



Winter 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. New hours starting January 2014: Monday - Thursday 9 am - 4pm.

### 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.

## Tyrone Township Holiday Office Hours

The Tyrone Township Hall will be closed for business the week of December 23<sup>rd</sup> thru 27<sup>th</sup> 2013 and January 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014. The office will be open on December 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> 2013 during normal business hours.

## Extra Police Patrols

In the past Tyrone Township and Hartland Township shared a Livingston County Deputy to provide extra patrol hours within the two townships. Hartland opted not to continue this practice.

Tyrone Township renewed a contract with the Livingston County Sheriff's Department to provide better service during the high volume occurrences of events. The objective is to provide faster response time for serious events, provide more service for less serious events, and to provide a police presence in township neighborhoods to deter crime. The sheriff's department will be providing statistics comparing the service Tyrone residents receive versus other government agencies that do not purchase additional coverage. Our public safety committee will continually review the statistics and make recommendations for improvement.

## Public Safety Special Assessment Amount Lowered for 2014

The 2013 winter tax bills will include the fees for the fourth year of the public safety special assessment (fire and extra police services). Because of contractual changes, continued monitoring of the dispatch protocol, elimination of overlap of some services, and preventive cutting of dead trees in the right-of-way, we are able to reduce the special assessment for 2013 by 6.5% on all properties.

The winter 2014 taxes will include the final year for the special assessment. In order to continue to provide fire and extra police coverage the special assessment will need to be renewed. The public safety committee will be reviewing both fire and police coverage requirements in order to develop a plan for future coverage. Input from the in June 2013 survey, residents, the public safety committee, and the board will be used to develop a viable plan. We expect to put this on the ballot in November of 2014.



### **\$5 or \$1360 – YOU CHOOSE**

Tyrone Township allows open burning in a safe manner when you have purchased a burn permit. The permit is good for one calendar year and the fee is \$5.00. If you have a burn permit, but do not follow the rules for safe burning or do not obtain a permit, you will be billed for the cost of the fire run which is currently \$1360.

### **Santa's Coming to Tyrone Township for our Annual Gleaner's & Pet Pantry Charity Event**

Santa will arrive in Tyrone Township on Saturday December 7th, from 1-3 pm. Bring the family to visit with Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus. Don't forget your camera to capture this holiday moment! Nonperishable food and / or pet foods for Livingston County Gleaner's and Pet Pantry Charities will be accepted at this time. Any and all donations will be appreciated! Fenton City Fire Department will be here as well for the first hour so the kids can see the fire trucks. We will also have the Tyrone Township Historical Society on hand to make Christmas crafts with the kids.

### **Utility Bill & Payments**

Quarterly sewer bills are mailed out the first Thursday of January, April, July & October and are due 3 weeks later. Residents have the option to make early payments towards their account on a weekly or monthly basis or whenever is convenient for budgeting. Payments made in advance are reflected as a credit on the account and will adjust your total balance due on the next quarterly billing cycle. Late payments will roll to the next billing cycle with a one time 10% penalty. Any payments not made by October 1st will roll onto the winter tax bill. Any payments made after October 1st will remain as a credit on the account and apply to the next quarterly billing.

### **Interested in Tyrone Township history?**

Join your friends and neighbors at the meetings of the Tyrone Township Historical Society. They meet the third Monday of every other month starting in January at the township hall on Center Road. A delicious pot-luck is followed by a short meeting and an informative and entertaining speaker closes the evening. Civil War, re-enactors, WWII pilots, experts of old bottles, and lakes in our township, are some of the programs enjoyed.

### **A Plumber's Delight – Flushable Wipes**

Flushable wipes do not disintegrate quickly. They plug up septic systems, grinder pumps, and sewer pipes. To keep your property flushable, we recommend that you do not flush them down. It will cost you much more later.

### **What not to flush down the toilet... A message from the Sewer Division**

"Flushable" does not mean it will dissolve at a rapid rate necessary to pass through the pipes into the sanitary system. Many products like facial tissue and wipes take hours or days to break down. The term 'flushable' certainly is a misleading phrase. Many items may flush down the toilet, yet never actually dissolve and later cause problems in the sanitary system. The only things that should be flushed are toilet paper and human waste matter. Items to avoid flushing into the sanitary system include grease, hair, dental floss, condoms, and sanitary napkins. Prescription drugs should never be flushed or thrown out in the trash. This is because many chemicals in prescription drugs do not degrade – even in a treatment plant – and instead pollute the waters of our region. Prescription drugs should always be discarded properly. Please contact your local pharmacy regarding proper prescription drug disposal.

