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Erin LaPere Named New Deputy Township Manager



Delta Township is happy to announce the selection of Erin LaPere as its new Deputy Township Manager. Erin was born and raised in southeast Michigan, and graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a Bachelor of Science in English Language, graduating cum laude. She began her public service career in 2006 with the Village of Beverly Hills. During her 14 years with Beverly Hills she held progressively responsible roles and responsibilities, including serving as the Planning and Zon-

ing Administrator where she oversaw all construction and development activities. In April 2020, Erin completed her Master of Public Administration and Policy from the University of Michigan - Dearborn. In January 2021, Erin and her family relocated to the mid-Michigan area when she was appointed as City Manager for the City of Charlotte where she has served for the past 2.5 years. There she successfully addressed a number of pressing issues for the community including financial challenges and residential property maintenance concerns, in addition to receiving a number of grants for various projects.

Erin and her husband have two children, a dog, laying chickens and four pet fish. She enjoys reading, doing jigsaw puzzles and traveling with her family around lower Michigan and the UP on camping and fishing trips.

State Funding Aids Local Projects

On July 31, 2023, Governor Whitmer signed the 2024 State budget. The state budget includes some notable items for Delta Township.

- 5% increase in Statutory Revenue sharing, along with a 2% one-time bump for public safety. That amounts to roughly an \$8,590 increase in Delta's annual budget (Delta will receive roughly \$131,311 in statutory revenue sharing).
- \$10 million grant for sanitary sewer upgrades in our collection system.
- \$10 million grant to Waverly Schools for a partnership with Delta Township on the conversion of space for a Senior Center.
- \$18 million in grants to Eaton County for the improvement of roads around the GM and Ultium facilities.

These investments in the State budget will significantly help the Township in critical areas. More details will be available as these projects develop. The State Budget goes into effect October 1.







National Night Out Draws Hundreds

Delta Township, in partnership with the Eaton County Sheriff's Office, hosted the 2023 National Night Out and Touch A Truck event at Sharp Park on August 1. Hundreds of people came out to enjoy the myriad of different vehicles including a Black Hawk helicopter, in addition to the numerous games and activities available. Check out the photos below from this fun community event.









Late August Storm Wreaks Havoc on Delta Residents

On Thursday, August 24, a massive storm system hit the mid-Michigan area causing extensive damage throughout Delta Township and the surrounding region. Throughout Thursday night and over the following days, Delta Township staff from nearly every department came in to help assess damages, aid in identifying blocked roads, continue critical



emergency services, and maintain critical infrastructure such as water and sewer operations. Communicating with residents was also a top priority. Once power began to be restored, the slow process of cleanup began. The Township was in constant contact with the Lansing Board of Water and Light and Consumer's Energy who brought crews in from other states to assist with restoring power to the approximately 20,000 people.

To assist residents, the Township opened a brush and drebris drop-off location on South Canal Road, where resident could bring limbs, leaves and other organic debris. The drop off site is expected to be open through mid-September.

We want to thank our residents for your patience and understanding throughout this process. Thank you to the numerous local businesses and organizations that reached out to offer assistance to the Township and to our residents. Thank you to LBWL and Consumer's Energy for working tirelessly to ensure our residents had their power restored as quickly as possible. Lastly, we would like to thank our employees who, like the majority of our residents, were without power at home, but showed up for our residents, some working round the clock to ensure the continued operation of critical infrastructure and the safety of our residents.

2023 Public Safety Facility Bond Passage



On behalf of the members of the Eaton County Sheriff's Office Delta Patrol, the Delta Township Board wishes to extend our sincerest thanks and gratitude to the residents of Delta Township for their support of the Public Safety Facility Bond that passed in May.

This new facility will provide a professional, secure, state-of-the-art environment for our deputies, detectives, victims, support staff, and the general public. Since the passing of the bond the final design for the building has been completed and a temporary loca-

tion has been finalized so that demolition of the old building can commence this fall. The project is estimated to cost approximately \$16 million and take about 18 months to complete.

The new state of the art facility will be built in the same location as the current facility and will include a larger footprint to accommodate current and future staffing needs. Additional improvements include: adequate facilities for our female deputies, increased space for evidence processing and storage, separate interview spaces for victims and suspects, upgraded technology, secure parking for emergency vehicles, K9 run, and a community room.

