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# WILBER TOWNSHIP NEWS

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Spring-2016

## Supervisor's Corner

There is always a fair amount of interest when it comes to road conditions or improvements. Townships are not involved in general maintenance, such as snow removal, routine grading, light gravel, and pavement patching. Your property taxes which we collect do not fund any of these activities. However, in many townships, ours included, the residents vote to have a millage which is collected by the township and reserved to be spent on local road improvements. These improvements could range from significant amounts of gravel, to paving, or repaving our local roads. In our township we have a volunteer road committee consisting of four members: two from the Township Board of Trustees and two from the Planning Commission. We also use input from tax payers and the Iosco County Road Commission to guide our decisions and determine which projects will be chosen each year. Final approval of recommended projects is made by the full Township Board. The Iosco County Road Commission shares in the cost of these projects, and in some instances a neighboring township on shared roadways. We are always planning ahead and looking at future projects that make sense given cost, traffic patterns, and road conditions. Suggestions for projects are always welcome as we try to consider those projects that are most necessary and beneficial to our township and that have public safety implications.

*Mark Nunn*

## 2016 Road Projects

The following road projects have been approved by the Township board of Trustees:

Woods Road- Machine grading & RAP (Recycled Asphalt Pavement): \$110,502.70, Wilber Township share = \$77,351.89.

Galion Road from Brooks Road east-Aggregate base (cost shared with Baldwin Township): \$15,173.40, Wilber Township share = \$10,621.38.

Tuttle Ditch Culvert Replacement-\$11,723.53, Wilber Township share = \$8,206.47.

Total expenditures for 2016: \$137,399.63;

Wilber Township share: \$96,179.74

## NEEDED!! YOUR YES VOTE

The Wilber Township Board wants to remind voters that three important township proposals will appear for renewal consideration on the August 2nd primary ballot. We are first asking that voters renew our one mill levy for Fire Protection. As you know, because we are a small township in population, we do not have, nor could we financially support, our own fire department. As a result, we contract for fire protection services from three other municipalities: Grant Township, Oscoda Township, and the City of East Tawas. Each covers a specific geographical area of Wilber Township.

The second renewal is also for one mill, for Road Construction and Maintenance, necessary if we are to continue contributing to the repairing and improving roads in the township.

The third is also a renewal for an *additional* one mill, also for Road Construction and Maintenance, to supplement the above millage because of the ever increasing costs of roads improvements.

All three of these millages have been in effect in the township for about 30 years, but it has never been more important than now that they be continued as costs for these services increase and operating revenues decrease. Please help us continue in our efforts to provide these critical services by supporting these three important ballot proposals on August 2nd.

## Dust Control

We've made some modifications to our dust control treatment process this year. Because of unpredictable weather patterns in recent years we're going to try two applications, with an optional third one if conditions permit. Subscribers will pay \$70 up front for 300 feet for the first two, and if the third one is warranted in August, you will be notified by mail and remit the \$35 for it then. The area must be staked, and some stakes are available at the township hall. The cost of dust control is shared equally by the resident/property owner, the township, and the Iosco County Road Commission. Payments would be appreciated by May 25<sup>th</sup>, and can be mailed to the township hall. Weather permitting, we're hoping the vendor can have the first application down before Memorial weekend, with the second one prior to the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.

## 2016 Presidential Primary Results & Notes About the 2016 Election Cycle

The Michigan Presidential Primary Election held on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 resulted in 248 Wilber Township voters casting ballots, equaling 39.18 % of our electorate. This compares to 18.3% from the 2012 Presidential Primary.

There are two other major elections in 2016:

August 2, 2016      State Primary Election

November 8, 2016    General Election

A registered voter is eligible to obtain an absentee ballot in any election if he or she is: 1) 60 years of age or more; 2) is unable to vote without assistance; 3) expects to be absent from his or her city or township of residence for the entire time the polls are open on election day; 4) is in jail awaiting arraignment or trial; 5) has been appointed to work as an election inspector in a precinct outside of his or her precinct of residence; or, 6) is unable to attend the polls due to his or her religious beliefs.

Eligible voters in Wilber Township meeting any of the above criteria can receive an absent voter ballot application by writing or calling the township hall, if you are not already on the permanent list to always receive an absent voter application.

