

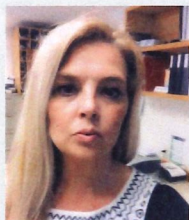
# BOARD OF TRUSTEES



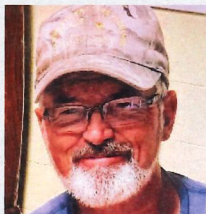
**Ron VanZee**, Supervisor  
supervisor@hayestownshipmi.gov



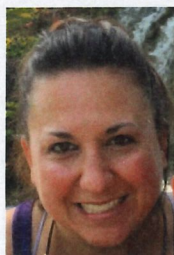
**Matt Cunningham**, Trustee  
Trustee2@hayestownshipmi.gov



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



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



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



## Voice Mission Statement:

To share, educate, and connect with our residents and support a strong and engaged community.

# Hayes Voice

TOWNSHIP

## CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY

#10

September 2023

### From the Desk of Hayes Township Supervisor, Ron VanZee:

Respect.

I have learned in my lifetime that respect is only warranted if it is built on the approval, praise and considerations of others shown to you. To respect someone is to recognize the worth of that person as a result of their abilities, qualities, sacrifices and/or achievements.

In the last few months, I have been reviewing township Board of Trustees and Planning Commission minutes, beginning with the first recorded meeting of 'Hayes Township Road Commissioners' on April 1, 1895, where it was 'moved and supported three hundred dollars be raised for a contingent fund'. The residents who were in attendance have long since been gone, but the spirit of their efforts and dedication lives on.

The number of individuals that have served this community on our various boards since that time is numerous. Through meetings that lasted for 10 minutes to others that lasted well into the night; meetings that went smoothly, and meetings that were more contentious, the dedicated members of these boards stayed steadfast and continued to serve. Many of the family names are still a part of this community and have relatives continuing to serve the community.

I've been told being a public servant is a thankless job, and sometimes, it is. It's very easy for people to make assumptions about officials and their responsibilities without knowing all the information available. Being the brunt of people's anger or frustration does come with the territory, however, we are blessed to have so many more residents choose to engage in a calm manner and are willing to have a conversation about their concerns or questions. This respect is alive and well and we thrive as a community when this path is followed.

We hear the 'thank you' and 'keep doing what you're doing' frequently at our office. The mutual respect is extraordinary, and it gives us the boost to keep working hard for our deserving residents.

All my best,  
Ron





## Notes from the July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Special Planning Commission Meeting

- Planning Commissioners approved a site plan review for waterfront property on Indian Trails
- Came to a consensus to label the area of the green pit as rural residential, with an asterisk explaining current use and consent agreement on the Future Land Use map, to keep farm/forest district as a 10-acre minimum, for residential waterfront to identify different bodies of water, and to include language for affordable housing in the residential/settlement section of the future land use map.

## Notes from the July 2023 Board of Trustee Meeting

- Township Attorney Todd Millar shared an offer Reith Reiley has made regarding their gravel pit. They have suggested a timeline of 5 years with dates and holiday restrictions. With the addition of independent water, air, and environmental quality testing, the Board would be in support of this offer.
- The 2023 L-4029 Rate Request was approved for the winter tax season. CT Martin was appointed to the vacant position on the Planning Commission.

## Notes from the August 2023 Planning Commission Meeting

- The township is working with Bauer/Ford to put together a proposal for acceptable future development based on studies of the (gravel pit) site.
- The Planning Commission tabled any talks of the Future Land Use Map until decisions are made in the pending litigation, as well as the completed study from Bauer/Ford.

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

## Notes from August 2023 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

- The committee members discussed donation amenities of benches to make available at Hayes Township Park Camp Sea Gull.
- Lake Charlevoix Association has gifted Hayes Township 5 hours of professional consulting to construct a plan to bioengineer the shoreline of Camp Sea Gull. This will be a large project over several years.
- Community survey questions are being compiled by the committee members for the update to the Recreation Master Plan.

All Parks and Recreation correspondence can be sent to:

[hayestownshippr@gmail.com](mailto:hayestownshippr@gmail.com)

# Hayes Township Calendar

## September 2023

**Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>**  
Parks and Recreation  
Committee, 6pm\*

**Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup>**  
Community Coffee, 1pm

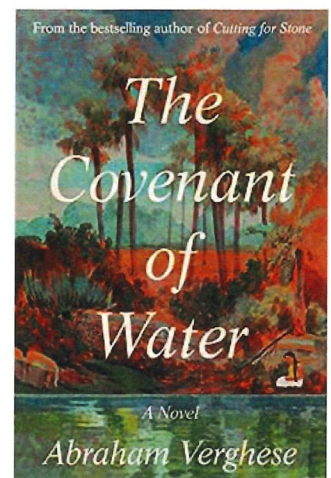
**Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**  
Board of Trustees, 7pm

**Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Planning Commission, 7pm

**Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>**  
Hayes Township Book Club, 1pm

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

\*Meeting will be at Hayes Township  
Park Camp Sea Gull



### September Book Club Pick!

### *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese

This book has incredible reviews. It follows a family through generations and is an epic story of love and faith.

Our book club will meet  
Thursday, September 21, at 1pm  
at the Hayes Township Hall.

If there are any questions, please  
contact Kristin at 231-547-6961





## Lake Charlevoix EMS Authority Award Ceremony

CPR Saves, Lifesaving, and Meritorious Awards were presented at a special ceremony. Thank you to everyone for your amazing bravery and willingness to step in and literally save a life.



