



Marilla Township

Est. 1870

Newsletter

December 2022

www.marillatownshipmi.gov

Millage for Fire & EMS Services

The Township voters have approved the millage funding to be able to cover the costs of our Fire & EMS Services contract with Maple Grove Township. This was a necessary step to try to bring income and expenditures into line given the increased costs for nearly all expenses the Township covers. The millage, which passed by 62.5%, will be for four years and will ensure that fire and rescue services are immediately available for residents of Marilla Township. This contract is \$12,000 annually and is one of the largest expenses for services the Township provides to residents.

Income & Expenses

Marilla Township has completed our state-required, bi-annual audit (cost \$7,000 over two budget years) and the improvements in the financial management systems for the Township have helped greatly in making this year's audit proceed very quickly and smoothly. Our auditors were impressed with all the progress made and we are clearer than ever that our Township needs more sources of revenue to meet the costs associated with keeping our Township running.

Sources of revenue for our Township are limited due to lacking

any tax revenue from businesses. Income from property taxes make up only a small portion of our annual income as these taxes are allocated to numerous other entities such as the county, state, and school districts.

Marilla Township Clean-up 2023

The very popular Township Clean-up Day will be scheduled again for the second Saturday in June, which will be June 10th 2023, from 8:00-noon

This is another service provided to Townships residents that cost \$2500 from the Township Budget.

New Board of Review for 2023-24

There are two new members for the Marilla Township Board of Review for the term beginning January 1, 2023. They are:

Allan O'Shea, Chairperson
Dawn Duquette

Master Plan Renewal

The Marilla Township Planning Commission has begun the required, regular revision of the Township Master Plan. To be involved you can check out the website and Planning Commission meetings are posted and open to all residents. This process is required every five years by Michigan Statute.

Tax Time

(WINTER TAX DUE DATE)
February 14, 2023

Office hours are on Tuesday from 10am-2pm or by appointment. Please call the office @ 231-362-3555 on Tuesdays with any questions. End of year taxes open hours with the Treasurer are December 27th from 9:00-5:00 p.m.

Reminder:

Marilla Township does NOT accept postmark dates as timely delivery of taxes. Please mail out your payment early enough to allow for postal delivery so to avoid late fees.

Camie Bay, Treasurer
cbay@marillatownshipmi.gov

ARPA Funding Projects

The Township Board has been making some initial investments in infrastructure improvements with funding from the American Rescue Plan Act.

The doors to the hall required replacement after more than 40 years of service. They should be installed by the end of the year. Some painting and trim projects have also been completed since July.

Other uses may include updating the security and systems for the computers for the Township Clerk and Treasurer to be more secure and efficacious than these systems have been in the past. Keeping up with cyber security is very important in today's world.

Township Board members welcome ideas for use of these funds, so please feel free to attend a Board meeting and sharing your ideas to see if they

fit within the guidelines provided by the federal government.

New Zoning Administration

After more than two decades in his role of Zoning Administrator, Vic Ellis has retired from service. The Township has appointed Township Clerk, Misty Cudney, as the interim Zoning Administrator as we look at the needs of the Township with our new ordinances in land use permitting processes and in enforcement of current zoning, including the revised nuisance ordinance that covers blight elimination. This position will also oversee the Recreational Marijuana Administration work for the Township as well.

Sesquicentennial Mural

The Marilla Historical Society has commissioned and donated an allegorical mural in honor of the 150th Anniversary of the founding of Marilla Township by settlers in 1870. Local artist William Hattendorf, whose work can be seen at several other public settings, was the artist and his depiction of our Township through the years and seasons depicts all that we celebrate about living in our beautiful township. The work, which was completed recently is on display year-round on the north wall of the hall. Donations to the Historical Society covered all expenses for this project.

Website Updates

Looking to participate in township stewardship or community events? Check out our township website for more information about available roles.