

COURTLAND CLIPPINGS

WINTER 2023



7450 14 Mile Rd NE
Rockford, MI 49341
www.courtlandtwpmi.gov

facebook.com/courtlandtwp

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
9:00-4:30pm
CLOSED FRIDAYS

PHONE: (616) 866-0622
BUILDING, PLUMBING, HEATING AND ELECTRICAL PERMITS:

Imperial Municipal Services
(616) 863-9294

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

SUPERVISOR: Matt McConnon
TREASURER & ZA*: Colleen Brown
CLERK: Susan Hartman
TRUSTEES: Mary Ann Andersen, Kimberly McIntyre, Sandy Frandsen, Charles Porter
ASSESSOR: Jane Kolbe
COMPLIANCE OFFICER: Tony Goss
*Zoning Administrator

MEETING SCHEDULE

All meetings at 7:00 PM
TOWNSHIP BOARD: 1st Wednesday
PLANNING COMMISSION: 3rd Tuesday
ZBA: 2nd Wednesday

HOLIDAY HOURS

TOWNSHIP OFFICES CLOSED:
Christmas: Dec. 25, 2023
New Year's: Jan. 1, 2024



CLEAN UP DAYS

SPRING: May 31st and June 1st, 2024
FALL: October 4th and 5th, 2024
SHRED DAYS: June 1st & October 5th
from 9 am to 1pm

SUPERVISOR NOTES

Courtland Township has been working with Michwave to install fiber internet in some of the unserved areas of the township. We were able to utilize some of our American Rescue Plan Act money to help with infrastructure needs. Since we have several areas in our township that do not have access to high speed internet, we allocated money toward making it available to as many people as possible with the funds we had available. To see if you are in an area that is served by Michwave, please go to www.michwave.com and check it out.

Matt McConnon, Supervisor

TREASURER NOTES

Winter Taxes 2023 Due:
Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2024 by 4:30 PM.
Additional interest & penalty applies after
February 14, 2024

On March 1, 2024 all taxes still owing must be sent to the Kent County Treasurer's office, who keeps all records of delinquent taxes. See your tax bill for additional important payment information.

Credit card & e-check payments are accepted through Feb. 28, 2024 on our website. **We do not accept credit card payments at the office.** *The Treasurer's office is not responsible for payment on the wrong property.*



May your fire be warm and your home be bright! Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Be safe!

Colleen Brown, Treasurer
Ashlee VanderKooi, Deputy Treasurer

FIRE CHIEF'S DESK

BURN PERMITS: Please, before you burn go to the Courtland Township website fill out the burn permit. Please apply for one or two days at a time. Remember, all burning must be done during daylight hours, and burning should be a safe distance from all buildings, tall grass and trees. Do not leave fires

unattended and have a garden hose handy. Burning of tires, roofing, construction materials, treated lumber, garbage, plastics, rubber or petroleum products is prohibited.



Please change your batteries in your Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors. Test them every month by pushing the test button on them. Did you know you should replace the entire smoke detector every ten years? We have free smoke detectors at the Township Hall and Fire Station. If you have the wired together detectors and need to replace them, buy new ones and we will come over and replace them for you for free. Just call Chief at 616-813-2961.

911 Emergency Address Signs-If you or a loved one is having a medical emergency it is very difficult for us to respond to your house quickly with no address out by the road. Even in subdivisions it is very hard for us to see the address on your house. We have the Green & White reflective address signs available for \$10.00. Call the Township office to order. If you do not have one of these address signs, please have your address on both sides of your mailbox.

With Winter season on the way please do not have portable heaters plugged into extension cord or have them too close to any flammables. When we have power outages, please do not run portable generators inside garages or enclosed porches, the C.O. can kill you.

Keep your Christmas trees watered and candles away from them. After Christmas you may drop off real, undecorated, unbagged trees for recycling behind the Courtland Fire Station #1 at 7480 14 Mile Rd.

FIRE FIGHTERS WANTED: We are looking for Paid on call fire fighters, must be at least 18 years old with a high school diploma or GED, clean record, and time to serve your township. We will give you all the training you need.

Have a safe holiday season.

Steve Mojzuk, Courtland Fire Chief

COURTLAND TOWNSHIP MASTER PLAN UPDATE

The Planning Commission has been working hard on the development of the master plan and is currently reviewing the first draft. Thank you to those who took the community survey and attended the open house last winter! The draft master plan will be posted on the Township website in the near future and public comments are welcome!

