

December 2010



WILLIAMSTOWN

Township News

Police Protection

The Township residents passed the special assessment for police services at the November election.

The Township Board has appointed a committee to research all options and bring back a proposal for a police services contract. The committee consists of Mickey Martin (supervisor), Janet Eyster (treasurer), Bob Hayes, (trustee), Kyle Kittleson and Gary Nix (township residents). The committee will be on a quick schedule to fulfill the board's direction to ensure a contract by January 1, 2011.

They will be looking at all options and several departments for the best service and cost efficiency for the residents. All input from residents is welcome and encouraged. If you have any concerns or comments please do not hesitate to contact a committee member or email your thoughts to martinm@williamstowntownship.com

Summit Cemetery



Dedication of the Columbarium was held on Saturday, October 16th.

Due to the efforts of two dedicated residents, Greg Lammers and (Roland) Andy Andersen, this beautiful addition to Summit Cemetery became a reality.

A handsome plaque honors those involved in the process. Thank you to Cardinal Fabricating for the design and donation of the plaque stand.

Pictured from left: Mac Donnelly (sexton), Andy Anderson & Gregg Lammers (Cemetery Committee), Ben Moline (advisor), Janet Eyster (treasurer), Mickey Martin (supervisor) and Mark Tabor (caretaker).

Township Holiday Hours

Closed: Thursday, December 23th and Friday, December 24th

Closed: Thursday, December 30th and Friday, December 31st.

Open: Wednesday, December 29th, from 9:00-1:00 for tax payments only
1:00-7:00 for all business.

Property Tax Information

Winter Property Tax Due Date and Payment Methods

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that winter property taxes are due every year on February 14. The township hall will be open from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Monday, February 14, for property tax payments **ONLY**. Regular office hours are 10:00 to 4:00 on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday and 1:00 to 7:00 on Wednesday. The office is closed on Mondays.

There are **FOUR** different ways you may pay your property taxes:

Township Hall – Summer and winter taxes may be paid with cash or check at the township office.

By Mail - Send your check with payment stub by mail to the township office. Please note that tax payments need to actually arrive in the office in order to be processed – **postmarks cannot be accepted as a payment date**.

Drop-off Box - Leave your payment in the bronze drop slot beneath the bulletin board by the front entry of the township hall, only if payment is made by check, and the stub from the bottom of the tax bill is included with the check. Residents should not leave cash in the drop slot.

***NEW* At Independent Bank** - Cash or check payments may now be made at Independent Bank (1245 E. Grand River location ONLY) between December 1, 2010 and February 14, 2011. You may **ONLY** pay winter taxes at the bank. You **MUST HAVE YOUR PAYMENT STUB** in order to pay your bill at Independent Bank.

All taxpayers who pay by mail, in the drop slot, or at Independent Bank will receive an official property tax receipt by return mail, ONLY if they have requested one by checking the box on their tax stub.

For taxpayers wishing to make payments during 2010, the township will be open from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM on Wednesday, December 29th, or you may make your payment at Independent Bank during their regular business hours: M-Th 7:30-5:00, F 7:30-6:00, Sat. 7:30-1:00.

Taxes that are not paid by February 14 will be charged a 3% penalty. Late payments, with the added 3% penalty, **CAN ONLY** be accepted at the township until 5:00 PM on Monday, February 28. We will be open from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on February 28. Any summer or winter real property taxes (as opposed to personal property taxes) that are still unpaid on March 1, 2011 must be turned over to the Ingham County Treasurer for collection, which involves additional fees for the taxpayer.

REMINDER: Anyone eligible for a Poverty Exemption must have their application in before 4:00 PM on December 10.

Branch School

The Historical Committee held an open house and a ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly restored Branch School on Saturday, October 2nd to a standing room only crowd of past students, teachers and residents. A beautiful plaque commemorating the dedication was presented by Supervisor Martin to be displayed at the school and Certificates of Appreciation were presented

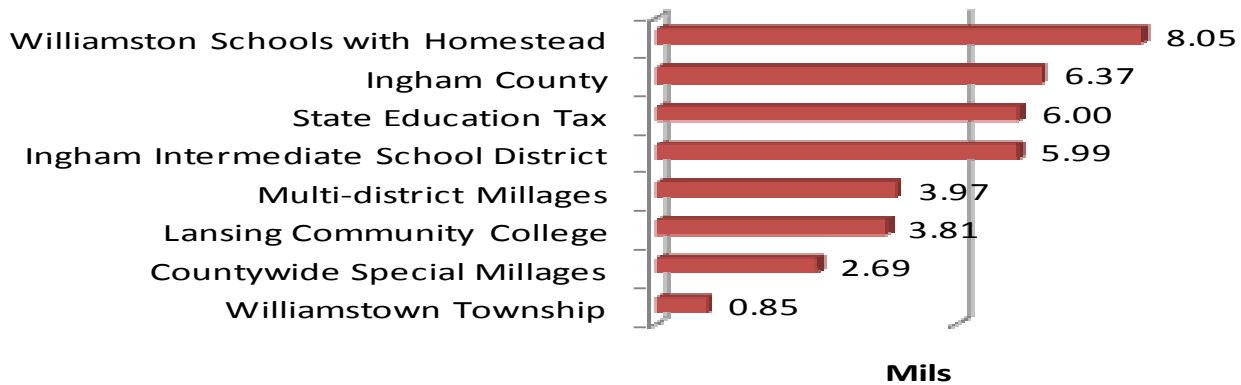
to the volunteers who tirelessly gave their time and energy in creating a historically accurate restoration of the school.

Thank you to Tom Johnson for creating the enthusiasm and leadership in restoring a GEM of the Township along with Ann Campbell, Fred Campbell, Steve Eyke, George Eyster and Jane Johnson.



