

Hayes Township

2016 NEWSLETTER

Hayes Township Board of Trustees

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Other Contact Info

UNDINE CEMETERY SEXTON

Jerry Simpson

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ASSESSOR

Anne Kantola

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HALL RENTAL

Ethel Knepp

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ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Larry Sullivan

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Since Hayes Township acquired Camp Sea-Gull in early 2014, progress continues toward making the park a fun and usable destination for all to enjoy. Here is a synopsis of what transpired in 2015.

- Volunteers really cleaned house during three volunteer days. They filled numerous dumpsters donated by American Waste, with old extraneous stuff. Usable items were held for the park auction or for park use. We also cleaned and painted the park host house. Thank you to township residents and others that pitched in to help.
- The Township held a successful auction sale at the park to sell unwanted but usable items. Also sold were 6 buildings that were not part of the park master plan. Those buildings will be removed from the park this spring. The park master plan can be found on the Hayes Township Website hayestownshipmi.gov.
- We had a park Ambassador/Host on site again this year and the program worked very well. The Ambassador/Host is a person or couple who will live on site during the spring and summer months in exchange for light grounds maintenance duties and public interface.
- We also completed an analysis on 10 cabins and developed plans

that can be used for the bidding process for any repairs that need to be done before they can be rented out. Grants and donations will be used to fund the repairs.

- The township purchased a barbecue grill, security camera system, and a utility trailer for park use. A generous private donation supplied security lighting that will be installed this spring.
- The township is preparing to launch a crowd funding program in the late spring or early summer. This will allow everyone that wants to see the park successfully preserved and developed an opportunity to participate. Watch for further information on the launch date and please consider making a tax deductible contribution to our beautiful park.
- The Township continues to apply for grants to assist in the costs related to developing the park. We have a commitment of \$483,400.00 from the Michigan DNR Waterways for the proposed boat launch and road project. We also have a \$10,000.00 commitment from the Charlevoix County recreation millage appropriations for the same project. Grant applications have been submitted to the GTB of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians 2% funds allocation and the Charlevoix County recreation

millage appropriations for the purchase of new maintenance equipment.



- The township received a \$23,000.00 fishing pier development grant from the Great Lakes Fisheries Trust. The grant covers the engineering design and feasibility costs for a proposed fishing pier. The cost for constructing a future pier will come from grants and donations.
- The Board of Trustees has appointed a diverse group of nine volunteers to the Hayes Township Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee. The committee continues to assess park needs and to assist in applying for grant support to address them. They are also the group that oversees and works on all the volunteer maintenance projects.
- The Township Board meets the 2nd Monday of every month and the Township Park & Recreation Advisory Committee meets every month on the Wednesday before the board meeting at 7:00 pm. During winter months the committee meets at the township hall and during the summer they meet at Hayes Township Park, Camp Seagull. We invite all interested people to attend and get involved in our discussions and plans for the township parks.

Summer Park Host

at Hayes Township Park – Camp Sea-Gull

Would you like to spend the summer on Lake Charlevoix? On-site housing will be provided! Do you enjoy interacting with people and like to work outside? If so, volunteering to be the Hayes Township Park Host may be just right for you! The Hayes Township Board of Trustees is seeking a person or couple to oversee Hayes Township Park – Camp Sea-Gull. The ideal candidate will enjoy working with people and be enthusiastic about the park and the direction the township is taking

to develop it. The host would be expected to devote 30 hours weekly to host duties, including 20 hours weekly to light grounds maintenance such as mowing and/or raking, keeping garbage/debris picked up. This position would begin May/June and end September/October. Candidate must be at least 18 years of age, provide references and submit to a background check.

If interested, please email clerk@hayestownshipmi.gov or mail a letter of interest including contact information to Hayes Township, 9195 Old US 31 N., Charlevoix, MI 49720

BOARD OF REVIEW

Poverty Exemption

If your household income (taxable and non taxable income), and cash on hand, is low enough the State has guidelines for maximum income that the township uses to determine if you qualify to be exempt from property taxes. They are as follows:

Size of Family Unit	Poverty Guidelines
1	\$11,770
2	\$15,930
3	\$20,090
4	\$24,250
5	\$28,410
6	\$32,570
7	\$36,730
8	\$40,890
For Each Additional Person, Add	\$4,160

Please call the supervisor if you have questions or wish an application prior to March.

