



Monitor Township

2483 Midland Road
Bay City, Michigan 48706

989.684.7203
December 2025

Report from Township Supervisor, Terry M. Spencer

This winter edition of our newsletter highlights several exciting developments that reflect the continued growth and economic progress within Monitor Township.

The **Wilder Road Sanitary Sewer Project** is scheduled to begin early next summer, with anticipated completion in the fall. Thanks to a \$4.1 million grant awarded through Bay Future Inc., this project will significantly support future economic development throughout the area.

We are proud that Monitor Township continues to have some of the best-maintained roads in Bay County. The Board of Trustees has approved next year's road construction projects and remains committed to advancing our **Three-Year Road Plan**. With the successful renewal of our road millage, we continue to invest diligently in road maintenance and improvements.

Planned **chip and seal** projects for 2026 include:

- **Fraser Road** (Salzburg Road north to US-10)
- **Baxman Road** (Salzburg Road north to Fisher Road)
- **Ott Road** (7 Mile Road to 8 Mile Road)
- **Chip Road** (7 Mile Road to 8 Mile Road)

Additional projects include crushing, shaping, and paving:

- **Fisher Road** (Baxman Road to 2 Mile Road)
- **Kasemeyer Road** (Salzburg Road to Fisher Road)

We also plan to **mill and pave the Briar Farms Subdivision**, similar to the recent improvements completed in Rueger Farms.

Exciting progress is also underway in the **Monitor Township Technology Park**. Working collaboratively with the **Bay County Board of Commissioners** and the **Monitor Township Downtown Development Authority (DDA)**, we have taken important steps toward an agreement that will support business development and bring new employment opportunities to our community.

We continue to receive many positive comments regarding the mural painted by local artist **Mark Piotrowski** beneath the I-75 overpass on Midland Road. We are grateful to the **Bay Area Community Foundation** for supporting this project, and we are exploring opportunities to complete a similar mural on the north side in the future.

Please take note of our Board meeting schedule—**all residents are welcome and encouraged to attend**. If you are unable to join us in person, meeting recordings are available on our **YouTube channel** (www.youtube.com/@CharterTownshipofMonitor). As always, we welcome you to stop by the Township Office, call, or email with any questions or concerns. Communication from our residents is valued and appreciated.

On behalf of the Township Office staff, the Township Board, and the Spencer family, I wish you and your loved ones a joyful and peaceful holiday season. **May God bless you, and may God bless America**

Terry M. Spencer, Supervisor



From the Office of the Clerk — Linda K. Stewart, MIPMC

2026 Election Dates

- **February 3, 2026 – Primary Election** (No early voting)

This election includes the race to fill the 35th District State Senator Seat Partial Term Ending 01/01/2027 (1) Position

Candidates for the 35th District State Senate Seat:

Democrats: Brandell Adams, Martin L. Blank, Chedrick Greene, William Morrone, Pamela Pugh, Serenity Hope Salak

Republicans: Jason Tunney, Chadwick Twillman, Christian Velasquez, Andrew Carlos Wendt

- **May 5, 2026 – General Election** (No early voting)
- **August 4, 2026 – Primary Election**
- **November 3, 2026 – General Election**

The Township board has approved placing on the May ballot in 2026 a Fire/Police Millage Renewal Proposal, *this will not be on the February ballot.*

This millage has been supported by Monitor Township voters for the past 20 years.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MONITOR FIRE/POLICE MILLAGE RENEWAL

Shall the previous voted increase in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution in the Charter Township of Monitor of **0.75 mill (75¢ per \$1,000 of taxable value)**, reduced to **0.7494 mill (74.94¢ per \$1,000 of taxable value)** by the required millage rollbacks, be **renewed and levied at 0.7494 mill (74.94¢ per \$1,000 of taxable value) for ten (10) years**, commencing in **2026** and continuing through **2035** inclusive, for the purpose of providing supplemental funding for the operation of the Township's Fire Department, including the purchase of new firefighting vehicles and equipment, and for Sheriff patrol services, raising an estimated **\$388,114 in 2026?**

Precinct Information

All precincts (1–3) vote at the Township Hall.