## Park Amenity Opportunity!



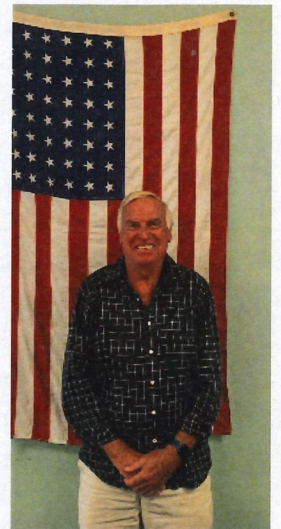
Our Parks and Recreation Committee has opened our first park amenity donation group of benches for Hayes Township Park Camp Sea Gull. Applications are available on-line and in the township hall. We can also mail/email upon request. There is a limit of 10 benches in the first group. First come, first served. Find the application at [hayestownshipmi.gov](http://hayestownshipmi.gov).

Hayes Residents! If you are cleaning out your pantry and have extra cans and/or non-perishable items, please keep our free little pantry in mind! You can drop the items directly in the outdoor pantry or leave the items at the back door and we will stock it as needed. Thank you!

## Our Parks and Recreation Committee wants to hear from you!

A survey opportunity will be shared with the residents of Hayes Township to share feedback for the Recreation Master Plan revision. It will only take a few minutes, and your participation will help guide the committee in making their future plans for our township parks. Specific information will be in the October edition of the Voice.

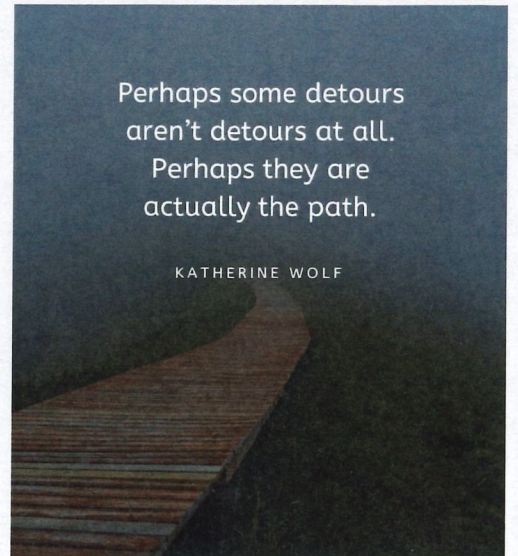
*We would like to  
welcome  
CT Martin to our  
Planning  
Commission!  
He brings fresh  
perspective and a  
big smile to the  
PC.*



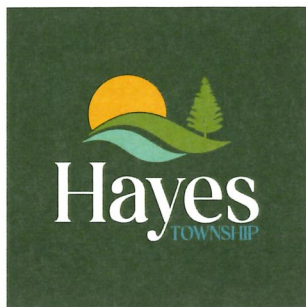
Summer 2023 Taxes are due without penalty by September 14, 2023. Please contact our Treasurer Julie Collard at [treasurer@hayestownshipmi.gov](mailto:treasurer@hayestownshipmi.gov) with any questions.

Perhaps some detours  
aren't detours at all.  
Perhaps they are  
actually the path.

KATHERINE WOLF







# 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)

## BOYNE CITY-CHARLEVOIX TRAIL PROJECT

### *Getting Back On Track*

County staff, volunteer organizers, and stakeholders in northern Charlevoix County, particularly Bay, Hayes, and Evangeline Townships, are combining forces to jumpstart a plan to connect communities in the Boyne City to Charlevoix corridor via non-motorized multi-use trail.

Led by the Charlevoix County Trail Team and Top of Michigan Trails Council, the renewed effort focuses on a nine-mile stretch that would link the two towns along the Boyne City-Charlevoix Road corridor.

The project got started in 2002 when citizens from Boyne City, Charlevoix, and Bay, Hayes, and Evangeline townships decided to study a connective trail. They formed a committee to push the endeavor forward, now known as the Charlevoix County Trail Team.



By 2010, an engineering firm had completed a county-funded study that detailed a five-phase construction plan. Though COVID-19 and other challenges pushed construction off schedule, progress is still being made.

The first phase (a little over three miles of paved trail from Boyne City northward) was completed in 2017. The following year, just under three miles of paved trail were installed from Charlevoix southward, leaving a nine-mile gap.

The plan's third phase, much delayed by COVID-19 and resulting cost increases, is slated for completion in 2024 and will extend the southern leg by 2.36 miles, running north to Horton Bay.

No dates have been set for the two remaining phases, which account for the remaining six miles that will connect the entire trail. However, the work to get Phase 3 completed has reconnected and re-engaged the three townships and the Trail Team.

"Charlevoix County staff and the Trails Council have continuously worked on the Boyne City-Charlevoix Trail, but Phase 3 was extensively drawn out by the pandemic, and we are only now seeing that section come to fruition," said Brent Bolin, Top of Michigan Trails Council Executive Director. "The Phase 3 delays pushed Phases 4 and 5 to the back burner. But with Phase 3 back on track we are turning our attention to the final phases and are looking for ways to accelerate the last two segments."

The Trail Team and county staff each came up with the idea to bundle the final two phases together to save time and money, and with that alignment the Charlevoix County Commission has budgeted \$200,000 for engineering services in FY24.

Trail completion is of particular importance to Hayes Township, with Hayes Township Park (Camp Seagull) planned as a trailhead and the connection point between Phases 4 and 5.

"Hayes Township is glad to hear this project is moving forward," Ron VanZee, Hayes Township Supervisor shared. "Having the trailhead at Camp Seagull will be an exciting addition to our park."

This fall the Charlevoix County Trail Team will begin conducting public outreach on plans to finish the trail, so stay tuned for more details.

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSSSEDDM\*\*\*\*  
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