



Beaver Island  
Michigan

# Supervisor's Lens

Notes to Township Board Members from Supervisor Kathleen McNamara

AUGUST 27, 2020

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 7

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



Monday August  
31 @ 1:00PM @  
**SJTH Special**  
**Finance**  
**Committee**  
**Meeting**

Tuesday  
September 1 @  
7pm @ **SJTH**  
**Planning**  
**Commission**  
**Meeting**



Wednesday  
September 2 @  
5:30PM @ **SJTH**  
**Regular Board**  
**Meeting**

**St James**  
**Township**  
**Board**

## **Finance**

Included in this board packet is the monthly finance report and minutes from the August Finance Committee meeting. At the meeting, the committee reviewed draft general fund budget amendment as prepared by McNamara and Gillespie. Committee concurred with proposed general fund changes and McNamara will finalize documents for full board review and potential adoption. There is a special meeting of the finance committee on Monday, August 31 @ 1:00pm at the township hall; at the meeting auditor Doug Vredevelde will review the audit. 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 proposed budget amendment numbers based upon review by finance committee. The clerk will email a copy to board members and have a hard copy at the meeting. She will also forward a copy of the bills for payment – please contact her if you have questions about the bills.

## **Airport Commission – Property Transaction**

While it appeared that the transaction for avigation rights between the Airport Commission and the property owner was moving toward possible resolution, recent communication from the property owner's attorney indicates that no resolution is on the horizon. At its regularly scheduled August 17<sup>th</sup> commission meeting, the commission discussed the situation and the commission reinforced the previous decision to approve an 'official declaration of taking' of the avigation rights for Parcel B and purchase of Parcel D. There is some good news and the commission approved the purchase of avigation rights for parcel A now owned by a party other than the original owner. The transactions would also have to be approved by the State Aeronautics Commission, which is expected to happen smoothly.

## **Update on Marina Infrastructure Projects - North and South**

At the meeting on Wednesday I will provide an update on current projects at the marinas and with the campground project. Much has happened in the last few weeks and much remains to be done. John Woollam made a surprise visit to Beaver Island on August 25<sup>th</sup> and was extremely happy with the work done to date. During discussions that day, several items were discussed including Woollam's potential funding of a new office building to replace the existing very deteriorated Ship's Store. I will update the board on the pros and cons of this idea at the meeting on Wednesday. Another significant offer on the part of Mr. Woollam was the commitment of significant funds to update the electrical at the Marina North.

## **Update on Campground Project**

It is becoming less and less likely that the Recreation Passport Grant Campground project will be started this fall. While we had hoped the state would move forward with review and approval of the bid documents, it appears the process may drag out longer. Engineer Aaron Nordstrom, Deputy Supervisor Cynthia Pryor and I will meet early next week to review recent communication of the granting agent and regroup on a timeline.

Wednesday Sept  
16 @ 11:00AM @  
SJTGC **Public**  
**Works**  
**Committee**



Wednesday Sept  
16 @ 5:00PM BI  
Telecommunications  
**Committee**



Monday Sept 28  
@ 1:00PM @  
SJTGC **Finance**  
**Committee**  
**Meeting**



### **Terrestrial Invasive Species Ordinance**

*Attached with this board packet is the Terrestrial Invasive Species Ordinance which is ready for adoption. If you haven't had a chance to really look through it, please do so before the September meeting. Cynthia and I will be able to answer any questions you have about the ordinance. As you may recall, passage of this ordinance got sidetracked during the Covid-19 shutdown. Given the fact that the board accepted grant money from the US Fish & Wildlife Service for invasive species eradication, it is important that we implement this ordinance which, among other things, authorizes the hiring of a Terrestrial Invasive Species Coordinator. If the board is satisfied with this final version of the ordinance, we can approve it at the July 1, 2020 meeting. I will share this information with Peaine Township.*

### **Telecommunications Committee**

*Attached with this board packet is a document that reflects the committee structure for this committee which is advisory for both townships. The townships established the committee in October of 2018 and authorized its work for two years. I would like to review the committee structure and basic accomplishments with the board in September with the idea that the townships should consider extending the committee's authorization for another two years. Current members are: Kathleen McNamara, Paul Welke, Wil Cwikel, Theresa McDonough, Garry Conant, Neal Green, and Kevin Boyle.*

### **Board Goals – Blight and Dangerous Structures**

*I have set aside 30 minutes at our upcoming meeting to focus on township goals related to blight and dangerous structures.*

### **November Board Meeting Date**

*Because of the proximity of our regular meeting date to election day (November 3) the clerk would like to reschedule the township board meeting to November 11<sup>th</sup>.*

***Don't forget to give a big Thank You  
to some of the people who support the work of the Township:***

*Gardener Heidi Vigil!*

*John Woollam*

*The Crew at the Marinas*

*Lowell Eastman*

*The Crew at the Transfer Station*

*Darrell Butler*