



# Newsletter

## Winter 2020

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Supervisor Brian Shelby  
Clerk Kimberly Gonczy  
Treasurer Susan Burek  
Trustee Linda Adams  
Trustee Deborah Fuqua-Frey  
Trustee David Hall  
Trustee Christopher Ortiz

#### From the Supervisor

I would like to thank the outgoing board for all their hard work. We made great strides in moving the Township in a positive direction. The new board starts November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020. We welcome new board members Debbie Fuqua, Kim Gonczy and David Hall, who will join myself, Susan Burek, Linda Adams and Chris Ortiz, with our goal to continue the positive direction we're headed.

My vision for the future of the township:

- Complete the road projects that have been started
- Address neglected drains and ditches
- Continue street lighting project on Whittaker
- Effective use of consultants, with continued monitoring of need
- Be financially responsible and protect township assets
- Move forward with the park

Thank you for your support,

**Brian Shelby**

#### Clerk's Corner - "Changing of the Guard!"

Kim Gonczy is Augusta Township's new, awesome, and amazing Clerk! I, Belynda Domas, am now Augusta Township's Deputy Clerk.

All Augusta Township Staff and Elected Officials have worked above and beyond their normal job duties to work together as a team for all the 2020 Elections. We want to name each person individually and recognize all their hard work. For the latest, November 3, 2020 Election, we are so excited because 2,621 voters, voted absent. In 2016, when we started, only 800 voters, voted absent.

It was amazing to witness the Augusta Township team of employees and elected officials handle the volume of mail, phone calls and in person work during the November 3, election. The Clerk's office is responsible for running the election. We could not process 2,621 absent voters

without the help of these individuals. It is not part of their job description to assist us, and we truly appreciate it. These people answered the phone, answered election questions, sorted the mail, opened the door to help residents on our porch for months leading up to the election.

Cashier, Billie Welty said "I'm getting enough exercise at the township hall from getting up and down to open the door to help residents!" Thank you for never losing your sense of humor and making us all smile.

Heather Rowland, Office Administrator, who continued answering the phone over and over with a bright cheerful greeting! Thank you for making resident's feel that every vote counts and residents are always welcome to call the township.

Carol Zimnie, Utility Billings/Cashier is working on getting 1500 township residents new water meters. Amazingly, Carol helped with the election every day! Weekends, evenings, I witnessed Carol trying to catch up on her Utility work. We thank Carol for her dedication and hard work. Carol is also an Election Inspector who worked tirelessly on the Absent Voter Count Board on November 3.

Michael Bartley, Augusta Township Elections Manager said to me one day "Who would've predicted how much Elections would change since I took this job?" We laughed and said, "Maybe we should've thought about that before we took the job!" Mike deserves credit for many positive changes that have occurred in Augusta Township elections. Moving Augusta Township from paper to the electronic poll book, inviting residents to join the absent voter list prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, and hiring a more diverse group of election inspectors are just a few. Mike, we appreciate your insight, innovation, and implementation of new ideas. We also acknowledge that you continue to ensure the integrity of our entire election process.

Our newest, smart, tech savvy, Election Inspector working at Augusta Township is Hunter Rowland. Hunter

## Clerk (con't)

successfully completed the necessary training and began helping us process absent voters. One day, Hunter was not feeling well. Hunter wanted to come and work! Of course, we told her to stay home but we admire her dedication and appreciate all her help.

Augusta Township Deputy Treasurer Joanne Wade who performs a fulltime job, on a part time schedule was always there to help! "Is there anything I can do to help before I leave?" she asked regularly. Joanne, thank you for pitching in with the door, the phone calls and offering your continued support.

Trustee, Christopher Ortiz, serves on the Election Commission and is an Election Inspector. We thank you for the last four years and look forward to another four years of working with you! Chris brings years of election experience to our group and we really appreciate his contribution of time, new ideas and support.

Trustee, Linda Adams, also serves on the Election Commission and is an Election Inspector. Each time we called Linda for help, she came to the Township and pitched in. Whether it was applying postage, answering the door, filing, etc. Linda came to our aid. Thank you so much.

Supervisor, Brian Shelby, braved the cold weather many times for us ladies. During the coldest days Supervisor Shelby was helping us serve the residents waiting outside. Thank you, Brian, we appreciated all your help.

Election Inspector, Debra Diehr, we enjoyed having your help in the days leading up to the election. Especially on Halloween when you arrived in costume! Thanks for being such a versatile helper.

We can't forget to thank Allan, Herb, Angie, Tammy, Don, Mary, Amy, Monique, Vanda, Sue, and any others that helped with the set up of our Precincts prior to the election. We really appreciated it.

Below is a list of all the wonderful people who serve Augusta Township as Election Chairperson or Election Inspectors. Between all these folks, we have over 100 years of election experience! We are very fortunate to have such a great group of dedicated individuals that are here to support democracy and enjoy serving their community.

Precinct 1 – Amy Chmielewski, Virginia Sparrow, Monica Boc, Cleo Brezzell, Debra Diehr, Johny Domas, Stuart Eddy, Lawrence Toth, Kristen Rusche-Leone, Elaine Stasiak.

Precinct 2 – Monique Domas, Allan Cassell, Lori Curry, Herb Diehr, Mary Domas, Sarah Gelsanliter, Jessica Hagan, Gabe Lacy, Jeanette Pahl, Bruce Worden.

Precinct 3 - Tambra Broderick, Angela Moore, Don Broderick, Dwight Bennett, Allison Domas, Christina Domas, Kelsey Miller, Trena Plovie.

AVCB – Vanda Holbrook, Sue Hendricks, Heather Burda, Linda Fuller, Sheila McHenry, Dawn Pluff, Paula Smith, JoAn Willis, Carol Zimnie.

Respectfully,

**Belynda Domas, Deputy Clerk**

**Kim Gonczy, Clerk**

**Michael Bartley, Election Inspector**

## From the Treasurer's Office

I am very pleased to report that the Treasurer's office continues to operate smoothly. The cashiers, deputy treasurer and I continue to work within established guidelines to keep the township money accounted for. We are happy to report we have now been part of three perfect audits for the township. We are looking forward to more success in the next four years.

The Treasurer's office is taking on a more active role in the utility billing department. I am now the Utility Billing Manager and work with Carol Zimnie as the Utility Coordinator & Cashier. We are busy currently assisting a meter replacement project for all our utility customers. This will bring efficiencies in billing for completely accurate meter reads, and it will cut operator expenses. These new meters offer a mobile app so our customers can monitor their water usage and provide alerts to potential problems.

The number of utility customers taking advantage of the automatic utility payment program managed by my deputy continues to increase and numbered 252 residents this past billing cycle. This saves a substantial amount of processing time, which saves money for the township. Sign up forms are online but please contact Joanne at [deputytreasurer@augustatownship.org](mailto:deputytreasurer@augustatownship.org) if you have any questions.

With best regards,

**Susan Burek, Treasurer**

**Joanne Wade, Deputy Treasurer**