CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2023-2033

Houghton Township

Keweenaw County, Michigan

Location of Houghton Township on Keweenaw Peninsula & Isle Royale

Version 1.9.2

Adopted by the Township, March 20, 2023

Ray Chase, Supervisor

Marjie Marshall, Clerk houghtontwp@pasty.net 906-337-1970

Mary Long, Treasurer

Tom Hall, Trustee

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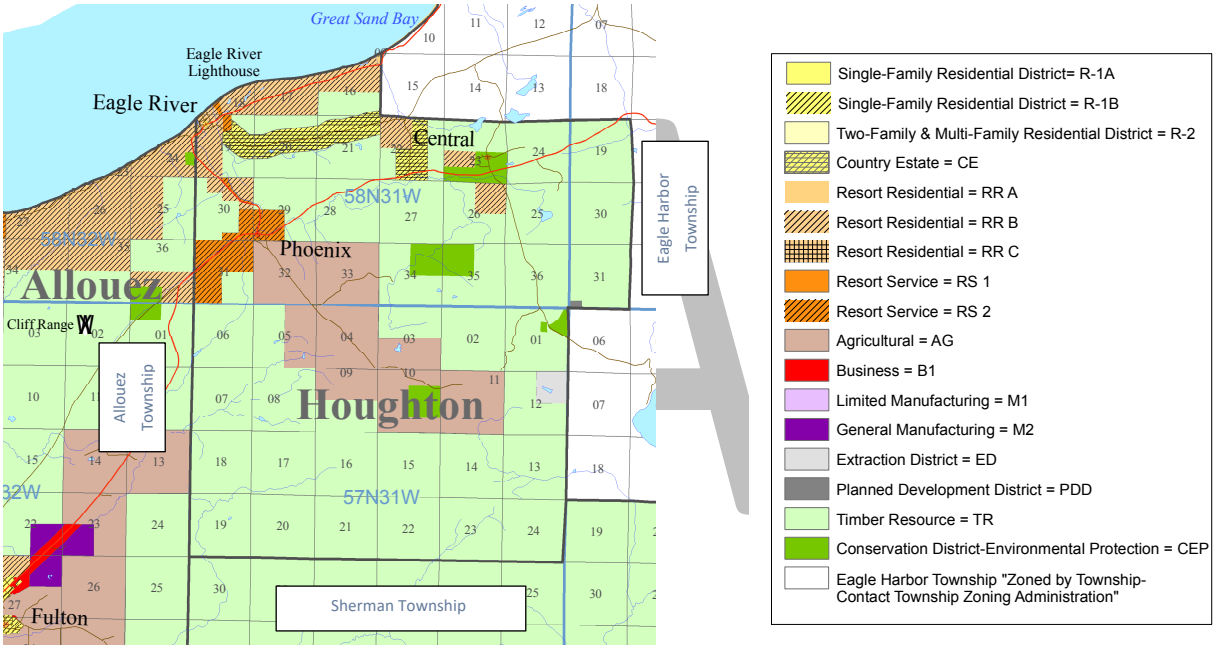
Section 1: Introduction

Houghton Township is one of five townships in Keweenaw County, and one of the smallest Townships in the State of Michigan. The Township's offices are in the historically significant town of Eagle River which is also the County Seat and the largest community in the Township. The Eagle River East area along the shore of Lake Superior has the next highest concentration of homes and seasonal dwellings. Phoenix and Central are two other small historic towns in the Township. In the summer the Township population swells when many owners return to their summer cottages, tourists fill the only hotel and the many rental properties, and Gitche Gumee Bible Camp swings into operation with up to 180 people at a time. The east end of Isle Royal is a part of the Township.



