

Reading Township News

Fall/Winter 2019

Volume #9

Welcome to the Reading Township Newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed about news in your township.

If you have questions or comments, please call the Reading Township Office at 517-283-3286.



Reading Township Board Members:

Andrew Barnhart, Supervisor	517- 250-1870
Kathy Flaughner, Clerk	517-283-3286
Claudia Mesarosh, Treasurer	517 -320-1673
Ronald Parker, Trustee	517-283-2855
Rick Gripman, Trustee	517-283-3600

Township Board Meetings:

Township Board meetings are the second Monday night of each month at 7:00 p.m., at the Reading Township Hall, 5355 S. Edon Rd./M-49, Reading, MI 49274.

All meetings are open to the public.

Township Planning Commission Members:

Larry Richards, Chairperson	517-283-2260
Christine Gollnick, Vice Chairperson	517-474-2744
Lee Tonnies	517-283-2819
Jennifer Kast, Secretary	517-283-3627
Claudia Mesarosh, Board Rep.	517-320-1673

Planning Commission Meetings:

The Reading Planning Commission meetings are held at the Reading Township Hall at 7 p.m. as posted. The first Planning Commission meeting for 2020 is scheduled for Tuesday, January 28, 2020. The remainder of the year will be posted after that date. All meetings are open to the public.

Zoning:

Harold Farris, Zoning Administrator 517-607-9567. Contact Mr. Farris before starting construction. The printed forms are available from Harold Farris or on the Reading Township website (readingtownship.org).

We encourage you to work with our Zoning Administrator to improve our township.



New Township Website:

Check out the new Reading Township website at: readingtownship.org. All information on Reading Township is available at the website including: Directories, Township Board members, Planning Commission information including past meeting minutes, Zoning Board of Appeals, Documents of forms and publications, Zoning Permits and information, Assessing information, Cemetery Info, Election/Voting Info, Transfer Station Info and more!

Winter Tax Collection:

The Winter tax bill is due by February 14, 2020 . That is the last date that tax payment can be mailed to the Township Treasurer. Payment can be mailed to the Reading Township Treasurer at P.O. Box 298, Reading, MI 49274. Please separate and return the top 1/3 of the pink copy with your payment. Mail-in payments are encouraged. Receipts will be mailed to you.

You may use the secure drop box at the township hall or pay in person on the dates of:

- Saturday, December 28, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, December 30, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Friday, February 14, 2020 from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
- Monday, March 2, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. – this is the last day to pay at Reading Township before being returned as delinquent to the Hillsdale County Treasurer

NOTE: If a mortgage company should pay your tax bill, it is your responsibility to forward the bill to them. Please note the information included with your taxes regarding deferment of the tax due date. In addition, if you change your address, please let the Township Treasurer know.

Board of Review:

The next Board of Review will be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at the Reading Township Hall for the correction of clerical errors or mutual mistakes of fact. Please contact the Assessor prior to the meeting. Please note that protests of assessments may not be heard at this meeting.

Road Improvements Completed in 2019:

In addition to the regular brining contract and gravel repair completed by the Hillsdale County Road Commission, road improvements completed during the summer were:

*Horn Rd. at Murry (Joint County Drain)

*Quackenbush Rd. from M49 to Sand Lake Rd.-paver patch (2 miles)

*Crawford Rd./Long Lake Rd. to Wildwood – Berm, ditch & gravel 0.82 mile, Blair Rd./Horn Rd. to Grover Rd. – Berm, Ditch & gravel

Contact the Reading Township Board if you are concerned about repairs needed on township roads or have questions.

Road Improvement Projects:

Work continues with the Hillsdale County Road Commission and township residents to improve the drainage of the Ridge Drive. Please contact Allan Andrews for further information and plans for road improvements.

Reading Township Cemeteries:

There are three township cemeteries:

- Gleason Cemetery – located on Berry Rd. between Long Lake & Abbott Rd.
- North Reading Cemetery – located beside North Reading Baptist Church
- West Reading Cemetery – on West Reading Rd. between Wildwood & Hakes

The Reading Township Cemetery Sexton is Jake Lashaway. He can be reached at 517-825-9918. Please call the Reading Township Office at 517-283-3286 if you need cemetery information.



Reading Transfer Station

The Reading Township Transfer Station is located at 6101 Blair Road, Reading (1/4 mile north of Reading Road). **Open only on Sundays from 10 am to 2 pm.** The charge is \$2.00 per bag (33 gal. or smaller).



Dog License

You may purchase the 2020 dog license with your tax payment by mail or in person on the Reading Township Hall on the tax collection days (December 28 & 30, 2019 and February 14, 2020 and March 2, 2020). Male and female license tags are \$15.00 and unsexed tags are \$10.00. You must include a copy of the current vaccination from a veterinarian. A receipt and tags will be returned with your tax receipt.

Reading Community Library:



The Reading Community Library serves Reading, Reading Township and Cambria Township and has books, of course, and so much more to enjoy. Many *New York Times Best Sellers* are on the shelves. Also, the library belongs to Mel.org and can borrow additional resources from other Michigan libraries without a fee, and Mel.org offers access to databases with legal forms, car repair facts, virtual museum tours, teacher/homeschooling resources and much more. The library is the only local resource for movie rentals. Titles are only \$1.00 per week and new releases are added frequently. Mango Languages, Consumers Reports, Ancestry.com and Overdrive (eBook downloads) are all free on the library computers – get the details. The monthly Ancestry Club’s facilitator is available to help families explore their heritage. The monthly Book Club offers a stimulating exploration of the current book selection, and new members are always welcome. Did you know that you can check out passes to many local Michigan venues for a reduced (or sometimes free) fee with your library card? See the Michigan Activity Pass logo on the RCL’s website. The library participates in the Reading Chamber of Commerce’s Festival Days, Halloween Activities and the Olde Fashioned Christmas and has a very active summer programming. Look for the Reading Community Library on Facebook or check out the website at <http://rcl.michlibrary.org>. If you are already enjoying services at the Reading Community Library and wish your friends outside of the area could do so as well, be informed that the yearly fee for a card is only \$10.00. An out-of-service area card would be a thoughtful birthday or Christmas gift that Santa would surely approve. Don’t miss out on all of the opportunities at the Reading Community Library, your hometown library!

Reading Township Assessor and Land Division

Agent: Benjamin R. Wheeler 517-283-2027

You can now look up your individual property assessment data online. Go to: accessmygov.com and search for Reading Township. Contact the Assessor with any questions relating to your property tax assessments or to schedule a property visit to ensure record card accuracy. Questions relating to Property Transfer Affidavits, Principal Residence Exemptions, Qualified Agricultural Exemptions, Disabled Veteran Exemptions and Poverty Exemptions should be directed to the Assessor. Check the Reading Township website for more information.