

Leroy Township

Winter 2020 Newsletter

8156 4 Mile Road, East Leroy, MI 49051 Telephone: 269-979-9421 Website: leroytownship.org

Dear Resident,

As this year draws to a close, our staff and elected officials would like to thank you for your patience and understanding as the lobby has been closed and business conducted differently from the past. I do hope that you will agree with me that all of your township needs have been met: from being issued an absentee ballot; paying taxes; pulling building permits to having documents notarized - the work here has continued. Please call us during office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 9 – 4:30 with any concerns or needs as we move forward.

Local election numbers may interest you. Of the 3,226 registered voters in Leroy Township: 1,237 (38.34%) voted in person while 1,245 (38.6%) voted by absentee ballot. Results for the election can be viewed at: Calhoun County Clerk's Election Magic webpage.

One of our election inspectors wrote a quick email to our Deputy Clerk, Nicole Hardish, after the election. She said that she wanted to congratulate her (and, of course, Clerk Brenda Schuetz) on running a well-organized election and absentee counting board. She was impressed that even when time got late and things could have gotten 'dicey', she (Nicole) was calm and knew how to handle each situation. The Inspector ended with 'Job well done'. First of all, kind words mean so much in this local government office! They are not

often said or heard but are very encouraging to each of us.

I would really like to reiterate those words of 'Job well done' to each of our election inspectors. The media has certainly painted a picture of this past election being filled with unfair, underhanded and unlawful behavior and procedures. If I can go back to the email exchange between our election inspector and then Deputy Clerk Nicole Hardish the day after the election, these are a few snippets of Nicole's reply which should give you peace that voting in Leroy Township is in the hands of very competent and responsible individuals. Nicole wrote regarding the investigating into election irregularities by the Legislature:

"I believe our Absentee Ballot Counting Board did a wonderful job considering the workload you were handed. You guys were diligent in making sure to stay balanced and that every ballot was counted! That attention to detail and care for each voter's ballot is what makes Leroy Township and Calhoun County election boards exceptional. We run a very fair, transparent and efficient process!

I know there is a lot of information floating around out there....but I don't believe for a minute that Leroy Township had any sort of fraud or mistakes. The County is in the process of canvassing all

the precincts and we have not heard about any needed corrections in Leroy! But I feel like you, that Clerks and inspectors are being personally accused for sins that we haven't committed. Please rest assured that Leroy Township and the work you have done here is on the up and up and I'm proud of you".

Well said, Nicole. What a privilege to work with people of integrity who are willing to serve our community.

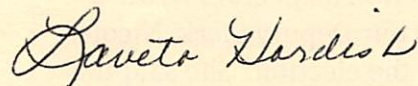
This leads me to just a couple more items of interest. Our current Clerk for 2016-2020, Brenda Schuetz, decided to retire at the end of her term. She has been a pleasure to work with and have in the office and will be very much missed. Thankfully, Deputy Clerk Nicole Hardish, made the decision to run for the office and was elected in November. She will take office on November 20. Nicole has served as Deputy Clerk and Building Department Coordinator for the past 8 years and brings her knowledge of elections and township government to the position.

The position of Deputy Clerk will need to be filled in the next few weeks. This person needs to have general office, computer and accounting experience along with good writing skills, the ability to pay attention to very detailed work and the temperament to work with the public in person and on the phone. Applicant must be able to maintain confidentially and post a bond. Normal hours will be 1 ½ days per week but vary throughout the year with election cycles. Flexibility is a must. Interested? Please send your resume to the office or email us at: clerk@leroytownship.org

In closing, may I again give the following election inspectors a sincere 'thank you' for your dedication to serving our community and democracy:

Carol Pierce
Brenda Schuetz
Dennis Cayo
Peter Theobald
Dennis Lash
Yvonne Chapman
Michael Doolan
Melissa Loyd
Michele Stevens
Michael Wespinter
Sandra VanDyke
Al Shifflett
Sharalyn Walkons-Davis
Sally Johnson
Jeanne Reid
Fred Palmiter
Deborah Hoffman
Al Meyer
Deb Savage
Linda Hoyle

Our Township Board meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. in the Community Room. This new Board wishes you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



Laveta Hardish, Supervisor

Clerk Nicole Hardish
Treasurer Mark Christoff
Trustee Jonathon Bolton
Trustee Michael VanHouten