



WINDSOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP

2024 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 2024 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

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 & activate Burning Permits
Phone: 517-646-0893 | Email: chief@windsortownship.com

Library Director Kate Gillham

405 W. Jefferson, Dimondale, MI Phone: 517-646-0633
Library Hours: TUES - FRI 10 AM - 6 PM
& SAT 10 AM – 2 PM
Email: dimondalelibrary@gmail.com

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:

This year has been a very typical year in the township from the Supervisors' perspective. The closing of Creyts Road for the installation of a 16" Watermain has impacted both our village residents and the township residents. The benefit will be enjoyed by all but rarely seen – a potential reduction in our ISO rating because of the new fire hydrants along Billwood Hwy and Creyts Road. In the long term, we are hoping for lower casualty insurance rates. M-DOT reports Billwood Highway will reopen once the weather prohibits construction work. It will close again in the spring when the construction season reopens. Residents can expect this to continue through the 2024 and 2025 construction seasons. And last, the infamous highway house is gone. A fire of unknown origin destroyed it – thankfully no one was injured.

With annual inflation at 3% to 4% per year, the township officials have been working to lower taxes and soften the financial impact. The Township Board voted to lower the tax rate from 3.8 mills to 3.6 mills. While we acknowledge this won't offset inflation completely, we are working on lowering costs wherever possible.

LISA RUMSEY, CLERK:

EXCITING NEWS - In 2024 the State of Michigan will be implementing changes to Michigan elections after 60% of the states voters in November of 2022 approved a constitutional amendment known as Proposal 2. Among the most significant changes is the nine days of early in-person voting during statewide and federal elections. Windsor Township has teamed up with Delta Township to offer nine days of early in-person voting. Notices will be mailed, prior to a State and/or Federal Election, indicating where and when the nine days of early in-person voting will take place for Windsor Township voters. The amendment also codifies current voter ID rules, allows voters to receive absentee ballots for all future elections, prepaid postage for absentee voting and allows military and overseas voter's ballots, if postmarked by election day, to count if received within 6 days after election day.

A minimum of three elections are scheduled in 2024. The Presidential Primary will be held on Tuesday, February 27th, the Primary Election on Tuesday, August 6th and the General Election, on Tuesday, November 5th. If you are interested in becoming an election inspector, download an application from the township website or stop by the office to sign up. It can be a long but enjoyable day and you will be compensated for your service. As soon as training sessions are scheduled, we will contact all election inspectors, current and new, to sign up for the election training.

ALL THE BEST FOR 2024! Lisa and Sandy

GREETINGS FROM THE TREASURER'S OFFICE, SUE FRITTS:

If paying by check, please remember to include a phone number. Postmark dates are not accepted as payment dates. 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, at the end of the business day. **We accept cash, checks or money orders.**

The office will be open **extended hours**, from 9:00am **thru 6:00 pm** on Friday, December 29, **2023**, for tax bill payments to be **dated paid in 2023**. The office will be **closed** December 25 thru 26, 2023 **and** January 1 thru January 2, 2024. Don't forget we have a secure drop box, located outside the township office entrance for tax payments and voting materials. Cash payments should be for the exact amount and **brought into our office**. The Dorothy Hull Library **does not** accept tax payments. On Thursday, **February 29, 2024**, we will be **open extended hours, 9:00am thru 6:00pm** for **the last day of 2023 property tax payment collection in our office**. All real property tax payments for 2023 tax seasons must be received in the township office on or before **February 29, 2024, by 6pm**. After that date, we must turn our records over to the Eaton County Treasurer and payments will need to be paid directly to them. **Partial payments** can be made during tax seasons.

If you have any questions about your tax bill please don't hesitate to call (517-646-0772).

Have a Safe and Healthy 2024, Sue Fritts and Jodi Streeter

PETE PRESTON, ASSESSOR:

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

PLANNING COMMISSION:

The Planning Commission has been busy with Special Use Permits, Renewals, and Zoning requests. We finished the year with a request for a zoning change. It was great to see the public getting involved and attending the meetings. The Lansing Road Corridor section of the Master Plan and Future Land Use map be revisited for possible amendments in the near future. Watch the Township website and Facebook page for updates. We would like public involvement with planning the future of the township and land use. The Planning Commission meets on the second Wednesday of each month and the public is encouraged to attend.

