

Charter Township of Brighton

Volume XV, Issue 19

Summer 2014

SELCRA—OUR RECREATION AGENT **Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs**

The South Eastern Livingston County Recreation Authority (SELCRA) is the leading parks and recreation organization serving Brighton Township and the Livingston County Region. SELCRA serves as our primary recreation agent and was created under MI Public Act 321 of 2000. Funding is through member community contributions, sponsorships, partnerships and user fees. This collaborative approach ensures that quality recreation programs can be offered at an optimal level and at a low cost to resident participants. Member communities include Brighton Township, City of Brighton, Genoa Charter Township and Green Oak Charter Township. Brighton Township is represented on the SELCRA Board by Brighton Township Trustees Cathy Doughty and Patrick Michel. SELCRA is led by Director Derek Smith. Under Derek's leadership, the Authority has expanded recreational programming, developed several public/private partnerships, increased sponsorships, and garnered professional recognition for SELCRA, as both a recreation professional and as a recreation authority.

Recently SELCRA embarked on a strategic planning process that will continue to serve as a model for the future of recreation in the service area and echoes their mission to "promote healthy lifestyles by providing outstanding recreation, sports, and leisure programs for citizens of all ages. SELCRA aims to develop more park land and facilities for recreation and sports. Both quality facility improvements and additional recreational offerings are necessary with the growing population of individuals and families in the southeast Livingston County area." Future plans include focusing on expanded programs for teens, adults, young adults and seniors; outdoor adventure programming; millpond/downtown programming; building a splash-pad facility; financial sovereignty; one-stop shopping for recreational opportunities; and completion of a 'Gaps Analysis'.

Parks and Recreation services provide community, individual, economic and environmental stewardship to successful communities and promote a 'Sense of Place.' SELCRA is fortunate to have residents and local businesses that take pride in the region and support services that help create a viable community structure. For instance, over 14,000 volunteer hours are logged annually to help support and enhance program offerings. Brighton Township residents play a significant role in that success by accounting for over 30% of SELCRA's registered participants. Local businesses support the Authority
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**LARGE ITEM DROP OFF DATE
SCHEDULED—SEE PAGE 4 FOR
DETAILS**



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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.

TREASURER'S TIDBITS ON TAXES

Is there a drop box for payment after hours? Yes. It is located to the left of the main entrance of Township Hall. Please DO NOT put cash in the drop box.

Can I pay by phone or over the Internet? Yes. Internet/Online payments can be made through our website at www.brightontwp.com. Phone payments can be made by calling 855-839-7018 and follow the instructions. There is a convenience fee imposed by the payment servicing company (Point and Pay). E-checks and most major credit & debit cards are accepted.

When can I expect to receive my tax statements? Summer tax statements are mailed annually on July 1st and Winter tax statements are mailed annually on December 1st.

If I don't receive a tax statement, am I legally obligated to pay? Yes. State law states that a property owner is responsible even if they didn't receive a tax statement.

When is the last day I can pay my summer/winter taxes at the township? Payments must be made on real property by February 28th, or, if that date falls on a weekend, the next business day. After that point, payments must be made at the County Treasurer's office. Their phone number is 517-546-7010.

How do I confirm payment if an escrow company has paid my bill? You can verify payment online by visiting www.brightontwp.com or by calling the Treasurer's office at 810-229-0556.

Can I get a receipt for my payment? Receipts are mailed when a self-addressed stamped envelope is provided or emailed when an email address is provided.

Is there any way I could delay paying my summer taxes without paying a penalty? Yes. If you qualify, it is possible to defer summer tax payments until February 14th of the following year. There is a link on the Treasurer's section of the website (www.brightontwp.com) where you can find more information.

Do you accept post marks? No. All tax payments must be in the office by the due date. Due dates are listed on the back of your tax bill.

Please visit the Treasurer's section of our website (www.brightontwp.com) for additional information and frequently asked questions or contact the Treasurer's office at 810-229-0556.

MASTER PLAN UPDATE

The five (5) year master plan update was recently adopted by the Township Board and serves as a guideline for the future growth and development in the community. The Plan has four (4) main chapters: Land Use, Transportation, Natural Features, and Community Services and Facilities and is not significantly different than the last master plan which was completed in 2008. The law requires an update every five (5) years.