Entry is on the north side through the door of the Fire Department.

Polling hours are 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Voter Registration & Absentee Ballots

Residents are encouraged to verify or update their voter registration early.

If you are on the Permanent Ballot List, a ballot will be mailed to you automatically.

Please notify the Clerk's Office if you have a winter address, as ballots will not be forwarded by the U.S. Postal Service.

Visit the Michigan Voter Information Center: mi.gov/vote

Returning Your Ballot

A prepaid postage envelope is included with your ballot or use the drop box located at the south end of the parking lot. In the lobby is a drop box that is built into the counter.

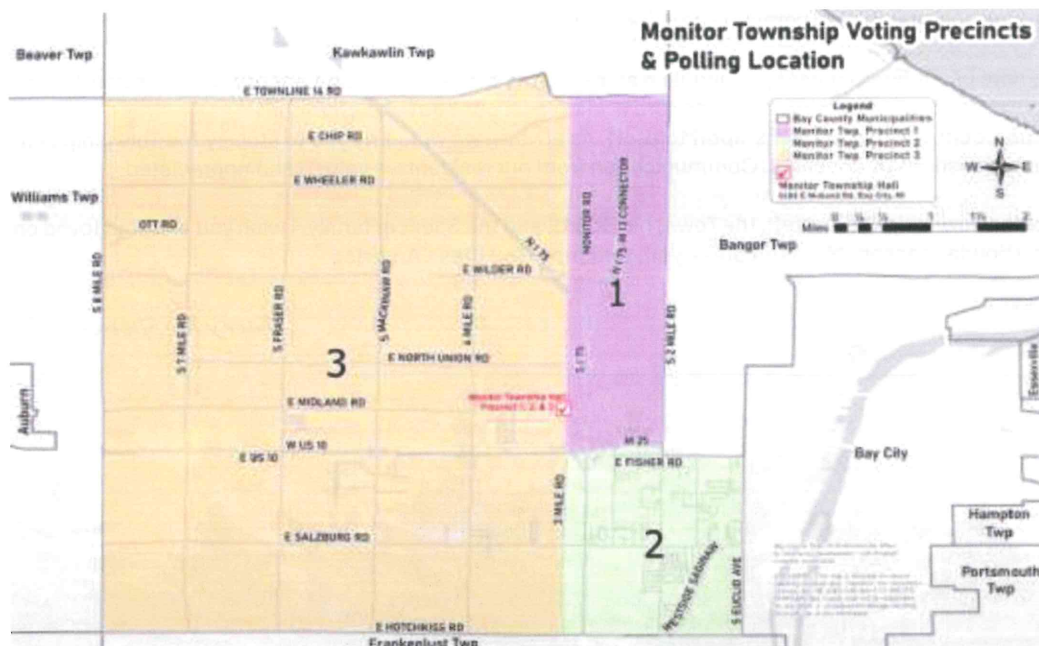
Voting on Election Day

All precincts now vote at the Monitor Township Hall, and you may bring your absentee ballot and self-tabulate on election day.

Clerk's Office Assistance

We are here to help with voter registration, absentee ballots, and any election-related questions you may have throughout the year. The Clerk's office is also open the Sat. before Elections from 6 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Precinct Map:



Wishing all of our residents a joyous Christmas season and a bright, peaceful New Year!

Report from your Township Treasurer, Ashley Kloha & Deputy Kristin Beaver

As we enter the winter tax season here are a few reminders... Winter Taxes are mailed out with the goal to arrive by December 1, please review carefully for any corrections. If you haven't received your tax bill by the 11th please call our office to verify your address and to have a duplicate sent. The US mail does not forward Tax bills, so if you leave town for the winter months, please see our assessor to change your winter address and again when you return to your summer address.

