



FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S DESK

ARE YOU MOTIVATED TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN SCIO TOWNSHIP?

Some of the issues that Scio Township has dealt with recently include protecting our natural, rural landscape, reviewing development proposals, housing and equipping our fire department, preserving our history, responding to climate change and the ongoing pollution from the Gelman Sciences site, maintaining our infrastructure, extending non-motorized pathways, and creating access to Township nature preserves. We face challenges in how best to fund bus service, road maintenance, and public safety.

If you are familiar with township government, you know that most of the decision-making authority resides with the Board of Trustees. In Scio there are seven elected members of the Board, four trustees and one supervisor, clerk, and treasurer. Each member of the Board has one vote, and each has their respective areas of responsibility. Here is more information about the elected offices that constitute Scio Township's Board of Trustees and their salaries as of 4/1/24.

SUPERVISOR (SALARY \$44,308)

Statutory duties include serving as the agent for the township for legal business, serving as chief assessor (unless the supervisor is not a certified assessor), making appointments to the Planning Commission and Compensation Commission, moderating meetings of the Township Board,

and preparing special assessment rolls.

CLERK (SALARY \$99,403)

Statutory duties include having custody of all the township records, maintaining the financial accounting records of the township, keeping the minutes of Township Board meetings, maintaining the voter registration rolls, and conducting elections.

TREASURER (SALARY \$90,000)

Statutory duties include receiving and taking charge of money belonging to the township, collecting property taxes, and managing the investments of the township.

TRUSTEE (SALARY \$10,000)

According to the Michigan Townships Association (MTA) guide to *Authorities & Responsibilities of Michigan Township Officials, Boards and Commissions*, "a trustee is an individual placed in a position of public trust with fiduciary responsibilities to manage the affairs of the township for the best interests of the public."

All Board members are elected to four-year terms at the same time and 2024 is an election year. **If you are interested in participating as a member of the Board of Trustees, now is the time to think about running for office.** If you know someone who would make a good officer, encourage them to run. The filing deadline for Democratic and Republican candidates is April 23, 2024, to qualify for the

BY WILL HATHAWAY, SUPERVISOR

August primary. The November election is the final vote, when qualified, non-affiliated candidates compete against the winners of the August Primary.

I was elected Township supervisor in 2020. While the clerk and treasurer positions have more statutory duties, "the supervisor is frequently the first official contacted about any township business or complaint and is often perceived as the township spokesperson," according to the MTA. I began serving in Scio

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Township government when I was appointed to the Planning Commission and other advisory boards. Serving on one of the Township's advisory committees is a good way to see if public service is a good fit for you. A full list of Scio's advisory boards and commissions is available on the Township's website. Complete the online application form at sciotownship.org/volunteer if you would like to be considered.

Serving in government is one way we can do our part to leave the world a better place for future generations. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve in Scio Township government. I will not seek another term as supervisor in 2024. I encourage Scio residents with an interest in service to get involved in the Township.



Overseeing Early Voting during the November 2023 election (L - R : Trish Reilly (Deputy County Director of Elections), Larry Kestenbaum (County Clerk), Ed Golembiewski (County Director of Elections), and Clerk Jessica Flintoft). Scio Township was one of only 12 jurisdictions state-wide to participate in Early Voting during the fall 2023 elections. Starting in 2024, local jurisdictions are required to offer at least 9 days of early voting before every state or federal election. Early Voting for the February 27, 2024, Presidential Primary is being held daily from 9 am to 5 pm in Township Hall, February 17 - 25.

**EARLY VOTING IN TOWNSHIP HALL
FEBRUARY 17 -25 , 9 AM - 5 PM (INCLUDING WEEKENDS)
TOWNSHIP HALL, 827 N ZEEB RD**

LETTER FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

A big thank you to Scio voters who came out to support the fire expansion assessment questions this last November. While the outcome is not what we hoped for, we learned a lot from hearing from residents and are working to create a proposal that voters can support that also addresses the issues identified by the Fire Services Guidance Committee: limited capacity and excessive response times.