### **Do you want to be involved with Tyrone Township?**

Occasionally there are positions available for the Tyrone Townships boards and committees such as Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Board of Review and Public Safety Committee. If you are interested in participating please contact Supervisor Mike Cunningham at [mcunningham@tyronetownship.us](mailto:mcunningham@tyronetownship.us).

### Email Sign ups for alerts & notices

Please provide your email address on winter tax bill to be automatically signed up for township alerts. Or sign up on our website [www.tyronetownship.us](http://www.tyronetownship.us).

### Road work notices with MDOT

Sign up on [www.michigan.gov/mdot](http://www.michigan.gov/mdot), on the left side column select the red box “sign up for email from MDOT”, select University Region for Livingston County or other areas of interest.

### Vehicle Registration Notice

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](mailto:richmond1@mi.gov) to correct your county designation to Livingston.

### Treasurer’s Dept. will be open Friday 9am - 5pm; February 28th, 2014

ONLY the Treasurer’s Department will be open regular business hours on Friday, February 28th, 2014 for tax collection. Tyrone Township no longer accepts postmarked envelopes as proof of on-time payments. Tax payments *must* be received in the office no later than 5pm or paid at the bank. All banks will accept payments during regular business hours on February 28th.

### Attn: Summer Deferred Residents

Summer deferred payments are due no later than February 14th, 2014 by 5pm.

### 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.

## Survey Results

### RECREATIONAL SERVICES

*If the township were to establish a parks and recreation program, what would you be interested in?*

9%	Ball Fields		36%	Biking Trails
6%	Disc Golf		14%	Fishing
8%	Riding Trails		3%	In-Line Skating
21%	Jogging Trails		11%	Pavilion Use
4%	Photography		17%	Picnicking
15%	Playground		19%	Enjoy Surroundings
15%	Sledding		3%	Volleyball
44%	Walking Trails		5%	Other
41%	None of these			

Trails for walking, biking, running & ATV had major support. Dog parks and swimming was also mentioned many times.

*What funding level would you be willing to support for a park program?*

## TOWNSHIP SERVICES

*How should the township respond to economic changes that impact the level of service for road repair, public safety, and other township services where current taxes do not provide sufficient funds to adequately provide those services?*

43%	Keep taxes the same and reduce services
43%	Modest tax increases or fees to keep the same service level
18%	Increase the level of services through slightly higher taxes

## POLICE SERVICES

*Should the township purchase extra police services for better response time?*

28%	Continue purchasing the same number of hours
19%	Reduce the number patrol purchased
53%	Discontinue purchasing additional patrol hours

*If the Sheriff's department discontinues road patrol services, how should the township handle police services?*

40%	Contract for police protection
60%	Rely on the state police for protection.

*When the current special assessment for fire and police comes up for renewal, how should the township board handle the renewal?*

40%	Put the renewal up for a vote
29%	Continue to combine police and fire services in one assessment
21%	Separate police and fire service into two assessments
10%	Township board to enact the required assessment to eliminate the cost of an election

## ROAD REPAIR & MAINTENANCE

*Current road repair and maintenance services are very limited due to limited funds. At what level would you support additional fees for road repair and maintenance?*

26%	\$50-\$100 per year
10%	\$101-150 per year
7%	\$151-\$200 per year
57%	None, continue current level of funding

## GARBAGE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING

*Should the township explore a township wide contract for garbage collection service so that we could save money through better purchasing and reduce the truck traffic on the roads?*

55%	Yes
30%	No
15%	Not Sure

## EXPERIENCE WITH TOWNSHIP STAFF

*Considering your experience with township staff, what is your satisfaction level with ten being the highest?*

The township residents responded with an overall satisfaction rating of 7.9 out of ten compared to 6.8 in 2009. 66% rated their overall satisfaction at 8, 9, or 10.

The entire survey details are available on the Tyrone Township web site at [www.TyroneTownship.us](http://www.TyroneTownship.us).