Payments must be in our office **BY the due date February 17** to avoid penalty and interest. The mail is slow, plan accordingly! **Postmarks NOT ACCEPTED.** After March 1st payments are to be, made at the Bay County Treasurers office. Partial payments are accepted. Cash, Check & Money Orders are preferred payments. Credit Cards are accepted online ONLY by going to our website, www.monitortwp.org. Click on DEPARTMENT - TREASURERS OFFICE – PAY TAXES ONLINE, and there is a link to PAY TAXES ONLINE. You can also now set up ACH for payments to come directly out of our bank account. Stop in the office to complete the form!

If paying your bill by mail, your tax bill MUST include your detachable receipt. Keep the top portion as your receipt. Additional copies are .50 each. To our residents that request a "stamped paid" receipt, be sure to **include** your stamped self-addressed envelope with payment. All tax stubs MUST INCLUDE your phone number. This is important in case of an error such as transposed numbers so we can contact you to have it corrected. The drop box is located in the parking lot for after-hours convenience. It is checked at least twice daily to make sure your payments are applied promptly.

As a service to our community, we are selling locally made King Honey. We are also continuing to issue cat and dog licenses for the County. Please have your rabies certificate present to issue your pet license.

The Treasurers office for 2025-2026 are Monday thru Wednesday 8am-12pm & 1pm-5:30pm. Thursday 8am-12pm & 1pm-4:30pm. Upcoming holiday closures: Dec 24th 25th 31st & January 1st 19th & February 16th.

Happy Holidays to you and your families!

Township Elected Officials & Administrative Staff

Supervisor	Terry Spencer	supervisor@monitortwp.org
Clerk	Linda Stewart	clerk@monitortwp.org
Treasurer	Ashley Kloha	treasurer@monitortwp.org
Assessor	Beth Patterson	assessor@monitortwp.org
Asst. Assessor	Jessica Herek	asstassessor@monitortwp.org
Deputy Clerk	Pam Reinhardt	deputyclerk@monitortwp.org
Deputy Treas.	Kristin Beaver	deputytreasurer@monitortwp.org
Admin. Sec.	Sherrie Ahrns	office@monitortwp.org

Trustees:

Jim Bellor	trusteebellor@monitortwp.org
Paul Meylan	trusteemeylan@monitortwp.org
Earl Arnold	trusteearnold@monitortwp.org
Jim Meier	trusteemeier@monitortwp.org



Township Meeting Dates (Dec-June 2026):

Regular Board:

January 12, 2026	5pm
February 9, 2026	5pm
March 9, 2026	5pm
April 13, 2026	5pm
May 11, 2026	5pm
June 8, 2026	5pm

Planning Commission:

January 13, 2026	6pm
February 10, 2026	6pm
March 3, 2026	6pm
April 7, 2026	6pm
May 12, 2026	6pm
June 2, 2026	6pm

Zoning Board of Appeals:

January 15, 2026	6:30pm
February 19, 2026	6:30pm
March 19, 2026	6:30pm
April 16, 2026	6:30pm
May 21, 2026	6:30pm
June 18, 2026	6:30pm

Township Hours & Building Department Info:

Office Hours:	8am-6pm Mon. - Wed. 8am-5pm Thursday Closed Friday
Tax Collecting Hours:	9am-12pm & 1pm-4pm
Assessing Hours:	8am-12pm & 1pm-4pm
Building Department:	8am-12pm & 1pm-6pm
Dave DeGrow	Building Inspector
David Rochow	Zoning Enforcement
Frank Bryden	Electrical Inspector
Dell Bedford	Mechanical/Plumbing Inspector
Township Office Number:	(989) 684-7203

Monitor Township Recycling & Holiday Calendar 2026 Waste Mgt. (866) 797-9018

January

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March

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29	30	31				

April

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26	27	29	30			

May

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June

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28	29	30				

July

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26	27	28	29	30	31	

August

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September

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27	28	29	30			

October

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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November

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29	30					

December

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

*****Holidays (1 day Delay) January 1-New Years Day, May 25- Memorial Day, July 4-Independence Day, Sept. 7-Labor Day, Nov. 26-Thanksgiving, December 25-Christmas. One large item may be put out on trash day weekly. It will be picked up within the week by the bulk truck. Yard Waste pick up begins April 1st and ends November 30th. Recycle weeks are shaded.

