

# Watson Township Newsletter 2022

Watson Township  
1895 118<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Allegan, MI 49010

## PROPERTY TAXES

To avoid interest and penalties, please pay Summer Taxes by **September 14th** and Winter Taxes by **February 14th**. Postmarks are not accepted. Payments can be made by Cash or Check Only. We are not currently able to accept Credit or Debit Cards. After **March 1st**, all unpaid taxes become delinquent and must be paid to the Allegan County Treasurer.

**RECEIPTS** are no longer automatically mailed to taxpayers due to the increasing costs of postage, paper, and printer ink. Your canceled check is your receipt. If you require a receipt, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope or include your email address when mailing your payments.

Payments are recorded based on the date received, not the date written on the check or the postmark on the envelope. If a check is not honored by the bank, the tax is unpaid and subject to penalties and/or interest and a returned check fee will be assessed.

Dog Licenses are available from the Allegan County Treasurer.

## OFFICE HOURS

**Supervisor:** By appointment – 269-589-5688

**Clerk:** Statutory Hours during elections, otherwise by appointment - 269-217-9899

**Treasurer:** Statutory Hours pursuant to Public Act 641 of 2002 and Public Act 126 of 2011. Otherwise, discretionary hours will be posted on the Township Office door during tax collection months. If you have questions you may call the Treasurer at 616-510-4992

**Township Assessor:** First 4 Wednesdays of the month 9 am – 12 pm

**Contact Information:** Kevin Kutscher Phone - (269) 672-7254 or (269) 673-9616

**Closed on all US Government holidays  
DROP BOX AT WEST ENTRANCE**

# Watson Township

Incorporated February 16, 1842

Newsletter 2022

[www.watsontownship.org](http://www.watsontownship.org)



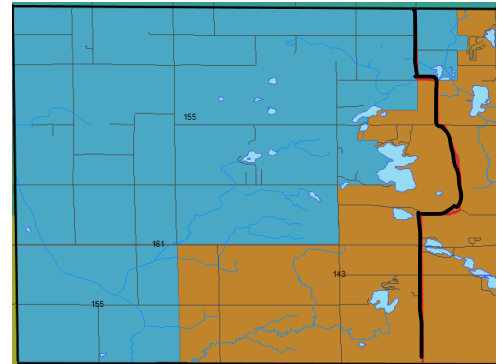
## THE RED TEAM



With the ARPA dollars the township is expanding the Watson Township Station (HAFD Station #2). This expansion will make room for the air trailer and accommodate a full-time ambulance. The department also purchased a used arrow board with **zero** taxpayer dollars. Hundreds of volunteer hours went into rehabilitating the arrow board, and it's now better than new and ready to serve. We as a community are blessed to have the talent, skill, and dedication of our volunteers. **THANK YOU!**

If you're interested in joining, please contact:  
Hopkins Station                      Watson Station  
269.793.1000                              269.672.7254

On April 1<sup>st</sup> 2022, Martin Fire began its Medical First Responder program and will begin responding to priority 1 and 2 medical calls in their service territory. Mutual Aid for fire calls IS NOT changing. We are very pleased with the increased collaboration between the departments and look forward to strengthening the relationship between the departments. Our community is benefited greatly when **ALL** departments see themselves as **THE RED TEAM**



## COMMUNITY STANDARDS TEAM

Watson Township is a Zoned and Planned Community, which, among other things, means the use of land is regulated in accordance with a master plan. In general, Professional Code Inspections of Dorr (PCI) handles building and zoning permits and violations thereof. Watson Township has also implemented **police-power ordinances** that regulate activities on the land that include *Noise, Junk Cars, Gatherings, Dangerous Buildings, and Litter and Blight*. Watson Township, has hired a Resource Officer to assist with enforcement of zoning and police-power ordinances. Take the time to read the Township ordinances and bring your property into compliance to avoid incurring any citations or cleanup costs.

