# 0BBEAVER CREEK TOWNSHIP3BNEWSLETTER

##### December 2018

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***TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS***:

SUPERVISOR – KIM VAN NUCK CLERK – SHARON HARTMAN TREASURER – MAX MEISNER TRUSTEE – CAROL RAYBUCK TRUSTEE – MEAGAN LITTLE

ASSESSOR – DOUG KEIPERT OUR WEB SITE: ZONING ADM – DON JOHNSON

**IN OFFICE MOST MORNINGS www.beavercreektownship.com IN OFFICE TWO DAYS PER WEEK
OR BY APPOINTMENT**

***BEAVER CREEK TOWNSHIP OFFICES OFFICE PHONE & FAX NUMBERS OFFICE HOURS \_***

**8888 SOUTH GRAYLING ROAD OFFICE PHONE: 989-275-8878 9 A.M. – 2 P.M. MONDAY, TUESDAY, GRAYLING, MI 49738 OFFICE FAX: 989-275-9965 THURSDAY AND FRIDAY**

 9 A.M. – 5 P.M. WEDNESDAY\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**BOARD MEETINGS:**

The second Tuesday of each month @ 10:00 a.m.

**2018-2019 MEETING SCHEDULES:**

July 10 January 08
August 14 February 12

September 11 March 12

October 09 April 09

November 13 May 14

December 11 June 11

**TRANSFER SITE HOURS:**

Saturday 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Sunday 1 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Wednesday 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.

**BEAVER CREEK TRANSFER SITE:**

The transfer site is located at 8756 S. Grayling Road, north of the township hall.  You must have a transfer site sticker permanently attached on your vehicle’s windshield.

Price for a second vehicle sticker is $3.00 with a limit of two stickers per residence. If you change vehicles, or the sticker gets damaged we will replace it free of charge.

The transfer site now is able to accept used tires at a cost of $3.50 each. You will be allowed up to 4 tires per year per improved parcel. The tires can be no larger than auto tires. No rims allowed.

**COMMUNITY CENTER/PAVILION:**

The community center and pavilion are available to rent for all occasions. For more information please visit web page or call our office.

**TRUSTEE CAROL RAYBUCK:**

The Beaver Creek Fire Department encourages each resident to take advantage of an opportunity to receive a complimentary Firewise green reflective address sign with a Firewise inspection performed by our fire department personnel. A Firewise grant from Crawford County Emergency Management office covers the fee of $45.00 which BCFD receives for each inspection. Your resident inspection report is a suggestion that highlights steps that could improve home safety. Firewise inspection request forms are available at the Beaver Creek Township offices.
Wishing you a Merry Christmas.

**SUPERVISOR KIM VAN NUCK:**Hello to the residents!

I hope this finds everyone well and healthy.

As a township, we have been very busy. We have now distributed the Master Plan for its 63 day review out to surrounding communities. It is at the township offices for review also, if you’re interested. Our Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing on the Master Plan Final Draft after the first of the year.

We have now started writing the new “Zoning Ordinance” in this new fiscal year; we are trying to keep up with the fast-moving changes.

We had the parking lot resealed and painted, it looks really good.

I am looking into grants to update our park. Speaking of the park, we voted to make our park “SMOKE FREE”. This coming spring, we will set a designated smoking area at the end of sidewalk at hall. This means NO SMOKING in pavilion, tennis courts, basketball courts, wooded trails and any grassy area of the park.

 I am working on getting a light installed at the driveway entrance. This will be energy efficient LED, will cover the new township sign that will be coming soon, thanks to Sheila Moore our new deputy treasurer. It will also light front area of building. I am looking into minimal to no cost to the residents. The township has been changing over to LED light fixtures, as ours needs to be replaced.

Transfer site, you can see the changes we have been making over there. John Buggs has done a great job getting the steps covered. The new steel on side wall will help with wind and weather, great add-ons. We have been looking into recycling, again prices are extremely high. We have discussed making some changes. Such as getting a nice shed there and recycle things we can dispose of, such as batteries, tube lights; egg cartons we can donate to area farmers. tin cans, crush and put into metal trailer. By spring we will be working on trying to get something in place.

Cleanup Day was a great success again; I need to thank Max Meisner and my family for stepping up and handling that. I was stuck in North Carolina with my parents.

