaver Island
Michigan

Supervisor's Lens

Notes from St James Township Supervisor Kathleen McNamara

DECEMBER 28, 2017

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 1

SJTGC = St James
Township
Governmental
Center

SJTHall = St James
Township Hall

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday 1/3
Noon @ BICS
Recreation Plan
Community Input
Session

Wednesday 1/3
5:00PM @ SJTGC
Public Works
Committee
Meeting

Wednesday 1/3
7:00PM @ SJTH
Regular Board
Meeting

Monday 1/22
10:00AM @ STGC
Finance Committee
Meeting

Finance Report

The monthly finance report will be emailed early next week. The clerk will send you a copy of bills for payment and minutes of our last board meetings. Attached to this board packet are minutes of the December 18, 2017 Finance Committee Meeting.

The most important item discussed was the upcoming resignation of sewer bookkeeper, Maureen Turner. This bookkeeping duty was outsourced to Turner in 2015 in response to many years of inadequate billing and collection by the township. Turner did an outstanding job of organizing, billing and collection resulting in a process that is well established, routine and effective. Turner is no longer interested in continuing with the bookkeeping and is confident that Treasurer Diane McDonough has the skills and attention to detail to complete the work and Diane is willing to take it over. Since this work is not part of the defined work of the treasurer, she should be compensated and the finance committee (McDonough abstaining) recommends payment of \$100.00 per month.

Public Works Committee (PWC)

The PWC will meet on January 3rd at 5:00pm. Items on the agenda will include Municipal Dock – Transient Rates and Season Dates; 2018 Budget; and walk-through of 'Old DNR' building. The committee will report to the full board at its January 3rd meeting.

Recreation Plan Update

Please take the time to encourage people to attend the January 3rd Public Input Session at the school. The session will start at noon and run for about an hour. Patrick Cull and Harry Burkholder of LIAA will be hosting the session and I have made arrangements with the school to have lunch provided.

I recently realized that neither the recreation plan nor our board recreation goals have any reference to winter sports which are so important to the year round population. I will be recommending at the public input session that we include in the plan reference to developing multi-use winter trails: x-country skiing, big tire bikes, snowshoeing. Link to trail grooming device: [Harbor Springs Snow Grooming Company](#). I will also be recommending that we include developing a skating rink; the biggest obstacle to keeping a good rink is the fluctuation in

temperature over the season which causes the rink to have to be rebuilt. There are some products available that can help, but would require investment; artificial ice and refrigeration systems, for example: [Extreme Glide Synthetic Ice portable refrigerated ice rinks](#)

Sewer Rate Study and Associated Recommendations

As soon as I receive the final document from Maureen Turner, I will forward it to you. The board should adopt the 2017 Sewer Rate study at the January 3rd Meeting.

Board of Review Notes

Kathleen Antkoviak was sworn in at the beginning of the December 13th Board of Review Meeting. The Board reviewed and signed off on items presented by township assessor Amy Jenema. Amy will provide direct training to the board in March of 2018.

2018 Fireworks

As of now, I have received one bid packet for fireworks, from Wolverine Fireworks Display, Inc. I mailed the RFP to X# of vendors. The deadline is Friday, January 5, 2018.

Township Consolidation Process

It is my understanding that the Charlevoix County Board of Commissioners has asked its attorney to provide advice on potential date for the establishment of a 2018 election date. The County Commissioners meet on January 10th, 2018 and it is expected that they will make a decision at that time.