



Supervisor

Harold L. Koviak
4271 E. Burt Lake Rd.
Cheboygan, MI 49721
231-238-9962

Clerk

Christy L. Kozlowski
2028 Evergreen Ln
Brutus, MI 49716
734-730-1746

Treasurer

Shirley A. Reimann
6681 W. Birchwood Rd.
Cheboygan, MI 49721
231-238-7492

November 2021

Dear Burt Township Taxpayer;

Winter will be arriving soon in Northern Michigan and your Board is getting ready for a busy new year ahead!

SPRING CLEAN UP

Spring Clean Up Day—better known as “Big Dump Day” will be Saturday, June 18 (Father’s Day weekend 2022) at the East Side Transfer Station on Crump Road. Residents requiring assistance to remove items may call Harold Koviak at 231-238-9962.

TRANSFER STATIONS

2022 Transfer Station permits are available. Just enclose a separate check for **\$60** made payable to Burt Township along with your payment for your Winter taxes. For those residents whose taxes are paid through their mortgage companies, mail your **\$60** check directly to Shirley Reimann. The 2022 Transfer Station permits are valid from April 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023.

Recycling – Just a reminder that plastic bags go in with paper/cardboard. Glass/plastic/metal should be put in the second recycle bin. We know this is different than “down state” where materials do not need to be separated. Plastic tools and plastic car parts should not be recycled. Garbage does not belong in the metal/plastic/glass bin.

NEW FIRE AGREEMENT WITH MULLETT TOWNSHIP

After several months of negotiating, a new 5-year agreement was completed Oct 11 to provide fire and emergency services for the east side/north end of Burt Township. Costs have more than doubled since 2005, but under the old agreement expiring March 31 of this year, Burt Township has not provided financial assistance to keep up with the costs. The new 5-year costs are \$50,000 for 2021 (half of the 1/2 mill currently is \$34,000 which was paid last year), 2022 is \$68,000 and years 3 through 5 will be 1 mill of the property value which should be approximately \$72,000 in 2023. The goal is that by year 3 (2023), each township will be contributing 1 mill of property value for the Topinabee Fire Dept.’s \$145,000 operating budget.

Discussions are also underway with Pellston Fire Dept, which services the west side of the township, regarding increased financial support. A survey is being created and will be available in January to obtain feedback from Burt Township property owners regarding Fire and Roads millage, currently at ½ mill.

Eugene Hodulik, Trustee
4469 E Burt Lake Road
Cheboygan, Michigan 49721
231-238-8824

Kathryn Parker-Ebbers, Trustee
4989 E Burt Lake Road
Cheboygan, Michigan 49721
231-499-8289

BURT LAKE TRAIL PROGRESS

We are very excited to announce that construction of Phase III of the Burt Lake Trail, an additional 1.4 miles, was completed Oct 18, 2021, as a continuation of Phase II from the intersection of Riggsville Road and East Burt Lake Road south to the intersection of Birchwood Road and East Burt Lake Road.

Necessary easements were obtained from private property owners near Birchwood Road and East Burt Lake Road intersection, as well as a very generous easement from the University of Michigan Biological Station. This is a non-motorized, off road, paved 10-foot-wide trail winding through beautiful woods, providing 11.3 miles of continuous trail from Maple Bay on the west side around the north end of Burt Lake through the Biostation property and ending at the intersection of Mullett-Burt Road and Topinabee Mail Route Road on the east side.

But we are not done. The goal is to connect to the two state trails, the Northwestern State Trail in Brutus and the North Central Trail in Topinabee. This will then be the first east-west connector trail in the state connecting major trails and will complete a 62-mile loop trail. The Trail Committee focus will also include a plan on how to finance paving Phase I of the trail, (Phases II, III, IV, V are paved), and having Trail Head parking on the east side. So, please get outside and enjoy the Burt Lake Trail!

Trail Maintenance Committee – Volunteers are always needed for the trail on the west side. Contact Gary Street, 231-529-6557, to join these dedicated, hardworking men and women. A new group of volunteers will be needed for the trail through the U of M Biological Station.

ROADS

This summer Eaglesnest Road and West Numbers Road were tar and chipped (maintenance of the existing roads to extend their life), and a section of West Numbers Road which was gravel, has been paved extending west toward the lake. As always, the gravel roads were brined at the end of June. Planned projects for 2022 include tar and chip of Cedar Point Drive, Cedar Drive, and Deerfield Lane. The ½ mill for roads is approximately \$72,000 yearly and must be accumulated for at least 3 years to pay for approximately one mile of gravel road construction to paved asphalt.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REMINDER

Please remember that prior to site preparation (clearing of trees, excavating or filling) with the intent of developing a driveway, parking area or future structure, residents must submit a completed zoning permit application along with a site plan to the zoning administrator. Per ordinance 9.02, a zoning permit must be issued prior to proceeding.

INTERNET UPDATE

Spectrum: There has been no word from Spectrum on a potential broadband project on the west side of the township.

CenturyLink: Michigan is on the list of CenturyLink's existing copper/DSL infrastructure being sold off to private equity firm Apollo Global Management. This should happen late in 2022. Where and when Apollo decides to add fiberoptic upgrades is TBD. More should be known once the sale is complete, but the good news is that Apollo will be focusing on rural communities that have been denied fiber to this point.

StarLink: The upstart satellite service remains a current viable option for township residents. Speeds are impressive but with a high initial \$500 equipment cost and monthly service cost of \$100.

PIEG: A letter was sent to the CEO asking about potential plans to expand broadband coverage and letting him know that a larger part of the Township would be interested in being part of their network in the future if the interest is mutual. Jeff Lawson and Sue Buitenhuis from Cheboygan County were CC'd.

BURT TOWNSHIP WEBSITE

The Township website is an essential resource for those who want to learn about our Zoning Ordinance and permits, township officials' contact information, internet updates, elections, meeting schedules and minutes. Visit www.burttownship.org.