

# FIFE LAKE TOWNSHIP

Winter 2023 Newsletter

231.879.3963

Office Hours by Appointment

## Meeting Schedules:

Township Board  
4th Thursday Jan-Oct, 6pm  
Nov & Dec are the 3rd  
Thursday

Planning Commission  
Second Tuesday, 6:30pm

Village of Fife Lake  
Third Monday, 6:30pm

Check out our website:

[www.fifelaketwp.com](http://www.fifelaketwp.com)

Our YouTube link will be added to  
our website once it's live.

Committee vacancies:

Policy, Lake/Access and Milfoil  
(others to come)

County Commissioner Darryl Nelson,  
Trustee Dawn Zimmerman, Supervisor Lisa  
Leedy, Clerk Leigh Ann Gifford, Trustee  
Nicole Gibson, Treasurer Cathy Sorrow.

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## Township Board News

As some of you may know, Gerianne Street resigned as Supervisor on September 30. I was appointed to fill the remainder of the term through November 2024. Folks may remember me as Village President a few years ago, I am also an ad-hoc educator/presenter for Michigan Township Association, recent Secretary of the Fife Lake Joint Planning Commission, am the Executive Director at the Builders Exchange, I have a BS in Organizational Leadership and am 1 class from my MA.Ed in Community Engagement and Government Affairs. I look forward to working for the people of Fife Lake in this capacity. We have several committee openings for anyone interested: policy, lake/access and milfoil. Please contact me if you are interested in serving. Additionally, we will begin uploading our meetings and livestreaming to YouTube so that folks can view meetings at any time. We also have a website cleanup in progress to make it easier to find things. We look forward to your feedback on this. Additionally, I am working with the road commission on the re-prioritization of Lakeshore Drive resurfacing, as it was removed from the priority list late last summer. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions or issues.

**Lisa Leedy, CEcD**

[supervisor@fifelaketwp.com](mailto:supervisor@fifelaketwp.com) /231.632.5752 (mobile)



## **Clerk's Corner: Election Changes:**

With the passing of Proposal 22-2, voters will now be able to do early in person voting for elections. The voting schedule will be nine (9) days of early voting from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at **Paradise** Township Office, 2300 E. M-113, Kingsley, MI., due to a partnership to offset costs for our taxpayers. Early voting ends at 5:00 p.m. the Sunday before the election. Voters will be able to continue voting absentee ballot or voting in person on Election Day; voters who choose to vote on Election Day will vote at their **regular** precinct in **Fife Lake**. The Presidential Primary will be held on Feb. 27, 2024, the State Primary will be held on Aug. 6, 2024, and the General Election will be held on Nov. 5, 2024. Local Clerks have been meeting for several months preparing to implement Proposal 22-2 to provide a smooth transition into early voting for our voters. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Clerk's office. For additional information on Proposal 22-2, please visit [michiganvoting.org/prop-2](http://michiganvoting.org/prop-2) and click on download the prop 2 two pager.

Proposal 22-2 changed the way in which voters receive automatic applications for absentee ballots. Michigan voters approved the option to receive an absent voter ballot mailed for EVERY ELECTION starting 1/1/2024. To sign up, you must complete a one-time permanent mail ballot application. If you would like to receive a one-time permanent mail ballot application, please contact the clerk's office at 231-879.3963 or [clerk@fifelaketwp.com](mailto:clerk@fifelaketwp.com).

**Leigh Ann Gifford**  
**Fife Lake Township Clerk**

## **Treasurer's Tax Collection Hours**

Dec. 9, 16, 23 from 10am-2pm

Dec. 27 from 9am-5pm

Jan. 13, 20, 27 from 10am-2pm

Feb. 3, 10, 17 from 10am-2pm

Feb. 29 from 9am-5pm

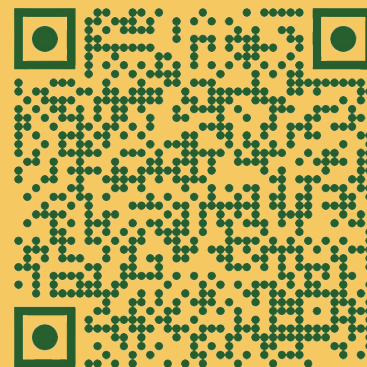
Otherwise by appointment.

