



## CALENDAR of EVENTS

### **MAY 2 SCHOOL ELECTION 7am – 8pm**

The May election features two proposals for your consideration.

1. Zeeland Public Schools has an operational millage renewal proposal on the ballot, which will allow the districts to continue to levy 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law. They also have a sinking fund millage proposal of 1 mill.

2. Hudsonville Public Schools has an operational millage renewal proposal on the ballot, which will allow the districts to continue to levy 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law. They also have a sinking fund millage proposal of 1 mill.

Voting will take place in all four precincts. To find your precinct location, see if you are registered or view a sample ballot, go to [www.michigan.gov/vote](http://www.michigan.gov/vote) or visit the Township office. Voters may request absentee voter ballots in person until 4:00 pm on May 1st. Absentee voter ballots can be submitted until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day at the Zeeland Township Office, 6582 Byron Road.

### **MAY 29 MEMORIAL DAY— OFFICE CLOSED**

### **JUNE 1 DEADLINE FOR SUMMER P.R.E. EXEMPTION**

If you purchased a home after Nov. 1, 2022 you should check if you are receiving this exemption. Residents claiming 100% P.R.E. are exempt from paying 18 mills on their tax bill for Hudsonville and Zeeland Schools Operating budget. Call the office or go to our website: [zeelandtwp.org](http://zeelandtwp.org).

### **JULY 1 SUMMER TAX BILLS MAILED**

If you do not receive a tax bill, please call the office to verify your mailing address. *Farmers wishing to defer their summer tax payment until winter need to complete a form for each parcel number every year.* Forms are available in the office and must be submitted by Sept. 14.

### **JULY 3 & 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY – OFFICE CLOSED**

### **SEPT. 4 LABOR DAY – OFFICE CLOSED**

### **SEPT. 14 SUMMER TAXES DUE**

### **NEW FIRE CHIEF, BROCK BRUCE**

We are excited to introduce Brock Bruce as the new Fire Chief. Brock is replacing Phil Hunderman, who retired at the end of December after 40+ years with the Fire Department. Chief Bruce has been with the ZCT Fire Dept. since 2007, serving in various positions, including Deputy Chief for the past 2.5 years. Chief Bruce lives in the Township along with his wife Denise and two children, Hayden & Ryatt.

### **ASSESSING**

Office hours are held on Tuesday and Thursdays, from 9 am - 2 pm.

The Assessor's office will be out in the community again this year visiting another 20% of our properties, as the State Tax Commission recommends this be done on an annual basis. They will also continue making appraisal visits at all of the building permits that are issued through the township.

## WHAT'S NEW...

### **ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATES**

I-196 - Will be under construction until late fall, with the eastbound traffic diverted to the WB side.

Business Loop I-196 - reconstruction of the Byron Rd. I-196 underpass will close Byron Rd. from 84th Ave. to Constar Storage through September.

64th Ave. - Road resurfacing on 64th Ave., from Byron Rd. to Chicago Dr. will run from Sept. 4 through the end of October. One lane will remain open at all times.

96th Ave. Bridge Repair - The bridge on 96th Ave., south of Adams St., will be closed for reconstruction through November.

### **SPRING/SUMMER TOWNSHIP ROAD PROJECTS**

The Road Committee approved the following resurfacing projects for 2023: Copper Oak Dr., Westpark Way, Bluff Lake Dr. (Adams St. to Mid Bluff Dr), East Bluff Ct., Pleasant St. (Bluff Lake Dr east to end).

### **ELECTION LAW UPDATES**

With the passing of Proposal 2 in 2022, several election rights were added to the state constitution. The next step is for the state legislation to create laws to define specific procedures for how those policies will work and how they will be funded. State-funded absentee-ballot drop boxes, and postage for absentee applications and ballots are required beginning in 2023. However, early voting and single application to vote absentee in all elections will not be in place until 2024.

### **PARKS & RECREATION**

**Van Zoeren Woods** This 34 acre parcel of land lies along side of the Expressway at the corner of 56th Ave. & Riley St. The park has crushed aggregate walking paths, several benches & picnic tables, and a portable restroom to enhance your experience at the woods.

**Drenthe Grove Park** offers playground equipment, a ball field, a beach volleyball court, 2 tennis courts, 2 pickleball courts, basketball court and shaded picnic areas open to the public. There is also a 0.7 mile paved walkway, fishing pond and a picnic shelter.

