

Charter Township of Brighton

Volume III, Issue 6

Winter 2007

ID PLEASE

Due to a recent court ruling, every Michigan voter who offers to vote in the polls must comply with the requirement by showing a photo id or signing an affidavit attesting that he or she is not in possession of picture identification. (Michigan Compiled Law 168.523).



Voters WITH picture identification: Voters can satisfy the picture identification requirement by showing a Michigan driver's license or a Michigan personal identification card. Voters who do not possess either documents may show any of the following forms of picture identification as long as they are current:

- Driver's license or personal identification card issued by another state
- Federal or state government-issued photo identification
- U.S. passport
- Military identification card with photo
- Student identification with photo from a high school or an accredited institution of higher education
- Tribal identification card with photo

Voters WITHOUT picture identification: Michigan election law anticipates that not all voters will have picture identification. Voters who do not bring picture identification to the polls or do not possess picture identification can vote like any other voter **by signing an affidavit.**

Questions regarding the picture identification requirement can be directed to the clerk's office at 810-229-0560. You can also send an e-mail to Ann Bollin, clerk, at clerk@brightontwp.com. Please add "voter id" to the subject line.

Inside this issue:

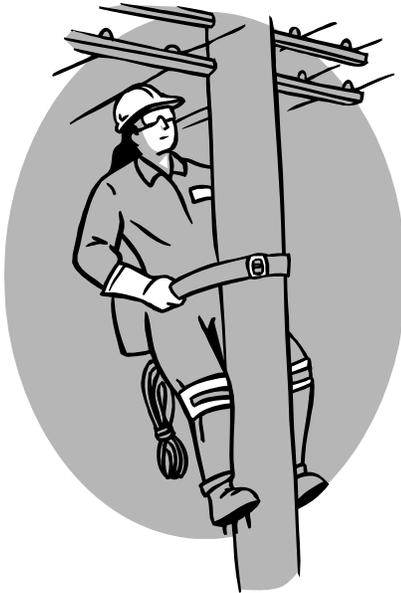
E Grand River Reconstruction	2
Master Plan Update	3
Large Item Tag Program	3
Water Treatment Plant Goes On Line	3
Safety Tips	4
Website Award Finalist	4
Wireless Livingston	4

Regular Board Meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Monday's of each month. The meetings are held in the Board Room in the lower level of Township Hall and are broadcast live on Cable Channel 15.

Meeting start time is 7:00 P.M.

E GRAND RIVER RECONSTRUCTION

Early Utility Relocation Underway



East Grand River between U.S. 23 and Pleasant Valley Road will be completely reconstructed in 2008. However for motorists right now there is plenty going as the utility relocation gets into full swing.

The electric and gas companies have been busy relocating their facilities and now the first phase of telephone relocation has started.

AT & T has agreed to consolidate its lines in a series of buried duct pipes along the north side of Grand River. Some of this duct work needs to be lowered in order to accommodate the reconstruction. The first phase includes tree removal in order to provide access for telephone company contractors.

The contractor will clear approximately 3400 feet of road frontage along a steeply sloped parcel of undeveloped property on the north side of Grand River. The roadside adjacent to Grand River will be reshaped to provide a safer transition to the road. This also will eliminate the need for expensive retaining walls at several locations.

The clearing will be completed by mid-December. The telephone relocation will begin in December and be completed in approximately mid-February.

The E Grand River project will:

- ⇒ Resurface Grand River Avenue from the Brighton city limits east to the west end of the bridge over northbound U.S. 23
- ⇒ Widen Grand River Avenue from two (2) lanes to five (5) lanes from the bridge over northbound U.S. 23 to 800 feet east of Academy Drive
- ⇒ Widen Grand River Avenue from two (2) lanes to four (4) lanes from 800 feet east of Academy Drive to Richards Drive
- ⇒ Widen Grand River Avenue from two (2) lanes to three (3) lanes from Richards Drive east through the intersection with Pleasant Valley Road

When completed, the project will have many benefits. These include:

- ⇒ Improved ride quality
- ⇒ Reduced congestion
- ⇒ Improved safety with a center left turn lane
- ⇒ Sufficient capacity for future traffic volumes

The contractor for the Livingston County Road Commission is Six-S of Waterford. Six-S was the low qualified bidder when bids were received on September 28, 2007. Bids ranged from \$6.3 million to \$7.1 million. The total project cost is estimated at \$8.1 million. Funding is from a variety of sources, including special federal funding secured through the office of Congressman Mike Rogers (R-8). East Grand River currently carries 17,000 vehicles per day and this is expected to increase 50% over the next 20 years.

