

COURTLAND CLIPPINGS

SUMMER 2017



7450 14 Mile Rd.
Rockford, MI 49341

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
9:00-Noon & 1:00-4:30pm
CLOSED FRIDAYS

PHONE: (616) 866-0622

FAX: (616) 866-3451

BURNING PERMITS:

(616) 813-2960

BUILDING PERMITS:

Imperial Municipal Svcs.
(616) 863-9294

ELECTRICAL PERMITS:

Casey Kalee (616) 874-6289

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

SUPERVISOR: Charles Porter

TREASURER & ZA*: Colleen Brown

CLERK: Sandra Frandsen

TRUSTEES: Matt McConnon, Mary Ann

Andersen, Kimberly McIntyre, Mike Krygler

ASSESSOR: Jane Kolbe

*Zoning Administrator

MEETING SCHEDULE

All meetings at 7:00 PM

TOWNSHIP BOARD: 1st Wednesday

PLANNING COMMISSION: 3rd Tuesday

ZBA: 2nd Wednesday

HOLIDAY HOURS

TOWNSHIP OFFICES CLOSED:

Independence Day: July 3-4

Labor Day: Sept. 4

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

 @courtlandtwp

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.courtlandtwp.org

We are updating our five-year Parks and Recreation Plan and need your opinions regarding parks and recreation facilities in the Township. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey on our website and offer your thoughts!

2017 SUMMER TAXES DUE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2017

Summer Taxes 2017 Due: Thursday, September 14, 2017 by 4:30 PM - Additional interest applies after September 14, 2017

PAYMENT OPTIONS

In Person: A cashier or personal check is preferred. If paying in cash, please bring EXACT amount.

By Mail: For a receipt, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and your ENTIRE tax bill. Mail Early - POST-MARKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.



Drop Box: For your convenience, a payment drop box is located by the front door. This box is safe and checked regularly.

Online Payments: Pay your taxes online with a credit card or e-check with a link from our Township Website: www.courtlandtwp.org/link. ***Convenience fees do apply as noted.*** From the link you will access BS&A search, either choose to set up an account as property owner for free access, or pay the \$2.00 fee with your credit card as a separate transaction to continue. Once you have found your parcel through BS&A there will be an option to access "Point and Pay" to process your tax payment with a credit card or e-check payment. Point and Pay convenience fees are 3% of the credit card amount or \$3.00 for an e-check. (A credit card run as a debit card is not an option). Be sure to have a transaction receipt emailed to you. Credit Card & e-check payments are accepted July 1, 2017 through Feb. 23, 2018. We do not accept Credit card payments at the office.

The Treasurer's office is not responsible for payment on the wrong property.

SUMMER TAX DEFERMENT: Applications are available at the Twp. Hall & online and must be received before September 14, 2017 at the Township Hall to be eligible.

PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE EXEMPTION: Check your tax bill to make sure you are receiving the PRE if you qualify. To qualify for this year, you must own and occupy your residence before June 1st, 2017 for Summer and Nov. 1st, 2017 for Winter.

Courtland Township Annual Budget is adopted at our March Regular Township Board Meeting yearly. Our fund balances are available upon request at the Treasurer's Office. Please feel free to contact our office with any questions throughout the year. Thank you for your continued support. Enjoy the Sunshine ☺

Colleen Brown, Treasurer



FROM THE FIRE CHIEF'S DESK

As of July 15th I have been on the job for one year as Fire Chief. I have been on the department since 1991 and moved up the ranks. We have a great group of 17 Fire Fighters / First Responders.

I would like to hire more paid on-call Fire Fighters / First Responders. No experience needed, we will train you! Please pick up an application from the Township office or Fire station #1 on 14 Mile.

We have had too many deaths this year due to house fires in the state of Michigan. If you do not have working smoke detectors in each bedroom, outside of bedrooms doors, and one on each floor, please contact Courtland Fire Department.

Our new pumper tender is at our Station 2, it has 3,000 gallons of water and our tender at Station 1 has 3,800 gallons of water. I have set up automatic aid for tenders with our surrounding departments as we have to carry our water to our fires.

We Received a federal Grant for 14 new SCBA's (Air Packs) which would have cost

us \$96,000. We only have to pay 10 % of it.

Our Township has a New Burn ordinance. Please go to the Courtland township website and view the ordinance. Per the DNR and the DEQ, you may not burn trash in the state of Michigan like plastics, rubber, or processed lumber. Please refer to www.michigan.gov/deq (click on "Air" then "Open Burning information").

