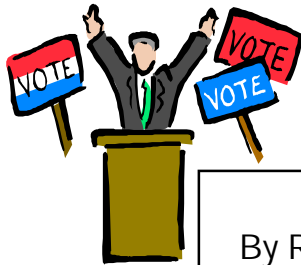


THE TOWNSHIP CRIER

Fall/Winter 2004

Newsletter of the Charter Township of Marquette

Volume 04 Issue 2



IT'S UP TO YOU!
By Randy Girard, Manager

On the November 2nd general election ballot Township voters will be asked the following question:

"Shall the Charter Township of Marquette return to the statutory property tax millage rate cap of 5.0 mills for a period of five (5) years; in order to recapture the 0.6329 mills reduced by law and equating to \$0.6329 cents per year for each \$1,000.00 of taxable property value? The five (5) year period would be for tax years 2004 through 2008 to be collected 2005 through 2009, both inclusive. The additional revenue generated to be applied to fund Township improvements to include road repair and maintenance, water and sewer system, and recreational development. This proposal will raise approximately \$82,910.00 in its first year, based upon 2004 taxable value."

The Township Board placed this question on the ballot to allow you, the Township property owners and voters, to have direct input in addressing the three major areas of need that were identified in the Township survey conducted last year. Right about this point, you are asking yourself at least two questions – what impact does this have on my pocket? and, why is the question being asked?



QUESTION ONE: What impact on your pocket?

This question applies only to the Township portion of your tax bill. The typical Township resident has a total tax bill of approximately 25.1116 mills comprised of the following:

County Operating	5.5687 mills
County Transit (MarqTran)	0.4806 mills
County Special Programs	1.5940 mills
ISD Allocated/Special Education	2.0592 mills
School Operating	6.0000 mills
School Debt	1.6000 mills
Township Operating	4.3750 mills
Township Library	0.9341 mills
Township Fire Services	<u>2.5000 mills</u>
TOTAL	25.1116 mills

This question asks whether only the Township Operating 4.3750 mills shall be returned to the statutory cap of 5.0000 mills, representing a recapture of 0.6329 mills. For a residential property owner with a taxable value of \$50,000.00 the impact for the 2004 tax bill would be an additional \$31.65.



QUESTION TWO: Why is this question being asked?

Approximately 83% of all Township operating revenue comes from two sources – local property tax collection (60.4%), and State Revenue Sharing (23%) which is a sharing of State sales tax revenues intended to fund State required local services. Each of these sources of revenue has been negatively impacted by changes in law, and the declining economic conditions in the State of Michigan.

Local property tax revenues were limited by passage of the State constitutional tax limitation amendment of 1978, commonly referred to as the Headley amendment, and subsequent amendments in 1979 and 1994. The Headley amendment requires a taxing jurisdiction (Township) to roll back maximum

Continued on Page 2.

IT'S UP TO YOU!

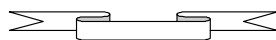
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authorized rates if the State Equalized Value, excluding new construction, increases faster than the rate of inflation. The amendment also established that such a roll back can be reversed only by voter approval. The Headley amendment has resulted in a roll back (reduction) of Township operating revenue from the statutory cap of 5.0 mills to the current 4.3750 mills.

State Revenue Sharing is the result of an agreement between local governments and the State of Michigan to transfer the provision of services, previously the responsibility of the State, to local governments. To provide the funding for these transferred services, the State agreed to return a portion of the State sales tax as determined by a formula to the local government – referred to as State Revenue Sharing. With the growth of internet shopping, shopping in neighboring states, and a general reduction in discretionary spending by consumers Michigan sales tax revenue has significantly declined and the State has not kept up it's agreed to funding obligation. The revenue received by the Township from State Revenue Sharing has declined from \$282,940.00 in 2002 to \$243,607.00 in 2004.

These reductions to our primary sources of operating revenues, combined with increasing costs of operation, put extreme pressure on the Township's ability to continue to provide services at the level expected by our residents. However you decide, please consider this question carefully when you go to vote on November 2nd.