The primary changes include: updated acreage percentages for existing single family and multi-family residential land use categories; updated calculations in Table Three "future land use acreage v. existing land use acreage"; a Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) checklist for on-going compliance reference; updated future community gateway locations (entryway signage) on the Transportation Map; an updated recreation section expanding the SELCRA referenced portion of the section; updated demographics utilizing 2010 census data where applicable; and updated vacant parcels on the existing land use map. The master plan can be viewed on our website at www.brightontwp.com; click on the master plan button.

Questions can be directed to Kelly Mathews, Planner, at 810-229-0562 or via email at planner@brightontwp.com.

WATER MAIN CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

As previously reported, Brighton Township has entered into a public/private partnership with Lake Trust Credit Union for the design and construction of a public water main extension. This extension is included in the adopted master plan. It will extend the existing water main from the vicinity of Grand River Avenue and Old US 23, northward along Old US 23, to the intersection of Spencer Road. The design process was undertaken this past winter with the bid process recently completed. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in July 2014 and slated for completion in February 2015.

Please contact Brian Vick, Township Manager, at 810-229-0550 or via email at manager@brightontwp.com with questions.

ROAD MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

The Livingston County Road Commission (LCRC) has jurisdiction over all public roads in Brighton Township and is the direct recipient of road maintenance dollars from fuel taxes distributed from the State of Michigan. It is well reported that funds received by Road Commissions throughout the state are not adequate to address current road infrastructure needs. As such, Brighton Township is partnering with the LCRC for maintenance work on three primary thoroughfares in Brighton Township. The work will take place during the current construction season and will include resurfacing/overlay placements on the following roads:

- HUNTER ROAD (Hilton Road to Hyne Road)
Approximately 1.70 miles
- VAN AMBERG ROAD (Spencer Road to End of Pavement) Approximately 2.1 miles
- SPENCER ROAD (US-23 NB Bridge to Van Amberg Road) Approximately 0.97 miles

Construction schedules and potential detours will be posted to the Township website at www.brightontwp.com (under the News/Latest News tabs) as information becomes available.

Questions may be directed to the LCRC at 517-546-4250 or Brian Vick, Township Manager, at 810-229-0550.

SEL CRA (Continued from Page 1)



through thousands of dollars of sponsorships and donations. These combined efforts contribute to SELCRA's success in providing great recreational opportunities as well as contributing to the success of the local economy.

As a result, Brighton Township becomes a more attractive community where people continue to choose to live, work and play.

Additional information can be found at www.selcra.org.

CLERK'S CORNER

Election Season 2014 is in full swing. The Primary Election is on Tuesday August 5th and the General Election is Tuesday November 4th. Absent Voter (AV) Ballot applications have been mailed to voters on the permanent AV application list for the Primary. The AV applications for the November election will be mailed in early September. If you are not on the permanent AV list and would like to receive an AV ballot for an upcoming election, please contact the clerk's office or visit our website at www.brightontwp.com and click on the link on the homepage. Complete the application and return it to the Clerk's office.

Additional voter information can be found at the Michigan Voter Information Center at www.Michigan.gov/vote. It is a great resource and provides an assortment of information related to voter registration and elections including sample ballots. You can also find a link on the Township's website (www.brightontwp.com) by clicking on the Clerk's Department.

If you have any questions, please contact the Clerk's office at 810-229-0560.

Charter Township of Brighton

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

PROPERTY VERIFICATION

With the return of warmer weather, the Assessing Department will continue to update property records. If your property is going to be visited, a post card will be sent in advance to notify you. Our staff will check exterior measurements, story heights, decks, outbuildings, etc. and verifying interior information with property owners. If you are not home during our visit, a tag will be left on the door, requesting a call from the owner to answer any questions we may have regarding the property. We will also be updating photographs at the time of the field visit.

Questions? Call Assessing at 810-229-0558.

LARGE ITEM DROP OFF DATE SCHEDULED

Saturday, September 13, 2014
8:30 AM—12:30 PM
Brighton Township Fire Hall
1580 Old US 23

Frequently accepted large items include washer/dryers, TVs, patio furniture, grills, old computer equipment, bed springs, mattresses, hot water heater, furniture, toys.

Large items not accepted are liquid waste, car/boat parts, yard waste, construction debris, railroad ties, oil, pesticides, explosives, poisons, hazardous waste, tires, branches, stumps, batteries, paint/solvents, anti-freeze, herbicides, medical waste, sod, rocks, bricks, dirt, concrete and items that contain Freon. Lawn mowers and/or small engines must have the oil and gas removed at the time of drop-off. Proof of residency is required.

Questions? Call the Clerk's office at 810-229-0560.

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
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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