Important information for voters who register to vote by mail (i.e., any registration not conducted by the local clerk, County Clerk, SOS Branch employee, or Public Assistance Agency employee): you are required to vote in person your first time.

Voters in this must-vote-in-person (MVIP) category, if they wish to vote absentee, must request their absent ballot application in person.

The MVIP status often affects college students, especially in regards to the November election when they are away and are unable to return to make the in-person request for an absentee ballot application. They can remedy this by simply going to any Secretary of State Branch Office and re-registering. This will clear the MVIP status and allow the student to request their AV application from their appropriate local election official.

## Annual Township Cleanup Saturday June 11, 2016 8-11 a.m.

The township's annual spring cleanup is scheduled as indicated above. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

We again plan to have receptacles for scrap metal and tires, as well as packer trucks for general refuse materials. **NOTE:** Tires must be off rims, & large, tractor tires are not accepted. Other **items not accepted by the disposal company include:**

- building materials of any kind, and
- concrete, cement blocks, stones and bricks
- asphalt,
- dirt, & yard waste
- dead animals
- animal or human waste,
- hazardous or liquid materials, contaminated soils, & asbestos, paints, solvents, petroleum products, & herbicides
- items that are generally more than five feet in length or extremely bulky, or appliances containing Freon (appliances must be certified as 'Freon-free').

We are asking those of you who participate in the cleanup to ***please assist*** volunteers in unloading and disposing of your waste materials.

This annual event is the time to clean up your property. Ordinance enforcement for blight and other similar infractions are scaled back until after the cleanup, but will resume in earnest right after the June 11<sup>th</sup> date.

Every year, we see many items that could be used by someone else, so before bringing your items for disposal, consider donating usable things to one of the many local charitable organizations. Usable items can be donated to any of the area non-profit agencies, such as St. Vincent DePaul, the Domestic Violence Thrift Shop or Goodwill Industries in Oscoda. In addition, consider recycling those items that are recyclable.

There are several establishments listed in the yellow pages and local newspapers that pick up junk cars and appliances, and that accept scrap metal.

Help keep Wilber Township green, and a good place to live.

**This cleanup is for Wilber Township property owners and residents only. You *may* be asked for proof.**



## TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

Supervisor: Mark Nunn 989-362-2022

Clerk: Robert D. White 989-362-5410

Treasurer: Steve Ferguson 989-362-5410

Trustee: Sally Krueger 989-362-2510

Trustee: Mary Pingot 989-329-5020

### Zoning Administrator &:

Ordinance Officer: Ron Phillips 989-362-5410

Assessor: Robert Boschma 989-362-4387

Cemetery Sexton: Dave Mioduch 989-362-8222

### Planning Commission:

Robert Golka, Chair 989-362-7047

Rich Fullerton, Vice-Chair 989-362-2213

Robert White, Secretary 989-362-5410

Frank Kassuba, Member 989-362-8515

Cheri Mioduch, Member 989-254-0437

### Calendar of Events

REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00 PM AT THE TOWNSHIP HALL. WHEN THE FIRST MONDAY IS A HOLIDAY OR HOLIDAY-OBSERVED, MEETINGS ARE THE FOLLOWING MONDAY. REGULAR MEETING DATES WHICH PRECEDE TUESDAY ELECTION DAYS ARE ALSO MOVED TO THE FOLLOWING MONDAY. SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD, OR CHANGES IN MEETING DATES, ARE POSTED ON THE TOWNSHIP HALL BULLETIN BOARD.

REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS FOR THE BALANCE OF 2016: JUNE 9, AUGUST 11, OCTOBER 13, AND DECEMBER 8. AND IN 2017: FEBRUARY 9, APRIL 13, JUNE 8, AUGUST 10, OCTOBER 12, AND DECEMBER 14.

MEETING TIMES ARE 9:00 AM (NOTE THIS IS A CHANGE IN MEETING TIMES). SPECIAL MEETINGS ARE HELD UPON REQUEST, OR AS NEEDED. ALL MEETINGS ARE AT THE TOWNSHIP HALL.

## Township Zoning Permits

The Board of Trustees again wants to remind all residents and property owners that Wilber Township is a zoned community and has had a comprehensive, enforceable zoning ordinance in place since 1989.

Zoning Permits are required for all construction activities, including signs, fences, demolitions, as well as for many others, depending on the zoning district in which your property is located.

