July 2023 Volume 12.1

The Belknap Township Newsletter

Supervisor Report...

I am pleased to report that the Township Hall has been receiving a lot of needed upgrades including LED lighting, refinishing the banquet room hardwood floor, HVAC upgrades, installing a backup generator, and more. This is leading to energy efficiency, preservation of assets, and most importantly disaster preparedness improvements. The project has been possible mainly because the Township applied for \$74,192.64 in Federal funds through the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF). Your Board made the decision that the highest and best use of the funds would be to focus on a project to serve the most vulnerable portion of our population, the young, elderly, and disadvantaged. From this focused plan the Township was able to secure a commitment from Presque Isle County for \$34,604.56 of additional funding for a backup generator and a public address system. The Township has also sought local grants and was awarded \$1,500 from the Community Foundation of Northeast Michigan for HVAC upgrades. All these improvements are making the Belknap Township Hall a facility to be proud of. In the event of a disaster the Hall is a solid facility ready to serve community needs.

The Board has been busy looking at the local road network as well. Two reconstruction projects are tentatively planned for 2023 and 2024. One mile of Petersville Rd from Heythaler Hwy to Ristow Hwy is being bid out for construction in 2023. Then a project is planned for South Rogers Rd in 2024. It will begin at Hawks Hwy and go North one mile. The Township will make multi-year payments to the Road Commission to cover costs. This will fully expend the current Township Road Millage, which will be up for renewal after 2025. Without the voter's continued support of the Township Road Millage, these projects would likely not happen.

There is far more detail to the work being done by the Board than can be written in the small space of a newsletter. If you have a question or are interested in learning more, feel free to reach out to me or another board member. You can also join one of our monthly meetings to see the Hall and discuss Township matters.

Have a great summer, Toby Kuznicki Supervisor

Your Township Board

Your Township Board's regularly scheduled meetings are held on the **fourth Thursday** of each month. The meetings are held at the Township Hall at 1720 W. 638 Hwy and start at 7:00 pm. Residents are encouraged to attend.

Website: http://www.belknaptown-ship.org

Toby Kuznicki - Supervisor 6849 S Rogers Rd Hawks, MI 49743 989.734-4484 supervisor@belknaptownship.org

Danielle Wirgau - Clerk 3503 Petersville Rd Rogers City, Mi 49779 989.884.1634 clerk@belknaptownship.org

Candy Peltz - Treasurer 2267 E Heythaler Hwy Rogers City, MI 49779 989.370.8413 treasurer@belknaptownship.org

Robert Hopp - Trustee 3097 E 638 Hwy Hawks, MI 49743 989.734.4539

Justin Schalk - Trustee 5057 Klee Rd Rogers City, MI 49779 989.766.3545

Assessor

Berg Assessing and Consulting, INC. P.O. Box 25 Rogers City, MI 49779 989.734.3555 (office) http://assessingoffice.com

Hall Rentals Contact:

Connie Hopp, Hall Coordinator C: 989 464 4727 H: 989.734.4539

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The Treasurer's Corner Candy Peltz...

Hello, I hope this letter finds you all well and ready for yet another tax season. Summer taxes will be mailed out July 1st, 2023, and the winter ones will mail out on Dec 1st, 2023.

If you have any question or concerns about your property taxes, please feel free to call me (989)370-8413 or email me, treasurer@belknaptownship.org. If I cannot answer your questions, I'll be happy to assist you in the right direction. The County Treasures office is (989)734-4075

I will be home on the last day of taxes due to collect from 9AM - 4PM. I also have a black, locked mail box out in front of my house for easy and convenient tax payment drop offs. If you would like to meet with me, please call and we can schedule that. I look forward to serving you all again in the 2023 tax season. Have a great year!!

Change of Address

If your mailing address has changed, please notify the <u>Township Treasurer</u> of your new address. Without this information, we are not able to send you your tax bill, assessment notices, and any correspondence that may be needed on a timely basis. Contact information is in the right margin on the front of the newsletter.

Clerk's Corner Danielle Wirgau...

Hello all, I hope this finds you well and ready for the summer weather. As far as elections go, there has been quite the uproar over the passing of proposal 22-2. There have been very few updates as to how they are going to implement the 9 days of early voting and other changes. ALL of which have been contradicting to the previous info. We do have some elections coming up next year, so I guess we will all just have to wait and see what it actually to come. I want to give a huge shoutout to my election workers for all their hard work and braving the germs during COVID. There are not enough thanks I could give these ladies and gentleman for sticking with me though the rough conditions. For the upcoming elections, there is still the drop box on my front porch. It is locked at all times and checked daily, but only during election times. There is a security camera fixed on the front porch to watch the drop box as an extra layer of security. If you have something to drop off, during non-election times, please put it in the mailbox by the road, or call and let me know you put something in the locked box. I would also like to thank our Supervisor, Toby, for all the hard work he has done to get our ARPA (CLFRF) funds and projects coordinated and completed. He has put more hours into improving our hall than any one of us realize, and does most of it without batting an eye or thanks. Have a great summer all!!! -Dani

Belknap Township Statistics

1990 Population: 920 2000 Population: 854 2010 Population: 751 2020 Population: 686

Belknap Township Voters:

November 2016: 571 November 2018: 545 August 2019: 535 March 2020: 541 August 2020: 549 November 2020: 588 May 2021: 589 August 2022: 610 November 2022: 621

Voter Turnout:

November 2016: 388 (68%) November 2018: 328 (60.2%) August 2019: 10 (1.87%) March 2020: 20 (3.70%) August 2020: 72 (13.11%) November 2020: 397 (67.52%) May 2021: 24 (4.07%) August 2022: 152 (24.92%) November 2022: 340 (54.75%)

Belknap Township - Parcel Count

12/31/13: 709 Parcels 12/31/14: 698 Parcels 12/31/15: 696 Parcels 12/31/16: 705 Parcels 12/31/17: 710 Parcels 12/31/18: 715 Parcels 12/31/20: 722 Parcels 12/31/21: 724 Parcels 12/31/22: 730 Parcels

Belknap Township - Assessments

2014 Assessment: 28,527,200 2015 Assessment: 28,681,400 2016 Assessment: 29,009,700 2017 Assessment: 29,537,400 2018 Assessment: 29,578,300 2019 Assessment: 30,062,900 2020 Assessment: 32,226,600 2021 Assessment: 34,090,900 2022 Assessment: 36,325,400 2023 Assessment: 43,604,200