



# Hayes Voice

TOWNSHIP

CONNECTING **OUR** COMMUNITY

#1

December 2022

## HAYES TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

Welcome to the first edition of the Hayes Township Voice! We are very excited to be able to bring the most recent and up to date information about our township to the door of each resident.

As your board members, we have heard the request for more frequent communications. In addition to the updates shared on our website and at our meetings, we extend the Voice to you, to include the residents who may not get that information. It will be another connection to the important members of our community.

Each month, we will update our residents on all meetings, events, and other township business. We will share a calendar of monthly events, pictures from our beautiful area, as well as columns and articles from officials that will provide insights into Hayes Township.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter. Calling Hayes Township our home is special to all of us, and community is everything. Each edition of the Voice is meant to connect this community, and we truly hope it does.

Best Wishes,

Hayes Township  
Board of Trustees



## Notes from November 2022 Board of Trustee Meeting

- The BOT has changed the Cemetery Sexton Position to an hourly employee position. Any interested applicants can apply by filling out an application at the hall.
- The BOT gave their committed \$50K from the 2022-23 budget to the Charlevoix Road Commission toward roadwork on Upper Bay Shore. Thank you to the Little Traverse Bay Band of Ottawa Indians and Charlevoix County Road Commission for their hard work and funding.

## Notes from November 2022 Planning Commission Meeting

- The December PC meeting was moved to December 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Following the commitment from the Planning Commission made at the October 2022 meeting to review the future land use map, John Iacoangeli, professional planner and Principal of Beckett and Raeder planning services was invited to speak at the November meeting. Mr. Iacoangeli gave a presentation about the new advisory focus group, consisting of seven property owners/residents to represent the different characteristics in the township and to provide feedback on the master plan future land use map review. This will provide an additional opportunity for citizen input into the process as well.
- The focus group has an independent website: [hayesmasterplan.org](http://hayesmasterplan.org). All information and meeting dates, as well as ZOOM recordings, will be posted on this website.

Planning Commission Board Members  
Please direct all questions/comments for Planning Commission members to:  
[HayestownshipPC@gmail.com](mailto:HayestownshipPC@gmail.com)

## Notes from November 2022 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

- Our new flagpole has been installed at the Hayes Township Park Camp Sea Gull. It is a wonderful addition to the park.
- The Rustic Pavilion we ordered, thanks to the Charlevoix Millage Grant, will be delivered to the park around the end of November. This will offer a sheltered Lake Charlevoix picnic area for visitors.
- The committee will be discussing their 2023 goals at the next meeting on Dec. 5.

All Parks and Recreation correspondence can be sent to [hayestownshippr@gmail.com](mailto:hayestownshippr@gmail.com)



## Hayes Township Calendar

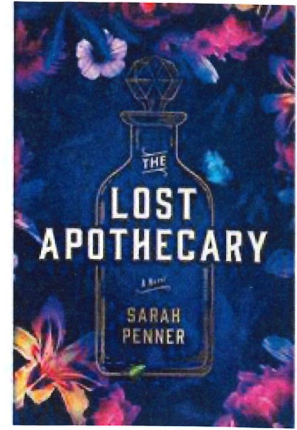
December 2022

Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> – Community Coffee, 1pm

Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> – Parks & Recreation, 6pm

Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> – Board of Trustee, 7pm

Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> – Planning Commission, 7pm



Calling all book lovers!

Many residents have inquired about starting a Hayes book club, and we are excited to organize a group! Our first book will be 'The Lost Apothecary' by Sarah Penner. Our first meeting is going to be on Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 1pm. This will give everyone a chance to enjoy the holiday season and have an opportunity to read the club book.

If you have any questions, please contact Kristin Baranski at 231-547-6961.

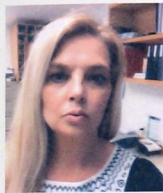
## Zoning Ordinance: Clarification and Revision

It is common and expected to continually update a zoning ordinance. Some of those updates are in the form of formal applications and approvals to rezone properties, others are to correct errors, note changes to laws, agencies, authorities, organizations, data referenced in the ordinance, and new types of development and uses. Examples in the last few years are changes in State law regarding foster care, sign language (zero content), cannabis/marijuana, gravel, sand and mineral excavation, and short-term rentals.

