



FILLMORE TOWNSHIP, ESTABLISHED 1849

Spring 2022

FROM THE SUPERVISOR, *KEN DEWEERDT*

Township Office

Hours:

Monday, Wednesday and
Friday
8:00 a.m. to 12 Noon

Boards

Board of Trustees:

Ken DeWeerd, Supervisor
Leah Folkert, Treasurer
Elaine Mokma, Clerk
Chuck Schaap, Trustee
Robert Yonker, Trustee

Planning Commission:

Mike Dozeman, Chair
David Brink, Secretary
Fred VanTubergan
Chuck Schaap
Rod VanGelder

Board of Appeals:

Keith Potter, Chair
Marc Tucker, Secretary
Fred VanTubergan

Fire Board:

Robert Yonker
Tim Hofman

Board of Review:

Gary Balder
Peter Yonker
Doug VerHoeven

Assessor:

Jim Bush

Cemetery Sexton:

John Yonker

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The past year we have all gone through a time of caution, questions, scheduling alterations and many other things we had taken for granted prior to the Covid period that we could no longer see life as normal. At the Township we maintained our normal business with extra precautions to the distancing, masking and sanitizing. We thank all our residents for getting us through this period. We also remember those families that were effected by Covid either by illness or loss of loved ones. Our thoughts and prayers were for you and continued to be for you.

Even with all that was going on through the past year the Township experienced record growth in building and property purchases. Much of the growth in population was due to the continued development of Hidden Creek Estates. Fillmore Township continues to be an area much desired by many people looking to live in West Michigan.

Because of this, any property that changes ownership is usually transacted quickly and with a selling price much higher than listing price. Although this is good, it eventually has the effect of raising all property values which leads to higher taxable values for the entire Township.

We mentioned building was very active the past year. A total of 90 building permits were issued, representing \$4,453,00.00 construction value. Besides building permits, a total of 75 electrical, 81 mechanical and 52 plumbing permits were issued. These permits were for residential and commercial projects, agriculture permits are not required. Any new or altering of an existing structure requires a permit, which is obtained from the Township office or the Township website.

Our fire departments also experienced an increase in calls for service this past year. Graafschap FD responded to a total of 850 calls of which 203 were into Fillmore Twp. Hamilton FD responded to a total of 509 calls of which 62 were into Fillmore Twp., and Overisel FD responded to a total of 163 calls of which 45 were into Fillmore Twp. We thank our fire and 1st responder personnel for their 24/7 commitment to help those in our community. We also thank Bob Yonker and Tim Hofman for serving as Fire Board representatives for Fillmore Twp. on all three departments.

Deputy Joe Knapp is our Allegan County Deputy, hired jointly by Fillmore and Overisel Twp. Incidents requiring police presence also increased in 2021. A.C.S.D. responded to 666 calls in Fillmore Twp. Please join Joe at the Township Office on April 22, 2022 from 9am to 10am for coffee and cookies.

The May 3, 2022 Election will have a renewal for police & road millage. The Board is asking our voters to renew the present millage of .4970 mill for Police. We feel this is a very important service for our community, in times when law enforcement is being challenged on many fronts. A positive vote would assure funding for an officer and a vehicle for 5 years.

Roads in Fillmore Township are some of the finest in Allegan County, this is due to the support we have received with voted millages. The road millage has expired and the Board will be asking for 3.052 mills renewal at the May 3, 2022 Election. This is only a renewal of the present millage, rates will not increase.

FROM THE SUPERVISOR (CONTINUED)

Funds collected are used for local roads resurfacing or improvements. The Board backs this renewal enabling roads be maintained to the best condition possible.

The 2021 construction, we repaved 2 miles of 140th Ave. from 60th St. to 56th St. We were also going to chip/seal 5 miles of various local roads, however the Allegan County Road Commission informed is late in the season that this would not be completed due to contractor over commitment. For the 2022 season we will complete resurfacing of 140th Ave. from 56th to M-40 and also complete the chip/seal from 2021.

A.R.P.A. (American Rescue Plan Act)

Fillmore Township was the recipient of Federal A.R.P.A. funds this past year. A total of \$290,000.00 was granted of which the Township has received 1/2. There is a limited of number of projects that these funds can be used for and the Board is proceeding slowly in determining projects for these funds. As you may expect there are many parties that have requested funding, the Board will use the monies to best benefit our Township Residents. There is a window of several years where the funds can be used.

HERRICK PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Board has renewed the agreement with Herrick Public Library enabling Fillmore Township residents to continue the use of that resource. Unlike many of other entities that have a Library millage, the Township uses funds from the General Fund. This is something the Board feels is a service to our residents. We encourage you to use the resources that Herrick Public Library has to offer.

RECYCLING

Recycling is also a service provided to Township residents with the placement of bins at the Township Office. Household items including glass, tin and plastic are placed in the large container, please make sure all items are clean and flattened if possible. Cardboard and paper products are placed in the small container. Please flatten all boxes. **No waste of any kind is accepted, in fact the placement of such items contaminate the entire container making everything else not recyclable requiring it to be brought to the landfill.** Curbside service is also available by contacting various contractors. Please, use this service with good recycle practices as it could be discontinued if it is misused.