With the failure of the ballot proposals, these problems will persist. Our staffing most times is three firefighters per day. This allows us to handle only one emergency call at a time, and we under-respond to approximately 30% of our calls (we should be sending two or more engines to certain types of incidents with 6-8 personnel but are able to send only one engine with 3 personnel). On the days that we do have a fourth firefighter on duty, we can send our rescue vehicle on medical calls, but most days we respond with our engine, as we don't have

adequate personnel on duty to service both the rescue vehicle and the engine.

Approximately 55% of the time we do not meet our goal of responding to your emergency in 6 minutes or less. This goal is based on national consensus standards and industry best practices. Our areas of greatest weakness are the southeast and east sides of Scio Township.

Numerous studies have determined that Scio township needs a second fire station, one located in the heavily populated southeast section of the Township. This alone would go a long way to improving our response times to areas most frequently served.

The way to improve capacity and response times is to build and staff a second fire station. However, the plan put forth in the November 2023 ballot proposals was not a plan a majority of voters could support. We are working with our interim finance director from Plante Moran, along with elected officials and other staff, to put together a plan that voters can support, and

BY ANDREW HOUE, CHIEF
SCIO TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

that will address the issues identified by the Fire Service Guidance Committee. And we must do a better job of getting the details of any future plan out to voters. I look forward to helping create a plan that addresses our shortfalls and sets our feet on the path to our goal of improved service to the people of Scio Township.

KEEP HYDRANTS CLEAR

Once winter weather arrives, residents can play an important part in assisting emergency responders. If able, residents are asked to help keep fire hydrants adjacent to their property or in their neighborhoods free from snow and ice. Leaving a 3-foot clearing around hydrants can provide easy access to firefighters in the event of fire. Thank you in advance!

CLERK'S COLUMN

RECAPPING NOVEMBER 2023

A full 34 percent of registered voters participated in the November 7, 2023 election on funding for Fire and EMS services. This level far surpasses the usual turnout for a single-issue local election in an off-year. I want to give a shout out to Scio's Election Inspectors who inaugurated nine days of Early Voting, counted thousands of Absentee Ballots, and staffed the polling places on Election Day. We are well served by these amazing teams of community members who step forward each Election to make democracy happen. Please reach out to us if you are interested in serving as an Election Inspector in 2024.

VOTING IN 2024

Scio Township voters are guaranteed to have the opportunity to vote in three elections in 2024, with the possibility of a fourth:

February 27, Presidential Primary Election

May 7, Special Election (if one is called)

August 6, State Primary Election

November 5, State General (and Presidential) Election.

We at the Clerk's Office are preparing for these upcoming elections and are privileged to be implementing the reforms made possible by the adoption of Proposition 2022-2 to Promote the Vote. One of these reforms allows an increase in maximum precinct size, from 2,999 to 4,999 active voters per precinct. This makes it possible for us to reduce the number of our precincts from 8 to 5. With more voters participating via absentee ballot than ever before, reducing the number of polling places saves election administration costs without affecting voter service at the polls. We mailed new voter

identification cards with current precinct and polling place information to every registered voter in the Township in December. **Check your new voter ID card before heading out to the polls**, which will be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm on Election Day. You can also find your new precinct number and polling place on the map on the back of this publication.

Thank you Scio Community Church for serving as a polling place for Scio voters since at least 2010. Sadly, with recent redistricting, the Church will no longer be needed as a polling place. Thank you for being such good neighbors and citizens!

Building on the successful implementation of 9 Days of Early Voting in the November 2023 election, **Scio Township has been designated an official Early Voting Site for all of the elections held in 2024** both for our own voters and for voters in City of Dexter, Ann Arbor Township, Northfield Township, and Webster Township. Voters who wish to cast their ballot in person during the 9 days of Early Voting before each election may vote at Scio Township Hall or at the Washtenaw County Learning Resource Center (4135 Washtenaw Ave in Ann Arbor).