ZONING MAP: MOST OF HOUGHTON TOWNSHIP IS TIMBERLAND (THE ISLE ROYALE PORTION IS A NATIONAL PARK)

Name	Status	Population Census 4/1/90	Population Census 4/1/00	Population Census 4/1/10	Population Census 4/1/20	Population Estimate 7/1/21	11 Year Decrease
Houghton	Township	54	124	84	70	72	12
							14%

1990 TO 2020 CENSUS POPULATION

Name	Status	Population Estimated 2025	Population Estimated 2030	Population Estimated 2035	Population Estimated 2040	Population Estimated 2045
Houghton	Township	80	85	90	90	100

2025 TO 2045 LOCAL POPULATION PROJECTION ESTIMATES

S1901 2021 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 5-YR EST. MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: $51,250

The Houghton Township Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is intended to focus attention on the things that must be done to allow the Township to continue to be a small but important piece of "Pure Michigan's" history and natural beauty. The Township is very small, but in preparing this plan, the people of the Township thought about its rich natural and human history and of how these priceless assets can be preserved for residents and visitors for years to come. The Township's goal is to turn this long-range plan into completed projects.

This first Section includes an introduction to capital improvement planning and the capital improvement planning process. The following chapters summarize the existing facilities (Chapter 2) and outline the planned improvements and funding (Chapter 3).

A Capital Improvement Plan is a multi-year listing of public physical improvements that identifies the needs for major public infrastructure improvements, and, when known, the sources of funding to make those improvements. The first 5 years of the plan provides a more complete schedule of expenditures than the following years. Capital improvement projects are spread across multiple community needs: drinking water, clean water, environmental clean-up, flood and erosion control, parks and recreation, historic preservation, public safety, tourism, business environment, township administration, cemetery, firefighting, etc.

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Capital improvement projects are major and infrequent expenditures, such as the construction of a new facility, a major rehabilitation or repair of an existing facility, or the purchase of major equipment. Capital improvement projects are non-recurring expenditures that tend to be large both in physical size and in cost and have a long-term usefulness (10 years or more). Examples of capital improvement projects can include:

- Extension or replacement of a water/sewer line
- Major rehabilitation of a township's buildings
- Significant improvements to a township park
- Purchase of large equipment

Examples of expenditures that would not usually constitute a capital improvement project include:

- Purchase of small equipment (lawn mowers, copiers, individual computers, etc.)
- Recurring maintenance of existing facilities
- Minor repairs of existing buildings and equipment

- Minor improvements to existing buildings (carpet, painting, etc.)

(To aid in preparing the Township's annual budget, some noncapital costs have been captured in this plan.)

The Michigan Planning Enabling Act of 2008 requires a Capital Improvement Program for any Michigan township that operates a water supply or sewage disposal system. Since Houghton Township owns and manages a public water system, adopting and annually updating a Capital Improvement Plan is required.

The CIP is more than just a State requirement; it is an essential planning tool in addition to sound budgetary policy. It informs the taxpayers of Houghton Township how the Township plans to prioritize, schedule, and coordinate capital improvement projects over the years. The benefits of creating and annually updating the CIP include:

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- Prudent use of taxpayer dollars.
- Focusing the Township expenditures on the needs of the community.
- Prioritizing projects across the needs of the community.
- Generating community support by inviting public input.
- Promoting economic development.
- Improving the Township's eligibility for State and Federal grants.
- Transparency in identification of high priority projects.
- Coordination/cost-sharing between projects.

The CIP is an essential link between planning for capital improvement projects and budgeting for them. After the annual approval by the Township Board, the CIP is used to develop the capital project portion of the Township's budget. Those projects included in the CIP's first year potentially form the basis for the upcoming year's capital project budget. As the CIP is annually updated, a continuous relationship will be maintained between the CIP and the Township's annual budget. The annual update to the CIP occurs in advance of the preparation of the Township's budget.

The Township's previous CIP only addressed the drinking water system. This plan has been expanded to include all Township assets and responsibilities.

Section 2: Existing Capital Assets

Houghton Township's major capital assets and their current condition:

Houghton Township Community Center
5059 4th Street, Eagle River, MI 49950
Constructed in 1912 as a school, the building houses the Township offices and meeting room, and the Eagle River Museum which is operated by the Keweenaw County Historical Society.
The building is a Contributing Property within the Eagle River Historic District.
The building is structurally sound. The exterior paint and siding are in poor to fair condition. The mechanical and electrical systems need to be updated. The second floor has only one exit. There is no ADA access to the basement and second floors. Township offices and files are in the partially finished basement, which is cramped and damp, and can be only accessed via steep stairways.