231.879.3963

or

**[treasurer@fifelaketwp.com](mailto:treasurer@fifelaketwp.com)**

Pay your taxes online at this link or  
from our website:



Please reach out if you have questions  
on your tax bills.

**Cathy Sorrow**

**Fife Lake Township Treasurer**

Parcel info can be obtained through  
Grand Traverse County's Tax Parcel

Viewer:

<https://www.gtcountymi.gov/551/Parcel-Information>

## Fife Lake Area Emergency Services

**Fife Lake/Springfield Fire Department:** Our last year has been quite busy. Thankfully, we've grown our department with **3** new members and **2** returning members. We fought a Wildland Fire season of unpredictability, working together with our mutual aid partners. As soon as the season ended we remounted a new box on our brush truck to keep up with the demand of assistance for wildfires. Living in a rural area, finding sources of on-demand water is scarce. Our newest apparatus, The Pumper Tanker, was purchased last year and has been working overtime. It holds 3000 gallons of water for immediate use at any time, giving us an opportunity to support operations until we can receive more water. We can't thank the community enough for supporting our recent Capital proposal; which allowed us to purchase the apparatus to better serve our communities.



**Recently, we received many grant awards.** With that, we have been able to purchase new air packs (equipment used to fight fires), turnout gear, an accountability system for large scale events, flash lights and personal thermal imaging cameras. These upgrades to our department give us the ability to better perform and we're all excited to put them to use! Being apart of the community has been our greatest blessing. As we go into the New Year, we look forward to growing and learning more with you by our sides! Thank you for all you do for us and we're honored to serve and protect all of our friends and family in beautiful Fife Lake. As always, please reach out for any questions, concerns or comments.



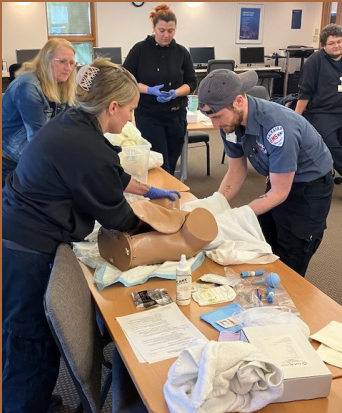
You can reach us on our Facebook page Fife Lake Springfield Fire Department or contact the Chief, Scott Tinker, at 231-570-2509. If it is an actual emergency please contact 911. Stay safe, Happy Holidays, and let's make this the best year yet!

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**Fife Lake ALS Ambulance Service:** Check out the skills days we hosted this week at the Kalkaska Hospital. Crews participated in ALS and BLS skills days, Topics included: Bleeding control, Obstetrics, Ventilators, Pharmacology and Pediatric medication administration. Connect with me if you have any questions about the ambulance service in Fife Lake.

Mike Berendsohn B.S.  
EMS Director  
231-258-7536



## Cemetery Updates

If you own burial spaces or have family members interred at Fife Lake or Walton Cemetery and have not updated your contact information in the past 5 years, please reach out so that we have accurate records for notification purposes.

PO Box 87 Fife Lake MI 49633  
231.879.3963 or  
plamondon.lw@gmail.com

## Fife Lake Area Planning Commission

FLAPC, the joint planning commission between the village and the township is finalizing a draft version of the master plan for the public to review and offer input. This master plan is the basis for development decisions and the zoning ordinances in Fife Lake. Please follow the progress of the FLAPC attend a meeting and watch for public input opportunities to come. The schedule can be found on the township website here: <https://www.fifelaketwp.com/planning-commission/>

Additionally, several planning commissioners received awards at the Grand Traverse County Chapter of the Michigan Township Association annual awards banquet in Nov.

Distinguished Service for excellence in excellence and dedication to their citizens:

Brian Parkham, FLAPC  
Lisa Leedy, FLAPC

The Frank Purvis Stewardship Award for those demonstrating sound community planning ideals and volunteerism:

Fred Joles, Lake Health  
John Strobridge, Lake Health