

Monitor Township

News



2483 Midland Rd, Bay City, MI 48706
Phone 684-7203 Fax: 684-9234
www.monitortwp.org

December 2016



Notes from Gary A. Brandt, Monitor Township Supervisor



I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

I want to thank the residents of Monitor Charter Township for the privilege and honor of allowing me to serve as your Supervisor for the past 12 years. My last day as Supervisor will be November 21, 2016.

I have enjoyed these past 12 years, mostly good along with a few bad experiences as Supervisor. I will remain on the Township Board of Trustees as a Trustee.

Monitor Township Road Work.

I need your help to keep the edges of the new roads from breaking up and to keep the curbs in the subdivisions from being disturbed. I asked the Bay County Road Commission for help on this and was told to instruct the residents to put their trash carts in front of the curb on the asphalt in the subdivisions. On the local roads, put the trash carts at least halfway on the asphalt. The BCRC said that, even with snow, the snowplows would work around the trash carts.

We have finished Phase 2 of the roads for this year with the following roads being resurfaced: Berthiaume, Pressler, N. Pressler, Reinhardt, Grande Ct., Clover Lane, Christopher Ct., Gaertner Ct, Harvest View Subdivision (Lisa, Madeline, Julian, Kristen), Sherwill and Strieter Subdivisions (Dorey, Bonnie, Strieter), North Union (3 to 4 Mile), Westgate Sub and Briar Hills.

We are now working on Phase 3 for the roads to be done next year. I thought that the Township would move faster on the road repaving than it has, but due to

unforeseen problems, the paving is behind what I had planned and told everyone.

The roads that are planned for Phase 3 in 2017 are as follows: Goetz Ct., Haberland Subdivision (Oakhurst, Maple Grove and Haberland), Donald Subdivision (Beverly, Pasadena, Sunset and Bloomfield), Sharon Park (Maplewood, Oak, Willow, Cedar, and Birchwood), Mutual Estates (Fairway, Parkway, Crestway, and Brookway), Westhills Subdivision (Lorraine, Maxine, Coralinn, and Laura). Kawkawlin Village Area (Spring, Fraser, Pine, Chippewa, Beech and Russell).

NOTE: The Kawkawlin Area will not get done next year if Kawkawlin-Metro does not install the new water lines, plus some section line roads such as Wilder, Chip and North Union will not be done.

Growth in Monitor Charter Township is on the move as Horak is adding a big addition to their building in Monitor Technology Park, Hampton Inn plans to open next year, Bayfield Assisted Living's addition is complete and open, and Woodhaven Senior Apartments are open.



Notes from Kenneth M. Malkin, incoming Monitor Township Supervisor



As your new Township Supervisor, I am looking forward to the new challenges that I will be facing.

It is my commitment to work full time as your Supervisor. At least our last three township supervisors have performed this job on a full-time basis and I want to continue that level of service.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing Township Supervisor Gary Brandt for his 12 years of service. Of course, he will continue serving our township as one of your Trustees. I should also thank Earl Arnold and Terry Miller who will be leaving the board after many years of service as your Trustees.

Township officials take office rather quickly compared to other elected officials. I officially took office on November 20, 2016 at noon. At our first board meeting after taking office, I proposed the following appointments:

Planning Commission:	Bill Reder
Zoning Board of Appeals:	Gary Brandt
Personnel Committee:	Bill Reder and Bob Walsh
	The Supervisor is a standing member.
Elections Committee:	Elaine Kochany and Bob Walsh

Be assured that you have my full commitment to perform my role as your Supervisor to the best of my ability. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity.

Notes from Sue Pike, Monitor Township

Treasurer



Treasurer's Office Hours for 2016-2017:
Monday thru Friday 9am – 12pm & 1pm – 4pm
Office Closed December 23, 26 and 30. January 2nd,
16th and February 20th.

As we enter a New Year, here are few reminders for Winter Tax Season.

Winter Taxes will be mailed out December 1st --be sure to review carefully for any corrections. Taxes are not forwarded in the US mail, so, for you snow birds... please stop in to see the assessor to have your address changed to your December address, and again when you return to your Summer address. If you do not receive your tax bill by the 10th, please call our office to find out who and where they were mailed to. (989) 684-7203

For Summer 2016 taxes that have not been paid, remember you can make payments anytime. Partial payments are accepted. Cash, Check and Money Orders are preferred payments. Credit Cards are not accepted here at the Township. There is a 1% penalty each month until February 14th, 2017, less the admin fee. Please feel free to call the office for the correct adjusted payoff figure. (989) 684-7203

This Winter we have Kolb, Wilcox and Phillips Assessments for any of you that have property that these drains run through. You will have a clean out/maintenance charge from the Drain Commission assessed to your tax bill.

