

## June 2021 Supervisor's Report

**Meetings:** Monday's meeting will be in person at the Munnecke Room. Mark Morton, head librarian and tech guy of Leland library, has been working with me to figure out how to set up that room for streaming live meetings but we are not there yet. We have been streaming the planning commission and parks and rec meetings with limited success; it is hard to hear, impossible to see some people and in many moments the stream is simply incomprehensible. It is also necessary to employ a person just to watch the zoom stream in order to guard against zoom bombers and mute those who can't mute themselves. I've been serving this function for our town board meetings and for the parks and rec meetings but there's no way, at least for me, to chair a live meeting while simultaneously watching a computer screen. Over the summer we will be continuing to look at this and discussing whether the expense of a streaming setup with individual microphones and hiring a person to monitor the stream is something that we value enough to fund.

**Ken's Truck:** The truck has been misfiring periodically. One of the ignition coils has been replaced and another is failing. We have been searching for a replacement truck. The parameters are four-wheel-drive, a long bed, AC and radio, and a trailer hitch. We are not looking for something that will plow snow as it seems that hiring others to plow makes more sense. The current truck has about 110,000 miles on it. Ken puts about 10,000 miles a year on the truck. He does not need all of the electronics that come with newer trucks, bluetooth, back up cameras and the like. He needs a radio and AC. He does prefer crank windows because they don't go bad as often. We are looking for something used in the \$25,000 range.

**FOIAs** Personally, I spent five hours this month fulfilling Mr. Janko's FOIA requests. I understand that he has gotten at least 100 hours of free work on FOIA requests so far this year.

**ARPA Funding** I attended a webinar on the ARPA (so-called "Covid windfall") funding put on by the National Association of Townships. As information comes in, it is clear that we should be very thoughtful about using these funds and pay close attention as the rules are developed. There is no traditional grant process; we are responsible for using the money for allowed expenditures and then explaining via an annual report why our expenses were proper. According to this webinar, the disbursements will be based on our township's 2019 census population estimates (1756 residents) which is lower than 2010 population (2043 residents), so we will likely be getting about \$184,000. This will be disbursed in two installments, one this year and one next year. Allowable uses include premium pay to essential workers, replacing lost revenue, responding to an ongoing health emergency, and specific infrastructure, namely water, sewer, and broadband. Except for the premium pay category, this money is to be used for expenses that were incurred after 3/3/21. Expenses must be obligated by December 31, 2024 and spent by the end of 2026. Expenses related to dealing with an unbudgeted influx of tourism and residents are allowable. Also allowed are expenses related to projects that were halted or delayed due to Covid and now cost more to accomplish, however it is unclear whether Davis-Bacon wages will be required. We are currently on track to receive these funds, since we already receive funds from the federal government for NPS slip rentals. There will be an

application/request for disbursement coming in the next few weeks. The MTA is putting on another webinar about this funding at 2 pm on June 17th. Please register at [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_-j64FFdDRrC2Rv1StU5Mkw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-j64FFdDRrC2Rv1StU5Mkw).

**Soil borings:** I was present at the soil borings to determine the suitability of the Popp Road site for a recycling center. Eight holes were bored, with no evidence of buried trash.

**Other communications:** There was a minor emergency at the foot of Golfview as one home had a backed up sewer and other homeowners were worried. Referred to Steve Patmore. One phone call from a resident who wanted a zoning issue resolved by someone other than Tim Cypher. Advised him that Tim is our ZA, no choice involved. Correspondence from Melissa Crimmins about storm water and traffic has been forwarded. Spoke with Sheriff Borkovich; the speed trailer is already being used elsewhere, but he would try to keep an eye on the area. A phone call from a resident on 641 north of Alpers worried about speed and wishing for a speed zone. This is the third person with that request, I will talk to Sheriff Borkovich and the Road Commission about how to proceed. Received a letter from Dona Laskey concerned about her liability with the sidewalk that needs repaired in front of her office. That section is part of the preliminary plans that I shared last week.

**Leland School Traffic:** I received a call from Brandan Mullane at the Road Commission about bus drop-off/pickup at Leland School on Pearl Street. We are asking for a formal traffic study to be completed before August 1 so that everyone can be on track for the start of school in the fall.

**Office Space:** We have still not received written notice from the landlord about the date to vacate. We have also not seen a site plan for the new building. Gourdie-Fraser Engineers was out surveying this week. The timeline between submission of a site plan and application for a Special Land Use permit is 3 months. This also applies to the township, should we decide to move to a place where a SLUP is required. Moving during election season or tax season is problematic; mid August would be the window of opportunity.

The Pisor Building (behind Trish's Dishes) was eliminated because of lack of suitable parking. Although Madeline Houdek has been talking to me about the land between the Lake Leelanau Fire Station for a long time, now that it has come time to get an appraisal, Jim seems "not ready" to sell the property. In the last few days, office space at Leelanau Excavating has opened up, but it is small, only enough room for the clerk and the treasurer.

At the last meeting, the basement of the County building was mentioned. I had previously pointed to that location as a possibility for storing records, not as an actual office. I know of no vacant offices in that location. Grove Park is a possibility, but the expense of renovating the playground and relocating the tennis court could top \$200,000, before we even look at building or site prep.

The property at 25 S Lake Leelanau Drive is still available, with a seller finance or lease-to-own option. If we do a seller financed deal, that financing is limited to 15 years. I believe that this property is our best option. I will be scheduling a meeting next week to get authorization to move in that direction.

The Doodle Poll for that meeting is

[https://doodle.com/poll/uenp4vp8riq5kt4m?utm\\_source=poll&utm\\_medium=link](https://doodle.com/poll/uenp4vp8riq5kt4m?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link). Please respond as soon as possible. We will also go over the sidewalk plan at that meeting. Please send me questions ahead of time.

Other needed workshops: A joint meeting with Parks and Rec to resolve budget issues, tentatively the week of June 21st, a meeting with Chief Besson and Union Rep Russell Korson to discuss recruiting and retention challenges in the Fire and Rescue Department, and a workshop to address the failure of the extra-voted operating millage.

I will be out of touch this weekend as we travel down to Pentwater for my youngest daughter's wedding. Please call me with questions before noon on Friday, or Monday morning.