

CHOCOLAY TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

November 2022

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Assessing

By John Gehres

The December Board of Review will be held Tuesday December 13th at 10 a.m. covering clerical errors and mutual mistakes of fact. We have very few to address and they are standard changes. I am currently working on the E.C.F. and land value studies. Also, this time of year is spent finalizing what percentage of completion the new construction is for the 2023 roll.

Clerk

By Lisa Perry

WOW! What an election that was! Chocolay Township had a total of 3277 people cast a vote in the November 8 General Election. This is 63.83% of the 5134 registered voters that cast their vote.

Precinct two had 770 in person voters and 837 Absentee ballots returned.

Precinct Two had 765 in person voters and 905 Absentee ballots returned.

There were 1787 absentee ballots sent out. Precinct one had 851 issued with 837 being returned on time. Precinct two had 936 ballots issued with 905 being returned on time. This was 97.48% of the issued ballots returned by 8:00 PM on Election Day. Thank you to the Chocolay Township residents for a successful General election!

There will be some changes with the passing of Proposal 22-2 that we will be planning for. 2023 is not scheduled to have an election but this can change at any time. Please know that we will keep you up to date with any election information as it happens.

Fire Department

By Lee Gould

The fire department continued to prepare for the arrival of our replacement fire truck with equipment planning and a training schedule. New trucks require members to drive and understand how to use the truck given the technology changes in the past years. Having a roster of 23 will be time consuming getting everyone through it. Our anticipated delivery will be early 2023. We will know more by mid-December when we will take delivery.

We are continuing to work with the Chocolay Township Police Department on the new Public Safety Internship program that will start early 2023. We are excited to have the interns learn what the fire department is about and possibly join the department.

Our call volume remains strong. Currently we are at 133 calls of service for the year which is the highest in our history. Trends nationwide have call volumes rising for various reasons which are region specific.

Public Works

By Brad Johnson

Staff have all summer equipment winterized and put away and are ready for winter.

The old Blondeau Trucking company building is scheduled to change ownership early in December and the new potential owners have requested that the glass dumpster be removed from the property. We explored several potential locations for its new



home and have decided that here on the Township grounds would be the best location to keep an eye on it to help keep unapproved items out of it. It will be placed along the east side of the cistern in the parking lot behind the Fire Station.

Planning / Zoning

By Dale Throenle Planning Commission

The Planning Commissioners participated in a meeting on November 21 in the Township Fire Hall. There were three items on the agenda for the regularly scheduled meeting:

Unfinished Business

- 1) Zoning Districts and Related Non-Conformances Discussion

The Commissioners reviewed maps and materials related to the non-conforming parcel sizes in the Township. After a lengthy discussion, general consensus was to wait until staff provided additional information related to the topic.

- 2) Township Zoning Ordinance Current Definition Review

The Commissioners continued to review the current Township zoning ordinance definitions as part of the zoning ordinance rewrite process. The Commissioners completed their review of definitions beginning with A through L, and completed a first review of definitions from M through Z.

New Business

- 1) Land Use Discussion

The Commissioners tabled the discussion on this item to a future meeting.

Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals did not meet in November; they will meet in December.

Police

By Liz Norris-Harr

On about November 15th we launched our new Intern Program to the public. Sgt Carrick and Chief Gould were interviewed by TV6 and The Mining Journal about the new position. In less than two weeks we received 10 applications! This is outstanding. We are planning to start interviews around December 5th for the applications we have received.

The police department received a donation of 20+ turkeys from 906 Firearms for distribution. Some were donated to the Women’s Shelter whom we work closely with. The others were donated to residents of Chocolay Township, some being nominated by local churches. Sgt Carrick and Det. Carter had a great time delivering the turkeys to unexpected families. We received many thanks of appreciation. Next year we are hoping to do this again with more planning involved!

Prescription Drug Collection

Prescription drug collection through the drop-off box at the Township Police Station.