Houghton Township Garage
4th Street west of the Community Center.
Good condition.

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Houghton Township Square Park
4th Street east of and behind the Community Center.
The park was upgraded extensively from 2019 to 2021 and includes a modern pavilion with 2 public restrooms, sports fields, a playground, and a dog run.
Some residents have suggested improvements to the playgrounds and court.
Overall excellent condition.

Lower (North) Bridge Park over Eagle River
Pedestrian use connecting West and East Main Streets.
The bridge was constructed in 1909 and is a Contributing Property within the Eagle River Historic District. The bridge has picnic tables and is an important link on the Eagle River Historic Walking Tour, which was made popular by newspaper reporter Bessie Phillips, a life-long Eagle River resident. This bridge is among the longest spanning pony truss spans in Michigan, since only a fraction are 80 feet spans or longer. The bridge retains outstanding historic integrity, including builder plaque, original railings, and no noteworthy alterations to the truss.
It is in serviceable condition but in need of paint and an updated condition assessment. The bridge has a permanent inspection traveler which will make inspections and maintenance easier. (One source says that this may be the smallest bridge in existence to have its own permanent inspection traveler.)

Eagle River Water Source
(Allouez Township west of Eagle River)
The Water System was constructed by the WPA in the 1930s. It is owned and operated by Houghton Township and provides water to the Eagle River community. Most of Eagle River is in

Houghton Township, but the source is nearby in Allouez Township. Four properties in Allouez Township are also served by the system.
The drinking water source remains viable but there is no alternative source if the existing source suffered a long-term failure. The system has no reservoir that could be filled with tanker trucks in the event of source failure.
The pump house is in serviceable condition with some recurring needs.

Eagle River Water Main System
The underground galvanized piping is obsolete, rusting badly, leaking excessively, and past its life expectancy. It has failed and has been repaired in numerous locations. As discussed above, the system does not have a water storage reservoir, so the water pressure completely depends on the operation of the system pumps, and there is no emergency reserve in case of water system failure.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE DRINKING WATER SOURCE SHAFT IN 1939

Wastewater Treatment
None of the communities in the Township have a Sanitary Sewer System. Keweenaw County owns the former USAF Radar Station sewage lagoons at Mount Horace Greeley on the east side of the Township.

Solid Waste and Recycling

The Township has a centrally located contracted dumpster where residents bring their trash in colored or tagged bags that they purchase from the Township or directly from Waste Management. Residents who want to recycle must take their items to the Waste Management Transfer Station in Houghton and pay a small fee.
The Township has had a recurring problem with trash that is not properly bagged, and several residents have complained about the dumpster location. The current dumpster site does not meet the zoning requirements because it is not screened from view (Keweenaw County Zoning Ordinance, 2019, paragraph 15.5.3).

Eagle River Cemetery (also known as Evergreen Cemetery)
M-26, south of Eagle River
Michigan Historic Site No. 581
The initial cemetery was plotted in 1858 with graves dated before then. The old portion of the cemetery is in Allouez Township but has been owned and managed by Houghton Township since 1947. The active portion of the cemetery is in Houghton Township and was purchased in 1997.
Small portions of the cemetery were found to be located outside of the cemetery's boundaries by a survey conducted in 2022. The cemetery is mowed and maintained, but the roads and many of the old monuments are in poor condition.
The cemetery attracts a fair number of visitors but does not have historical and policy information signs.
For many years vehicles entering Evergreen Cemetery passed under a large and very memorable sign. The sign was removed for practical reasons several years ago but should be replaced.
The cemetery does not have a maintenance shed so equipment and materials are stored in the Township garage in Eagle River.
The old portion of the cemetery has an unknown number of unmarked graves. The descendants of some of the people buried in those graves have suggested putting up a memorial with the names of those whose death certificates and/or records confirm that they were buried in this cemetery.

Hike and Bike Connections
Eagle River has 4 parks (Beach, Deer, Bridge, and Square), the waterfall, the Joseph Blight monument, the Douglas Houghton monument, the historic cemetery, and numerous historic buildings but does not have safe hike and bike trails connecting them. Eagle River has few sidewalks and no highway crosswalks.