The master plan covers topics like housing, roads, trails, parks, reservation of natural resources, and farms. It's a road map for future land use decisions for Township officials! For more information or discussion regarding the plan, please contact the Township or consider attending a future Planning Commission meeting.



CLERK'S NOTES

The Special Election held on November 7th, 2023 was very slow. Out of the 7,630 registered voters in Courtland Township only 1,776 (23.28%) votes were cast. Of those 1,776 votes cast, 1,302 (73.31%) were from Absentee Ballots, leaving 474 (26.68%) in-person votes.

Proposal 22-2, which passed last November, mandates that voters have the right to 9 days of early voting, in addition to, the traditional voting on election day. All qualified electors in Courtland Township will be able to come into the Early Voting Site at the Courtland Township Hall, mark a ballot, and deposit it in a tabulator. The Early Voting Site hours are 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Early voting is only required for State and Federal Elections. Early Voting will begin on Saturday, February 17, 2024 and end on Sunday, February 25, 2024 for the February 27, 2024 Presidential Primary.

Another change with the passing of Proposal 22-2 is the Permanent Absent Voting Ballot List (PAVBL). If the voter chooses, they will automatically receive a ballot for each election they are eligible to vote in. The Permanent Absent Voter Application list is being phased out. If you wish to be placed on the PAVBL simply visit <https://mvlc.sos.state.mi.us/> and sign up.

The Polls will open as usual on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 7:00 am and will close at 8:00 pm.

Michigan is the only state in the Union that has trifecta voting – 9 days of Early Voting (Early Voting Site), Absentee Ballots (mail-in) and in-person regular polling locations on election day.



Sue Hartman, Clerk
Cheryl Halfacer, Deputy Clerk

courtlandtwpmi.gov/clerk

FROM THE PARKS COMMITTEE

Have you had the chance to play at the Courtland Township Park or the Annis Fish Hatchery Preserve?

The Courtland Township Park, located at the Township Hall, 7450 14 Mile Rd, includes: a disc golf course which is available from dawn to dusk for all levels of players (discs are available to borrow during township business hours at the township hall's front desk); 8 pickle ball courts; regulation size horseshoe courts; a playground which is slated to be upgraded to a universally accessible design and adult workout station in 2024; a baseball diamond; and a pavilion which is available for rental. There is something for everyone, even free Wi-Fi service for those that want to lounge.

The Annis Fishery Hatchery Preserve, located at 5437 10 Mile Rd, includes a walking trail, picnic tables, benches, and bird watching.

This year Courtland Township was the recipient of a 38-acre parcel of land donated by the Davis family. The new Davis Park is in the beginning phase of planning. Are you interested in donating land to the township for a park? Please contact the township hall at 616-866-0622.

The Courtland Park committee meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm at the township hall. If you are interested in being involved, call the township hall to have your name added to the committee list. Subscribe on the Courtland Township website for news and alerts of upcoming events!

FRIENDS OF THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Do you have family members buried in the Courtland Township Cemetery? Are you making decisions for your own eventual resting place or are you a history buff interested in researching the people who are part of Courtland Township's past? We are looking for individuals interested in preserving and protecting the cemetery for years to come. The Clerk Department is organizing a Friends of the Cemetery Committee, with the goal of recommending updates for the cemetery ordinance and developing guidelines to keep the cemetery looking good and maintained with the respect our loved ones deserve. There will be opportunities for clean-up workdays, monument cleaning and restoration workshops, helping to update the cemetery map, and discussion and planning for the new areas of the cemetery. The Friends of the Cemetery will hold its first meeting at the township office on Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 5:30pm. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please email Cheryl Halfacer at deputyclerk@courtlandtwpmi.gov or call 616-302-6110.

CALLING ALL LOCAL TALENT!

Third Annual
ROCKFORDS GOT TALENT
RGT

2.3.24 | 6-8PM | RHS Auditorium

OPEN DIVISION

- ★ 1st PLACE \$1,500
- ★ 2nd PLACE \$1,000
- ★ 3rd PLACE \$750

YOUTH DIVISION

- ★ 1st PLACE \$500
- ★ 2nd PLACE \$250
- ★ 3rd PLACE \$100

POPULAR VOTE

- ★ Has exceeded \$3,000 in the past!

Interested in auditioning?
Scan the QR code or email
rcf.rockfordsgottalent@gmail.com
for more info!



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