



Elmwood Township Today July 2020

SHORT TERM RENTALS ~ While short-term rentals are currently **NOT** allowed anywhere in the Township, the Planning Commission is developing an ordinance that could potentially allow short-term rentals in all or some of the Township districts with a license.

Currently, the Township is aware of most of the short-term rentals that are posted on AirBNB or Homeaway, but is concerned with the ability to notify individuals that may advertise their short-term rentals through unconventional methods, such as word of mouth or in the newspaper. In order to determine the number of short-term rentals that currently exist in the Township and their location, you can voluntarily provide the address of your short-term rental and the contact information (mailing address and email) by emailing planner@elmwoodtownship.net.

The best way to stay updated on short-term rentals and all other Board meetings, is to check out the meeting agendas and packets on the Township website: www.leelanau.cc/elmwoodtp.asp. Township Board, Planning Commission, and selected Township Marina Committee and Township Parks and Recreation Committee meetings can also be viewed at your leisure at www.tacm.tv.

From the Supervisor ~ The spring of 2020 has been a challenging time! The Township offices are open and operating at full capacity. We are following the recommended guidelines during these unique and challenging times. We have returned to “in person” Board meetings. We encourage you to attend. Wear your mask, maintain social distance, and please be patient as we work through the logistics of this new normal.

The torrential rains have caused flooding for many of our residents. We are trying to work with the Leelanau County Road Commission and the Leelanau County Drain Commissioner to maintain and fix culverts, ditches and drains. It has become painfully obvious that some areas have been undermaintained and were not designed to handle the amount of rain we’ve gotten.

Our grounds crew has been busy getting all our parks and public areas ready for summer. Considering our late start, they have done a fabulous job, as always.

Your Board continues to work on the short-term rental question. Like so many other municipalities around the state, country and world, Elmwood Township is trying to come up with a solution that is fair and represents the desires of all our citizens. It is certainly not an easy task. Hopefully the issue will be resolved in the near future.

Don’t forget to vote in the August 4, 2020 primary election. Our Clerk, Connie Preston, and Deputy Clerk Karyl Moore have been working diligently to get ready.

Thank you to all our residents here in Elmwood Township. During these challenging times, I have seen our citizens band together to help others in need within our Township and elsewhere. I am so proud to be a resident here. It truly is an honor to be able to serve.

Elmwood Township Officials (231) 946-0921

Jeff Shaw, Supervisor supervisor@elmwoodtownship.net

Connie Preston, Clerk clerkpreston@elmwoodtownship.net
Karyl Moore, Deputy Clerk

Chris Mikowski, Treasurer
treasurer@elmwoodtownship.net
Carrie Schaub, Deputy Treasurer

Trustees: Terry Lautner, Kyle Trevas, James O’Rourke, & Dave Darga

Other Office Employees that work for you

Barbara Jones, Assessor
Mon. – Thur. 9am-5pm
Sara Kopriva, Planner & Zoning Administrator, Mon. – Fri. 9am-5pm

Regular Board Meetings 2nd Monday of the Month @ 6PM

We are always looking for citizens interested in serving on Boards and Committees. If you have an interest in becoming involved, please stop by, email or call. We’d love to have you on board.

From the Clerk ~ ATTENTION VOTERS

We have two more elections this year! The August 4th Primary ballot is now available for absentee voters. The application can be downloaded at Michigan.gov/sos or you may contact Clerk Connie Preston by phone or email clerkpreston@elmwoodtownship.net to request the application. Be sure to select a box for the elections for which you are requesting ballots and sign your application. Once completed, you may submit the application for an absentee ballot by mail or the above email. The deadline to request an absentee ballot to be mailed to you is 5:00 p.m. on Friday July 31st for the Primary election and Friday October 30th for the General Election. The Clerk’s office will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 1 and Saturday October 31st for in- person absentee ballots requests.

The polls will be open on election days from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. as usual. We are taking extra steps to make in person voting as safe as possible for both our elections workers and voters.

From the Treasurer ~ These have been trying times to say the least. I would like to help make things a little easier! I am providing a couple different ways for you to pay your taxes for your convenience. #1) I now accept credit cards!! There is a 3% fee that is added to the total. You can call the office to pay over the phone or you can pay online at:
<https://bsaonline.com/OnlinePayment/OnlinePaymentSearch/?PaymentApplicationType=4&uid=244>

#2) If you would like to pay without any fees, I do offer an ACH payment method. I have a form you would need to fill out with your bank information. This method is very easy and safe.

