

SPRING 2021 OLIVE TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

Olive Township Office

6480 136th Avenue, Holland, MI 49424

E-Mail: info@olivetownship.com

Website: www.olivetownship.com

Phone: 616-786-9996

Fax: 616-786-3133

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 8 - 4
Zoning Administrator Hours: Wednesday Morning or by appointment
Supervisor Hours: By appointment
Assessor Hours: Wednesday 8-4

Supervisor - Todd Wolterstodd@olivetownship.com
Treasurer - Randy Vander Zwaag.....randy@olivetownship.com
Clerk - Lona Bronkema.....lona@olivetownship.com
Trustee - Al Nienhuis, Jr.al@olivetownship.com
Trustee - Matt Nienhuismatt@olivetownship.com
Zoning Admin - Steve Kushion skushion@pcimi.com
Assessor - Tyler Tacoma.....tyler@olivetownship.com
Fire Chief - Duane Wolters.....duane@olivetownship.com
Code Enforcement-Jimmy Rotman.....jimmy@olivetownship.com

Township Board of Trustees Meetings

are the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm

Planning Commission Meetings

are the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm

Website

There is a wealth of information about the township and community on our website. Please visit us at <http://www.olivetownship.com/>. Be sure to check out our Facebook page too for current articles of local interest. If you would like to receive emailed notices, newsletters, and meeting minutes, please sign up for the email list on the website.

Elections

Registered voters who live in Olive Township will have just one opportunity to vote this year. On **May 4** there will be a School Election for Zeeland (operating millage and \$75 million bond proposal) and West Ottawa (operating millage). Polls will be open from 7am – 8pm, or you can vote by absentee ballot.

Registered voters no longer need a reason to vote by absentee ballot. If you would like to vote by absentee ballot, please stop in the office to fill out your ballot application form. Or you can call or email the office and we will mail you a ballot application. Once we have your filled-out application, we will mail you a ballot.

Completed absentee ballots can be mailed back with a forever stamp—no extra postage is needed. Don't forget to sign the outside of the envelope! The township hall will also be open from 8 - 4 the Saturday before the election to allow you to vote by absentee ballot.

New Code Enforcement Officer

In 2020 the township board hired Jimmy Rotman as our Code Enforcement Officer. Jimmy performs inspections and investigations concerning violations of local and state laws. Makes determinations of nuisance violations, unsafe building conditions and violations of any health, building or land use regulation, statute or ordinance. Jimmy also aids property owners in the abatement of nuisances. Call the office if you would like to make an appointment to speak with Jimmy.

Planning & Zoning News

Get Ready for Construction Projects -- Building projects on your home or farm, a new pole barn or any other new structures on your property require a permit from the township prior to construction. Most

improvement projects also require a permit from the township. Before you begin any project please check with the township at least seven days prior to when you wish to begin the project to allow for enough time to receive a permit, if required. Please note that most demolition projects also require a permit.

Land Divisions -- If you are interested in selling part of your property you need to receive approval from the township to divide the land prior to the sale of the property. Inquiring with the township prevents the sale of a parcel that is unbuildable. In addition, we can help ensure structures are appropriately setback from proposed property lines.

Outdoor Storage of Junk -- Olive Township prohibits the outdoor storage of junk or junk vehicles on any property. Keeping our property clean keeps the township safe and attractive. We continue canvassing the township looking for junk and sending letters about cleaning up properties.

2021 Property Tax Due Dates

Summer Taxes: Mailed: July 1, Due: September 14, 2021
Winter Taxes: Mailed December 1, Due February 14, 2022

We accept only checks or cash for payment.

U.S. Postmarks are accepted for payment date.

Cleanup Day

Our annual cleanup day is scheduled for Saturday, April 24, from **8 a.m. to 1 p.m.** This is a great opportunity to clean up your property and get rid of junk at little or no cost. Please bring the coupon below or proof of residency with you when you drop off your articles. Read the coupon to see what can and cannot be accepted. **Please be prepared to unload your own items this year. Bring friends or family who can help you.**

**Olive Township Clean Up Day
Saturday, April 24, 2021
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Old Township Hall
11768 Polk St., Holland, MI 49424**

COUPON

Reminder--Please wait until 8 a.m. on Saturday to bring your items. No items are to be brought the night before.

Accepted recyclables include: aluminum, glass, paper, tin, and batteries (including car). Appliances will be accepted with a \$20 charge for Freon removal.

