



WINDSOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP

2022 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 2022 Holiday Policy and for any office closures. Office Phone: 517-646-0772.

Clerk: Lisa Rumsey

clerk@windsortownship.com

Treasurer: Sue Fritts

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 Phone: 517-648-3528
Office Hours: by appointment
Email: supervisor@windsortownship.com

Assessor Pete Preston

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

Public Service Director/Sexton

Jim Bogi

Phone: 517-604-3334

Emergency Services Chief

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

Library

405 W. Jefferson, Dimondale, MI Phone: 517-646-0633
Library Hours: TUES - FRI 10:00 AM-6:00 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 – 7:00 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:

The single most important function of local government is to keep our township residents safe. Of course, that holds true with Windsor Charter Township. We have fulfilled that responsibility for many years. In planning this year's budget, inflation at 6%+ (by most estimates) coupled by many years of no raises forced us to offer wage increases to most of our Fire and EMS staff. I know most of you have seen the yard sized signs on street corners offering \$12.00 to \$17.00 per hour for relatively low skilled workers. Unfortunately, we must compete with these offers to retain and attract professionals. Additionally, our office staff has not had salary increases since 2018.

For 2022 Windsor Charter Township will have the largest budget in its history with no tax rate tax increase. The local millage will remain at 3.8 mils. The only property tax increase will be in assessments as mandated by the State of Michigan and the Eaton County Equalization Department.

Sooo, where's all that marijuana money? This is a question I get asked often.

In 2016 when the state passed the commercial medical marijuana law which created an excise tax of 10% of all marijuana products sold in Michigan. Under that law the cities and townships were to share 25% of that excise tax pool. Because the industry was so new, there was no excise tax collected for a few years. But the commercial medical marijuana law sparked industrial growth in the township.

In 2018, the citizens petition (Ballot Proposal 1) to legalize "adult use" passed by a 55% to 45% margin. Coincidentally, that is about the same margin as in our township. In that citizens' initiative was language that reduced the share of the excise tax pool from 25% to 15% BUT, to participate in the pool local jurisdictions must have either a provisioning center (dispensary) or a micro business.

When we passed the commercial medical marijuana ordinance in Windsor Charter Township our Board of trustees promised – NO Dispensaries. That promise has been kept. For 2021 the State of Michigan sent checks in the amount of \$28,001.00 per retail outlet to each local community that qualified. We did not receive any of that money.

On the positive side, our Taxable value has gone up by more than 8,800,000.00 bringing in approximately \$394,000.00 in tax dollars shared by the state of Michigan, Eaton County, the ISD, the township and other governmental agencies. (You can see the list on your property tax bill). Windsor Charter Township received just over \$33,500 as our share.

And going forward, with development continuing and with the proposed increases in licensing fees, I fully expect the township revenue to quadruple.

Consumers Energy: As many of you may be aware Consumers Energy is planning a new facility for the southeast corner of Canal Rd. and Billwood Hwy. The project has been slowed due to the Covid but continues in the planning stages. We hope to have more to report in 2022.

With the COVID-19 pandemic the supervisor's office is open by appointment. I am available most anytime for your questions by telephone at 517-648-3528. Please feel free to call during business hours with your questions, comments or for an appointment.

LISA RUMSEY, CLERK:

Dates to Remember: There will be at least two elections in 2022. The State Primary election will be held on **August 2nd** and the State General election will be held on **November 8th**. There may be an additional election, for some of our residents on May 4th, so stay tuned for further updates.

The last day to register to vote in any manner, other than in-person with me, for the August primary is July 18th and for the November general is October 24th. After these dates or at any time, you can always register to vote in-person with me at 405 W. Jefferson, Dimondale, MI.

As you prepare to send your students off to college, please have them contact me if they are going to need an absentee ballot for the August and/or November Election.

Sign up to vote from home (Permanent Absent Voter): When on this list, you will automatically receive an **Absent Voter APPLICATION** from the clerk's office for every election. Just because you are on the Permanent Absent Voter list, does not mean you have to vote absent ballot for all elections. You will not be sent a ballot unless you choose to return the application. An APPLICATION for an absentee ballot must be completed for every election, required by Michigan Election law, in order to have a ballot mailed to a voter. Sometimes an application may have choices for more than one election, you can check to vote absent ballot for one or all elections on the application. If you are not already on the Permanent Absent Voter list, please contact me to learn how to be included in this list.

Just a reminder: The township office has a secure drop box located along the sidewalk to the main entrance, for your voting and tax payment needs.

Election Inspectors: 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. As soon as training sessions are scheduled, I will be contacting all election inspectors, current and new, to sign-up for the election training.

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

Have a wonderful 2022! Stay safe and stay healthy!! Lisa and Sandy

NOTICES FROM TREASURER'S OFFICE, SUE FRITTS

****Township Resolution # 21-006 was passed on October 12, 2021. This resolution states that post-mark dates are not accepted as payment date. The tax payment due date is stated on the front of the tax bill. The due date means the payment must be in our office on that date, by the end of the business day.** This was in response to the length of time the USPS has as an estimated First-Class Mail shipping time of up to 5 days in the 48 contiguous states. The tax season ends on the due date and keeping the tax season open while waiting for postmarks to arrive is not acceptable.

If paying by check, please remember to include a phone number.

The office will be open **extended hours, from 9:00am thru 6:00pm on Thursday, December 30, 2021 for tax bill payments to be dated paid in 2021.** The office will be closed December 24 thru 27, 2021 and December 31, 2021 thru January 3, 2022. Don't forget we have a secure drop box, located outside the township entrance for tax payments and voter materials. Cash payments should be for the exact amount and **brought into our office.** The Dorothy Hull Library **does not** accept tax payments. On **February 28, 2022 we will be open extended hours, 9:00am thru 6:00pm** for the last day of tax payment collection in our office.

Winter 2021 and any unpaid Summer 2021 real property tax bills are DUE in the Township Office on or before **February 28, 2022.** 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.

Have a Safe and Healthy 2022, 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:

Civic organizations all over the United States are having difficulties in recruiting and retaining people who have the time as well as the drive to assist them in supporting their missions. The Emergency Services industry is no different. We have seen in the media over the past several months, there has been talk about Michigan having shortages in EMS personnel and firefighters. Here at Windsor Township Emergency Services, we do have a core group of dedicated members that are here to answer your call but we are in need of more. If you are interested in helping out your community, please contact either Chief Miller or Asst. Chief Fabijancic at 517-646-0893.

With winter weather approaching and the holiday events starting, the roadways are going to be busy. Have a winter weather kit with warm blankets in your vehicle. Make sure that your vehicle is serviced and keep an eye on weather reports. If you have to drive in inclement weather, make sure your vehicle is cleared of snow and ice and leave with plenty enough time to get to your destination. Please remember if you see an emergency vehicle and responders on the roadway, please move over and slow down. We want to get everyone home safe.

Thank you and have a safe and 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 in the final phases of 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.

BEST WISHES FOR A SAFE AND WONDERFUL 2022