

Watson Township Newsletter, Spring 2017

Watson Township
1895 118th Avenue
Allegan, MI 49010

PROPERTY TAXES

To avoid interest and penalties, summer taxes are due by **September 14th** and winter taxes are due by **February 14th**. **We do not accept postmarks**, your tax payments must be at the township office by the due date. You may drop payments off in the drop box located in the hall entryway. The Office is open weekly on Mondays from 6-8 pm.

Additional days for tax payments are:

September 9, 2017; December 28, 2017; February 10, 2018; and February 28, 2018 from 9 am to 5 pm. The last day to pay is February 14th without penalties and February 28th is the last day we can accept payment at the Watson Township Office. After the 28th, payments must go the Allegan County Treasurer's Office at the Allegan County Court House. If you have questions you may call the township office at 269-672-7254.

TOWNSHIP HALL RENTAL

Hall rental is \$60 for township residents and \$120 for non-residents. Hall rental is free for non-profit groups, clubs, organizations, and funeral luncheons. If you would like to rent the Township Hall for an event, call the township office at 269-672-7254, or email at watsontownship@watsontownship.org

At the Township Hall there is **NO SMOKING** and **NO ALCOHOL**

RECYCLE/DISPOSE USED MOTOR OIL

Little Pines – Otsego
Open: 8 am – 6 pm, M-F
Contact: Jim
269-692-3233

AutoZone – Allegan
Open: 8 am – 9 pm M-F
Saturday 10 am – 7 pm
269-686-7877

Wieland's - Plainwell
Open: 8 am – 5 pm, M-F
269-685-9125

UNUSED/ OUTDATED MEDICATION DISPOSAL

Unused or outdated pharmaceutical medications that you don't know what to do with may be dropped off at the Allegan County Sheriff's office M-F 8 am – 5 pm. Drop box is located in their main lobby. This is for pharmaceutical medications only. Do not place street drugs, or needles into the box.

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Incorporated February 16, 1842

HOPKINS AREA FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Hopkins Area Fire Department responds to fire and rescue incidents as well as providing medical first response for medical emergencies. The department is governed by an intergovernmental agreement between Hopkins, Monterey, Hopkins Village, and Watson Township. Members of the department will be participating in these upcoming events:

- **Scotty's Firehouse:** April 26-27. For this event, the department works with the kids at Hopkins Elementary, ages 4-8. If anyone has contacts to home school groups the department would like to invite them to attend.
- **Memorial Day Parade**
- **Father's Day pancake breakfast**
- **July 4th activities in Hopkins**
- **Hopkins Homecoming**
- **Halloween:** traffic safety for trick-or-treaters
- **Hopkins Christmas events**
- **St. Baldrick's Foundation:** for children's cancer research

The members of the department will also be awarding the Hopkins Firefighters Community Service Scholarship to a Hopkins High graduating senior.

The department is always striving for best-in-class service. The department's multi-use trucks have become a benchmark for other departments and their training and equipment are the envy of the region. The fire district and department currently has an ISO insurance rating of 7 outside the village of Hopkins and 6 inside the village limits. (A score of 1 is the best). The department expects that this rating will either remain the same or will improve during the next evaluation, which is good news for homeowners because the better the rating the lower the insurance costs. Learn more at www.isomitigation.com

Remember to change the batteries in your smoke detectors and to practice your safety plans at home and at work. Also check and clean your chimneys.

If you are interested in joining the fire department contact the township office or the department.

PROFESSIONAL CODE INSPECTIONS

PCI handles all building and zoning permits, and ordinance and code enforcement for Watson Township. A licensed contractor or home owner may obtain permit applications by contacting PCI, located at 1575 142nd Ave. Dorr, MI 49323. Contact Kirk Sharphorn Jr. at 616-877-2000. You may also direct code enforcement concerns – such as blight and noise – by contacting Kirk.



OFFICE HOURS

Supervisor:	Tuesdays 7 pm – 9 pm or by appointment*
Treasurer:	Monday 6 pm – 8 pm or by appointment *
Township Assessor:	First 4 Wednesdays of the month 9 am – 12 pm *
Assessor's Contact Information:	Kevin Kutscher Phone - (269) 672-7254 or (269) 673-9616

*Closed on all government holidays: January 2, January 16, February 20, May 29, July 4, September 4, October 9, November 10, November 23, and December 25

DROP BOX AT WEST ENTRANCE



TOWNSHIP BOARD

Supervisor

Kevin Travis
269-589-5688
Kevin.L.Travis@gmail.com

Clerk

Kelli Morris
269-217-9899
jkas1993@gmail.com

Treasurer

Sue Jones
269-355-2752

Trustee

Chuck Andrysiak
269-672-9497
cjandry@att.net

Trustee

Michelle Harris
269-217-5971
mcmroost@gmail.com

PLANNING COMMISSION

Tory Baker – **Chair**
269-672-5515
gto3x2@hotmail.com

Bev McKinnon - **Vice Chair**
269-793-7145
zbevz@att.net

Bruce Bos – **Secretary**
269-672-9895
bbos@twin-pines.net

Barb Wroblewski – **Member**
269-793-7425
bluevelvet@btc-bci.com

Joseph Albers – **Member**
616-516-7116
jalbers@jhoil.com

Don Baily – **Member**
269-672-9722
donbailey911@yahoo.com

Chuck Andrysiak – **Board Rep.**

SPRING CLEAN-UP



121st St. Summer 2017, mattresses and building waste

OUR ROADS ARE NOT A DUMP!