The Township Board will continue discussion of the millage recapture question at their regular meeting on Tuesday, October 19th at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Hall.



Louis Hutchings

On September 27th our friend and co-worker, Louis Hutchings unexpectedly passed away. His slight smile, quiet manner, and "can do" attitude that we all took for granted will be missed.

Marquette Township was a second career for Lou. His first career was as a mining engineer for Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Company for 35 years. However, it was the 18 years of work as the building/groundskeeper at Marquette Township that he truly enjoyed. Friends and employees of the Township feel privileged to have known and worked with him. Lou was a familiar face to the many residents who stopped in at the Township office. To anyone who has visited the Township Hall, his attention to detail was evident. From cleaning the many windows daily to nurturing an immaculate flower bed, Lou lived the adage that it is the little things in life that matter.



YARD WASTE DROP OFF SCHEDULE



To dispose of leaves, grass clippings, garden debris, or brush, Marquette Township residents may use a drop off area located on County Road 492 across from the Marquette Township Center. A second site will be the southwest corner of Summit and Erie, north of Kiddie Park, and immediately west of Lions' Field. These sites will be open for drop off from Saturday, October 2, 2004 through Sunday, October 31, 2004. Each site will have 2 drop off areas. One area will be for leaves and garden/yard waste; the other area will be for brush/tree limbs a maximum of three (3) inches in diameter, cut in four (4) foot lengths.

Household refuse other than leaves, grass clippings, garden debris, or brush may not be left at these sites. Residents are requested to place their empty plastic bags in the barrel provided, not in the dumpsters. The leaf and brush drop off is for Marquette Township residents only, please.

State law prohibits compostable yard debris from being disposed of at Michigan landfills. Compostable materials cannot be included in weekly garbage collections or accepted at the transfer station.

Illegal Dumping Will Not Be Tolerated.

This service is entirely funded by and is provided for Marquette Township Residential Garbage Customers.

As an alternative to disposal of yard wastes, residents are encouraged to use these materials as mulch or compost in their own gardens. Compost and mulches add essential nutrients and help to maintain moisture in your soil.



**Comments From
Max H. Muelle, Supervisor**

Reviewing the past twelve years proved not only interesting, but gratifying. We did not meet all of our goals but a great deal was accomplished such as road reconstruction, expanding our infrastructure, property acquisition, and we are well on our way to having our own water system which will eliminate any dependency on the City of Marquette. Yes, we have grown up – we are no longer the “little kid on the block”. Contrary to the trend in Upper Michigan and the county, we have increased in population. Both the business and residential sectors have grown dramatically.

Our DDA-TIFA (Downtown Development Authority – Tax Increment Finance Authority) was a significant factor in both the business and residential growth by providing the necessary infrastructure. It was a great success in our community. To most people the DDA-TIFA is just a group of letters. Below is the history on the Marquette Township Tax Increment Financing and Development Plan.

DDA - TIFA History

The Charter Township Marquette, like many communities in the Upper Peninsula, experienced change in its growth patterns and economic base in the early 1980's. Marquette County had been impacted by a downturn in the iron mining industry. Reduced employment in the iron mining industry affected all areas of the local economy, including Marquette Township.

Until this time the highway corridor within Marquette Township had prospered. During the early 1980's growth stagnated and in 1986 there was a 13% reduction in equalized value in the Development Area. Marquette Township in examining ways to reverse this situation, established a Downtown Development Authority, pursuant to Public Act 197 of 1975 as amended.

Its mission was to prevent deterioration in the business district, strengthen the local tax base, promote development and devise a method of using

Continued on Page 4.

Comments From Max Muelle

Continued from Page 3.

“tax increment financing” to help make needed public water and sewer improvements within the Development Area.

