

# Garden Township Newsletter

Issue 26

Spring 2018

Garden Township  
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Garden, MI 49835

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Website: go to  
[Deltacountymi.org](http://Deltacountymi.org)  
Click on "townships":  
Go to the map and click on  
"Garden"

Township Board Meetings are  
the second Tuesday of every  
month at 7:00PM at the  
Township Community Building  
except February & November.

## Board Members:

### Supervisor:

Morgan Tatrow  
906-644-2127

### Clerk:

Brenda Lester  
450-5185

### Treasurer:

Mary Ann LeBresh  
906-644-2897

### Trustees:

Lisa Pichette  
644-2049  
Tyler Lucas  
450-0531

### Assessor: Joe Maki

Asst. Coleen Maki  
906-428-1579  
906-280-4372  
[jmaki4215@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jmaki4215@sbcglobal.net)  
with text messaging and voice  
mail

### Transfer Station: 644-7139

Hours: 9AM to 5PM  
Mon. Wed. Sat.

### Fire Chief: Keith Farley

906-450-7036

## Transfer Station:

- Board approved installation of electricity in the Pole Barn.
- Please call Bill with any questions – 644-7139

## Township Hall - Events Scheduled:

May 8: Special Election – Planning Commission Ordinance –  
**(Village of Garden residents DO NOT vote in this election)**  
Point of contact: Garden Township Treasurer.

## Cemetery:

Point of contact: Garden Township Clerk.

## Fire Department:

- Received three batteries and three antennas for the new radios. They now have nine new pages working.
- Repair issues at the Fire Hall include ceiling falling down, ballast in light needs changing, new furnace is not working, and the urinal needs to be looked at. Keith will call Paul's Plumbing and an electrician.
- P.O. Box annual renewal is due.
- Received a dormancy notice about an account at First Bank. Brenda & Morgan will make calls to determine township's role.
- Approved ordering of a set of new turnout gear and six pairs of extraction gloves at a cost of approximately \$1,944.00.
- The John and Melissa Besse Foundation is donating \$20,000.00 to our Fire Department. The Fire Chief is providing a wish list to the foundation.
- **Burn Permits:** Delta Township residents must obtain a burn permit for any burning within the township. There is no charge to obtain a burn permit. Burning of yard waste is ONLY allowed in areas zoned agricultural. Small recreational fires are allowed in areas zoned residential if the appropriate permit has been issued by the fire department. No grass, leaves, garden debris, twigs, etc. may be burned in areas zoned residential. Burn permits are obtained at the Central Fire Station located at 811 North Canal Road during normal business hours. Please call 517.321.6622 for further information. There is no charge to obtain a burn permit. **The Delta Township Burning Ordinance is strictly enforced.**

Point of Contact: Fire Chief

## Parks and Recreation:

**CUPPAD Grant** – The Recreation Committee is in the process of executing the Place-Making Grant. Jenna has finished the park bench and it is beautiful. We are working with DEQ to define the Wetlands area.

## Garden Township Meeting Overview:

- Approved Alger-Delta 30-year lease for electrical service.
- Fire Number Signs: Working with the Delta County Township Association for grants

and researching how to pay for the Fire Number Signs.

- The board is looking into upgrading the audio system, copier, and the computers for the Clerk and the Treasurer.
- Denied Heritage's request to use the Garden Township Right of Way (ROW).
- The Board is working on Right of Way Ordinance to address ROW issues.
- Approved new signage for Van's Harbor Road to include speed limit and Children at Play signs.

- Cloverland Electric's CEO addressed concerns regarding the ROW Ordinance.
- Approved FY19 budget.
- A new voting machine will be received before the special election. We will have to send the election workers to training.
- Heritage's lease for the garage is up for renewal. Supervisor Tatrow will discuss with Heritage.
- Fairbanks Fire Protection Agreement is up for renewal. Supervisor Tatrow and Supervisor Collins have discussed and accepted the terms.
- Anderson Tackman, Township's accountant company, has increased their fees. The audit fee will increase from \$3,700 to \$4,200 and F-65 fee will increase from \$200 to \$300.

On May 8th, 2018, the following question will be on the ballot for Garden Township residents to vote - (Village of Garden residents DO NOT vote):

Shall we adopt an ordinance creating a planning commission with the powers and duties set forth in the Michigan Planning Enabling Act? YES: \_\_\_\_\_ NO: \_\_\_\_\_

If you vote yes, you are giving the Township Board the mandate to create a Planning Commission.

If you vote no, Delta County will continue to establish our Zoning.

The purpose of the Planning Commission is to look to the future of your township and create a Master Plan. This Plan is a township policy document that states general principles on which future development will be based and identifies specific issues affecting any future development. It is a powerful expression of the township's intentions for the future. Once developed, it guides the Planning Commission and Township Board in making land use decisions.

The Master Plan does not create local zoning. It is up to the township board to pass a zoning ordinance. The township board cannot decide to do their own zoning unless they have a Master Plan. A yes vote gives the township board the option to do local zoning. A no vote any option.

The public is involved in the discussion on the issues that affect land use development in the community when developing a Master Plan. These discussions and concerns may range from preserving natural features and farmland to coordinating planning efforts with surrounding communities.

The elements of the Master Plan are: 1) Purpose 2) Background Information and 3) Direction, vision and goals.

There can be 5, 7, or 9 members on the planning commission representing various interests and geographical areas. They are appointed by the township supervisor and approved of by the majority of the township board.

The township is a member of CUPPAD (Central Upper Peninsula Regional Planning & Development Commission) who provides assistance in developing a master plan.

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 If you have anything you would like included in the next issue of the Garden Township Newsletter, please call Lisa Pichette.