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Otisco Township
9663 W. Button Rd.
Belding, Michigan 48809



OTISCO TOWNSHIP

9663 W. Button Road
Belding, MI 48809



SUMMER

NEWSLETTER

2013

THE PLANNING COMMISSION: Ben Oatley

New Fireworks Ordinance:

The Fourth of July is coming. Since the new State Law regarding fireworks went into effect, the Planning Commission has created a Fireworks Ordinance for Otisco Township. Our ordinance does not negate what State law allows regarding fireworks. However, the State does allow local governmental bodies to place certain conditions on their use. A “few” examples of Otisco’s Ordinance are as follows.

- A) Fireworks may not be used on any public property, public street or right-of-way, school property, church property, or the property of another person without the written permission of that organization or person.
- B) Aerial fireworks produce debris that falls back to the ground. Such fireworks debris cannot fall onto others property and must be confined to the property from which the fireworks were ignited.
- C) No one under the age of 18 may buy or use the more powerful “Consumer” grade fireworks.
- D) No person shall ignite, discharge or use any consumer fireworks within the Township between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 11:00 A.M. The foregoing restriction shall not apply on the day preceding, the day of, or the day after a National holiday.
- E) No one shall ignite, discharge or use fireworks while under the influence of alcohol and or a controlled substance.

This ordinance is enforceable by the Ionia County Sheriff’s Department and or the Michigan State Police. If you plan to use fireworks, please check at the Otisco Township Hall to view a copy of the complete ordinance.

Recreation Plan:

The Planning Commission is currently working on a Recreation plan for the Township. A couple of ideas we are discussing are a Township Park and a boat launch on the Flat River. If you have any ideas as to what you would like to see here please contact someone at the Hall or come to a Planning Commission meeting. Meetings are held at the Hall on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 P.M.

from the desks of



ASSESSOR: Judy Lindberg

There will be a change in my regular office hours. Starting in June, my hours will be from 9:00 A.M. to Noon on WEDNESDAY.

Should you have questions or concerns dealing with your assessment, doing a split, combination or demolitions — feel free to contact me at the township hall.

Also, be sure and dig up your assessment notice (you received in February) and be sure that you are receiving the PRE (principle residence exemption) should you qualify. If you don't see 100% next to the PRE and you feel you deserve it, please contact me to get the form to have the PRE applied.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: Dan Zeigler

Laura Staats our new member of ZBA joined us at the April meeting. She has taken over as Secretary on the board. Welcome Laura !

The board has granted a couple zoning variances this last quarter.

BOARD OFFICERS:

Frank Mason - Chairman

Dan Zeigler - Vice Chair

Laura Staats - Secretary

ATTENTION RESIDENTS !!

NEW FIREWORKS ORDINANCE –Took effect May12, 2013

If you are planning on using fireworks for the 4th of July Please check at the hall for all the new rules.

It's time for summer clean-up so don't forget your vouchers. Bring your ID.

Don't forget recycling at the township hall the fourth Saturday of each month between 9 A.M. & 12:30 P.M.

Otisco Township has lost our Zoning Administrator Joe Daller as of March 31, 2013 We are in the process of interviewing candidates to replace him.

OFFICE HOURS

SupervisorMon-Tu-Wed 9-12 & 1-4

Clerk.....Mon-Th 9:30 –1:30

Treasurer.....Tu-Wed-Fr 10-4

Assessor.....Wed 9-12

PHONE 616.794.3506 —FAX 616.794.7083

www.otiscotwp.org

HELP CELEBRATE 160 YEARS

smyrna community
est. 1853

CELEBRATING 160 YEARS!
SATURDAY
AUGUST 3, 2013
8 AM TO 4 PM
MACCABEE HALL
616.794.1388

8am - 10am Pancake Breakfast
9am - 2pm Car, Tractor & Bike Show
9am - 2pm Farmer's Market & Craft Show
10am-1pm Children's Face Painting
11am - 1 pm Dog & Burger Lunch
3pm - 4pm Ice Cream Social & More!

Proceeds benefit the renovation, repairs & restoration of Maccabee Hall. Maccabee Hall is located at 5010 Whites Bridge Road, Belding MI, 48809. Sponsored by the Smyrna Social Club. Find us on Facebook for more information!

Courtesy of Discount Saver

from the desks of



SUPERVISOR: Paul Reeves

The township needs volunteers for the boards Advisory Committee, the Cemetery Committee and the Road Committee. Please let me know if you are interested in serving on one of these committees.

Our road and fire millage is up for renewal this year in November.

The little village of Symrna is celebrating it's 160th Birthday August 3 with an all day celebration being planned. Contact Maryann Reeves, Laura Staats, Karlene Johnson, or Sharon Webb for more information or if you wish to volunteer.

Otisco Township is a great place to live and raise a family. We live in a unique community with Otisco Township surrounding the city of Belding. In some ways we are one but we are two separate governing bodies. Each has room for improvement which can only happen with our support of the community. We need to work together to make this happen.

What ideas do you have or improvements you would like to see in Otisco Township ?

ACTING ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: Paul Reeves

As of May 1, I have filled in as acting Zone Administrator. I have been very busy with public hearings, zoning complaints, legal issues and everyday questions.

Lynda Sower (clerk) and I have interviewed 16 candidates for the position of Zoning Administrator. We are encouraged with the quality of the applicants we have to choose from. We have chosen what we consider our six best to be interviewed by the rest of the board.

Our Planner Janis Johnson from Main Street Planning is reorganizing our ordinance book so everything is in the proper order.

CLERK: Lynda Sower

I would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank-You" to all who voted for me in the Aug. and Nov. elections. I have been very busy as your new Township Clerk. I have been going to many training sessions to learn how to better serve the citizens of Otisco Township.

One of my first duties was to find a deputy clerk to assist me in my new position. Kendra Bailey, from Belding, was my choice. We have been friends for many years and have worked well together on many projects. She is very computer savvy and it is a great help in this office.

The Pitch Landfill Vouchers are ready for you at the township hall. What a nice way to clean up yards, sheds, garages etc. and not have to pay to go to the landfill.

The fourth Sat. of each month is recycle day at the township hall. I certainly hope you will consider using this service and not take everything to the landfill. Acceptable items are plastic, cardboard, and tin cans. NO GLASS!

Board Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. You are invited to join us and find out all that is happening in YOUR TOWNSHIP. We welcome your input. Give me a call if you need information or assistance I can help with. Call -794.3506

Thank-You and have a Sun Shiny Summer *but* Keep Cool !!

TREASURER: Janet Breimayer

Summer Taxes will be arriving around July 1 this year. It is suggested that you make your taxes payable to -OTISCO TOWNSHIP- with a check or certified check. Please note if you do bring in cash for your taxes, I do not have cash on hand to make change. If you would like a receipt for your taxes, send a self addressed stamped envelope.

If I am not available to take your taxes, please drop them in the drop box on the front porch of the hall. Someone will be checking the box on a daily routine.

Thanks and have a Great Summer !