Treasury Department

Michelle Gramm, Treasurer Brenda Paul, Deputy Treasurer Hours: Monday *and* Thursday 9am-5pm

Somerset Township has received an accurate audit this year. Our accounts are reconciled monthly and a report is presented as a public record to account for all funds, revenue, expenditures, tax collections and fund balances. Investments are managed within a conservative, diversified portfolio to produce a healthy return. Collection of delinquent personal property taxes is conducted with due diligence.

The 2018 Summer Tax Due Date is Friday, September 14, 2018. The Treasury office will be open that day. Payments must reach the office by 5:00 pm to avoid applied interest. Postmarks are not accepted as payment date. Receipts mailed only with self-addressed stamped envelope. Tax Notices will be mailed to the last known address on record. Taxpayers must keep the township updated on name/address changes and/or corrections. Failure to receive a notice does not negate the responsibility for payment. For additional Treasury information, visit www.somersettownship.org

Fire & Rescue

Scott A. Friess Fire Chief/EMT Edward P. Zysk Asst. Chief/EMT

As always, we would like to thank everyone who has generously donated to our fundraisers. Your contributions are appreciated. In 2018 the Board of Trustees approved the purchase of a new ambulance for the Township to replace an aging vehicle. This new ambulance provides our residents with the latest equipment which enables us to have a 'Mobile Emergency Room on Wheels" and will undoubtedly save lives. Also, this year we were able to secure a \$60K Grant for a garage exhaust system for the Fire Department. This new system is installed and meeting expectations. I would like to remind everyone in case you haven't contacted your insurance company that Somerset Fire & EMS has a 8B rating. The 4th of July is here. Please be careful igniting fireworks. Your safety is of our utmost concern.

Assessing Office

Assessor - Position Open Hours: Monday 9 to 12 and 1 to 5 Tuesday & Wednesday 9 to 12 noon

Over the past two decades Somerset Township has been fortunate to have a level 2 Assessor with the qualifications and capabilities that Jim Bradley provided our community. Jim has recently announced that he has accepted a job as Deputy Treasurer for Jackson County. Mr. Bradley 's tireless effort and service to our Township is greatly appreciated by all who worked with him and he will be missed. The Board of Trustee's is in the process of contacting all level 2 Assessors in the State of Michigan to begin the interview process to find Mr. Bradley's replacement. In the interim, the Township has hired Maribeth Kaltz as Assistant Assessor and she will continue the property inspection field work at Lake LeAnn. This work is part of the standard assessing process mandated by the State of Michigan. Mr. Bradley has agreed to come into the office after hours to handle critical matters. Please refer to the Assessors Web Page where there is a great tool that gives you an idea ahead of time and will estimate your property taxes. Just click on the Property tax estimator link at the very bottom of the Assessing Department web page and follow the steps. Continue to contact the Assessor's office at 517-688-9223 and either the Assistant Assessor or the Librarian will see that your concerns are addressed.

Library

Barb Nemeth

Welcome Back Summer! The "Summer Story Time" for children ages 3-10 will begin soon. Connie Wetherby has volunteered to present stories and a craft for our young readers. Reservations are a must. Stories will begin promptly at 9:30 and there are fifteen spots available. A guardian must be present with child/children at all times. Please check our web page for updates @ somersettownship.org Then, Click on "Services" and "Library." We are still accepting donations of books in good, clean condition, with a copyright of 2010 through 2018. We cannot accept college books and/or encyclopedias. Books and books on CDs are available for sale at very reasonable prices during regular business hours. Come in and look over our inventory. Some magazines are available and are free. Library hours are Monday through Thursday 9:00-12:00 and 1:00-5:00, Friday 9:00-12:00. Please call 688-9223 with any other questions you may have. Stop in and see us soon!

Police Department

Chief

Eric Stolberg

During 2018 the Somerset Township Police Department (STPD) has been active in two major crime investigations involving local residents. These investigations have required numerous hours of interviews and follow-up which have taken time away from our usual STPD activities. Now more than ever it is important for all residents to say something if you see something. In case of emergency call 911. During the period of the ongoing investigations when the STPD was short one officer, Sargent Keith Bancroft, Officer Jay Niles and myself worked additional time to ensure that the necessary level of police protection was maintained. The Board of Trustees approved the hiring of another full time Police Officer, Justin King, a lifetime resident of Somerset and currently a Police Officer at Emmett Township.

Clerk's Corner:

Mike Bohnet, Clerk Janet Binder, Deputy Clerk

The 2018 election dates are August 7th (Primary) and November 6th (General). All registered voters are encouraged to exercise their right to vote in both elections. Somerset Township's Clerks Office maintains a permanent absentee voters list and we send out Absentee Ballot Applications automatically to everyone on that list. If you are over 60, unable to vote without assistance or expect to be out of the state or country on election day, come into the office and fill out a request for an absentee ballot application. The County Clerk will be conducting New Election Inspector certification training on July 10th. If you are interested in becoming an election Inspector please call the Clerk's Office 517-688-9223. Somerset Township will be using new election tabulators for the first time at the August 7th, primary election. A Public Audit to test the new equipment will be held on July 16, 2018 at 10AM in the Township Community Room.

Parks and Recreation Committee

Anne Boone, Chair

The Parks and Recreation Committee now has several openings for new members and volunteers. The Committee meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7PM in the Township Community Room. We welcome your attendance. Please continue to "Like our Facebook page." Feel free to post your own family photos as we would like to get to know

you better. The first summer "Music in the Park" event and Fireworks is July 3rd featuring The Kathy Ford Band, July 20th, Vinyl Groove, August 3rd Sea Cruisers and August 17th Brenda Loomis. The locally popular Disc Golf course continues to provide a fun experience to residents of all ages. Tee Sponsorships are available. Call 517-688-9223 to become a Tee Sponsor. Future plans for McCourtie Park are contracted work on 4 bridge foundations and a new East entrance to the park. The 5 year plan is being updated. Thank you Kenny Demel for your selfless volunteer hours and muscle over the last 20 years! We thank you and we will miss you. Bob Conn we appreciate the many hours you put into the preservation of McCourtie Park and your efforts will be missed. We hope that everyone is able to enjoy our "Fantastic Gem", Mc Courtie Park this summer. Please contact the Clerk's office for reservations, 517-688-9223.

Jerome Community Building (JCB)

Delores Smith-Post, Chair

Many improvements have taken place at JCB in 2018, Cement work has been completed for the pavilion and the sidewalk. The steps have been approved for the side entrance. During the fall and winter months, there are fund raisers with music, food and drawings. One fund raiser this year netted \$1K. Come join us for a fun time and great fellowship.

Supervisor's Report - Scott Burns

2017-18 has been a challenging second fiscal year for the new Board of Trustees. Budget wise we expect that revenues for 2017/18 will exceed expenditures by over \$100K. The Shannon Drive road paving project has been completed and an additional 7 roads will be paver patched this summer. Financial, Assessing and Treasury audits were favorable without any concerns. A Municipal Building LED lighting project was completed. Lawn mowing and snow removal 3 year contracts at fixed pricing were negotiated for 2018-20. The Planning Commission has completed the By-Laws and are working on updating the Master Plan. All residents are encouraged to consider volunteering for a committee, a commission or the Board of Trustees. At this time it appears that there may be a Board of Trustee position opening up in December, 2018. If you are interested in this position please call the Township at 517-688-9223. Have a great summer.