

May 2025 – Dexter Township e-newsletter “in the loop”

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

**June 4th – Single Hauler Coffee Chat on Wednesday evening,
June 4th at 6:00-7:30pm at Dexter Townhall**



Join to learn the current status of the Single Hauler Project in an informal Q&A format. A quick summary of this project includes: the Township would authorize one hauler to service all residential curbside services for trash, recycling, and yard waste for a set contract price. Goals of this project include: reducing costs to our residents, reducing garbage truck traffic on our roads, improving curbside services, all while working to protect our environment. This initiative falls under the Good Government, Environmental Stewardship, and Community Enrichment pillars of our strategic plan. Please join us to learn more! An additional public meeting is scheduled for July 10 for more updates. This will impact every household in our township utilizing curbside trash, Please join to become informed or send your questions to info@dextertownshipmi.gov. See you there!

June 10th – Let’s Talk about Immigration – A Community Conversation on June 10th at 6:00-8:00pm at Dexter Townhall

Our current immigration system is complex and affects all families in our community, from those who have been born into US citizenship to those who have recently migrated to the United States. Federal immigration policy is complicated and wrought with problems that lead to misunderstandings, creating unnecessary divisions that erode our unified community spirit.

Let’s get together and talk about it with community members and immigrant rights advocates who have been responding to the effects of immigration policy in Washtenaw County for decades. Learn some basics of immigration law and policy, myths and facts associated with migration, and local organizing toward humane immigration reform. Speakers: Laura Sanders, LMSW, Ramiro Matinez, and other community advocates. Please join us to learn more about this important community topic. See you there!

SHORT TERM RENTAL (STR) UPDATE:

The Short-Term Rental committee has finished their meetings and analysis on whether to allow STRs in the township. The committee voted 3-2 to move forward a recommendation to the Planning Commission to allow STR, if strict guidelines for operating, licensing, and

enforcement are met. The Planning Commission has this topic on their May agenda and will be holding additional public hearings.

RECYCLING (FILM) – the orange bin in the Townhall Parking Lot

Our recycling volunteers have asked us to share what is and is not allowed to be put in the orange film recycling bin in the town hall parking lot. Please be respectful of these guidelines. We have a team of volunteers making this possible for everyone to utilize. **Additionally, we need volunteers for FRIDAYS or as backup positions. It only takes 1-2 hours per week.** Please call the Office Administrator (Sam) at 734-426-3767 for additional information or email info@dextertownshipmi.gov. Below are the charts the volunteers asked us to share:

 **ORANGE BIN ACCEPTED ITEMS:**

PLEASE REMEMBER TO CLEAN OUT ANY DIRTY BAGS BEFOREHAND & PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL PLASTIC BAGS ARE BUNDLED INSIDE ONE BAG BEFORE RECYCLING. THANK YOU!



FROM THE STORE

- ✓ Produce bags
- ✓ Store bags
- ✓ Ice bags

FROM YOUR PANTRY

- ✓ Ziploc® & other reclosable bags
- ✓ Cereal box liners
- ✓ Case overwrap
- ✓ Bread bags

FROM YOUR FRONT DOOR

- ✓ Newspaper sleeves
- ✓ Dry cleaning bags
- ✓ Bubble wrap
- ✓ Plastic e-commerce mailers

 **ORANGE BIN UNACCEPTED ITEMS:**

PLEASE REMEMBER TO CLEAN OUT ANY DIRTY BAGS BEFOREHAND & PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL PLASTIC BAGS ARE BUNDLED INSIDE ONE BAG BEFORE RECYCLING. THANK YOU!



DO NOT INCLUDE THESE ITEMS IN NEXTREX® PROGRAMS

FROZEN FOOD BAGS **CANDY BAR WRAPPERS** **CHIP BAGS** **NET OR MESH PRODUCE BAGS** **PET FOOD BAGS**

OR THESE

- ✗ Degradable/compostable bags or film packaging
- ✗ Pre-washed salad mix bags
- ✗ Hot dog or meat wrap packaging
- ✗ Six-pack rings
- ✗ PPE- Gloves, masks, or protective wear
- ✗ Pool covers
- ✗ Lamination film
- ✗ Silage and hay bags
- ✗ Vinyl shower curtains or tablecloths
- ✗ Bedding or linen packaging
- ✗ Shiny, crinkly films like floral wrap
- ✗ Backyard ice rinks

DID YOU KNOW WE HAVE A NOTARY AT TOWNHALL?

Residents of the Township may schedule a time to have a document notarized at the town hall – call 734-426-3767 for more information!

DID YOU KNOW DEXTER TOWNSHIP HAS A YOUTUBE CHANNEL?

To promote transparency, the Township Board of Trustees and other meetings are recorded and posted to the YouTube channel for your viewing or review.

