

*Sarah Etelamaki, Clerk
Pete Koski, Trustee*

Jeff Ogea, Supervisor

*Chris Grund, Treasurer
Betty Grund, Trustee*



WINTER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Supervisor's Scoop: Hello everyone! It's been a good year for Humboldt Township, more road work done. We are also working on the ball field, disc golf and the ice rink. As most of you know, we had a new roof and rain gutters put on the hall. The cemetery work is moving along. We are looking forward to another productive year coming up. To all of our Humboldt residents, have a safe and Happy Holiday Season!

-Jeff Ogea

Clerk's Corner: In 2024, we will see 3 elections take place. As of print time, the Presidential Primary date has not been set, but it is looking to be February 27th. We will then have the primaries in August, and the general election in November. With the passing of Proposal 2, and the implementation of early in person voting, there will be changes affecting Humboldt Township. We will send out more information as details are confirmed, but please call if you have questions. Have a wonderful Christmas!

-Sarah Etelamaki

Treasurer's Topic: Once again, the winter tax season is upon us. Tax collection will continue here at the Humboldt Township Hall through the month of February 2024, at which time the county takes over in the form of delinquent taxes. There have been no notable changes as to how the taxes can be paid. Office hours continue to be on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00am to 12:00 noon. Reminder that we do have a secure drop box located just outside the entrance of the Township Hall office for your convenience. I do like to remind taxpayers to always double check how they write out their payments. I have been finding that the written amount in some instances does not match the numerical amount which the bank will not accept OR they go by the written amount which may not be accurate. So, I just ask everyone to be mindful when submitting their payment. Once again, if you want a receipt, please enclose a self- addressed STAMPED envelope with your payment. As always, wishing you a safe and blessed Christmas season!!!

-Chris Grund

Planning Commission Press Release: Membership on the Planning Commission changed during the second half of 2023 with the resignation of Board Member Chris Grund and appointment of Pete Koski to fill the slot. We thanked Chris for his 2 years of service and welcomed Pete. As 2023 closes, the Commission stands as follows:

Jim Kippola-Chair Dan Etelamaki-Vice Chair Carrie Hair-Secretary
Pete Koski-Township Board Representative Matt Eliason-Commissioner

Here are a few highlights of Commission actions during the second half of 2023:

-The Commission continued its work on revising the Zoning Ordinance with the assistance of consultant North Country Planning and Zoning. A 2024 completion is expected.

-A hearing was conducted at its September meeting to recommend rezoning property on US 41 to accommodate new residential development.

-Concerns from the public were received regarding the proposed solar farm in central Humboldt Township. As nothing has been heard since May, the PC has requested the Board seek an update from the developers. At the time of this writing the State Legislature is considering changing Township's authority to regulate clean energy developments.

-An application for conditional use permit to establish a short-term rental property on Helen Lake was requested of the owner by the Zoning Administrator.

-Preliminary recommendations were made to the Board for 2024 road improvements.

-Provided support to the Board for several new initiatives-

-An initiative to develop a new site plan for the Townhall complex

-Inclusion of disc golf and pickleball within the context of the Recreation Plan

-A forest management assessment for township properties

-A locational analysis for an operations service center for the new West End Townships Emergency Services Authority

A time change and short days are a reminder to report street light outages. Use the handy link at the Township website.

-Jim Kippola

Township Office Hours:

- Monday-Wednesday 8:30am-2:30pm
- Treasurer Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00am-12:00pm
- Closed during the following Holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve
- There is a 24 hour secure drop-box located at the top of the porch stairs if needed.

Township Employee Contact Information

- Assessor: Dylan Jurasin: humboldtassessor@gmail.com (906) 361-6787
- Zoning Administrator: Howard Robare: hrobare@aol.com (906) 235-1050

Annual Christmas Party and Sleigh Rides: This year's Christmas party will be December 2nd from 1:00-3:00pm. There will be hotdogs, hot chocolate, sleigh rides (weather permitting), Santa, and the ice rink will be available, as long as the winter weather cooperates! Bring the kids and enjoy the afternoon!

