

CHOCOLAY TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

October 2023

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Assessing

By John Gehres

Inspections for the re-appraisal and new construction continue, we expect to have that wrapped up in the next couple of weeks. The CPI hasn't been posted by the state but is expected to be lower than last year's all-time high.

Clerk

By Lisa Perry

The Clerk's Department attended an Election training on October 17 in Escanaba that was put on by the Bureau of Elections (BOE). The topic of discussion was regarding Proposal 22-2 and how it will be implemented in the 2024 elections.

As of the date I am writing this, there has been no confirmation on the date for the Presidential Primary election, it will be held either February 27 or March 12. Once Chocoday Township has confirmation, there will be a letter mailed to our registered voters with a full update of Election processes brought on by Proposal 22-2.

Please remember if you are new to Chocoday or moving to another location in Michigan, to change your driver's license, this will alert your new and former jurisdiction of your location change. To check your voting registration status or find voter information, please go <https://mVIC.sos.state.mi.us/>

Fire Department

By Lee Gould

October each year is fire prevention. Each year the fire department visits Cherry Creek School and

daycares and has daycares come do station tours to teach the children fire safety. This year was cooking safety, so we had some fun discussions with the kids about cooking safety. Starting kids on fire safety provides them the foundation to be safe and bring the message home to their parents.

We are still transitioning to the cold season. Getting the water rescue gear stowed away and winter gear out is important. This includes ice and snowmobile rescue. Our training on these varies depending on weather conditions each year.

Our call volume slowed for October which is typical for fall. Generally, our call volume slows in October and November and picks back up in December.

Public Works

By Brad Johnson

The contractor is here removing the old siding, adding foam, and installing the new siding. This project is expected to last about 3 weeks.

The fall brush drop went extremely well this fall. People followed the rules the best staff has ever seen.

I have reviewed all the videos on the sanitary sewer televising and have started to put together my recommendations for the asset management plan. I am really hoping to have something put together for the Board for the December meeting.



Planning / Zoning

By Dale Throenle

Technology

On October 23, the new Township web site launched. The Township has switched from chocolay.org to chocolay.gov with this new site.

All email addresses for the Township staff and officials have a new extension; all have changed from @chocolay.org to @chocolay.gov. You can send your email either to the old address or the new; both will be received.

Check out the new site and let us know what you think. You can send comments regarding the site to publiccomments@chocolay.gov or let us know at the office front counter.

Planning Commission

The Planning Commissioners participated in two work sessions during October; one was held on October 10 and the other was held on October 17. Both sessions were in the Township Fire Hall.

For both meetings there was one item on the agenda:

- 1) Draft Ordinance Considerations for the Agriculture / Forestry (AF) District Work Sessions Commissioners discussed the items to be presented at the three town hall meetings scheduled for September and October. Discussion included items to be

Commissioners attended the meetings to hear talking points from the public regarding the proposed changes for the Agriculture / Forestry (AF) zoning district. Chair Soucy gave a short presentation at each meeting, after which the Commissioners interacted with the public to get their input.

The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for **November 20 at 6PM.**

displayed and how the town halls would be conducted.

Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals did not meet for its regular meeting in October and will not meet in November.

Police

By Liz Norris-Harr

October 28th was the National DEA Drug Take Back day. We were open 10a-2p and had 8 people stop in to drop off meds totaling 4 lbs. This is incredible! MSP will be collecting the pills on October 30th. Chocolay township will be turning over 54lbs of pills! We will continue to spread the word that pill drop off can happen Monday through Friday 8-4.

Officer Havala and Officer Mitchell are moving along in their field training process. They have been out on their own a little bit starting the last week of October. They were at the school every day for traffic. In October a week was dedicated to National School Bus safety week. We took this opportunity to follow the buses on their routes and keep an eye out for violators.



