

Littlefield Township

7631 Burr Ave.

P.O. Box 188

Alanson, MI 49706

Sum
2004

History:

Littlefield Township was first established on March 22, 1877. Population at that time was 267. The census from 2000 has our population now at 2,783. Littlefield Township covers 11 miles of water frontage. The assessed values for 2004 is \$132,485,150 with the taxable value for 2004 at \$93,965,654.

Township Officers:

Supervisor- Damien Henning - (231) 548-5443

Clerk- Avis Granger - (231) 548-2830

Treasurer - Kimberli Shomin - (231) 548-2142

Trustee - Dean Morford, Sewer Trustee -
(231) 347-0653

Trustee - Katie Derrohn, Planning & Zoning -
(231) 347-1937

Assessor and Land Division Administrator:

Jim LaPeer is the Littlefield Township Assessor. He can be reached at (231) 238-9606 or toll free from the Littlefield Township area at (877) 471-1177

Planning and Zoning and Building Inspections:

All handled by Emmet County at their M-119 offices. Phone (231) 348-1735

Voting:

There will be a Primary Election on August 3, 2004 and the General Election on November 2, 2004. Voting will be at the Township Hall at 7631 US 31 in Alanson. For an Absentee voting Ballot contact the clerk in writing at 6850 Honeysette Road, Alanson, MI 49706.

Tax Bills and Receipts:

Remember that all property owners should be receiving both a bill and a receipt for their property taxes even if an escrow company pays your taxes. Tax billing information will be sent to escrow companies upon written request. Please call the treasurer with any questions about getting your escrow company billing information.

Primary Resident Affidavit

(formerly Homestead Affidavit):

If your home here is your primary residence you need to file with the assessor the Primary resident affidavit so you will be exempt from some property taxes.

Address Changes:

You may indicate any address changes when you pay your taxes or you may call or write the treasurer.

Name Changes:

Only Emmet County Equalization Dept., 200 Division Street, Petoskey, MI 49770 can process any name changes. (231) 348-1708

Business Tax:

The State of Michigan has a personal property tax for businesses. I don't know anybody that likes this but it is just a part of doing business in Michigan and it doesn't look like it will go away anytime soon. Michigan business tax is easier to deal with if we understand how to deal with it. There is a yearly form to file and it is likely if you aren't filing, it is costing you more money that it should be. Any questions about Michigan business tax on personal property are welcome. Please feel free to call your assessor or treasurer.

Avis Granger, Littlefield Township Clerk to retire after 28 years of service:

Michigan has local governing units called townships. The officers that serve on these township boards are making decisions about the community that they live in and care about.

Avis Granger took her first oath of office in December 1976. I know that she considers it a great privilege to have served in the community that she lives in and loves. She has, of course, seen many changes in the years she served as clerk. She has watched libraries and sewers and parks and roads be created and maintained to name just a few. She took fiscal responsibilities seriously and kept a close eye on the township funds and has watched them grow during her terms in office. Having a healthy fund balance has allowed our township to make our community a better place to live. We look forward to developing a new section of Powers Road and possibly expanding our fire and library facilities in the near future. None of these would be possible except that township officers in the past were careful in their fiscal responsibilities. In her usual practical manner Avis has said that she wants to get out while she is still able to do the job, and she is doing just that. She is more than able and nobody will be able to immediately fill the vacancy she will leave. When she leaves she will take experience with her that took a long time to earn. We know someone will rise up to take over as clerk and will have to grow into the job just as Avis did through the years. The office of clerk is responsible for elections, keeping the minutes of the township meetings, partnering in the accounting with the treasurer and many other duties that there wouldn't be room enough to name. The township clerk is a key position in township government. There are presently two individuals running for Township Clerk, Sondra Festerling and Erin Young.

Upcoming Events:

The July 4th parade will be at 11 am on the Highway 68 and River Street in Alanson.

Recent Improvements:

New fences, roads, landscaping and building improvements at the cemetery on Valley Road.

New flow well at the Oden Roadside Park on US 31.

New intersection at Valley Road and Milton Road.

Roadwork on Powers Road making it now possible to drive all the way directly to Harbor Springs from Alanson.

More improvements are coming that will make it plowable, so it will be open all year. Perhaps it will be paved someday.

Rebuilt and paved South Barney Road.

New Pumper for Fire Department.

New EMS Truck.