

Supervisor

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Clerk

Treasurer

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November 2022

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 17 (Father's Day weekend 2023) at the West Side Transfer Station on Indian Road.

TRANSFER STATIONS

2023 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 2023 Transfer Station permits are valid from April 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024.

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.

BURT LAKE TRAIL PROGRESS

The completion of Phase III in October 2021, to provide 11.4 continuous miles of trail has resulted in a large increase of use by bikers, joggers, walkers especially this summer on the east side and the northern trail through the UM Biostation property. Our goal now is to connect with the two state trails in Topinabee (east) and Brutus (west) to complete a 62-mile loop for bikers. Unfortunately, the resurfacing of Topinabee Mail Route next summer does not include extended paved shoulders. The Trail Committee is currently in conversations and meetings with MDOT regarding this project. In addition, the committee will also continue to identify and pave portions of Phase I as funds are available, as well as developing a trail head on the east side. Volunteers are always needed to help maintain the trail and become a member of the Trail Committee. Contact Gene Hodulik (Trail Chairman) at 231-238-8824 if interested.

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

ROADS

Birchwood Road from East Burt Lake Road to Crump Road (to the Township Hall) was paved late July. The cost was \$212,946 with a road commission match of \$25,000, for a net cost of \$187,946 to the township. The gravel roads were brined at the end of June. The planned tar, chip and seal projects for 2022 did not happen because the county road commission deferred all those projects into 2023. Next year's focus is maintenance of several existing roads which have deteriorated to Paser grades 2 and 3, with 10 being a new road. Crump and Indian Roads, leading to the transfer stations, will be tar, chip, and sealed for a cost of \$65,600. Another meeting with the county road commission manager will determine the priority of additional roads to be tar, chip, and sealed next summer. Topinabee Mail Route will be resurfaced next summer as a county road project, financed by the county 1 mill road tax. The ½ mill township funds for roads is approximately \$72,000 yearly so it must accumulate for about 3 years to pay for approximately a mile of road construction.

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

The Spectrum broadband fiber project for the Township's west side is still happening. Supply chain issues, permitting, along with recent changes to the project have pushed things out until sometime 2023. The Spectrum Regional Construction Manager told the Township that this install is the next big project on his list, and he expects to break ground next spring if all goes well.

Residents may have recently noticed a vehicle parked along Brutus Rd./West Burt with a Spectrum emblem. This was a subcontractor from MCF Field Services measuring distances between utility poles and counting how many homes were serviced in between each. This is just one step of many in the planning process.

The Township will continue to monitor progress and provide updates as more information becomes available. Thanks to everyone for their continued patience while Spectrum continues to prepare for this project.

FIRE/EMS SUPPORT

The Township Board thanks everyone for the August approval of the additional ½ mill for 2 years for fire/EMS protection. This will generate an additional \$72,000 yearly. This service is provided by the Mullett Township Fire Department for the east side/north end and the Pellston Fire Department for the west side of Burt Lake.

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. By the end of 2022 the website will have a new look and feel and a more secure URL. The website is being designed and developed by the Shumaker Technology Group for a cost of \$2,995. The Shumaker Technology Group has an abundance of experience building sites for municipalities similar to Burt Township. The existing website is still available at <u>www.burttownship.org</u> and that URL will be redirected and continue to be active for a few months after the transition to the new website. The new website URL will be <u>http://www.burttownshipcheboyganmi.gov</u>.