

BOIS BLANC TOWNSHIP

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March 10, 2021

Plaunt Transportation Co
PO Box 2
Cheboygan, MI 49775

RE: 2021 Schedule/Rates

Curt,

We acknowledge and appreciate the fact that Plaunt Transportation had their proposed schedule and rates to us on Feb. 1st. We further acknowledge that it is your request to keep all rates the same and would like to bank the CPI for this year to next year. The annual CPI as reported this morning 3/10/21 for all items (Feb 2020 – Feb 2021) is 1.7%.

Per the terms of our contract date 6/22/20, this letter is to address a request for a schedule revision. The proposed schedule was discussed at last months Harbor Commission meeting. It is our understanding that most items were resolved, but that you were going to discuss the Sunday schedule with other members of Plaunt Transportation. In compliance with our contract, we wish to detail that request in writing.

Last year with the COVID-19 pandemic in full swing, many normal functions on the island were shut down, including the Sunday Worship Services for the Episcopal Church in the Pines and The Coast Guard Chapel to the east. A change was made to the 2020 ferry schedule to allow for an additional trip off the island Sunday's in July and August. This was to accommodate a specific transportation need for more people wishing to leave on Sunday. The resulting time change however adversely effects the Coast Guard Chapels long standing history of 10:30 services. Since the Chapel depends on guest clergy to fill the pulpit on Sunday, many times a speaker would come over on the 9:00 boat for a 10:30 service and leave the same day. The new schedule of leaving Cheboygan at 9:30 makes it impossible to keep service times at 10:30. If we move the services to 11:00 it makes it almost impossible to get the speaker back for the new 12:30 departure time. Depending on the length of their travel and other commitments for that evening it may make it impossible for some speakers to accommodate the Chapel and it's summer congregation. It was in fact mentioned at the contract signing last year that you might want to consider if there was an alternate.

Recognizing the need for the early boat off the island, we would like to propose the following compromised solution. The first boat off the island on Sunday mornings could be moved to 7:30 instead of 8:00. If someone is wanted to catch an early boat off, then that ½ hour shouldn't make too much of a difference. The normal "early" boat out of Cheboygan in the summer is 7:00am. This would allow for the normal 9:00am boat from Cheboygan to the Island and also allow for the normal 10:30 service times for the Coast Guard Chapel. We appreciate your consideration of this request on behalf of all the island residents.

Sincerely,

Bois Blanc Township Board



We are an equal opportunity provider and employer