



# Portsmouth Township Newsletter

## Winter 2017



### PORTSMOUTH TOWNSHIP OFFICE HOURS

**Monday through Thursday**  
8:00 A.M. to Noon (except holidays)

**Closures will be posted on the office door and on the answering machine. When possible, closures will be posted in the “last word” section of the Bay City Times.**

OFFICE TELEPHONE: **892-7221**

ADDRESS: **1711 W. Cass Avenue Road  
Bay City, Michigan 48708**

TRASH PROBLEMS: **1-800-796-9696  
until 5:00 p.m.**

### TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBERS

#### Executive Board:

Supervisor: Robert Pawlak (Home) 893-5623  
(Cell) 233-7320

Clerk: Judy Bukowski (Home) 295-0979

Treasurer: Kevin Kokaly: (Home) 450-0245

#### Trustees:

Gene VanDriessche.....895-8417

Barb Pett.....894-2277

Nance Corrion.....893-9817

James Banaszak.....893-2506

### ASSESSOR

Patti Peltier—Office hours: 8:30 a.m. till noon on Wednesdays—892-7221. She may be reached at home, most days, from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at 684-0364

### MEETINGS

The Township Board meets the third Monday of every month at 6:00 p.m. in the Township Hall conference room, 1711 W. Cass Ave. Rd.

### (MEETINGS CONT.)

The Planning Commission meets on the second Thursday of March, May, June, July, August, Oct., and Dec. at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference room. Additional meetings may be held if necessary. The Zoning Administrator is Jim Peplinski—894-4023.

### PERMITS

No permits are issued at the Township Office. All of our inspectors are part time and conduct business from their homes. The numbers are listed below.

### INSPECTORS

#### Building Inspector

James Peplinski.....894-4023

#### Electrical Inspector

Ken Kaczmarek.....893-0039

(Cell )239-6583

#### Plumbing and Heating Inspector

Jon Morse.....239-0433

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief: Randy Stefaniak...(Home) 894-0002

(Cell) 529-8737

Recorded Message.....892-0642

Reporting Fires and Emergencies.....911

### TOWNSHIP HALL RENTAL INFORMATION

Available to Township residents only. Reservations can be made by calling the Township office (892-7221) during regular business hours.

**A date will only be ‘held’ after receipt of a deposit and signed contract.**

The township hall is free (if available) to any township resident celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

## MISC. INFORMATION

### STREET LIGHTS

If a street light in your area is out, please call:  
1-800-477-5050

### TRASH FACTS

If you have problems with trash, yard waste, or recycle items, please call: 1-800-796-9696—**keep this number handy** the sooner a missed pick up is called in, the better chance there is of getting it picked up before Monday. Any questions you have regarding your trash pick-up can best be answered if you contact this number.



*Christmas trees will be picked up the three weeks following Christmas. All garland, tinsel, and ornaments must be removed. If your tree is over 6 feet tall, it must be cut to no taller than 4 feet. Note: the tree can not be bagged. CHRISTMAS TREES ONLY – No other yard waste will be collected.*

REMINDER: Trash should be placed at the road side by 6:00 a.m. on the pick-up day. No trash should be out prior to 6:00 a.m. the day before pick-up. (Our “24-hour rule”)

### MAILBOX ISSUES:

*If your mailbox gets accidentally knocked over by a county snow plow, you can call the Bay County Road Commission: 684-1010*

**FROM THE TREASURER—Kevin Kokaly**  
*Best wishes to all of our township residents for a safe and happy holiday season!*

### WINTER TAX INFORMATION

Tax bills may be paid from December 1, 2017 through February 14, 2018 as follows:

**BY MAIL:** Send payment (along with **ENTIRE BILL** if you want a receipt) to:

## PORTSMOUTH TOWNSHIP TREASURER

1711 W. CASS AVENUE ROAD  
BAY CITY, MICHIGAN 48708

**AT BANK: Chemical Bank**, Hampton Branch only (next to Big Boy on Center Ave.) will collecting taxes for Portsmouth residents starting in July.

