

County Planning Connection July 2022 News

A Legislative Change Regarding the Publication of Public Notices *Newspaper notices must be available online, searchable, and free to access*

On May 12, 2021 Governor Whitmer approved Public Act 76 of 2022 which amends 1963 PA 247, entitled "An act to define the term "newspaper" as used in the statutes of this state regarding publication of notices," by amending section 1 (MCL 691.1051).

This act defines the term newspaper, requires access to published notices on a newspaper website at no additional cost and requires that published notices placed in a newspaper must also be placed on a website (for websites and newspapers that meet certain requirements).

This means that the newspaper must, at no additional cost to the person requesting notice for publication, put the notice on the website viewable to all (not behind a paywall), the notice will remain on the website during the full publication period, and be searchable as a permanent record. An error or omission of posting the notice online will not invalidate the published notice.

Public Act 76 also states that if a newspaper does not exist in the county where notice is required, the term could mean a publication in an adjoining county, township, city, village, district, or other geographic territory, as applicable that met the proposed definition.

What does this mean for local units of government in Livingston County? Proof of public notice is submitted to County Planning with each rezoning or text amendment, and the majority of these Livingston County municipal notices have been printed in the Fowlerville News & Views or the Livingston County Press and Argus. County Planning staff contacted each newspaper source to see if they are meeting the requirements of this new law so that we can continue to use their services. Here are their responses:

- **Fowlerville News & Views** - This local newspaper prints and posts all legal notices to their website at: <https://www.fowlervillenewsandviews.com>. On the website they also have back issues of the newspaper so that old legal notices can be searched. Additionally, all legal notices are uploaded to the State-wide searchable portal at: mipublicnotices.com
- **Livingston County Press and Argus** - This local newspaper prints and posts all legal notices to their Livingston Daily website at: <https://www.livingstondaily.com> This is done at no additional charge. All legal notices are uploaded to the State-wide searchable portal at: mipublicnotices.com

Public Act 76: <http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2021-2022/publicact/pdf/2022-PA-0076.pdf> Source: Legislative Analysis, House Fiscal Agency.



Liv.Co UPDATE

Monthly News from the
Livingston County Commissioners



June 2022

Livingston County Board of Commissioners



- District 1 - Martin Smith
- District 2 - Carol Sue Reader
- District 3 - Wes Nakagiri
(Board Chairman)
- District 4 - Douglas G. Helzerman
- District 5 - Jay R. Drick
- District 6 - Mitchell Zajac
- District 7 - Carol S. Griffith
(Board Vice-Chairwoman)
- District 8 - Jerome Gross
- District 9 - Brenda Plank

Monthly Meetings

All meetings will be held in person and via Zoom

- Via Zoom (on-line meetings):
<https://zoom.us/j/3997000062?pwd=SUdLYVFFcmozWnFxbm0vcHRjWkVlZz09>
- Via the Zoom app - **join a meeting**,
meeting number: **399 700 0062**
Enter the password: **LCBOC**
(ensure there are no spaces before or after the password)
- Dial by your location: +1 929 205 6099
Meeting ID: **399 700 0062**
Password: **886752**

6/27/2022 - Full Board Meeting at 6 PM

7/5/2022 - General Government & Health & Human Services Meeting at 6:00 PM followed by the Asset Management Committee

7/11/2022 - Full Board Meeting at 6 PM

7/18/2022 - Courts, Public Safety, Infrastructure Development Committee at 6 PM followed by the Personnel Committee

"The mission of Livingston County is to be an effective and efficient steward in delivering quality services within the constraints of sound fiscal policy. Our priority is to provide mandated services which may be enhanced and supplemented to improve the quality of life for all who work, reside, and recreate in Livingston County."

