

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **What's happening in Kochville township?**
- **Where does your tax money go?**
- **Snow and fire hydrants!**
- **A new SLED HILL**
- **What is an electronic poll book?**
- **New sanitary sewer lines in 2011**



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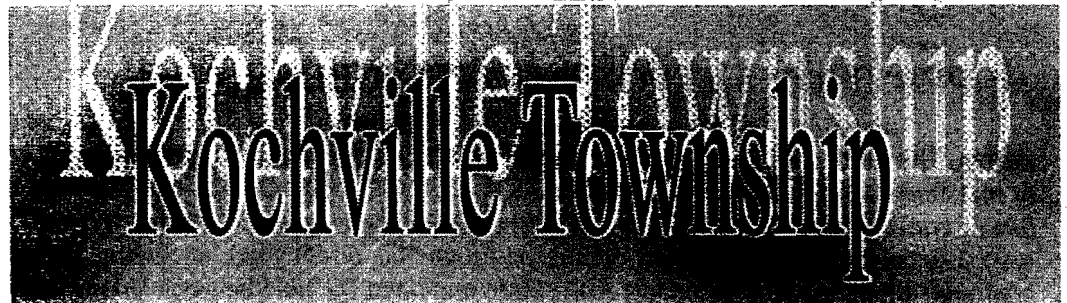
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SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: JIM LOIACANO

First my wishes of a Happy New Year to all.

Staff Additions/Changes:

Our long time Office Manager Sharon Wilkins-Schafer retired at the end of June. She will be missed by staff, board members, and all who came into the office to pay bills, get information or just want to talk and have someone listen.

We hired Neil Hammerbacher to take over the duties as Office Manager in June. Neil is a township resident and was a Kochville Township Treasurer a number of years back. So you will not be talking to a total stranger and again he has a lot of history in Kochville.

Our Assessor Frank Roenicke resigned late summer. Frank stated he could not give 100% effort to Kochville because he was working with other townships and also has a private business not in the Assessor field. (Ice cream shop in Freeland). Reluctantly, we accepted his resignation and advertised for the open position. Unfortunately, we did not receive a good response for a Level III assessor in Kochville. I had been talking with Tim Braun (Saginaw Township Supervisor) and Rob Grosse (Saginaw Township Assistant Manager) in regards to Assessor services. They stated they had four fulltime Assessors in their department who could more than help Kochville. I took the information back to the Kochville board and we voted to contract with Saginaw Township for one year for Assessor service. There will now be an Assessor available on Tuesdays from 1-4 pm. You can also call or email and they will respond during the week.

Projects:

If you no longer have to place your glasses or false teeth in a case or you can drive faster than twenty miles per hour to get from Bay road to Mackinaw, you must be driving on the new section of Kochville Road that was replaced by mid October. The project is complete and there are no problems; however, we are holding the project open with the engineering firm and contractor until next October to make sure if there are any problems that they will be fixed. This would include any ditch, shoulder work, or replacement of grass. The Kochville Downtown Development Authority (DDA) covered the cost of the road section in their district which included the All-season level which runs from Bay road up to the VFW. The DDA also signed a shared agreement basically refunding the taxes captured by the DDA from Kochville Township which the trustee board will use to pay the bond payments on the road. So the residents will not have to pay any added taxes to cover the cost for the road. I give a hardy thank you to the DDA members and the Trustee board for working together on this project. Cost for the road is around \$700,000.00 plus. We also spent roughly \$270,000.00 to move the sanitary sewer line that was in the roadway to the south side of Kochville road and also installed/replaced the water line which is now on the North side of the road. Funds for the water line and sewer move were taken from individual water & sewer funds.

Two sewer projects are approved and now funded.

The first is the continuation of the Interceptor Sewer (phase 2 & phase 3) which should start after the first of January. A brief overview of the complete project: removal of the pumping stations at Kochville & Michigan and Michigan at Agricola, replacement of the Venoy road pumping station and controls, and replacement of the 16-inch force-main steel line with a 24-inch gravity line from Michigan & Kochville to Venoy road pumping

