

**Observer Corp Summary  
December 2021**

**Emmet County Commissioners**

**Date:** 12/21/21

**Notes:** Several (6) excellent comments supporting creation of a transit authority. Martha Lancaster pointed out that the BOC has been “studying” transit for the last 18 years with each turnover of the board initiating yet another study.

**Issues to watch:** Wondering if a league public forum summarizing and explaining the transit proposal would be useful in educating the public on this topic.

**Bear Creek Township**

**Date:**

**Notes:**

**Issues to watch:**

**Harbor Springs City Council**

**Date:** 12/6/21

**Notes:** Harbor Springs does an excellent job in making background materials available to the public well in advance of the meeting. The meetings are available via Zoom and on YouTube. Public comment was invited on every discussion item.

**Issues to watch:**

1. The CM presented a proposed 2021-22 budget. Very clear.
2. Next Council Meeting is a public hearing on the budget.

**Harbor Springs City Council**

**Date:** 12/20/21

**Notes:**

**Issues to watch:**

1. There was discussion of where information about upcoming meetings and other information is shared with the public. People don't always read online information or read the notices posted at City Hall. In order to increase transparency, the notices and pertinent info will be published in the Harbor Light newspaper.
2. Harbor Springs Public Schools requests that the police department provide a designated School Resource Officer. The school will pay 75% and the Sheriff was confident that grants would provide the rest.

**Petoskey City Council**

**Date:** 12/20/21

- Appointments:**
1. Ben Slocum reappointment to Downtown Management Board, Approved: 5-0
  2. Drew Smith appointment to Downtown Management Board, Approved: 5-0

**Issues to watch:**

1. Housing shortages: Specifically, issues related to short-term rentals as presented by representative John DeMoose.
2. City Manager Updates: Interim City Planner on duty until a permanent City Planner is hired. City Planner Amy Tweetden is no longer the city's planner, as of the end of this month. Twenty-six applicants are being considered.
3. Watch state-level legislative action regarding housing issues, as reported at this meeting by representative John DeMoose. Specifically, issues related to regulation of short-term rental properties.

**Resort Township**

**Date:**

**Notes:**

**Issues to watch:**

**Charlevoix County Commissioners**

**Date:**

**Notes:**

**Issues to  
watch:**

**Cheboygan County Commissioners**

**Date:** 12/14/21

**Notes:**

**Issues to  
watch:** No issues of interest to report.