



WINDSOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP

2021 NEWSLETTER

OFFICE HOURS

The office, at 405 W. Jefferson, is open M-F from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Check the website for the 2021 Holiday Policy and for any office closures. Office Phone: 517-646-0772.

Clerk: Lisa Rumsey

Treasurer: Sue Fritts

clerk@windsortownship.com

treasurer@windsortownship.com

Website: www.windsortownship.com

PHONE NUMBERS:

EMERGENCIES DIAL 9-1-1

Supervisor Kern Slucter

Office in lower level of Emergency Service Building
300 W. Jefferson, Dimondale, MI 517-648-3528
Office Hours: by appointment
supervisor@windsortownship.com

Assessor Pete Preston

300 W. Jefferson, Dimondale, MI 517-646-0040
Office Hours: Tues. 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
or by appointment: windsorassessor@gmail.com

Public Service Director/Sexton

Jim Bogi 517-604-3334

Emergency Services Chief

Phil Miller: Non-emergency calls & activating
Burning permits 517-646-0893
chief@windsortownship.com

Library

Ann Sanders 517-646-0633
Library Hours: MON - FRI 10:00 AM-6:00 PM
and SAT: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Trustees of the Township:

Curt Myers, Tony Piper, Sandy Pray & Patricia Pisano

MEETINGS:

All meetings are held in the meeting room at 300 W. Jefferson (lower level).

Township Board:

2nd and 4th Tuesday – 7:30 PM

Planning Commission:

2nd Wednesday – 7:00 PM

Board of Appeals:

As needed

Board of Review:

March: Check new assessment notice in late February for specific times.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT – KERN SLUCTER:

Long time public servant Bill Long decided to retire from service to Windsor Charter Township effective October 31, 2020. Bill has offered a lifetime of service to the citizens of the State of Michigan through his work at the EGLE – Environment, Great Lakes & Energy – Michigan (formerly the DNR and DEQ). Bill has served Windsor Charter Township over the past 40+ years in several capacities: as its Constable, a Township Trustee and Sexton. As Sexton he skillfully managed our four cemeteries keeping them in tip-top condition. Over the year's township officers have received countless compliments concerning the neat and well-manicured appearance our cemeteries presented to visitors. On behalf of all the township residents, I want to thank you Bill for a job extremely well done. Bill, we wish the best for you and Marty in your retirement.

Early in 2020 we announced a plan to develop a Public Service Department. Jim Bogi graciously accepted the appointment as the department's first director, and he is in the process of writing policies and procedures. With Bill Long's retirement, Jim will also take on the official title of Sexton. Our Public Service Department was formalized with the 2021 budget. Township residents Lewis and Lois Sheppard decided to downsize and offered to sell the township a small dump truck with a snowplow and a wench. After consulting with the township board, we purchased the truck. It will be used to plow snow at township buildings and in the cemeteries. In addition to township property maintenance and maintaining our cemeteries, one of the duties of the Public Service Department will be to clean-up our roads (roadsides) for some of the "gifts" outsiders drop off.

EMS Department Chief Miller negotiated a terrific deal for a new ambulance to replace a 2006 model that was long overdue for replacement. With some further negotiation we were able to make a small payment in this calendar year thereby locking in the 2020 price. A larger payment will be made in 2021 with the balance paid, and delivery in January of 2022.

Thanks for your great efforts Chief.

With the COVID-19 pandemic the supervisor's office is open by appointment. I am available most anytime for your questions by telephone at 517-468-3528. Please feel free to call during business hours with your questions, comments or for an appointment.

LISA RUMSEY, CLERK:

This year has been a busy year for elections with the Presidential Primary in March, Primary in August, and the General election in November. There was a fantastic turnout for the elections. In March there was 36% voter turnout, in August we had 39% turnout and in November there was an 82% turnout of voters with a 96% return of absentee ballots. There was also a record number of new voter registrations and verification of residency for the November elections.

The election inspectors that worked the elections during the COVID-19 pandemic did an excellent job even with all the social distancing and restrictions that were in place keeping the lines flowing and getting voters through in a timely manner. Also, the AV counting board did a great job with the excessive number of absentee ballots. The Dimondale Post office did an excellent job working with the clerk's office in getting the ballots out to the residents and making sure that they were returned to the clerk's office in a timely manner.

At this time there is no elections scheduled for 2021; but keep watch of the website for any election updates. Anyone who is a registered voter and is interested in working the elections can stop by the office and fill out an Election Inspector Application or visit the website at windsortownship.com and click on Elections, then Election Inspector/training to obtain a copy of the application. It is a long but fun day, and you will be compensated at \$12 per hour.

Please remember when entering the township office that you wear a mask. Check the website for any changes in office hours or limitations of entry during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Have a wonderful 2021! Stay safe and stay healthy, Lisa and Sandy

SUE FRITTS, REMINDERS FROM THE TREASURER:

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, please **mail** your check or money order tax payment or deposit it in our secure drop box. Don't forget to put a phone number on your check.

Cash payments should be for the exact amount and brought into our office, an appointment maybe required dependent on current COVID-19 restrictions. A mask must be worn, and a short Contact Tracing Questionnaire needs to be completed.

The office will be open **extended hours**, from 9:00am thru 6:00pm on **Monday, December 30, 2020** for tax bill payments to be **dated paid** in 2020. The office will be **closed** December 24 thru 25, 2020 **and** December 31, 2020 thru January 1, 2021.

