

Garden Township Newsletter

Issue 32

Spring 2020

Garden Township
6316 State Street
PO Box 224
Garden, MI 49835

Phone 644-7602
E-mail Address:
gardentownshipclerk@yahoo.com

Website:
Gardentwp.com

FY20/21 Township Board Meetings are will be held the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00PM at the Township Community Building except May 2020.

Board Members:

Supervisor:
Richard Pichette
450-6010

Clerk:
Brenda Lester
450-5185

Treasurer:
Mary Ann LeBresh
644-2897

Trustees:
Lisa Pichette
450-0965
Tyler Lucas
450-0531

Assessor: Joe Maki
Asst. Colleen Maki
906-280-4372
with text and voice mail
jmaki4215@sbcglobal.net

Transfer Station: 644-7139
Hours: 9AM to 5PM
Mon. Wed. Sat.
Closed Holidays

Fire Chief: Keith Farley
906-450-7036

Transfer Station:

The Transfer Station is looking for a part-time on-call employee.

Always check with Bill whenever you are leaving items anywhere on the grounds. This will ensure Bill knows what is at the Transfer Station.

Please call Bill with any questions – 644-7139

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Township Hall is closed to the public until further notice:

Point of contact: Garden Township Treasurer – Mary Ann LeBresh
Nov 15 – American Legion Breakfast - Hunter's Special Breakfast and Raffle
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Cemetery:

Point of contact: Garden Township Clerk – Brenda Lester
We are looking for volunteers to help rake and clean up the cemetery. Please watch The Advisor for dates. Thank you in advance for your help!

A big THANK YOU to the following volunteers who helped rake the Cemetery on Tuesday, April 19, 2020: Sherry Boudreau, Larry & Janet Daasch, Butch & Mary Ann LeBresh, David & Brenda Lester, Noah Lownds, Tyler Lucas, Richard & Lisa Pichette, Hank Roberts, and Pastor Greg & Letia Williamson.

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Fire Department:

Point of Contact: Garden Township Fire Chief - Keith Farley
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Parks and Recreation:

Point of Contact: Garden Township Trustee - Lisa Pichette
The new Garden Township Park sign done by Steve Johnson is up and looks great! Thank you Steve!

Art Grant – Plans to have the collage depict the history of the Garden Peninsula did not pan out as we could not obtain original pictures. We are now going around Garden taking pictures of farms, boat launches, etc. as well as generic pictures to make up the collages. We hope to have the collages up in the July/August timeframe.

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General Information:

PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) Monies is broken into two different categories: Swampland and Hiawatha National Forest.

Swampland Monies: The Swampland funds are distributed by the State DNR: Delta County received a total of \$277,757.02. Of that total, Delta County took \$138,878.47. The rest, \$138,878.55, was distributed between 14 Townships depending on the amount of Swampland acreage their Township has. Garden Township has 16,254.88 acres of Swampland, the most of any of the 15 Townships. We received \$34,915.48 out of the \$277,757.02. The State DNR allocated Garden Township \$69,830.96. The reason we receive Swampland money is because Swampland cannot be used for development and we are unable to collect property taxes on it, so we are reimbursed for its non-use.

We are trying to get clarification as to why Delta County is taking such a large portion of the Swampland monies. The Garden Township Supervisor has spoken with the Delta County Commissioners, Delta County Township Association as well as other Supervisors. We are awaiting a meeting with our State Representatives.

Hiawatha National Forest Monies: Provided by the Federal Government to the States and the Federal Government dictates how the money is to be distributed. 2018 amounts are as follows:

\$277,600.31 was distributed to Delta County of which:

\$94,598.64 went to Big Bay de Noc School

\$71,961.51 went to Rapid River School

\$55,520.06 was distributed (see below) between five Townships depending on the amount of Hiawatha National Forest acres in their Townships.

Nahma Township has 76,007.19 Acres and they received \$17,780.55

Masonville Township has 68,986.41 and received \$16,138.17

Garden Township has 62,423.34 acres and they received \$14,602.85

Bay de Noc Township has 18,853.01 acres and they received \$4,410.32

Ensign Township has 17,466.05 acres and they received \$4,085.88

The other \$57,017.77 went to Title III distribution for fire support of Hiawatha National Forest.

Local Community Stabilization Authority: These funds are distributed throughout the State to local municipalities from Personal Property Taxes collected. Garden Township received \$24,394.75 in 2020. This is from \$39 million collected that was sent to 1,100 municipalities.

What's getting done:

- The painting of the Garden Township Hall was completed week of May 21, 2020
- The Hall Septic will be installed in June 2020
- The Garden Township Hall Policy has been updated and can be found on the Garden Township website (gardentwp.com) - look for the two pumpkins.
- Garden Township Minutes, Meeting Schedules, Policies, and Newsletters can all be found on the Garden Township website too! (gardentwp.com)
- The Fire Department has a new sign and it will be affixed to their building soon.
- Transfer Station building repaired with new siding and door frames., new electric door opener has been installed for storage out building, and new floor in office.

2020 Elections Registration Deadlines for candidates running for Garden Township Board:

- Republican or Democrat – April 21, 2020
- Non-Partisan – July 16, 2020
- Write-in – July 24, 2020

Upcoming 2020 Election dates:

- August 4, 2020 – Primary Election
- November 3, 2020 – Presidential Election

If you have any questions about the newsletter please call Lisa Pichette @ 450-0965