

Tallmadge Charter Township



Supervisor - Mark Bennett
mbennett@tallmadge.com

It has been a very exciting six months since the change in the supervisor's position here at Tallmadge Charter Township. Upon retiring from the Sheriff's Office in Ottawa County after 33 years, I have been blessed to continue my public service at the township. I continue to learn some interesting new aspects of local government.

One of the challenges we face in Tallmadge Township is the expenditure of the American Rescue Plan Act monies. The township was allocated \$870,000 to be used for improvements under a rather complicated set of parameters. I have established (with board approval) a steering committee to make recommendations to the board for worthy uses of this money.

Some of the citizen concerns we often deal with include traffic related issues. Generally, speeding vehicles and truck route violations. I recently received approval from the Board to purchase a SMART speed trailer to be deployed along the roadway to notify motorists of their speed. The Board also gave approval for a Laser Unit for traffic enforcement. Deputies have also made hundreds of traffic stops around the township within the last several months for possible violations of the truck route ordinance. The deputies have found that very few trucks were actually in violation. Those traffic enforcement efforts will continue.

The township is also working with the Ottawa County Road Commission to refresh the list of roadways that would be eligible for maintenance. As for the secondary or sub-division roadways, the township will partner with property owners to share cost in making those road improvements.

One of my goals in my first year is to enhance the user experience of the township's website. An interesting feature of the website is that a performance dashboard of the township can be found on a posted link. To find that link go to www.tallmadge.com and click on Tallmadge Township Performance Dashboard. Categories such as Fiscal Stability, Economic Strength, Public Safety, and Quality of Life can be explored. I think you will find that Tallmadge Charter Township does very well in comparison to other local units of government. I believe this illustrates the commitment of the citizens, business owners, and local government working together.

Please feel free to reach out to me if I can be of assistance.

Township Hours:

Monday – Thursday
9:00am – 3:00pm

Closed Holidays

Please call to schedule after hour appointments.

Monthly Township Meetings:

All Meetings are held in the Township Board Room at 7:00PM

*Zoning Board of Appeals:

1st Tuesday, as needed.

*Township Board Meeting:

2nd Tuesday of the month

*Planning Commission:

4th Tuesday of the month

Township Officials

Supervisor: Mark Bennett

Clerk: Lenore Cook

Treasurer: Valdyne Schwallier

Trustees: Clifford Bronkema, Joel Terpstra,

Michael Eppink, Dave Datema

Assessor: Tyler Tacoma – Thursday 9:00-3:00

Planner: Greg Ransford – Thursday 9:00-1:00

Zoning: Sara Moring-Hilt – M&W 9:00 – 3:00

Clerk - Lonnie Cook

lcook@tallmadge.com

According to the 2020 Census Tallmadge Charter Township has 8,802 residents.

The Township Board meeting minutes are posted on our website: www.tallmadge.com

The community room at the Township Hall is available for rent to township residents at a daily rental cost of \$100. This includes eight double tables and 100 chairs as well as a full kitchen. This is your township and we try to keep the cost to a minimum.

Please call me for additional information.

Tallmadge Township has three precincts and three school districts with 6,957 registered voters.

*Precinct 1 has 3,058 voters.

*Precinct 2 has 2,267 voters.

*Precinct 3 has 1,632 voters.

*Grandville School has 2,552 voters.

*Kenowa Hills School has 1,774 voters.

*Coopersville School has 2,631 voters.

Of these registered voters 2,325 have requested to vote absentee.

Please contact me if you need to register to vote or wish to register as a permanent absentee voter.

I can be reached at 616-677-1248 or e-mail me at lcook@tallmadge.com

Treasurer - Valdyne Schwallier

vschwallier@tallmadge.com

TAX DAY – MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2022

A drop box is available just outside the township main door 24/7. Payments dropped off after business hours are dated the next business day. Postmarks are not accepted as date of payment.

If your mortgage company pays your property taxes, the township sends them a statement as a service. However, each property owner is ultimately responsible to see that his/her property taxes are paid. Also, if you are paying by bill pay, please give **AMPLE** time for the funds to be received here at the township and that the correct amount is being sent.

Taxes can now be paid online at www.tallmadge.com/general-info/treasurer as a convenience. Follow the link found on the treasurer's page to the BS & A portal and follow the quick easy steps to make a tax payment. Feel free to call the office if you have any questions. Please note that there is a 3% service fee charged by the credit card company to the user for this service.

FIRE DEPT - fire@tallmadge.com

Mike Gavin – Chief * Jon Alkema – Deputy Chief

The Fire Department continues to see increasing call volumes. We currently operate with 2 full-time employees during the daytime hours and 30 "paid on-call" employees. We are always looking for applicants for the paid on-call firefighting positions. If you have ever considered joining this fire department, we would love to talk with you about the position. Please reach out to us at 616-677-1610.

Burn permits are required in Tallmadge Township. There is a link to the Burn Permit form on the Fire Department section of the Township webpage. Please remember, you must remain in attendance of your fire at all times. State law prohibits the burning of construction materials, garbage, and industrial waste.

Since January of 2021, 49 emergency responders have been struck and killed while they were working at emergency incidents in the United States.

In 2019, one of our department vehicles was struck by a motorist who lost control on icy roads. We just had a "near miss" on the highway again last month. Please use caution near emergency scenes.

Slow Down, Move Over.



Assessor - Tyler Tacoma

ttacoma@tallmadge.com

TALLMADGE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP

ASSESSOR
(616) 677-1248

tallmadge.com/assessor

The Assessor's Office is busy this time of year making property site visits for building permit appraisal reviews. We are also continuing our "20% Review" schedule of visiting all properties once every 5 years. After having completed the first, thorough visits in 2016-2020, we are finding these re-visits go much more quickly. Follow-up inspections consist mainly of getting fresh exterior photos and visiting with our residents about assessment questions they might have. We look forward to seeing you as we are out and about in our community this fall.