**February 27, 2024
Presidential Primary
EARLY VOTING
Township Hall
February 17 - 25
9 am - 5 pm (including weekends)**

For those voters who signed up to automatically receive an absentee ballot before every election, **you must select either a Democratic ballot or Republican ballot for the February 27 Presidential Primary Election.** We will mail a form to each of you on both the Permanent

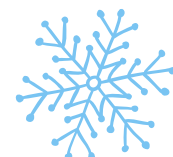
BY JESSICA M. FLINTOFT, CLERK

Ballot List and the Permanent Application List. It is important that you complete that form and return it to the Clerk's Office in order to receive your absentee ballot for the Presidential Primary because those ballots are specific to each party. Your party preference does not become part of your voter record.

You can expect to receive both your new voter ID card and either an absent voter ballot application, or a query about your party preference in January. If you happen to receive election mail for a voter who no longer resides at your home, please write on the outside of the envelope "no longer at this address" and place it back in your mailbox for the carrier to retrieve. (This will start the process of removing them from the voter rolls.) Absentee ballots will be available for issuance by January 13 and must be returned to the Clerk's Office no later than 8:00 pm on Election Day to be counted.

Do you know a civilian living outside of the US, or a member of the US military stationed domestically or abroad? These voters have additional rights and are encouraged to complete and return a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) as soon as possible (visit [FVAP.gov](https://www.fvap.gov) for information and application materials).

Confirm voter registration and view sample ballots for upcoming elections by visiting the Michigan Voter Information Center, Michigan.gov/Vote. Direct your questions or concerns to the Clerk's Office by phone, 734-369-9400, or email clerk@sciotownship.org. Or stop by Township Hall, Monday - Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.



DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

You may have noticed the recent landscaping improvements that have been made to Jackson Blvd. Scio Township Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is excited to announce that a much-anticipated community improvement has begun on Jackson Blvd.

Phase 1 of the proposed improvement consists of installing new WELCOME signage at Wagner Road and the restoration of 27 endcap gardening beds starting at the Wagner Road intersection and ending at Meijer. The renovated garden beds will be 10 feet wide and 30 feet long, which is smaller than the current beds. Each bed will hold a carefully selected combination of shrubs, trees, and flowers.

The design of each bed was made with consideration to cost effectiveness,

environmental factors, maintenance, and aesthetics. The new beds will cut down on the cost of the mulching, require little to no maintenance for pruning or trimming, and need no irrigation until summer 2024. Signage for businesses will be visible from both sides of the boulevard. Finally, with the new plants, it will be more difficult for debris and trash to collect in them.

Phase 1 of the project was underway in August 2023. Phase 2 is scheduled to begin in summer 2024. Phase 2 is expected to include the continuation of the restoration of the remaining beds beginning at Meijer and ending at Dino Dr. as well as signage near Baker Road. Phase 2 beds will be in addition to the 27 beds restored in Phase 1.

BY SANDY MUSSER, MEMBER
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Scio Township DDA has already set aside funding for this project; however, a request has been made to the Township's Board of Trustees to approve the use of the Scio Tree Fund to help with the cost of trees. Scio Township DDA uses tax increment financing (TIF) to fund most projects. TIF is a state authorized funding mechanism used by the DDA to make improvements to the downtown area. The intent is to make improvements to the area that then increase property values. The additional tax revenue created from the increased property value is then used by the DDA to finance projects such as landscaping.

FROM TOWNSHIP ASSESSING DEPARTMENT

The 2024 Inflation Rate (Consumer Price Index or CPI) used to calculate the 2024 Taxable Value has been issued by the State Tax Commission. The calculated rate for 2024 is 5.1%. Per Proposal A, adopted by voters on March 15, 1994, the CPI cannot be higher than 5% or the rate of inflation, whichever is less. **Therefore, the CPI to be used in calculation of the 2024 taxable value of your property will be 5%.** We have posted a copy of that bulletin on the Scio Township website at Community/ Assessing Reports, or search "2024 Inflation."

If you would like to get an idea of the 2024 taxable value of your property, multiply your 2023 taxable value by 1.05%. The resultant figure will be what your 2024 taxes will be based on. Please note that if you recently purchased your home, built a deck, finished a basement, etc. or demolished a structure on your property, your taxable value

will be calculated to include the increase or loss in value. Contact our office if you would like information on how that calculation was performed.