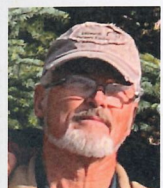
Economic and housing demands have created a population shift to our township; all issues need to be factored into updates. Acknowledging repeated similar variances granted by Zoning Board of Appeals is another often reason to update or change the



# BOARD OF TRUSTEES



**Kristin Baranski, Clerk**  
clerk@hayestownshipmi.gov



**Doug Kuebler, Trustee**  
Hayestrustee5@gmail.com



**Ron VanZee, Supervisor**  
supervisor@hayestownshipmi.gov



**Matt Cunningham, Trustee**  
Trustee2@hayestownshipmi.gov



**Julie Collard, Treasurer**  
treasurer@hayestownshipmi.gov



Hayes Township held a ceremony on Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, in honor of Veteran's Day. Color Guard was in attendance, and Supervisor Ron VanZee (also a Veteran) spoke in honor of all who have served our country. A plaque was unveiled of Hayes Township Veteran names to add to the memorial.

## *Zoning Ordinance: Clarification and Revision Continued*

ordinance. This often occurs on properties that became non-conforming prior to the first adoption of the ordinance.

Hayes Township adopted its first Zoning Ordinance in 1974. It has been amended and amended repeatedly. Because of the complexity of the ordinance, it is almost impossible to cross reference every aspect, in every section, to ensure there are no conflicting restrictions or requirements.

In 2021, the Charlevoix County Equalization Department assisted the township in updating the zoning map to reflect amendments, and the county found 17 changes that had procedural, documentation and/or recording errors dating back at least fifteen years. Correcting those errors not only took countless hours and public hearings to correct, but it also made a significant change in the zoning map and thus the zoning ordinance.

The decision to update and reformat the zoning ordinance was not an easy one simply because it is an extensive and time-consuming task. The goal has never been to change the way we protect our quality of life, our environment, or the goals and objectives of the township. It is primarily to correct conflicting and outdated portions of the ordinance in a format that is simpler, digital, and allows anyone to cross reference different sections of the ordinance.

By having the ability to cross reference it would make it easy for an applicant to find all information relevant to their proposed request. An example of this would be, if someone wanted an accessory structure, by simply typing in those words all portions of the ordinance related to that subject would be referenced.

-Roy Griffiths, Hayes Township Planning Commission Chair

## Good Neighbor

By: Kristin Baranski

I have had the privilege of interacting with Hayes Township residents each time I am in the office. It has been a pleasure getting to know my neighbors and community and it is by far the best part of my job as clerk.

I marvel at the conversations between residents when they bump into one another while at the hall; the 'old timers' who babysat for another and the retired teacher seeing a former student with their young children in tow. Families that were raised in this area returning to say hello and bumping into the current owners of their 'old place' and being assured 'it is being taken great care of', and my personal favorite- the stories of good-hearted chaotic antics from decades ago that range from bonfire parties in a field to utilizing tractors as a mode of transportation because they were too young to drive a car.

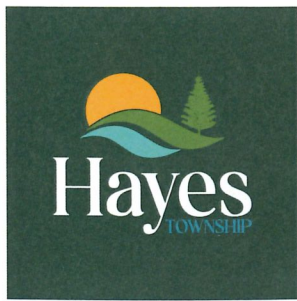
I often feel humbled at the community outreach that comes so easy and naturally in Hayes Township. Neighbors being good neighbors.

