



NEWS YOU CAN USE!

PENINSULA TOWNSHIP

Spring 2006

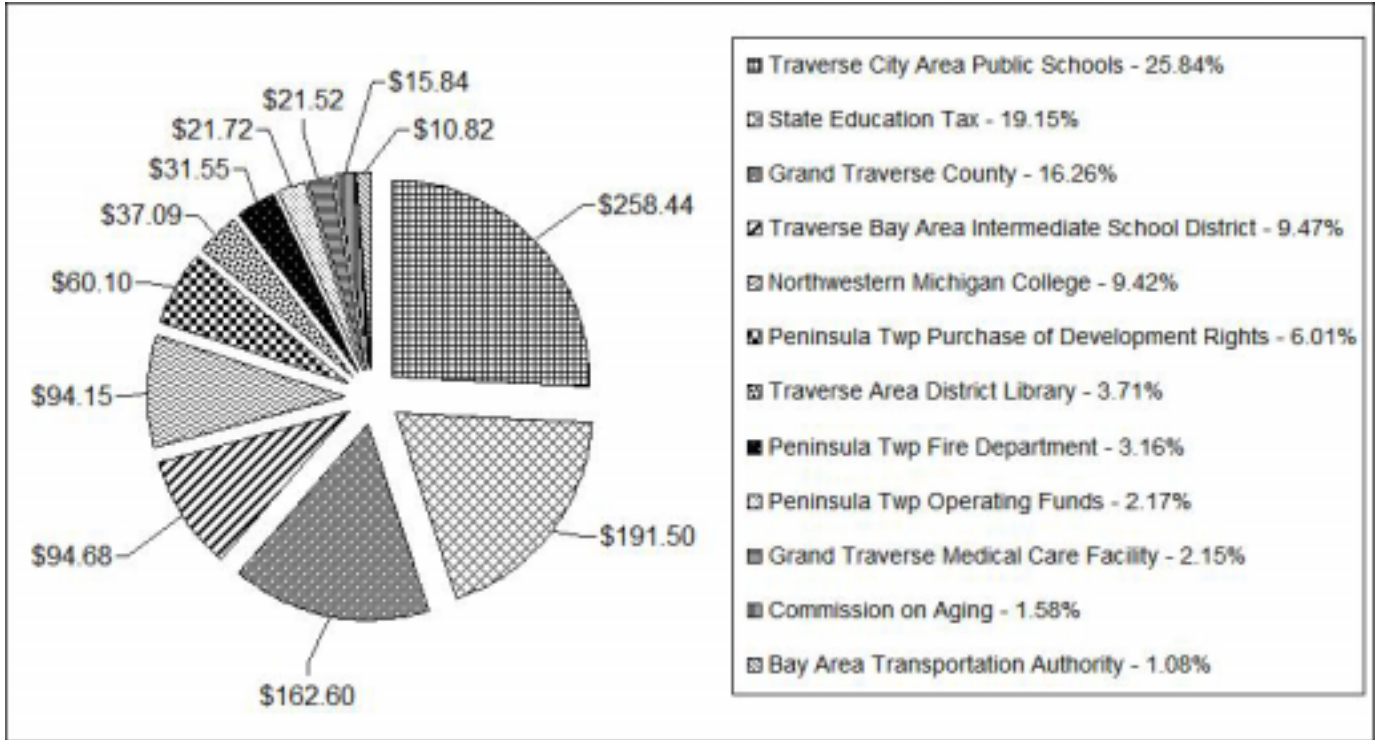
www.peninsulatownship.com

HOT TOPICS

- ▶ **Planning Inspection and Engineering Process (PIE):** Beginning April 1st, the township will pilot test a new process to streamline development and encourage early community input. Developers will continue to work through the Planning Commission. However, when the developer is ready to begin work, he/she will be required to place a sign on the property for 30 days and conduct an informal hearing. This should help citizens know what is happening before all the plans are made and it should help the developer and Planning Commission understand what they need to do to address citizen concerns about the project. As a part of this new approach, fees will be adjusted and “as-built” drawings will be required. As-built drawings depict an accurate representation of the final construction, thereby eliminating later confusion. The fees have not been changed for fourteen years. See the web site for the new fee schedule and PIE process outline.
- ▶ **Round IV:** In February, the Board voted to begin seeking applications for Round IV of the Purchase of Development Rights Program. Round III is nearing completion and it takes about six months to solicit applications, conduct the initial review and rank the applicants. Owners of eligible farms have been notified and their applications should be in by no later than April 28th.
- ▶ **Long-term Health Care:** The Long-term Health Care Plan for retirees that was terminated in October, 2005 is in legal review. Several parties have hired counsel and are challenging the termination. Hearings are scheduled for November 27 – 29, 2006. In the meantime, the township's legal counsel and the legal counsel for the other parties will be meeting with a mediator to see if a resolution can be worked out prior to the court date.
- ▶ **Master Plan:** Starting in March, Northwestern Michigan College (NMC) Research Services is facilitating five focus groups (agriculture-1 commercial-1 residential-3) to identify issues currently facing Peninsula Township. Following these sessions, questionnaires will be mailed out randomly to property owners throughout the township. If you receive a survey, please complete your response and return it to NMC Research Services. The responses will become the basis for changes in our Master Plan. Ultimately, the Master Plan provides direction for ordinance changes which reflect the concerns of our community.
- ▶ **Issues currently being discussed at either the Town Board or Planning Commission:**
