

# Sciota Township Newsletter

Fall  
2011

Sciota Township Board meetings are held at the Sciota Township Hall, 3990 Leland Road, (at Bennington) the second Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

Township residents are always welcome to the Board meetings, and encouraged to attend and provide your Board with input.

## Township Board 2008-2012

Phillip Matthews, Supervisor  
651-5387

Nancy Koerner, Clerk  
651-5540

Eric Schuman, Treasurer  
651-5788

William Thelen, Trustee  
989-834-5313

Jodi Allen, Trustee  
651-5662

Township Assessor  
Diane Dowler  
(810) 635-9596

Board of Review  
David White  
Vaughn Vondrasek  
Clyde Casler

Planning Commission  
William Thelen  
Floyd Koerner  
Phillip Knapp, Chair  
David White  
Kimberly Palmer

## WINTER 2011 TAXES NOW DUE

Unfortunately, it's that time again. Save yourself time and gas, and pay by mail. **Remember, the forms are perforated on the top third. Simply, tear off at the perforation and keep the lower half as your receipt along with your cancelled check.** To pay your Winter Tax Bill, please send your check or money order, made out to "Sciota Township Treasurer", to:

Sciota Township Treasurer  
7928 Tyrrell Rd.  
Laingsburg, MI 48848-8720

Your township Treasurer will accept tax payments most any time he is home by appointment. **PLEASE CALL** Treasurer Eric J. Schuman at 651-5788 (or email him at [sciotatreasurer@aol.com](mailto:sciotatreasurer@aol.com)) to arrange a time and day. Some reminders for you:

- You may pay for multiple parcels on one check, as well as adding your dog license fee to the same check
- There is a \$25.00 fee for all returned checks (NSF)
- Please remember, taxes are due by February 14, 2012, without late fee
- Taxes paid February 15, 2012 and thereafter, will have a 3% administration fee added which **MUST** be paid in full
- Taxes paid March 1, 2012 and thereafter, **MUST** be paid to the County Treasurer and will include a 4% administrative fee plus interest

While the Treasurer is required by law to keep specific office hours pursuant to PA 641 of 2002, he will also be available to collect your taxes most other times too. However, please call first to make an appointment so as to be certain of his availability. **The required dates will be Wednesday, December 28, 2011 and February 29, 2012 (both days 9am – 5pm), or by appointment by calling 651-5788.**

**Please take note that your township board has voted that any taxes not collected in person by, or with a postmark of, February 14 will be charged the 3% administration fee which must be paid in full with your taxes.**

## WEBSITE REACHES 6900 HITS

Our website now has over 6,900 hits and so we realize that our residents do use it regularly. It includes winter tax collection hours for our Treasurer, meeting minutes for both our regular Board meetings and the township's Planning Commission meetings, an Assessor's page that gives you the contact information for our assessor, Diane Dowler, as well as clickable links to many forms.

And don't forget many other forms/policies that are available under the "Ordinances, Policies, Forms & Fees" page which include our new Cemetery Ordinance, Fire Charges Ordinance, Summer Deferment Form, and Hardship Exemption Form among others available. This page also includes the new fees, effective 1/12/09, for cemetery plots, openings and closings, and plot transfers.

## ANIMAL LICENSE TIME AGAIN

If your veterinarian is in Shiawassee county, you can purchase your animal license at the time of getting their rabies vaccination, or you can also purchase them when you pay your taxes.

Animal licenses are due by March 1, 2012 for the fees listed below. Stop by whenever the Treasurer is home (your best bet is to call first (651-5788)). After March 1, the license may be purchased at the County Treasurer's office. Delinquent license fees are \$60.00 (non-neutered) and \$20.00 (neutered).

Any animal four (4) months or older **must** have a license.

If you are licensing more than four (4) dogs, you must have a kennel license. Please call Animal Control at (989) 743-2406 for such a license.

Please send or bring with you all proof of current rabies vaccination by an accredited veterinarian, proof of sterilization or neuter if applicable, and the attached form completely filled out. All certificates will be returned to you with the license.

Feel free to photocopy for additional animals

✂

Owner's Name:

Telephone

Address

Dog's Name

Sex

Breed

Color

Age

Check the correct line:

Un-neutered(either sex) \$30.00

Neutered \$10.00

2012 Tag No.

## FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S DESK

Happy Holidays and please accept this token from your township board in good cheer (the tax notice that is).

As you all know, the two bridges and the corner of Colby Lake and Grand River roads are now finished. It took many years of work to get the grants and government help to make these projects happen.

The total of the three projects cost over three quarters of a million dollars. Only thirty thousand dollars however, came out of the township treasury.

We had a few gravel roads touched up and crack sealed. Doyle and part of Leland roads. We put down one and one half miles of chip seal on Grand River road with a fog seal on that.

Putting down a layer of asphalt like we did in the past has got out of hand on the expense side.

With this new chip seal process, I really like what I am observing.

Please let me know of any concerns you may have especially for gradall work, brush removal, and such that you might have.

We can't always get everything done but we will try.

Again, Happy Holidays!

Your Supervisor  
Phil Matthews

## LEGISLATURE COMPLETES ACTION TO MOVE SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

Just prior to the Thanksgiving break, the Legislature completed action to move all school board elections to the even-year general November election date. HB 4005, and SB 427, have now passed both the House and Senate.

Under the bills, a school district would have to hold its regular election for the office of school board member at the general November election (even-year) beginning Jan. 1, 2012.

Assuming that the bills will be signed into law by the governor, school districts would have to conform to the new election timeframe. In cases where a school district board member's term expires at the end of June, or in an upcoming odd year, their term would automatically be extended. New terms would start Jan. 1 immediately following the election.