Monthly Music Jam Sessions: Hello everyone. Thankfully winter is making a late start, but... we all know what's coming!! With that being said, we hope to start up our monthly music jam sessions once again here at the Humboldt Hall. These are very informal get togethers so whether you can play, sing, or just want to listen, all are welcome. We have been holding them on Saturday evenings but that is subject to change due to the weather. To start off, in December we will have an evening of Christmas

songs though the date has not yet been determined. Please watch for postings and updates. This is a free community outreach, so all are welcome. For further information, please feel free to contact myself, Betty Grund (906) 204-4422 or Gail Warner (906) 361-7063. Thank you and Merry Christmas!
-Betty Grund/Gail Warner

Sanitation Information: Garbage and curbside recycling is picked up every Monday. Please have your garbage out by 6:00am. If you utilize one of the Township provided garbage sheds, please be courteous and follow the rules so we can continue to provide the service. We would hate to discontinue the shed availability due to improper use. The recycling continues to be single stream with no glass allowed. There are recycling containers inside the sheds for your convenience. Ishpeming Township does provide glass recycling on the first Wednesday of every month from 1-6pm. If you need Transfer Station Tickets, you can purchase them at the Hall during regular business hours. They are \$10 per ticket per 100 pounds. The Township will host 2 clean-up events taking place in June and September. More information will be available in the spring newsletter.

Cemetery News & Information: Cemetery burial searches are available on line at <https://trimediaee.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=6022bb27884348819386326b5c49f33f> You can also come to the hall to get more information or to purchase a plot.

Road Improvements: The 2024 potential paving upgrades include County Roads FI, FN-N, and FY. There is a possibility these projects may be pushed back due to an expensive ongoing culvert replacement project on County Rd FA. It will be determined when the grant outcome is released.

Streetlights: If you notice a burnt-out streetlight, the easiest and fastest way to report an outage is to do it on-line. Simply go to www.we-energies.com/services/streetlight and you can zoom in on the map to pick the light that is out. It is very easy to do, and you get a confirmation email of your submission stating they try to fix them within 72 hours of reporting.

Winter Taxes: Winter taxes are payable at the township starting December 1st through February 14th, 2024 before interest is added. Treasurer hours are Tuesday's & Thursday's from 10am-12pm. There is also an option to pay them online for a 3% fee. Just go to <https://bsaonline.com/?uid=1466>. After February 29th, 2024 taxes become delinquent and are turned over to the county treasurer.

Fishing Derby: The Annual Children's Fishing Derby will be held during the DNR free fishing weekend which is slated for June 8th, 2024. Look for more information in the Spring.

Zoning Ordinance: Humboldt Township is self-zoned and has its own Zoning Ordinance, which is currently in the process of being updated. One thing that is often over-looked is the fact that our ordinance **requires** a Zoning Compliance Permit for **any** structure that is placed on your property to ensure that it fits within the assigned Zoning District. ZCP information can be found in Section 905. Depending on the structure, the fee is minimal. If no permit is applied for and approved, you may find yourself in violation. There is a penalty of 5 times the fee for a permit after the fact. Marquette County also requires a Township permit before they will issue a county permit.

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Our Zoning Ordinance also covers Blight in Section 407 and is available on the website or at the hall for review. If you happen to have a complaint of blight in our Township, please try to take a picture of the issue and have the property owner name and address if available, so we can properly address the situation. Short-term rentals also seem to be very popular. If you are considering operating one, you must get a conditional use permit first. You can call the hall or the Zoning Administrator, Howard Robare, with any questions.

Schedules of Meetings and Events:

- Township Board: Second Monday of each month at 7:00pm
- Planning Commission: Fourth Monday of each month at 6:00pm
- Fire Department: First Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm at the fire hall.
- Senior Lunch: Second Wednesday of each month at 12:00pm-Potluck or donation.

General Announcements:

- Our ice rink is just waiting for cold enough weather to be used! Last year we had a couple of hockey sticks that were provided and then damaged beyond use. Please be courteous when using Township equipment. Thank you!
- Remember that we have a township Facebook and website page with helpful information, including approved minutes, and various forms you may need on the website. You can access the website at www.humboldt.town.

Merry Christmas!