Emil Dyni Deer Park
M-26 on east side of Eagle River
The park has public vault toilets, picnic tables and potable water, and is a major tourist attraction in the winter. Garden City Creek runs through the park.

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Expanding the cleared and maintained area of the park to Garden City Creek would greatly improve the park.
Good condition although many cedar trees in the park have died and need to be removed.

Eagle River Beach Park, owned by Houghton Township, Keweenaw County, and the Keweenaw County Road Commission (KCRC), maintained by KCRC
Front Street, Eagle River on both sides of the Fitzgerald's Restaurant and Hotel.
The park has a public vault toilet, a changing room, and picnic tables.
Overall, the park facilities are in good condition, but the mouth of the Eagle River often is moved by the Lake to the east eroding the park's beach and threatening the adjacent hotel.
A shallow wading area designated for children (possibly in the river) has been suggested by a resident.
The corner of Front & Main Streets adjacent to the park is one of the most dangerous areas for pedestrians in Eagle River. There is no sidewalk, the parking area is undefined, and pedestrians often walk in the middle of the roadway where they cannot be seen by cars entering the intersection.

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Law Enforcement and Firefighting
The Township does not have its own police force or fire department. Those services are provided by the Keweenaw County Sheriff's Office and Allouez Township, respectively.

Houghton Township Street Lights
Good condition. Electrical operating costs are paid by the Township.

Electrical Power Infrastructure (Upper Peninsula Power Company)
Originally constructed by WPA in the late 1930s and currently in good condition. Most of the power in the Township is carried by overhead lines.

Internet and Telecommunication Infrastructure
The Township has AT&T land line phone service but is not served by fiber or cable internet or television. Point to point internet access (Pasty.net) is available in most occupied areas of the Township. Some residents are using satellite internet. The most reliable cell phone service in most of the Township is provided by Verizon. Some areas can connect to AT&T. 5G is not available.

Snowmobile and ATV Trails
The trails are maintained by the Keweenaw Snowmobile Club and the Keweenaw ATV Club and are important links between Calumet, Eagle Harbor, and Copper Harbor.

Several historically significant properties are in the Township. They are included here because of their importance and because work affecting them could require additional reviews and costs:

Eagle River Historic District (Most of the structures in the district are privately owned)
The district roughly includes Front, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, East Main, and West Main Streets. (See historic district map.)
The district includes structures dating from the 1840s and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984. The County Courthouse, County Garage, Sheriff's Office, and the Houghton Township Community Center are contributing properties.
The contributing properties in the district are generally in fair to excellent condition, but the boundaries of the district are not marked, and little signage exists. Unfortunately, one of the 30 contributing structures has been demolished.
The Eagle River Lighthouse is a part of the district and is privately owned. Some other significant buildings and sites are not in the district.

Eagle River Dam and Waterfall (in Historic District and not owned by the Township)
M-26 south of MDOT bridges over Eagle River
Wooden dam constructed in 1860s and once used to provide waterpower to the Lake Superior Fuse Factory which burned in 1957. The falls are the most visited attraction in Eagle River.
The dam is in poor condition and is deteriorating. Failure of the dam would expose the Township's water main that runs in the reservoir above the dam and would allow an unknown quantity of stamp sands currently trapped behind the dam to flow into Lake Superior.

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Central Mine Historic District, Keweenaw County Historical Society
On Central Road north of US-41
The earliest structures date from the 1850s. The mine itself was designated a Michigan State Historic Site in 1958, while the surrounding district was designated a Michigan State Historic Site in 1973 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974.
The Keweenaw County Historical Society owns 38 acres of the old Central site and operates the Central Mine Visitor's Center which features exhibits about the mine and village.
Central is one of the major tourist attractions in the Township.

Phoenix Historic Properties, Keweenaw County Historical Society
Bammert Blacksmith Shop, open seasonally.
Phoenix Church, although deconsecrated, the church is still used for weddings and memorial services. It is the only church building in the township. Open seasonally.