**Spring Clean-up Saturday May 6, 2017
9 AM. – 2 P.M (1ST SATURDAY IN MAY)**

The cost will vary from \$5 - \$25/ truck load.

ADOPT A ROAD: Clean up a roadside and no cost will be assessed. Call the clerk to sign up.

A 40 yard container will be on site for any metal that a magnet will pick up. No bricks, blocks, brush, propane tanks, gas tanks, or oil based paint cans.

RECYCLING



Recycling does not equal dumping your trash!

Your couch = not recyclable
Your mattress = not recyclable
Your tires = not recyclable
Your TV = not recyclable

WHAT'S COMING

Video Surveillance 2017!!

No trash and nothing on the ground.

What do the recycle bins cost the township? Approximately \$8,600 from our general fund.

What are the alternatives? Once a month **CURBSIDE PICKUP** with the 96 gallon containers (Herby Curby) = **NO MORE BINS**

But what is the cost? It depends:

Alternative 1: \$25 per year voluntary/ household (billed on winter tax bill) will still require approximately \$11,102 from the general fund.

Alternative 2: \$36 per year/ household dedicated (voted) millage (billed on winter tax bill) will cost approximately \$639 from the general fund.

BURN PERMITS

If you are burning brush or anything at your residence call 686-5222 between 6 am and 6 pm (automated phone system). Call the day you want to burn for the permit. It will be kept on file at dispatch for the day.

ALLEGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONER

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Allegan County issues, please contact District #6 County Commissioner Gale Dugan, 318 21st Street Otsego, Michigan 49078
Phone: (269) 694-5276
gdugan@allegancounty.org

LIBRARIES

Watson Township residents are served by both the Hopkins and Martin libraries. If you have any questions or want to volunteer Contact Info:

Hopkins Library:
793-7516
www.hopkins.lcoop.org

Martin JC Wheeler
672-7875
www.wheelerpl.michlibrary.org

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Chair

Jim Lautenschleger
269-501-1486
jimlauten@gmail.com

Vice Chair

James Kelsey
269-793-7763

Member

John VanDyke
269-793-3526

Secretary (PC Representative)

Troy Baker
269-672-5515
gto3x2@hotmail.com

Board Representative

Michelle Harris

CEMETERIES

Sexton/ Foundations:

Mark Simpson
269-366-7288
1415 14th St. Otsego

Watson Township has two cemeteries – **Hicks** (located on the corner of 14th St. and 117th Ave.) and **Miner** (located on 20th just south of 118th). Please find our ordinances posted online or at each cemetery.

Fees for Cemetery Lots:

Resident: \$100
Non-Resident: \$400
Number of Cremations per Grave: Two (2)

Grave Openings:

Resident: \$500
Non-Resident: \$500
Infant: \$200
Cremation: \$100
Monument charge if moved: \$25

MEETING DATES

Watson Township Board @ 7 pm

- May 4th
- June 1st
- July 6th
- August 3rd
- September 7th
- October 5th
- November 2nd
- December 7th
- January 4th
- February 1st
- March 1st
- April 5th



Planning Commission @ 7 pm

- March 22nd
- April 26th
- June 28th
- July 26th
- September 27th
- October 25th
- December 6th
- February 7th



Zoning Board of Appeals

- Organizational meeting is the 1st Tuesday in March. All other meetings as noticed.

Board of Review

- Organizational Meeting: Tuesday March 6, 2018 @ 6 pm
- Tax protests heard: Monday, March 12, 2018 from 9 am to Noon, 2 pm to 5 pm and Tuesday, March 13, 2018 1 pm to 4 pm; 6 pm to 9 pm.

ALLEGAN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

For questions (or complaints) regarding county roads in Watson Township, email Larry Brown, rlarry@alleganroads.org or call 269-673-2184

WAYLAND AREA EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

WAEMS serves all of Watson Township. A membership program called Vital Care is available for township residents. The fee is \$37/ year or \$111/ 3 years. This program allows your ambulance bill to be only what your Medicare or insurance provider will pay with no extra cost to you. Applications are available at the township hall or online at the Township website www.watsontownship.org. For more information call WAEMS at 269-792-2958.

DUST CONTROL

Michigan Chloride Sales, LLC will be doing dust control for 2017. Cost is \$0.20 per gallon at a rate of 1650 gal/mile on most roads. 114th, 23rd, 118th west of 20th, and 120th east of 13th will get 2000 gal/mile. Applications: (1) 1st week of June, (2) last week of July, (3) depends on road conditions

NOTICES AND PUBLICATIONS

Legal Notices are published in the Allegan County News, all others are published in the Penasee Globe