Thank you to all of you who used our drop box located in the parking lot for after-hour convenience. We check it twice a day to make sure that your payments are applied promptly. If paying by mail, your tax bill includes your receipt. Please tear off at the bottom and mail with your payment. Keep the top portion for your receipt. Additional **copies are 35¢ each.** To our residents that requested a stamped paid receipt, be sure to include your stamped self-addressed envelope with your payment. All checks **MUST** include your phone number. We find many errors in checks and by having a number to call we can have them corrected before they hit the bank for transposed number errors to avoid a NSF fee, so please include your phone number on all checks.

If you have **Deferred your taxes**, please remember that payment is due by February 15, 2017.

As a service to the community, we issue cat and dog licenses for the county which will be available  at the tax window. You must present your rabies certificate to be issued a license.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year! Thank you all for voting me in as I am proud to

serve you for this next 4 year term. Those of you who have not met me, please stop in and say hello. I look forward to meeting you.

Sue Pike – Treasurer Josie Hill - Deputy Treasurer



Notes from Tod Fackler,

Monitor Township Assessor

As I sit here and write this update, it is mid-November and still almost 70 degrees and sunny. The weatherman is forecasting change and I cannot imagine it changing for the better. One should never give up hope though.

I have been in this new position, Monitor Township Assessor, for almost one year now. I have found this community and the residents to be very easy and enjoyable to work with. I hope that working in the township for three days a week with only two regular office days per week has not been an inconvenience for anyone. I am not anticipating a lot of change as far as assessments are concerned. Our home sales are showing improvement over last year while the State Consumer price index (CPI) that is used in the taxable value calculation has been set at 1.009 for 2017. This is a little more than last year, but still under a one percent increase.

I still have some work to accomplish out in the community as far as updating pictures, measuring new construction, verifying the accuracy of record cards and meeting more of you.

As always, if there are any questions or concerns, please call, email or stop into the office and see me. I am in the township office Wednesday and Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Hope you have a safe and enjoyable holiday season.



Notes from Chief John Kramer, Monitor Township Fire Chief

It is fall again and this is the time when we start to use our furnaces and fireplaces. Please remember to have your systems checked and cleaned for proper use. Always make sure your fireplaces are cleaned and clear of any obstructions or a buildup of creosol. Creosol is a substance that builds up on the walls of the fireplace chimney and is flammable. When it heats up it will ignite and cause a chimney fire. These fires can cause a lot of damage to your home and have at times caused homes to burn to the ground. Please take the time to have them inspected, cleaned and in good working order. Always keep flammable materials at least three feet from the opening and keep the screen closed to keep burning embers from popping out of the fireplace on to the floor or carpet. This is a good time to re-check your smoke detectors to make sure they work and the batteries are changed.

Burning Permits. Fall is also the time when our trees decide to drop all the leaves onto the ground. Please remember that it is a Township Ordinance and Law that you must obtain a burning permit from the Fire Department in order to burn leaves, brush, wood etc. If you have a burn barrel you still need a permit to burn these items. There is no burning of any refuse of any kind in Monitor Township. The DEQ law does not allow the burning of grass clippings. These rules and laws are there for not only your protection, but the protection of your neighbors. The easiest way to determine whether or not you need a permit is simple....If it is not the size of a small camp fire and only a few logs, you need a permit. Recreational camp fires are allowed without a permit, but they still fall under the nuisance smoke portion of the ordinance, so be considerate of your neighbors and make sure the wind is blowing in the right direction. You cannot start a fire and then leave it unattended. You must be present at all times and ready to extinguish it if it gets out of control. Burning permits are available at the fire station and are free. You must come to the station to sign for them -- they cannot be issued over the phone. You face fines and legal issues from the township and the DNR and/or DEQ if you are caught burning without a permit. Do the right thing, play it safe and get a permit. If you have questions concerning what you can and cannot burn, please give us a call at 989-684-6320 with your questions.

