

# Sciota Township Newsletter

Fall  
2013

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

Mike Reed, 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 2013 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 and payable ON RECEIPT. The last day to pay without a late fee is February 14, 2014
- Taxes paid February 15, 2014 and thereafter, will have a 3% administration fee added which **MUST** be paid in full
- Taxes paid March 1, 2014 and thereafter, **MUST** be paid to the County Treasurer and will include a 4% administrative fee plus a monthly 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 Monday, December 30, 2013 and February 28, 2014 (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 NOW HAS 9972 HITS

Our website now has over 9,972+ hits and so we realize that our residents do use it regularly. It includes winter tax collection hours for our Treasurer, meeting minutes, an Assessor's page that gives you the contact information for our assessor, Diane Dowler, as well as clickable links to websites.

And don't forget many other forms/policies that are available under the "Ordinances, Policies, Forms & Fees" page which include our 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, 2014 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

2014 Tag No.

### FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S DESK

Happy Holidays to all even with your semi-yearly gift (taxes) of course.

I'm pleased to inform all that your board has spent well over a hundred thousand dollars on our roads again this year.

Our books are balanced and we are still working with what funds we are taking in, making the dollars go as far as we possibly can.

Next year as I understand it, Woodbury Rd. will get a cap and the township will be in on a percentage of that. I also, from my perspective, would like to put a seal cap on the township streets in the Walters subdivision.

Of course I'd like some more seal and capping as soon as possible along with some gravel where needed.

We also must do something about this road side brush problem.

Again, may the holidays find you well!

Your Supervisor  
Phil Matthews

### ROADSIDE FARM STANDS LAW UPDATE

The Governor has signed PA125 of 2013 exempting roadside farm stands from certain construction code standards.

It allows roadside stands to operate without the plumbing fixtures and electrical power required for other structures. Any stand with electrical power, however, must comply with the Michigan electrical code.

Structures must meet a number of standards to qualify as roadside stands, including a size of no more than 400 square feet and being anchored securely to the ground. The stands can only be used seasonally and at least 50 percent of the agricultural products for sale must be produced on the stand owner's farm. This new law has immediate effect.

*Happy Holidays  
To You and Yours  
From your  
Sciota Township Board*