Former USAF Calumet Radar Station (privately owned)
Historically important cold war site in Houghton and Eagle Harbor Townships.

Other Factors Impacting Planning for the Future

A healthy business environment is critical to the quality of life in in any township. Houghton Township's remote location and seasonal population make it challenging for businesses to

prosper. The township has just four successful small businesses; two in Phoenix (a general store and a bar/restaurant with cabins) and two in Eagle River (a restaurant/hotel and a jam shop). Keweenaw County and a large seasonal Bible Camp are two other important employers in the Township. The Township's small permanent population makes it difficult to find people to serve in local government or as volunteers. Some residents have wondered what will happen to the Township if more properties are converted to full-time short-term rentals.

The area along US-41 through Phoenix is zoned as Resort Service RS 2 and is the only area in the Township available for resort service development. (Resort Service Districts can have a wide range of tourist service establishments: hotels, food service, gift shops, service stations, etc.) Only a few people live in the Phoenix area, but the two businesses there, a historic general store and a bar/restaurant, prosper due to their location on US-41, the main highway in the Keweenaw Peninsula, which connects all points south with Copper Harbor to the north. The main ATV and snowmobile trail also runs through Phoenix. An additional bar/restaurant is expected to soon reopen in Phoenix. More business development in the Phoenix area is likely as tourism increases in the Keweenaw.

The unincorporated community of Eagle River was established in 1843. It has the largest concentration of full time and seasonal residents and is the county seat. Eagle River is zoned Resort Residential (except for the Gitche Gumee Bible Camp property on the east side of Eagle River which is zoned Resort Service RS 2 and is not available for business use). The township's only two other businesses, a popular restaurant/hotel, and a jam shop, are "nonconforming uses" in Eagle River. Should these businesses close for more than 12 months the structures could no longer be operated as businesses. The prevention of business development has kept Eagle River's historic character largely intact. Nearly half of the structures in Eagle River are in a Historic District listed in the National Register of Historic Places (see the included historic district map). Eagle River was once a very busy commercial port with numerous stores, hotels, and eating and drinking establishments. The need for all those businesses disappeared with the closing of the copper mines, but some services are still desirable. Allowing too much development in Eagle River would destroy the unique character of the community. On the other hand, encouraging some limited business development, such as home business craft and gift shops, and a general store, could improve life for residents and visitors alike. A general store which first opened in 1865 recently closed. The loss of the store has been commented on by numerous tourists, museum visitors, cruise ship passengers, Gitche Gumee Campers, and residents. General stores were an important part of life in the small towns of the past and an important part of a historic resort town today. The challenge for Eagle River is to strike a balance that would allow some very limited development while maintaining the slow-paced character of the historic community. Several years ago, residents provided ample feedback at a public meeting regarding a change in zoning. They overwhelmingly opposed a shift to Resort Service.

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Section 3: Capital Needs, Projects, and Funding

The Township's highest priority capital need is to totally upgrade the obsolete drinking water system by replacing the galvanized underground mains and installing a water tank. A tank is a critical part of the Township's drinking water contingency plan should the existing water source fail.

The next pages in this section list the capital asset items which need to be addressed by the Township over the coming years. The needs of the Township appear to be far bigger than the Township itself, making it even more important that the community understands the challenges, reviews the needs, and assists in prioritizing the work.

Over the years the Township has wisely used its limited resources and has operated with very low overhead when compared with State and Federal bureaucracies. The Township has no debts. Funding for the CIP will come from multiple sources (as shown on the list):

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1. The Township General Fund.
2. The Township Water Fund.
3. The Township Cemetery Fund.
4. The Township Bridge Fund.
5. The Township Square & Pavilion Project Fund.
6. Grants and Loans: The Township's electrical service and Eagle River's drinking water system were originally constructed in the 1930s by the WPA, and the Township will need County, State and Federal funding assistance to update existing infrastructure and to construct additional major infrastructure. (Heritage, Rural Development, EGLE etc.)
7. Increased user drinking water charges and cemetery fees: The Township has kept its water charges and cemetery fees low but recognizes that an increase in charges and fees is necessary to raise funds and to pay back loans for necessary capital improvements.
8. Donations: Cemetery fence replacement, the Township Square Park Pavilion, and the restoration of the lower bridge over Eagle River were largely completed with donated funds. The Township will once again work with the community and Keweenaw organizations to obtain donations to fund cemetery, bridge, and park needs that cannot be funded any other way.

