



From the Supervisor

Towards the end of 2017, the Township Board chose to start Paradise Emergency Services with the goal of being ready for business by April 1, 2018. This deadline coincided with the Grand Traverse Rural Fire Department dissolution date. Your Township Board made a decision to ask for assistance from our neighbor Blair Township, to provide management of our operation and direction through this venture. Blair Township Supervisor Nicole Blonshine and the Emergency Services team consisting of Dan O'Brien, Bill Parker, and Eric Somsel made an insurmountable task a reality in a short amount of time. Our board was kept busy setting wages, choosing health benefits, and picking retirement plans to ensure we provided a competitive package to attract valuable candidates looking for careers. After 3 months of hard work Paradise Emergency Services launched, and a seamless transition from 2 part time entities to one full time operation was complete.

Paradise Township is now an employer of six cross trained EMT/Firefighters. Paradise Emergency Services has hired some familiar faces, and others are new to the area. These full time employees bring with them families that will shop at our stores, buy homes next door, and enroll their children in our school system. Fortunately we still have a deep bench of paid on-call personnel that are available for both emergency services and structure fires. Many of these men and women have been around a long time, so expect to see the same loyal people working behind the scenes to keep us safe.

At the August 2018 election, the Township will seek a 1.9 mil millage for ambulance, emergency medical and fire protection services. This is a 0.9 mil increase from prior fire/EMS millages, and if approved will allow these services to continue.

Election Information



The next generation of voting equipment is being implemented in Paradise Township and Grand Traverse County! The new equipment offers voters and election workers the speed and convenience of the latest ballot-scanning and election-night reporting. The new equipment will still use a paper ballot in the event a recount or hand-verification of votes is necessary.

Overall, the average voter will see little change in the voting process – voters will still complete a paper ballot and feed it into a tabulator which tallies the results. The look and feel of the ballots and new tabulator is similar to that of the previous machines. However, voters can take pride in knowing their ballot is being tabulated using the most up-to-date ballot scanning technology. The equipment that we will be using has been certified by Federal and State I.T. government laboratories and meets all standards of the United States Federal Election Commission and Michigan Department of State.

With a new tabulating system, comes a new universally accessible voting device, the ExpressVote! The ExpressVote machine works as a “fancy ink pen” allowing voters of all abilities to *independently* cast their vote using the touchscreen system, a sip-and-puff device, a rocker panel, or braille equipped remote, if they wish.

Paradise Township will be holding an OPEN HOUSE on July 12 from 11:00am—3:30pm. Come in and see how the new election equipment works. You will be able to try a sample ballot so you can see it in action. We also have two videos on our website that show the new equipment and how to use it. Go to paradisewp.org, go to the Clerk's page then click on the **Elections** tab on the left.

Elections in 2018: Primary August 7, 2018 and General November 6, 2018

If you are unable to vote in person, registered voters may contact the local clerk to obtain an application for an absent voter ballot. *Just a reminder that an absent voter ballot **may not** be given to anyone other than the intended voter, including a family member or the voter's spouse. PA 523 of 2012 now requires that voters requesting an AV ballot **in person** must present identification or sign the Affidavit of Voter Not in Possession of Picture Identification form.*

Please remember that you must be registered to vote **30 days prior to an election** to be eligible to vote. This means in order to vote in August you need to be registered to vote **by July 9, 2018**. In order to vote in November you need to be registered to vote **by October 9, 2018**. Voters may register by mail using the mail-in registration form, in person at the Secretary of State Branch office and also at the County or Township Clerk's office.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN ELECTION WORKER?

This is a great opportunity to perform a needed service and earn \$12 per hour!

REQUIREMENTS

- ~ Registered to vote in Michigan**
- ~ Legible handwriting
- ~ Available to attend training sessions
- ~ Available on election day

**High school students 16 and over are eligible to work elections.

Please see the Clerk's page on our website, www.paradisewp.org or call the Clerk's office at 231-263-5251 for an application.



WE NEED YOU!



Paradise Township
Looking Towards the Future

2300 E M-113
Kingsley, MI 49649
231-263-5251
Fax 231-263-7437

Office Hours
CLOSED MONDAY
Tue-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm
www.paradisewp.org

TOWNSHIP STAFF

Supervisor

Rob Lajko

Clerk's Office

Lisa K. Gulliver, Clerk
Stephanie Lathrop, Deputy

Treasurer's Office

Margaret Lajko-Lee, Treasurer
William J. King, Deputy

Trustees

Carol Stocking, Trustee
Jeff Joppich, Trustee

Assessor

Dawn Kuhns

Zoning Administrator

Roger Williams, AICP

Office Assistant

Patricia Kitchin

Evergreen Cemetery Sexton

Patricia Kitchin

Community Police Officer

Deputy Jeff Wallace
Non-Emergency Phone:
(231) 649-1233

Paradise Emergency Services

2266 E M-113
Kingsley, MI 49649
Non-Emergency Phone:
(During business hours only)
231-263-4002

Community Information

Township Cleanup Day

September 15, 2018,
8:00am—12:00pm. Grand
Traverse County Road
Commission building, 1471
E. M-113, Kingsley. **NO** hazardous
materials accepted.



Household Hazardous

Waste Collection

APPOINTMENTS ARE
REQUIRED. 231-941-5555
or www.recyclesmart.info



Kingsley Heritage

Days July 21 & 22 2018
For more information visit
their website at:
www.kingsleyheritagedays.com



Kingsley Market

Every Wednesday starting
June 6 through September
26 from 2:00—7:00pm

Paradise Township has
a Notary Public on staff
at no charge as a service
for our residents.



