



# Park Township

From the Desk of Howard Fink,

Township Manager

9/18/2020

Hi Everyone. Attached is this week's management report. As always, please let me know if there is anything I have missed.

## **Parks**

Work has stalled at Cooper Van Wieren. I have been on our engineering team to get the contractor back on the job site, but given the delay they had to move toward another project. They will be back shortly, but wanted you to be aware that I am working on getting everything paved and finalized.

Regarding the south side park, concrete has been installed. The sidewalk section near the water was reinforced with geo-textile fabric, drainage tubes and additional rock to deal with rising waters. Overall, progress is steady.

## **State Park**

We are still working on the gate at the State Park. Prior to announcing it in a press release, I want to get the fishermen on board so that we can mitigate that concern proactively. I will send out the press release when I am confident that we have done all we can to accommodate the fishermen.

Also, a resident has stepped forward to help by connecting the township with the Holland Zeeland foundation, who have offered to fund lifeguards at the State Park. There is a large meeting next week to discuss this, but it seems likely that even if the Township or a private entity were to fund the program, the state would not be interested. My sense is that they perceive the liability to be prohibitive and the domino effect of other parks wanting similar programs. Nonetheless, we continue to try to look at every option to improve water safety at the Park.

## **Airport**

Mr. Napier will be served Monday morning. The paper work is complete and is on my desk waiting for a deputy to pick it up. His additional letters sent have been added to the complaint and will be part of the court records.

## **Township Wide Paving**

Township wide paving is mostly complete. We have addressed some minor issues and will continue to monitor accordingly.

## **Self-Evaluation**

I spent a good deal of time today preparing my self-evaluation. I will be sending that out either this weekend or Monday morning. I look forward to your comments.

## **ODC / Airport / Cooper Van Wieren**

As you know, we have a contract with the ODC to do nature programming in our parks system. We also are in the beginning stages of opening the Cooper Van Wieren Trail system. I met with the ODC recently to discuss invasive species management at Cooper Van Wieren and a chunk of the airport property mostly south of the runway. I will work on refining a proposal / contract to continue those efforts and include some invasive species management on areas of the airport property that we do not intend to mow on a regular basis.

## **Ottawa Beach Road Pedestrian Signs**

The Ottawa County road commission approved our permit for three locations for Pedestrian yield signs on Ottawa Beach road. The signs have also arrived. I will try to get them up on Monday.

## **Zoning Administrator**

I received word that Emma will be moving to Paris. I will be working on how to replace Emma over the next week. At this time, all options are on the table, and I will take the next week to analyze those options with Greg Ransford and staff, and to look at all the financial implications.

**Max Transit**

Jerry and I have been meeting with various stakeholders with respect to the transit issue in Park Township. The upshot is that a logical / cost effective solution is not presenting itself. We will work on gaining maximum flexibility when we renegotiate the contract with MAX Transit. That meeting is scheduled for Monday of next week.