Questions can be directed to the Livingston County Road Commission at 517-546-4250.

Master Plan Update Underway

The Township is undergoing an update of the Comprehensive Development Plan or Master Plan. The process began earlier this year with a community open house and several focus group meetings. The Planning Commission held a public hearing in late November. Once adopted by the Planning Commission, the Plan will go to the Township Board for adoption.

Please contact Kelly Mathews, Planner, at 810-229-0562 with your questions. The draft can also be viewed on the Township's website at www.brightontwp.com.

Large Item Tag Program Changes

Large item trash pick-up tags must be purchased directly through your individual waste hauler. Tags are currently not available through the Township.

Questions can be directed to David M. Murphy, Manager, at 810-229-0550.

Water Treatment Plant Goes On Line

The Livingston Community Water Authority (LCWA) will have their water treatment plant operational on December 10, 2007. LCWA consists of the communities of Brighton Charter Township, Green Oak Charter Township and Hamburg Township. The plant will filter out iron which will make the water softer and eliminate the "rotten egg" smell. The plant will be processing the current demand of approximately 200,000 gallons per day but has the ability to process up to 1,000,000 gallons per day if needed.

The LCWA will be flushing lines to purge the old water and should have the job completed by December 25, 2007. The Authority recommends that all users drain and flush their hot water tanks to remove the old water around the first of the year.

Questions can be directed to David M. Murphy, Manager, at 810-229-0550.

Live Trees and Other Holiday Decorations

Trees, lights and candles become more prominent in homes and businesses this time of year. It is important to *not* overlook the dangers that holiday decorations can present.



Keep your family safe this holiday season by:

- * Watering your cut tree daily
- * Do not put the cut tree near a heat source
- * Never use an open flame such as a candle on a tree
- * Place the tree in a sturdy stand
- * Dispose of the cut tree when the holidays are over
- * Use only approved lights with a recognized label indicating they are safe (*UL* or *Underwriters Laboratories*)

Our Water. Our Future. Ours to Protect.



Did you know that we all live on a lake or stream? We might not be able to see it from our window, but it's there. It might be a small stream or ditch or even the storm drain in the street. All of these lead to a river or lake. So it's important to remember that what we do at home affects our rivers and lakes! Here's how YOU can help:

SWEEP IT. Help keep pollution out of storm drains by sweeping extra fertilizer, grass clippings, and dirt onto your lawn instead of hosing it into the storm drains.

ONLY RAIN IN THE DRAIN. Don't dump oil, chemicals, pet waste, or anything else. Especially in the fall, when we're busy raking leaves, make sure that they are swept off the street and are not blocking storm drains.

Charter Township of Brighton

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Township Website is Award Finalist

Brighton Township's newly designed website, www.brightontwp.com, was a finalist in the HeleneWard for Web Excellence sponsored by the Troy Chamber of Commerce. The award recognizes industry professionals for web excellence and is given to eight web sites developed by Michigan design companies. Two hundred nominations were received this year from across the state with 24 business professionals contributing to the judging process. Although the site was not chosen as the winner of this year's HeleneWard, it was one of only five finalists in the informational category. The website was designed by 3SixtyInteractive of Fenton.

Wireless Livingston Launched

Wireless Livingston was officially launched in late September and is an effort of the Regional Cooperation Group (consisting of Brighton Charter Township, Green Oak Charter Township, Hamburg Township, City of Brighton, Greater Brighton Area Chamber of Commerce, Livingston County) in conjunction with SEMCOG. Wireless Livingston is modeled after Oakland County's Oakland Wireless program and will provide free, high quality internet access throughout Livingston County. The project is a model of cooperation between government and business and is a public private partnership.

Please forward newsletter comments to the editor:
clerk@brightontwp.com or
david.murphy@brightontwp.com

Please be sure to add "newsletter" in the subject line

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*Regular Meeting Days and Times**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1st & 3rd Mondays of every month at 7:00 PM

PLANNING COMMISSION

2nd and 4th Mondays of every month at 7:00 PM

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

4th Wednesday of every month at 7:00 PM

**Meetings are subject to change. Contact the Clerk's office for more information.*

***Phone messages may be left at (810) 229-0550 for all trustees.*