Important tax dates to avoid additional interest:

summer taxes are due on or before September 14, 2020
winter taxes are due on or before February 15, 2021.

I am here to serve you, so please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. Enjoy your summer!

From Elmwood Township Fire Department

Dates to Remember

October 10th – Open House at EFD

November 1st – Daylight Savings Time Ends

Coronavirus & EFD

The past many months have been a trying time for many. We at EFD have been thankful, however, for the outpouring of support we have received from the community during this time. Here are some updates about what's been happening with us during the Coronavirus Pandemic.

1. First, rest assured that we are still here for you. Throughout the COVID-19 restrictions, EFD has continued to be here for you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
2. The Elmwood Township Fire Department has instituted new procedures during this time, which along with new protocols from our local medical control, help keep our community, our patients, and our staff, safer. EFD also continues to be properly stocked with medical supplies and PPE.
3. A new UV Sanitation light has been obtained, which in addition to our normal cleaning procedures, helps ensure that our ambulance is sanitized.
4. Our call volume in March and May increased significantly from 2019, 54% and 40% respectively, shaping 2020 to be one of our busiest years.
5. Sadly, our public education efforts were severely limited during the stay-at-home order. However, EFD was able to participate in "Fire Truck Drive Bys" for birthdays and other events. We hope our participation in such events helped to improve the morale of our community during the COVID-19 stay-at-home order.
6. Finally, as COVID-19 restrictions ease, EFD's operations are slowly returning to normal, or perhaps we should say, the new normal. As always, please contact us if you believe there is anything we can help you with, or if you have any questions, comments or concerns.

Boat Donated to EFD for Water Rescue

Approximately a year ago, EFD mentioned in the newsletter its need for a boat. EFD has never had a watercraft despite being responsible for providing

protection to the 10 square miles of waterways within our coverage area. With few options for EFD to provide such a need for itself, one of our Elmwood Township residents reached out and donated a boat for the good of the township. Though the donor prefers to remain anonymous, we would still like to publicly thank the generous donor for their kind donation, as well as for helping make it possible for EFD to save lives on our waterways. The donated boat has undergone some modifications and is now in service.

Other Donations to EFD

The truth is, EFD is often the beneficiary of the kindness of Elmwood Township Residents, (as well as others in the region). Over the years, we've received all sorts of donations, including everything from money, to food, to medical supplies, to beds and other furniture, to a new refrigerator and microwave, and yes, even a boat. We frequently also receive cards filled with words of encouragement and appreciation! All such support is very much appreciated, and we want to thank all of you for your kind support of Elmwood Township Fire Department. Truly, we couldn't do this job without you!

Free Smoke Alarms for Township Residents

As COVID-19 restrictions ease, keep in mind that EFD offers free smoke alarms to homes within Elmwood Township. EFD was provided smoke alarms free of charge by the American Red Cross for installation in Elmwood Township and, to date, hundreds of smoke alarms have been installed. If your home has smoke alarms that are over 10 years old and/or your home doesn't have smoke alarms on every level and inside/outside all sleeping areas, contact EFD today for program details. Please contact EFD via our non-emergency phone number: 231-941-1647.

EFD Open House: Saturday, October 10th, 2020

When the time comes, and if circumstances and state regulations allow, EFD is planning to host an open house on Saturday, October 10th, 2020 from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Come tour your fire department, explore the trucks, examine the equipment and meet the crew. We plan to have activities for both young and old, as well as snacks, kids' fire hats and educational activity bags (while supplies last). So, join us, won't you? EFD is located at 10086 E. Lincoln Road, Traverse City, Michigan 49684.

EFD Seeks Additional Firefighters & EMRs

Do you have interest in becoming a firefighter and/or Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)? Or, are you already licensed as a firefighter and/or EMR and are looking for a community to serve? Whether you have interest in a career in the fire service or are just interested in giving back to your community, EFD seeks motivated individuals to be a part of our team. We are willing to train individuals without prior experience, so whatever your experience level, please feel free to stop by for an application! EFD is located at 10086 E. Lincoln Road, Traverse City, Michigan 49684.

