



Park Township

From the Desk of Howard Fink,

Township Manager

4/22/2021

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

Roads

I will be finalizing the list of Roads for crack sealing today or tomorrow. Much of that was completed when I evaluated most of the areas prior to deciding on which ones to pave. Over the years we have tried many different methods, fiber mat, chip seal, etc. A few years ago, we had Soils and Structures evaluate our approach. While they came up with a different methodology on how best to re-construct some of these roads, the Township does not have resources to re-build roads from the ground up. Over the years, I have come back to the advice of the road commission. Topping the roads with 1 ½ inches of asphalt, while not ideal, provides a nice balance of cost vs. benefit for Township residents. Given that the residential roads do not see as much traffic and or heavy truck weights / volume, this method seems effective.

Assistant Assessor

We have expanded our advertisements on the assistant assessor position. I will keep everyone posted on our progress as we work to identify a suitable candidate.

Short Term Rentals

I have tried to ensure that every email and phone call is properly responded too and communicated with regarding STR. I receive quite a number of calls from local realtors and residents confused on the topic. It may be helpful for the Township to release a formal announcement on the issue, our policy moving forward as the P.C. addresses the topic, and what the residents can expect from this dialogue. Also, I am working on getting the Granicus system up and running so the P.C. can access that data. I also think it may be helpful to consider a township wide survey on this issue.

Boat Launch

The Kayak Launch has been installed at the South Side Kayak Park. Daniele is working with Bryan and others to create / identify names for the park; and once narrowed down will then be brought to the board for a final decision. At the next meeting, the boat dock for the South Side Kayak park will be on the agenda.

Wendt Park

Wendt Park is in full construction mode. We will have a sign out shortly detailing the improvements we are making. For whatever reason, there was a section in the circular layout of the sidewalk that was not included. I will be reviewing the plans to see if there was anything missed. Nonetheless, we are receiving quotes on what the cost will be to complete the circle loop with regard to the sidewalk. Most likely, a change order will come in front of the board. We did approve a small change order for \$1,500 related to additional material and creating a level surface for the new bleachers. Cement on the east end of the project has been poured.

Fairgrounds

I have reached out to Mr. Hoekstra and Mr. Myaard regarding a discussion on the fairground lease. When we are no longer in a COVID environment, I do not think the Board will find it necessary to vote on most events as required under the existing language. I will keep everyone posted on any progress or desire to re-look at the lease.

Jim Napier

Dan Martin's firm has filed for summary judgement on the legal action regarding Mr. Napier. I will keep everyone posted on details.

School Stadium

The new performing arts center / stadium at the high school is under construction. There is one issue that may be a concern. During preliminary design, it was agreed that the hydrants would supply 1,700 gallons of water per minute. The contractor requested a change in that design. The chief has indicated that we are sticking with our original agreed upon design. I do not believe there will be an issue but will keep the board up to date if anything transpires.

Year End Financial Results

Closing the financial year will be more difficult this year. The airport closure, the divestiture of the water utility, and federal covid relief funding are adding some unique challenges. We usually take 1 ½ -2 months to complete the process before handing the materials off to the external auditors; it may take a little longer this year.

Camp Geneva

Camp Geneva is moving forward in design stages with plans for a pedestrian overpass on Lakeshore Drive. The Road Commission made suggestions / requirements for changes to their existing plans.

Shelby Lane

As you are aware, it has been confirmed that Shelby Lane is under Township ownership. We will be getting quotes (minimal cost) to pave both entrances to Shelby Lane. I am not anticipating costs to exceed \$10,000 and maybe less than \$5,000. This will come out of the existing road millage fund. The residents paid for gravel to be laid along that stretch. I am recommending that we wait a few years for the gravel to compact and consider a double chip seal along with a primer coat to pave Shelby lane. While this is not how roads are typically paved, it is an inexpensive way to handle this small dirt road. The Ottawa County Road commission has done this successfully in Zeeland Township. It was also done in Washtenaw county with some success.

Meetings

We are working to prepare for the upcoming Question and Answer forum. I am assuming it will be both in person and on zoom. Questions will be permitted both in person and via zoom. We are also working on a date for Strategic Planning. Stay Tuned.