

Hampton Township PUBLIC SAFETY



FROM THE DESK OF **BRYAN BENCHLEY**
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY



It's that time of year again where the clocks were changed. This is the perfect time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors and to test them out to ensure that they are properly working. The fun holiday season is nearing and for those that use a live Christmas tree, it's vital to keep it watered to prevent it from drying out.

As a public safety department, we have been very busy. Since June 1st 2022 until now (October 24th) we have handled 2,505 calls for service, 324 medical calls, 154 fire related calls, 130 traffic crash's, 469 traffic stops and 85 arrests.

With the assistance of the Department of Public Works, we have winterized all of our fire hydrants. It's important to remember to shovel out around the hydrants during the winter so it's easier to find should we need to ever use it.

We have ordered two new vehicles to replace one that was totaled out by a drunk driver smashing into the side of it and another aging one in our fleet. People often ask why we have so many cars, the answer is simple. We need to have extra vehicles because should we lose one due to mechanical failure or one gets totaled, like we had, we need a spare car to continue to provide the services to our community. These vehicles were ordered in 2021 and it appears we won't see them until 2023. One vehicle was purchased using the insurance money from it being struck and the other one was purchased utilizing a USDA Grant. That grant pays for 35% of the cost and outfitting of the new car. The Hampton Township Administration works hard to apply for grant monies to assist with the purchase of new equipment and to make improvements to the infrastructure.

Please remember to lock your car doors and keep valuables out of sight. Larceny from automobiles is a crime of access. If you lock your doors, the odds of you becoming a victim are slim.

We have experienced a lot of changes in Hampton Township and some services have combined because a loss to tax revenue. It's our mission at the Hampton Township Public Safety Department to continue to give the residents and visitors of Hampton Township the best police, fire and medical services in Bay County.

If you ever need to discuss your concerns or have neighborhood issues, please don't hesitate to call (989) 892-0571 to speak to an officer or stop at the office.

Other News

Holiday Light Recycling Drive
December 1, 2022-January 6, 2023

**Don't throw out your old holiday lights!
Recycle them in the collection cart at**

Hampton Township Admin. Office
801 W. Center Road, Essexville

QUESTIONS?
Call Bay City Recycles at 989-894-8312



2023 Recycling & Waste Collection Calendar

The 2023 Recycling & Waste Collection calendar is available on our website at www.hamptontownship.org. Please note calendars will not be mailed to you.

The calendar will be emailed to the subscribers of "What's New in the Hamptons News & Updates" email newsletter. If you haven't subscribed to this newsletter, please visit our website and scroll down to **Get Our Newsletter** then [Click Here to Subscribe](#).

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Building, Plumbing, Mechanical & Electrical Permits

ALL structures being built on-site or brought in preassembled, must have a building permit before placement on property. If you are putting up a new fence or replacing an existing fence, a permit.

Permit costs will be **DOUBLED** if you begin work before obtaining a required permit.

It is your responsibility, once work has been completed, to call the inspectors for a **FINAL INSPECTION**.

Christmas trees will be collected the first 3 weeks in January by Republic Services.

Please place bare, unflocked, undecorated trees out on your regular collection day.



Hampton Times

Winter 2022

Hampton Township Supervisor Terri Close

In an effort to better serve Hampton Township, I recently completed the 2022 Michigan Certified Public Manager® (CPM) Program. This accredited program is only offered at Saginaw Valley State University.

The CPM Program is a 308-hour accredited management training and certification program that provides a comprehensive course of study, built on recognized public management theories, tools, and best practices; and trains managers to apply these theories and practices to the challenges they face as individuals and leaders in the service of the public.

I was able to participate in this program due to receiving a scholarship grant from the Michigan Township Participating Plan, our municipal insurance provider and their generosity. I am very appreciative for the opportunity to participate in this excellent training program and will apply the lessons learned to be better serve all of you and our community.

