



## Manager's Report January 9, 2023

The Township Manager's report is released on the Friday before the Township Trustees Monday meeting. Some of these items will be mentioned and/or discussed at the Board meeting, while other items are for informational purposes. Please contact The Township Hall or the Township Manager if you have any questions or concerns about anything in this report. We look forward to your feedback and serving you. Thank you!

Dexter Mitchell

Township Manager

### Updates

- The next Township Board meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2023. The Township Hall will be closed on Monday, January 16, 2023, for the (MLK) Martin Luther King Jr (MLK) holiday.
- The Manager is working with Waste-Not Recycling about water connections and sewer access. This partnership will also include the State of Michigan granting an easement across the Kal-Haven Trail.
- The Grand Prairie Golf Course managers have dropped off the Township commission check for the 2022 golf season. In addition, the Township has issued the 2023 annual management fee to the Golf Course managers.
- The 2023 Township budget manuals have been prepared and delivered to Department heads and additional staff members. Please check your physical mailboxes at the Township Hall.
- Due to the unique staffing shortage in the fire department, the Township Manager has extended a one-time offer to the full-time fire department employees to cash in up to 40 hours of vacation time that they were unable to use in 2022.
- The Township facility team will be scheduling meetings to update the Board in February regarding the progress made on the building assessment.
- National Opioid Settlement: The Township is signed up to receive the five payments open course of time.
- In follow up to the headstone cleaning for veterans: the Sons of Union Veterans organization now has a complete list of the veterans located in the Grand Prairie Cemetery, by name and by location.

## **Boards & Commissions**

- The Township Planning Commission is reviewing a draft future land use plan.
- The Township Planning Commission is also working on a frequently asked questions (FAQ) list for the Township website.
- KCCDA: Chief Vernon Coakley departed from the City of Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety. Please follow up with me if you have any questions
- The next KCCDA meeting will be on January 12, 2023, at 3:30 p.m.
- Police Commissioner: The Kalamazoo Township Police Department would like to welcome several new Field Training Officers: Officer Weiss, Officer Klauka, Officer Rivera, and Officer Ward.
- The Township Planning Commission held its first meeting of 2023 on January 5, 2023, to elect officers. The meeting agenda also included review of the Township home occupation ordinance, review and approval of the Kalsec site plan, along with addressing sidewalk conditions.
- December 21, 2022, the Township Zoning Board of Appeals met on December 21, 2022, to discuss and approve the variant request for 3713 West Main Street for exceeding the height limit. In that meeting, long time chairperson James Short announced his retirement. We also said farewell to board member Robert Mihelich.

## **Manager's Meeting/ Events of notes**

- Thank you to the 2022 Jolly Fellows event, held at the downtown Kalamazoo Radisson Plaza Hotel.
- The Township Manager and others are working with the Michigan Civil Rights Department regarding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)
- Two new police officers were sworn in on December 19, 2023. Congratulations to Officer Pearson and Officer Kline!
- The Northside Ministerial Alliance is hosting its 37th annual MLK community celebration on January 15, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. The event will be held at Mount Zion Baptist Church.
- KVCC is hosting the 4th Annual Black Artists Exhibit on Friday, February 3, 2023.
- Abraxas: a meeting will be scheduled in January with the Manager, Township IT, and Document Manager/Coordinator.

- The Manager met with the Michigan Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (MBC-LEO) to work on a speaker for the Michigan Municipal Leagues' upcoming Capital conference.
- State Representative Julie Rogers would like the following information passed along to the Kalamazoo Township Board: On December 13, 2022, Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed a package of bills that collectively will support the development of more affordable housing units in communities across Michigan. Please see Senate bills 362, 364, 422 and 432, and House bills 4378 and 4379, with the expansion of 6039 and 6040.
- **HR Magazine** Winter 2022: (Please see attached)
  - What Drives Workers Crazy
  - Are Shorter Workweeks Good for Business
  - 2030 Vision
- **Township Focus** December 2022: (Please see attached)
  - Board of Review appointments due January 1 (Kalamazoo Township done)
  - Reminder for Tax Collection office hours
  - MTA 2023 Annual Conference & Expo
  - Financial Forum
  - *Hello, MTA* by Robert E. Thall of Bauckham, Thall, Seeber, Kaufman & Koches, PC
  - MTA New Officials Training Workshop
  - MTA Inside Lansing: please see bills: 4014 speed, 5921, 5922, 5923, 5924 and 5925
    - HB 4211 and 4212
    - 4084
  - National Opioid Settlements statement (Janssen Settlement Agreement)

### **Happy Birthday to January Staff**

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|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| ➤ Mike Weideman 1  | Don Martin 4    | Cody Switzer 13    |
| ➤ Tyler Leroy 19   | Lisa Moaiery 21 | Robert Mihelich 25 |
| ➤ Lucas Simmons 27 |                 |                    |

### **Ending Success Quote for January 9, 2023**

**“The greater danger for most of us is not that we aim too high and miss it, but that it is too low, and we reach it.”**

By Michelangelo