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: CONTINUED

station. The results are removal of two pumping stations (no more high-priced pumps or electric bills to run pumps or maintenance) and replacement of old steel line with new fiberglass lines which acid has virtually no effect on (waste corrodes steel from buildup of sulfide acid) and replacement of cement wet-well at Venoy with new fiberglass well. The results are a system that should last for another 60-70 years, excluding Venoy road pumps. So Phase 2 & 3 continues where phase 1 ended last April/May; middle of the field between Venoy and Michigan road, continuing west then under Michigan road, and then turning to the North and under I675 to Kochville road back east to Michigan. There will also be a water main line installed at the same time to form a required loop that runs from Kochville road to Agricola. We did take a bond with Saginaw County and they are running the phase 2 of the project. This will cause the sewer rates to go up and that information should come out and will be in the paper sometime in February or March. (water line will be paid for from Water funds already on hand)

Second sewer project is taking over the SVSU pumping station and running sewer lines down Bay road from Pierce south to about an 1/8 mile north of Liberty. There will be lines also running from Bay to Davis on Pierce. This is basically funded by the property owners in the new sewer district who requested sewer connections. Again that bond is taken from Saginaw County and they will run the project. Initially, we were going to install a new wet-well & pumping station but decided to work with SVSU and take over their pumping station and save about \$350,000.00 dollars on the project.

Future Roads Maintenance:

Last year we had chip & seal on Michaelane, Marinell and Griffore sub-division areas, along with crack patch & sealing on Pierce from Bay to Hospital and Hospital to Mackinaw on Kochville roads.

This year I will be pushing for the board of Trustees to have chip & seal on Pierce from Bay to Hospital and Hospital to Mackinaw on Kochville. I am currently asking the Saginaw County Road Commission (SCRC) for an estimate on crushing, reshaping/leveling and double chip & seal on Kraenzlein road.

This is a note to the residents on Kraenzlein road. You should be receiving a letter from Saginaw County Road Commission in regards to ditch cleaning and reshaping. They will be moving the ditches back to the edge of the right-of-way when they clean them. This more than likely will result in all the brush and trees being removed in the right-of-ways first which may still happen before spring. This will help when the road maintenance is hopefully approved and done this summer. My estimate for road maintenance if all above is approved should be around \$175,000.00 dollars and according to our Treasurer we have the money. My thought is if we do not repair or seal these roads now they will continue to deteriorate at a fast pace and end up in the same shape that Kochville road was between Bay and Mackinaw; and with the economy the State does not have any money for roads or grants for smaller communities.

General Information:

WEB: I am in the process of re-evaluating the Kochville web site to see if we can just do some upgrades or if it would be quicker to just do a complete rebuild. My intent is to have staff members update the web. Unfortunately, the older setup does not allow multi-levels of access. I have also discussed with Steve King (DDA Director) combining both sites and splitting costs. So for the next month or so if you have a complaint about the web (or any ideas for upgrade) call or email me.

COMPLAINTS: We have had a number of different complaints in regards to: illegal rental homes, businesses, or remodeling and building without permits in all levels of zoning but particularly in the R1 and R1-A zoning. We have sent out letters and will continue sending out more after the first of the year as residents call or send in complaints. We will take the necessary action to enforce our Zoning Ordinance and or the State of Michigan's required permits and inspection laws as required by the State.

Randy Jerome should be your first point of contact for Code Enforcement, Dale Klein for Zoning questions, or Mel Fosgard for Building inspection questions. For any complaints or problems contact me by phone or email, or send a letter to the Township hall to my attention. (see attached page **Contact List** for phone numbers or email addresses)



Jim Loiacano - Supervisor

PARKS AND RECREATION: JUDY FATHJACKSON

WOW! What a year this has been!

We have a new sledding hill in Elmer Lange Park compliments of DAVE MARX! He has also made us a driver with a parking lot to the sledding hill or the ball park. The hill has a "big kids" side and a "little kids" side so please use courtesy when going up.

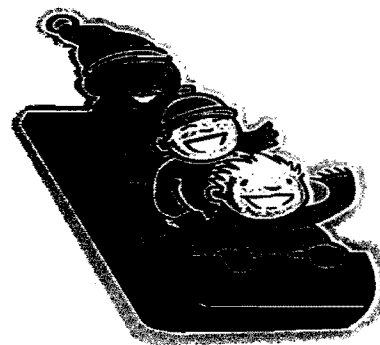
We have a new floor in the pavilion, electricity and painted tables.

We have a new beach volleyball court at the north end of Elmer Lange Park, compliments of SCOTT LANGE!