Your 2024 assessment notice will be mailed mid-February. The March Board of Review is the only opportunity to appeal the 2024 Assessed Value. Per MCL 211.30, the Board of Review must meet the second Monday in March (for 2024, the week of March 11) as well as providing additional, specified, hours of availability. Exact dates and times for the 2024 March Board of Review were not available at the time of this writing but will be noted on your assessment notice.

In addition to Assessed Values, the Board of Review considers Disabled Veterans' Exemptions and Poverty Exemptions. For either of these, please contact our office and we will get the proper application and supporting paperwork to you for submission to the March Board of Review.

BY ANDREA GARRETT, CHIEF ASSESSOR

It is also important to be sure that we have your correct mailing address on file. As stated earlier, assessment notices are mailed mid-February. Any returned notices may not have sufficient time to be re-mailed before the Board of Review convenes.

As always, the Assessing Department can be contacted by phone at 734-369-9400 or via e-mail at Assessing@sciotownship.org.

**WINTER TAXES ARE DUE
FEBRUARY 14, 2024,
BY 5 PM.**

GELMAN UPDATE

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently completed the Site Inspection Report for the Gelman Site, which is located on Wagner Road in Scio Township. The Site Inspection was part of the lengthy evaluation process that a contaminated site must go through for placement on the National Priorities List (NPL) and eventual designation as a Superfund Site. Nuria Muniz, Section Supervisor, Superfund & Emergency Management Division of EPA Region 5, stated, "Based on these results and the volume of historical sampling data, the Gelman Sciences, Inc. site remains eligible for possible inclusion on the National Priorities List."

A brief review of the process for placement on the NPL and Superfund designation for the Gelman site may be helpful: The EPA completed the Preliminary Assessment step

and Preliminary Hazardous Ranking in 2017. The Governor sent a concurrence letter to the EPA asking that the listing process continue. The Site Inspection step was completed in October of 2023. The Site Inspection report indicates that the Gelman site can continue toward designation as an NPL/ Superfund site. If the site is proposed as an NPL/Superfund site, the EPA must publish their intent in the Federal Register and there will be a public comment period.

Designation as a Superfund Site would mean that the Gelman site cleanup and oversight would be managed by the EPA. **This comprehensive oversight would force the polluter to deal with the spreading contamination and halt the expansion of the Plume.** Additionally, it has been stated that the EPA will delineate the boundaries of the

BY KATHLEEN KNOL, TRUSTEE

Plume. Previously, the Plume boundaries had only been estimated, but had not been clearly delineated.

Evaluation of the Gelman site by the EPA, in concert with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes & Energy (EGLE), will continue. It is not known when the Gelman site might be listed on the NPL. What we learned this fall is merely that the site remains eligible to be considered for inclusion on the List. To stay updated on this issue, visit epa.gov/mi/gelman-sciences.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Coalition for Action on Remediation of Dioxane (CARD) Washtenaw.org

Scio Residents for Safe Water (SRSW) SRSW.org

EGLE Gelman website Michigan.gov/EGLE

DON'T GET SCAMMED!

One of the most important things you can do to reduce your risk of being scammed is not answer the phone for unsaved numbers. To report a scam, file a complaint or get additional information, contact the Michigan Department of Attorney General, 877-765-8388, or visit Michigan.gov/consumerprotection.

CHECK OUT READY.GOV

for all your emergency-related information needs. Their lead article "Why you should be winter ready" provides useful tips on staying safe during the cold months.

EMERGENCY ALERTS

Sign up for Washtenaw Alerts, a service offered by Washtenaw County that pushes emergency notifications to your phone. Go to Washtenaw.org/alerts to choose from a range of life-safety notifications, from severe weather to missing persons.

NEW CRIME DATA DASHBOARD

Aiming to provide complete, accurate, and relevant information in a format that is easy to understand, the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office has created a new Data and Information Dashboard. Check it out at Washtenaw.org/WCSODashboard.