Tax Increment Financing allowed the Township, through the Downtown Development Authority, to “capture” the increase in tax revenues generated by any increase in State equalized valuation resulting from new private investment in the Development Area. The “captured tax increment revenues” could only be used to pay for infrastructure costs and to pay debt service on Bonds issued by the Authority for improvements in the Development Area.

At the time of inception the Development Area was comprised of 765 acres of land with a state equalized valuation of \$7,037,232 which generated \$320,957.12 in tax revenue for 1986. In 2003, the last year of tax increment financing, the Development Area, though reduced to 741 acres of land, had a state equalized valuation of \$44,338,000 which generated \$1,599,506.40 in tax revenue for 2003. This is a 630% increase in equalized valuation, and a 498% increase in tax revenues in the 16 years from 1986 to 2003. During this time \$6,825,500 was captured in tax revenues and funded the following projects:

- Northwoods water booster station
- 26,000 feet of water main
- Northwoods 200,000 gallon water reservoir
- Wright Street sewage lift station
- 20,000 feet of sanitary sewer main
- 4,500 feet of sanitary sewer force main
- Relocation of Northwoods Road
- Construction of Commerce Drive
- Construction of Venture Drive
- Purchase of wastewater treatment capacity
- Realignment of Brookton Road/County Road 492
- Replacement/upgrade of pumps at Cox water booster station

The Marquette Township DDA/TIFA was a tremendous benefit to the Township resulting in the Township receiving many benefits.

ROADS

Let’s talk a little bit about roads. Like death and taxes, the topic of roads and their condition will always be with us. Roads are categorized as follows:

- Federal and State Highways which are US41-M28
- County Primary Roads which are Ontario Street, County Road 492, County Road 550, Commerce Drive, and Werner Street from Commerce Drive to Ontario Street
- County Secondary Roads—this category includes the balance of the roads located in the Township.

I might add that since the McNitt Act was passed in 1936, all township roads became County roads. Townships do NOT own any public roads. Public Act 51 says in part that County Road Commissions are responsible for funding 50% of the cost of maintenance, the other 50% coming from other sources. The other sources have typically been townships. Maintaining these roads in many cases means reconstruction which needless to say is quite costly. Remember, these roads for the most part were built prior to 1935 and sufficed for the traffic needs of the era and the types of vehicles such as Model T’s and Model A’s. To withstand the weight and frequency of today’s vehicle use, many of these roads need to be rebuilt completely or in part.



To carry on a road maintenance program requires a very significant amount of money annually. Again, we must be aware of the fact that there is no direct tax for roads levied by the Township or the County. The County receives its funding from gas tax monies collected by the State of Michigan and distributed to counties according to the formula as outlined in Public Act 51. The Township funds their portion from the general fund. By now you must know that what I am leading up to is another age old story – where is the money coming from? The Public Act 51 formula is long outdated and should be restructured to meet today’s needs. On the other hand, the Township cannot pick up the slack (pay more than 50% of the cost) because of the significant reduction in income i.e. cut in revenue sharing from the State.

Continued on Page 5.

Comments From Max Muelle

Continued from Page 4.

What is the solution? Change the funding formula as it is now written in Public Act 51 to better serve the needs of the 21st Century? Pursue a voted millage on the county level to support the County Road Commission? If something isn't done to improve the funding for road maintenance, the bad roads will become worse. In the meantime, we will carry on with road repairs and reconstruction programs as funds become available to the Marquette County Road Commission and Marquette Township.

US 41 CORRIDOR TRAFFIC

Many people are concerned about the increased traffic on US41 – M28 in Marquette Township. Some of the concerns are why did we allow so many driveways to access the highway?, and why don't we have frontage roads? In the past the Highway Department now more commonly called MDOT (Michigan Department of Transportation) was the sole permitting agency for access to US41 – M28 highway. They were required to permit access to the highway to all landowners and so they had little control in preventing the situation that we have today in Marquette Township.