On **March 1, 2021**, (due to February 28, 2020 falling on a Sunday) we will be **open extended hours**, 9:00am thru 6:00pm for the **last day of tax payments**.

Winter 2020 and any unpaid Summer 2020 real property tax bills are DUE **March 1, 2021**. After that date, we must turn our records over to the Eaton County Treasurer and payments will need to be paid directly to them. There will be penalty and interest charges added to these late bills. **Partial payments** can be made anytime during the Summer or Winter tax season.

If you have any questions on your tax bill, please don't hesitate to call (517-646-0772). Don't forget we have a secure drop box, located outside the township entrance for tax payments and voter ballots. The Dorothy Hull Library **does not** accept tax payments.

Dog licenses are no longer available at the township office. Contact Eaton County Treasurer's site www.eatoncountytreasurer.org, for information

Have a Safe and Healthy 2021, Sue Fritts and Jodi Streeter

PETE PRESTON, ASSESSOR:

Anyone who has received a winter tax bill with "PRE 0%" and believe they are eligible for the Principal Residence Exemption "PRE 100%", or believe they are eligible for a poverty or veterans' exemption please contact the Assessor. Please remember to check your new assessment notices that will be arriving in late February on dates and times for the March Board of Review.

EMERGENCY SERVICES - FROM THE CHIEFS DESK:

A large portion of our time over the past few months have been learning to adapt to the changes that have been handed down because of the Covid-19 pandemic. We had a few roadblocks along the way but the 40 first responders we have at Windsor Township Emergency Services have stepped up to assure that we can continue to provide fire and Ems to our community. During the initial phases of the outbreak, attempts to secure additional personal protective equipment (PPE) were unsuccessful due to supplier's not having the stock needed for a pandemic. Frequently, we would find these items were on backorder or in some cases suppliers would remove the item from their catalog because they didn't know when it would be available. Our community listening to the media, reached out to the Emergency Services department and donated N-95 masks, gowns,

medical grade rubber gloves which really assisted in us maintaining until we could get our supply chains re-established. To those citizens and businesses that assisted us with these donations, we thank you so much.

Also, with the home heating season upon us, it is a good time to look at your home and check those fire safety items that you may have forgotten and get them taken care of. A working smoke detector or carbon monoxide detector with new batteries saves lives. If you have small children, design a Fire Escape Plan with a meeting place, and make sure they are familiar with it and practice it with them. 60% of the fatal fires this year have happened between the hours of 6pm and 6am. The chances of a fire happening overnight is greater so the muscle memory of kids knowing what to do will reduce the risk of them being hurt because of the fire. As of November 18th, 2020, there have been 103 Fire deaths in 85 Fires in the State of Michigan. Considering that these types of deaths are preventable, 103 is too many. For those that are traveling over the holiday season, please “mask up”, safe travels and have a happy holiday season.

Phil Miller
Fire Chief

BURN PERMITS:

Are you new to Windsor Township, or haven't burned in the Township before? Windsor Township uses a permit system for the burning of brush or leaves. If you live in the Township and would like to burn, then you need to go to the Township office located at 405 W. Jefferson St. and purchase a burn permit. The permit costs \$25.00 and is good for the calendar year it was purchased. Once the permit is issued, then you need to call the number on the permit to activate it. Activation of the permit is good for 7 days. The Township Office is open Monday-Friday between 9am and 4pm.

Burn permits do not allow holders to transport wood or brush in from another location or municipality for burning within Windsor Township. It also does not allow the permit holder to burn construction materials at any time. A permit is not needed to have a recreational campfire or a fire for cooking. Burning of brush or leaves is prohibited within the Village of Dimondale although recreational campfires are allowed. Any questions, please contact us at 517-646-0893.

DO YOU STILL NEED A GREEN SIGN?

They are still available at a cost of \$12.00. Contact the Township Office (646-0772) to place your order or stop into the office to fill out a form.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

The Planning Commission has been busy with Special Use Permits, Site Plan Reviews and Zoning changes. We are getting close to completing the Windsor Charter Township (“Township”) Master Plan (“Plan”) and the Township Zoning Ordinance and Map (“Ordinance”). The purpose and intent of the Plan is to act as a guide for land use decision-making and provide strategies for future public and private investment and development and the Ordinance is to provide the framework, rules and tools to achieve the intent of the Master Plan. There will be a public hearing on the Master Plan when this is completed. Keep watch of the website for the public hearing. The Planning Commission meets on the second Wednesday of each month and the public is encouraged to attend.

LIBRARY UPDATES:

The Library has made a number of changes in order to continue to safely serve residents in spite of the pandemic. While we are not able to fully open in the usual way, the following services are still available to residents by calling the library:

- Book, movie and magazine check-outs
- MeL services (books borrowed for you from other libraries)
- Pre-selected books for individuals and families of all ages
- Home delivery
- Book discussion via Zoom
- Ancestry.com genealogy subscription
- Copy
- FAX
- Scanning documents to email
- Notary
- Printing
- Wi-Fi

We have pickup available in our lobby and can also bring your items to you curbside. Please call us at 646-0633 for assistance.

The Library is also changing and simplifying its hours. As of January 4, 2021, the Library will be open:

- Monday-Friday 10 AM – 6 PM
- Saturday 10 AM - 2 PM

Please call ahead to help us serve you better

BEST WISHES FOR A SAFE AND WONDERFUL 2021