

# Porter Township Newsletter

Cass County, Michigan — March, 2009

Watch for our new Website in March — <http://www.portertownship.org>

## Opportunities to serve

Volunteers are needed to serve on various boards in the township. Please submit your resume to Marty Russell, Township Clerk, if you are interested. You can contact the chair people listed through the township offices at (269)641-2375 or by e-mail at [porter@portertownship.org](mailto:porter@portertownship.org) if you have questions.

The **Sewer Board** is an advisory board which helps the township board make decisions regarding the operation of the sewer system. For Information contact Steve Holtz. The Sewer Board meets the first Tuesday of

each month.

The **Planning Commission** is an advisory board which makes recommendations to the township board regarding ordinances and new planned developments. Contact Don Henke.

The **Zoning Board of Appeals** decides the fate of your appeal to get a variance regarding buildings. Contact DeDe Fisher.

The **Board of Review** looks at your questions regarding your property taxes or assessments. You must protest your assessment in person or in writing to appeal to the tax tribu-

nal. Contact Dan Harvey.

The **Wetlands Committee** is advisory to the board and is concerned with protection of the township's wetlands. Contact Gert Temple.

The **South East Public Safety Authority (SEPSA)** Board provides fire and ambulance service. Contact Mike Holdeman. The board meets the second Thursday at 7 pm at the fire department. Contact Mike Holdeman at (269) 641-7100.

## Porter Township news roundup

### New Ordinances

The following new ordinances have been adopted. If you need specifics, contact Marty Russell, Clerk.

If you are thinking of heating with wood take a look at the "**Outdoor Wood Fired Boiler Ordinance.**"

If you would like to generate some electricity via the wind you should look at the "**Wind Generated Power Ordinance.**"

If you are thinking of purchasing flood insurance keep in mind that the insurance company will require that you be in compliance with the "**Flood Prevention District Regulation Ordinance.**"

When involved with a project that is in or near wetlands the project must be in compliance with the "**Wetlands Protection Ordinance.**"

### Dust Control

Letters pertaining to **dust control** will be mailed in March to last-year's customers. If you did not have dust control last year and would like it this year, contact Marty Russell so that you can be placed on the dust control list. This year the township and the property owner will split the cost 50/50.

### Note to Snow Mobile Riders

Please do not ride your snowmobiles through the cemeteries. There are so many obstructions you endanger your-

self and the monuments.

Additionally, your riding packs the snow allowing the ground to freeze which makes the sexton's job more difficult. Thank you for your consideration.

### Notice to Sewer Users

The sewer department is having difficulty properly crediting some customers for their payments. When a payment arrives and the account number is not on your check it greatly increases

the recording time and the cost of operation. If we can keep our costs down we can keep the rates down. Please put your account number on your check. The parcel number will not work because our system is set up on account numbers. If the account number is not on your check and a copy of the bill is not included, the check will be returned.

### New Planned Unit Developments

Be sure to see the new PUD off Wayne St. For the last two years, Baldwin Landing has been under development. Building sites are still available.

### Thanks from the Board

Your newly elected township board would like to thank you for your support. We will endeavor to support and to serve you to the best of our ability. To that end, Dan Harvey (supervisor) will be in the township office Mondays from 10 am to 4 pm. Dan can also be available at other times by appointment. Steve Northrup and Leard Wylie are also available by appointment.

### Board Attends Conference

Your township board attended the Michigan Township Association (MTA) Conference January 27 - 30. Many workshops were attended and the knowledge gained will be used to better serve you.

## Upcoming events

**Feb 28 — Last day to obtain dog licenses.** If you do not have it by then, you will need to get a license from the county.

**March 9, 10 — The Board of Review** will meet from 9 am to Noon and from 1 until 4 pm on March 9, and from 1 to 4 pm and from 6 to 9 pm on March 10. To make an appointment, call the township office.

**May 5 — School Elections**

**June 6 — Clean Up Day** Clean up day, items of trash may be dropped off at American Waste in Union from 8am to Noon.

## **Southeast Public Safety Authority News (SEPSA)**

A lot has been accomplished toward the goals of the Authority regarding increasing protection levels in the community in the year and a half since the millage was passed.

Within the first 18 months of the millage SEPSA has replaced 3 emergency vehicles instead of one. A FEMA grant for nearly \$200,000 was received by Porter Fire that enabled SEPSA to purchase 2 tankers and an ambulance to replace aged units. Many other

equipment items were also upgraded — for instance Porter Fire now has over 3,000 feet of 5 inch supply hose used to supply large amounts of water over distances for fire fighting. Water supply issues are also being addressed with one dry hydrant already installed, and locations are now being evaluated for dry hydrant systems on Birch, Shavehead, Long, Carter, Juno, and Indiana Lakes as well as several near remote waterways. Continued work on these systems are designed to address protection levels and

insurance rates throughout the community. Emergency response has also been enhanced by now staffing Porter Fire Station 6 days a week during the day, and work is under way to increase those on station coverage hours. EMS enhancements include a new ambulance, new AED with monitor, and a new automatic CPR device for field use (the first in Michigan).

The SEPSA Board meets every 2nd Thursday at 7 pm at Porter Fire Station. Contact Mike Holdeman at (269) 641-7100.

## **General Information**

### **Township Board.....**

Supervisor.....Dan Harvey  
Clerk .....Marty Russell  
Treasurer .....Helen Croninger  
Trustee..... Leard Wylie  
Trustee..... Steve Northrup

### **Building Inspectors**

Building, Rich Drews  
Electrical, Jack Hughes  
Mechanical & Plumbing, Ed Wainwright

### **Contact Information**

Township Office .....269-641-2375  
Hours .....10 am-Noon and 1-4 pm  
Fax.....269-641-2571  
Fire Department.....269-641-7100  
Emergency.....911  
E mail .....porter@portertownship.orgOffice

### **Hours**

Township Offices are open 10 am to Noon and 1-4 pm Monday through Friday

**Dan Harvey, Supervisor**, will be in the office Mondays and at other times by appointment.

**Marty Russell, Clerk**, will be in the office Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

**Vickie Hall, Deputy Clerk**, will be in the office during office hours Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and during Building night

Thursday evening winter hours are 5-6 pm, when weather improves, hours will be 5-7 pm.

**Helen Croninger, Treasurer**, will be in the office on Wednesdays. During tax collection time she will be in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

**Nancy DuFour, Deputy Treasurer**, will be in the office on Wednesday.

**Pat Keirn or Connie Bickel, Sewer Department**, will be in M-F during regular hours. Sewer bills may be paid in person or by mail.

### **Meetings**

**Township Board Agenda meetings** are held the first Tuesday of each month at 3:30 pm, unless otherwise posted.

**Township Board meetings** are the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm, unless otherwise posted.

**Building Night** meets weekly from 5 - 6 pm during the winter and until 7 pm when time changes to let you apply for building, plumbing, mechanical and electrical permits.

**Porter Township  
69373 Baldwin Prairie Rd.  
PO Box 517  
Union, MI 49130**

PRSR STD  
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