Rainbow's End is CLOSED FOR THE SEASON. Hope to see you all next year. Saginaw Valley Rehabilitation did a wonderful job cleaning Rainbow's End this year, saving the township lots of money. Did you know it takes 430 rolls of toilet tissue, 278-55gallon trash bags and lots of cleaning stuff?

Kochville DPW worked on the beautification project: pruning and mulching trees and flower beds. We plan to continue next year.

Park's committee are now working on next years plan for improvement. We have a wish list of benches, picnic tables, and trash containers (with or without donors name). TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS can be



Happy New Year and happy sledding!

made at anytime to Kochville Parks.

We are on the web at kochvilletrp.com

CLERK'S REPORT: SHEILA HILL

Elections are over for the year. We had 1,851 registered voters for the November election with 820 voters and included in that figure is 114 absentee voters. School elections for our Township will all be in November. Saginaw City will be every odd year, Freeland Schools every even year and Bay City Schools will be every November. Therefore, we will only have elections in May if there is a special proposal. We could have a countywide election on May 3, 2011. The county board will be bringing up a proposal for public safety at their February committee meeting. If the Board approves the proposal, this could be on a May ballot.

Throughout the summer the election inspectors and myself began training for the electronic poll book (EPB). This was a new process we implemented at the primary election in August. Instead of using a paper list of registered voters, hi-lighting who voted, and inputting everything manually into the state's program, we can now do it all by computer. This saves a lot of time.

Although everyone was nervous about the new system, with all the training and the hard work everything went well. A big thank you to Dale, Dan, Gerry, Jayne, Jean, and Rita. The election could not run so smoothly without them.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT: RHONDA FERRELL

For your information-The township office now has caller ID on the phone system. For anyone who would like to make an anonymous call to the township you will need to dial *67 prior to making your phone call. The *67 blocks your name and phone number from the caller ID feature.



DPW SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: MIKE BURGER

Information and helpful tips on preventing fats, oils and greases (FOG) from causing damage to your home and the municipal sewer system

Sewer overflows and backups can cause health hazards, damage home interiors, and threaten the environment. An increasingly common cause of overflows are sewer pipes blocked with grease. Grease gets into the sewer from household drains as well as from poorly maintained grease traps in restaurants and other businesses. Too often, grease is washed into the plumbing system, usually through the kitchen sink. Grease sticks to the inside walls of sewer pipes — both on your property and in the streets. Over time, the grease can build up and block the entire pipe. Home garbage disposals do not keep grease out of the plumbing system. These units only shred solid material into smaller pieces and do not prevent grease from going down the drain. Commercial additives, including detergents that claim to dissolve grease may merely allow temporarily dissolved grease to pass further down the line and cause problems in other areas. The results can be:

- Raw sewage overflowing in your home or your neighbor's home
- An expensive and unpleasant cleanup that often must be paid by you, the homeowner
- Raw sewage overflowing into parks, yards, and streets
- Potential contact with disease-causing organisms
- An increase in operation and maintenance costs for local sewer departments, which causes higher sewer bills for customers.

What can residential sewer customers do to help? The easiest way to solve the grease problem and help prevent overflows of raw sewage is to keep this material out of the sewer system in the first place. There are several ways to do this.

1. Never pour grease down sink drains or into toilets.

2. Scrape grease and food scraps from trays, plates, pots, pans, utensils, grills and cooking surfaces **into a can or the trash for disposal**— or recycling where available. One neat trick is to pour your bacon (or other) grease into an empty bottle or plastic container that can be thrown into routine trash for collection.

3. Do not put grease down garbage disposals.

Put baskets/strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids, and empty the drain baskets/strainers into the trash for disposal.

4. Mention this information to your friends and neighbors about the problem of grease in the sewer system and how to keep it out.

Please call me (Mike Burger) at 989-792-7596 ext.12 or you can write me at the Township Office address or send an email to me at dpwsuper@kochvilletwp.com if you have any questions about these projects or any other Kochville Township water or sewer concerns. From your DPW staff, which includes me (Mike Burger), Mike Comstock, Jake, and Trish, have a Happy and safe holiday season.



FIRE CHIEF: ALAN MALESKY

The Kochville Fire department has responded to 409 Incidents as of December 1st, 2010.

SNOW & FIRE HYDRANTS

The fire department is requesting that residents remove snow from around the fire hydrants located near their homes. A snow-covered fire hydrant is difficult to locate in an emergency situation. A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to the residents that have always assisted us with this endeavor in the past.