Also contained within the zoning ordinance are specific setback requirements for placement of structures from property and lot lines.

The ordinance covers such uses as the number and placement of agricultural buildings, accessory buildings, yard sales, swimming pools, fences, livestock, kennels, roadside stands, and commercial activities, to name a few.

The entire Wilber Township Zoning Ordinance is posted on our website, as are Zoning Permit forms.

Permits must be obtained **before** any such activities begin by contacting the zoning administrator. His number is listed in the directory section of this newsletter.

Township zoning permits are \$25, and are obtained from the zoning administrator. Remember, a Township Zoning Permit is ***always required***.

An Iosco County building permit may also be required, and is obtained at the Iosco County Building Department **after** the issuance of the zoning permit.

### Iosco County Road Commission

The Iosco County Road Commission urges residents with general road maintenance or other issues to either call them directly, or for even faster response, register a service request on their automated web site. In addition to this feature, there is much more information available regarding ICRC's operations and structure on this site. Check it out! The web site address is: [www.ioscoroads.org/](http://www.ioscoroads.org/) Click on Service Request.

### 2016 Board of Review Schedule

The Boards of Review schedule for the balance of 2016 is as follows:

Tuesday, July 19, 2016: 11 am\*

Tuesday, December 13, 2016: 7 pm\*

These are held at the township hall.

## NOTEWORTHY

### Long-Time Election Worker Retires

At the close of the March 8, 2016 Michigan Presidential Primary, Precinct Co-Chair Sandy Shellenbarger made it official: she's retiring.

Sandy relates that in 1979, about five years after she had moved to Wilber Township, someone called her and asked if she'd like to be on the election board. She said yes. She's been on it ever since, serving most of those years as the Precinct Chairperson. She cited some of the many changes she has observed in those 37 years.

Those first elections required voters to check the 'boxes' on the paper ballots for their choices of candidates or issues, which were then deposited in a metal ballot container and hand-counted after the polls closed. Each vote had to be hand counted by two people to make sure the count was accurate. In big elections, she said that sometimes election workers didn't get home until the next day!

Then came punch card ballots, which were counted by machine scanners by the county. And now, we use optical scanners by which votes are tallied by machine and the results transmitted electronically to the County Clerk's office, often within minutes of the close of the polls.

She also notes other improvements, especially the fact that in those early years, the township hall had no indoor plumbing!

She states she has enjoyed working with all of the people and other election workers.

Sandy will be sorely missed. Thanks, Sandy, for 37 years of service to Wilber Township.

### Cell Phones & 911

Iosco County Central Dispatch (E-911) has noticed an increase in the number and frequency of what amount to bogus 911 calls that occur when cell phones that are no longer being used or have regular service are given to children to play with. Most, if not all cell phones, are capable of dialing 911 for reporting emergencies even when they are no longer in regular use. Often unused cell phones are given to children to play with, and accidental 911 dialings can result in the 911 emergency system being tied up and preventing actual emergency calls from coming through. So, when you no longer have use for your cell phones, at a minimum remove the battery to prevent this from happening.

### ATV Use

With the advent of spring and summer comes increased ATV and off-road vehicle use. Iosco County has an ATV Ordinance, No. 1-2009, which can be found on the county's web site: Iosco.net. Search under Parks Commission.

Generally, an ORV may be operated on a county road or street under certain conditions, but may not be operated on the road surface, roadway, shoulder or right-of-way of any state or federal highway in the county.

Speed limits for off-road vehicles vary somewhat in the various municipalities in the county, but none may exceed 25 miles per hour.

In Wilber Township they are posted at 20 mph.

Comments about the newsletter, as well as information and topics you would like to see included in future editions should be submitted in writing:

Wilber Township  
3120 Sherman Road  
East Tawas, MI 48730 or,  
E-mail: [wilbertownship@hughes.net](mailto:wilbertownship@hughes.net)  
Thanks. Bob White, Clerk  
Website: [wilbertownship.com](http://wilbertownship.com)

### Burn Permits

**Burn Permits are required for all outdoor fires, other than small cooking fires, campfires, or fires contained in an approved and covered outdoor container. Burn Permits are issued by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, either via their web-site, or their toll-free number.**

[www.michigan.gov/burnpermit](http://www.michigan.gov/burnpermit)  
**1-866-922-2876**

**All burn permits are for one day only**