We will not accept tires, whole cars, paints, oil, or solvents of any kind. The county has drop off points for solvents and paints. We are **not** offering electronics recycling. Lawn & yard waste is not accepted-please bring to a composting site.

Please present this coupon or proof of residency at the entrance to the clean-up day.

Scrap Tire Collection

The Ottawa Conservation District is planning a scrap tire collection event this summer. Watch their website for details <https://ottawacd.org/scrap-tire-recycling/>

Assessor's Office Information

Staff from the Assessor's Office will be out visiting properties again this Spring and Summer. Our goal is to visit each property every five years. We review building

measurements, take updated exterior photos, and interview property owners. We intend to visit about 400 parcels each year to reach all 2,000 parcels within a five year cycle.

This is the current property type mix by parcel count:

Agricultural	485	23.64%
Commercial	75	3.65%
Industrial	85	4.14%
Residential	1,407	68.57%

Fire Department News

Burn Permits -- If you have a brush pile that you would like to burn the township office can issue a permit over the phone. The burn season runs from November 1 to May 31 with special provisions from June 1 to October 31. Call the office for details. Only brush and wood may be burned.

Fire Rescue Calls -- During the period of March 2020 through February 2021 the department responded to 314 alarms. 168 of those were medical related. The rest were fires and various other types of calls.

Training Buildings Needed -- We are seeking buildings to use for firefighter training and live burns. If you have a structure you are going to demolish and would be interested in allowing us to use it for training, please call Chief Wolters for details, or with any questions at 616-836-2398.

Applications for Firefighters are being accepted. Please contact Chief Wolters for more information. Applications are available on our website.

New Rescue Truck

We expect our new Rescue Truck to arrive in early fall. It will replace our squad at the 136th Avenue station that is 23 plus years old. We will post pictures on our Facebook page when it arrives.

Olive Township
6480 136th Avenue
Holland, MI 49424

Prsrt Std
US Postage
PAID
Holland, MI 49423



at www.facebook.com/OliveTownship
at www.facebook.com/OliveTownshipHistoricalSociety

Historical Society News

The book "Barns of Olive Township" will soon go to print. The book will contain 100+ barn photos, barn histories and stories of people who were and are part of the local charm of our agricultural community. If you are interested in reserving a copy of the book, please email kitkarsten@hotmail.com or call 616-875-8036. Limited copies will be printed so reserve your book today.

Memorial Day has been commemorated for over 100 years. We hope to participate in this annual Memorial Day Event. Look for updates and information in the future on our Facebook page - Olive Township Historical Society.

Olive Township's Pigeon River Quilt Trail continues to grow! From what was once 26 quilts, now has grown to 34 quilt boards. The updated list can be seen by visiting www.olivetownship.com. You will find photographs of the boards and buildings along with stories about each quilt. Printed brochures (26 locations) are available at the Township Office or by calling 875-8036. An updated brochure is in the works.

Have you noticed? The old South Olive Steeple has been restored. The steeple has been reroofed, painted and some structural repairs have been completed. Our hope is that this historic landmark will remain for future generations. If you would like to make a donation to "The Steeple needs a NEW Historic Marker", please mail it to the Olive Township Office - Attention: Steeple Marker.

Roads

We anticipate having the township's gravel roads graded and brined three times this coming season.

Make Burial Plans Now

Did you know? Only Olive Township residents or landowners may buy gravesites in the **Olive Township Cemetery**. Only Olive or Port Sheldon Township residents or landowners may buy gravesites in the **West Olive Cemetery**. If you want to be buried in one of our cemeteries, give some thought to purchasing your gravesites now. Once you move out of the township, you are no longer allowed to purchase gravesites. If you already own gravesites and move out of the township, you are still able to be buried in those graves. Now is a great time to think about these things.

Other important info:

- Each grave is limited to no more than two burials—either two cremains, or one body and one cremains.
- Only one headstone is allowed per grave.
- You can purchase one grave (\$150), two graves (\$300) or four graves (\$500).
- You may transfer/sell unused graves to other Olive Township residents/landowners. The sale/transfer must be approved by the board of trustees at one of their monthly meetings, and there is a \$10 transfer/deed fee. The sale price is between the buyer/seller.
- Live or silk flowers must be in green cemetery pails. Concrete flower pots that are in good condition, and were in place before 2017 are also allowed. No plastic flowers are allowed.

There are still gravesites available in the back (D) section of the Olive Township Cemetery. Plans for expansion are underway, and lots will be available in the new section once all the old gravesites are sold.