

Moving Forward Together

July 2026 Township Update

Dear Islanders,

July brought good financial news at both the township and state level, a fantastic community turnout for a good cause, and real progress on several projects around the island. Here's where things stand.

Q1 Budget Update

The Township closed out the first quarter of the new fiscal year on solid footing. Seasonal favorites like the golf course and parks are off to a strong start on both the revenue and activity side, and our transition to NEMSA ambulance service continues to run according to plan. Property tax and state revenue collections are following their usual seasonal timing and are expected to pick up in the coming months. Behind the scenes, we've also completed a detailed review of how insurance costs are shared across departments, which will make our financial reporting even more accurate going forward. A full first quarter budget report will be shared with the Board and made available to residents once the numbers are fully reconciled.

State Budget Passed, No Funding Concerns for the Township

After missing their July 1st deadline, Michigan lawmakers worked through the night to finalize the state's next budget, passing a roughly \$85 billion budget funding state government and education in an all night legislative session that wrapped up early Friday morning, July 3rd. Of direct relevance to us, the budget includes \$1.6 billion to sustain revenue sharing for counties, cities, villages, and townships. Based on this outcome, we do not anticipate any funding issues with revenue sharing for Drummond Island Township in the coming fiscal year.

State Candidates Visit Drummond Island

Ahead of the August 4th primary for Michigan's 107th House District, all three declared candidates made the trip out to Drummond Island and hosted meet and greets at the Township Hall: Brendan Ryan, Melissa Perron, and Parker Fairbairn. We know firsthand how hard it is to get to the island, so it means something when candidates make the effort to come out here and hear directly from residents. Thank you to everyone who took the time to attend and share your questions and concerns.

Township Logo Contest: Entries Closed, Review and Voting Next

Submissions for our new Township logo closed on August 1st, and we want to thank everyone who took the time to design and submit an entry. The Township Board will now review all submissions for compliance with the contest's mandatory requirements (a recognizable representation of Drummond Island, the exact wording "Drummond Island Township," and a round format). Designs that pass review will move on to a public vote, where residents will help choose our new Township logo. We'll share details on voting as soon as they're finalized.

Fire Department's Wet 'n' Wild Fundraiser a Splash of Success

Our Fire Department put on a fantastic Wet 'n' Wild fundraiser this month to support increased dry hydrant infrastructure across the island, and it was a hit with residents and visitors alike. The event was well organized and well attended, with highlights including several of our firemen and women taking their turn getting hosed down, a gear race, a round of jaws of life Jenga, and dueling pianos to close things out. Thank you to our Fire Department for putting together such a great event, and to everyone who came out to support them and this important infrastructure project.

NEMSA Update: Settling In and Keeping Pace

Several months into the transition, NEMSA is on pace to deliver roughly the same yearly average of runs the island saw under the previous volunteer based service, and their response times continue to impress. NEMSA crews were on hand at the Fire Department's Wet 'n' Wild fundraiser, and you'll continue to see them out and about in the community as they keep learning the ins and outs of the island.

Road Work Completed: Cream City Point and Skip Patching

The paving project at Cream City Point has been completed, along with skip patching on some of the worst sections of road across the island. We appreciate the Road Commission's work getting these projects done and will continue to keep residents updated as further road improvements are planned.

Park Improvements Underway

Work has been ongoing at the Township Park, including repairs to the well pumps, tree removal, and bringing in fill to improve the grounds. More updates on this project will follow as work continues.

Golf Course Improvements: More Parking and a Patio on the Way

The Township Board approved the removal of stumps and fill behind the clubhouse and along the pickleball courts at the Golf Course, clearing the way for additional parking spaces and a future patio area. More details will be shared as this project progresses.

Changes Coming to the Township Board

We want to let residents know that the Township Board will be seeing some changes in the months ahead. Treasurer Jeanette Alguire has resigned, effective July 31st, and Trustee Kevin Kruzel has resigned, effective October 31st. We thank them both for their service to this community and wish them well. The Board will be making appointments to fill these positions within the 45 day timeframe required by Michigan law.

Looking ahead, mark your calendars for our next Community Days on Saturday, October 17th. We look forward to seeing Islanders come together again for another great day of volunteer projects.

Together, we keep moving forward.

With appreciation,

Krystal Truax

Township Supervisor
Drummond Island Township