I would like to welcome our two newest firefighter recruits, Kenneth Howden and Scott Dashkovitz. I have recently received a resignation letter from our part-time Fire Inspector, Ryan Kunitzer; he has been promoted to full time fire inspector for Saginaw Township Fire. His vacated position will be posted, and hopefully we will have it filled soon.

Step up and Sign up today!

Saginaw County 9-1-1 has launched a new emergency notification tool that can notify Saginaw County residents in the event of

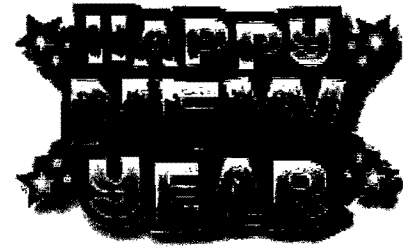
emergencies such as severe weather, Amber Alerts or other incidents that could have an impact on the community. However, in order to maximize the benefits of the system, residents need to sign up.

By entering your contact information in a self-registration portal at www.saginawcounty911.com, you will receive timely alerts via cell phone and e-mail.

It only takes a few minutes to sign up at www.saginawcounty911.com.

The Kochville Fire Department, in conjunction with Covenant Healthcare, is handing out Life Vials. These can be filled out with your medical information (History) and stored in the refrigerator or freezer in the event of an emergency. Medical personnel will be able to provide better care faster if the situation were to arise. We will have extra sheets available in case 2 family members would like to share a vial.

Pick up one today at the Kochville Township hall. If you're unable to get out of your home, please call # 792-7596 leave a message with Tammy or Neil in the office, and the Fire Department will make sure and get one over to you.



Please visit our website for information: www.kochvillefire.com



Make sure you have a Happy New Year by replacing your smoke detector batteries

KOCHVILLE TOWNSHIP PHONE DIRECTORY

To reach township staff and officials, first dial 989-792-7596

Neil Hammerbacher, Office Manager, ext. 10 officemgr@kochvilletwp.com

Tammy Bressette, Office Assistant, ext. 18 kochville@kochvilletwp.com

James Loiacano, Supervisor, ext. 11 supervisor@kochvilletwp.com

Sheila Hill, Clerk ext. 16 clerk@kochvilletwp.com

Mike Burger, DPW Superintendent, ext. 12 dpwsuper@kochvilletwp.com

Mel Fosgard, Building Inspector 737-0464 kochville@kochvilletwp.com

Steve Yanca, Treasurer, ext. 14 treasurer@kochvilletwp.com

Dale Klein, Zoning administrator, 239-2979 dklein@axcoservices.com

Randy Jerome, Code Enforcement, ext 17 codeenforce@kochvilletwp.com

David Kern, Assessor, ext. 22 dkern@saginawtownship.com



Happy holidays!

TREASURER'S REPORT: STEPHEN YANCA

Hello Neighbors,

It seems like every time we send out a newsletter, the news from the Treasurer's office is about taxes. Of course, tax collection is an important function of the treasurer. However, not everyone knows where those tax dollars go. If you look on the back of your tax bills you will see how your taxes are disbursed. The Township Treasurer's office collects taxes for all of the taxing entities in the county including local schools, the county, Delta College, libraries, the Intermediate School District, the State Education Fund, various millages that voters have approved, and special assessments. Only .97660 mills go to operate the Township. For a homestead valued at \$100,000 and a taxable value of \$50,000, only \$48.83 of the Winter tax bill goes to our General Fund budget.

The General Fund budget supports about half of the salaries of our office staff and the Board along with legal and accounting expenses, the Board of Review, the assessor, elections, building and grounds, Planning and Zoning, Board of Appeals, drain maintenance, road repair and maintenance, street lighting, and code enforcement. By the way, our DPW staff is funded by the Water and the Sewer Funds. Our General Fund budget is approximately \$663,000. Approximately \$50,000 or 7.5 % of the budget comes from your taxes. About \$140,000 or 21.5% is funded by real and personal property in our commercial area. Another 27% comes from state revenue sharing. Around 13% is generated by the Treasurer's office through property tax administration fees. The special assessment that you pay for rubbish collection is 14.5% and 4.8% is collected for the Goetz Drain. Another 4.5% is generated from franchise fees for cable service and we receive another 7% in revenue sharing from our DDA.