Hampton Township Updates

- Consumers Energy has advised that the Karn 1&2 coal plants are scheduled to retire in 2023. After this closure, they will begin decommissioning and demolition. The Weadock coal plant closed in 2016. The Karn 3&4 fuel oil and natural gas power plants are scheduled to stay online until 2031.
- Hampton Township has contracted Dependable Sewer to conduct hydro-excavation at the watermain connection to verify the service line material at some locations that the material is unknown. If it is determined that the water service line is a lead line, then it will be replaced at no cost to the property owner. This work is 100% funded with a Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM) grant from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). If you see Miss Dig flags or find a hole was dug in your yard or at the road, this may be why. If you have any questions, please contact our office.
- Hampton Township has contracted Super Construction to replace all the lead water service lines that are found at no cost to the property owner or Hampton Township with grant funding received from the EGLE Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF).
- \$5 Million in sewer lift station improvements should begin in 2023. These upgrades will be funded with a \$2.2M USDA grant and \$2.8M in sewer bonds being issued at 1.375% for 40 years.
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) grant applications for park improvements at Ponside Park and Finn Road Park and Campground have been submitted. We are waiting to learn if our projects will be selected to receive grant funding. We are applying for additional grant funding to help fund these projects. More information will follow.

I will continue to share updates and information throughout the year in our email newsletter "What's New in The Hamptons". Please subscribe on the home page of our website www.hamptontownship.org.

2023 Offices and DPW Holidays and Closures

2023		2024			
January 2	Monday	New Year's Day*	November 10	Friday	Veteran's Day
January 16	Monday	Martin Luther King Day	November 23	Thursday	Thanksgiving Day
February 20	Monday	Presidents' Day	November 24	Friday	Day after Thanksgiving
April 7	Friday	Good Friday	December 25	Monday	Christmas Eve*
May 29	Monday	Memorial Day	December 26	Tuesday	Christmas Day*
July 3	Monday	Independence Day			
July 4	Tuesday	Independence Day	January 1	Monday	New Year's Eve*
September 4	Monday	Labor Day	January 2	Tuesday	New Year's Day*
October 9	Monday	Columbus Day			*Observed

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Teresa Close, CPM
Supervisor
hamptonsupervisor@hamptonmi.net

Frances DeWyse
Clerk
fdewyse@hamptonmi.net

Donna Samyn, MiCPT
Treasurer
treasurer@hamptonmi.net

TRUSTEES:

Emily Benchley
Barry Kenniston
Steve Wisniewski
Pamela Wright

Hampton Township Offices:

801 W. Center Rd.
Essexville, MI 48732
Telephone: 989-893-7541

Office Hours: Monday — Friday
9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 187
Bay City, MI 48707-0187

Board of Trustees meets the second & fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals meets the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

All meetings are held in the Boardroom at 801 W. Center Rd.

Visit us at:
www.hamptontownship.org
Facebook page
Hampton Township Administration

Donna K. Samyn, Treasurer

Tax Collection Hours: Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The last day to pay the Winter Tax Bill is Tuesday, February 14, 2023, without any additional penalty or interest. Beginning February 15th, 2023 an additional 3% penalty will be added to tax bill. Partial payments are accepted. Last accepted postmark date is February 7, 2023. Please continue to use Drop Box. March 1, 2023 the Bay County Treasurer will begin to collect delinquent taxes.

CLOSED: December 23rd, December 26th, and December 30th, 2023

OPEN: Tuesday, December 27th 9:00 a.m. – 5 p.m.

CLOSED: January 2nd, January 16th, and February 20th, 2023

LAST DAY TO PAY TAXES AT HAMPTON TOWNSHIP IS TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH, 2023.

OFFICE WILL BE OPEN 9 A.M. – 5 P.M.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds – Hampton Township received a total of \$986,677.52. This money was a result of the Coronavirus Pandemic. The following projects have been completed:

- ADA Automatic Door Openers (3 doors) to the Township Administration Office and Senior Center Building (1 door).
- Updated electrical panels in the Township Hall and Administration Building.
- Generator was installed in the Township Hall.

Happy Holidays to everyone!!

Frances DeWyse, Clerk



A big shout out to our office staff, my Deputy Clerk, and all the election workers for working hard making this a smooth election. There is so much work to get ready and run an election and it all went well thanks to everyone working as a team. The Township has a total of 7,612 registered voters. We had a 60% turnout with 4,491 voters casting a ballot. Of that total, 2,249 voted absentee and 2,242 voted in person. We sent out 2,348 absentee ballots and 2,249 were returned for a 96% return rate, which is the highest we've had.

With all the precincts located on our main office complex, parking is at a premium and I'd like to encourage everyone to vote by mail. You won't have to stand in line which was an issue with this election as there was so much on the ballot and people were taking 10-15 minutes to vote. I anticipate the turnout in 2024 to be much larger with long lines, so please think about signing up to get an absentee ballot. They are mailed out about 30 days prior to the election and you can take your time and not feel rushed.