ARRIVE ALIVE

For information on a range of cold-weather driving challenges, such as planning a safe route, how to control your vehicle on slick roads, what to do in an emergency, passenger safety information, tire tips and more, visit Michigan.gov/WinterDriving.



MAKE A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION WITH GLOBAL IMPACT

According to NASA, the summer of 2023 was the hottest on record since global records began in 1880. In fact, for the first time planet Earth stepped over the 2.0 degrees Celsius barrier (temperature change from preindustrial levels) on November 17 and 18, 2023. Internationally, and in the US, we have not slowed the rate of global greenhouse gas emissions, which cause our planet to warm. These emissions, specifically carbon dioxide, remain in our atmosphere for 300 to 1000 years. Thus, humans are changing the atmosphere by emitting carbon dioxide, and those changes will endure on the timescale of many human lives.

You can reduce your carbon footprint using financial incentives from the Inflation Reduction Act to decarbonize your home. Find out how by going to RewiringAmerica.org/IRAguide and making a customized plan or downloading their Electrify Everything Guide. Look into other actions you can take to protect our natural environment and achieve carbon neutrality by visiting the Environmental Sustainability pages on the Township website, ScioTownship.org/Sustainability.

On Sunday, October 29, the Scio Township Environmental Sustainability Task Force (ESTF) held its first annual Sustainability Fair. The fair presented a broad array of information on local efforts to bolster community resilience, reduce

Scio's carbon footprint, improve health, and provide actionable guidance for residents to contribute to these initiatives. The event also served as a means for residents to engage with groups such as the Citizen's Climate Lobby and the Washtenaw Climate Reality Project.

BY JAN CULBERTSON, CHAIR,
PLANNING COMMISSION

Want to help Scio Township implement its Climate Action Plan? Join the Environmental Sustainability Task Force—new members are always welcome! Send me an email with your interest at pcchair@sciotownship.org.



Washtenaw County Conservation District volunteers staff a table last October at the First Annual Sustainability Fair

RECYCLE!

"That can that contains Michigan-made cider could have come out of your neighbor's recycling bin and got processed into a new can, or it could have come from the ground in a bauxite mine in Australia, got shipped to Asia for processing and then got put on a boat and moved here. Four times the amount of greenhouse gas is saved by taking that already-mined aluminum and turning it into a new can." – Matt Flechter, recycling market development specialist for EGLE (Source: Michigan.gov/mienviroment)

RECYCLE YOUR PHONE

Donating or recycling cell phones is a great way to conserve resources. For every million cell phones recycled, 35,000 pounds of copper, 772 pounds of silver, 75 pounds of gold, and 33 pounds of palladium can be recovered, according to the United States EPA. Before recycling your electronics, always delete all personal information. Find a place to recycle your cell phone locally using the Waste Wizard Recycling search engine at WRRMA.org.



SCIO PARKS, PRESERVES, AND PATHWAYS

BY ANNA CONE, PARKS DIRECTOR

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR NEAREST GREEN SPACE IS?

Get outside this winter by visiting ScioTownship.org/ParksandPreserves to see a list of the green spaces near you along with photos and trail maps. Seven properties listed there are maintained and stewarded by the Scio Township Parks Department. When you visit one of our parks make sure to check out the kiosk for a map and some fun and educational naturalist content!



VAN CURLER PRESERVE OPENING SOON

Between W. Joy Rd and Huron River Dr, just North of Dexter-Huron Metropark, sits the Van Curler Preserve. Purchased by Scio Township in 2014, Van Curler is a 90-acre property with two miles of scenic trails that guide hikers through deciduous forest, coniferous forest, wetland, and old-field. A small 6-car gravel parking lot at the W. Joy Road entrance was finished in December, with minimal paving to be completed this Spring. Don't miss out on being one of the first visitors!



photo credit: Bria Sheffer

SLOAN PRESERVE

Located at 1900 Baker Road and boasting a parking lot, information kiosk, marked trails and access to Mill Creek, Sloan Preserve is 50 acres of wetland, upland forest, and grassland and a popular destination for fly fishers.



photo credit: Bria Sheffer

SIDEWALK PROJECT COMPLETE



photo credit: Anna Cone

The Scio Ridge/ Upland Drive Sidewalk Connector Project is complete barring re-seeding in the Spring. This pedestrian safety project addressed sidewalk gaps, missing bus stops, and lack of ADA-compliant sidewalks in a densely populated portion of the southeast corner of the Township. Originating with the former Transportation Alternatives Committee (TAP), and brought to completion by the Parks, Preserves, and Pathways Committee (PPP), this project improves safety for both drivers and pedestrians. The Board of Trustees approved the use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to complete this work.