MDOT adopted a new policy to involve local communities in planning and controlling access. In the fall of 2000, the US41 – M28 Corridor Study Team was formed with representatives from all communities from Chocolay Township to Koski Corners. This group of people met monthly to identify and prioritize the problem areas in the US41-M28 Corridor. In the spring of 2004, a highway improvement plan emerged along with an access management plan. The number of access driveways have already been reduced and new businesses are sharing drives. After attending many meetings, it is satisfying to finally see some results. As funding becomes available the planned improvements will become a reality.

It is gratifying to have participated in the growth and development of our progressive community – a community that offers quality living including diversified shopping, excellent municipal services such

as water, sewer, fire protection and emergency services. It is my wish that our community continues to prosper and become an even better place to live, work, and play.

As always, if you have concerns on any issues there are two public comment sessions at all of our Board meetings, or as always, you may call me any time at home at 226-2180 or leave a message at the Township office.



ELECTION DAY TRIVIA

Why early November? For much of our history, America was a predominantly rural society. Law makers understood that November was perhaps the most convenient month for farmers and rural workers to be able to travel to the polls. The fall harvest was over, spring was planting time and summer was taken up with working the fields and tending the crops, but in the majority of the nation the weather was still mild enough to permit travel over unimproved roads.

Why Tuesday? Since most rural residents had to travel a significant distance to the county seat in order to vote, Monday was not considered reasonable since many people would need to begin travel on Sunday. This would have conflicted with Church services and Sunday worship.

Why the first Tuesday after the first Monday? Lawmakers wanted to prevent election day from falling on the first of November for two reasons. First, November 1st is All Saints Day, a Holy Day of Obligation for Roman Catholics. Second, most merchants were in the habit of doing their books the preceding month on the 1st. Apparently, Congress was worried that the economic success or failure of the previous month might prove an undue influence on the vote!

Keeping Your Stream Healthy

Tips for Marquette Township Riparian Residents

A Riparian Buffer Education Initiative Developed by the Central Lake Superior Watershed Partnership and Supported by Marquette Township

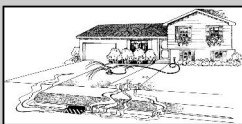


Proper stream care is crucial. Whether it flows year-round or seasonally, your stream provides water supply and groundwater recharge, wildlife habitat, and a host of aesthetic values. It is an integral part of the lives of people and animals who live in the watershed. Though you may have little control over the entire watershed, your cooperation with other neighbors can prevent and reduce activities which harm your stream. This informational handout provides practical tips on day-to-day activities that are stream-friendly and protect your riparian buffer.

Never dump gasoline, motor oil or other automotive fluids into a stream or storm drain. Place automotive fluids in sturdy, sealed containers, and recycle through your local collection program. The Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority (MCSWMA) offers a household hazardous waste collection from May to October. Check with MCSWMA for dates and locations.

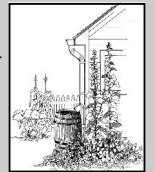


Limit the use of pesticides and fertilizers. Avoid using in wet weather and never apply gardening chemicals immediately next to the stream. Fertilizers can run off, adding excess nutrients that lead to algae blooms, bad odors, and fish kills. Consider organic methods instead!

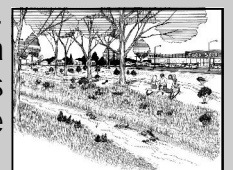


Avoid hosing down paved surfaces or washing your car on a paved driveway or street. Even biodegradable soaps are toxic to fish and wildlife. Wash cars on a lawn or unpaved area to allow the water to soak into the ground.

Check rain gutters and other pipes to see where they drain. Make sure they do not carry water directly to the stream. Runoff from roof surfaces contribute to the decline of stream health. Pipes projecting directly into a stream bank can also cause bank erosion. Consider using rain barrels to capture roof runoff.



Carefully remove trash, litter, and other dumped debris from the stream. Unfortunately, some people think of streams as garbage dumps. This debris can become a hazard during floods. It can be a threat to groundwater and provide breeding places for bugs and mosquitoes. Also, never dispose of yard and lawn clippings in the stream. While they are biodegradable, organic wastes use oxygen that fish and aquatic insects need for survival.









