



NEWSLETTER

December 2022

12050 Old Belding Road Belding, MI 48809 616-691-8450

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00AM – 4:00PM

www.Grattantownship.org

TOWNSHIP BOARD

Supervisor: Frank Force
Clerk: Michelle Alberts
Treasurer: Sabrina Freeman
Trustee: Dennis Heffron
Trustee: Paul Knoerl

From the Township Board

Senior Meals has returned to the Township and is hosted each Monday and Wednesday at noon at the Township Hall. Visit www.grattantownship.org to find a meal calendar.

Since May of 2022, the Board has considered the purchase of the former Grattan School Building. Prior to the Board making a final decision, a Resident Committee was formed to gather cost estimates, seek funding options and additional uses for revenue streams for the space. This committee gave its recommendation to the Board at the November 14, 2022 regular meeting. The committee advised the Board to not move forward with the purchase of the building due to the estimated 1.9 million renovation costs. The Board plans to make its final decision at the January Board meeting after grant funding rewards are released from the county in December.

If any resident is unable to attend a meeting in person, public comments can be submitted in writing to clerk@grattantownship.org or by mailing them to the Township offices. In addition, all meeting agendas and minutes are available online and residents can subscribe to updates by visiting the website.

The Township would like to thank Doug Geldersma for over 10 years of service on the Planning Commission and Board of Review. We appreciate your long service to your community.

If residents are interested in serving on committees, applications are available on the website and should be submitted to the clerk's office by January 4, 2023.

From the desk of Supervisor Frank Force

The Township has budgeted funds for two new onsite generators at GVPS#1 and GVPS#2. One on Murray Lake and the other on Big Crooked Lake. Both generators have arrived, and the #2 generator has been set in place and should be online by the end of the month. The generator for #1 arrived last week and should be set in place and operable by the end of the year. These two generators represent an investment of \$71,900 for #1 and \$67,450 for #2. They also represent the security of keeping the wastewater flowing during power outages for the two lakes. The Township Board would like to eventually have generators at all main pump stations to eliminate the constant attention required to power each station during outages and the inherent danger to our crews during storms. Not to mention the high cost of this activity. Reminder that all emergencies regarding the sewer should be reported to 616-776-9656. **Reminder of the Township's hours below over the holidays.**



Township Offices will be closed for Holiday Break

December 19-22 and December 26-29

TREASURERS OFFICE OPEN 12/29 from 9-5 for tax collection only

From the desk of Clerk Michelle Alberts

After an election filled year, the Clerk's office wants to extend an enormous thank you to the dedicated members of our community that worked our elections. Your training, knowledge and integrity is the driving force of our Township's election success. Additionally, the community deserves recognition not only for great turnouts, but also for the respect given to the election inspectors. The Clerk's office urges our community to reach out to our office regarding election questions. We love educating our community on our processes to make sure every vote counts.

From the desk of Zoning Administrator Ryan Carrigan

The Short-term Rental Ordinance took effect as of October 16, 2022, but the Board has given operators a six-month timeframe to become permitted. As a reminder, all STR applications should include a site plan, which provides the dimensions of structure and setbacks on the entire property. Early applications primarily were incomplete due to a lack of specificity around off-street parking requirements. The Grattan Township Zoning Ordinance requires at least two off-street parking spaces on a parcel with a dwelling and that they be 9 feet wide by 18 feet deep per vehicle. Additional parking spaces may be provided on adjacent, or across the street, owned property so long as they meet the dimensional requirements and are located completely out of the road right of way. Any outstanding issues related to unpermitted structures, fencing, or renovations will also create complications in the approval process.

Applications are available online and can be returned to office@grattantownship.org.

An additional reminder that all docks must be removed by December 15th.

From the Treasurer and Sewer Billing Department

Dates to Remember:

2023 Sewer Quarterly Billing Due Dates:
January 31st- April 30th- July 31st- October 31st

December 1, 2022- 2022 Winter tax bills mailed

December 29, 2022 - Township Office will be open to collect taxes only 9:00am - 5:00pm

February 14, 2023 - 2022 Winter taxes due without interest or penalty.

February 28, 2023 - Last day to pay 2022 Summer and Winter taxes at the Township Township will be open 9:00am - 5:00pm to collect taxes

July 1, 2023 - 2023 Summer tax bills mailed

September 14, 2023 - 2023 Summer taxes due without interest