

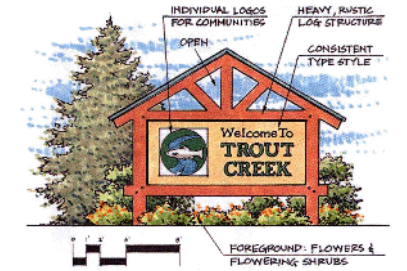
INTERIOR TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

SLOGAN – “*MOVING FORWARD*”

Newsletter Date : August 2005

COMMUNITY OF TROUT CREEK

Volume 1, Issue 1



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SPECIAL DATES TO REMEMBER

- ◆ Township Board Meetings
Second Tuesday of every month

- ◆ Economic Development
Second Monday of every month

- ◆ Planning Commission
First Thursday of every month

Township Buys Delinquent Properties

Interior Twp Board purchased these two tax delinquent properties. The idea is to clean-up these areas, and make them usable for new development.

These lots will be sold to the public with the profits going back into the general fund. The total cost of **6 parcels was \$5050.00**, but there is still some additional cost coming, i.e. recording the deeds, and current year taxes. Next year, the parcels will be tax exempt.

Help is needed to remove these buildings. When the deeds are recorded with the county, there will be several work sessions to clean up the



areas. **We need your help. Bring your lawn mowers, axes, shovels, weed whackers, and yourself.**

These eyesores have been around for some time, and now is the time to volunteer to clean-up the town.

The township board is requesting financial donations to help in paying for these purchased parcels (see another section for donations and volunteering).

Working together, we can make our area a better place to live.

The pink house is next to the old IGA building, current sign reads Surplus Sales.



Township Submit \$51,000 Grant Application to MDNR

With the help of several people, Interior Township applied for the 2005 Recreation Grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Deadline for this grant was April 1, 2005.

We will hear by October if our grant was accepted, and MDNR funding is determined by Jan. 2006

with spending during the summer of 2006 & 2007.

Our matching funds total is \$15,300 with \$10,000 from in-kind donations. **We need \$5,300 in cash. Your contribution will help.**

The footbridge will be a

wooden structure with a span of 30 feet, and 4 feet wide. This footbridge will replace one that was washed away a few years ago.

At the park, the parking area will be expanded and blacktopped. An asphalt walk pathway around

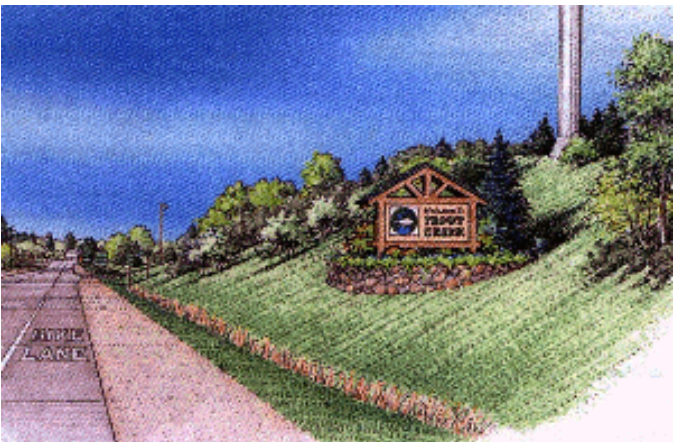


the north side of the pond from the parking area to the dam area will make it easier to get around with a wheelchair. The dam area will be blacktopped also.

Overnight parking lots will be created for visitors with travel trailers, campers, or motor homes.



Visual Enhancement Project



A new welcome sign near the water tower is considered. A bike path to Ewen might be constructed this summer with the current blacktopping that is taking place.

Near the White Door, you will not see any electric poles. Under ground power for everyone is considered.

New sidewalks, curbs, and light poles will make a major visual impact in our area.

We have not heard if any

funds will be available. However, the paper work is done, and maybe we can make some of these ideas a reality without major funding.

Landscaping can be done with volunteers with mowers. The current welcome sign can be moved as shown.

Last fall, Interior, McMillan, and Stannard townships participated in a project called Visual Enhancement sponsored by MDOT.

The M-28 corridor , from US41 to Wakefield, is high on the list for improvement by MDOT.



August 2005

Dear Neighbors, Alumni, and Friends of Interior Township:

We, Interior Township Board and our EDC, are looking for financial help in improving our area. We have several projects on the burner, and seeking government grants where we must have matching funds - 15% to 50% - in obtaining these grants.

We do not plan to ask for any new millage on the tax roll or bond issues. We feel that by asking for financial help, we can achieve our goals without the added tax burden.

