
OID TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

June 2004

Issue # 4

Supervisor, Sue Miller

Clerk, Judy Sabaitis

Treasurer, Nancy Price

Trustee, Larry Omo

Trustee, Ron Sampsel

SUMMER TAX COLLECTION

Taxes may be paid in person at 312 East Central Road from **9:00 am to 5:00 pm** on:

July 7, 14, 21 & 28
August 4, 11 & 18
September 1, 8 & 14

You may call 517-238-4435 for appointments if needed or just stop by. No Sundays or Holidays.

Payments are to be mailed to the following address: Nancy A. Price, 312 East Central Road, Coldwater, MI 49036. Please make check payable to **OID TOWNSHIP**. Receipts will be provided only if a self-addressed stamped envelope is included with the tax payment.

DEFERMENT OF SUMMER TAXES

Taxpayers may defer payment until February 14 if their household income for the preceding calendar year did not exceed \$25,000 and they are:

- 62 years of age, including the unmarried surviving spouse of a person who was 62 years of age or older at the time of death
- paraplegic or quadriplegic
- an eligible serviceperson, eligible veteran, eligible widow or widower
- a blind person
- a totally and permanently disabled person
- property that is classified or used as **Agricultural property** may qualify if the gross receipts of the farming operation are not less than the household income of the owner.

Please call 517-238-4435 for an application and one will be mailed to you. The application **must be returned by September 14, 2004** to be eligible for the deferment.

UPCOMING 2004 ELECTIONS

The Primary Election is August 3rd and the General Election is November 2nd. Be sure to vote at the polls on Election Day or request an **absent voter ballot**.

Absent Voter Ballots may be obtained by completing an **APPLICATION FOR ABSENT VOTER BALLOT**.

To qualify for an ABSENT VOTER BALLOT, you must meet one of the following statutory grounds on which you base your request:

- Age 60 years or older
- Expected to be absent from the community in which I am registered for the entire time the polls are open on Election Day.
- Physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another.
- Cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of your religion

Once the APPLICATION FOR ABSENT VOTER BALLOT is completed, it is returned to Judy Sabaitis, Ovid Township Clerk. She verifies the application and then issues a ballot to the voter. For additional information on voting, contact Judy Sabaitis, Ovid Township Clerk at 238-9308. Please leave a message and she will return your calls.

Vote in the 2004 Elections

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MASTER PLAN & ZONING ORDINANCE UPDATE

The township is continuing to work with McKenna Associates, Inc in assisting the Planning Commission and Township Board in updating our current Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance. The Planning Commission's goal is to have a public hearing on the new proposed Master Plan in August 2004. We are still looking at a tentative date of January 2005 for completion and adoption of the new Zoning Ordinance.

SOIL EROSION INFORMATION

A soil erosion permit is required to fill, dig, excavate for **any type of earth movement within 500 feet of a lake, stream or waterway**. The purpose is to assure protection of the waters edge by regulation earth change activities and preventing erosion and unnatural accumulation of sediment. Activities that disturb earth can be a new home on a basement, slab or crawl space, additions, garages, pole barns, porches, decks, mobile homes, landscaping, driveways, ponds, septic, wells, trenching, demolition, subdivisions-any type of earth movement activity within 500 feet of water.

Branch County is under the jurisdiction of the Kalamazoo DEQ office. Their office would need to be contacted for seawalls, boat wells, beaches, dredging, riprap – any type of water activity. Ben Zimont is the current District Representative for the DEQ and works with Mike Hard, Drain Commissioner, coordinating compliance for many of the permits and inspections. If anyone has any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mike Hard, Drain Commissioner at 279-4310 or 279-4302.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Our Zoning Administrator, Pete Klink will be available at the Township Hall located at 381 S. Angola Road and may be contacted at 517-238-5999.

Office hours will be:

Tuesday: 8:00 am to 12:30 pm

Thursday: 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm

Zoning Permits and County Building Permits must be displayed so it can be visible from the road. The house number must also be posted.

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETINGS

Township Board meetings are held the second Monday of the month at 7:30 pm. at the Ovid Township Hall located at 381 S. Angola Road. All meetings are open to the public and we would like to encourage you to attend.

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBERS

Sue Miller, Supervisor	517-238-4903 or 517-279-0014
Judy Sabaitis, Clerk	517-238-9308
Nancy Price, Treasurer	517-238-4435
Ron Sampsel, Trustee	517-238-2173
Larry Omo, Trustee	517-238-4322

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

The Planning Commission meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm. at the Ovid Township Hall, 381 S. Angola Road. If the meeting date must be changed, notice is posted at the Township Hall.

TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR

SM Assessing Service
Sue Miller, Assessor
13½ S. Monroe Street
Coldwater, MI 49036

Office: 517-279-0014
Fax: 517-279-1272

LAKELAND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Today, there are 18 trained volunteers, five fire suppression vehicles, ice rescue equipment, a thermal imaging camera and a variety of other equipment used in fire suppression and rescue. The Department is currently working on various programs, including medical first responders, jaws of life and decontamination equipment.

Persons who are interested in becoming a volunteer or medical first responder are encouraged to contact the Department at 517-238-4345. Interested applicants must be residents of Kinderhook or Ovid Township, out of high school and over the age of 18.