We in this Township are standing on the shoulders of giants who tamed the wilderness and provided copper and timber to the nation at great personal cost. They changed the world for the better. So can we.

Capital Asset	Item	Estimated Costs by Year						Comments	Funding Sources*
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028-2033		
Community Center	Exterior restoration	$5,000	$5,000	$5,000	$5,000			Design services and construction. High priority to preserve historic building exterior. Work could be phased. Grant possibility.	1,6
Community Center	Fire Escape		$25,000					Design services and construction. 2nd floor has only one exit. Could be similar to County Courthouse. Historic building. Grant possibility.	1,6
Community Center	Building Restoration and Renovation				$50,000		$450,000	A/E Fees, Historic preservation, mechanical replacement, electrical system brought up to code, fire safety, exit improvements, renovation of entire basement and other functional improvements.	1, 6
Community Center	Roof Replacement						$10,800		1
Community Center	ADA Elevator (3 Stop)						$150,000	Basement & 2nd floors are not accessible. Feasibility & historic considerations TBD before design services and construction	1, 6
Community Center	Fire Sprinkler System						TBD	After water system replacement	1, 6

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Capital Asset	Item	Estimated Costs by Year						Comments	Funding Sources*
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028-2033		
Garage	Roof Replacement						$6,000		1
Township Square Park	Capital & Recurring Set Aside	$620	$620	$620	$620	$620	$620	Furniture, paths, parking posts/signs, restroom fixtures, septic	1
Township Square Park	Pavillion Roof Replacement						$8,000	Replacement at 20 years min.	1
Township Square Park	Playground improvements		$1,000	$1,000				Community input	5,6,8
Township Square Park	Court improvements			$1,000		$1,000		Restore tennis/basketball, pickleball court	5,6,8
Lower Bridge over Eagle River	Bridge Inspection		$1,000					Periodic inspection to determine condition & required maintenance, establish Committee	4,6,8
Lower Bridge over Eagle River	Repaint, maintenance					$200,000		Includes old paint removal & necessary maintenance	4,6,8
Lower Bridge over Eagle River	Guard rail &misc. improvements				$20,000			Placeholder if need is confirmed by an inspection	4,6,8

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Capital Asset	Item	Estimated Costs by Year						Comments	Funding Sources*
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028-2033		
Water Supply Tank	Garden City Road Reservoir (existing system has no tank)		$953,000					High priority. Water System Compliance Improvement. EGLE recommended applying for grant, June 2022. ITA has been submitted. A tank of sufficient size for truck refills is a viable interim answer to water source failure, see below.	6,7
Water Supply Source	Contigency plan & solution to address risk of water source failure						TBD	Possibilities include reservoir that can be refilled in emergency, a well (as recommended by 2020 Water CIP consultant), or a filter plant to treat Lake Superior water.	6,7
Water Supply Source	Intake Tunnel Maintenance						TBD	Future	2,6,7
Water Supply Pump House	Install Transducer in vertical shaft		$5,000					Recommendation by EGLE 2022	2,6
Water Supply Pump House	Improvements including Roof & Generator Replacement		$135,000					ITA submitted to insure existing source continues to function. (Also see the more detailed water system budget costs prepared by Traverse Engineers.)	6,7

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Capital Asset	Item	Estimated Costs by Year						Comments	Funding Sources*
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028-2033		
Water Supply Pump House	Reconstruction of pump house						$200,000	Future	2,6,7
Water Main System	Water main river crossings replacement		$260,000					ITA submitted. Highest priority mains	6,7
Drinking Water System	Project Planning Document (PPD)	$27,000						Req'd for requesting EGLE & other funds, will be reimbursed if successful	2
Water Main System	Water mains replacement		$6,192,000					Water Main Compliance and Public Health Improvement. ITA has ben submitted. All mains are obsolete. System is leaking excessively. Most lines are galvanized pipe installed in 1930s. Also eliminates dead ends.	6,7
Water Main System	Water meter replacement						TBD		2
Water Main System	Billing software and reader upgrades		$10,000						1,2
Water System	System expansion						TBD	Long Range: Add customer connections in areas adjacent to existing service area.	TBD
Water System	Meter at Deer Park	$2,500						Capture usage at park	2

