



Charter Township of
Augusta
Michigan
8021 Talladay Road P.O. Box 100
Whittaker, MI 48190-0100

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Supervisor Brian Shelby
Treasurer Susan Burek
Clerk Belynda Domas
Trustee Cath Howard
Trustee Dennis Chie
Trustee Ray Knick
Trustee Chris Ortiz

Newsletter - Summer 2017

From the Supervisor:

By the time you get this, we will have had our first Spring Cleanup in about 12 years. Our next project will be a Car Show at Lincoln Schools on Sunday August 27 and will be open to cars, trucks and motorcycles. There will also be a Swap Meet with no charge. For more details, please monitor the township website at AugustaTownship.org. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Township Hall at 734-461-6117 or use the enclosed Volunteer Application form. We are also working on the Township's Birthday Celebration, a date in September to be chosen. *Brian Shelby*

From the Treasurer:

The treasurer's office will be making changes to tax and utility collection to stream line services and to make it considerably less expensive for that collection. This will put the taxpayer's money to work for you, not paying the banks to manage your money. This will result in discontinuing some services, while enhancing others to make payments easy for you with fewer errors, and to improve our book keeping in the treasurer's office. Please read the back of your tax bill for payment instructions carefully.

The Farmland Preservation Board has an opening for one new member. To qualify, the applicant should own a minimum of 20 acres and have a farming interest. Please send your letter of interest and qualifications to Supervisor Brian Shelby, P.O. Box 100, Whittaker, MI 48190 or drop off at the township hall. Thanks! The Farmland Preservation Board meets once a month on the second Thursday at 6pm.

We are looking for volunteers for future township events. If you are interested, please fill out the volunteer form and send/drop off at the township hall. We will contact you and then have a meeting of volunteers and share with you our ideas and get some of yours. Thank you in advance for your participation. *Susan Burek*

From the Clerk:

The new Augusta Township Board has been in office for six months. The Augusta Township Board meetings are productive and I enjoy being a member.

Thank you, to all the election workers that attended the Post-Election Meeting at Augusta Township Hall. The feedback, ideas and participation is appreciated!

November 2017 Election will be a new and exciting time here at Augusta Township. The entire State of Michigan is getting new, improved, voting equipment. Augusta Township will also be implementing the Electronic Poll Book.

A special thanks to Election Chair Allan Cassell, Election Chair Tambra Broderick, Election worker Donald Broderick and Election Manager Michael Bartley. Each person contributed in the new election equipment selection process. They attended the Washtenaw County Vendor Demonstration meeting to evaluate the choices being offered to our county. After the Vendor Demonstration, they met again to discuss and debate the options. I'm pleased to report that the Hart System is the system that Washtenaw County selected.

Congratulations to Deputy Clerk, Kimberly Gonczy for obtaining her Election Official Accreditation Certificate and thank you for doing a great job as Deputy Clerk.

Finally, to the staff Heather Rowland and Lisa Long. I appreciate your positive attitude, focus and dedication to helping the Board of Trustees and residents of Augusta Township during this six month transitional phase. *Belynda Domas*

Augusta Township and Washtenaw Urban County

Augusta Twp. joined the Washtenaw Urban County in July, 2015. The Urban County is a partnership of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners (BOC) and participating Washtenaw municipalities (currently 3 cities and 15 townships). Representatives from the municipalities, staff from the Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED) and the Chair of the Washtenaw BOC make up the Executive Committee, which reviews projects, prioritizes needs, makes funding recommendations and develops policies that facilitate Washtenaw County's administration of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs.

As a result of our membership in the Urban County, Augusta Twp. qualified for many home rehabilitation services. Since July, 2015, Augusta residents have received over \$33,000 in new furnaces, water heaters, handicap ramps and roofing services. Trustee Cath Howard has been exploring blight and home deterioration programs that would assist in the rehab of foreclosed homes for faster sales to residential buyers rather than flippers, absentee landlords or the homes being left vacant.

Income eligible Augusta residents may apply for the services listed below as a result of our membership.

The HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM has four major components:

Owner-Occupied Single Family Housing Rehabilitation - deferred, no interest loans to rehab and repair owner-occupied homes for families earning 80% or less of the Area Median Income (AMI). These loans are due/payable upon the sale, rental, refinance, or transfer of the property. Loans will be forgiven if the owner resides in the property for 30 years.

Due to high demand for the program there is a long waiting list for services, approximately 6-12 months. Please call 734-622-9036 for more information

Emergency Repair Program - grant funding for urgent repairs up to \$5,000 OR up to \$10,000 as a deferred no interest payment loan that is forgiven at a rate of 1/5 per year for the five year period after project completion. Includes plumbing, sewer, water heaters, furnaces, electrical, and roofing. **Emergency grants limited to a one-time assistance during a five-year period regardless of whether a grant or loan was received originally. Please call 734-622-9036 for more information.**

Manufactured Home Rehabilitation- one-time grant to help owner occupied manufactured homes in manufactured home communities obtain roof repairs, emergency repairs to heating systems or water heaters.

Energy Efficiency Improvements - grants for energy efficiency improvements (attic or wall insulation, air sealing and high efficiency furnace replacement). Air conditioning is **NOT** covered this program. The funding limit varies with each project.

As of April 2017 The Accessibility Ramp Program is currently NOT Available. Call 734-544-3008 for more information.

HOME BUYER ASSISTANCE provides educational seminars and may also include down payment assistance is also available. **For more information or to register for Home Buyer Assistance seminars call (734) 222-9595**

For more information please check the County's Website for the Office of Community and Economic Development <http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/community-and-economic-development>

You can pick up information at the Augusta Charter Township Hall or contact Trustee Cath Howard by email at choward@augustatownship.org or call her at (734) 461-6493 (if she is unable to answer- please leave a message).

From the Washtenaw County Treasurer's Office:

Step Forward Program has reopened to new applicants!

Money is available to pay your property taxes, if you have had a financial hardship.

Interest-free, payment-free, forgivable loans - Up to \$30,000 in assistance.

Must have income to pay future taxes

We can help you complete an application. **Call us to make an appointment. 734-222-6600**

Or, you can apply directly at: StepForwardMichigan.org 866-946-7432

Charter Township of Augusta

Office: (734) 461-6117

Fax: (734) 461-6379

Web: augustatownship.org