Election News

2016 is slated to be a very busy election year with the following election dates:

- March 8, 2016 Presidential Primary
- May 8, 2016 Char-Em ISD Millage Renewal
- August 2, 2016 Primary
- November 8, 2016 General Election

Are you 60 years of age and older? You can request to be put on our permanent absentee voter list. Once on the list, you will receive an application to vote prior to each election. When the completed application is received by the Clerk's office a ballot is mailed to you.

If you have an interest in becoming involved in the election process you may want to consider becoming an election inspector. Please contact the Clerk's office for an application. Charlevoix County will provide training for election inspectors this summer and we will notify interested applicants of the dates.

Please exercise your right to vote.

Zoning

Larry Sullivan is the new zoning administrator for Hayes Township. His office hours are Mondays 8:00 a.m. - Noon & Wednesdays Noon - 4:00 p.m. He may be reached at zoning@hayestownshipmi.gov or by calling 231-497-9360

Stay Up To Date

Hayes Township uses their web page hayestownshipmi.gov to keep everyone up to date on meetings, events, elections, and all things Hayes Township. Approved minutes from the Board of Trustees and the Planning Commission, ordinances and who to contact information is also on our web page. In addition to our web page we also have a Facebook page for the township and a Facebook page for the Hayes Township Park - Camp Sea-Gull. Please "Like" our pages and follow along on up to date news and current photos.

We want to give a big shout out and thank you to Charles Dawley from the Little Traverse Conservancy. He has generously brought his drone and camera to Camp Sea-Gull to produce two stunning aerial videos for Hayes Township. Both videos are available on our Facebook pages.

Spring Clean-Up

The Township spring clean-up is held every other year. We had a clean-up in 2015 so there will **not** be one in 2016. We encourage you to donate and recycle all your unwanted items. Every year the Charlevoix County holds two hazardous waste drop-offs. The information and dates can be found on their web page charlevoixcounty.org.



Volunteer Days

The success of our township parks are in large part due to our diligent volunteers. Please consider joining us on any or all of the following dates: May 21st, June 18th and October 15 to help with raking leaves, removing fences and other small maintenance projects at Camp Sea-Gull. We provide lunch, a real sense of accomplishment and friendly company. If you are interested please contact the Clerk for further information.

There will also be an opportunity to help at Eastern Avenue Beach. A clean-up day has been scheduled for June 12.

Veterans

The veterans plaque will be completed and dedicated in the summer of 2016 so it's not too late to let me know (if you haven't already) of any veterans that served in the military during any time. I would like the name, rank, branch, and where they served.

Reminding you the Governor signed into law that 100% disabled veterans can file to be exempted from property taxes. You must file for this annually with the assessor.

Assessing News

After approximately 20 years of service as the Hayes Township Assessing Officer, Paul Hoadley has retired from the position. Anne Kantola, a long-time township resident, succeeded Paul on July 1, 2015. Paul continues to serve the township as an interim township trustee and he also serves as a member of the township's active Parks and Recreation Committee.

Anne has also assisted the township in the past. She served on the Planning Commission for a few years and more recently helped township officials in the process to acquire the Hayes Township Park at Camp Sea-Gull.

Everyone knows the assessor has a hand in the property tax bills they receive, but do you really know what the assessor's job is? By law, the assessor must "appraise and assess taxable property" within the township, and accurately maintain the assessment roll and all supportive documents and records. This means the assessor must accurately record all details related to each resident's property including the physical characteristics of the property along with proper calculations leading to the property's assessed and taxable values.

In order to review and update property characteristics, the assessor must periodically make a site visit to each property. (She'll leave you a business card letting you know she was there!) Additionally, property classification, property transfers and applicable exemptions all must be accurately reflected on each property record card. The most widely known and utilized property tax exemption is the Principal Residence Exemption (PRE).

Anne recommends residents to take the opportunity to periodically review the assessment of the property they own here. Should you like a copy of your property record card for review or have any assessment-related questions for Anne, please contact her.

Property owners or their representatives may protest their assessments in person during March Board of Review. Assessments may also be protested in writing provided the protest letter is received no later than March 15, 2016. Letters of protest may be directed to Ethel Knepp, Supervisor, 10772 Burnett Rd., Charlevoix, MI 49720 or emailed to supervisor@hayestownshipmi.gov.

The Hayes Township March Board of Review schedule for this year is as follows:

- Monday, March 14, 2016: 9 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 15, 2016: 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.