Landscape with native species. Native plants provide erosion protection during high flows and require less water and fewer chemicals than most hybrid plants. Native trees also help stabilize banks, provide important bird and wildlife habitat, and create a canopy that keeps water temperatures cool for fish.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Absent voter ballots are available for all elections. They provide voters with a convenient method for casting a ballot when they are unable to attend the polls on election day.

As a registered voter, you may obtain an absent voter ballot if you are:

-  Age 60 years old or older.
-  Unable to vote without assistance at the polls.
-  Expecting to be out of town on election day.
-  In jail awaiting arraignment or trial.
-  Unable to attend the polls due to religious reasons.
-  Appointed to work as an election inspector in a precinct outside of your precinct of residence.

Your request for an absent voter (AV) ballot must be in writing to the Township Clerk. The request must include one of the reasons stated above and your signature. You may request an AV ballot with a letter or postcard, with an application from the Clerk's office or by calling the Township office. We would be glad to mail you one. Requests to have an AV ballot mailed to you must be submitted to the Clerk no later than 2:00 p.m., Saturday, October 30. The Township Clerk's office will be open on Saturday, October 30 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Once your request is received by the Clerk, your signature on the request will be checked against your voter registration record before a ballot is issued. Requests for AV ballots are processed immediately. AV ballots may be issued to you at your home address or any address outside of your city or township of residence.

After receiving your AV ballot, you have until 8:00 p.m. on election day to complete the ballot and return it to the Clerk's office. Your ballot will not be counted unless your signature is on the return envelope and matches your signature on file. If you received assistance voting the ballot, then the signature of the person who helped you must also be on the return envelope. Only you, a family member or person residing in your household, a mail carrier, or election official is authorized to deliver your signed AV ballot to the clerk's office.

If an emergency, such as a sudden illness or family death prevents you from reaching the polls on election day, you may request an emergency AV ballot. Requests for an emergency ballot must be submitted after the deadline for regular AV ballots has passed but before 4:00 p.m. on election day. The emergency must have occurred at a time which made it impossible for you to apply for a regular AV ballot.

Voting is one of the most cherished and fundamental rights in our country. If you are eligible to obtain an absent voter ballot and cannot attend the polls on election day, use of the absent voter ballot is encouraged.

2004 GENERAL ELECTION Tuesday, November 2, 2004

Polls Open – 7:00 a.m.
Polls Close – 8:00 p.m.

Location:
Township Community Center
161 County Road 492
Marquette, MI 49855

Qualifications To Become a Registered Voter:

- Citizen of the United States.
- Resident of Marquette Township.
- Eighteen (18) Years of Age.
- Lived in the State of Michigan and the Township for at least thirty (30) days.

Note: To qualify to vote at the November 2, 2004 General Election, application for voter registration must be completed on or before October 4, 2004.

Application may be made at the following:

- Office of the Township Clerk, Township Office
- County Clerk, County Courthouse
- Secretary of the State Branch Offices
- Various State Agency Offices
- Or by mail – (Contact the Township Clerk)

Kathleen Musolf, Township Clerk
(906) 228-6220 ext. 104



Water News

By Kirk Page, Public Works Superintendent

As presented at public hearing and following Township Board direction to proceed, development of a secure, reliable, affordable, high quality water source for Marquette Township is continuing on schedule. To date, the first two wells have been completed and are producing excellent quantity and quality water.

Kleiman Pump and Well Drilling of Iron Mountain have begun construction of our third test/production well. Consulting engineers Ayres, Lewis, Norris & May, Inc. of Ann Arbor are nearing completion of draft plans and specifications for the project which, in addition to well field development, includes transmission main, an additional water reservoir, replacement of approximately one half mile of old cast iron water main on Fair Avenue, and improvements and upgrades to booster pump stations on Cox Avenue and Northwoods Road. Financial advisory services are being provided by Stauder, Barch and Associates of Ann Arbor. Various additional consulting services are being provided by North Country Engineering, Inc. and STS Consultants Ltd. of Marquette, Superior Surveying of Skandia, and White Water Associates, Inc. of Amasa.

