

Clark Township Looks Into Alternative Energy Solutions

Clark Twp: From page 7

behind making the dredging a priority project for the Corps of Engineers, said the group has been in contact with Corps engineers to find a suitable spoils dumpsite. He said the Corps of Engineers likes the site and is determining its final approval.

"They want undisturbed land. It makes the process easier, so they don't have to get their environmental people involved for an environmental impact assessment," he said. "We found an area there which they liked, that could be approved provided the [spoils] did not go into the wooded area... We think this location is a good location for the channel dredge spoils."

The board said it will send a letter to the Corps of Engineers stating its approval of the dump site to help the process along. Mr. Dunn said the Corps of Engineers hopes to have the contract for the dredging awarded to a third-party contractor by the end of September. A start date for the estimated \$1.4 million project is yet to be set.

In other business, the board is asking Green Energy Solutions of Cedarville to conduct free site evaluations at selected township properties to see where using alternative energy solutions can provide a cost savings to the township.

Mike McMaken, owner of Green Energy Solutions, approached the board to see if it would be interested in the site evaluations and to provide

board members with information about wind turbine ordinances used by municipalities around Michigan.

"There's a lot places that don't have any zoning for wind turbines. We wanted to make sure that we could bring you up to speed with what's out there for zoning," he said. "We just didn't want our own township to be behind on what everybody else knows."

Mr. McMaken also provided the board with information about grants and low-interest loans available for renewable energy source installations.

The board jumped at the opportunity to take advantage of the free site evaluations.

"There's no hurting having him go up and doing an assessment. Why not?" trustee Gary Wellnitz asked.

Mackinaw City Approves Property Purchase

Rally: From page 7

budget to include the future purchase of the Matthews Property, located on West Central Avenue, after a split vote of 4 to 3. The property has several dilapidated structures on it, Mr. Lawson said, which will be removed once the sale is concluded.

No development plans are in the works for the property at this time, he said. Mr. Wallin, Mr. Alford, Mrs. Bancroft, and Mr. Hingston voted in favor of the budget amendment to include the purchase

of the property.

The property may be used for future village purposes, Mr. Wallin said. The 10-lot parcel, was initially being sold for \$125,000. The price was later reduced to \$55,000 which spurred the council to act.

"That's basically \$5,000 a lot. That's unheard of in this area," Mr. Wallin said.

The transaction should be complete by the end of August, he said.

Road Project Updates

Reconstruction of M-108 has been scheduled for 2010 along

with coordinating it with the East Central road project next spring. While M-108 is worked on, traffic will be re-routed to East Central Avenue for most of the project. While East Central Avenue is paved, traffic is planned to be redirected to Jamet Street, according to the manager's report.

Paving of East Central Avenue is still planned to begin in spring of 2010 as soon as weather permits. While paving is conducted, parking and travel will be constrained to one side of the road.

4-H Youth Design Shoes for Upcoming Diabetes Walk



Youth in the 4-H summer program paint shoes Thursday, July 16, for an upcoming diabetes walk along the Huron Boardwalk in St. Ignace. Students who participated are Fred Smith (not all pictured, not in order), Connor LaJoyce, Dalton McLennan, Jayde Fraser, Marlee Huskey, Addie Cheeseman, Austin St. Louis, Kayla Smith, and Taylor Thomas. The colorfully painted shoes will mark the way for the one-mile walk Saturday, September 12. (Photograph courtesy of Chris Paquin)



Chippewa County Fair

Sunday, August 30 thru Monday, September 7

Sunday, September 6 cont.

- 1 p.m. Open Pony Pull, *Grandstand*
- 1 to 4 p.m. Youth Activities
- 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. Bingo, *Dunbar*
- 2 p.m. Open Horse Pull, *Grandstand*
- 3 p.m. Chili Cook-Off
- 5 p.m. Tri-County Speed Horse Contest, *Arena*
- 7 p.m. Gospel Music, *Grandstand*

Monday, September 7

- All Day Demonstration of Antique Equipment
- 9 a.m. Garden Tractor Pull
- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Car Show
- 11 a.m. Chicken Bar-B-Que
- 11 a.m. Carnival Rides Start
- 12:30 p.m. Pedal Pushers
- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Bingo, *Dunbar*
- 2 p.m. Release of Open & Youth Exhibits

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