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	5.5	4	8.5	7	2.5	6.5	12	6.5	5	5.5		
Pounds Year To-Date	5.5	9.5	18	25	27.5	34	46	52.5	57.5	63		

FOIA

REQ #	Date Rec	Res by Date	Invoice Sent	48 Days Invoice	10 day Ext Sent	10 day Ext	Response Date	Link to Documentation	Description	First Name	Last Name
23 1	2/6/2023	2/20/2023					2/7/2023	23 1 Glendon	Police Reports	Joanna	Glendon
23 2	2/15/2023	2/21/2023					2/15/2023	23 2 Dankin	Police Reports		Fennell
23 3	2/24/2023	3/1/2023					2/28/2023	23 3 Skyline Lien Search 02.24.23	Property Information	Skyline Lien Search	
23 4	3/6/2023	3/20/2023					3/10/2023	23 4 Hyde 03.06.23	Police Reports	George	Hyde
23 5	3/14/2023	3/20/2023					3/17/2023	23 5 Mulcahey 3 14 23	Job descriptions	Deborah	Mulcahey
23 6	3/14/2023	3/20/2023					3/16/2023	23 6 McLaughlin 3 14 23	Police Reports	Michelle	Phillips
23 7	3/17/2023	3/24/2023					3/21/2023	23 7 Police Request 3 17 23	Police Reports	Nicole	Beneser
23 8	3/20/2023	3/27/2023		03/24/2023	4/11/2023		4/9/2023	23 8 Mulcahey request 3 20 23	Job descriptions	Deborah	Mulcahey
23 9	3/14/2023	3/21/2023		03/21/2023	4/4/2023		3/23/2023	23 9 Metropolitan request 3 14 23	Fire Report	Metropolitan	Reporting Bureau
23 10	4/5/2023	4/12/2023					4/12/2023	23 10 Eric Riley GFL Environmental	Refuse/Recycle Information	Eric	Riley
23 11	4/12/2023	4/18/2023					4/18/2023	23 11 Carrie Vanlandshout 04 12 23	Police Reports	Carrie	Vanlandshout
23 12	4/14/2023	4/21/2023					4/18/2023	23 12 Tommis Request 4 14 23	Contracts and accounts receivable	Angel	Tommis/ Steep Steel
23 13	4/19/2023	4/25/2023					4/19/2023	23 13 Ryan Talbot Flagstar Bank 4 19 23	Police Reports	Ryan	Talbot/Flagstar Bank
23 14	4/25/2023	5/2/2023	5/10/2023	6/27/2023	04/25/2023	5/26/2023	Expire d	23 14 Miller request 4 25 23	Elects on Mterials	Ye huda	Miller
23 15	5/3/2023	5/9/2023					5/8/2023	23 15 Nicole Rogers & Curran & Co 05 03 23	Police Reports	Nicole	Biozek/ Curran & Co.
23 16	5/4/2023	5/10/2023					5/8/2023	23 16 Lombard 05 04 23	Police Reports	Kristen	Lombard
23 17	5/17/2023	5/24/2023					5/14/2023	23 17 Cass 05 17 23	Police Reports	Cheyenne	Cass
23 18	6/6/2023	6/13/2023					6/6/2023	23 18 Holm 6 6 23	Police Reports dog bite	Cathy	Holm
23 19	6/13/2023	6/19/2023					6/19/2023	23 19 Harry 6 13 23	Police Reports	Susan	Harry
23 20	6/22/2023	6/28/2023					6/27/2023	23 20 Roose 6 22 23	Police Reports	Erica	Roose
23 21	6/27/2023	7/3/2023	6/27/2023	8/14/2023			cancelled	23 21 Miller 6 27 23	Elects on Mterials	Ye huda	Miller
23 22	7/13/2023	7/19/2023					7/14/2023	23 22 Johnson 7 13 23	Police Reports	Brad	Johnson
23 23	7/21/2023	7/27/2023					7/24/2023	23 23 Mulcahey 7 21 23	Real Registrations	Deborah	Mulcahey
23 24	7/24/2023	7/31/2023					7/27/2023	23 24 Barnes and Thornburg LLP 7 24 23	Fire Report	Barnes & Thornburg, LLP	
23 25	8/9/2023	8/16/2023					8/9/2023	23 25 Miller 2025 Elections Request 8 9 23	Elects on Mterials	Ye huda	Miller
23 26	8/16/2023	8/22/2023					8/17/2023	23 26 Soucy 08 16 23	Police Reports	Emily	Soucy
23 27	10/4/2023	10/10/2023					10/30/2023	23 27 Brugman 10 04 23	Police Reports	James	Brugman
23 28	10/17/2023	10/23/2023					10/20/2023	23 28 Mulcahey 10 17 23	FOIA documentation	Deborah	Mulcahey
23 29	10/19/2023	10/25/2023					10/23/2023	23 29 Reynolds 10 19 23	Police Reports	Brenda	Reynolds
23 30	10/19/2023	10/25/2023					10/23/2023	23 30 Mulcahey 10 19 23	Zoning Permits	Deborah	Mulcahey
23 31	10/24/2023	10/30/2023					10/26/2023	23 31 Mulcahey 10 24 23	Police Reports	Deborah	Mulcahey