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Capital Asset	Item	Estimated Costs by Year						Comments	Funding Sources*
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028-2033		
Fire Protection	Dry hydrant at river		$2,500					2nd water source for fire truck connection on north side of town, move to 2023 if large project is not funded	1
Fire Protection	Water system upgrade						TBD	Long Range: Improvements to drinking water system to improve fire protection	2,6
Eagle River Cemetery	Perimeter land procurement						TBD	Some monuments and graves are not on cemetery property, cost unknown	3
Eagle River Cemetery	Master plan	$-						In progress by Township Cemetery Committee	NA
Eagle River Cemetery	Memorial & Information Sign with Roof	$20,000						As suggested by several people with relatives in unmarked graves, to be located by Master Plan. Applying for 2023 grant.	6,8
Eagle River Cemetery	Road Improvements		$5,000	$15,000				Some road routes to be confirmed by Master Plan, reviewing fees to determine long range needs	3,6,7,8
Eagle River Cemetery	Perimeter fence				$35,000			Possible grant proposal	6,8

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Capital Asset	Item	Estimated Costs by Year						Comments	Funding Sources*
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028-2033		
Eagle River Cemetery	Restoration of historic entry sign				$6,000			Possible grant proposal	6
Eagle River Cemetery	Cemetery software		$10,000					For grave sales, inventory, burial permits with map	3,7
Eagle River Cemetery	Maintenance shed				$40,000			For mowers, tools and supplies.	3,7
Township Street Lights	Replacement						TBD	Review expected remaining life, placement and efficiency	1
Storm Water System	Eagle River Storm Sewer System						$1,000,000	Includes buried storm water lines along Pine Street from 2nd Street to Lake, repair of existing lines & drains, curb & gutters where needed etc. per 2017 County blueprint report	6
Clean Water Systems	Waste Water Treatment System						$3,000,000	Construct Eagle River sewer system per 2017 County blueprint report	6,7
Emil Dyni Deer Park	Landscaping and upgrades						$12,000	Clear & landscape area to creek, additional tables, fence	1,6,8
Emil Dyni Deer Park	Tree removal						TBD	Remove dead cedar trees, may not be capital expense	1,8
Emil Dyni Deer Park	Toilet Roof Replacement						$5,000	Determine condition	1

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Capital Asset	Item	Estimated Costs by Year						Comments	Funding Sources*
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028-2033		
Eagle River Beach Park	Study						TBD	River mouth is eroding the Township beach & threatening the adjacent hotel	TBD
Eagle River Beach Park	Sidewalk & Parking lot safety improvements						TBD	Design needed for safe pedestrian walk and defined paved parking lot west of hotel.	TBD
Eagle River Beach Park	Children's Swimming Area						TBD	Area designated for children, possibly in River between north bridge and lake	TBD
Parks & Recreation	New Park						TBD	Per 2017 County Blueprint for tomorrow, investigate possibility of creating a Township Park at Ten Foot Falls with new owner	TBD
Parks & Recreation Access	Enhance playground and park areas in the Township						TBD	Connect Township parks, monuments, & other points of interest with hike and bike hard surface trails.	5,8

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Capital Asset	Item	Estimated Costs by Year						Comments	Funding Sources*
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028-2033		
Highway crossings	Eagle River M-26 Cross walks						TBD	Increase public safety with M-26 Cross walks at Elm Street, East Main Street, and Maple Street/Garden City Road. Hard surface walk/trail along M-26 from Maple Street west to Garden City Road.	TBD
ATV Trail system	Joint use M-26 bridge access for ATVs						TBD	Establish joint use section of M-26 from East Main Street and 4th Street to 5 Mile Point Road and Eagle River Cemetery.	1,8
Eagle River Dam and Waterfall (not owned by the Township)	Water main river crossings replacement							Water main running through the dam reservoir has high risk of failure and would have major consequences, see Water Main System above	6
Eagle River Dam and Waterfall (not owned by the Township)	Dam Study						TBD	Assess risks and determine if dam should be removed or repaired in conjunction with adjacent property owners	TBD
Eagle River Dam and Waterfall (not owned by the Township)	Hydroelectric study						TBD	Determine feasibility	TBD