**Court is a last resort – be a good neighbor and let's help each other!**



Resource Officer Mills

**To Report a Problem, Call or Email:**

PCI: 616-877-2000    Officer Mills: [Codes@watsontownship.org](mailto:Codes@watsontownship.org)

### CLEAN-UP DAYS

#### TWO CLEAN UP DAYS!

(1) Spring May 14, 2022  
9 AM. – 2 P.M

(2) Fall October 22, 2022  
9 AM. – 2 P.M

### TOWNSHIP HALL RENTAL

Hall rental is \$60 for township residents and \$120 for non-residents. Hall rental is **FREE** for non-profit groups, clubs, organizations, and funeral luncheons. If you would like to rent the Township Hall for an event, call **Hall Rental Coordinator MICHELLE HARRIS** at (269 ) 217-5971 [info@watsontownship.org](mailto:info@watsontownship.org)

**NO SMOKING and NO ALCOHOL**



## TOWNSHIP BOARD

### Supervisor

Kevin Travis  
269-589-5688  
[supervisor@watsontownship.org](mailto:supervisor@watsontownship.org)

### Clerk

Kelli Morris  
269-217-9899  
[clerk@watsontownship.org](mailto:clerk@watsontownship.org)

### Treasurer

Stephanie Caulder  
616-510-4992  
[treasurer@watsontownship.org](mailto:treasurer@watsontownship.org)

### Trustee

Michelle Harris  
269-217-5971  
[info@watsontownship.gov](mailto:info@watsontownship.gov)

### Trustee

John Caras  
[info@watsontownship.gov](mailto:info@watsontownship.gov)

## PLANNING COMMISSION

Bruce Bos – **Chair**

Bev McKinnon – **Vice-Chair**

Jay Roberts-Eveland  
– **Secretary**

Owen Ramey - **Member**

Shawn Caulder – **Member**

Nick Evans – **Member**

John Caras – **Board Rep.**

## ALLEGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONER

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Allegan County issues, please contact County Commissioner Gale Dugan, Phone: (269) 694-5276  
[gdugan@allegancounty.org](mailto:gdugan@allegancounty.org)

## PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN

Watson Township has owned two parcels of undeveloped land for many decades – one is the old Watson-Martin Dump on 115<sup>th</sup> Ave. and the other is on M222 near 20<sup>th</sup> St. The property on M222 was purchased in 1991 with a goal - in part - of creating a park. This past spring, the Township Board has moved one step closer to making that a reality by passing a Parks Regulation Ordinance 2022-3. Both the Watson-Martin Dump and the M222 Property are specifically named within this ordinance. The Township highly recommends that residents read the new ordinance either on the Township website or at the township hall. The short-term goal for the M222 park is to create walking paths. For the 115<sup>th</sup> Ave property, the Township will seek DNR grants to clean up the dump for future use. To apply for grants the Township needs a parks and recreation plan, and needs your help by completing the survey at the attached link: or a paper version available at the township hall

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WatsonPlanSvy>

## RECYCLING

The Township is partnering with Allegan County to join the resource recovery program. The dumpsters at the township hall will be removed, and participating residents will receive a Herby Curby container. If residents approve the surcharge on August 2, 2022, **all** households will pay \$50/ year to become members of the program. The program includes hazardous waste and tire collection. If voter's reject the surcharge, then only voluntary participating residents will pay \$25/ year and only they will be part of the program. The surcharge applies only to households in either case – not vacant land. Regular collection will be curbside.

## UPCOMING ELECTIONS

**May 3, 2022** (school elections) **August 2, 2022** (recycling millage/ primary elections) **November 8, 2022** (general election for state-wide offices)

## BURN PERMITS

Burn permits can be obtained by calling the automated phone line at 269-686-5222 The burn permit is good for one day only, and that is the day that you call.

