

# COURTLAND CLIPPINGS



7450 14 Mile Rd NE  
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

### BURN PERMITS:

Email firechief@courtlandtwp.org

Call (616) 866-3511 or

Text: (616) 813-2961

### BUILDING, PLUMBING, AND HEATING PERMITS:

Imperial Municipal Services

(616) 863-9294

### ELECTRICAL PERMITS:

Casey Kalee (616) 874-6289

## TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

SUPERVISOR: Matt McConnon

TREASURER & ZA\*: Colleen Brown

CLERK: Susan Hartman

TRUSTEES: Mary Ann Andersen, Kimberly

McIntyre, Sandy Frandsen, Terry Bartels

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. 24 - 25, 2020

New Year's: Dec. 31, 2020 - Jan. 1, 2021

President's Day: Feb. 15, 2021



## DOG LICENSES

Licenses may be purchased online year around at the Kent County Animal Shelter. Call 616-632-7300 or visit www.accesskent.com to purchase online or available at various local veterinary offices and the Township.

## NEWS FLASH

Stay up-to-date with Township news by providing your email address and phone number on the bottom portion of your tax bill. New website coming January 2021!

## SUPERVISOR NOTES

Well the elections are over for the year and we look forward to moving into the new year. While this year continues to bring its challenges, we are committed to doing our best to serve the residents of Courtland Township. We were able to repair several roads and continue to make this a priority in our budget. Despite the COVID crisis, we had two very successful cleanup events as well as the first electronics recycling day. These events continue to be well received and make it easier to keep our township clean.

We were also able to put a nearly 1 mile paved walking trail around the disc golf course. This project has been planned for several years so it is nice to see it completed. This has also generated many positive comments from our residents. We will continue to look for opportunities to improve our township property in ways that make it accessible and enjoyable for our community. If you have suggestions for additional park improvements, please let us know.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and hope that 2021 will bring more normalcy (whatever that may be) to our lives again. I pray that all our residents remain safe and healthy through these trying times.

*Matt McConnon, Township Supervisor*

## TREASURER NOTES

Winter Taxes 2020 Due:

Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2021 by 4:30 PM.

Additional interest & penalty applies after February 16, 2021

On March 1, 2021 all taxes still owing must be sent to the Kent County Treasurer's office, who keeps all records of delinquent taxes. Offices will be closed December 24-25, December 31, 2020 - January 1, 2021, and Monday, February 15, 2021.

## WINTER 2021

### PAYMENT OPTIONS

Due to COVID-19, please pay your tax bill by dropping it off at the township Dropbox or by Mail. Feel free to call for



an appointment if you have any additional questions.

**By Mail:** For a receipt, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and your ENTIRE tax bill. Mail Early - Must be received by Courtland Twp. Office on Tues, Feb. 16, 2021 mail. POSTMARKS 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 only with a link from our Township Website: www.courtlandtwp.org/links. **Convenience fees 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 though 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 e-check. Be sure to have a transaction receipt emailed to you as proof of payment accepted. Credit card & e-check payments are accepted through Feb. 23, 2021. **We do not accept credit card payments at the office.** *The Treasurer's office is not responsible for payment on the wrong property.*

**MORTGAGE ESCROW PAYMENTS:** We sent your tax bill to the mortgage company IF the message is noted in red under the Property Information area that a copy of this bill has been sent to your mortgage provider. You are receiving this copy for informational purposes only IF that message is on your tax bill. 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 annually at our March Township Board Meeting. 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.

**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 2020 for Summer and Nov. 1st 2020 for Winter.

The State of Michigan offers help to eligible taxpayers in the form of the Property Tax Credit, Home Heating Credit, and Military Tax Relief. For more information visit the State of Michigan's website.

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*  
*Milissa Soderstrom, Deputy Treasurer*

Courtland Township extends a special thank you to Michelle Mojzuk for her time as a Courtland Township trustee. We are grateful for her service to our community"

### FIRE CHIEF'S DESK



**Close Before You Doze**, 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 and practice getting out.

Please change your batteries in your Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors and test them every month. 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 wired together detectors and need to replace them, buy new ones and we will come over free of charge and replace them for you.

**911 EMERGENCY ADDRESS SIGNS:** It is very difficult for us to respond to your emergency quickly if there's no address out by the road. Even in subdivisions it can be hard for us to see the addresses. We have 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.

**BURN PERMITS:** Please, before you burn E-Mail [firechief@courtlandtwp.org](mailto: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.

With winter on the way please do not have portable heaters plugged into an 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 and Merry Christmas.

*Steve Mojzuk, Courtland Fire Chief*

### ASSESSOR'S DESK

I am sure a few of you are wondering how Covid-19 has impacted values in Courtland Township. For residential values, we use a sales study to determine changes in value using a specified time frame. For the 2021 studies that I am working on now, the timeframe uses sales from 4/01/18 – 3/31/20. Almost all the sales in this year's study are from before any impact from Covid-19. It will be the 2022 assessment roll that will incorporate any changes that the virus may have on values. The good news is that most residential sales since April still appear to be showing a seller's market with higher sale's prices and quick turnarounds. At this time, it appears values are continuing to increase despite the virus!

This year, field reviews were completed for sections 16-18 in the Township. Despite Covid-19 and a late start, we were able to go out and review the parcels keeping a safe distance. We appreciate the overwhelming

cooperation of the property owners in the sections being reviewed! It is always our goal to have fair and accurate records.

If you have any questions on this or any assessment topic, please call or email me at [jkolbe@courtlandtwp.org](mailto:jkolbe@courtlandtwp.org)

*Jane Kolbe, Assessor*

Please, when speaking with your financial advisor, consider leaving a gift of land to the Courtland Township Parks. It will be a gift that continues to give for the years to come!

### CLERK'S NOTES

2020 was an election year like no other. We started the year with the March 10th school proposal at the beginning of the COVID-19 shut down. Fortunately, we did not have to have another election in May as some other townships did. When the August 4th primary came, we were faced with the challenge of the massive amount of applications for absent voter ballots and still providing for those wanting to vote in person. Our teams of election inspectors stepped up to the plate and we had another successful election.

The general election on November 3rd was one for the record books. We increased the amount of election inspectors from 16 in August to 25 for November. The Absent Voter Counting Board was increased to have 3 teams of 3 plus the chair.

Courtland Township has 7,214 registered voters and 5,947 (82.44%) of them voted in the November general election. The breakdown was 3,472 (58%) voted absent voter ballot and 2,475 (42%) were in precinct. We are grateful for our 2020 election inspectors. You are all heroes for your commitment to making sure that every vote was counted.

Our hopes and prayers are for a happy and healthy 2021 for all!

*Sue Hartman, Clerk*  
*Nyha French, Deputy Clerk*



We are delighted to see the disc golf course getting a lot of action! The course is free to use and is in need of a volunteer group that will maintain the course on a regular basis. If you are interested, please call the township (616) 866-0622. Remember to leave only your footprints behind when you exit the park.