The Board of Trustees recently approved a \$150,000 purchase of new playground equipment/improvements for the Drenthe Grove. The improvements include a new large play structure, six new swings and a new play dome. The new equipment is expected to be installed in May.

### **CEMETERY REMINDERS**

Please remember that artificial flowers are not permitted. Per Township ordinance we also reserve the right to remove any displays, containers or other sources of maintenance problems.

### **RENTAL FACILITIES**

The Township has two rental facilities available for your next event.

- The Drenthe Grove Dozeman Center, located at 615 68th Ave.
- The Community Center, located at 2446 64th Ave.

You can find more information on our website at [www.zeelandtwp.org](http://www.zeelandtwp.org)>Departments & Services> Rental Facilities. To make a reservation contact the office at (616)772-6701.



PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
ZEELAND, MI  
PERMIT NO. 47

6582 Byron Road  
Zeeland, MI 49464

Supervisor, Tom Oonk  
Clerk, Kate Kraak  
Treasurer, Melissa Veldheer  
Trustee, Ron Brink  
Trustee, Mike Riemersma  
Trustee, Jeff Salisbury  
Trustee, Kerri Bosma

Zoning Adm., Kirk Scharphorn Jr., PCI  
Assessor, Tyler Tacoma  
Fire Chief, Brock Bruce  
Sexton, John Timmer

**SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

The sheriff's department will be placing the speed trailer in various areas of the township to remind drivers to pay attention to their speeds. If you would like to request it be placed at a particular location you can contact the sheriff's department or the township office.

The Ottawa County Sheriff's Office provides free vacation security checks to its citizens who will be away from their homes, businesses, or other facilities for a period of time. You can sign up for this service on the Sheriff's Office website.

The Ottawa County Sherriff's Office and Ottawa County Central Dispatch Authority both recommend completing a Smart911 safety profile for your home or business. This free program allows you to provide information about yourself, family members, your home, pets and even emergency call. It's private and secure and you control what information is in your profile. These details can save valuable seconds or even minutes during an emergency.

Animal Control would like to remind residents to make sure their dog licenses are up to date. Ottawa County requires that dogs be licensed by the last day of the month that their rabies vaccination expires. Licenses are available at the Township office or through your local vet.

**SPRINGTIME SAFETY MAINTENANCE REQUEST**

Fire Chief Bruce recommends springtime as a great time to trim trees and landscaping that could hinder fire apparatus from reaching your home. Ensure that your house number is easily visible from the road. If you would like a green reflective address sign they are available from the township for \$20. Inside your home; change the batteries in your smoke detectors.

**STREET LIGHTS OUT?**

If you notice street lights that are out please contact the township office at (616)772-6701 and we will submit a request to get it fixed.

**OPEN BURNING PERMIT**

Open burning is regulated by ordinance in Zeeland Charter Township. Generally speaking, the following types of burning are allowed without a permit, provided no nuisance is created:

- Campfires and cooking fires;
- Salamanders and other construction heaters;
- Burning barrel fires

There are certain restrictions, so it is wise to check the Burning Ordinance for details.

For most other types of burning, a permit is required. Permit should be requested at least 24 hours in advance by calling 616-886-6666 (If you don't get an answer, please leave a message).

To access the Burning Ordinance, go to [www.zeelandtp.org](http://www.zeelandtp.org) and click on "Departments & Services" > "Fire Department" > "Open Burning."

<p><b>Zeeland Township Office</b> 6582 Byron Road Zeeland, MI 49464 616-772-6701</p> <p><b>Hours:</b> Mon., Tues., Thurs. 8:30-5:00 Wed. &amp; Fri. 8:30-12:00</p> <p>Fire Chief Brock Bruce Burn permits call: (616)886-6666</p> <p>Township Web Site: <a href="http://zeelandtpw.org">zeelandtpw.org</a> Email Supervisor: <a href="mailto:tom.oonk@zeelandtpw.org">tom.oonk@zeelandtpw.org</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SPRING CLEAN UP COUPON</b> ZEELAND TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS</p> <p>NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____</p> <p>This coupon is good for dumping one pickup load of trash <b>free of charge</b> at <b>Autumn Hills Recycling and Disposal Facility</b> 700 – 56<sup>th</sup> Ave. (616)688-5777 Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>VALID DURING THE MONTH OF MAY, 2023</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>*This coupon does <u>not</u> include disposal of yard waste, appliances or tires.*</i></p>
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