PLEASE DO NOT TEXT AND DRIVE, IT'S A KILLER. And it is against the Law in Michigan.

For burn permits please text me or email me with the date, time, name, and address at:

(616) 813-2961
firechief@courtlandtwp.org

Thank you.

Steve Mojzuk, Courtland Fire Chief

SUPERVISOR'S CORNER

Courtland Township has always made it a priority to maintain and improve our roads. I'm proud to report we are going to continue that practice.

In cooperation of assessing our roads with Jerry Byrne of Kent County Road Commission and feedback from our residents, we've come up with the following list of roads and type of work to be completed this year.

Ritchie Ave-15 Mile to 16 Mile: crush, shape, repave

Ritchie Ave-14 Mile to 15 Mile: prep paving, chip seal, fog seal

Shaner Ave-11 Mile to 12 Mile: prep paving, chip seal, fog seal

JeNeBe Dr: mill out, repave

Camelot Ave-10 Mile to Squires: mill, repave

Myers Lake Ave - 10 Mile to 12 Mile Rd: Shoulder paving 6 ft width both sides

Total cost for all above projects to Courtland Township approx. \$400,000, 50% of total actual cost.

Shaner Ave-10 Mile to 11 Mile and Ramsdell Dr from Whittall St to 13 Mile Rd: prep paving, fog seal. *KCRC pays for the total of these two projects.*

Unfortunately, there will be some delays and detours when any of these roads are being worked on, but it will be worth it for the future of our roads.

We are also going to have an 18-hole Disc Golf Course done by the end of summer. It will be located west of the Township office. Disc Baron of Grand Rapids is designing and constructing. They are only charging for the cost of materials, \$16,000, no labor. Hopefully this will be a good use of 30 acres of vacant land owned by the Township. A walking path is also proposed to be added in this area in the future. Additional parking will be added for this use to the west of the current parking area off of M-57.



Charles Porter, Township Supervisor

FALL CLEAN-UP

September 15 & 16

This year's Fall Clean Up will take place on Friday, Sept. 15 from 11:00 AM until 5:00 PM and on Saturday, Sept. 16 from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Located at Courtland Fire Station #1, 7480 14 Mile Road.

PLEASE NOTE: No paint or liquids. Nothing bigger than 4'x8.'

KRAUSE MEMORIAL LIBRARY NEWS

This summer Courtland Township, in conjunction with Krause Memorial Library, will provide Library events at the township hall, 7450 14 Mile Road. On July 21, 2017 Storytime will be offered from 10:00 AM until 11:00 AM. This will be books/rhymes/songs led by library staff followed by a little craft, all designed especially for preschool children.

On July 27, 2017, an Adult Tech help session will be offered from 1 PM until 3 PM also at the township hall, 7450 14 Mile Road. Adults may come in with their electronic device and receive help with most technology questions and other questions, including but not limited to, Facebook, (sending photos, messaging, etc.), or perhaps bring your Kindle, and get tips on note taking, highlighting, browsing, creating collections, etc. One of the tech librarians will be available for help.

Courtland Township is glad to be able to make these events available to our residents.

FROM THE ASSESSOR'S DESK

The State Tax Commission recommends assessors to annually inspect 20% of properties in each classification each year. Starting in 2015, the assessing department has been conducting field reviews to review record cards and update parcel information. At the end of this summer, we will have visited each parcel in sections 01-09. The inspections are on the outside of the buildings and include updated photos. We send out a notice to each section before we inspect the properties, and we carry picture identification. As a reminder, permits are needed for new construction. When analyzing sales for valuing parcels, I find that finished basements can really skew the data if a permit was not pulled. You can review your information on our website or at www.accessmygov.com. Please let the assessing department know if we have incorrect information.

We also physically inspect building permits each year. Last year, we had 216 building permits!

If you have any questions on these or any assessment topics, please call or email me.

Jane Kolbe, Assessor

CLERK'S COMMENTS

I would like to thank all of the office staff and election inspectors for all their support to make the May 2nd election a success! It couldn't have happened without each and every one of you. I continue to learn something new each and every day. The responsibilities of the clerk are important. I'm doing my best to serve this great township of Courtland. If I can assist you with any concerns or questions, please contact me. Enjoy the beauty of this transition from winter to spring and now summer days!

Sandy Frandsen, Clerk



FIREWORKS

Be safe and respectful to your neighbors and animals! Fireworks are allowed the day before, the day of, and the day after a national holiday ONLY. No "sky lanterns" allowed anytime.