### *What is a good neighbor?*

It is the person collecting food from the pantry to drop off at a neighbor's home. It's the many, many pantry contributors, both monetary and groceries. It is a group of friends that work together on each other's land to bale hay with one another as soon

*Continued on Page 4*





# VOICE VIEWS

## CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY

Hayes Township Hall  
9195 Major Douglas Sloan Rd.  
Charlevoix, MI 49720  
(231)547-6961

For the most up to date information,  
Visit:  
[Hayestownshipmi.gov](http://Hayestownshipmi.gov)

### *Good Neighbor Continued*

as the weather permits. It is old friends reconnected and new friendships developed at our monthly community coffee. It is residents pulling together to search when a neighbor's pet goes missing. It is the Bayshore Community coming together as a single voice. It is the neighbor helping to repair the roof, fence, or birdhouse next door. It is the families that choose to retire here and reach out to help others around them in need. It is a weekly gathering at Hayes Township Park. It is the removal of a tree fallen across the road brought down in the wind or a helping hand to pull a car out of a ditch in a snowstorm.

Being a good neighbor is each and every one of the members that take their time to serve on various committees being given kind words of thanks for their hard work from attendees. It is the happened-upon conversations that begin while walking dogs, planting flowers, or on a beach. It is the kind hearts that collect trash off the side of our roads and trails, quietly and without the need for praise or recognition—simply because they care about where they live.

It is what the soul craves...connection, comfort, and community.

## Working toward a bright future

By: Ron VanZee

I have observed through life that your value does not decrease based on someone's inability to see your worth. Endurance is a foundation that I and my fellow officials are steadfastly adhering to.

I am so proud of our community starting with the most recent support, in fact 80% of the voting public, approving a millage for our Emergency Services Authority. Your vote made it possible for a new 24/7 EMS building attached to our existing fire barn in

And good neighbors  
make a huge  
difference in the  
quality of life. I  
agree.

*Robert Fulghum*

Hayes Township. We will finally have the ability to respond to our residents 911 calls without fear of the downtown Charlevoix bridge being up or not operating. We have a station paid for by five communities but located here in our township. We will have two ambulances and four EMS personnel full time, with some of them cross trained for fire services.

Roads: In the last five years we have resurfaced the southern portion of Quarterline Road, the southern portion of See Road, all of Susan Shores, all of Bayshore north of US 31, all of Bayshore Village, and Upper Bayshore Road from Pincherry to Major Douglas Sloan Road. Our Board of Trustees has designated an additional \$50,000 of our general fund annually to add to our current road millage revenue in an attempt to catch up on the much-needed road repairs.

Our Parks and Recreation Committee has worked to maintain our parks and make them inviting to all residents and visitors. They have made great headway in scheduling development in them including a waterfront pavilion, pickleball courts, and an ADA accessible kayak launch that you will see in the near future. After finally legally acquiring Bayside Park (tucked in the corner of Spring St.), we are looking forward to cleaning and clearing this beautiful area up, as well as making it more accessible.

Our Planning Commission has taken on the responsibility of updating our zoning

ordinance to eliminate conflicting sections, provide for essential housing needs and strive to stay two steps ahead of demand for development. In the process of rewriting, they will be working to make the ordinance interactive. By making it interactive, an applicant seeking to acquire a zoning permit just needs to click on the appropriate site, indicate their request, and the program will reference all sections of the ordinance that apply to that request. This will all be available on our website. In addition, the Planning Commission will be working on our Master Plan to ensure we address all future plans of the township.

Speaking of our website, since our new site was put into place, Julie Collard and Kristin Baranski have maintained and updated it almost on a daily basis. I continue to receive compliments from other communities and from our residents how attractive and user friendly it is. Thanks to Julie and Kristin. Check our website out:  
[Hayestownshipmi.gov](http://Hayestownshipmi.gov).

Our Community Coffee, held on the first Thursday of each month, has been a huge success giving all a chance to meet and know their neighbors. And with the food pantry, the free book exchange and free hotspot at the township hall, it has become a busy and enjoyable place to be.

My days in the office are never just a day in the office. Each day brings different things to my desk: new and familiar faces, an upbeat and positive work environment, interaction with professionals working to make our township the best it can be. They are days filled with a satisfaction expressed by the citizens of this community for all the goals we have accomplished, and kind words of support for all our hard-working board and committee members. All days are good days.

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSSDDM\*\*\*\*  
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