Our joint Utilities with Grayling Charter Twp. is near completion at the 4 Mile corridor. I’ve been talking with MDOT and the Road Commission to see what changes we can make at that intersection, please use caution and be safe.

We painted the outside pavilion, I liked the color so much we painted supply room. After that, we now have hall painted. I have to thank Tim Lobsinger for all his hard work making it happen. Deb Helsel and I were helping but I think Tim has gotten stuck with the most of it. Thank him if you see him, long time in coming, really looking nice.

Halloween Party and Trunk or Treat: I want to thank Deanne Whiteside for bringing back the Halloween party for the kids. I would like to thank Andie Neilson and Neilson Family Farm for donating a lot of pumpkins the kids painted. Thank you for everything. Trunk or Treat we had 56 kids come through. Great turn out. We will be making changes for next year, to do both on Halloween. Thank you to Weyerhaeuser for their annual donations of donuts and cider. Thank you to Billie Jo and Jim Miller for their help with Trunk or Treat, and of course my family. Thanks for everyone’s help.

PERE CHENEY Shirts & Sweatshirts
We have T-Shirts for suggested donation of $12, sweatshirts $25 and hoodies $30 all available in sizes s-3x. We have these at the township office. We can order 2x for a $2 increase in any style or 3x for a $3 increase. Stop in and pick up shirts if not in stock Pat or I can place an order. All proceeds will go to replacing fencing at the Historic Pere Cheney Cemetery.

We have an open seat on the Planning Commission Board and we need an alternate for the Board of Review for those interested please contact me for information.
 Hope everyone has a Happy Healthy Winter, Happy Holidays to all.

If you need anything please call our offices and we will be happy to help anyway we can.

**CLERK SHARON HARTMAN:**Well, elections are over! We had a very busy June thru November 6th with two elections. For the November General Election, we had 830 residents vote or about a 66% turnout. Our election workers were very busy but the election went smoothly! A BIG thank you to Pat Millikin who served as chair and balanced our books constantly, John Welt who greeted everyone with a smile, Jim Lawless who suffered through using an old computer that cannot keep up with him, Donna Schnoor who tried to get everyone to use the new voting machine and Sheila Moore who coached everyone on how to get those ballots through the tabulator! Also, I would like to thank our secretary, Pat Larson who helped by giving out absentee ballot applications and receipting the ballots as they were returned. As I watch all that is going on in the Florida recount, I am very thankful for Michigan election laws, which seem to work so much better!

During the elections, we added many residents to our “Permanent Absent Voter Application List” so that they will be sent an application for an absentee ballot automatically. So, if you would like to be added, please call our office. We have a simple form that you can fill out.

Have a very Merry Christmas and enjoy the season!

**TREASURER MAX MEISNER:**As mentioned in the last newsletter, the property tax collection year consists of two seasons. It starts with the summer tax bills that were sent out the first week of July. The winter taxes represent the second half of the season and they are sent out in early December. The winter bills and outstanding summer bills are due by Thursday February 14, 2019; my office will be open until 5 pm on the 14th. On the 15th additional penalty and interest gets added to balances due. My office will continue to collect late tax payments until the end of February. On March 1st the balances of due taxes are turned over to the county treasurer’s office for collection where they compute additional penalty and interest. And just as a reminder, I do take partial payments until the last day of February and there is also a drop box outside the office entrance for your convenience. We also have a 3rd-party credit/debit card payment service that charges the payer a fee. It is their job to guarantee the funds and transfer the full amount due to the township. Their fees vary depending on the type of card; they process the 4 major credit cards. Another factor is whether it’s a debit card or a credit card; typically, debit card transactions cost less because the funds are readily transferable. However, we don’t know what the fee will be until it goes through most of the processing, but we can cancel the transaction before submitting if unacceptable. As forms of payments, we accept: Personal Checks, Company Checks, Money Orders, US Currency, Credit Cards and Debit Cards. Many also use escrow as a method of payment and will be indicated on your tax bill in the upper right corner as a reminder.