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Capital Asset	Item	Estimated Costs by Year						Comments	Funding Sources*
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028-2033		
Eagle River Dam and Waterfall (not owned by the Township)	Stamp sand environmental impact study						TBD	Determine extent of stamp sands and identify threats and solutions	TBD
Eagle River Historic District	Historic district boundary and information signs						TBD	Determine interest of historic society & community. Possible grant	6,8
Eagle River & Central Historic Districts	Underground electric power and telecommunications in Historic Districts						TBD	Note: Township designation of these National Register Districts may be required.	TBD
Solid Waste and Recycling	Township dumpster interim solution	$200	$200					Temporary enclosure, permanent signs &/or cameras at dumpster.	1
Solid Waste and Recycling	Dumpster enclosure		$1,800					Construct required enclosure around dumpster after determining placement	1
Solid Waste and Recycling	Long term plan						TBD	Determine if there is a better solution for Township	TBD
Township Equipment	Determine long term needs						TBD	Replacement & additional maintenance equipment	1
Township Identification	Road signs at township and location entrances & exits		$500		$500				1
TOTALS, all funds		**$55,320**	**$7,607,620**	**$22,620**	**$157,120**	**$201,620**	**$4,842,420**		

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* Funding Sources									
1	Township General Fund	$5,820							
2	Water Fund	$29,500							
3	Cemetery Fund	$-							
4	Bridge Fund	$-							
5	Park Fund	$-							
6	Grants & Loans	$10,000							
7	Increased user charges and fees	$-						Water and cemetery rate analysis needed.	
8	Donations, including in-kind labor	$10,000						Cemetery	
		$55,320							

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Section 4: Capital Improvement Plan Contributors

Ray Chase, Township Supervisor

Mel Jones, Houghton Township Drinking Water Operator, President Keweenaw County Historical Society, Past Supervisor Houghton Township

Linda Paradiso-Kline, DVM, Chair Eagle River Water Committee

Mary Long, Township Treasurer

Dan Steck, Chair Township Square Park Committee

Paul Mihelcich, Member Eagle River Water Committee, Owner of The Jam Lady, Eagle River

Dick Supina, Traverse Engineering Services, P.C., Hancock, MI

Wanda Kolb, Township Resident, Past Township Trustee

Kathy McEvers, Township Resident, Past Township Trustee

James Rovano, Township property owner

Gary Bays, Township property owner

Steve Kline, Emeritus Architect, Township Trustee

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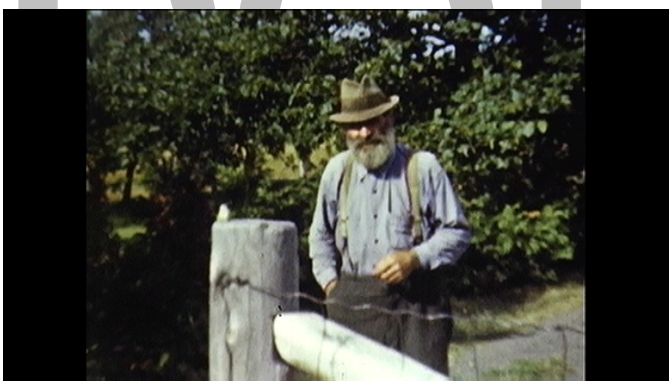

JOHN HEPTING, HOUGHTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR
WHEN THE EAGLE RIVER WATER SYSTEM WAS INSTALLED
PHOTO C. 1940S FROM MOVIE FOOTAGE
TAKEN BY ALDEN STECK AND PROVIDED BY DAN STECK

The Houghton Township Community Center is number 4 on the map. (This map predates the additional M-26 bridge and highway modifications completed in 1990.)