Turkey Fryers:

This is the most popular time of the year for cooking fires. Many will be using a turkey fryer; some will try it for the first time – and they can be dangerous. Consider using an oil-less fryer for greater fire safety. This popular cooking method requires placing the turkey in three gallons or more of oil, heated by propane. Tests have shown that the fryers have a high risk of tipping over, overheating, or spilling hot oil, leading to fires, burns or other injuries. When the oil meets the fire the fryers instantly become a "vertical flame thrower" turning into a volcano of smoke and fire within seconds. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) continues to believe that turkey fryers that use oil, as currently designed, are not suitable for acceptably safe use by even well-informed and careful consumers. Never deep fry a turkey in your garage or on your deck. Always keep it a minimum 25 feet from your home and have an ABC fire extinguisher handy in case it catches fire.

Fire Safety and Children:

Please remember to create and practice an escape plan showing two ways out of your home if a fire were to occur. This is extremely important. You must realize that you only have minutes to get out of your home based on studies that involve fires in homes that have light weight construction. The average time of floor collapse is 7 minutes. This does not give you much time to get out so make sure your children realize the importance of the escape plan and getting out quickly and safely. Make

sure you have a meeting spot outside where you can do a head count and call 911 for help. Have your children be part of this and put them in charge of checking your smoke detectors once a month and making sure the batteries are changed once a year. Be safe this holiday season and practice fire safety all the time.

We here at the fire station wish all of you a safe and happy holiday season. Your safety is our number one concern and we promise to provide you with the best service possible. Please feel free to stop in any time and visit your firefighters. We enjoy seeing you.



Monitor Township Park is located on 3 Mile Rd. between Midland and N. Union and is open from May 1- September 30. While the gate is not locked this winter, restrooms are not open and the driveway will not be plowed. Reservations will be taken beginning in January. Reservations are not taken over the phone. Faxed, signed applications will be accepted in the order that they arrive; however, those applying in person on the first morning will be taken first. Blank forms can be found on our website. www.monitortwp.org



Safety Issues...Protect yourself

- Lock your doors.
- If your car is parked outside, make sure the doors are locked and there are no valuable items left inside.
- Don't advertise what new gifts you received for Christmas. Break down boxes when you put them out to the curb for recycling and turn the label to the inside.
- If you go on vacation, fill out a house check request form in the township office. Deputies will check the exterior of your residence while you are away. Also remember to leave the phone number of a local contact person (neighbor, family member or friend) in case there is a problem with the residence. It is a good idea to leave a key with the contact person in case entry to your house is needed.



Yard Waste pick-up resumes on your regularly scheduled days April 1 through November 30. Christmas trees will be taken at any time.

Please note that there are only six major holidays that affect trash pickup if they fall on a weekday: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

The Fire Department has green address signs available for \$15.00. Call them at 684-6320.





A Note from the Administrative Secretary—outgoing, Jean Wildeboer

I have spoken with many of you on the phone or at the front desk over the past 9 ½ years and have enjoyed getting to know you, the residents of Monitor Township. I will be retiring the first part of December and will miss seeing your friendly faces, so say hello when you see me in the grocery store!

Christmas Blessings to you now and in the New Year!



Township Hours

Township Office Hours 9-12 and 1-5

Tax Collection Hours 9-12 and 1-4

Building Department 8-12

Carol Goodwin--Bldg. & Zoning Admin. Assistant

Dave DeGrow--Building Inspector-no office hours

David Rochow---Zoning Enforcement- no office hrs.

Electrical Inspector

Frank Bryden 989-894-5053

Plumbing & Mechanical Inspector

Dell Bedford 989-272-5108

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Supervisor ----Kenneth M. Malkin
Supervisor@monitortwp.org
Clerk-----Cindy Kowalski
Clerk@monitortwp.org
Deputy Clerk—Linda Ferguson
Treasurer-----Sue Pike
Treasurer@monitortwp.org
Deputy Treasurer—Josie Hill
Assessor----Tod Fackler
Assessor@monitortwp.org
Building Dept.--Carol Goodwin
Building@monitortwp.org
Trustee-----Bill Reder
Trustee-----Elaine Kochany
Trustee-----Bob Walsh
Trustee-----Gary Brandt
Administrative Secretary—
Beth Fletcher-Patterson
Officemanager@monitortwp.org



Meeting Dates 2017

Township Board

2nd and 4th Monday of each month

Jan 9, 23 Feb 13, 27 Mar 13, 27

April 10, 24 May 8, 22 June 12, 26

Planning Commission

1st Tuesday of each month

Jan 3 Feb 7 Mar 7

April 4 May 2 June 6

Zoning Board of Appeals

3rd Thursday of month, as needed

Jan 19 Feb 16 Mar 16

April 20 May 18 June 15

Charter Township of Monitor
2483 Midland Rd
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