Report from your Fire Chief, Joe Baker

As we move into the winter season, I want to take a moment to update our Monitor Township residents on the year we've had, share some important safety reminders, and express gratitude for the continued support you show our department.

As of **September 25, 2025**, I have transitioned from Assistant Fire Chief to **Fire Chief** of the Monitor Township Fire Department. It is an honor to serve our community in this role, and I am committed to continuing the progress and professionalism that our residents expect and deserve.

It has been an exceptionally busy year for Monitor Township Fire Department. We are currently on pace for **record-setting response numbers**, reflecting not only the growing needs of our community but also the dedication of our firefighters, who continue to rise to every challenge.

This year also marks a major milestone for our department: **we have finally reached full staffing levels on our full-time roster.** In addition, we've strengthened our team even further by adding **six new members to our on-call staff.** These improvements enhance our ability to respond quickly, effectively, and with the highest level of professionalism that our residents deserve.

I am also proud to acknowledge the promotion of **Captain Rich Roberts to Interim Assistant Chief.** Captain Roberts has demonstrated exceptional leadership, professionalism, and dedication throughout his career with our department. His experience and commitment to our mission make him an outstanding fit for this important role, and he will undoubtedly continue to serve our community with distinction.

❄ Winter Fire Safety Tips

- Keep space heaters at least 3 feet away from anything that can burn and always turn them off before leaving the room or going to sleep.
- Have your furnace and chimney inspected annually to prevent dangerous buildup and ensure proper operation.
- Check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Replace batteries if needed and make sure alarms are installed on every level of your home.
- Use caution when cooking, especially during holiday gatherings. Never leave the stove unattended.
- Be careful with candles—use sturdy holders, keep them away from curtains or decorations, and never leave them burning unattended.
- Clear snow from fire hydrants near your home. A few minutes of effort can save valuable time in an emergency.

As always, our priority is the safety and well-being of every resident in Monitor Township. I am incredibly proud of our team and grateful for the trust you place in us each day. Your support—whether it's a wave from the driveway, a kind word, or a cleared hydrant—means more to us than you know.

On behalf of the entire Monitor Township Fire Department, I wish you a safe, warm, and healthy winter season.

Stay Safe, Fire Chief Joe Baker



2483 E. Midland Road
Bay City MI 48706-9469

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**Have a happy, healthy
& safe 2026!**



Report from your Township Assessor, Beth Patterson & Asst. Assessor, Jessica Herek

As we close out another year, we want to wish all of our residents a warm and joyful holiday season. To our new homeowners within the last year, welcome to the township! Early next year, you will receive your Notice of Assessment in the mail. When it arrives, we encourage you to review it carefully.

This year, the State of Michigan set the Inflation Rate Multiplier (IRM), also known as the CPI for taxable value, at **2.7%**. This figure is set by the State, not the township, and it helps determine the capped value calculation for properties that did not transfer ownership.

When a property transfers ownership in Michigan, both the Assessed Value (AV) and Taxable Value (TV) uncap for the year following the transfer. Your assessed value should reflect approximately 50% of your property's True Cash Value (TCV). If you have recently had an appraisal, it can be a helpful reference point when reviewing your notice.

If your assessed value appears significantly higher than what seems reasonable for your property's TCV, please contact our office we are always happy to review your record with you.

For our Disabled Veteran Exemption recipients: recent legislation now allows this exemption to automatically carry forward each year. While you are no longer required to reapply annually, we ask that you continue bringing in your updated VA determination letters whenever you receive them, so we can ensure your exemption remains properly documented.

As always, our office is here to help with any questions regarding assessments, taxable value changes, exemptions, or other property record matters.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

