

## **Spotlight on Local Government July 2024**

## **Isabella County Board of Commissioners**

- Approved an agreement to allow the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy to perform soil and groundwater sampling at the west parking lot of the County Administrative Building. In 2006, there was a release from a leaking underground storage tank for which corrective action may not have been sufficient.
- Approved a service agreement and software license with Enhanced Voting LLC to furnish and host an election results reporting system that will allow county staff to input election results that can be viewed by the public.
- Approved an agreement between the Counties of Isabella, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Mecosta, Midland, Ogemaw, and Osceola to establish and manage a multi-county materials management plan for all nonhazardous waste. Each County will allocate \$70,000 of State and grant funding for the first year of the project.
- Approved the Pere Marquette Rail Trail –
   Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation
   Grant Agreement for an award of \$6,350.
   The funds will go toward the purchase of
   gates to replace aging trail bollards where
   the trail intersects a roadway. The gates will
   allow non-motorized users to pass through
   a small gap in the center, prevent illegal
   vehicle traffic, and open fully for authorized
   vehicle access.
- Approved the Mission Road Solar
   Decommissioning Agreement and Bond
   between Isabella County and DTE Electric
   Company for a solar project with a total
   generating capacity of approximately 150
   megawatts of power at the point of
   interconnection. The agreement, required
   before construction begins, outlines
   mechanisms for physical decommissioning
   and restoration of the land and creates
   enforcement mechanisms for the use of a
   surety bond in the event of uncured default
   by DTE.

 Authorized participation in the Michigan State-Subdivision Agreement for Allocation of Kroger Settlement Agreement, an opioid settlement. Isabella County has been allocated 0.692% of the funds, to be used solely for opioid remediation.

## Mt. Pleasant City Commission

- Approved amendments to the city's solid waste ordinance effective January 1, 2025, that eliminate the bag/tag program for refuse collection and the recycling fee through water bills.
- Approved the contribution of an additional \$550,000 to the Municipal Employees'
   Retirement System of Michigan in order to reduce the city's unfunded liability.
- Approved the purchase of two BMW police motorcycles for \$62,378. The purchase will be funded by Police Department budgetary savings that resulted from officer vacancies throughout the current fiscal year.
- Approved the purchase of an unmarked detective vehicle at a cost not to exceed \$40,000. Funding will be provided by a grant to the Police Department.
- Approved the purchase of Pontem
   Cemetery Management Software for
   \$36,600. The software includes a public
   portal with information on the location of
   individual burial plots and vacant parcels in
   the city cemetery.

## Mt. Pleasant Planning Commission

 Recommended that the City Commission adopt specific changes to the zoning ordinance regarding building standards in the General Urban and Urban Central Character Districts. The proposed changes focus on principal frontage buildout rules, ceiling height and two-story requirements, and setback requirements. The Planning Commission also recommended that the administrative dimensional waiver be increased from 5% to 10%.



