FROM THE SUPERVISOR Tom Hooker

Byron Township is growing but it’s still a great place to raise a family, educate your children with wonderful schools, parks and businesses. I hope you are like me, being able to see your grandkids grow up where your kids did. Our staff here at the township hall stands ready to meet your needs and cheerfully answer questions.

- Our offices are open daily from 8AM-5PM. Board meetings are at 5:30PM on the 2nd and 4th Monday’s of each month. Planning Commission meetings are at 7:00PM on the 3rd Monday.
- It may be snowy and cold outside but our Recreation Center at Whistlestop is warm, open for exercise and fellowship, with their many activities and classes. See their website or stop in for info.
- Remember both your valentine and last day for taxes on Friday, Feb. 14th.
- You should be receiving information from the Census Bureau sometime in March. Be sure to fill in the information and return it as it’s confidential and helps in benefits and representation.
- Our firefighting team just recorded a save. They revived a resident with our newest AED equipment and quick work of bystanders along with our fire staff. The number of calls continue to grow with our community.
- Our board will be working on the 2020-21 budget which begins on April 1. Our township is in a strong, financially stable condition.
- Our water and sewer rates will rise slightly per quarter at about $5-$6 per year reflecting a slight increase passed on from Wyoming. Last year it was a $5-$8 decrease.
- See our new updated Website at Byrontownship.org

The pesky 100th Street Bridge will close beginning in mid-April and be closed until mid to late October. Once finished it will no longer be a target for getting hit, raising the bridge to over 16 feet. The landfill, businesses and residents will be impacted but will be glad for the finished 4 lane bridge with traffic lights on both ends.

If I can be a help to you, please contact me at 878-1222 or tomhooker@byrontownship.org

FROM THE ASSESSOR Craig DeYoung

PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE REMINDER

Byron Township residents who have moved in the past year should update their Principal Residence Exemption status. When you own and occupy a new home that is your primary residence, you should file a HOMEOWNER’S PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE EXEMPTION AFFIDAVIT to obtain the exemption for the property. June 1st is the deadline to own and occupy the home to be eligible to claim the exemption for the entire current year. Property owners who move in after June 1st and before November 1st will have the exemption start on the Winter tax bill. Property owners who occupy the home after November 1st will have the exemption activated in their name the following year. If the prior owner already has an exemption, it will stay active for the rest of the year. You do not need to reapply each year. Once you have a PRE, it continues until there is a change in the status of the property. To avoid possible problems and delays, please make sure the Affidavit is completely filled in.

When a property is no longer your principal residence, you must file a REQUEST TO RESCIND HOMEOWNER’S PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE EXEMPTION form with the City or Township you had the exemption in. The exemption will be rescinded for the year following the change.

The Principal Residence Exemption Program is a State program administered by the Michigan Department of Treasury. Byron Township sends the PRE forms it receives to the Treasury Department PRE section which monitors for duplicate exemptions. The Department of Treasury has the ultimate decision as to the validity of an exemption.
**FROM THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT**  Randy Zomerlei

If you had thought that Byron Township is growing fast, you are correct. According to Builder Track Magazine who keeps records of all the residential building permits for each municipality, Byron Township has the most single-family homes starts with 111 in Kent and Ottawa Counties through the first three quarters of 2019.

Also, at the southeast corner of 64th street and Byron Center Avenue has been busy, Trilogy Senior Living facility will be completed early of 2020, the office building that was built there hopefully will be getting tenants soon, and in 2020 the Homes 2 Suites Hotel will get started. Still no restaurants.

As winter is here, a reminder that homeowners are responsible for keeping the sidewalks in front of their homes clear of snow and ice for the safety of the people who walk them.

Hope everyone has a Great 2020.

**FROM THE CLERK**  Peggy Sattler

2020 is here and we are starting out with a BANG! Our first election will be held on Tuesday, March 10, for the Presidential Primary. As stated in our past newsletters, if you would like to become a Permanent Absentee Voter and have the APPLICATIONS mailed to you automatically, please call us at 878-9104 or email me at peggy@byrontownship.org. For those of you that are already Permanent Absentee Voters, a head’s up that the envelopes have changed. They are now white instead of yellow/orange. If you will be away from your home before the election, make sure you put your temporary address on the application. Ballots DO NOT forward. We are also taking applications for Election Inspectors. Stop in our office or call us if you have questions. We are looking forward to a busy and exciting new year!

**FROM THE TREASURER**  Jacki Reed

The 2020 Winter tax bills have been sent out. Payment is due Friday, February 14, 2020 by 5:00 p.m. All tax information is available online at byrontownship.org and can be found using your address, parcel number or name. ACH withdrawal forms are available online or by calling our office. Winter taxes are withdrawn on either December 18, 2019 or February 1, 2020 by your choice.

All dogs in Kent County are required to be licensed. Licenses are available for one year or three years and are due on their rabies vaccination date. They can be purchased at the township office (cash or check ONLY). They are also available online at accesskent.com.

We are happy to answer your questions at any time. Please call #616-878-3196 or stop in!

We wish you a safe and happy 2020!

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### Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
<th>MARCH</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 Township Board 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>9 Township Board 5:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>14 WINTER TAXES DUE 5:00 p.m.</strong></td>
<td><strong>10 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION 7am-8pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Planning Commission 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>16 Planning Commission 7:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Township Board 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>23 Township Board 5:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Board of Appeals (Cancelled)</td>
<td>25 Board of Appeals 5:30 p.m.</td>
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The State of Michigan has dedicated a website to answering residents’ questions, providing resources and applying for employment. You can find it at:

www.michigan.gov/census2020