

# Newsletter Winter 2022

## **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

- We have a "No Dumping" sign up near the township garbage cans. Please do not dump your tires, mattresses, or furniture for the township to dispose of. This costs extra for us to remove those items.
- Also, Washtenaw County will be putting in a roundabout at Bemis/Whittaker in 2023, and Willis/Whittaker in 2024.
- All 3 of our proposals did not pass in Augusta Township. As a board we are supposed to bring the residents
  choices and opportunities to benefit all residents of Augusta Township. Then it is up to you to make your
  decision and vote. And on November 8th, you did that and made your choice, which we all need to respect.
- I also would like to thank our Clerk, Kim Gonczy, and the Elections Manager, Mike Bartley for a very well organized and managed election. And thank you to all the election workers for your assistance as well, they had all the best people working with them and it was run flawlessly

Brian Shelby, Supervisor Allan Cassell, Deputy Supervisor

https://augustatownship.org/supervisor/

#### From the Treasurer's Office

The treasurer's office has changed the front of the tax bill regarding Washtenaw county's milage rates. The county has requested that we use a single total line, which is also transmitted that way to the county for their accounting purposes. For transparency, we decided to list the individual milage items you are used to seeing on the back of the tax bill. We have taken the opportunity to expand on that information with dates of milage election and expiration. We will also be updating the treasurer's page to add more detailed information about each milage and what it covers. We hope this will increase understanding to the residents about the taxes they are paying.

Since 2018, our township has had perfect financial audits, bringing the total to five. This is unprecedented in the history of the township. Financial audits provide independent assurance that our township is operating in a fiscally responsible manner. Auditors review our financial practices and reporting to help make sure our internal controls are sufficient to prevent theft and fraud. The continued perfect audits show a continuity of ethics and compliance to help the township inform not only the residents, but the markets and investors for bonds we may need to operate our township. It plays an important part in our credit rating.

The treasurer's office made a change three years ago to request that residents use our drop box for check payments, and a receipt would be mailed upon request. The receipt we generate from our tax database gives more comprehensive information such as received from (check signee), date and time received, cashier who processed the check, check number, total amount received. We hope this more complete receipt fits your needs better for your documentation. We will also email your receipt upon request.

The treasurer's office is working on getting a card reader added to the water dispenser machine at the hall. This reader will give the capability of using a credit card or prepay card. We will post signs outside by the dispenser to inform the users of the progress.

With best regards,
Susan Burek, Treasurer
Joanne Wade, Deputy Treasurer
https://augustatownship.org/treasurer/

### Augusta Township Clerk's Corner

Augusta Township held two elections, August 2, 2022, Primary Election and November 8, 2022, General Election at the new polling location: The Family Center at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 9425 Whittaker Road, Ypsilanti. The new voting location is everything we hoped it would be. Housing all three precincts under one roof at this great location has been a more positive experience for voters. The space protects voters from waiting out in the inclement weather, offers spacious parking and having one location is less confusing for voters. A huge thank you to our Chairpersons, Election Inspectors, Staff, and Families for all their help and support! We really appreciate each one of you that contributed to the successful elections.

The Clerk's Office applied for and received a \$4,500 HAVA (Help American's Vote Act) Grant. The funds were used to purchase 2 new laptops, stanchions, and other much needed election supplies. The Clerk's Office learned about the HAVA Grant while attending MTA (Michigan Township Association) Annual Conference and Training in April 2022.

Attending the MTA Annual Conference is very informative. In April 2022, Augusta Township had five attendees, two Township Board Members and three Township Deputies. It is an honor for Augusta Township to be a part of the opening conference morning Flag Ceremony.

Washtenaw County Broadband Task Force, a committee the Clerk's office served on, has come to a successful end. Visit www.augustatownship.org for complete information regarding Broadband and your home. The following is from Washtenaw County:

"UPDATE in the development of the Washtenaw County Broadband Gap filling project. It took longer to get this project started than anyone anticipated this year, but it is now underway. To help all residents follow the progress, we have created an interactive map that can be searched for your address, or just navigate to it. Click on your parcel and it will provide information about who the internet service provider will be, an estimated completion date, and a link to the providers website. Many of the schedules are still be worked on and updated, so please don't be alarmed if you see a date that is a few years away. All of the target dates will be updated as we get closer to your areas. Keep in mind, there are about 8,000 homes we are working on reaching, which is going to take more than 1,000 miles of fiber optic cabling. The map will be updated as new areas are activated. "See Washtenaw Broadband Gap Filling Project (arcgis.com)

Finally, we are very excited to share that the Township Hall offices have been renovated! The Clerk's and Treasurer's offices are in the original building and the Supervisor, Assessor and Zoning offices are in the modular building next door. With continued support, patience and cooperation of the Township Board, deputies, staff, and contractors, we completed the renovation work together. If you haven't been inside our offices, please stop in and see us.

Respectfully,
Kim Gonczy, Clerk
Belynda Domas, Deputy Clerk
Michael Bartley, Election Inspector
www.augustatownship.org/clerk/



