



Summer 2013

Tyrone Township Newsletter

WWW.TYRONETOWNSHIP.US



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10408 Center Rd., Fenton, MI

Supervisor: Mike Cunningham

Treasurer: Marna Bunting-Smith

Clerk: Keith Kremer

Trustees: Cam Gonzalez

Charles Schultz

David Walker

Soren Pedersen

Township Personnel

Deputy Treasurer: Joanne Milarch

ZBA: Lori Thielen

Deputy Clerk: Terri Medor

Cashier: Jamie Reager

Accountant: Maureen Strayer

Receptionist: Tammy Dorsch

Planning & Zoning: Vanessa Bader

Elections: Mary Kuzner

Assessor: Bruce Little

Tyrone Township Office Hours

General Office Hours: 9:00 am-5:00 pm Mon. - Thurs. except holidays.

Services include: voter registration and absentee ballots, tax & sewer payments, dog licenses, passports, burn permits, notary services and general information.

Planning and Zoning Administration: 9:00 am-5:00 pm Mon. - Wed.

Services include: land use permits, site inspections, planning department applications, Zoning Board of Appeals applications, and all other general ordinance and planning activities.

Assessing Department: Tues. 1:00-5:00 pm & Wed. 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Services include: Assessor's records, site inspections, assessment appeals and review, and other general assessing information.

Please note: not all departments have full time employees. We advise you to make an appointment or call ahead. The person you need to see may have other commitments at the time you plan on stopping in.

Your Opinion is Important! Please complete the survey and return to us!

Public Safety Update

We are in the third year of our public safety special assessment which runs through March of 2016. We have a contract with Fenton City, Fenton Township, and Hartland-Deerfield for fire protection services through March of 2016. In the past, we also have paid Livingston County Sheriff's Department for EXTRA police services. This contract expired in March of 2013.

The Livingston County Sheriff's Department provides basic road patrol services through our county taxes. Most townships in Livingston County rely entirely on the basic Livingston County Road Patrol and State Police for protection without paying any additional fees. Over the years, Hartland and Tyrone Townships have been paying for EXTRA police presence to handle calls that are not responded to in person by a police officer. In many cases, our officers were also handling most of the calls normally provided by basic road patrol. During the last negotiations with Livingston County to renew our contract with the sheriff's department for EXTRA services, the County Finance Department proposed to raise the contract costs from \$156,000 to over \$215,000 per year in three years without providing any recognition for the taxes we already pay for basic road patrol.

According to statistics provided by the sheriff's department, about 75% of the calls handled by our dedicated officers should have been handled by the basic road patrol services of the Livingston County Sheriff and/or the Michigan State Police. Our EXTRA dedicated officers handled the remaining calls in person, whereas other townships were provided service by telephone to log in the complaint (i.e. mail box knocked over, etc.). During the negotiations with the county for a new contract, both township boards questioned whether we were receiving EXTRA services or just paying more for basic road patrol services already included in our county taxes.

Over the past several years Livingston County administration has been reducing funding for the sheriff's road patrol and has recently indicated that the county road patrol is likely to entirely disappear within several years. In Oakland County the sheriff does not provide any road patrol unless there is a contract with them. This leaves townships with a choice of either purchasing police protection from the sheriff or other police department, creating a police department, or relying entirely on the Michigan State Police.

If Livingston County road patrol services are discontinued, Tyrone Township will be faced with similar decisions. We will continue to review our road patrol needs over the next several weeks. In the event that we do not contract for extra services, we will lower the amount of the public safety special assessment.

In 2015, Tyrone Township will need to renew its public safety special assessment in order to continue providing fire protection services and determine the level of police services we want. The cost will depend on new fire service contracts and the most economical way to provide necessary police protection. As we analyze the situation, we will provide you with more information regarding options facing us. There are questions in the enclosed survey regarding your preferred direction for public safety. Please fill out the survey included with this newsletter and return it with your tax payment.

Michigan Road Funds

Livingston County and Tyrone Township have been getting short changed over the years because of errors in our vehicle registrations. Because our zip code is 48430, our county of registration is often categorized as Genesee. When this happens, Genesee County gets the registration fees instead of the Livingston County Road Commission, which means less funds for repairing roads. This can be any registration on vehicles, snowmobiles, boats, motorcycles, commercial etc. If your vehicle registration says Genesee County, please contact Dave Richmond at the Secretary of State's office (517)335-6579 or email richmond1@mi.gov to correct your county designation to Livingston.

Libraries

Library cards are available to Hartland's Cromaine Library for resident's of Hartland School District and to Fenton's Winegarden Library for residents of Fenton and Linden School Districts. Also, if you request a MICHIGAN library card sticker, you can use any library in Michigan that participates in the MICHIGAN program.

Tax Foreclosed Properties

There are a number of tax foreclosed properties that will be sold at auction this year. The township is researching ways to minimize the current and future cost of chargeback fees from Livingston County, which may include acquiring the land for township use. Our Treasurer has already taken steps to reduce the interest chargeback fees on tax delinquencies. Our objective is to minimize or eliminate the long term expenses for our residents.

Summer Tax Deferrals

A taxpayer who is a senior citizen, paraplegic, quadriplegic, eligible service person or veteran, eligible widow/widower, or who is totally and permanently disabled or blind, may be able to delay paying the summer taxes on his or her homestead until February 14, 2014. Deferral forms may be obtained at the township or on the township website. **If eligible: taxpayers may file their intent to defer until September 15, 2013.**

Attention Tax Payers

All tax payments must be received in the Tyrone Township office no later than September 16, 2013. Tyrone Township no longer accepts postmarked envelopes as proof of on-time payments.

Dog License Renewals

Dog licenses must be renewed in the same month as the rabies shot was given. One year and 3 year licenses are available depending on the expiration of the rabies shot. Proof of rabies vaccination is required for license renewal.

Burn Permits

Burn permits are required for any open fire. If you burn without a permit or do not follow the burning guidelines and the fire department is dispatched to the burn site, you will be charged the fees that the township pays for the fire run. Burn permits, which are five dollars (\$5.00) and good for the entire calendar year, can be obtained at the township hall.

Available at the Cashier's Office

Color Zoning Maps \$7
Color Aerial Maps \$5
Address Signs \$25
Passport Photos \$10

Historical Books \$12
4H Plat Books \$25
Section Maps \$1
Copies \$.25

SIGN UP ON OUR WEBSITE FOR EMAILED TOWNSHIP NOTIFICATIONS