The \$4.8 million dollar project will be financed at an estimated 2.125% interest rate for twenty years through the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Drinking Water Revolving Fund. Marquette Township is ranked tenth on the 2005 Drinking Water Revolving Fund project priority list. Total funding for the State of Michigan is \$203 million dollars.

Construction is anticipated to begin June, 2005 with completion May, 2006.



Junk and Junk Vehicles
By Mark Woolard, Township Planner

The Property Maintenance Code requires all exterior property to be maintained free of junk and junk vehicles. The term junk means, "waste or scrap material of any kind, including used or second hand materials including but not limited to: iron, scrap iron, and other metals, wood, glass, wire, cans, bottles, paper, cloth, rags, furniture, rubber tires, appliances, white goods, building materials or debris, concrete, macadam, automobile parts, and every other kind of used or scrap material." If you are unsure if your vehicle is classified as a junk vehicle, contact Mark Woolard at 228-6220 ext. 110.

The Township has stepped up efforts in addressing violations and will continue to take enforcement action for violations. It is our desire to work with residents and businesses but persistent violations will result in citations. If your violation should end up in court, expect to pay \$200 or more in fines and court costs, based upon recent District Court action for this type of violation. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.



Congratulations to Joe Greet. He has provided outstanding service to our Marquette Township residents for 25 years. Joe started at the Township on August 1, 1979 as a service worker and was later promoted to crew leader. If you see Joe out and about, please congratulate him on his 25 years.

Way to go Joe!!

Planning Commission Projects
By Mark Woolard, Township Planner

The Township Planning Commission has completed work on the following ordinance amendments:

Planned Unit Development (PUD). This is an optional type of land development that provides the opportunity for innovative and flexibility in the design and layout of buildings and various features of a site while providing the Township with benefits otherwise unattainable.

Modification to the Site Plan Review Process. This allows more site plans to be reviewed by the Planning Commission in lieu of the Zoning Administrator.

Access Management. This provides minimum standards to promote safe and efficient travel on the roads within Marquette Township by minimizing disruptive and potentially hazardous traffic conflicts. It also protects the public's investment in the road system by preserving capacity and avoiding the need for unnecessary and costly reconstruction.

Bufferyards. This will strengthen the protection for less intense land uses, primarily residential, from the more intensive commercial and industrial land uses which tend to generate various nuisances.

In addition to continued work on a revised Comprehensive Plan, the Planning Commission has begun or soon will begin work on the following:

Conservation Corridors. This amendment will protect streams, wetlands, and lakes from pollution, erosion, and wildlife and aquatic degradation and help prevent flooding, and reduce commercial development's need for costly detention basins.

Signs. This will simplify the signage language and reduce the amount of sign clutter, overload and confusion in the community. This is one of the most important and powerful actions the Township can take to make an immediate visible improvement for the physical environment. This is because almost

nothing can destroy the distinctive character of a community faster than uncontrolled signs and billboards. This does not mean we do not need signs. We do. Signs provide us with vital information, but too often signs are oversized, poorly planned, badly located and altogether too numerous. Furthermore, sign clutter is ugly, costly, ineffective, and over time degrades one of our greatest economic assets – our scenic landscape.

Lighting. This is the result of the recognition that the existing language in the ordinance is confusing or ineffective with poor outdoor lighting standards. This revision would provide efficient lighting, which can light needed objects or places, but does not broadcast light into areas where it is not needed or wanted. The results are cost savings, increased security (safety), a more aesthetically pleasing Township, and protection against wasteful lighting of the night sky.

Site Condominiums. This will provide site condominium standards and procedures for review.