Please note the new precinct locations. If you voted at Verellen School, you now vote at the Fire Department. If you voted at Hampton School, you now vote at the Sr. Citizen Center. Both of these locations are behind the Township Hall. All Township registered voters were mailed a new voter ID card in March/April of this year which lists your precinct and voting location. We also were able to secure a grant to update some much-needed equipment and supplies.

The Executive Committee is working on preparing our 2023 budget. With the continued loss of tax revenue from Consumers Energy, it makes this task much more difficult. We anticipate it will be presented to the Board at their November 28, 2022 meeting.

Thank you for keeping Hampton Township a great place to live. I am so blessed to serve as Township Clerk, a job I truly enjoy and I always try to do the best job I can. Have a safe and happy holiday season!

Assessing

Personal Property Tax Forms

Business Owners that file the Personal Property Forms need to give the assessment notices/tax bills to their tax preparers/accountants to prepare. Please **DO NOT** call the Assessing Office for totals.

If your business has already filed a form 5076, "Exemption from Personal Property Tax", **DO NOT** file the form 5076 every year. Doing so creates extra work for your accountant and they are charging you for an unnecessary mailing. The exemption stays in place until the business owner removes it.

Assessment Change Notices showing the 2023 tentative values will come out in the month of February. These values can be appealed at the March Board of Review with an appointment.

Contact: Ronda Mrock-Parks, Assessor • Phone: (989) 876-7625 • Email: asgfirm@charter.net

Department of Public Works News

Snow Plowing

Beginning this winter, the Bay County Road Commission (BCRC) will assist in plowing our Local township roadways. Historically, the Local township roads have been plowed by the Hampton Township Department of Public Works (DPW) crews, a service the township could afford to provide our residents, clearing the roads quickly and efficiently during and after snow events.

Although properly maintained, time has not been kind to our equipment. After a thorough evaluation, the Township's current budget cannot support the costs required to repair or replace our large snowplow trucks. Due to the significant loss of property tax revenue resulting from the recent coal plant closures, Hampton Township is financially unable to make the large capital investment needed to repair or replace the large snow removal trucks and associated equipment.

The DPW will continue to use its snowplow equipped pick-ups to remove snow from streets, courts and subdivision roads. The BCRC will plow the remaining Hampton Township Local road system (approximately 50 miles), using their larger plow trucks. Salting will only occur at intersections.

The BCRC's mission is to provide road snow removal in the most effective and efficient manner possible. The BCRC snow removal priorities for Bay County are listed in order of importance.

- State Highways ("I", "US" or "M" routes)
- County Primary Roads
- Local Township Roads

The Hampton Township DPW will plow the following.

- Subdivisions, Streets and Courts

Please visit the Bay County Road Commission website at www.baycoroad.org for more information regarding their snow plowing priorities.

Drive with caution and stay safe on the roads this winter!

Snow Plowing Preparation

It is often difficult for the snow plow drivers to see where the road ends and your yard begins after it snows. Please consider putting up snow stakes (aka driveway markers) along the edge of your yard to aid the drivers.

Please note that Hampton Township and the Bay County Road Commission do not replace mailboxes that are knocked down from the weight and force of snow and ice being plowed.

It is a good idea to inspect your mailbox before the snow falls to make sure that the posts don't move or have any wood damage and make any needed repairs to prevent any issues during the winter plowing season.

October Was The Last Brush Chipping

The last brush chipping of the year is completed in October each year. If you have any brush, twigs or branches out by the road, please remove it as soon as possible so it doesn't impede the snow plows.

Brush chipping begins in April and last chipping is in October.

For more information please visit our website at www.hamptontownship.org.



Hampton Township has contracted HydroCorp to administer our Cross Connection Program and complete the inspections that are required by Environment, Great Lakes & Energy (EGLE). The Safe Drinking Water Act mandates that every commercial building and residence be inspected every 5-7 years to ensure no contaminants can enter into the water system.

Each year, HydroCorp will conduct 1/5th of the inspections in Hampton Township, by area/zone, and has already begun conducting inspections. Certified inspectors will need access into the residence to inspect backflow prevention assemblies, hose bibb vacuum breakers, etc.

When HydroCorp plans to do your inspection, a letter will be mailed to address that receives the water bills to schedule an inspection. Failure to have an inspection will result in the water being shut off. Again, this is mandated by EGLE to prevent any contamination in the water system and is for your safety as well as the community.

HydroCorp will also be completing a Water Meter Replacement Program during the inspection should the meters need replacing while onsite.

More information is available by visiting our website at www.hamptontownship.org.