<https://www.youtube.com/@DexterTownship>

CHANGE MAKERS BOOTCAMP June 2 at 6PM – Protect Clean Water & Navigate Local Government Decision Making – Presented by the Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC)

Join us to learn about basic river-friendly policies that protect clean water and how to navigate your local government's decision-making processes. The workshop is [free](#) and open to all Huron River watershed residents.

Change Makers will learn about:

- The Huron River and its watershed
- How development of neighborhoods and businesses throughout the watershed impact water quality and natural areas
- How local governments make decisions about the location and design of development
- How residents can get involved with their local government to influence these decisions

Meet other residents who want to learn and get involved in local approaches to protecting land and water while supporting smart growth.

Monday, June 2, 2025 | 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Lyndon Town Hall, 17751 N Territorial Rd, Chelsea, MI

Dexter Township Supervisor (Lonnie Scott) Report May 20, 2025

DAFD Update

At its April 2025 meeting, the DAFD Board approved a resolution encouraging each member municipality to adopt a Fire Ordinance. For Dexter Township, adopting a fire code would establish minimum safety standards to help prevent fires and reduce their severity. This would apply to new construction and major remodels, requiring features like working smoke detectors and proper exits. While there may be some initial compliance efforts, the long-term benefit is a safer community.

DAFD recommends using the latest editions of the International Fire Code (IFC) and NFPA 1 – Fire Code as the basis for the ordinance. Having all three municipalities follow the same standards will streamline enforcement for DAFD. Relying on established codes developed by external experts also minimizes the administrative burden on Dexter Township. This approach aligns with past practices, such as our adoption of external engineering standards.

A DAFD representative will attend the June meeting to present and answer questions.

FOIA Policy Updates

I've begun working with the Clerk on updating our FOIA policies, with the goal of bringing proposed revisions to the Board for discussion in June and approval in July. These updates will include revisions to our FOIA request forms and fee schedule to ensure clarity and compliance. Additionally, the changes will align with our upcoming transition to the BSA cloud system, which will enhance our ability to collect FOIA-related fees and other payments remotely.

Personnel Manual Updates

I've started working with our Office Administrator on updates to the Personnel Manual, with the intention of presenting draft revisions at the June meeting for discussion and bringing them forward for approval in July. The updates will focus on ensuring the manual is up to date, clearly written, and aligned with current practices.

Project Coordinator Position

We had over a dozen candidates apply for the Project Coordinator position. We have started to reach out to schedule interviews with several highly-qualified candidates. I hope to be able to hire and announce the new person at our June meeting.

Budget Variance

One month into the new budget and predictably, we have no areas of concern in the budget. Currently, we are 8.3% elapsed in the budget year (through the end of April), and no departments are above 8.3% expended, except for elections, a one-time cost which will be reimbursed, and our community service support, because two of the four groups have invoiced us for the year.

ACTIONS from the MAY 2025 Board of Trustee Meeting: short summaries

- An update from the subcommittee on Single Hauler was presented along with public engagement during the public hearing. A recommendation to continue conversation/negotiations with Waste Management was made to the Board. Conditions of the RFP and return bids were discussed. Additional updates will occur with scheduled future “coffee chats”, we encourage residents to attend. No decisions have been made, conversations will continue and will be updated at the June 2025 Board Meeting

Below is a short chart outlining the return bids from the township RFP:

Quarterly Cost for Residential Curbside Service

| <u>Trash Only</u> | <u>Trash & Recycle</u> | <u>Trash, Recycle & Yard Waste**</u> | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|--|-----------|
| LRS | \$156.00 | \$ 156.00 | \$ 196.00 |
| Priority | \$75.00 | \$ 93.00 | \$ 111.00 |
| Stevens | \$60.00 | \$ 105.00 | n/a |
| Waste Management (WM) | \$32.25 | \$ 60.75 | \$ 83.25 |

**seasonal.service, April.thru.December

- Firework permits were granted for Portage Lake Fireworks, scheduled for July 5th with a rain delay set for July 6th

- Healthcare Coverage for Township staff members was approved. The plan was modeled after Webster Township's recently adopted plan and provides for an 80/20 split of cost between the Township and the employee. Coverage will be for all full-time staff and permanent part-time staff who work 24+ hours per week.
- Resolution # 25-696 was approved to update zoning ordinances regarding the Keeping of Animals. This updated removing density limits for parcels over 10 acres and clarifies standards for smaller parcels.
- Resolution # 25-697 was approved as presented by our Planning Commission to clarify how nonconforming lots are treated. The amendment removes sale restrictions and allows certain contiguous lots to be treated as a single zoning lot.
- Discussion occurred on the possible introduction of the Buy/Protect/Sell Policy on the recommendation of the Dexter Township Farmland and Open Space Preservation Board (FOSPB). The full write-up is available online in the May 2025 Board packet.

And as always, questions and/or comments can be directed to any of the seven Trustees or sent to info@dextertownshipmi.gov, and they will be forwarded to the proper person.

If you're at the Memorial Day parade in Dexter tomorrow, be sure to say hi to the contingent marching with Dexter Township. Have a safe Memorial Day.