Woodland Ordinance. There has been a concern that parts of the Township are rapidly losing its forests and rural character when sites are stripped of virtually all trees. This amendment would still permit logging and allow trees to be cut but prevent at least in some areas the clear cutting of all trees.



What? My phone can call
in my meter reading!!



To find out more how the
Marquette Township
PHONREAD SYSTEM
can help you, call 228-6220 today.

Marquette Township Fire & Rescue
Fall Fire Safety Tips
By Ron DeMarse, Fire Marshal

Even though it seems like summer never came this year, fall is just around the corner. The kids have just started another school year, and it is never too soon to take some preliminary action to prepare for cooler weather. Not only will it save you money on your utility bills it will help ensure your safety and comfort during cold weather.

Home Heating Systems should be professionally inspected, cleaned, and serviced at least every other year. Many companies offer discounted rates for a maintenance call versus an emergency repair.

Space Heaters can be dangerous if the following general safety guidelines are not used.

- Check your owner's manuals for general maintenance and cleaning instructions.
- Each season before using space heaters inspect them for damage, including the power cord, and for proper operation.
- It is more economical to replace older units than to have them repaired. Newer units are safer and more economical to operate. Discard old faulty space heaters in a way that they cannot be used by someone else.

Gasoline Powered Equipment. Flammable liquids should not be stored inside the home or in an attached garage or shed. This includes any unused fuel still in the motor's fuel tanks. Store this equipment away from your home or drain excess fuel out of the tank before storing. This simple safety precaution will help prevent accidental fires from escaping fuel vapors.

General Home Fire Safety. Most fires in the U.S. occur in the kitchen. Don't allow yourself to be distracted when you are cooking. If you must leave the kitchen, carry something with you as a reminder.

Smoke Detectors. Don't assume these life saving appliances work just by looking at it. They require some basic maintenance to make sure they will work properly. Nuisance or false alarms are the number one cause for battery removal and are usually caused by installing units too close to the kitchen and or heating vents. Relocate units closer to or inside sleeping areas to prevent false alarms.

- Replace the battery when necessary or once a year.
- Clean dust and cob webs from around the cover to let air flow inside.
- Replace units that are ten years old or if its reliability is in question.
- Push the test button once a month to make sure it works properly.
- Marquette Township Fire and Rescue provides FREE smoke detectors to Township residents. Call 228-4296 with any questions.

Home Fire Escape Plans. Involve everyone in the home, especially children in the design and practice of your plan. Physically practicing the plan helps to identify any unforeseen difficulties anyone may have when trying to escape.

- Designate one meeting place for everyone to gather after evacuating.
- Children need to know how to save themselves when no one can help them.
- Practice the plan once a year or anytime living arrangements change in the home.
- Call 9-1-1 from a phone away from the home. Get everyone out first!

Your Fire Department offers HOME SAFETY INSPECTIONS to Township residents. Call and inquire about our "Safe at Home" program today. Call Marquette Township Fire Department at 228-4296 for more information.

VOICE MAIL

On February 23, 2004, Voice Mail was added to the Township's telephone system. By adding Voice Mail, this allowed the caller to reach the desired Township staff directly and it freed up other staff so that they could be better utilized in other areas of the office.

Below is a list of common Voice Mail extensions to help assist you in calling the Township office:

- 101..... Rock Viviano, Inspection/Ordinance
- 102..... Utility Billing Desk
- 103..... Randy Girard, Manager
- 104..... Lois Stonehouse, Assistant Clerk
- 105..... Tim Haydon, Assessor/Zoning Admin.
- 106..... Kirk Page, Supt. Of Public Works
- 107..... Dulcee Pokela, Deputy Treasurer
- 110..... Mark Woolard, Planner

AUTO PAY is finally here!

Marquette Township has completed the conversion of our new utility billing software which will allow the Township to offer AutoPay services for our customers. There have been numerous requests by Township residents for this service to be available for the payment of water, sewer, and garbage bills. If you are interested in paying your bills through the autopay system, please complete the enclosed form and return the information to our office. If you have any questions or comments, please contact our office at 906-228-6220 ext. 107.