EMERGENCY SERVICES - FROM THE CHIEFS DESK:

This year is shaping up to be the busiest year in our history, with over 1608 runs already between fire and EMS with a little over a month to go.

Home Fire Insurance:

I have heard from several members of our community that their fire insurance rates have increased substantially, because of incorrectly listing our fire department as an ISO class 10. Some insurance companies have been known to use hydrants as the only creditable water source in the event of a fire. The ISO office recognizes that very few communities have complete coverage by fire hydrants and they give credit for automatic and mutual aid water shuttles. Windsor Township Emergency Services went thru a rating inspection, and we are currently an ISO Class 5 Department. I have confirmed with ISO that if you are within 5 road miles of our station or outside the 5 road miles but within 5 road miles of one of our automatic aid departments that would respond to a structure fire at your home, that you are an ISO Class 5. The difference between a 5 and a 10 can be several thousand dollars. If you have any questions or concerns or would like assistance, please contact Chief Phil Miller at 517-646-0893.

Smoke/Carbon Monoxide detector program:

The Emergency Services staff has been installing smoke detectors within the Township and Village of Dimondale over the past year. This program is sponsored by a grant from the State of Michigan Bureau of Fire Services which provides free smoke and CO Alarms. The goal is to never have a fire death because of a lack of working smoke detectors. In the ones we have completed so far, the most common issue is under coverage. Any resident of Windsor Township or Village of Dimondale that would like smoke detectors installed, please reach out to Asst. Chief William Fabijancic at 517-646-0893 to schedule an installation. The grant guidance requires us to complete the installation.

Can Emergency Services reach your home:

Many people like having trees lining their driveways as it provides a buffer from noise and adds to the aesthetics of a home. However, you have to ask yourself, do these trees lining both sides of my driveway create an issue for responders reaching my home in the event of an emergency. Our Emergency Services vehicles are tall, heavy, and wide, with the largest being 13 foot 6 inches tall, 8 foot wide and weighing close to 60,000 pounds. We have many tree’s lining driveways in the Township that are overgrown, give us low clearance and are scraping the sides of the vehicles as we enter. While that may not seem like a big deal, this creates damage, that is costly to repair and more importantly to fix it takes it out of service for the next person that calls 911 and needs assistance. We ask homeowners when they trim trees to make sure your driveway has 15-foot height clearance and at least 20-foot width. This ensures that Emergency Services workers can reach your home and not damage trucks in the process of doing so. If you have any questions about weights or clearances, please contact Chief Miller.

Have a blessed holiday season, and a safe winter. Chief Phil Miller

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 \$15.00. Contact the Township Office (646-0772) to place your order or stop in the office to fill out a form.

NOTES FROM THE LIBRARY

It has been quite the year!

In May, our library millage passed, providing us with stable funding for the first time. This was thanks to you, our community. We are so grateful for your support and look forward to continuing to serve you.

We are thankful to all of our staff and many volunteers for their hard work this year. Your support helps make this library the best it can be. We are also thankful for each and every one of our patrons. Whether you visit the library to check out materials, participate in programs, use our computers and printers, utilize any of our other services, or just like to say "hi!", we appreciate you!

Next year we are looking forward to more exciting new library programs, expanding our collection, and making more resources available to you. We also will continue to work on increasing access to library services for all our patrons.

There are lots of ways you can stay informed about what's happening at your library. Our personal favorite is when you come in and talk to us! You can also find information on our website (windsor-township.ploud.net) and in person on our bulletin board. The Library Board meets every 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:00 PM, and the public is welcome to attend. Following us on Facebook (Dorothy Hull Library) is a great way to see upcoming events. As always, you can call or email us with questions or if you're interested in setting up a library card.

Happy holidays, and best wishes for the upcoming new year! We hope to see you in the library soon.

Kate Gillham, Director



Like us on Facebook. <https://facebook.com/windsorchartertownship>.

BEST WISHES FOR A SAFE AND WONDERFUL 2024