Alumni of the Branch School honored at the Ribbon Cutting.

Millage for Resident Home Owner in Williamston School District



* Of the 37.7275 mils charged to a resident home owner on their summer and winter tax bills, over 63% are distributed to K-12 schools, Intermediate School District, LCC and State of Michigan for the education tax.

* Multi-district millages are millages voted by a portion of Ingham County. Specifically CATA special transportation, Capitol Area Library and NIESA for fire and medical emergencies receive over 10% of the millage.

* Countywide millages are millages that apply to all areas of the county. Specifically the zoo, 911 system, airport, juvenile justice and farmland preservation receive slightly over 7% of the millage .

* Ingham County receives slightly less than 17% of the millage, while Williamstown Township receives less than 2.3% of the millage.

* Additional special charges appear on some tax bills. These are charges for street lights in some subdivisions, charges by the County Drain Commissioner for drain improvements and charges for township police protection.

Election & Absentee Voter Registration Info

Williamstown Township has 4,060 registered voters. During the November 2nd general election, 66% of the registered voters (2,681) exercised their right to vote. Of the total ballots counted, 23% (624) were from absentee voters. The number of people registered as permanent absentee voters is growing each year. Two of the reasons a voter can be included in the permanent absentee voter list are: individuals over 60 years of age or physically unable to attend the polls. If you qualify and would like to be included in the permanent list of absentee voters, please contact the Township clerk's office.

Planning Commission Addressing :

- Reviewing and updating The Zoning Ordinance
- Trails & Greenways Amendment to the Master Plan
- Grand River Green Zone
- Regulations for Medical Marijuana

Meetings are held monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 7:30 except for the month of December. Resident participation is welcome and encouraged. Please call the township for more details or questions. Planning Assistant, Wanda Bloomquist, is available to answer your zoning questions.

WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP

4990 N. Zimmer Rd
Williamston, MI 48895
517-655-3193

www.williamstowntownship.com

YOUR TOWNSHIP BOARD CONTACT INFORMATION:

Supervisor– Mickey Martin	martinm@williamstowntownship.com
Clerk– Emie Gaffner	gaffnere@williamstowntownship.com
Treasurer– Janet Eyster	eysterj@williamstowntownship.com
Trustee– Robert Hayes	hayesr@williamstowntownship.com
Trustee– Frans Wilbrink	wilbrinkf@williamstowntownship.com
Trustee- Rick Williams	williamsr@williamstowntownship.com
Trustee-Martin Wright	wrightm@williamstowntownship.com

Who does what at the Township:

WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP REPRESENTATIVES

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Deputy Clerk - Shirley Mitchell
Deputy Treasurer- Lori Hurst

HIRED STAFF

Building Inspector– Tim O’Neil
Code Enforcer– Tim O’Neil
Supervisor Asst. - Michelle Morse
Sexton/Maintenance- Mac Donnelly
Caretaker– Mark Tabor
Cemetery Advisor—Benjamin Moline
Webmaster- Wendell Proudfoot
Planning Asst.- Wanda Bloomquist

PLANNING COMMISSION

Michael Fielek- Chair
Rex LaMore- Vice Chair
Gerald Eidt- Secy
Joscelyn Brown-Timm
Ronald Cook
Dali Giese
Rod Imhoff
Ger Schultink
Martin Wright– Twp. Board Rep.

Parks and Recreation Committee

Bill Bailey
Dan Demitroff– Red Cedar Rec Rep.
Wanda Bloomquist-- Twp. Rep.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

John McLaughlin- Chair
Richard Kill
Terry Monahan
Mickey Martin- Twp. Board Rep.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Tom Johnson– Chair
Rutgar Hoag
Steve Eyke
Gloria VanDusen
Ann Campbell
Dan Goodnoe
Jo Ann Goodnoe
Joan Wright

Frans Wilbrink- Twp. Board Rep.

COMPENSATION COMMISSION

Wilbur McNinch- Chair
Jim Conroy
Bob Lombardini
Andy Sheets
Sally Martin Stewart

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Greg Lammers– Chair
Andy Andersen- Member at Large
Tim Grossman—Williamston City Rep.
Mickey Martin– Twp. Board Rep.

BOARD OF REVIEW

Gerald Eidt
Kurt Guter
Edward Timm

BOARD OF APPEALS

Michael Fielek- Chair
Dan Kraft
Kurt Guter
Mark Miller
Mickey Martin- Supervisor

CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS

Aage Jensen
Stephan Patoprsty
Mark Stevens

COMMUNICATION COMMISSION

Marv Thomson, Chair
Norma Johnston
Ivonne Key
Kurt Guter
Nancy Williams
Rick Williams-Twp. Board Rep

NIESA REPRESENTATIVES

Ronald Wiegandt- Alternate Twp. Rep.
Frans Wilbrink- Twp. Board Rep.

ALSO REPRESENTING OUR TOWNSHIP:

United States Senator	Carl Levin (D)	web: levin.senate.gov	377-1508
United States Senator	Debbie Stabenow (D)	web: stabenow.senate.gov	203-1760
United States Representative (Dist 8)	Mike Rogers (R)	web: www.mikerogers.house.gov	702-8000
Michigan State Senator (Dist 23)	Gretchen Whitmer (D)	e-mail: sengwhitmer@senate.michigan.gov	373-1734
Michigan State Rep. (Dist 67)	Barb Byrum (D)	e-mail: barbbyrum@house.mi.gov	373-0587
Michigan State Rep. (Dist 69)	Mark Meadows (D)	e-mail: markmeadows@house.mi.gov	373-1786
Ingham County Comm. (Dist 13)	Randy Schafer (R)	e-mail: commschafer@aol.com	655-1325