Web Page Statistics

New statistics will be published beginning next month.

Year to date totals through September are shown in the table

Month	Unique Visits	Number of Visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth (GB)
January	2,166	4,268	16,517	31,093	14.68
February	1,972	4,032	22,272	34,526	20.39
March	1,808	4,059	18,225	30,410	13.34
April	1,843	4,028	17,535	29,540	17.12
May	2,641	4,149	48,219	72,440	20.17
June	2,926	4,611	50,005	73,856	21.70
July	3,186	5,079	46,655	75,335	27.54
August	2,771	4,292	51,041	74,387	25.63
September	2,915	4,445	39,954	49,006	15.55
Totals	22,228	38,963	310,423	470,593	176
Averages	4,446	7,793	62,085	94,119	35.22

Highest hits per day in **September** for the Township web site occurred on Thursday and the highest peak usage time was 2 AM to 3 AM.

Downloads

New statistics will be published beginning next month.

There were 1017 downloaded documents in **September**. The top ten documents downloaded were:

Page	Number of Downloads
2023 Meeting Dates	150
Township history	138
2023 Notification Dates	105
Township Board agenda materials – 09.11.23	90
Township Board minutes – 07.10.23	87
Township Board agenda – 09.11.23	84
Township Board minutes – 06.12.23	78
Township Zoning Ordinance	73
Township Board minutes – 05.08.23	65
Adopted fee schedule	61



Page Visits

New statistics will be published beginning next month.

Top ten pages visited in **September** were:

Top ten pages visited in September were: Page	Number of Views
Recreation listing	1,092
Recycling	746
Directory email	696
Agendas and Minutes – Township Board	542
Contacts	446
Agendas and Minutes – Planning Commission	382
Information and Newsletters	352
Public Works	352
Clerk	347
Forms	341

Zoning Permit Counts

Zoning permit counts through October, 2023:

2023 Reviewed Permits by Month		2023 Reviewed Permits by Type		
Month	Number of Permits	Permit Type	Approved Number	Denied Number
January	0	Addition	5	0
February	0	Alteration	0	0
March	6	Commercial Outbuilding	0	0
April	11	Conditional Use	2	0
May	11	Deck	3	0
June	9	Fence	17	0
July	15	Garage	7	0
August	6	Grading	0	0
September	9	Home	4	0
October	6	Home / Garage	2	0
		Home Occupation	1	0
		New Commercial	1	0



2023 Reviewed Permits by Month		2023 Reviewed Permits by Type		
			Approved	Denied
		Outbuilding	19	0
		Pole Building	2	0
		Rezoning Application	1	0
		Sign	7	0
		Site Plan Review	2	0
		Zoning Variance Request	0	0
Total	73	Total	73	0

