

2021: The Year in Review



The following pages contain a summary of Hartland Township's various activities and accomplishments. In reflecting on the past year, it is also helpful to review the big picture.

Vision Statement

Hartland Township is a place where residents, businesses and civic leaders are partners in building a unique community that is family-oriented, attractive, and inviting. We are a community that proudly invests in enhancing our history, our character, and our natural environment, and serves with fiscal responsibility and excellence.

Mission Statement

To provide quality services, to exceed expectations, to steward the resources entrusted to us, and to promote and protect our environment and the health, safety and welfare of all who live, work or visit Hartland Township.

Values

- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| • Accountability | • Integrity |
| • Community | • Service |
| • Excellence | • Stewardship |

As 2021 has concluded, we share this look at some of the year's milestones. The following pages are intended to provide a quick reminder of the many issues Hartland Township faced and results achieved throughout last year.

- Produced and delivered first live State of Community address featuring Hartland Living's Volunteer of the Year award and updates from all "Partners in Progress". The event was virtual last year, and we were able to convene in person in 2021. Promoted by all Partners and was welcomed with great reception in the community.
- Our cable channel is expanding, and we are adding content from all Partners in Progress to make it a true community cable channel.
- Launched our "Two Minute Tuesday" video series, laying the groundwork to provide the Township another platform for communicating with residents.

- M-59 Pathway (sidewalk from Oakbrook to Old 23)
- Settlers Park Pathway re-design and crosswalk
- Revamped water and sewer rates for the Township based upon REU's.
- Complete meter changeout to automated meter reading system.
- Installed 180 yds of playground mulch in the Township Parks.
- Kids loop launched as a new feature at Settlers Park.
- Successful Large Item Cleanup Day.
- Plant Mitigation for Spranger Field and Settlers Park.
- Our yearly property inspection goal is 12%. In 2021 through November, we have inspected 18.8% of our total real property. This is the highest rate of inspections our department has ever accomplished.
- Refunded the Sewer Expansion 2011 bonds for a significant savings of \$1.6M to the overall Sewer System.
- Reaffirmed the Township's rating with Moody's at Aa2.
- Paid off 2001 Water Bonds and calculated refunded of surplus to over 800 property owners.
- Worked closely with Manger's Office and DPW to establish lower and more equitable sewer and water rates for 2022.
- Implemented a new water meter reading system that immediately impacted billed revenues due to more accurate readings.
- Also continued to actively participate with the Michigan Government Finance Officers Association Standards and Legislative Committees, including presenting to the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) on the impact of future statements (rules).
- Officials served on the Hartland Senior Center Advisory Council (Treasurer), Hartland Area Community Council (Clerk), Hartland Farmers Market (Treasurer-market master), Michigan Municipal Treasurer's Association (MMTA Treasurer & Deputy Treasurer).
- Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer involved with Livingston County Treasurer's Association.
- Settled 13-year ongoing litigation related to sanitary sewer system capacity without impacting the financial stability of the sanitary sewer system.
- Developed water main extension project agreement with developers to provide public water service to the M-59 East district.
- Adjusted water and sewer rates to an equitable capacity based as opposed to connection based.
- Manager appointed to the Livingston County Board of Public Works.
- Reevaluated the Township Residential Equivalency Unit schedule to a more business friendly model.
- Manager awarded the Hartland Area Chamber of Commerce President's Award for business outreach during a Pandemic.

- Facilitated one on one meetings with past and current developers to conduct SWOT analysis of Township process for developers.
- Reviewed several site plans, including Hungry Howie's, Newberry Place Planned Development (PD), Redwood PD, Hartland Senior Living PD, Hartland Crossing PD, Shoppes at Waldenwoods PD, Redevelopment of Dairy Queen at Hartland Marketplace PD, Mackles' Table and Taps outdoor patio expansion, Heritage Meadows PDMDR, Rezoning of Arena Drive to add a multi-family duplex, A gas station on Clyde Road (east of US 23), A gas station convenience store and truck stop on Clyde Road (west of US 23), Hartland Commerce Center phase 3 and 4, Burroughs mining operation request to renew special land use, Tow yard, Industrial development on Old US-23, and Zoning Ordinance Amendment for residential or agricultural ponds.
- Attended Brown Bag Luncheons with other Livingston County planning professionals to discuss wedding barn regulations, planning for renewable energy, and economic development input session with SEMCOG and the Metropolitan Affairs Coalition (MAC).
- Processed 395 total permit applications, including 17 Special Event Permit applications, 12 Land Division/Combination/Boundary Line Adjustment applications, 21 new single-family construction applications, and 10 Zoning Compliance Certificates for new/relocated/sold businesses.
- Code Enforcement processed 99 complaints in 2021, compared to 119 complaints in 2020. Currently there are 18 being investigated, 71 resolved and 10 determined unfounded.
- Researched & studies many other **important issues & ideas** for policymaking decisions:
 - DPW- Revamped water and sewer rates for the Township, M-59 Pathway (sidewalk from Oakbrook to Old 23).
 - Finance- Worked closely with the Manager's Office and DPW to establish lower and more equitable sewer and water rates for 2022.
 - Manager-Adjusted water and sewer rates to an equitable capacity based as opposed to connection based.
- Departments achieved many other **important projects, goals & milestones**:
 - Assessing- Yearly property inspection goal is 12%. In 2021, through November, we have inspected 18.8% of our total real property.
 - Communications-Produced and delivered first live State of Community address featuring Hartland Living's Volunteer of the Year award and updates from all "Partners in Progress".
 - DPW-Complete meter changeout to AMI system, Kids Loop as a new feature at Settlers Park.

- Finance- Paid off 2001 Water Bonds and calculated refunded of surplus to over 800 property owners.
- Manager- Settled 13-year ongoing litigation related to sanitary sewer system capacity without impacting the financial stability of the sanitary sewer system.
- Continued to build **relationships** with our major partnerships and contracts: Livingston County Drain Commissioner, Livingston County Road Commission, Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority, , Livingston County Visitor's Bureau, Hartland Schools, Hartland Area Chamber of Commerce, Crounse Library , Hartland Enrichment & Recreation Organization (HERO), Hartland Area Youth Athletic Association (HAYAA), Hartland Community Soccer Association (HCSA), Hartland Youth Lacrosse (HYL), Livingston Land Conservancy, Hartland Senior Center, Foster Swift, Horizons Landscape, Priess Companies, BS&A, I.T. Right, Applied Imaging, Orkin, Michigan Township Association (MTA) and Wood Environmental.
- Officials & Staff also served with the Hartland Senior Center Advisory Council Hartland Area Community Council, HERO, Winterfest, Hartland Farmers Market, Michigan Municipal Treasurers Association (MMTA), Education & Legislative Committees, Michigan Government Finance Officers Association (MGFOA), Community Council, Rotary Club, and Optimist Club.
- Continued to navigate the Covid-19 Pandemic rules and regulations related to business operations.
- Ever improving communications with the residents, business, Board, Manager and Staff.
- Countless other routine services, day-to-day customers, tasks, phone calls, emails, etc.