LOCAL BUSINESS PROJECTS

Now Open/Projects Completed

- Farm Bureau Insurance
- Detroit Wing Co.
- Ross Dress for Less
- Weenie McGee's Gourmet Hots & Brats
- · Noosh Afghan Cuisine
- Wal-Mart renovation
- Palmer-Donavin
- Snow Stars Shaved Ice
- Wing Snob
- Crack Chicken

New In The Lansing Mall

- The Fretail Store expansion
- Hiit Fitness

<u>Under Construction/</u> <u>Renovation</u>

- Zap Zone
- Meijer
- Discount Tire
- Ultium Cells
- Amazon Distribution Center
- Biewer Lumber
- Look! Self-storage
- KPot Korean BBQ & Hot Pot
- Firehouse Subs
- Delta Dance Connection

Economic Development Update

Several business activities have occurred in Delta Township over the last few months. In May, the Capital Area Sportsman's League celebrated the opening of their new Glassen Foundation Shooting Educational Center at 7534 W. Old River Trail. The new Educational Center will provide space for the League's expanding shotgun sports activities.

Also in May, CATA extended bus route 3 to Market Place Blvd and the Delta Crossings Development extending public transportation along the Saginaw Highway Corridor. Previously the route only extended to the Lansing Mall.

In June, Olive Garden opened in Delta with their new restaurant at 8440 Saginaw Highway, after leaving in the

mid-90's. Baskin Robbins also opened a new store at 619 N. Marketplace Boulevard, the third location for owners Tom and April English.

In July, national retailer Ross Dress for Less opened its first of five stores in Michigan in the former Staples space at 321 N. Marketplace Boulevard. Another recent addition to the Township is Noosh Afghan Cuisine which opened in the former NOLA Bistro space at 603 N. Waverly Road.

The Fretail Store opened a new, larger space in the Lansing Mall on July 22, moving from a 600 square foot space to a 6,000 square foot space. It has been in the Lansing Mall since 2020 operating with the mission to give away diapers, baby formula, and other personal items at no cost to those in need.

Delta Joins GM for Unveiling of New 2024 Traverse



Delta Township officials joined General Motors in unveiling the new 2024 Chevy Traverse at the Lansing/Delta Plant in July. Supervisor Kenneth R. Fletcher was invited to speak during



the event about the positive impacts General Motors has had on the Township and Greater Lansing Region. The newly designed Traverse offers an upgraded interior and technology.



Webster Road Bridge Slated for Replacement in 2025 to Include Multimodal Pathway

In 2025, the Webster Road Bridge over the Grand River is scheduled for reconstruction. The project has been a focus for the Township for several years as part of the non-motorized transportation plan and board strategic plan to make connections through Delta's non-motorized transpiration system.

The new bridge will be constructed to include a 10-ft wide protected non-motorized pathway for pedestrians and bicyclists and will ultimately connect Hawk Meadow Park to Delta Mills Park, Old River Trail Pathway, and

our existing non-motorized transportation system.

This project is a collaboration between Delta Township and the Eaton County Road Commission (ECRC). The ECRC worked with the Township to secure funding through the Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT)

Local Bridge Program in the amount of \$4,808,000 for the bridge replacement. Additionally, the Township is working to secure grant funding through sev-

eral different sources to construct the pathway between Hawk Meadow Park and the bridge.

Delta Township Leverages Grant Dollars to Invest in Non-Motorized Facilities and Parks and Recreation Projects

Delta Township works hard to provide diverse non-motorized opportunities for our residents, taking into account: transportation, recreation, and connectivity for walkers, runners, bicyclists, and more. Additionally, Delta Township continues to enhance and expand recreational facilities and opportunities through numerous projects utilizing funding from various grants for park development and maintenance.

Non-Motorized



From 2011-2022 the Township has constructed over 20 miles of non-motorized facilities



Nearly 10 miles of pathway



More than 10 miles of bike lanes



The Township has secured nearly \$3.5 million in grant funding to help with these investments.

These projects take time to plan, design, apply for funding, and construct. The Township currently has 5.49 miles of Non-motorized facilities planned over the next few years — with an additional \$1,734,646 in grant funding secured. An additional 2.75 miles are currently in planning and development. (Numbers do not include sidewalks)









Parks & Recreation



From 2011-2022 the Township received \$2.9 million in Grant Funding for Parks Projects



Acquisition of more than 120 acres of land



The addition of 6 new or upgraded Athletic Facilities



Promote active lifestyles through handicapped accessible and four-season recreational opportunities



Through grant funding from mParks and the Xavier DeGroat Autism Foundation, Delta Township was able to install two new non-verbal communication boards in Sharp and Mount Hope parks to help make our parks more inclusive.

