

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



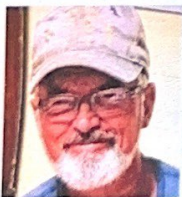
Ron VanZee, Supervisor
supervisor@hayestownshipmi.gov



Matt Cunningham, Trustee
Trustee2@hayestownshipmi.gov



Kristin Baranski, Clerk
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Doug Kuebler, Trustee
Hayestrustee5@gmail.com



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treasurer@hayestownshipmi.gov



Hayes VOICE

TOWNSHIP

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY

#21

August 2024

Notes from Supervisor VanZee

Recently, a fairly new resident of Hayes Township indicated they want to fit into the community and be involved. Shortly after we spoke, I received a telephone call from a concerned resident indicating that the same person told a group of people a complete lie about me. The people in the room knew me and confronted this person, stating that I would never say what I was being accused of. That person did call and apologize. I offered this advice: If you want to know a person, you should talk to them, not about them.

It appears that this is a current trend in our community as I receive daily phone calls to that effect. It made me wonder why. I decided to do a little research, and it helped me better understand a bit better.

Kathleen Stevenson, an individual who studied Business Economics at University of Santa Barbara, wrote an article titled "What is the psychology of people who talk bad about other people non-stop?" In her article, she shares, "It is the negative kind of gossip that is indicative of a malicious or simply deeply insecure individuals.

1. They are deeply insecure and jealous.
2. They project their issues into other people.
3. They are blind to the fact that the malicious gossip they spread damages them as much as it damages the person they are talking about.
4. They believe that talking badly about others makes them look good in comparison.
5. They have a need to overcompensate for their own shortcomings.
6. They suffer from low self-esteem and are constantly looking for outside validation, even if that outside validation is bringing someone else down.
7. They are externally focused: looks, accolades of achievements or possessions are very important to them. If someone has something they don't, they immediately have a deeply driven need to devalue that person.
8. They seek connection with other people through bringing another party down. Birds of a feather flock together.
9. You CAN become addicted to negative feelings. Criticism and negativity may have become a lifelong habit. It's where they feel at home.
10. Sometimes it can be a lack of intelligence or boredom.

As the well-known quote commonly attributed to Eleanor Roosevelt goes "Great minds discuss ideas, mediocre minds discuss events, small minds discuss people." If you really want to know someone, talk to them, not about them. You will probably find a lot more in common than you might expect. Don't let someone else decide who you should or shouldn't talk to. Use your own judgement and voice to connect our community, not tear it down. We need to set an example for our children and grandchildren.

All my best, Ron

- Dedicated to transparency, working for the people -

Hayes Township Update

Our office has been contacted by numerous residents with questions about a recent mailer that was sent to them. We would like to respond to their request for clarification on several issues. We have an open-door policy with our residents. Please call to make an appointment with the Board member(s) you would like to speak with. We are here to answer all questions and discuss resident concerns. We also welcome you to attend all meetings and participate in the Township. Our Board of Trustees Works for YOU.

HAYES TOWNSHIP FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Hayes Township is 100% in compliance with the State of Michigan Treasury Department. We have already approved the Engagement letter for our audit with Gabridge and Co., and the required F-65 forms to be completed and filed. Every single penny in every Township account is reflected in each month's Treasurer Report and is included in the meeting packets, at the meeting, and on the Township website. This information has been included since our Treasurer Julie Collard took office. There is no such thing as 'hidden' or 'off the book' money in Hayes Township. It is all accounted for and shared with residents each month.

As far as our most recent audit is concerned, every previous audit over the years has had the same boilerplate language. We have always had a small staff and no accounting department, as the case has always been in Hayes. There is NO evidence of fraud or issues of concern with our audit.

"In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Township as of June 30, 2023. The technical term, according to the American Institute of Certified Public Accounts is an unmodified opinion, I explain it as being a clean opinion on the Township's response. It's the highest level of an opinion we can provide on the Township's financial statements."-Joe Verlin, Auditor, Gabridge & Co.

Our Board of Trustees approved the purchase of new accounting software and our Clerk, Deputy Clerk, and Treasurer are in contact with the team of experts from the B, S,&A software company, beginning the process of converting our old system to the new software that our auditor and accountant recommended.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The attack on the Planning Commissioners is completely unfounded. Every single member has a vested interest in protecting and preserving not only our lakes, but the rural character and beauty of our Township. There have been previous attempts to edit the current Ordinance, yet none captured issues important to our future. The consultants provided drafts, but the PC as a whole felt it was like trying to put a square peg in a round hole. They switched gears and have been reviewing the current ordinance section by section, educating themselves, and sharing different perspectives at each meeting.

Before ANY PERMANENT CHANGES CAN BE MADE, these steps need to be taken:

- Review of draft by a Planning Consultant, returned to the PC
- Review of draft by the County Planning Commission Board, returned to the PC
- Reviewed at a Public Hearing, returned to the PC
- Presented to the Board of Trustees for final review and return/approval

Everything is simply in the discussion phase. The Planning Commission's job is to consider alternatives when looking at the future. It does not mean they will include these alternatives in the final version. No density has been changed in zoning on ANY lakefront property.

