



UPCOMING

BOARD MEETINGS

December 11, 2024
January 14, 2025
February 11, 2025
March 11, 2025 (Regular &
Annual Meeting)

PLANNING COMMISSION

February 4, 2025 Tues.

BOARD MEMBERS

Corey Wojcik – Supervisor
Holli Melton – Clerk
Christine Hendrick -Treasurer
Nate Wolff – Trustee
Sandy Smiley - Trustee

Dear Keene Township Residents,

For those of you that do not know me, I am Corey Wojcik. I have been a resident of Keene Township for 18 years and have raised my family in our beautiful township. I will be representing all of you as Keene Township Supervisor.

I have been a trustee on the Keene Township Board for 3 terms; totaling 12 years. Along with that, I have been a member of Keene Township's Planning Commission for 16 years; 12 years as the Township Board representative. I am currently the president of the Zoning Board of Appeals and have served on that board for roughly 10 years. During my time on these boards, I have developed a lot of relationships within our township and look forward to getting to know more of you over the years.

As I step into the position as Keene Township Supervisor, I will be submitting my resignation from the Planning Commission as well as the Zoning Board of Appeals. It has been an honor to serve as a member of the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals. With that said, a new member of the Keene Township Board will be appointed to replace me on the Planning Commission as the new Board Representative.

As many of you know, the Keene Township Board will be represented by a lot of new individuals. I ask all of you, during this transition, to please allow sufficient time for us to get settled in and gain an understanding of what each position entails. We will be doing our best to represent all of you and finding ways to work through the conflicts and issues our township faces in the future.

Thank you to everyone who gets involved in our township matters and comes up with ways to help navigate through topics. I look forward to continuing to represent all of you and to working with Christine Hendrick, Holli Melton, Nate Wolff and Sandy Smiley as your new Keene Township Board.

NEW – PAY TAXES ONLINE

Pay online with a credit card or e-check through our website. We use BS&A payments for this service which is a nationally recognized secure site to pay bills. Please note that there is a 2.8% fee to pay your property taxes with a credit card. You can print a receipt at the completion of an online payment.

TAX PAYMENT QUESTIONS

Email: keenetwptreasurer@gmail.com

Phone: 616-616-642-9809 X 903

Mail: PO Box 40, Saranac MI 48881

TAX BILL QUESTIONS

Email: assessorhoffman@gmail.com ,

Phone: 616-987-0067

Mail: PO Box 175, Lowell MI 49331

DROP BOX

For your convenience, the township has a DROP BOX in front of Twp. Hall. In an effort to save taxpayer funds, **a receipt only be sent to you if you include a self-addressed stamped envelope, or provide a email address.**

Receipts can also be found at <https://ioniacounty.org/online-services/>, which is updated bi-weekly.

616-642-9809

P. O. BOX 24 - 8505 POTTERS ROAD
SARANAC, MI 48881

Keeping You in the Loop



BI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTERS – Mailed with tax bills.

FREE PUBLIC NOTICES – Sign Up Today at <https://www.sentinel-standard.com/public-notices>

NOTICE BOARD in front of Keene Twp. Hall

WEBSITE:

<https://www.keenetownship.org>

MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS – In-Person and Pending Online

Make An Impact

CITIZEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!



TENATIVE SPRING CLEAN UP DATE

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025

Contact a board member if you are available to help. Many hands make lighter work.

Check website for any changes to this date

Thank You!

We would like to take a moment to thank the residents of the Township for giving us an opportunity to serve you as interim board members. We have enjoyed the opportunity to serve the township and we have tried hard to represent all of you equally through a time of change and great passion.

We will both remember our time with you fondly.

Taylor Lewis and Bob Schafer

When is a Zoning Permit required?

A Zoning Permit is required for all homes, decks, porches, additions, mobile homes, in-ground pools and some exterior remodeling, accessory buildings and agricultural buildings built or moved into the Township. Small storage sheds to 200 square feet do not require a permit must meet accessory building setbacks.

Vehicle Registrations:

Residents with Lowell addresses should check their automobile registrations as the DMV/SOS often put Kent County instead of Ionia County and we lose that revenue.

Junk and Unlicensed Vehicles:

The junk ordinance requires vehicles be operational and licensed. Junk items and vehicles, boats, equipment and trailers may be kept inside of an enclosed building or fully screened from neighbors and road drivers, otherwise they must be removed from the property. There are some exceptions in the ordinance. You may use the Township spring cleanup day to get rid of junk and scrap items (no kitchen or household trash).

Flat River Frontage Owners:

This is a State designated Natural River. The first 25 feet from the water's edge is the preserved 25-foot natural vegetation strip. A 4-foot-wide path can be created through the strip to the water's edge (no clear cutting or mowing). One dock is allowed extending over the water up to 4 feet and up to 12 feet along the shore. No decks are allowed in the strip and no cutting other than the 4-foot pathway or stairs to the water except dead, diseased, dying trees and poisonous plants. Stairs must be of natural materials and not cut into the bank. All buildings or structures require a 100-foot setback from the river's edge.

Home Businesses:

There are home occupations (zoning permit) and more intense home-based business types (special uses through the Planning Commission). There are regulations pertaining to both and permits are required.

Zoning Administrator:

Jeanne Vandersloot

Phone: 616-897-4242

Email: zoningadmin@msn.com

What is a Principal Resident Exemption (PRE)?

A Principal Residence Exemption (PRE) exempts a residence from the tax levied by a local school district for school operating purposes up to 18 mills. Section 211.7cc and 211.7dd of the General Property Tax Act, Public Act 206 of 1893, as amended, addresses PRE-claims. To qualify for a principal residence exemption on a dwelling, MCL 211.7cc requires that the property be: (1) owned by a qualified owner as defined by MCL 211.7dd(a); (2) occupied as a principal residence by that owner of the property; (3) none of the disqualifying factors listed in MCL 211.7cc(3) apply; and (4) claimed by the owner of the property by filing an affidavit with the local tax collecting unit in which the property is located.

Don't miss a PRE Savings!

How do I know if I already claim PRE?

Check the right side of your tax bill or check your assessment notice that will be mailed in Feb 2025. Example below.

THIS IS NOT A TAX BILL
Notice of Assessment, Taxable Valuation, and Property Classification

PARCEL IDENTIFICATION	
PARCEL NUMBER	PROPERTY ADDRESS
PROPERTY ADDRESS	PROPERTY ADDRESS

SAMPLE

PROPERTY ADDRESS & ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE) ON ASSESSMENT ROLL

PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE EXEMPTION

100% Exemption for "Principal Residence"

0% Exemption for "Qualified Agricultural Property"

0% Exemption for "Qualified Residential Property"

0% Exemption for "Qualified Rental Property"

0% Exemption for "Qualified Other Property"

If the property is your principal residence, this percentage should show a number up to 100%.

If you qualify for the exemption, but see a 0% on your tax bill, please send the assessor's office a copy of a completed Principal Residence Exemption affidavit to: Keene Twp. Assessor, PO BOX 175, LOWELL, MI 49331 to claim the exemption.

A fillable Principal Residence Exemption affidavit can be found at Michigan.gov.