FROM THE UTILITIES DIRECTOR

I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to you as the new Utility Director, and I am excited to serve this wonderful community. It's my privilege to discuss an important issue that impacts us all – water conservation and the significance of regularly checking for leaks in your plumbing. **Water leaks, no matter how small they may seem, can have a significant impact on your water bills and, ultimately, on the availability of this precious resource.** Taking action to identify and address leaks is not only a responsible act but also a cost-effective one.

STEPS TO CONFIRM A LEAK

- Begin by ensuring that no water is being used anywhere in your house or business by turning off all faucets, appliances, and any other sources of water consumption.
- Next, check your water meter. Water meters are read from left to right. If the far-right digits are moving when everything is turned off, it indicates a leak.
- Once you've confirmed the possibility of a leak, it's time to investigate your plumbing system.

The most common sources of leaks are toilets, outdoor spigots, and municipal sump pumps.

BY BRANDON McNIEL,
DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES

If you have a municipal sump pump backup system, it's essential to check your primary sump pump regularly. Municipal backups are valuable but can lead to increased water usage. Fixing your primary pump promptly is crucial to reducing the cost of your water bill.

Your active involvement in monitoring your water usage and addressing leaks promptly not only benefits you but also supports our collective commitment to sustainable water management. If you have any questions, please contact me at 734-369-9355. Leave a voicemail if I don't pick up and I will return your call.

WELCOME BRANDON McNIEL!

This fall, Scio Township staff welcomed a new Utilities Director, Brandon McNiel, whose friendly smile and energy have made him popular with staff and residents alike. **Brandon comes to Scio from the City of Flint where he saw firsthand the devastation wrought on a community by a failed water delivery system.** There he worked on a team that inspected the replacement lines for the lead-soldered lines that poisoned many. The age of the infrastructure in Flint provided Brandon with the opportunity to learn all aspects of water and sewer utilities work since many unplanned repairs of water mains and hydrants were the order of the day. From Flint Brandon went on to the Genesee County Drain Commission, where he earned the "S" license that qualifies him to lead the Utility department here in Scio. He also spent a year as the superintendent of the Clio Department of Public Services, a small community near Flint where his department was responsible for everything from pothole repair to park maintenance as well as water and sewer.



All those types of experience will come in handy here in Scio, where we have 378,000 feet of water main and 234,000 feet of sewer in our district as well as an institutional history of relying on the Utilities Department for help with everything from moving Elections equipment to mowing and grounds maintenance at Township Hall and connected pathways. With regard to

BY MARY GILLIS, EDITOR

our water and sewer district, **Brandon finds the system "in good shape due to past Utility Directors, past Boards and the Township's engineering consultants,** who made sure the system was maintained and planned for needed updates."

Brandon grew up outside Flint and continues to live in the area with his spouse and two young children. His in-laws, who provide needed childcare, live nearby, so while he admires Scio's beauty, he doesn't expect to relocate his family here anytime soon. "I'm really honored to have the opportunity to serve this community, so I don't mind the commute. I have a lot of passion for this work and I look forward to helping Scio continue to have sound and reliable sewer/ water utilities."

ARE YOU TOO COLD IN YOUR HOME?

Apply for **FREE** home weatherization in Washtenaw County!

FREE

Weatherization can include:

- Home Energy Inspection
- Air Sealing and Insulation
- Furnace Replacements
- Fresh Air Bath Fan

Apply today at bit.ly/wx-app or call (734) 544-3008!

Homeowners and renters can apply!

