
BRIDGEPORT CHARTER TOWNSHIP



TOWNSHIP MANAGER SEARCH COMMUNITY PROFILE

“On behalf of the Bridgeport community, we welcome your interest in becoming our Township Manager. We are a community that is living and growing together.” - Augie Tausend, Supervisor



Walsh Municipal Services, LLC
CONNECTING LEADERS TO COMMUNITIES SINCE 1997

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

Bridgeport, Michigan



Scenic. Quiet. Abundant Wildlife. Championship Fishing. All this awaits you as you take a stroll along the meandering Cass River in beautiful Bridgeport Township. The Bridgeport Historic Bridge is only one of six remaining surviving multi-span truss highway bridges left in Michigan. While you enjoy your journey along the Cass, you can partake in a picnic lunch at the pavilion overlooking the river. The river path has many stops along the way including Lyle Park. The Cass River Trailhead Park is a respite along the Cass River Trail Park, overlooking the Cass River Bridge. Bridgeport Township is known for their quality parks and waterfront.

Bridgeport is also the proud home of the Great Lakes Bay Miracle League. The league is a non-profit organization that provides children with mental or physical disabilities an opportunity to play baseball as a member in an organizational league. Housed at the Frank N. Anderson Complex, the Miracle League has made incredible memories for hundreds of children. League organizers have also sponsored a football camp and bowling events for youths with disabilities.

Bridgeport Township offers their next Township Manager an incredible opportunity to lead a diverse, friendly and well-run local government. The current manager is retiring after 29 years of exemplary service, with the last 12 at the helm. There's a certain "air of teamwork" permeating throughout the organization that you don't find in many communities today. If you are looking for a disjointed Township Board and continuous bickering, Bridgeport is not the place for you. While there are plenty of challenges, elected and appointed officials work together to solve community issues.

From the scenic views of the Cass River, to providing opportunities for all kids, Bridgeport is a quality community that reflects everything good about serving local government. The Township Board won't settle for just a candidate. The Board will find a visionary, likeable and passionate leader who wants to make Bridgeport a "home," rather than a stop.

OUR HISTORY... OUR FUTURE

Bridgeport was founded on April 4, 1848 and became the first township in Michigan to adopt Charter status in 1958. In 1835, Auri Campbell was the first person to settle in Bridgeport. The original settlers named the community “The Bend of the Cass”, or “Cass Bend”, owing to the fact that the mighty Cass River makes a sharp bend at the site of the town. On the spot known today as “Cass Bridge” the name Bridgeport was tabbed. This is the point of where the Flint Trail crossed the Cass River. The first developments in Bridgeport included a hotel and post office.

Located along I-75 and Dixie Highway, Bridgeport is located near the center of Saginaw County. The community of 10,514, is bordered by Frankenmuth, Saginaw, Spaulding Township and Taymouth Township.

Established in 1969, the Historical Society of Bridgeport maintains the Historic Village and provides a gathering spot for small concerts and performances. The group also hosts a Pioneer Christmas event every year that includes Santa Claus at the fire station.



The future of Bridgeport rests with the continued beautification of our waterfront, a new location for our Government Center Building, strengthening of the 1-75 commercial corridor, increasing the staffing levels in the fire department and maintaining a safe, family-friendly, small-town atmosphere.



THE RIGHT FIT

The Township Board is most interested in meeting candidates who “show them that they care, before they show them what they know.” Education and credentials are important, but fostering a cohesive and team oriented work environment is critical. Bridgeport Township seeks a manager that appreciates a balanced work-life and will plant their roots in our community.

The ideal candidate will adhere to the following principles and objectives:

- Understands the role of the manager and operational responsibilities
- Compassionate, simply care for others
- Proven communication skills
- Has a track record of conservative financial management
- A candidate who will approach this offer as an opportunity, not just a job
- Be able to say no with tact and respect
- Understands the Bridgeport culture...stuffiness doesn't work
- An experienced project manager
- Understands the role of the DDA
- Patience and Grace are welcomed attributes
- Be a listener, the manager isn't always right



OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Bridgeport Charter Township is a welcoming and diverse community. We trust our incoming Township Manager will carry forward the great success of our retiring leader. Not unlike every small town, we have several opportunities and challenges ahead of us.

- Determine the location, cost, financing and timeline to build a new Government Center Building
- Foster a renewed positive relationship with the Bridgeport Schools
- Bring creative budgetary skills with the looming state revenue reductions
- Develop a plan to bring about increased development along Dixie Corridor and I-75
- Work closely with our professionals to determine an enhanced staffing level for the delivery of medical and fire response
- Work closely with the Saginaw County Road Commission on completion of the Dixie Highway reconstruction project
- Be the leader who can positively project Bridgeport's future in the region
- Use federal and state grant funds to beautify our award-winning parks and Cass River riverfront
- Work closely with local philanthropic foundations for the betterment of Bridgeport Township



THE BRIDGEPORT CHARTER TOWNSHIP PROCESS

DEADLINE TO APPLY: JULY 28, 2020

Please submit cover letter, resume, and five professional references to Frank L. Walsh, Walsh Municipal Services, LLC. Applications will be received at walshmuni@gmail.com. Please indicate on your cover letter whether you desire confidentiality as allowed under the Michigan Open Meetings Act. Bridgeport Charter Township is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