Paradise Emergency Services



Paradise Emergency Services began operating on April 1, 2018. We are now a fully staffed facility. Every full-time employee is cross-trained as an EMT and a Firefighter. The station is manned day and night. We also have a number of volunteer and part time support staff to assist as necessary. All of this means better response and protection for our Township.

Our staff has been out in the community serving in many ways which are unrelated to emergencies. A few examples include appearances at the Elementary School's Career Day, the Kingsley District Library, and helping out at the Mayfield Pond Park Clean-up Day. We are committed to serve our residents in any way we can.



In May we participated in the **Smoke Alarm Blitz**, where we handed out and also installed free smoke alarms for residents that requested it. We may have some left, so if you are in need of a working smoke alarm, please give us a call at 231-263-4002.

Follow us on Facebook!



Zoning Administrator

Hi, I'm Roger Williams and I have been appointed by the Township Board to administer the Paradise Township Zoning Ordinance. I also administer the township junk ordinance. This spring there have been numerous complaints lodged concerning the accumulation of junk throughout the township.

The junk ordinance states that an accumulation of junk, debris, garbage and etc. that is visible from the public right of way or adjacent property is a violation of the ordinance.

I am happy to work with property owners to get the junk cleaned up in a timely manner rather than resorting to a civil infraction citation.

The township sponsors a fall cleanup day and this is a good time to get rid of that accumulation in your yard rather than face a violation notice. This year's cleanup day is September 15, 2018 from 8:00am-noon at the County Road Commission building at 1471 E M-113.

If you have questions concerning zoning issues or a junk complaint, please call the office at 231-263 5251 or my cell phone at 231-357-5116. Email Zoning@paradisewtp.org

Tax Information

Tax bills are sent out the first week of July for the Summer billing cycle. If you do not receive a bill by July 15th, or if your name or address needs to be changed please contact our office so we may update our records. **Summer bills are due by September 14, 2018.** Winter bills are sent out the first week of December. You should receive your bill by December 15th. If you do not get one, please call us. **Winter bills are due by February 14, 2019.** The Treasurer's page on our website has a FAQ link with further information on property tax.

*****Failure to receive a bill does not relieve you from the liability of payment*****

You can pay your bill using any of the following methods: In person at our office, in our secure drop box after hours, by mail, by phone or on our website. (phone and website are subject to service fees). See the back of your bill for instructions on using the phone or website. We accept cash, checks, credit/debit cards and e-checks (a 3% service fee applied to cards and a \$3.00 fee is applied to e-checks). We appreciate cash payments as close to exact as possible, as we keep limited change.

If you would like a receipt sent to you, please include a **self-addressed stamped envelope**. We cannot mail a receipt without one. We can also e-mail a receipt to you, just call our office.

Evergreen Cemetery

A few reminders...

- Please stay on the roadways and drive slowly while visiting.
- All burials, whether full or cremated remains, must be arranged through the Township. Any unauthorized burial constitutes a municipal civil infraction and may be subject to fines as set forth in the Township Cemetery Ordinance.
- Please contact the Township regarding foundation and stone placement.
- All ownership transfers must be submitted in writing to the Township.

All cemetery arrangements and correspondence are to be submitted to Paradise Township, c/o Lisa Gulliver, Township Clerk, 2300 E. M-113, Kingsley, MI 49649. Phone: (231) 263-5251

Check Out Our Website

Our website, www.paradisewtp.org, is full of useful information and resources that you may need such as:

- ~ Hours of operation, contact information and e-mail links for Township Board members and staff
- ~ Meeting schedules and minutes for the Township Board, Planning Commission and ZBA
- ~ Election information, Mayfield Pond Park rental application and availability calendar
- ~ Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request form
- ~ Links for the Principal Residence Exemption, Veteran's Exemption and Property Transfer Affidavit
- ~ Links for zoning forms including the Land Use Permit, Site Plan Review and Land Division applications
- ~ Township Zoning Ordinance and zoning maps
- ~ Information for Evergreen Cemetery including the Cemetery Ordinance and a map of plots.
- ~ Employment and bid opportunities
- ~ Links to other municipalities, Parks and Recreation, Transportation and Emergency information.

You can also pay your tax bill and look up tax information. This is a great place to find out almost anything you need to know about Paradise Township!

MAYFIELD POND PARK

Visit the website for the most up-to-date calendar showing the pavilion rental availability and also to print a reservation application, or you can stop in or call our office. \$25.00 to rent the pavilion with a \$25.00 deposit that is returned after a satisfactory inspection of the facility and surrounding area.

Clean-up Day, May 12, went well, our energetic volunteers cleaned up brush and trash, raked leaves, painted the picnic tables and cleared the overlook trail. We enjoyed lunch afterward, with delicious pizza from the **Mayfield Country Store**. Thank you to **Paradise Emergency Services** and also **Deputy Jeff Wallace** for their help and also to **Elite Outdoor Services** for donating their labor and equipment use. The park is now ready for the summer season.

Please help to keep the area beautiful by picking up after you use it and dispose of any trash properly. We also ask that you remember to pick up after your pet.

This park is a treasure that we can all take pride in and help keep it in the best condition possible. We appreciate your assistance!



MEETING SCHEDULES

Township Board: Regular Board Meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:00 p.m.

Planning Commission: All meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals: Scheduled as needed.

Board of Review: Scheduled in March to appeal evaluations and classifications.

Scheduled for July 19, 2018 @ 5:30pm for clerical errors and mutual mistake of fact.

Scheduled every December for clerical errors and mutual mistake of fact.

Check website for dates/times.

****ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. **ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE.**

SPECIAL MEETINGS (OTHER THAN DATES & TIMES LISTED) ARE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE AND ON THE DOOR 18 HOURS BEFORE THE MEETING, PER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT.