



Beaver Island  
Michigan

# Supervisor's Lens

Notes to Township Board Members from Supervisor Kathleen McNamara

JANUARY 1, 2021

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 1

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



Monday January  
4 @ 1:00PM @  
**SJTGC Virtual  
Rescheduled  
Finance  
Committee  
Meeting**

Wednesday  
January 6 @  
5:30PM @ **SJTH  
Regular Board  
Meeting**

**St James  
Township  
Board**

Tuesday January  
19 @ 6:00PM @  
**SJTH Planning  
Commission  
Meeting**

## Finance

Included in this board packet is the draft monthly finance report, minutes from the rescheduled Finance Committee meeting (January 4) will be sent early next week. 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. At the meeting I will review the Budget Planning Process for 2021 and discuss having a budget planning session in January.

## X-Country Ski Trail

I hope to have a general plan to present to you for the layout and grooming of a ski trail primarily using the Gull Harbor Property and the property behind the Old DNR building and linking to the Petritz Preserve. Another possible ski trail is the bike path from town to the campground.

## Planning Commission

I am attaching minutes from the most recent Planning Commission meeting where the following officers were elected: Patrick McGinnity, Chair; Marcy Dean, Vice-Chair; Lori Taylor-Blitz, Secretary. The Planning Commission is holding its January meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> and expects to spend time discussing goals and training.

## Charlevoix County EMS Authority

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. There will be another update to local township supervisors and city managers before our regular township board meeting next week and I will attend.

I have asked Cody Randall, to attend our January 6, 2020 board meeting to share a little more information with us about this potential opportunity. I am interested in learning more because it appears that it might provide more long-term sustainability for our EMS organization and it could cost taxpayers significantly less. I must emphasize that this is very preliminary research

Wednesday  
January 20 @  
11:00AM @  
SJTGC **Public  
Works  
Committee**



Thursday January  
21 @ 4:30PM BI  
Telecommunications  
**Committee**



Monday January  
25 @ 1:00PM @  
SJTGC **Finance  
Committee  
Meeting**



*and if such an idea gained broad municipal support across the county there would still be much work to be done to implement such an authority and we would have to ensure that the needs of Beaver Island residents are well defined and guaranteed. I would like the board to learn more about this concept and to give me direction about whether it is in the best interest of Islanders to continue to research the concept of a Charlevoix County Emergency Services Authority.*

#### **Purchase of Avigation Easement**

*Per an agreement reached by the BI Airport Commission, the State of Michigan MDOT Aeronautics will purchase an avigation easement over property recently purchased by the Hites Revocable Trust from Gustavo Artaza. I will forward the official resolution for this avigation easement when I receive it from MDOT; this will have to be approved by both townships. This transaction is still just a part of the overall need to purchase land and easements from the larger Artaza holding to fulfil required airplane approach standards.*

#### **Upcoming Grants**

*At the December PWC meeting the committee discussed applying for two grants in January; to the GTBB Tribal Grant for costs associated with the removal of large metal objects and to the Charlevoix County Parks Millage Appropriation grant for improvements to the downtown public restroom park area. Unfortunately, the deadline for the tribal grant has passed, but I would like board approval to seek a grant from the county. Here is a link to the County site: [https://www.charlevoixcounty.org/parks\\_millage/index.php](https://www.charlevoixcounty.org/parks_millage/index.php)*

#### **Board of Review Membership**

*In January of odd numbered years, the township appoints members to its Board of Review. I recommend the following appointments: Members Frank D'Andraia, Kathleen Antkoviak, Audrey VanDyke; Alternate Bob Tidmore. These are 2-year terms. Starting this year, there is required training for these members which can be accomplished online through the Michigan Township's Association website.*

#### **Waste Management Committee Membership**

*There is currently a posting for three people interested in serving as at-large members of the Waste Management Committee. These appointments are made upon recommendation of the township supervisors and the deadline for application is Monday, July 4, 2020. I am hopeful that two incumbent members, Sheri Richards and Frank D'Andraia will reapply. I have attached the posting and hope you will pass it on to anyone you think might be interested.*

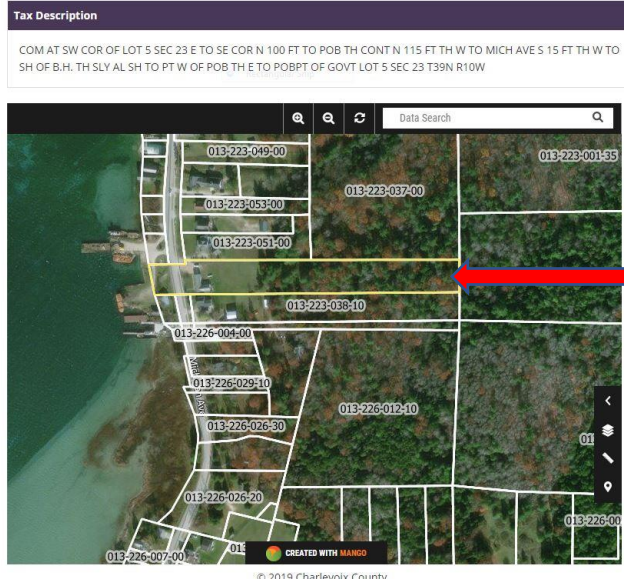
#### **Thank you to Don Spencer and Jim Wojan**

*I will take time at the meeting to formally thank Jim Wojan and Don Spencer for their long-standing commitment and public service as members of the Beaver Island Rural Health Center.*

#### **Land Transaction State of Michigan**

*One year ago, the township board took the first steps toward having State of Michigan deed restrictions released on the property shown on the map below. On December 11, 2020, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) approved of the sale of a release of deed restriction on 2.62 acres in St. James Township, Charlevoix County. At the January 2021 township board meeting, the board will approve the payment to the "State of Michigan" for \$2,500.00. Upon receipt of payment, the deed will be issued and the township will be free to*

use, lease or sell the property. Once this step is completed, the board can continue to pursue the potential sale of the harbor side piece of this parcel as previously discussed. At the January meeting, I will present the options for potential sale (most likely scenario would be a closed bid sale with a minimum bid required) as well as a timeline and process steps.



This is the land that was transferred to St James Township in 2012 in exchange for Whiskey Island. Per the 2012 agreement the state held deed restrictions which have now been lifted. The 2.62-acre property is now under exclusive jurisdiction of St James Township.

### **Board Goals**

I am attaching the OUTLINE OF PLAN FOR REMOVAL OF LARGE SCRAP METAL FROM BEAVER ISLAND 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.

