

HAYES TOWNSHIP, OTSEGO COUNTY NEWSLETTER FOR WINTER 2018-2019

MISSION STATEMENT: To be responsive to the needs of our township citizens, to be knowledgeable and informed leaders, to make the best decisions to preserve the desired quality of life.

OFFICERS: Supervisor: Mary Sanders (Assessor)	(989) 732 4206
Clerk: Richard Ross	732 9576
Treasurer: Jessie Geiger	(231) 585 7184
Trustee: Brad Kilbourn	858 0855
Trustee: Lisa Daly	614 1370

Your township officials work from their homes. There is **no mail delivery** at the township hall. Our meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 6 PM. The township hall is located at the corner of M 32 W and Hayes Tower Road. The 2019 calendar is posted at the hall with contact information for the township board members.

ADDRESS CHANGES: Contact the township treasurer for all updated address information. The township officials must have the most recent accurate information. This is vital for homesteaded properties.

ACCESSING ASSESSING AND TAX INFORMATION: bsaonline.com provides updated information on the assessments and the tax billings for our citizens at no charge for your owned properties. Information is printed on your tax bills.

ASSESSING QUESTIONS: The assessor will answer your questions and concerns about property values, property transfer affidavits, principle resident exemptions, land divisions, and board of review information. Assessment change notices are mailed in late February each year prior to the March board of reviews. The state mandated multipliers have changed for 2019 and increased to 2.4%, the highest increase in many years and land values have some differences based upon the sales in the township from October 2016 to March 2018.

CEMETERY LOTS: Contact Supervisor Mary Sanders about the purchase of lots or information about the memorial gardens. Boy Scout Troop # 1 does the mowing and clean- up of the township and cemetery grounds. We appreciate their service and our partnership. Richard Ross maintains the computerized cemetery records and Brad Kilbourn works with the family for the location of the gravesites.

CLEAN UP DAY: American Waste has set our date for **JUNE 8**, the WEEK before Father's Day. The site is the same; Little League Drive, the hours are **7 to 10 am**. Notice the new time! No hazardous materials will be accepted. Tires, air conditioners, refrigerators, or freezers will **NOT** be accepted. Please bring proof of residency that morning! A hazardous waste clean- up day will be held the same day at the road commission building on McCoy Road from 9 am to 2 pm.

ELECTIONS: Contact the clerk, Richard Ross, to register to vote in Hayes Township. There will be a millage election in August 2019 for the Sportsplex. Proper notification will be given for the dates to register to vote. Richard Ross will send absentee ballots when requested by the registered voter.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Otsego County Fire Department serves all of Hayes Township. The township pays \$47,000 per year for our coverage.

FULL TIME RESIDENCY: When you become a resident of Hayes Township, you must file a principle residence affidavit with the assessor. The deadline is June 1 each year. New residents between June and November 1 will receive a winter PRE if the affidavit is filed by November 1. The principal residence exemption is audited on a yearly basis by the State of Michigan for accuracy. They review the current year and the 3 previous years of taxes that may be owed.

GROWTH: The real property value of the township in 2018 was 121,721,700 in assessed values. Personal property added 22,624,600 of additional value. The equalized value of 144.3 million in assessments became 126.6 million for taxable value and generated about \$110,000 in tax dollars for the township. Our township millage rate for 2017 and 2018 is 0.8712. The township treasurer collects over \$4.1 million dollars that are disbursed to the many taxing units. They are all listed on your tax bills.

HOUSE NUMBERS: Please display your house number so emergency personnel can locate your home or cottage. Unnecessary delays can make a difference of life or death. This is necessary for full time and part time homeowners. PLEASE put the house numbers on your dwelling, or mailbox, or post. The assessor has discovered many homes with no visible addresses for location.

MOTOR VEHICLES: Section 21.34.01.02 of the Otsego County Zoning Ordinance explains what vehicles may be on a property. No vehicle shall at any time be in a state of disassembly, disrepair, or in the process of being dismantled or abandoned. A&L will recycle old cars and will pick them up from your site. Storing unused vehicles on your home site is all not allowed.

RE-CYCLING SITE: There is a county re-cycling site just south of the township hall on Hayes Tower Road. A millage was passed to provide bins to recycle papers, plastics, cardboard, tin, and glass. This site is open year round and convenient for those who do recycle. This is available to residents and seasonal residents for use. The site is provided by the township and maintained by Otsego County. A great response has been seen in the amount of recycled items and it keeps increasing. Thanks to all of you who do recycle. If you don't recycle, try it. You are saving the environment both today and for tomorrow! Please do not take any trash to the re-cycling location!!!!

ROAD CONSTRUCTION: During 2018 your township spent \$183,000 on the construction for the Old Alba Road from Hayes Tower Rd West to the road end. Road work was also completed for the Pencil Lake North subdivision. The township will continue to work with the county road commission to maintain and upgrade roads as we can. Roads will always be a priority.

TAX BILLS: The summer tax bills are sent July 1 and are due by Sept 14. The winter billing is sent Dec 1 and is due by February 14. The March Board of Review sets the values for the calendar year. The non-homestead rate is 41.1526 mils. The homestead (PRE) rate is 23.1526 mils. The non-residents pay the additional 18 mils for school operations.

TOWNSHIP BOARD: Your township trustees pay for road construction, fire protection, and salaries for the officers. We also pay for county planning and zoning, the annual clean-up day, economic alliance, and SANE. We maintain the township hall and the computer equipment. Lessor expenses include street lights, insurances, association dues, board of review members and election workers. We prepare a yearly budget and we do have regular audits of the township accounting. For 2018 the township property tax base is around \$110,000. The township treasurer collects \$4.1 million of taxes that are collected and disbursed to the various agencies, county, and schools.

VETERANS EXEMPTION: If you are a 100% disabled veteran, you are exempt from paying property taxes on your home. This does not include a seasonal or second home or adjoining lands. To see if you qualify, you MUST call Marlene Hopp, Otsego County Veterans Counselor, at 989 731 7575. The proper forms must be filed each year prior to the March board of review meetings.

ZONING: Hayes Township subscribes to Otsego County zoning regulations. For zoning uses, land divisions, and building permits, you must contact the Land Use Service office at 989 731 7420.