Month 2019	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Pounds To-Date	1	11	7.5	10	7.5	3	9	7	7	5	0	
Pounds Year To-Date	1	12	19.5	29.5	37	40	49	56	63	68	68	



FOIA

REQ #	Date Rec	Res by Date	48 Days Invoice	10 day Ext Sent	10 day Ext	Response Date	Link to Documentation	Description
22-1	1/6/2022	1/13/2022				1/28/2022	22-1 Abbie 1-6-22	Police Reports and video
22-2	1/19/2022	1/26/2022				2/2/2022	22-2 McDonald & Wolf 1-19-22	Police Reports and video
22-3	2/1/2022	1/7/2022				2/22/2022	22-3 Howard 2-1-22	Police Report
22-4	2/1/2022	1/7/2022				2/22/2022	22-4 Applied Ecosystems 2-1-22	Questions/5063 US41 S site
22-5	2/14/2022	2/21/2022				2/17/2022	22-5 Bell 2-15-22	Police Report/documents
22-6	2/17/2022	2/23/2022				2/21/2022	22-6 Warren Group 2-23-22	Winter 2021 tax roll
22-7	2/22/2022	2/28/2022				3/14/2022	22-7 Mulcahey 2-22-22	Police Reports/documents
22-8	3/1/2022	3/7/2022				3/21/2022	22-8 Christopher Trainor & Associates 3-1-22	Police Reports
22-9	3/5/2022	3/11/2022				3/25/2022	22-9 Mulcahey 2-4-22	Time for staff to respond
22-10	4/25/2022	4/29/2022				4/25/2022	22-10 Petrocik 4-22-22	Police Reports
22-11	4/28/2022	5/4/2022				4/28/2022	22-11 Swajananen 4-28-22	Police Reports
22-12	4/27/2022	5/3/2022				4/28/2022	22-12 McMahon 4-27-22	Police Reports
22-13	5/17/2022	5/24/2022				5/18/2022	22-13 MacGregor 5-17-22	Police Reports
22-14	5/20/2022	5/27/2022				6/13/2022	22-14 Mulcahey 5-20-22	Zoning Permits Lakewood Ln.
22-15	5/23/2022	5/31/2022				5/31/2022	22-15 Thill 05-23-22	Police Reports
22-16	5/26/2022	6/3/2022				5/31/2022	22-16 Gerou 05-26-22	Police Reports
22-17	5/31/2022	6/8/2022				6/22/2022	22-17 Abbie 6-1-22	Police Records
22-18	6/2/2022	6/8/2022				6/7/2022	22-18 Soucy Electric 6-2-22	Police Reports
22-19	6/14/2022	6/21/2022				6/21/2022	22-19 Mulcahey 6-14-22	Registered Rental List for Chocoday Township
22-20	6/14/2022	6/21/2022	7/7/2022	06/20/2022	7/7/2022	6/28/2022	22-20 Mulcahey 6-14-22	Recording/Document
22-21	6/27/2022	7/5/2022				6/27/2022	22-21 Lamere 6-27-22	Copies of security cameras on drop boxes
22-22	6/30/2022	7/8/2022				7/7/2022	22-22 Gagnon 6-30-22	Police Reports
22-23	7/27/2022	8/3/2022				7/28/2022	22-23 Elefante 7-27-22	Police Reports
22-24	7/27/2022	8/3/2022				7/28/2022	22-24 TriMedia-Helen Amiri 7-27-22	Fire Records
22-25	7/28/2022	8/4/2022		8/2/2022	08/18/2022	8/4/2022	22-25 TriMedia-Helen Amiri 7-28-22	Fire Records
22-26	8/4/2022	8/11/2022				8/5/2022	22-26 Fairfield 8-4-22	Police Reports
22-27	8/5/2022	8/12/2022				8/10/2022	22-27 Numinen, DeForge, Toutant PC 8-5-22	Police Reports
22-28	8/8/2022	8/15/2022		08/11/2022	8/29/2022	8/18/2022	22-28 Hood 8-8-22	Election Information
22-29	8/9/2022	8/16/2022				8/11/2022	22-29 Prisk 8-9-22	Fire Records
22-30	8/22/2022	8/29/2022		08/25/2022	9/6/2022	8/30/2022	22-30 Mulcahey 8-22-22	Promulgated rules
22-31	8/29/2022	9/5/2022				8/31/2022	22-31 Roberts 8-29-22	Police Records
22-32	9/13/2022	9/19/2022				9/15/2022	22-32 Bosk Corp -Mark Rudness 9-13-22	Police Records
22-33	9/19/2022	9/23/2022				9/22/2022	22-33 Davis 9-19-22	Public Records re: Statewide Solid Waste Management
22-34	10/19/2022	10/25/2022		11/08/2022		10/20/2022	22-34 Mulcahey 10-19-2022	Zoning Permits
22-35	10/18/2022	10/24/2022				10/24/2022	22-35 Langridge 10-18-22	Police Reports
22-36	10/26/2022	11/1/2022		10/31/2022	11/15/2022	11/10/2022	22-36 Bigler-Envirologic Tech 10-26-22	Assessing/Fire/Building codes/Water /Sewer
22-37	10/31/2022	11/4/2022		11/04/2022	11/21/2022	11/8/2022	22-37 Numinen, DeForge, Toutant PC 10-31-22	Police Reports
22-38	11/7/2022	11/11/2022				11/4/2022	22-38 Kivi 11-7-22	Police Reports
22-39	11/7/2022	11/11/2022				11/8/2022	22-39 Marin Law Firm 11-7-22	Police Reports
22-40	11/9/2022	11/15/2022				11/14/2022	22-40 Wilson 11-9-22	Police Reports
22-41	11/18/2022	11/28/2022				11/23/2022	22-41 Liimatta 11-18-22	Election Information
22-42	11/29/2022	12/6/2022				12/5/2022	22-42 Kaukola 11-29-22	Fire Records



