



NEWS YOU CAN USE!

PENINSULA TOWNSHIP

Summer 2010

www.peninsulatownship.com

HOT TOPICS

PHRAGMITES UPDATE

The township continues to work with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE) and the Watershed Center to control phragmites along the entire peninsula shoreline and all around both of the bays. In June, volunteers were trained to locate phragmites using GPS. If you missed that training session, there is another one scheduled in July. Contact Maureen McManus at the Watershed Center (935-1514) if you would like to attend the training session to help with the survey work. During the summer, the township will obtain an area-wide herbicide application permit. The DNRE will work directly with the spray contractor. State funding for the program will be provided. We expect that the treatment will occur in mid-September. Residents will be notified about the timing. In the spring of 2011, the treated areas will be monitored and a single township-wide permit will be obtained to cut and dispose of the treated material. If you have questions about your property, call Robyn Schmidt at the DNRE Land and Water Management Division, 231-876-4444, or send her an email at schmidtr1@michigan.gov.

SPECIAL USE PERMITS (SUP), ORDINANCES (ORD), AND ISSUES CURRENTLY BEING DISCUSSED AT EITHER THE TOWN BOARD OR THE PLANNING COMMISSION

- The Master Plan will be discussed by both the Planning Commission and the Town Board in public hearings this summer. Many residents participated in discussion groups and a township-wide survey which helped the Planning Commission focus on the community's priorities. Important elements include shoreline protection, water quality, trails/parklands, scenic views and farmland preservation.
- ORD No. 37 – Re-adoption of Phragmites Ordinance
- ORD No. 43 – Consideration of establishing an ordinance for large gatherings of people in public spaces
- ORD No. 187 – Roadside Stand Ordinance
- SUP No. 32 – Bowers Harbor Vineyard and Winery Amendment to allow outdoor vineyard dining

STAY INFORMED

Plan to attend the meetings, write letters and call Planning Commission and Town Board members to voice your concerns on these and other issues. To keep up with notices, agendas, reports, minutes and meetings, check the web site regularly at www.peninsulatownship.com. Notice of Public Hearings and a synopsis of Town Board meeting minutes are also found in the Record Eagle classified section. The Town Board and Planning Commission have additional posted/open meetings at the Town Hall other than the regularly scheduled monthly meetings.

KUDOS

- ▶ Thanks for a job well done to Fred Doelker for serving on the Fire Board for the past 9 months and welcome Sherm Atkinson who is replacing him with the term ending in 2012. Also congratulate Tony Andrus and John Sprenger on their reappointments to the Fire Board.
- ▶ Thanks Pete Bentley for serving on the Cemetery Committee for over three years and to Roy Barrett who served on the Parks Commission for two years.
- ▶ Thanks Nick Kroupa for placing American flags on gravesites for Memorial Day again this year, the Old Mission Women's Club for planting cheerful flowers at the Town Hall and Boy Scout Troop No. 34 for cleaning up a dump site in the Old Mission State Park.

DID YOU KNOW?

- ▶ Recently you received a newsletter from our newly established Fire Board (see the township website if you have misplaced your copy). It identifies information about several issues the Fire Board is addressing and mentions a survey being conducted this summer to gather citizen input. The survey was designed by Northwestern Michigan College. The questions refer to both current and future needs. Input you provide on these services will help them shape the service parameters to better meet your needs. If you are contacted for the survey, please take the time needed to answer the questions so that they may do a better job of meeting the needs of the community.
- ▶ Peninsula Community Library is trying something new...it's called "Picnic in the Parks". The Old Mission Women's Club provided a grant to the library to start this new summer program. Two picnics remain...one on July 19th at the Bowers Harbor Park southwest pavilion and the other at Haserot Beach on August 19th. Both will have music for your listening pleasure. BYO blanket and picnic goodies. The picnics and musical performances go from 6:30 until 8:30 pm. Y'all come, ya' hear?
- ▶ The Center Road Natural Area has been renamed the Pelizzari Natural Area in honor of the Gene Pelizzari Family, former long-time property owners. The property received a \$5,000 planning grant from Rotary Charities for a landscape and management plan. As a reminder, **access to the park is from the Center Road parking area only.** Some visitors have parked along East Shore Road and scaled uphill where there are no public paths. This has led to trespass on private property and illegal parking along the narrow road shoulder. Also, **you must use a leash** when you walk your dog through the park and please use the baggies provided to clean up after them.
- ▶ Recently, the Town Board approved both a Junk Ordinance and a Noise Ordinance. Both are being enforced by the Grand Traverse County Sheriff with a maximum fine of \$500.00 plus court costs.
- ▶ Consumers Energy continues to trim trees along their electrical lines from Montague Road north to Lighthouse Park. Trees are marked "O" for trimming and "X" for removal. Foresters acknowledge that red oaks should not be trimmed between early April and late August due to the risk of spreading red oak wilt disease. As a precaution, Consumers Energy representatives have stated that paint is sprayed on the cut immediately after the cut is made. Call the contact person listed on your official notice and on the door hanger if you have specific concerns. The tree service cuts the logs into manageable pieces and branches are chipped and removed from lawn areas. The work should be completed by October.

