

# **WINDSOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER WINTER 2009**

## **PHONE NUMBERS:**

### **EMERGENCIES DIAL 9-1-1**

Supervisor Sue Butler – Office in lower level of Emergency Service Building, 300 W. Jefferson, Dimondale 646-7510. Hours Tues/Thurs - Noon – 6:00 PM or by appointment

Clerk Linda Towsley and Treasurer Jerri Blust – 405 W Jefferson, Dimondale 646-0772  
M/W/F 9 AM to 4 PM

Assessor Pete Preston – 646-0040 - 300 W Jefferson Tues 2 -6 PM or Thurs 2-6 PM by appointment or email at windsorassessor@gmail

Director of Cemetery/ Sexton – William Long or Kirk Schalau 646-8357 (leave message)

Fire Chief – Phillip Miller 646-0893 (use for non emergencies/burning permits)

Library – Joy Slee 646-0633  
Hours M-T-TH –F 1 PM to 5:30 PM/Wed 1-8 PM/Sat 9 AM to 2:30 PM

Trustees of the township are Daniel Blair, Phil Kline, Murray Marsh and Curt Myers

## **MEETINGS:**

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

Township Board – 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays 7:30 PM

Planning Commission – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 7:00 PM

Board of Appeals – 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays, as needed 7:30 PM

Board of Review – Week of March 8<sup>th</sup> (Watch for new assessment notice in late February for specific times)

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## **GREEN ADDRESS SIGNS**

The signs are still available for \$12.00. To order one contact the Township Office (646-0772) or Fire Department (646-0893).

### **NOTE FROM SUPERVISOR SUE BUTLER:**

I would like to thank all of you who helped me settle into my new position and responsibilities. I appreciate all phone calls and visits and your comments, compliments and complaints.

2010 will provide a test to our budgeting skills due to the anticipated losses in revenue sharing and property taxes. However, we will continue to meet all of our obligations.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at the office or at home if I can be of help.

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### **ELECTIONS PAST AND FUTURE**

The year of 2009 had a little less activity in the World of Elections. We had school and Intermediate in May and school boards and LCC in November . Both had very small turnouts.

At this time 2010 will have a possibility of three (3) elections. The first would be **May 4th** for Holt and Waverly School Boards. Watch the web site for any changes in this election.

**August 3<sup>rd</sup>** will be the primary where we vote to nominate the candidates for the different offices for the November ballot.

**November 2<sup>nd</sup>** will be the General Election to elect Governor, Federal and State Offices, County Commissioners, Village Offices, College Boards, etc.

Families with children headed off to college in the Fall, please be sure they apply for their absentee ballots before they leave. Anyone who registered by mail, which many young people do, they **MUST** vote or apply for their ballots in person. For students going out of town or state for college this is not possible after they leave.

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### **LIBRARY NEWS**

Did you ever wonder if our Library has the book you want? You can go on the web site and check what we have.

The library offers books on tape and CD; Internet Services, copy machine, fax capabilities, magazines, paperbacks, reference materials and newly released children and adult books.

Videos and DVDs are available to rent at \$ 1.00 per day. There is a charge for copies and faxes coming and going.

## **NEWS FROM THE TREASURER**

**Dog Licenses** are now available until March 1<sup>st</sup> from this office. They are \$10 if the dog is neutered /spayed and \$15 if not. Licenses can be obtained in person at the township office or by mail. Please bring or mail copy of rabies certificate with your check payable to Windsor Charter Township. If sending by mail please send stamped self-addressed envelope. Dog license prices stay the same until June 1<sup>st</sup> but must be purchased at Eaton County.

**Taxes** are due March 1, 2010 to avoid penalties and interest – Open 9 AM – 6PM

Hours for dog license and tax payments are: Mon/Wed/Fri 9 AM to 4 PM

Additional hours are: Wednesday, December 30, 2009 9 AM to 6 PM

Thursday, December 31, 2009 9 AM to Noon

We will be closed Dec. 24 and 25; Jan. 1 and Feb 15<sup>th</sup>

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## **WINDSOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP WEB SITE**

Visit the web site for updates during the year and many links to other government units and areas of interest. You can also link from the main web site to the Library and Emergency Service Department.

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## **CENSUS 2010 IS COMING**

To all our snowbirds and those who tough it out in Michigan -

2010 is a National Census Year. It is very important to all of us to get a population count that is as correct as possible. The Census is the basis for a great deal of government spending and representation in DC and MI. Michigan needs to recover as much of its tax dollars as it can. It also determines the amount of Revenue Sharing that the Township receives from the State. Therefore, when you fill in your form on April 1<sup>st</sup> and it asks where you reside, please remember to say Michigan. Thank you and enjoy that lovely warm weather wherever you are.

## **Homestead Tax Credit and Home Heating Credit**

Please be sure to fill out the Homestead Property Tax Credit on your income tax forms. You qualify for this credit if ALL the following apply:

1. The place where you have your permanent home is in Michigan.
2. You were a resident of Michigan for at least 6 months during the year.
3. You own or rent and resided in a Michigan homestead on which property taxes were levied.
4. Your household income is less than \$82,650.

If you are not required to file a Michigan Income Tax return (MI-1040), you can file your Homestead Property Tax Credit form (MI-1040CR) as soon as you know what your income was for the year. If you are filing a Michigan Income Tax return (MI-1040) submit the MI-1040CR/Homestead Property Tax Credit form with your MI-1040. The due date for filing is April 15<sup>th</sup>.

If you are 65 or older whose rent is more than 40% of your household income you qualify for an alternate tax credit. To calculate the alternate credit, subtract 40% of your household income from the total rent paid for the year. Renters who qualify for the credit are encouraged to calculate the credit using both the standard and alternate methods to determine which gives them the larger credit. The larger of the two should be claimed. To determine if you qualify for the alternate credit refer to worksheet 6 in the Michigan 1040 Individual Income Tax booklet.

Please also check to see if you qualify for the Home Heating Credit.

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### **FROM THE DESK OF ASSESSOR PETE PRESTON:**

With the passage of Proposal A in 1994, the taxable value of properties is increased by the inflation rate but can never increase more than 5%. The inflation rate is published each October by the State Tax Commission and is used as the taxable increase (if less than 5%) for the next year. For the first time since the passage of Proposal A, the inflation rate used in calculating taxable value will be less than 1. The following formula for calculating the 2010 taxable value has been forwarded by the State Tax Commission:

$$2010 \text{ Capped Value} = (2009 \text{ Taxable Value} - \text{Losses}) \times .997 + \text{Additions}$$

Assuming that there has been no new construction or taxable value has been uncapped due to sale in 2009, taxable value for real property will be reduced in 2010. Questions, comments or concerns may be directed to Pete Preston, Township Assessor. Office hours are Tuesdays from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Thursdays by appointment 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Telephone and email information available in the contact information provided in this newsletter.