The Township plans on holding a spring clean-up at the Township Office on April 30 from 9am—3pm. This will be the only clean-up held for 2022. This is an opportunity to dispose of unwanted household items.

Tires and appliances will be taken, however there will be an additional charge for those items.

An attendant will be on duty and collect a fee depending on the volume amount. **No hazardous items are accepted.**

FROM THE TREASURER, LEAH FOLKERT

Summer tax bills will be mailed by July 1, 2022 and may be paid July 1 through September 14. Winter tax bills will be mailed by December 1 and may be paid December 1 through February 14, 2023. It is the taxpayers responsibility to notify the Township if there are any changes to your mailing address. Please note that the Township is not required to send a receipt for real property taxes. Keep the top portion of your tax bill as your receipt. If you would like a signed and dated receipt from the Treasurer, you may send a self-addressed stamped envelope with your payment requesting a receipt, pick it up from the office during regular office hours, or you may make your payment in person at the Township office when I have posted office hours. Payment history and delinquent tax information (if any) for real property tax can be found at www.allegancounty.org and click on "Search Tax Records."

FROM THE CLERK, ELAINE MOKMA

2022 ELECTION DATES:

May 3, 2022—SPECIAL ELECTION

FILLMORE TOWNSHIP

Road Repair & Maintenance Millage Renewal Proposition

Police Protection Millage renewal Proposition

ZEELAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Operating Millage Renewal Proposal

Millage Renewal Proposal to Provide Funds to Operate a system a Public

Recreation & Playgrounds

August 2, 2022—STATE PRIMARY ELECTION

November 8, 2022—STATE GENERAL ELECTION

2022 Registration Deadline and Election Dates:

April 18 , 2022—Last day to register for the May 2, 2022 Special Election.

July 18, 2022 - Last day to register for the August 2, 2022 Primary Election.

October 24, 2022 - Last day to register for the November 8, 2022 General Election.

GENERAL VOTING INFORMATION

Where do I vote?

The local precinct for Fillmore Township is at the Township Hall located at 4219 52nd St., Holland, MI. All elections are held at this precinct.

Michigan voting polls are open the day of the election from 7am to 8pm.

How do I register to vote?

You may register at the Township Office or at any Secretary of State office. You may also register by mail, but some restrictions do apply. Registering in person is the preferred method, there is no fee to register.

To vote you must be a United States citizen and a resident of the State of Michigan, have resided in Fillmore Township for at least 30 days prior to an election, be a registered voter of Fillmore Township and be 18years old on or before election day.

How do I file an absentee ballot?

To vote as an absentee voter, you must fill out and sign an absentee vote application **for each election**. Call the Township Office to obtain an application, an absentee ballot will be mailed to you after the application has been received in the Office and verified by the Clerk. You may request to be added to the permanent AV list, once on this list an application will be sent to you for every election.

A Reminder:

Please remember to bring photo ID, this State law took effect November 2007 requiring each voter to show photo ID. An affidavit can be signed if no ID is presented.

Please feel free to call the Township Office with any questions you may have.

The Fillmore Township Board of Trustees meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7p.m. at the Fillmore Township Hall.

Recycling is available for Township residents at the Township Hall. Materials for recycling include: paper, plastic containers, glass and cardboard that is flattened.

The Fillmore Township Planning Commission will hold their quarterly meetings for 2022at 7 p.m. on May 2 August 1 and November 7.

All other meetings are by special request.

Fillmore Township Hall
4219 52nd Street
Holland, MI 49423

FROM THE ASSESSOR, Jim Bush

As a reminder, please check your Assessment Change Notice that you should have recently received. If you own and occupy your home, it should be listed as 100% PRE ("Homeowners Principal Residence"). Also, the CPI for 2022 was 3.3%. The increase of your Taxable Value, the value that your taxes are based on, should have changed by 3.3%, unless there was something new added or something taken away or there was a change in ownership.

PROPERTY SPLITS

For any property splits or boundary adjustments in the Township, approval is required. Different zoned districts have different requirements, so it is best to start this process at the Township Office before doing any legal or surveying work. Proper recording of all paper work must be filed with the Allegan County Register of Deeds before the transaction is complete.

BURNING PERMITS

A burning permit is required **before you start a fire**, there is no charge for the permit. The fire must be attended at all times by a responsible adult and only burn during daytime hours. Please have a water hose or means of extinguishment on site while the fire is burning. Be aware of wind conditions at all times. Remember, if your fire gets out of control you are responsible, even if you have obtained a burning permit. If possible, burn so smoke or ash from your fire doesn't create a nuisance for your neighbors.

To view the Burn Ordinance visit www.fillmoretownship.com.
For Fillmore Township residents, and receiving fire department services from:
Graafschap Fire Department, please call 616.396.4060
Overisel Fire Department, please call 269.751.8314
Hamilton Fire Department, please call 269.686.5222 Menu 352 Options, Fillmore Township is #2 (ext. 4065).
This process became effective May 1, 2015.