OPERATING INFO

- ▶ The Town Board holds regular board meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. In an effort to operate more efficiently and be more available to all the public, the members set aside the last Thursday of each month (7 pm) for work sessions if necessary. Public Hearings will only occur at the regularly scheduled Town Board meetings on the second Tuesday.

- ▶ Your favorite time of the year is coming: Tax time. As a reminder, your cancelled check serves as your receipt of payment. If you would like a printed receipt, please provide a stamped, self-addressed return envelope with your check. Tax bills are due on September 14, 2010 and payments can be made online at www.peninsulatownship.com.

- ▶ A small amount of additional space has been donated and plotted at the Bohemian Cemetery on Neatawanta Road. If you are interested in securing a plot, you may want to call the Clerk right away. The new price list is in effect for all cemetery plots.

- ▶ The last day you can register to vote in the August primary election is July 6th. Better get "hoppin".

HELP WANTED

There is a vacancy on the Park Commission. The term expires on November 20, 2012. Interested applicants must be registered and qualified electors of Peninsula Township. The deadline to apply is July 15th at 4:00 pm. Please send resumes to Peninsula Township Clerk, 13235 Center Road, Traverse City MI 49686.

Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Commission appointments are made in August each year. If you are interested in applying for either or both positions, please send your resume to the Clerk by July 15th at 4:00 pm.

Volunteers are needed to run the gift shop and museum at the Lighthouse on Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon to 5 pm. Contact Sonja Richards on 645-0759.

DIRECTORY

Office Manager:

Wendy Witkop 223-7322
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Supervisor:

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 Jim Horton 223-4282
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 Gary Wilson 223-7348

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assessor@peninsulatownship.com

Planner:

Dan Leonard 223-7314
planner@peninsulatownship.com

Zoning Administrator:

Gordy Uecker 223-7318
zoning@peninsulatownship.com

Compactor/Recy. Station 223-4446

Fire Department 223-4443
 (non-emergency)

Old Mission Penin. School 933-7420

Park and Meeting Room 223-7322
 Reservations

Peninsula Comm. Library 223-7700

Sheriff (non-emergency) 223-4525

SCHEDULES and EVENTS

Town Board
 (second Tuesday at 7 pm)
 July 13
 August 10
 September 14
 (last Thursday of each month if
 necessary at 7 pm)
 July 29
 August 26
 September 30

Planning Commission
 (third Monday at 7 pm)
 July 19
 August 16
 September 20

Zoning Board of Appeals
 (second Thursday at 7 pm)
 July 8
 August 12
 September 9

Park Commission
 (first Wednesday at 7 pm)
 July 14* (date change)
 August 4
 September 1

Fire Board
 (first Monday at 7 pm)
 July 12* (date change)
 August 2
 September 13* (date change)

Primary Election
 Tuesday, August 3 – 7am to 8 pm
 Precinct No. 1 – Town Hall
 Precinct No. 2 – Fire Station No. 2

Peninsula Community Library
 Monday and Thursday – 9 am to 9 pm
 Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday – 9 am
 to 5:30 pm
 Summer Book Clubs for children, teens
 and adults
 Picnic in the Park – July 19 at Bowers
 Harbor Park and August 16 at
 Hsaserot Beach
 Annual Book Sale – July 22 to 24
 “Antique Road Show” Sale – July 10 (9
 am to 3 pm)

Old Mission Peninsula Historical Society
 (first Thursday at 7 pm – Town Hall)
 August 5
 September 2

American Legion Dinners
 (first and third Tuesday – 6:30 pm)
 American Legion Hall on Swaney Road
 Pig Roast on August 21 – 4 pm to 7 pm

Cherry Festival Race
 July 10 – 7 am to 11 am
 E. Shore Road to McKinley to Peninsula Dr.

Board of Review
 Tuesday, July 20 – 9 am to 11 am
 Correction of Clerical errors/mistake of
 fact only

Traverse City Triathlon
 August 22 – Bowers Harbor Area
 and beyond
www.enduranceevolution.com

Senior Bike Ride
 Bowers Harbor Park
 September 16 – 9am
 231-275-5959

Compactor Station Hours
 Wednesday noon – 6 pm
 Saturday 9 am – 5 pm
 Recycling at any time

The Peninsula Township Office is open
 Monday through Thursday. Monday hours
 are 7:30 am to 6:30 pm. Tuesday through
 Thursday hours are 7:30 am to 5:00 pm.
 The office is closed on Friday.
 The office will be closed on July 5
 (Independence Day) and September 6
 (Labor Day)

