

Charter Township of Brighton

Volume XII, Issue 16

Winter 2012

NEW TOWNSHIP MANAGER STARTS EARLY!!



Brian Vick started with the Township in late October. The Board of Trustees selected Brian after an extensive search that included interest by more than 50 professionals. This is a testament to the great community that so many individuals would like to call home.

Brian previously served as Manager in several premier full service communities in Michigan. Each of them demanding a high level of customer service balanced with fiscal accountability.

Brian earned degrees from the University of Michigan (Masters Degree in Public Administration) and Michigan State University (Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration) and served in the Marines. He has 17 years of experience in municipal government overseeing various departments including Public Works, Public Safety, Community Development, Planning, Building, and Code Enforcement. Additionally, he has been responsible for managing the offices of the Assessor, Clerk, Treasury, Courts and has overseen the operations of a Sewage Treatment Plant (Authority) and Library (Authority). He has planned for and managed multi-million dollar projects for roads, sewers, water mains, streetscape enhancements, and various recreational facilities and brings an added level of professionalism to Township government.

His accomplishments include improving the financial condition in each municipality served; overseeing the consolidation of three local governments; implementing joint public safety dispatch with an adjacent community; and seeking legislative changes related to municipal judgeships.

Please welcome Brian on your next visit to Township Hall. You will quickly see why the Board was anxious to have him on board.

Inside this issue:

Noteworthy News	2
Important Deadlines	3
MI State Police Update	3
Master Plan Update	3
Township Hall Hours	4
Toys for Tots & Gleaners Drop Off Site	4
Principal Residence Exemption Changes	4

Regular Board Meetings are generally on the 1st and 3rd Monday 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.

NOTEWORTHY NEWS



Kroger has remodeled their Grand River store. The new layout adds approximately 14,000 square feet allowing them to expand their product offerings and deli services area. This is the second store remodel since opening in the Township in 1999.

On July 9, 2012, the Brighton Township Planning Commission held a public hearing related to an application by Clearwater Development LLC to construct residential housing at the site of the old Sunset Gravel Pit. During the public hearing the public was encouraged to address the Commission. Concerns raised included, but were not limited to, groundwater safety; traffic impact; dust control; park construction status; limited fill and soil extraction. A copy of the Planning Commission minutes are available for review on the Township website.

Based upon the concerns raised, the Planning Commission recommended plan approval to the Brighton Township Board of Trustees with conditions. The applicant has since decided to revisit their application and as such the matter has not been scheduled for further Board action at this time. The applicant, township consultants, staff and elected body will take all previous and future comments into consideration when reviewing the application when it moves forward. No date has been set at this time but the meeting will be posted on Cable Channel 15 and the website at www.brightontwp.com. Additionally, the Clerk's office is maintaining a list of interested persons that wish to be notified of the meeting.



Additional questions can be directed to Brian Vick, Manager, or Kelly Mathews, Planner. Both can be reached via email (manager@brightontwp.com or planner@brightontwp.com) or phone at 810-229-0550.



The Audit was completed and has been posted to the Township's website at www.brightontwp.com. The audit indicated the highest recommendation available and shows the strong financial health of the Township's General Fund. The Sanitary Sewer Fund (an enterprise fund meaning it needs to be self-sufficient) deficit continues to be reduced. This deficit has been reduced by over \$6 million dollars over the last eight years due to aggressive monitoring of the fund, rate adjustments, General Fund loans and cost savings measures. The shortfall came about partially as a result of the lack of anticipated growth, the poor economy and costs associated with running a wastewater treatment plant.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Each time we reach a tax bill deadline, there are people who are surprised that they have missed it. These dates are mandated by state law and township charter and are repeated each year. With the new year approaching, please take the time to mark these deadlines on your calendar:

December 31

"Tax day" for Personal Property* (business) tax—the day personal property is assessed.

February 15

Summer deferred tax payments due.

February 28

Last day to pay Winter 2012 tax.

March 1

Real Property* tax roll is transferred to and payable at Livingston County.

July 1

Summer 2013 tax bills are mailed.

