



Osceola Township
48545 Main Street, PO Box 437
Dollar Bay, MI 49922
Phone: (906) 482-8578 Fax: (906) 482-8596
www.osceolatownship.org

Summer 2020

OFFICE HOURS: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Hours will vary due to COVID-19 restrictions. Please call ahead.)

Osceola Township Board of Trustees & Staff (906) 482-8578

Mark Halkola, Supervisor
Extension 1; Cell: 906-250-4986
supervisor@osceolatwp.com

Traci Sleeman Houle, Clerk
Extension 2
clerk@osceolatwp.com

Christa Gardner, Treasurer
Extension 3; Cell: 906-369-9242
treasurer@osceolatwp.com

Aaron Janke, Trustee

Don Wareham, Trustee

Bob Mattfolk, Water Supervisor
906-281-5578

Christina Gardner, Water Secretary
Extension 5

FOR WATER EMERGENCIES: 906-281-5578

Laura Erhart, Assessor
P.O. Box 13, Watersmeet, MI 49969
906-358-0504
osceolaassessor@gmail.com

Water payments, tax payments and other correspondence can be left in the blue drop box outside of the township office door 24/7

For meeting minutes, contact info, election info and more, visit our website at www.osceolatownship.org

2020 ELECTION DATES

CORRECTION: There are no new millages for Osceola Township this election cycle. However, there will be an Operational millage **renewal** on the **August** ballot as part of a County-wide renewal and allocation of operating millage proposal. We regret any confusion the original newsletter may have caused. Contact the Township office with any questions.

August 4, 2020 State Primary Election

November 3, 2020 State General Election

Questions about elections, how to register, how to get an absentee ballot and more? The Township Clerk will be available at the following times:

Monday – Wednesday during normal office hours 9 AM – 12 PM

Prior to an election, the clerk will be available the Saturday before from 9 AM to 5 PM, and on Election Day from 7 AM to 8 PM in the Township office.

If you are interested in signing up to be on the Permanent Absentee Voter list, to receive an application for a ballot prior to every election, you can send in a request to be added to the list by the following: send in a request via mail to: Traci Houle, Clerk, PO Box 437, Dollar Bay, MI 49922, via email at clerk@osceolatwp.com, or come in during office hours and request one in person.

Please note you no longer need a reason to vote absentee. If you would like to receive a ballot to vote absentee, you may do so by sending an application to request a ballot. Applications can be found here: https://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1633_8716_8728-21037-,00.html

For voter information, absentee ballot applications, or to register to vote online please visit <https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us/>. Additional election information can be found at <https://www.osceolatownship.org/elections.html> and <http://houghtoncounty.net/directory-clerk.php>.

Township Ordinances

We will be reviewing some of our existing ordinances and are requesting resident input. The ordinances will be posted to the website, with dates listed that we would take public comment that the Board will use to modify some of the existing ordinances to make them clearer and/or more applicable.

TOWNSHIP UPDATE:

The Township parks and Sandy Bottom are available for use. Please note that use is at your own risk. The Township will continue normal maintenance but doesn't clean to anti-virus standards. Please reference the notices posted at each park.

There are several projects taking place around the township:

The Mason Sewer Project is going forward. A lot of work, like Forsman Road, is done. The project construction bid is on schedule. Work will hopefully be completed this calendar year.

FEMA projects that are addressing damage caused by the Father's Day flood in 2018 are starting. Restoration efforts are taking place throughout the Township. As of July 1st, some have been completed. Bids for others are underway.

Dust control contracts with the Houghton County Road Commission have been executed. This work is expected to be done by July 15, 2020.

Township roads (that are not associated with FEMA) are being upgraded. Primarily in Tamarack City, these projects are under review along with other projects currently taking place. For specifics, please call the Township office.

The Community Garden in Dollar Bay was approved for a Portage Health Foundation grant of \$5,000. The effort to get this garden started is currently underway.

Along with the construction that is taking place at the Dollar Bay-Tamarack City school, the Township has committed funds from the Precinct 2 road fund to help road improvements around the school.

We have begun an infrastructure "priorities list" internally in the office. Please feel free to share ideas you may have by calling the Township office.

The impact of COVID-19 has been profound for our area. Various events in our township for the 3rd and 4th of July have been cancelled: the Street Dance in Dollar Bay, the Tamarack City and Dollar Bay parades, as well as the Dollar Bay Chicken Barbeque.

The Township office remains closed to walk in traffic until further notice. If you need to come inside the office, you may call to make an appointment. To pay your tax bills, water bills, or drop off other correspondence, please feel free to utilize the drop box outside of the office 24/7. You may also mail items to us at P.O. Box 437, Dollar Bay, MI 49922. You can also call the township office at 906-482-8578, and hit extension 1 for the supervisor, 2 for the clerk, 3 for the treasurer, or 0 for the water secretary. If we aren't in, please feel free to leave us a message, and we will return your call. You can also email at: supervisor@osceolatwp.com; clerk@osceolatwp.com; treasurer@osceolatwp.com; or secretary@osceolatwp.com.

TAX UPDATE:

Tax bills are now going out, and the due date to pay without interest is September 14th. The office will be open from 9 AM – 5 PM on that day for you to come in and make your summer tax payment.

July Board of Review will be held on Thursday, July 23rd at the Township Office. The July Board of Review meets to correct Qualified Errors, and to consider appeals related to the Principal Residence Exemption, Qualified Agricultural Exemption, Taxable Value Uncapping, the Qualified Start-up Business Exemption, the Disabled Veteran's Exemption and the Poverty Exemption. If you have an issue to be addressed by the July Board of Review, to get on the Agenda send your request by July 20th through postal mail to Laura Erhart, Osceola Township Assessor, PO Box 13, Watersmeet, MI 49969 or through email --- OsceolaAssessor@gmail.com. The assessor can also be reached by phone at 906-358-0504.