Web Page Statistics

Year to date totals through November are shown in the table.

Month	Unique Visits	Number of Visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth (GB)
January	2,192	4,144	30,311	44,850	7.41
February	1,984	4,243	19,341	31,676	18.91
March	2,289	4,249	19,679	32,861	21.57
April	1,912	3,963	17,327	30,200	22.89
May	2,169	4,159	18,100	31,803	28.40
June	2,079	4,243	24,862	38,302	23.56
July	1,552	3,121	16,777	29,859	25.03
August	1,693	3,297	18,170	30,355	37.29
September	1,525	3,317	45,492	57,962	27.67
October	1,821	3,658	21,208	37,524	38.59
November	1,809	3,455	32,525	46,999	26.60
Totals	21,025	41,849	263,792	412,391	277.92
Averages	1,911	3,804	23,981	37,490	25.27

Highest hits per day in November for the Township web site occurred on Saturday and the highest peak usage time was 7 PM to 8 PM.

Downloads

There were 891 downloaded documents in November. The top ten documents downloaded were:

Page	Number of Downloads
2022 meeting dates	363
2022 notification dates	356
2022 adopted fee schedule	188
FOIA request	186
November 22 sample ballot – precinct 1	117
November 22 sample ballot – precinct 2	95
Township Board minutes – 09.12.22	56
Township Board minutes special– 09.07.22	55
Township Board minutes joint – 09.12.22	55
Planning Commission agenda materials – 06.20.22	54



Page Visits

Top ten pages visited in November were:

Top ten pages visited in July were: Page	Number of Views
Directory email	610
Public Notices	582
Elected and Appointed Officials	579
Agendas and Minutes – Township Board	506
Contacts	474
Agendas and Minutes – Planning Commission	447
Clerk	440
Information and Newsletters	427
Agendas and Minutes – Board of Review	411
Calendar	410

Zoning Permit Counts

Zoning permit counts through November, 2022:

2022 Reviewed Permits by Month		2022 Reviewed Permits by Type		
Month	Number of Permits	Permit Type	Approved Number	Denied Number
January	3	Addition	7	1
February	4	Alteration	0	0
March	1	Commercial Outbuilding	0	1
April	3	Conditional Use	0	0
May	21	Deck	3	0
June	13	Fence	15	0
July	6	Garage	8	0
August	6	Grading	0	0
September	10	Home	3	0
October	5	Home / Garage	11	0
		Home Occupation	1	0
		New Commercial	0	0
		Outbuilding	11	0
		Pole Building	3	0



2022 Reviewed Permits by Month		2022 Reviewed Permits by Type		
			Approved	Denied
		Rezoning Application	0	0
		Sign	2	0
		Site Plan Review	1	0
		Zoning Variance Request	4	0
Total	72	Total	69	3