 - 4-unit site condominium at Graystone north of Franklin Woods
 - Chateau Winery on Montague Road on hold due to PDR Round IV
 - 2006 Peninsula Township Recreation Plan
- ▶ **Zoning Ordinance Amendments:**
 - #163 - Placing accessory structures in condominium subdivisions
 - #164 - Requiring road continuity between adjacent subdivisions
 - #165 - Using Planned Unit Development procedures for site condominiums/subdivisions
 - #166 - Creating a definition for “migrant” in the ordinance
 - #167 - Issuing appearance tickets by an Ordinance Enforcement Officer

WHERE DO MY TAX DOLLARS GO?

This chart represents your total yearly taxes. For every \$1000 collected, the chart illustrates how the money is allocated.



These figures were prepared by the Township Treasurer. If you have any questions, please contact the Treasurer during normal business hours (223-4484).

KUDOS

A big thanks to Gary Wilson and all the others on the Town Board, Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals for the new Planning, Inspection and Engineering process developed and being pilot tested in April. Great job everybody!

DID YOU KNOW?

- ▶ Dougherty House: At the March meeting, the Town Board voted to accept title to the Dougherty Historic Home Site. In a Letter of Understanding, the Dougherty Historic Home Site Committee agreed to raise funds for the restoration and operation of the project through private funding, grants and endowment income.
- ▶ Health Care Changes: A three member Town Board subcommittee completed recommendations for current health care coverage changes and presented them to the full Board in March. The subcommittee's recommendations cut \$35,000 from health care expenses. The Board asked the previous citizens ad hoc committee leadership to review the recommendations and look at alternatives. The Board also passed a proposal to allow health care expenses to be based on pre-tax dollars, saving all parties money.

- **Distribution System Upgrade:** Consumers Energy has proposed an upgrade to its distribution power lines to better serve the area north of the Montague Road Substation. The proposal includes temporary installation of taller poles and higher capacity lines along the road right-of-way near the scenic view by Chateau Grand Traverse. The lines and poles will be removed from the middle of the vineyard. This will give us enough capacity in the short-term to meet peak loads. Once the Master Plan is revised, Consumers Energy will develop a long-range plan (including the possibility of a new substation) to meet the expected growth on the north end of the peninsula.