Please review the list of projects and estimated costs that was submitted to Western U.P. Planning & Development Region (page 4).

With your help, we can make our slogan - *Moving Forward* - a success. Please consider our request. Fill out the Donation Sheet and return it to Interior Township. In-kind donations are welcome too!

If you know others who would like to participate with our projects, please complete the Referral List and include it with your Donation Sheet. We will send them this packet with your endorsement.

We want to express our deepest appreciation for your donations in making our township a better place to live.

Thank you,

Bill Besonen, Supervisor
Don McLaughlin, EDC Administrator

Water Tower is Repaired

From July 15–July 21, our water tower was repaired by Fedewa, Inc.

The contract called (I) – for low pressure water clean, hand sand, and apply a two (2) coat hydrophobic acrylic paint system to the tank’s exterior roof, and (II) – cut a 6 in. slit in the insulation at the origin of the rust streaking, allow any trapped water to drain, remove rust on tank, repair the area with weather resistant polyurethane foam, and apply a two (2) coat hydrophobic acrylic paint system.

The contract was for \$3,950.00 with a \$500 certified check as Bid Security.

The contract was signed and dated



July 14, 2003 by Carl Fedewa. Shirley Zimmer signed and dated on July 24, 2003.

There are some questions as to whether the \$500 is refundable now that two years have passed.

At some point in time, the entire water tower will need painting. Estimated cost is \$10,000 to \$15,000.

With 100+ users, \$2.00 surcharge per month for 6 years would generate \$14,400. Six years from now, the cost will be higher. Hopefully the water users will indicate their feelings on this.

Summary of Projects and Estimated Costs Submitted to:
Western U.P. Planning & Development Region
P.O. box 365, Houghton, MI 49937 – June 30, 2005

<u>Project Name – consider this as a Wish List</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
Purchase & Development of Nagel Pond Site Recreational Property (4.9 acres)	\$ 35,000.00
Purchase & Development of Nagel Mill Site Industrial Property (55 acres)	\$ 150,000.00
Acquisition & Development of Tax Foreclosed Properties	\$ 25,000.00
Feasibility of School Building Use & Purchase	\$ 25,000.00
Water Tower Upgrade and Improvement	\$ 30,000.00
Sidewalk, Curb & Streetscape Rehabilitation	\$ 100,000.00
Paving of 8 miles of Township Roadway	\$ 200,000.00
Purchase & Installation of Communication Tower	\$ 80,000.00
Cemetery (Trout Creek) Expansion & Fencing	\$ 30,000.00
Gates for Access to Slash Boards - Mill Pond Dam	\$ 5,000.00
4 Corner Visual Enhancement Project	\$ 25,000.00
Begin Development of Bicycle Recreational Trail	\$ 20,000.00
Build & Equip New Fire Hall	\$ 150,000.00
Feasibility - Bond Lake Land Development	Unknown
Total Submitted	\$ 920,000.00

Do We Need An Ordinance?

Interior Township Board has started stressing a clean-up program for our area. We are looking at recycling old cars, tires, building materials, batteries, and any junk that you have that you would like to see gone from your property.

Interior Township Board is concerned about abandoned buildings that can be considered as a fire dan-

ger, danger to young children, or have become an eyesore due to the lack of maintenance on the property and buildings.

Interior Township Board is looking at ordinances dealing with blight areas, dangerous buildings, grass height, and other categories.

The township board is also concerned with delinquent tax proper-

Blacktopping Update

The township original request was for 3 miles of road work – Red Town, Mill Town, So. Agate Rd, and Short-cut Rd. Eight miles of township road are currently not blacktopped.

The township matching funds are \$25,000 per mile, and the county's funding is \$75,000 per mile.

Without the help of the county, we couldn't blacktop a mile. Our current road fund balance is near \$80,000.

The township has been requesting blacktopping for many years. However we have not seen any work done in Interior Township. At the Pond Fest, I was asked to consider less miles so I said at least 1 mile.

Maybe we wouldn't see anything.

ties purchased by others as an investment for future sale. These properties show no signs of improvement and/or grass maintenances by the new owner.

In order to avoid an ordinance, our property owners must take the initiative to start cleaning up their own area. With the help of the Township Board and property owners, we can make our township a better place to live.

Working together is the key to making – *Moving Forward* – our slogan a success.

Note: Monday, Aug 1, 2005, 7:00 p.m., Special Int. Twp Board meeting to begin open discussion with the public on ordinances dealing with these topics. It will take several meetings to arrive at a final version. Please attend.