choices are needed for empty-nesters and retirees as they settle into the Township to celebrate their golden years.

This information has led to two new proposed projects that cater to those “aging in place”—a senior living campus and a state-licensed nursing care facility.

The senior living campus proposes to locate on 15 acres at the northeast corner of Comstock Street and 172nd Avenue. This 75,000 square foot nursing care facility would include 120 beds in 48 private rooms and 36 semi-private rooms. This nursing home includes a second floor which would allow for a future expansion that would add another 20 beds. Both projects are currently in the pre-application phase where the developer meets with staff to work through some of the fundamentals of the Zoning Ordinance. It is anticipated that both will formally submit applications by the end of 2016 or beginning of 2017. If approved by the Planning Commission and Township Board, construction on these needed amenities could begin in 2017.

The most time consuming part of a bike path project is receiving the necessary easements.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item No</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost Estimate</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bike Path along Buchanan Street (Lakeshore to 168th)</td>
<td>$491,750</td>
<td>0.8 miles</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bike Path along Sleeper Street (168th to Hofma Preserve)</td>
<td>$151,180</td>
<td>0.8 miles</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bike Path along Lincoln Street (Lakeshore to 168th)</td>
<td>$295,350</td>
<td>0.7 miles</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bike Path along 152nd Avenue (Ferris to Lincoln)</td>
<td>$451,760</td>
<td>0.5 miles</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Bike Path along 168th Avenue (Buchanan to Ferris)</td>
<td>$608,150</td>
<td>1.5 miles</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bike Path along Groesbeck Street (152nd to west end)</td>
<td>$210,130</td>
<td>0.8 miles</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Bike Path along Lincoln Street (East of US-31 to 144th and connector to Ferris Street)</td>
<td>$1,434,300</td>
<td>3.4 miles</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Bike Path along 144th Avenue (Mercury to Lincoln)</td>
<td>$773,730</td>
<td>1.5 miles</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Project Cost**

$4,416,350

10.0 miles
ZONING REFERENDUM

At the November 8th general election, Township voters will be asked to either approve or reject Zoning Ordinance Amendment No. 541. Unfortunately, there is some confusion about how this zoning referendum relates to the approval of the Health Pointe Planned Unit Development (PUD) project (located on the north outlots of the Meijer property).

To clarify this matter, the voters’ approval or rejection of Zoning Ordinance Amendment No. 541 will have no effect on the Health Pointe project.

Because both the Planning Commission and the Township Board approved the Health Pointe project based upon the existing zoning regulations, without Zoning Ordinance No. 541 being in effect, the Zoning Referendum has no effect on the Health Pointe project.

Moreover, an appeal to overturn the Township Board’s approval of the Health Pointe PUD project was dismissed by the Circuit Court less than four months after it was filed.

The Zoning Referendum is not a vote on the Health Pointe project.

During consideration of the Health Pointe project, there were some regulations within the Zoning Ordinance that were questioned by those opposed to this new medical office building.

The Township Board and Planning Commission carefully listened to the arguments against Health Pointe and reviewed various legal opinions; but, determined that any regulatory ambiguities within the Zoning Ordinance were insufficient to warrant denying the Health Pointe project.

However, the Planning Commission and Board also adopted Zoning Ordinance Amendment No. 541 to address these regulatory questions in order to avoid similar confusion in the future.

For example — without Zoning Ordinance Amendment No. 541 — a developer could seek approval of a commercial planned unit development that consists of an “office building” used by accountants and sales representatives and anyone opposed could make the same type of “use” argument raised by opponents to the Health Pointe project — that accountants and sales representatives are an inappropriate “use” for a commercial PUD.

The referendum offers residents the choice of either maintaining the existing regulations within the Zoning Ordinance, without resolving the questions that have been raised, or clarifying any uncertainties and avoiding future confusion.

Bottom line: the question for voters is whether the Zoning Ordinance should keep or correct the regulatory ambiguities revealed during the Health Pointe PUD approval.

NOWS BOND REFUNDING

In 2009, the Northwest Ottawa Water System (NOWS) issued $15,420,000 in construction bonds through Ottawa County to expand the water treatment plant and Lake Michigan submerged intake. This bond issue took advantage of the Build America Bonds (BAB), a federal program that included a subsidy to reduce the interest cost to recipients.

At the time of the issuance, it was understood that refunding for BAB was not an option. However, there is now a mechanism to take advantage of both the BAB subsidy and the historically low interest rates.

The crossover refunding mechanism analysis indicated total savings in the range of $1.69 to $3.98 million, or 10.75% to 12.73% in net present value savings. As a result, Grand Haven Charter Township and the other member units of NOWS authorized Ottawa County to move forward with a bond refunding.

There is some uncertainty over the future actions from the federal government regarding the BAB program.

For example, the subsidy has already been reduced by the federal government by 6.9% with sequestration. However, even with this uncertainty, savings from the refunding will still be substantial under the worst case scenario, which would be the elimination of the subsidy, resulting in about $1.0 million in savings.

FIRE/RESCUE OPEN HOUSE

The Fire/Rescue department will hold the Annual Open House on October 11th from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There will be food, drinks and safety demonstrations from various public safety organizations, and an opportunity to see the fire apparatus and equipment.

The newest equipment is a Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV) that includes both a slide-in fire suppression system and a patient transport unit. The UTV will be mostly utilized for medical and rescue calls along the dunes and beach areas or assisting with the suppression of wild fires in areas of rugged terrain.

SMARTPOINT® PROJECT

Over the next five years, Grand Haven Township will be spending about $1.2 million to complete a water meter radio transmitter replacement program.

The replacement device, called “SmartPoint®”, is a radio transmitter used to read your existing water meter. Currently, your water meter has an older version of this device; but, is already read through a registered radio system.

As with the unit that is being replaced, the SmartPoint® device does not transmit any data until it receives a signal from a secure device owned by the Township.

This typically occurs four (4) times each year, just prior to your water bill being mailed.

Only Township staff will complete the installation. The installer will be wearing a Township uniform and carry a Township identification badge. These employees WILL NOT request or accept any money for payment. If you want to confirm that an installer is a Township employee, please call (616) 842-5988 and speak with a representative of the Public Works Department or Human Resources.

SmartPoint® devices will be installed Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. There are a limited number of evening and Saturday appointments, upon request.

Please ensure that the area around your water meter is clear and can be accessed by a worker. The replacement process normally takes 30 minutes or less.

If you have any questions regarding the SmartPoint® replacement program, please call Kristi Walsh at (616) 604-6325 or email kwalsh@ght.org.

Appointment requests can also be done at the Township’s website: www.ght.org/departments/public-services/smartpoint/