

LOCKE TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

3805 Bell Oak Road Williamston MI 48895

December 2007

Your key to township news

Volume 23

PROPERTY TAXES may be paid by mail. Office hours at the treasurer's home office, 3871 Rowley Rd, Wmstn:

✚ December 28, 2007 9am-5pm

✚ February 14&29, 2008 9am-5pm

Tax payments may be made at the Township Hall during office hours. Bring or send your tax bill along with your check to insure proper credit. Your property tax statements are mailed twice yearly – July and December. Summer taxes are due Sept 14, winter taxes are due Feb 14.

TOWNSHIP HALL UPDATE.

The Locke Township Board purchased 20 acres of vacant land at the SE corner of Sherwood Road and M-52 to build a new township hall. An architect will attend the December 11, 2007 Twp Board meeting to discuss our needs.

Township hall office hours are:

✚ Tuesday and Thursday 10am–4 pm.

✚ Assessor hours: 4th Thurs. 1–3 pm.

The hall rental rate is \$75 rent plus \$50 deposit. Hall seating capacity is 100. Alcohol is not allowed. Tables and chairs are available for loan to township residents. For information or rental call the township hall office @517 468-3405.

The township website is under construction. Information has been programmed Under the guidance of Trustee McGoron and will be in operation very soon.

WINTER ADVISORY. For snow plowing efficiency, be sure your mailboxes are winter worthy and trash

receptacles and vehicles are located off the roadway.

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY election to be held Jan 15th. All Locke Township registered voters will vote at the Locke Township Hall. You must select one ballot type for this election:

✚ Republican Party Pres Primary Ballot

✚ Democratic Party Pres Primary Ballot

✚ Ballot without Pres Primary (if available)

An Absent Voter Application is enclosed in this mailing for those regularly requesting an AV ballot. Due to a recent Michigan Appeals Court ruling, you can no longer receive the application unless you contact the clerk to request an A V ballot application or request to be on the permanent A V ballot application list for all upcoming elections.

Polling locations for the school district elections:

✚ Fowlerville Schools Conway Twp Hall

✚ Morrice/Perry Schools Perry Twp Hall

✚ Webberville Schools Locke Twp Hall

✚ Williamston Schools Locke Twp Hall

[If Morrice School district proposals are on the Jan 15th ballot, Locke Twp voters in the Morrice School District will vote at the Locke Twp Hall.]

TOWNSHIP MEETING DATES for 2008. All meeting are held at the Locke Township Hall, 3805 Bell Oak Road, Williamston. Your attendance at township meetings is encouraged to bring new sources of ideas, information and resources to policymaking.

Township Board meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm, except as noted with an *:

Jan 14*	May 13	Sept 09
Feb 12&26*	June 10	Oct 14&28*
Mar 11	July 08	Nov 11
April 08	Aug 12	Dec 09

Planning Commission meetings are the 3rd Wed of the month at 7 pm as follows:

Jan 16	May 21	Sept 17
Mar 19	July 16	Nov 19

LIFE IN A TOWNSHIP. Living in a township provides families with services that match the needs of the Community. Townships are efficient, low-cost units of government accountable to the residents. Local government is a smile, a handshake, a friendly neighbor where you can get answers.

There are three main services that state statute requires townships to provide for residents: assessing, tax collection and election administration. Locke Township also provides building/zoning administration, cemetery lot sale/maintenance and hall rental facility. Townships do not have responsibility for roads and drains, but do cooperate with county agencies who are responsible for these services. More than 50% of Michigan residents live in one of the state's 1242 townships.

With local **assessing**, if you have questions regarding your assessment or if you need an explanation or wish to challenge your assessment, the Board of Review members are residents of your community. Because of townships, you can pay your tax bill by driving to the township hall or the home office of the treasurer. When you cast your ballot in an **election**, you can do so at a nearby precinct. If you need an absentee ballot, your township clerk is available to assist in ensuring that you are able to vote.

Lansing is dealing with a lot of issues right now. Problems with the state budget have some legislators questioning the move of assessing, elections and tax

collection to the county government as a possible way to save money. As a township resident, stay informed/involved with the decision making process of our legislature and how it will affect your way of life in a township.

LOCKE TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

Hall phone	517 468-3405
Hall fax	517 468-0105
Hall website:	TBA
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Dorothy Hart, clerk/zon adm	517 468-3405
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Bert Gale-AGS elect insp	1 800 627-2801
Kevin Matteson, mech insp	1 800 627-2801
Forrest Hunnicutt, plumb	1 800 627-2801
HSC Services, assessor	517 655-9029
Mark Adams, attorney	
Glenda Turner, deputy clerk	
E-mail: locketwpdepcclerk@tds.net	
Briana Galbreath, deputy treasurer	
Paul Shepler, hall/cemetery maintenance	
Earl Fuller, cemetery sexton	
George Cornell, zoning board of appeals	
Ken Cook, zoning bd of appeals/plan comm	
Bob Davis, planning commission	
Dean Kitchenmaster, plan comm/bd of rev	
Roger Smith, planning commission/bd of rev	
Vernon Cobb, board of review	
Tom Slider, construction board of appeals	
Gerald Neil, construction board of appeals	
Rich Westmoreland, const board of appeals	
Ken Schmuecker, construction bd of appeals	
Gerald Alchin, construction board of appeals	
Ron Cole, alternate NIESA representative	
Amos Turner, hall snow removal	

If you would like to be considered for any vacancy on a Board, Commission or short term task force, contact Supervisor Griffes.

Nominating petitions and Affidavit of Identity for all elected partisan and non-partisan candidates for the Aug. primary election are available at the township hall office and must be submitted by the May 13, 2008, 4 pm deadline.