

COURTLAND CLIPPINGS

SUMMER 2018



7450 14 Mile Rd.
Rockford, MI 49341
www.courtlandtwp.org

facebook.com/courtlandtwp

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
9:00-Noon & 1:00-4:30pm
CLOSED FRIDAYS

PHONE: (616) 866-0622

FAX: (616) 866-3451

BURN PERMITS:

firechief@courtlandtwp.org
or call/text (616) 813-2961

BUILDING PERMITS OBTAINED AT:

Imperial Municipal Services
(616) 863-9294

ELECTRICAL PERMITS THROUGH:

Casey Kalee (616) 874-6289

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

SUPERVISOR: Mike Krygier

TREASURER & ZA*: Colleen Brown

CLERK: Sandra Frandsen

TRUSTEES: Matt McConnon, Mary Ann Andersen, Kimberly McIntyre, Michele Mojzuk

ASSESSOR: Jane Kolbe

*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:

Independence Day: July 4-5

Labor Day: Sept. 3



DOG LICENSES

Licenses may be purchased at the Kent County Animal Shelter, various veterinary offices and Township office. 1-year and 3-year licenses are available depending on the rabies expiration date. Call (616) 632-7300 or visit www.accesskent.com

FROM THE FIRE CHIEF'S DESK

Please **VOTE** on the renewal of our **FIRE MILLAGE** at the election held on **August 7, 2018.**

We will be asking for the Fire Millage to be returned to the full one mill as it was previously approved. The Fire Dept. has been supported by a dedicated fire millage since August, 1994. It has been reduced by the Headlee Amendment over the years. The funds would be used to replace our aging fleet of fire vehicles and equipment when necessary, operational expenses, maintenance costs, and upkeep of the fire department's buildings and equipment.

BURN PERMITS: Please, before you burn email firechief@courtlandtwp.org, text or call 616-813-2961. 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.

CARBON MONOXIDE FACTS: Carbon monoxide is the number one cause of poisoning death in the U.S. It is odorless and colorless and exposure can be fatal. Common sources of carbon monoxide (CO) are faulty furnaces, house fires, auto exhaust fumes, heaters, indoor stoves, gas-powered generators, cigarette smoke, and smoke from charcoal-fired stoves. Install a CO detector in addition to your smoke detector. Call 911 and leave the area if your CO alarm goes off or if you experience symptoms of CO poisoning such as flu-like symptoms, fatigue, confusion, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, headaches, dizziness or weakness.

Please change your batteries in your Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors. Did you know you should replace the entire smoke detector every ten years? We have free smoke detectors, limit two per family, at the Township hall and Fire Station

When you sleep at night, please close

your bedroom door, it could save your life. A closed door will slow down a fire from spreading room to room. Always look for two ways out of any room or building in case of a fire or a life-threatening incident.

911 EMERGENCY ADDRESS SIGNS: We have the Green & White reflective address signs available for \$10. Call the Township office to order 616-866-0622.

Have you ever thought of being a Fire Fighter? We are always looking for help, no experience needed. We will train you. Please stop by and see me at Station 1, M-F 7:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Steve Mojzuk, Courtland Fire Chief

This year's **Fall Clean Up** will take place on Friday, Sept. 21 from 10 AM until 4:00 PM and on Saturday, Sept. 22 from 9 AM until 3 PM. Located behind the Courtland Fire Station #1, 7480 14 Mile Rd. Please enter off of Berrigan Ave. for ease of traffic flow.

PLEASE NOTE: No paints, liquids, tires or TV's. They will accept appliances, mattresses and box springs at no charge. Our spring clean-up with Plumbers was a big success. Plumbers did a fantastic job and we did get a lot of positive feedback regarding Plumbers.

SUPERVISOR NOTES

Courtland Township's newest Parks and Recreation project is a Disc Golf Course. It is located next to the Township Hall and is open for your enjoyment from dawn to dusk. We are currently working on the finishing touches around all the holes and adding in benches.

We are going digital with the mapping of the cemetery. One day in the near future, you will be able to access information from the new digital cemetery program.

CEDAR SPRINGS AREA PARKS & RECREATION
Please feel free to access the link on courtlandtwp.org for a schedule of classes and programs. All Courtland Township

residents are welcome to participate. We are also looking for someone interested in being a volunteer representative from Courtland Township to sit on the CSAP&R Board. There is one meeting/month and some participation in programs is requested. If you are interested, please contact the Courtland Township Hall for an application or go on line to get form. A resume is helpful but not required.

SHORT TERM RENTALS

Short term rentals (rentals less than 30 days) are a commercial use of property and not allowed in a residential district, which has been determined due to recent court decisions. We are in the process of discussing this further. We have received several complaints recently regarding short term rentals. Short term rentals have become more prevalent in the past year or so.

