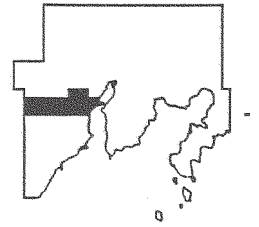


2011 Escanaba Township News



www.escanabatownship.org

Supervisor Synopsis:

I hope everyone in the Township had a happy and healthy holiday season and a great beginning to the new year of 2011. The most important thing that happened for us Township residents in 2010 was the delivery of a new 3000 gallon water tanker truck for the Fire Department. We now have 8500 gallons of moving water (probably the largest amount of any department in the whole UP) and the department is actively working to try to reduce our ISO rating, which would save each home owner a substantial amount of money on their home fire insurance.

We also made several maintenance improvements to the recreation area in Flat Rock and hope to install some type of Tot Lot equipment for small tikes in the spring of 2011.

A sesquicentennial committee has been established for a celebration of the 150th anniversary of our great community. It is being planned for August 25th and 26th of 2012. The committee members are listed in a separate article in this flyer. Since our community began there has been farming and timber production of one kind or another. The committee is going to try to keep that as a theme. Township citizens are being asked to make any historical donations or share ideas with any member of the committee.

Treasurers Tidbits:

Treasurer Linda Trombley-Robitaille collects property taxes on Wednesdays from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM during the tax cycle at the Township Hall on 20th Road in Flat Rock. Checks may be sent to her for payment at 8579 County 416 J Road, Cornell, Mi 49818 (please include parcel number with payment). Summer tax deferrals are available to defer summer tax bill to February 15th without penalty based on qualifications of the General Property tax Act. The Township enforces a \$25 fee for any checks that have insufficient funds to cover them (this is separate from what any lending institutions charge). Trash vouchers will again be available from Linda, Wednesdays from 9 am to 12 pm beginning May 1st and then during tax season from 9 am to 4 pm.

Clerks Corner:

New residents may register to vote by calling Patricia Beauchamp at 789-9050 or 280-3197. Precinct one votes at the Cameron School, which covers all voters east of the Escanaba River. Precinct two votes at the Township Hall and covers all voters west of County Road 426. Precinct 3 also votes at the Township Hall and covers voters located between the river and County Road 426. The Clerk also is in charge of lot sales at the Flat Rock Cemetery. Questions regarding the fees and availability of lots may be directed to the number above.

Township Sesquicentennial:

Escanaba Township and Nahma Township were the first two Townships formed in Delta County by the "Acts of the Legislature in 1861". This makes Escanaba Township 150 years old sometime during 2011. The Township Board has established a seven person committee to promote a celebration in the summer of 2012. The celebration will take place on the weekend of August 25th and 26th of 2012. Plans will include live music, fire department demonstrations, historical and fraternal static displays, etc. Anyone with old articles or pictures is asked to contact one of the committee members and we will make copies or reprints and return your articles. The committee consists of: Kevin Dubord (Supervisor), Linda Robitaille (Treasurer), Luella Smith (Treasurer emeritus), Rex McGinn, Doris Newhouse, Sandy Groleau, and Tina Vanderlinden. We hope to hear from many Township Citizens with historical items and any ideas they may have to make this celebration a huge success and a fun filled time.

Assessment Notices/Changes:

The assessment notice this newsletter is included with contains valuable information to each property owner. The assessed value will be decreasing again in 2011 based on the latest sales studies by a little over four percent in the residential class. All of the other classes of property will remain the

same as the previous year. The taxable value will be increasing (but can not exceed the assessed value) by 1.7% which is the consumer price index as established by the US Department of Labor.

Fire Department:

The fire department took delivery of its new 3000 gallon tanker truck in July of 2010. The truck it replaced was sold to Masonville Township. With this truck the department has 8700 gallons of moving water available at any time. Below is a picture of the new truck. In December the fire department was informed that Joe Gareau was retiring from the department. Joe is one of the original members of our department (27 years) and was a valued truck driver and pump operator for all those years. Please thank Joe (and all other department members) when you see him for his many years of dedicated service to the community. The volunteer fire department is accepting names of individuals who might be interested in joining the department. Information can be obtained by calling chief Ken Brunette at 280-2467.



Outdoor Wood Boilers:

A ordinance to regulate the placement of outdoor wood boilers was enacted in Escanaba Township in 2007. All new outdoor wood boilers require a zoning clearance (\$20) and are allowed in all zoning districts except R-1 which includes all subdivisions and selected other areas of the Township. Please contact the zoning administrator with any questions on this subject at 786-1826. A complete list of all Township ordinances can be found on the Townships web site located at

www.escanabatownship.org, as well as many other informative topics here in our community.

Trash Vouchers:

The annual trash vouchers will be available for use On May 1st by calling the treasurer or picking one up at the Township Hall on Wednesdays from 9 am to 12 pm. The vouchers are good for the free disposal of one load of trash up to 1000 lbs at the Delta County Landfill. A limit of two vouchers will be given to multiple property owners. The landfill is located at 5701 19th Ave N, Escanaba (off Danforth Rd). Landfill hours are: 8 am to 3 pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday. Thursday 8 am to 6 pm & Saturday 8 am to noon. Vouchers may be used for tires (passenger is \$2 each) removal of freon from appliances (\$15 each) and TV sets (\$25 each) with a maximum of \$30 per voucher. Computers may be brought to landfill or Goodwill in Escanaba for no charge & scrap metal can be brought to Coplans Iron & Metal at 1610 7th Ave N Escanaba or Reliable Recycling in Gladstone. Household recyclables such as fluorescent bulbs & paint can be brought to the landfill free of charge at any time. Junk autos can be removed by calling Jake's Bone Yard at 428-4008. Please try to recycle whenever possible!

Knowledge is Strength:

Escanaba Township Officials have had some very informative months. In January of each year the board attends the Michigan Township Association Educational Conference in lower Michigan. In May of each year the board goes to the spring district meeting held locally. In order to keep on top of changing laws, policies, zoning changes, elections, etc. vital to running Townships there is always a need for continuing education. In order to serve the people of Escanaba Township better, we strive to stay abreast of changes taking place on the State and local levels.

Township Board

Supervisor : Kevin Dubord, 786-3437
Clerk: Patricia Beauchamp, 789-9050
Treasurer: Linda Robitaille, 384-6962
Trustee: Alfred Gareau, 786-1826
Trustee: Thomas Rymkos, 428-4423