At this time, the service is provided at no additional cost to the customers who utilize this service. The Township may assess a customer service fee in the future depending on the number of customers who sign up for this service. Therefore, to avoid a customer service fee being passed to the residents, we need as many customers as possible to sign up.



AUTHORIZATION FOR DIRECT PAYMENT AUTOMATIC BILL PAYMENT

Company Name Marquette Township (the "Company") I (we) authorize the Company to initiate variable entries to my (our) account described below:

Checking Account No. _____ Savings Account No. _____

Financial Institution's Name _____

Financial Institution's Address _____

Attach a voided check or a voided savings deposit slip.

Please NOTE: This authority is to remain in full force and effect until the Company has received written notification from me (or either one of us) of its termination in such time and manner as to afford the Company a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

Signature _____ (Optional—For Joint Account)

Full Name _____ Signature _____

Address _____ Full Name _____

Date _____ Date _____

Telephone No. _____ Telephone No. _____

Marquette Twp. Utility Account No. _____



BOARD MEMBERS:

Max H. Muelle, Supervisor
Kathleen Musolf, Clerk
Carol Huempfer, Treasurer
Ray Adamini, Trustee
Robert Atkins, Trustee
William Musolf, Trustee
Jim Pafford, Trustee

TOWNSHIP EMPLOYEES:

Randy Girard, Manager
Kirk Page, Superintendent of Public Works
Tim Haydon, Assessor/Zoning Administrator
Mark Woolard, Planner
Cindy LaMere, Secretary/Cashier
Dulcee Pokela, Deputy Treasurer
Lois Stonehouse, Assistant Clerk

Joe Greet, Crew Leader
Michael Musolf, Service Worker
Barry Marietta, Service Worker
Leonard Bodenus, Service Worker
Ron DeMarse, Fire Marshal
Rock Viviano, Inspection/Ordinance Tech.

NEWSLETTER:

Randy Girard, Editor
Cindy LaMere, Production Coordinator

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Robert Wright, Chairperson
Alexandra Michaels, Vice-Chairperson
Ken Chrisman, Secretary
Ray Adamini
Bill Davis
Linda Goodman
James Perko

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

Diane Giddens, Chairperson
Max H. Muelle, Vice-Chairperson
Tom Wright, Secretary
Dale Aho
Louis Lattrel
Richard Robinson
Ellen Sargent
Lynn Swadley

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

Peg VanOverloop, Chairperson
Nancy Mattson, Secretary
Scott Brogan
Ken Chrisman
John Wasmuth

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Robert Sims, Fire Chief
Michael Farrell, Assistant Chief
Ron DeMarse, Fire Marshal

BOARD OF REVIEW:

Mary Jean Brennan
Karen Lohf
Max H. Muelle, Secretary
John Wasmuth, Chairperson

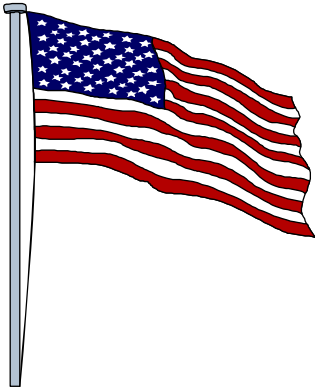
DEPUTIES:

Linda Winslow, Deputy Clerk
Dulcee Pokela, Deputy Treasurer

Public Access: The Township Board meetings may be seen on Channel 8 (Charter Communications Cable T.V.) on a taped delay basis, Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

Township Meetings: Township Board meetings are normally held on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. and a brief business meeting followed by a work session on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Planning Commission meetings are normally held on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) meetings are held on a quarterly basis on first Monday of that month at 7:00 p.m. The Recreation Committee meetings are normally held on the first Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. All meetings are held at the Township Community Center.

The public is encouraged to attend.



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