Most of the tax dollars go to the County for law enforcement, road commission and a few other line items. Another chunk goes to the school systems. Most of you have Crawford Au Sable Schools that was levied on the Summer Tax Bill. The rest of the Township will see the tax levy from Roscommon Area Public Schools (RAPS) on their winter bill. As you can see, only a small fraction comes to the Township. An important feature on township government is that is as close to the citizens as it gets. Meaning, we are more like a neighborhood than a city, state or federal government entity; most of us are on a first-name basis and interact socially and with transparency. It has proven to be a highly-efficient and least-bureaucratic system and we strive to improve on that concept.

Also, as a 2-part endeavor has been the update of our Master Plan and a re-write of our Ordinances. It has been a long process getting through the new Master Plan. Our team of Planning Commissioners have spent months on this and it is now in the final submittal stage. We are a couple months into the re-write of our ordinances and are working to simplify the language, update the relevance, eliminate duplications, and consolidate similar rules. Over time ordinances get changed to adapt to unforeseen circumstances and modernization. Eventually, the amendments pile up and the original ordinance becomes blurred and needs an overhaul; the re-write is the needed overhaul. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year- be safe.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATION
& ENFORCEMENT DON JOHNSON:**A friendly reminder to township residents; a zoning permit is required for most construction, including sheds, carports and decks. The metal storage carport structures that have become popular are considered an accessory building, whether they are enclosed or not and require a zoning permit if they are 200 sqft or over. If they are enclosed by more than two sides, they require a building permit, regardless of square footage. As the township assessor finds these structures on your property, he is adding them to your taxable value and reporting them to the zoning department.

Beaver Creek Township has an Anti-Noise Public Nuisance Ordinance which should be helpful in discouraging improper noises or disturbances. This Ordinance is Number 41 and can be found online in the Ordinance Section of the Beaver Creek Township home page.

Please check with zoning office prior to the start of any project.
Zoning applications are available at the township office, Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. Applications are also available on our website, beavercreektownship.com

The township is currently in the process of reviewing and revising our ordinances and should soon be completed.

If you need assistance or have a specific question, you can call or make an appointment on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or email
Have a great winter and enjoy the snow but please be careful in all of your endeavors, Have a safe holiday season.

**SECRETARY PAT LARSON:**Dog Licenses are available now thru February 28, 2019 at our office after that they will be available at the county building.

Have a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:**Your Beaver Creek Fire Department has been very busy in 2018. We responded to 297 emergency calls through mid-November. Our emergency responses have been structure fires, personal injury accidents, medical emergencies, wires down, confined space rescue, confined space stand-by, citizen assists and swimming pool fills. When the firefighting crew is not responding to emergency calls, we are at the station performing preventive maintenance on fire apparatus, fixing items in the station, cleaning up inside and outside. We also participate in medical training, fire training, report writing, grant writing and keeping the station running smooth. There are also some new programs your firefighters have organized to help the citizens of Beaver Creek. The first is our Free Smoke Detector Program managed by Firefighter Arlen Murray. Call Arlen at the station for the details of this American Red Cross program and to schedule a free device (limit 3) installation at your home. Our second program is a free car seat program for qualified families; this program is also managed by FF Murray and is part of the Car Seat Initiative of Crawford and Roscommon Counties. Our third program is a free FIREWISE Inspection of the exterior of your home where we will provide advice to keep your home safer in the event of a wildland fire. We will also give you a free green reflective address sign (while supplies last) after we do a FIREWISE Inspection. Firefighter Neal Dopp manages this program and can be reached at the station, also. We look forward to hearing from you hope you take advantage of these free-of-charge sponsored programs that your courageous firefighters have put together to make the citizens of Beaver Creek safer.

Thank You! -Your Fire Chief Doug Bourgeois

**TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBERS:**

SHARON HARTMAN
KIM VAN NUCK

MAX MEISNER

MEAGAN LITTLE

CAROL RAYBUCK

**DEPUTIES:**

DEPUTY CLERK:
DONNA SCHNOOR

DEPUTY TREASURER:
SHEILA MOORE

**BOARD OF REVIEW:**

TIM FRANCIS

JOHN WELT

JOHN BROMLEY

KIM VAN NUCK (SECRETARY)

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEAL:**

STEVE NELSON (CHAIRMAN)

SKIP LIBERTY

TIM FRANCIS

ALTERNATE: DEB HELSEL

**PLANNING COMMISSION:**

MAX MEISNER (SECRETARY)

KEN WILSKE
ROBERT WOODLAND
STEVE NELSON