## LIBRARIES

Watson Township residents are served by both the Hopkins and Martin libraries. If you have any questions or want to volunteer please contact:

Hopkins Library: [www.hopkinspl.michlibrary.org](http://www.hopkinspl.michlibrary.org) 793-7516  
Martin JC Wheeler 672-7875 [www.wheelerpl.michlibrary.org](http://www.wheelerpl.michlibrary.org)

## RECREATIONAL EVENTS

Our beautiful township and gravel roads have become a major attraction for bicyclists in recent years.

**Please welcome the Dirty Donut Race!**

\*\*On June 4, 2022 - the Dirty Donut race returns. The 22, 41, and 61 mile races feature Watson Township

<https://dirtydonutraces.com/>



## ALLEGAN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

For questions (**or complaints**) regarding roads in Watson Township, email Craig Atwood, [ccraig@alleganroads.org](mailto:ccraig@alleganroads.org) or call 269-673-2184

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

**Chair**

Jim Lautenschleger  
269-501-1486

**Vice Chair**

James Kelsey  
269-793-7763

**Member**

John VanDyke  
269-793-3526

**PC Representative**

Bruce Bos

**Board Representative/  
Secretary**

Michelle Harris

**CEMETERIES**

**Sexton/ Foundations:**

Mark Simpson  
269-366-7288  
1415 14th St. Otsego

Watson Township has two township cemeteries –

**Hicks** (located on the corner of 14<sup>th</sup> St. and 117<sup>th</sup> Ave.) and **Miner** (located on 20<sup>th</sup> just south of 118<sup>th</sup>).

Please find our ordinances posted online or at each cemetery.

**Fees for Cemetery Lots:**

Resident: \$100  
Non-Resident: \$400  
Number of Cremations per Grave: Two (2)

**Grave Openings:**

Resident: \$500  
Non-Resident: \$500  
Infant: \$200  
Cremation: \$100  
Monument charge if moved: \$25

**MEETING DATES May 2022 – May 2023**

**Watson Township Board @ 7 pm**

May 5, 2022  
June 2, 2022  
July 7, 2022  
Aug. 4, 2022  
Sep. 1, 2022  
Oct. 6, 2022  
Nov. 3, 2022  
Dec. 1, 2022  
Jan, 5, 2023  
Feb. 2, 2023  
Mar. 2, 2023  
April 6, 2023  
May 4, 2023

**Planning Commission @ 7 pm**

May 25, 2022  
June 22, 2022  
July 27, 2022  
Aug. 24, 2022  
Sep. 28, 2022  
Oct. 26, 2022  
Nov. No Meeting  
Dec. 7, 2022  
Jan. 25, 2023  
Feb 22, 2023  
Mar. 22, 2023  
April 26, 2023

**Zoning Board of Appeals:**

**Organizational meeting is the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in March. All other meetings as noticed.**

**Board of Review:**

The March Board of Review begins their work on the Tuesday following the first Monday in March. Appeal meetings of the March Board begin on the 2nd Monday in March. The required first appeal meeting on the second Monday in March must start no earlier than 9 A.M. and no later than 3 P.M. The Board must meet for a minimum of 6 hours that day. The Board must meet a total of at least 12 hours during that first week and at least 3 hours of the required sessions must be after 6 P.M. See the notice in the Allegan County News for exact dates and times.



**TOWNSHIP FLAGS**

**Show your Sense of Place, Identity, and Community!**

2'X3' Watson Township  
Flags are available for  
purchase at the  
Township Hall for **\$25.**

**WAYLAND AREA EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE**

WAEMS serves all of Watson Township. A membership program called Vital Care is available for township residents. Applications are available at the township hall or online at the Township website [www.watsontownship.org](http://www.watsontownship.org). For more information call WAEMS at 269-792-2958.

Mission: To provide exceptional pre-hospital care and education for the rural communities we serve, through the formal cooperation of local governments and dedicated volunteers.

**NOTICES AND PUBLICATIONS**

Legal Notices are published in the Allegan County News