

Watson Township Newsletter 2024

Watson Township
1895 118th 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 – supervisor@watson townshipmi.gov

Clerk: Statutory Hours during elections, otherwise by appointment – clerk@watson townshipmi.gov

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 township office at 269-672-7254. The Treasurer is also available on most Monday evenings after 4:00. treasurer@watson townshipmi.gov

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 2024

www.watsontownshipmi.gov



THE RED TEAM

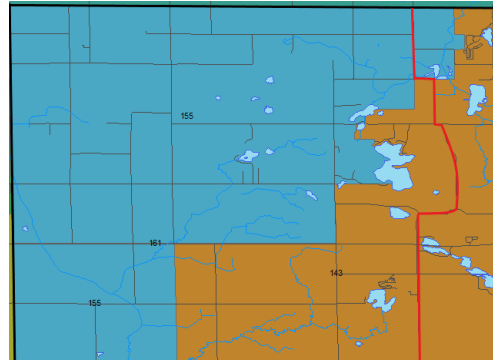


The Township took advantage of ARPA funding to add an additional bay to Watson Township Station (HAFD Station #2); the new bay is now home to the medical first response equipment and vehicle. Last year, The Hopkins Area Fire Department was able to accommodate the department's off-road rescue vehicle – which also has tracks for the winter time. In 2024-2025 the department will be replacing the large pumper truck housed at the Watson Township Station.

If you are interested in joining the Hopkins Area Fire Department please contact:

Hopkins Station	Watson Station
269.793.1000	269.672.7254
(non-emergency)	(non-emergency)

On April 1, 2022, the fire coverage and EMS maps for HAFD and Martin Fire changed to reflect the growth of HAFD Station #2 and the addition of a Medical First Responder program at Martin Fire. Mutual Aid IS NOT changing. HAFD is working closely with Martin Fire as they develop their MFR program. We look forward to improved collaboration between the departments. Our community is benefited greatly when **ALL** departments see themselves as **THE RED TEAM**



COMMUNITY STANDARDS TEAM

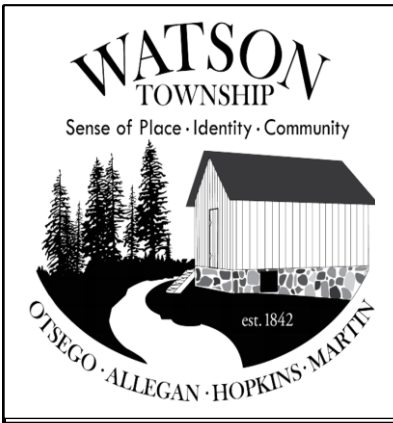
Watson Township is a Zoned and Planned Community, which means the use of land is regulated in accordance with a master plan to help prevent conflicting uses. Professional Code Inspections of Dorr (PCI) handles building and zoning permits, and special use permits, and violations thereof. Watson Township has also implemented police-power ordinances that regulate activities on the land that include *Noise, Junk Cars, Gatherings, Dangerous Buildings, and Litter and Blight*. 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!

Call or Email: **Watson Officer:** 616-367-7031 codes@watsonmi.gov
PCI: <https://pcimi.com/contact> 616-877-2000

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



CLEAN-UP DAYS

TWO CLEAN UP DAYS!

(1) Spring Clean-up May 11, 2024
9 AM. – 2 P.M

(2) Fall Clean-up October 12, 2024
9 AM. – 2 P.M

For clean-up days *Non-residents* may bring METAL ONLY, NO NON-METALLIC TRASH. Scrap proceeds go to the HAFD.

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 call **HALL COORDINATOR MICHELLE HARRIS** at 269-217-5971 **mharris@watsontownshipmi.gov**

NO SMOKING and NO ALCOHOL

TOWNSHIP BOARD

Supervisor

Kevin Travis

supervisor@watsontownshipmi.gov

Clerk

Kelli Morris

clerk@watsontownshipmi.gov

Treasurer

Tera Davis

treasurer@watsontownshipmi.gov

Trustee

Michelle Harris

mharris@watsontownshipmi.gov

Trustee

John Caras

jcaras@watsontownshipmi.gov

**FOR OTHER BOARDS SEE
THE WEBSITE**

www.watsontownshipmi.gov

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. This permit is good for brush, shrubs, and leaves only. You must have a source of water nearby and the fire must be attended at all times. If the burn gets out of control and requires a fire department response you may be held liable for any costs incurred.

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:

793-7516 www.hopkinspl.michlibrary.org

Martin JC Wheeler

672-7875 www.wheelerpl.michlibrary.org

ELECTIONS

For questions about elections, absentee voting, or early voting please call the Clerk or email clerk@watsontownshipmi.gov

August 6, 2024: Primary

November 5, 2024: General election

CEMETERIES

Sexton/ Foundations: Corey Irish 269-532-0179 / Mark Simpson 269-366-7288

Watson Township has two township cemeteries – **Hicks** (located on the corner of 14th St. and 117th Ave.) and **Miner** (located on 20th just south of 118th). 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:** \$250 **Cremation:** \$100
Monument charge if moved: \$100 **Foundations:** \$0.75/ square inch.



Thank you to **Michigan Career & Technical Institute** for creating the new sign at the Township Hall. We are happy to provide opportunities for learning!

ALLEGAN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

For questions (or complaints) regarding roads in Watson Township, email Craig Atwood, rcraig@alleganroads.org or call 269-673-2184

**MEETING DATES May 2024 – April 2025
Watson Township Board @ 7 pm**

- May 2
- June 6
- July 11
- August 1
- September 5
- October 3
- November 7
- December 5
- January 2, 2025
- February 6, 2025
- March 6, 2025
- March 27, 2025 (budget hearing)
- April 10, 2024

Planning Commission @ 7 pm

- April 24
- May 22
- June 26
- July 24
- August 28
- September 25
- October 23
- December 4
- January 22, 2025
- February 26, 2025
- March 26, 2025
- April 23, 2025

Zoning Board of Appeals:

Organizational meeting is the 1st 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.

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.watsontownshipmi.gov 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

**ARTS, CULTURE, &
RECREATIONAL EVENTS**

WILD THYME MUSIC FESTIVAL

Will return in **June 2025!**

DIRTY DONUT RACE

The fastest growing bike race in Michigan returns to our beautiful township Saturday June 15, 2024. Nearly 1,000 bikers will be racing the 22, 41, or 61 mile races that feature Watson Township <https://dirtydonutraces.com/>



PARKS AND RECREATION



In 2023 our township was **one of 15** communities in the State of Michigan to receive the Michigan DNR Passport Grant (and **one in 7** to receive the grant in full for \$150,000). This generous gift will jumpstart improvements to Seven Generations Park. Anticipated completion of a pavilion, improved parking, and trails will be Fall 2024 or Spring 2025.

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.**