### CHEMICAL BANK HOURS FOR TAXES:

Monday thru Thursday	9:00 am – 4:30 – Lobby
Friday	9:00 am – 5:00 – Lobby
Drive-thru	
Mon. – Thurs.	8:30 am – 5:00
Fri.	8:30 am – 6:00
Sat.	9:00 am – 12:00

**A DROP BOX IS PROVIDED IN THE OFFICE ENTRANCE.** If you wish avail yourself to this service, put your statement and check in an envelope, seal it and drop it in the slot. **If you would like a receipt, you must enclose the entire tax bill and include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.**

**Note:** If your taxes are paid by a bank, mortgage company, or finance company, please forward your tax bill to them.

**DEFERMENTS:** If your summer taxes were deferred, be sure to bring your deferral slip with you when you pay your bill. Both summer and winter taxes are payable until February 14<sup>th</sup> without penalty. (If your summer bill was not deferred, a 1% per month penalty must be included from September 2017. After February, all unpaid bills are turned over to the Bay County Treasurer and payments must be made to that office in the Bay County Building, at Center and Madison Streets, in Bay City.

### QUESTIONS ON YOUR ASSESSMENT?

Please contact the Assessor, Patti Peltier. She is at her office, at the hall, each Wednesday from 8:30 till Noon.

## Notes from your Fire Chief

### Carbon Monoxide

Approximately 200 people per year are killed by accidental carbon monoxide poisoning with an additional 5,000 people injured annually.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless deadly gas. Since you cannot see, taste or smell it, carbon monoxide can kill you before you know it is there.

### What is it?

Carbon monoxide is a by-product of combustion, present whenever fuel is burned. Common household appliances such as gas or oil furnaces, gas clothes dryers, gas ranges, gas water heaters or space heaters, fireplaces, charcoal grills, and wood burning stoves produce it. A motor vehicle idling in a garage is a dangerous source of carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide is a year round hazard.

### What are its risks?

When carbon monoxide is present in the air, it rapidly accumulates in the blood causing flu-like symptoms such as headaches, fatigue, nausea, dizzy spells, confusion, and irritability. As levels increase, vomiting, loss of consciousness, and eventually brain damage or death can result.

### How can I prevent carbon monoxide poisoning?

-The dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning can be eliminated by carefully checking for its sources.

-Furnaces are frequently the source of leaks and should be inspected annually.

-Check the clothes dryer vent opening to the outside of the house for a build-up of lint, which will cause a blockage of the exhaust.

Barbecue grills should never be operated indoors, in the garage, or within 15 feet of a structure.

-If you need to warm up a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it.

-Do not run a vehicle, snowblower, generator, or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if the garage door is open.

### What can you do?

Install at least one carbon monoxide detector on each level of the house and near sleeping areas.

Check batteries twice per year along with your smoke detectors. If the CO detector is making a chirping sound check the batteries. On most alarms this is how they will alert you that the batteries are low.

If they begin to alarm get everyone out of the house and call 911. We will respond with a detector that can check the levels of carbon monoxide in your home

Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season,  
**Randy Stefaniak**  
**Fire Chief**

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## Notes from the Supervisor **Bob Pawlak**

-**Roads:** Due to some bidding complications at the Road Commission, several roads that we hoped to have resurfaced this year had to be pushed forward to next year. Overall, we're pleased with what we've been able to accomplish with the voter-approved road millage. Thank you for your support!

-**Township History** – Still looking for interesting township history/artifacts...please contact me.

- **NEW TRASH PROCEDURES:** *If you have a large item for pick-up, you must now call Waste Management ahead of time to alert the driver.*

*All garbage cans must have handles and weigh no more than 50 lbs. Drivers will no longer reach into containers to grab items that are stuck on the bottom (for obvious safety reasons).*

**HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!**