September 14

Last day to pay summer tax without additional interest.

December 1

Winter 2013 tax bills are mailed.

***Real Property** is the regular property tax that is assessed on land and buildings and is payable at the Township through February 28th of the tax year. Beginning March 1st, Real Property tax rolls are transferred to Livingston County in accordance with state law. **Personal Property** is the tax assessed on businesses and is associated with the items inside the business (i.e. desks, computers, business machinery). This type of tax obligation remains with the Township.

Please review the back of your tax bill for other important information or contact the Treasurer's office at 810-229-0556.

MICHIGAN STATE POLICE UPDATE

Our boys in blue will be moving into their new facility next to Township Hall at the end of November. The final touches are being completed. An Open House will be held once they get settled in at the new location. The MSP-Brighton Post has not had a permanent home since they vacated the building on the corner of Old US 23 and Grand River. We are excited to call them neighbor!

For additional information please contact Supervisor Tom Murphy at 810-229-0550.



MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Thank you very much to everyone who participated in the community survey this past summer. The next step will include meetings to discuss the survey results. You can stay involved in the process by going to our website: www.brightontwp.com and clicking on the Master Plan button which will inform you of upcoming meetings.

Please contact Kelly Mathews, Township Planner, at 810-229-0562 or via e-mail at planner@brightontwp.com. Thanks again for participating in the process.

Charter Township of Brighton

4363 Buno Road
Brighton, MI 48114
Phone: (810) 229.0550
Fax: (810) 229.1778

TOWNSHIP HALL HOURS

Mondays, Wednesdays,
Thursdays, and Fridays 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM *
Tuesdays 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM *

* Closed daily for lunch from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM



TOWNSHIP HALL IS DROP OFF SITE FOR TOYS FOR TOTS & GLEANERS

Toys for Tots—Drop-off boxes are located in the lobby and donations are being **accepted through December 18th** for this program. The toys must be:

- New toys only
- Factory wrapped
- NOT gift wrapped
- NO stuffed toys

Gleaners donations are being **accepted thru December 31st**. All non-perishable items are accepted. Please contact the Clerk's office at 810-229-0560 with questions.

PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE EXEMPTION DEADLINE CHANGES!!!!

On May 1, 2012, Governor Snyder signed Public Act 114 of 2012 amending Section 211.7cc of Public Act 206 of 1893, the General Property Tax Act. The Act established two deadlines by which a Principal Residence Exemption (PRE) may be filed.

The deadline for a property owner to file a "Principal Residence Exemption (PRE) Affidavit" (Form 2368) for taxes levied after December 31, 2011 changed from May 1st to June 1st. To qualify for the PRE for the summer tax levy, a property owner must own and occupy by June 1st of that year.

A second deadline of November 1st was added; however this will only benefit those properties that fall within school districts that collect school operating millage with the winter tax levy. Currently, all school districts within Brighton Township collect all school operating millage with the summer tax levy. For more information please contact the Assessing Department at 810-229-0558.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

www.brightontwp.com

SUPERVISOR

Tom "Murph" Murphy
supervisor@brightontwp.com
(810) 229-0550

CLERK

Ann Bollin
clerk@brightontwp.com
(810) 229-0560

TREASURER

Lana Theis
treasurer@brightontwp.com
(810) 229-0556

TRUSTEES**

Cathy Doughty
trusteecathy@brightontwp.com
Patrick Michel
trusteepatrick@brightontwp.com
Mike Slaton
trusteemike@brightontwp.com
Lucille Weaire
trusteelucille@brightontwp.com

MANAGER

Brian Vick
manager@brightontwp.com
(810) 229-0550

Regular Meeting Days and Times*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
1st & 3rd Mondays of the month at 7:00 PM

PLANNING COMMISSION
2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 PM
(January, March, May, July, September, December)

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
4th Wednesday at 7:00 PM
(January, March, May, July, September, November)

**Meetings are subject to change. Contact the Clerk's office at 810-229-0560 for more information.
**Phone messages may be left at (810) 229-0550 for all trustees.*

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

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