

Portland Township News

Fall 2019

773 East Grand River

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www.portlandtownship.org

Portland Area Fire Authority Purchases New Truck

by Chris Jensen, Township Supervisor

The Portland Area Fire Authority (Portland Township, Danby Township, and City of Portland) has purchased a new fire truck, which was delivered just in time for the Fourth of July parade. The new truck replaced the 1999 Pierce Engine, which was sold to a fire department in North Dakota.

The new engine has much equipment that is new to our fire department, including battery powered jaws of life, an LED light tower, air conditioned cab, heated front and side windows, top mount pump panel, LED head lights and all LED compartment lighting.

The cost of the new truck, which is shared by the three entities is:

- \$250,000 down payment
- \$343,816 financed for four years at 2.5%.
- Portland Township's share will be \$32,883 per year, and is a budgeted expense.



Reminder: No receipts mailed

by Leanne Simon, Township Treasurer

As a reminder, the Township Board has decided to follow the lead of many other townships and no longer mail receipts to every tax payer. This is effective immediately and is a permanent change.

If you want a receipt mailed to you, you MUST request it every time you make your tax payment. If a mortgage company pays your property taxes and you would like a receipt, you will have to phone me or email me and leave a message. Be sure to give your address or parcel number, as well. Phone 517-647-2075 or email twp_treas@sbcglobal.net. You can also go to ioniacounty.org/on-line-services/ to print your own receipt. Please allow one week for the payment to process and show up online.

Meet Travis and Jonny, Our ICRC Drivers

by Sue Vanlente, Township Trustee

Everyone sees the Ionia County Road Commission trucks on the township roads, but very few people actually know who the drivers are, or what their responsibilities are. Meet the two men who are responsible for maintaining the roads in Portland Township—and please note that they have a lot of other duties, as well.

Travis Stemler



Travis is a scraper driver and has worked for the Road Commission for five years. In the summer months he is responsible for maintaining gravel roads in Portland and Orange Townships. In the winter he plows the east end of I96 (M66 to Clinton County line) and also plows roads in Orange Township. He has been working in the two townships for three years. He enjoys meeting the residents of the township, and making the roads safe and smooth. Before he was a scraper driver he was a grader operator for the southwest corner of the county. He likes maintaining the gravel roads in the summer and plowing snow in the winter. Travis is married and has two daughters

Jon Dalton

Jonny is a grader operator and has worked for the Road Commission for almost two years. He is responsible for maintaining roads in Portland, Orange, Danby and Sebewa Townships. In the winter he is a back-up driver for the east end of I96 and also plows roads in Portland Township. Before coming to the Road Commission Jon worked for a contractor that constructed new roads. Jon has been married for 22 years and has two children. He would like to remind residents to slow down and give workers plenty of room to do their jobs.

If you see either of these guys out doing their jobs, please treat them courteously and let them know how much you appreciate their hard work.



