

February 2022 Supervisor's Report

This will be a shorter report since I've already sent a lot of notes.

Sunset Shores: Things are starting to fall into place rapidly with this project. The main EGLE permit is completed and the second part, the part 41 groundwater discharge permit, is in the works. Our timeline on this project included completing the purchase of the Borre property and the Korson easement with proceeds from the sale of the bond. EGLE has notified us that they are willing to complete all the work on the permit but will not issue the actual permit unless we already own the property. The bonding company won't issue a bond without a permit. We are in a chicken or egg sort of situation, one that might require the township to spend \$40,000 more (\$30,000 for the Borre property and \$10,000 for the Korson easement) in order to complete this project. There may be property owners who are interested in pre-paying their assessment in order to avoid paying interest on it, which might change the calculus of whether the township has to front more money. I will be working with the attorneys, the engineer, and the bonding company to lay out a new timeline. I understand that we could go out to bids before the final permit is issued.

Credit Card: I've been working with Huntington Bank to put a new credit card in place for use by the fire chief, the harbormaster, and the clerk. This card is used for incidentals most of the year, but is used when we dredge for renting some heavy equipment. The credit card we have used until now was on former clerk Jane Keen's credit report and she asked to be released from this arrangement.

Streetlights: Consumers Energy is working to repair our failing streetlights. They received so much negative feedback on the new LED light design that they have stopped converting them in the entire county and are doing as much as they can to address malfunctioning lights with their stock of older lights. Their engineers are looking for alternatives. Please let me know if you see a streetlight that is out, flickering, cycling on and off every few minutes, or if there are any that should be permanently removed.

Charter Township notification: At our last meeting, Lisa distributed a notification from the State of Michigan that our population according to the 2020 census means that we are eligible to become a charter township. There is no deadline for this decision. You can read more about it here:

https://www.michigantownships.org/members/media/topics/media/general_law_vs_charter_township_mta_january_14_2022.pdf

In recent months I have been asked to nominate representatives to three different committees. Harry Larkin has agreed to serve on the Lake Leelanau Invasive species committee. I have also been asked to nominate someone to serve on a similar committee for Lake Leelanau Watershed protection. And there is a nascent "Sleeping Bear Gateways Council" with a mission to "facilitate stakeholder collaboration to enhance sustainable gateway communities near Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore". Unfortunately that group's first meeting is March 14,

which conflicts with our next board meeting and the state mandated date for Board of Review. I have let them know that the date is impossible for us, but I'd be interested to know if any board member wants to serve on this board.

Mary Kuntz contacted me with complaints about the recycling at Oak and Edwards. I advised her that this arrangement is supposed to come to an end in April and that she should contact Tim Cypher if she wants to make a nuisance complaint, which could potentially close it sooner.

Although Clem Suttman's appointment to the Board of Review is on our agenda, he has contacted me to say that he is withdrawing his application. We will have the required three members for the March Board of Review, but no alternate.

Zoning fee increases. These were first proposed in 2012, but the board declined to act on them. Now that we are looking under every rock for any penny, I will be putting these on the agenda in March.

I also want to draw your attention to the section of goals from Pages 17 through 19 of the [2020 - 2024 Leland Township Recreation Plan, our five year rec plan](#). This plan was drafted by Parks and Rec with assistance from Networks Northwest and incorporated community input. It was approved by the township board and has been the blueprint from which the Parks and Rec Board is working, including the work towards the Hancock Field use study. I've heard some rumblings that these goals are personal "pet projects" of the parks and rec board members. In fact, these goals are part of a well researched plan that has been accepted by the state of Michigan. We should all be working towards these goals.

Susan Och