The other major expense for the Township is our Fire Department whose budget is just over \$311,000. The Department is mainly funded by a special assessment of 2.00 mills for developed commercial and industrial properties and 1.00 mill for residential, agricultural, and undeveloped properties. Most of our Fire Department calls are to our business community so our business community receives much greater benefit than our residential and agricultural community. These rates allow the Fire Department to be self sufficient in terms of operating expenses and replacing equipment and vehicles. The tax rate for residential is \$50 a year for a \$100,000 home with a \$50,000 taxable value. The special assessment for residents and farmers accounts for 16% of the Fire Department's budget. Commercial and industrial property owners contribute 74%. Most of the rest comes from the State for covering SVSU (5%) and from cost recovery (5%) when nonresidents receive services and are billed or their insurance company reimburses us.

We are fortunate to have a vibrant and growing business district that makes a major contribution to our tax base and allows us to provide much needed services at minimal expense to our residents.

The results of our audit were received by the Board and indicated that our accounting practices are sound with no major concerns or issues. Nearly 100% of our assets continue to be protected with insurance or federally backed securities. The only unprotected amounts are associated with checks and deposits that are in transit between banks and this is unavoidable.

We were able to pay off our debts and do an early elimination of the deficit reduction plan that the Township had to file with the State under a previous treasurer. Under that plan, we were paying \$50,000 a year to reduce a deficit that was accumulated under a previous administration. We now have a fund balance in our General Fund that is over \$880,000. About half of this fund balance is needed to cover cash flow and expenses for the rest of this fiscal year. We are now spending revenue in arrears instead of in advance. In other words, we will have enough funds to cover next year's expenses in advance rather than having to spend funds as they come in or incurring expenses before collecting money to pay those expenses. As our fund balance grows, we hope to be able to look at replacing some of our roads. Thus, in spite of the poor economy, the Township remains in the healthy financial position that we were able to establish last year.

In October, the Township and the DDA completed the replacement of Kochville Road. This was funded by a bond and the cost of moving the water line and replacing aging fire hydrants came from the Water Fund. The Township is using revenue sharing from the DDA to pay for the bond.

The County is in the process of awarding bids to complete our interceptor sewer project and to provide sewer on Bay and Pierce Roads near SVSU. These two projects are being funded by low interest federal bonds. The interceptor sewer will allow us to eliminate most of our pump stations and will give us much needed breathing room if we have a sewer emergency either in Kochville or downstream from us. The Bay/Pierce project will allow for the development of a commercial area near SVSU which will grow both our tax base and our Water and Sewer Funds.

That's the latest financial news from the Treasurer's office. We hope that you and yours enjoy a safe and happy holiday season!



KOCHVILLE

Kochville Township
5851 Mackinaw Road
Saginaw, MI 48604

Phone: 989-792-7596
Fax: 989-793-7498
E-mail: kochvilletwp.com

We will be

Closed December 31 for the New Year

We wish you a safe and Happy Holidays!

Office Hours

Monday-Friday

8am to 12 noon & 1230 to 430 pm

A HAPPY
NEW YEAR

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
KOCHVILLETWP.COM

OFFICE MANAGER'S REPORT: NEIL HAMMERBACHER

Capital Ideas Wanted

Kochville Township has a new committee dealing with Capital Improvement Planning. Capital assets include major government facilities, infrastructure, equipment and networks that enable the delivery of public sector services. The performance and continued use of these assets is essential to the health, safety, economic development and quality of life of those receiving services. Members of the committee include Don Jackson, Chairman and Planning Commission Member, Jim Loiacano, Township Supervisor, Al Malesky, Fire Chief,

Mike Burger, DPW Superintendent, Judy Jackson, Parks & Recreation Chairperson, Steve King, DDA Director, and Neil Hammerbacher, Office Manager. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 6, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the Township Hall. All are welcome.

If you have a "Capital Idea" you wish to share with the group, please attend our next meeting or e-mail your idea to Don Jackson at viporv@chartermi.net.

Recycling Challenge

For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2010, the 749 residential households in Kochville Township produced 580.07 tons of refuse, 113.03 tons of recycling and 372.00 tons of yard waste. Year to date for fiscal 2011 we have produced 1.90% more refuse, but we have recycled 35.29% less than last year. The challenge, using any logic you want, please recycle more. Our grandkids will thank us!