Please feel free to contact the Township Office if you have further questions or comments.

Mike Krygier, Township Supervisor

TREASURER NOTES

Summer Taxes 2018 Due:
September 14, 2018 by 4:30 PM.
Additional interest applies after
September 14, 2018

PAYMENT OPTIONS

In Person: A cashier or personal check is preferred. If paying in cash, please bring EXACT amount.

By Mail: For a receipt, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and your ENTIRE tax bill. Mail Early – POST-MARKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.



Drop Box: For your convenience, a payment drop box is located by the front door. This box is safe and checked regularly.

Online Payments: Pay your taxes online with a credit card or e-check with a link from our Township Website: www.courtlandtwp.org/link ***Convenience fees do apply as noted.*** From the link you will access BS&A search, either choose to set up an account as property owner for free access, or pay the \$2.00 fee with your credit card as a separate transaction to continue. Once you have found your parcel through BS&A there will be an option to access "Point and Pay" to process your tax payment with a credit card or e-check payment. Point and Pay convenience fees

are 3% of the credit card amount or \$3.00 for an e-check. (A credit card run as a debit card is not an option). Be sure to have a transaction receipt emailed to you. Credit Card & e-check payments are accepted July 1, 2018 through Feb. 23, 2019. **We do not accept Credit card payments at the office.** *The Treasurer's office is not responsible for payment on the wrong property.*

SUMMER TAX DEFERMENT: Applications are available at the Twp. Hall & online and must be received before September 14, 2018 at the Township Hall to be eligible.

PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE EXEMPTION: Check your tax bill to make sure you are receiving the PRE if you qualify. To qualify for this year, you must own and occupy your residence before June 1st, 2018 for Summer and Nov. 1st, 2018 for Winter.

MORTGAGE ESCROW PAYMENTS: We sent your tax bill to the mortgage company IF the mortgage company requested the bill. The message "Informational Copy" means that your tax bill has been sent to your mortgage company or the Tax Service they utilize. This is printed in the "Tax Detail" portion of your tax bill on the right side. If your taxes are escrowed and your bill wasn't sent to your mortgage company, make a copy of the bill for your records and forward the original tax bill to your mortgage company.

Courtland Township Annual Budget is adopted at our March Regular Township Board Meeting yearly. Our fund balances are available upon request at the Treasurer's Office. Please feel free to contact our office with any questions throughout the year. Thank you for your continued support.

Enjoy the Sunshine :)

Colleen Brown, Treasurer
Theresa Towersey, Deputy Treasurer

FROM THE ASSESSOR'S DESK

UNCAPPING REMINDER: With increasing sale prices, it's important to remember that properties uncap the year after a transfer of ownership. You will likely pay a lot more in taxes than the previous owner whose taxable value may have been capped for several years. Some taxpayers are surprised when they receive their first bill the following year after a purchase and wish they had planned for the difference.

For example: A property in Rockford school district with a Principal Residence Exemption that is assessed at \$125,000

with a taxable value of \$80,000 will pay approximately \$2,552. If the property is sold and the assessed value remained at \$125,000, the following year the taxable value would "uncap" to \$125,000 and the taxes would be approximately \$3,987.

After a transfer of ownership, remember to fill out a Property Transfer Affidavit (PTA) which includes a list of possible exemptions from uncapping. Transfer of ownership FAQ's can be found at the following url: http://www.michigan.gov/documents/treasury/TransferOwnershipGuidelines_423898_7.pdf

If you have any questions on this or any assessment topics, please call or email me.

Jane Kolbe, Assessor
jkolbe@courtlandtwp.org

CLERK'S CORNER

My deputy and I have been very busy preparing for the elections of 2018. The primary election is August 7th, 2018. The last day to register to vote is July 9th, 2018. The general election is November 6th, 2018. There have been many trainings and workshops to prepare us on the new equipment the State of Michigan has provided for our township. The QVF, which keeps track of all the qualified voter files has received an update as well.

If you wish to be placed on our permanent absentee voter list, please give our office a call at 866-0622.

I hope you are getting outside to enjoy this beautiful weather!

Sandy Frandsen, Clerk
Andrea VanSetters, Deputy Clerk

TIRE DISPOSAL EVENT

Event Date: September 15, 2018

Time: 8:00am - 12:00pm

Where: Courtland Township Hall
7450 14 Mile Rd. NE

Details:

- Kent County residents only. ID is required. Tires from businesses or non-profits will not be accepted.
- 10 tires per vehicle maximum
- Passenger tires only (car, SUV, or pickup truck). NO semi, tractor, or loader tires.
- Tires must be off the rims and clean.



Tires are also accepted at North Kent Recycle & Waste Center and South Kent Landfill year round for a \$4-\$6 fee.