Cricket Field a Big Hit in **Delta Township**



On August 23, Delta Township held a ribbon cutting to officially open the newly built Cricket Field at Delta Mills Park. This project, the first of its kind in Mid-Michigan, was a collaboration between the Township, the Lansing Cricket League and a dynamic group of individuals. The Township invested nearly \$10,000 to upgrade a former baseball field into the new Cricket Field.

This is a great example of a publicprivate partnership that has bought new and unique opportunities to our community. Delta is very proud to offer a permanent space for this increasingly popular sport.

Pickleball Shade **Structures Bring Relief** from Summer Heat



This summer Delta Township and the Delta Township Pickleball Association added shade structures near the pickleball courts to help protect players from the summer sun.

The Township partnered with the group to help fund the project through fundraising efforts by the association. The project was constructed earlier this summer.

Project Update: Ultium 3

In 2022, Delta Township received \$33 million in State infrastructure funds in order to provide service to the new Ultium 3 battery plant. Construction continues to progress on the 2-million sq ft facility.

The Township is now nearing the completion of phase I of the construction and installation of new water and sewer service to the Ultium 3 battery plant, making way for the completion of the battery facility. Phase II of construction recently got underway and will continue to build and develop infrastructure to allow us to meet the daily demands of the new battery facility as it comes online next year.

Prior to the announcement of Ulitium 3 Battery Plant, the Township was in the process of significant reconstruction of the Water Resource Recovery Facility to address aging infrastructure, expansion for development needs, and to meet the newly mandated requirements for improved discharge.

Delta Rocks! All Summer Long and Juneteenth Events Bring Fun & Diversity to Delta

Delta Rocks! All Summer Long hosted a series of events that brought in regional attendance including our popular Music in the Park Series, July 3 Fireworks, Movie in the Park, Kids Day and more. In addition to these

fantastic events, Delta Township partnered with the Delta Township District Library and the Economic Development Corporation to bring a series of events in conjunction with the regional Juneteenth commission in celebration

of the Juneteenth Holiday. These family friendly events were well attended by both visitors and residents alike. For more information on our Delta Rocks! All Summer Long series or other events, visit our website below.



















www.deltami.gov/deltarocks

WRRF Project Update

Progress continues on the Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) Phase 1 reconstruction project. Recently, utility staff moved into the newly constructed controls building while finishing touches continue. Demolition of the old controls building was completed in June of 2023. The fully completed WRRF Phase 1 Project will take approximately:

- 15,000 cubic yards of concrete
- 1,400 tons of rebar
- 77,000 man hours (including all subcontractors)





Tracy Ruiz Retires After **Nearly 45 Years at Delta**



Tracy Ruiz, Deputy Clerk, retired from Delta Township in June after nearly 45 years with Delta. Tracy began her career in the

Parks Department before moving to the Clerks Office where she served for more than 25 years.

Laura Boomer Named New Deputy Clerk



Delta Township welcomes Laura Boomer as its new Deputy Clerk. Laura grew up in the Irish Hills area of Michigan and graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree. She was appointed Deputy Clerk of Hamlin Township in 2006 and was elected Township Clerk in 2008 where she served until 2019. She spent the last four and half years as the Eaton Rapids City Clerk.

Laura and her husband Dave have three children and one very spoiled granddaughter! They are bonfire enthusiasts and enjoy spending time traveling up North.

NEW Fulltime Hires

Christopher Moline

Account Clerk 2 Accounting Department

Sarah Howe

EMT-B/Firefighter Fire Department

Peter Menser

Community & Economic Development Director Manager's Office

Monique Allen

Department Assistant Manager's Office

Deborah VanCourt

Department Assistant Clerk's Office

Preston Miller

EMT/Firefighter Fire Department

Jack Tingay

EMT-B/Firefighter Fire Department

Crystal Stover

Department Assistant **Building Department**

Riley Jones

Paramedic/Firefighter Fire Department

Jenna Issac

Paramedic/Firefighter Fire Department



Join us for an evening of fun for the 2023 Community Impact Awards!

This year's event will take place on Thursday, November 2 @ 5:30 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Lansing West.

For more information about this event and for a list of the 2023 Nominees visit our website.



Visit deltami.gov/communityawards for more information



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