OPERATING INFO

- **Budget:** The Town Board approved the budgets for fiscal year April 1, 2006 – March 31, 2007. Significant changes are an allotment for the Master Plan work described on the front front page and a new tanker truck for the Fire Department.
- **New Auditor:** As a good business practice and in an effort to have new eyes examine our books, the Town Board has selected Tobin and Associates to be our auditor for one year with the right to renew for an additional two years. Tobin and Associates is a local firm with years of experience in conducting governmental audits.
- **Elections:** School Board Elections will be held at Precincts 1 and 2 on May 2. Polls will be open from 7 am through 8 pm. If you have previously registered to vote, you do not have to register again. For those who have not registered, the final day to register to vote in the May 2 election is April 3rd.
- **Community Room:** The township has new guidelines for using the Fire Station 2 community room. Check out the guidelines on the township web site or stop in to see the Office Manager. She will give you a copy of the guidelines when making reservations.
- **Time Change:** All township meetings will start at 7 pm beginning with the April meetings. (See meeting dates and times listed under Schedules and Events).
- **Newsletter:** Look for the summer issue of the Peninsula Township Newsletter in summer tax bills which will help us defray postage costs.
- **Summer Parks Programs:** The Parks Department is busy making plans for the summer. For information regarding enrollment in the summer parks and tennis programs or to reserve a pavilion (there is a fee for this), contact the Office Manager on 223-7322.

DIRECTORY

Office Manager:	
Wendy Witkop	223-7322
	Fax 223-7117
officemanager@peninsulatownship.com	
Supervisor:	
Rob Manigold	223-7322
supervisor@peninsulatownship.com	
Clerk:	
Monica Hoffman	223-7321
clerk@peninsulatownship.com	
Treasurer:	
Dave Weatherholt	223-4484
treasurer@peninsulatownship.com	
Trustees:	
Jill Byron	932-1339
Jed Hemming	223-7396
Jim Horton	223-4282
Penny Rosi	223-7560
Assessor:	
Sally Akerley	223-7313
assessor@peninsulatownship.com	
Planner:	
Gordon Hayward	223-7314
planner@peninsulatownship.com	
Zoning Administrator:	
Gordy Uecker	223-7318
zoning@peninsulatownship.com	
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Compactor/Recy. Station	223-4446
Fire Department (non-emergency)	223-4443
Old Mission Penin. School	933-7420
Park and Meeting Room Reservations	223-7322
Peninsula Comm. Library	223-7700
Sheriff (non-emergency)	223-4525

HELP WANTED:
 Township Compactor Station Manager
 Part-time position. Some experience with heavy equipment.
 Salary: \$13.30 per hour
 Contact the Supervisor on 223-7322

SCHEDULES and EVENTS

Town Board

(second Tuesday at 7 pm)
April 11
May 9
June 13

Planning Commission

(third Monday at 7 pm)
April 17
May 22 (4th Monday)
June 19

Zoning Board of Appeals

(second Thursday at 7 pm)
April 13
May 11
June 8

Park Board

(first Wednesday at 7 pm)
April 5
May 3
June 7

Peninsula Community Library at Mapleton Market

Story Hour (first and third
Thursdays - 11 am)
Book Discussion (second
Thursday of the month - 7 pm)

Old Mission Peninsula Township Historical Society

(first Thursday -7 pm at Town Hall)
April 6
May 4
June 1, Annual Meeting Dinner at
American Legion Hall

American Legion Dinners

(Public Welcome)
(first and third Tuesday - 6:30 pm)
American Legion Hall on Swaney
Road

Fire Department

Pancake Breakfast

April...watch for signs announcing
the date

School Board Election

Precincts 1 and 2
Tuesday, May 2 - 7 am until 8 pm

Blossom Days Celebration

May 20 – 21 (various locations)
Blessing of the Blossoms/Chateau
Chantel
Sunday, May 21 - 12:30 pm

Bayshore Marathon

Saturday, May 27 – 7 am until noon
(some roads may be closed)

Log Cabin Days

Lighthouse Park
Sunday, June 25 – 11 am until 5 pm

Compactor Station Hours:

*Wednesdays, noon – 6 pm
Saturdays, 9 am – 5 pm*

Peninsula Township Office is open:

*Monday through Friday, 8:00 am until
noon and 1:00 pm until 4:30 pm.*

*The office will be closed on April 14
(Good Friday) and May 29 (Memorial Day)*

Peninsula Township
13235 Center Road
Traverse City, MI 49686