LETS Continues Transportation For The Hamburg Senior Center And Adds Service for Putnam And Unadilla Townships



Back in 2019, LETS and Hamburg Township partnered together to provide transportation for their residents to and from the Hamburg Senior Center. The agreement spanned

three years and hoped to become a way to address social isolation for senior citizens that weren't able to get to the Senior Center. With the expiration date of the original agreement approaching, Hamburg and LETS reviewed the program and found that it has been incredibly successful. The program, which is funded through federal and state grants and a township match, provides door-to-door service for residents and has become a value for residents. Not only can senior residents request transportation to and from usual activities like doctor appointments and grocery shopping, LETS provides transportation for senior outings! Seniors have enjoyed going out as a group for things like having dinner, participating in enrichment activities, and even visiting museums. Seeing how much residents have benefited from the service, Hamburg Township has renewed the agreement for another year, with the option to renew for two additional years.

Over in Putnam and Unadilla Townships, Livingston County's Board of Commissioners have just approved an agreement for LETS to provide dedicated bus service for residents for a year, with the option to renew for two years. The specifics of the service are still being ironed out, but providing senior and general public transportation to and from the Putnam Community Center is a sure thing. Just like the service for Hamburg Township, funding for the program will come from federal and state grants and township matches. LETS is excited to continue to provide transportation to our community so residents can stay connected, get involved, and enjoy all that our County has to offer.

Resolutions Passed by the Board of Commissioners

- The Board has approved the levy of the 2022 allocation millage. The apportionment of taxes for county operating purposes will be levied on the summer tax billing at the rate of 3.2086. The ambulance millage will be levied on the winter tax billing at the rate of 0.2836.
- Emergency Management has received a federal grant award from the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant Program for a total of \$2,810 with a match from the County of \$703. The funding will be used to identify hazardous material sites and enhance response planning.
- The Specialty Courts and Programs will apply for seven grant awards from the State Court Administrative Office for a total of \$790,000. If awarded, funding will be used to operate specialty court programs.
- A Full-Time Veterans Benefits Counselor, Claims Ill position has been added to the Veteran Services Office. This position was needed due to an increased amount of claims the Office is handling from the success of their new location.
- Due to the Sheriff's Office signing contracts for dedicated service with Tyrone Township, Putnam Township, Pinckney Community Schools, Brighton Area Schools, and LESA, they will be adding two Deputies to their staff this year, and one additional Deputy by the end of 2023.
- Rooftop HVAC equipment will be replaced at the County's East Complex at a cost not to exceed \$158,450.
- The Livingston County Treasurer will establish Fund 237-Opioid Settlement Fund for the specific purpose of tracking revenues and expenditures related to the County's settlement awarded after litigation against manufactures and wholesale distributors of opioids.
- Resolution 2022-06-069 was passed stating that the Board shall not approved or accept donations/grants of private monies or personal or real property to the County for use in or purposes of funding and managing elections.
- The County Clerk's Office will purchase vital records document management software from Fidar Technologies at the rate of \$60,000 for the first year, and \$15,000 annually for the next four years.
- The County's Information Technology Department will purchase stock hardware equipment from Sehi Computer Products Inc. for a total not to exceed \$350,000 spread over 2022 and 2023.
- Due to the increased demand for veteran transportation to medical appointments and the recommendation of the addition of a second daily route, Veteran Services will increase their current part time driver position to a full time position. In addition, Veterans Services will purchase a 2022 Chrysler Voyager van from Hoekstra Transportation at a cost not to exceed \$63,377.
- Veteran Services will apply for a grant from The Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency in the amount of \$127,432.50. If awarded, funding would be used to improve new initiatives and support operations.
- Veterans Services' special millage proposal and ballot language has been approved so that the proposal will be located on the ballot on the November 8, 2022 election.
- Cruisers, Inc. will provide emergency vehicle lighting and equipment installation and maintenance services for a three year term.
- Bob Maxey Ford and Roy's Autoworks will provide maintenance and repair services for the County's fleet and transit vehicles for the period of three years.
- LETS will purchase eight full-size lift-equipped replacement vans from Hoekstra Transportation for an estimated cost of \$598,248. Ongoing supply chain issues in the auto industry had extended lead times for new bus orders into late 2024, but a cancellation of a large-sized van order by another transit agency in which the van's chassis had already been built, have drastically decreased the lead time to approximately six to eight months.