The complaints about the Waterfront Ordinance are blatantly false. The PC is using a science-based approach and recognizes that each property has its own unique characteristics. EGLE and Army Corps of Engineers have skilled staff to evaluate all projects and can share valuable research and information with municipalities.

Our Township Attorney as well as the Michigan Township Association (MTA) have stated that there is NO conflict of interest with Board members being employees. It is very common in smaller rural Townships.

PARKS AND RECREATION

The Park and Recreation Committee and Board of Trustees are working with the DNR, Risk Assessment Supervisor of Park Insurance, as well as the Coast Guard and Township Attorney to make a appropriate and educated choices for all of our parks. No visitors are ever prohibited from swimming at our park.

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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

Update *continued from page 2*

A raffle was mentioned in an early draft of our Community Picnic flier. The committee did their due diligence on this issue and decided a silent auction (now listed and shared in all event information) would be a better choice. The accusation that a law was violated in any way is a gross misstatement. If the Township was to hold a raffle, they would apply for a permit to do so.

As in all organizations, ideas must be encouraged, and discussions held about options and possibilities. To take these discussions and assume that they are final decisions or take bits and pieces to turn them into conspiracy theories does a disservice to our residents. Making assumptions, repeating them as fact, and loudly crying wolf helps no one. We encourage those with questions to view the source documents and verify the accuracy of the claims.

BAY SHORE

On behalf of the request of the citizens of Bay Shore, our Board petitioned the court to amend the consent judgement in place for mining of the 'green pit'. The court agreed, and now there is a definitive end date and restricted times mining can take place.

At the request of the Bay Shore residents, the Township requested a farm fence be placed around the perimeter of the mining area. Reith Riley did not hesitate to honor this request and it has been installed.

LAKE CHARLEVOIX EMS AUTHORITY

At the request of Hayes Township citizens, finding better emergency coverage for Hayes was a priority. Delayed EMS responses and little coverage north of the bridge put our residents' needs in jeopardy. Our Township facilitated not only the property for the new station, but they also made sure it was constructed in Hayes Township to provide much faster response time for our community. Residents of five municipalities voted 4 to 1 to financially support the Lake Charlevoix EMS Authority. Response times have been reduced by an average of 5 minutes and lives have been saved. When thinking about how important each second is during a health emergency, consider how long the average person can administer CPR while they wait for the paramedics.

HAYES TOWNSHIP VOTERS: The State Primary is August 6th, 2024

Contact Clerk Kristin Baranski at 231.547.6961 or clerk@hayestownshipmi.gov
to request an application for an absentee ballot, to spoil a ballot and/or to register to vote.

**Early voting is available at Charlevoix County Clerk office,
301 State Street, starting July 27-August 4, 8:30am-4:30pm.**

Clerk hours the weekend before election: Saturday, August 3: 9am-1pm and Sunday, August 4: 9am-1pm.
During these hours, voters can come in and request in writing an absentee ballot, spoil a ballot (please bring your spoiled ballot with you), request a new ballot, or register to vote.

You can vote in person at the Hayes Township Hall on Tuesday, August 6, from 7am-8pm.

Hayes Township Election Inspectors will process and tabulate all in person and absentee ballots on Election Day.



New park features!

Our Park and Recreation members Paul and Gregg have been busy! They installed the new amenity swing and two other swings and did a huge clean up at Bayside Park-check it out! They also installed our new ADA water access mat at Eastern Avenue Beach.

It's the perfect time of year to visit both Hayes Township parks and enjoy these new features.

Hayes Township Community Picnic at Camp Sea Gull

Bring your friends & family & join the fun!



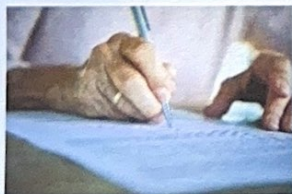
**Saturday, August 3, 2024
from 12-3pm**

8580 Boyne City Road, Charlevoix

Join us for food, live music & park games! Check out the silent auction items from local vendors and you could walk away with a fantastic item!



Please RSVP to treasurer@hayestownshipmi.gov
All proceeds go toward future park amenities.



Did you know about these free services?

Did you know that your Treasurer, Julie Collard, is not only a notary, but also an ordained minister? If you need something notarized or would like to set up a small ceremony, Julie is more than happy to make an appointment for you. Both services are provided at no cost to Hayes Township residents. To make an appointment, please call Julie at (231)675-5927 or email treasurer@hayestownshipmi.gov.

Hayes Township Calendar

August 2024

Thursday, August 1
Community Coffee, 1pm

Saturday, August 3
Community Picnic at Camp Sea Gull, 12-3pm

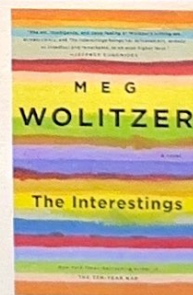
Tuesday, August 6
Primary Election, 7am-8pm

Monday, August 8
Parks and Recreation, 6pm

Monday, August 12
Board of Trustee Meeting, 7pm

Tuesday, August 20
Planning Commission Meeting, 7pm

All events are held at the Hayes Township Hall unless otherwise noted.



August Book Club Pick!

The Interestings
by Meg Wolitzer

To get more information or be added to our Book Club e-mail list, please contact Clerk Kristin Baranski at (231)547-6961

*****ECRWSSDDM****
Local Postal Customer

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