Income must be at or below 80% area median income (AMI) to qualify:

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6
Income Limit 80% AMI	\$66,300	\$75,750	\$85,200	\$94,650	\$102,250	\$109,800

Benefits of Weatherization

- Comfort
- Lower Utility Bills
- Energy Savings
- Improved Health and Safety



Check out our YouTube to get a behind-the-scenes look!



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Collaborative solutions for a promising future

(734) 544-3008

415 W. Michigan Ave, Ypsilanti
washtenaw.org/weatherization

WELCOME KEVIN JEFFERY!

Scio Township staff welcomes Kevin Jeffery as our new Building Maintenance Custodian. Kevin has had a varied career, ranging from a stint in the military to sales, from property management to running his own general contracting business. He even spent some time as a firefighter, though that career path was cut short when he was diagnosed with cancer. He is now gratefully cancer-free and sought work in the Ann Arbor area, where he has family and church connections.

Traditionally, the Township building custodian wears many hats, so Kevin's skill-set makes him well-suited for this role. For example, Kevin has experience working with MISS-DIG locating underground power lines and may spend some of his time doing that type of work here in Scio. "As soon as his immediate 'to-do' list gets under control," according to Utilities Director McNiel.



Kevin's many general-contractor skills, from painting to improving the efficiency of the HVAC system at Township Hall, were called upon immediately. "I was impressed

BY MARY GILLIS, EDITOR

by the range of his skills and experience," Manager Parker said after she interviewed Kevin. "He's a real go-getter," says McNiel. "Just having that depth of skills on staff makes him a real asset."

Kevin will help the Township achieve its sustainability goals, including net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. He speaks knowledgeably about the pros and cons of various energy efficiency strategies. He also hopes to find ways to increase community spirit. Bringing people together for a positive purpose appears to be natural for him: he and his wife have eight children in their blended family. Kevin says, "I look forward to growing with Scio and contributing to its reputation as a great place to work and live." Welcome Kevin, we are glad to have you with us!

WELCOME SEAN McCORMICK!

Scio Township is fortunate to have retained the services of Sean McCormick, formerly with the Pittsfield Township Police Department, for the post of Ordinance Enforcement officer. Sean rose to the rank of lieutenant over the course of his 27-year career in Pittsfield on the strength of his abilities as an administrator and for his commitment to community engagement. These qualities made him an outstanding candidate for the role of ordinance enforcement here in Scio, according to Township Manager Parker. This hire reflects a change in philosophy on the part of this Board of Trustees with regard to protecting public health and safety by reducing violations of the township code. The Board expressed enthusiasm about Sean's history of working with residents. Sean's friendly but firm demeanor makes him the ideal face of



the revised code enforcement program. In our interview, Sean stated: "I look forward to working with residents to obtain voluntary compliance to ordinance violations when

BY MARY GILLIS, EDITOR

possible." As a first step in this new iteration of the code enforcement program, Sean has been tasked to create a process for how complaints are received, logged, investigated, and resolved. In pursuit of that goal, **a complaint form has been made available online at SciOTownship.org/code for residents to report any issues of concern they observe in their neighborhoods.** Sean's intention is to reach out, first in person, second by phone call, and by letter only as a last resort. "I look forward to taking an approach of obtaining compliance versus issuing citations and hope that I can successfully approach residents either in person or by telephone to accomplish this." Welcome Sean, your efforts on behalf of our Township will be much appreciated!

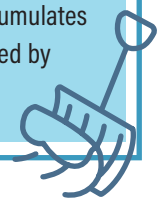
SPRING COMMUNITY POLICE ACADEMY

The Community Police Academy is designed to give a behind-the-scenes look at the everyday work of the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office. Members meet command staff, learn how traffic stops are made, take a tour of the jail, meet K-9 staff, learn how to process a crime scene, make an arrest, and more. Residents interested in taking part in this free program, held on Wednesday evenings from March 13 to May 29, may apply by contacting Deputy Jessica Wion at wionj@washtenaw.org by January 5, 2024.

Report potential code violations at sciottownship.org/code

REMEMBER...!

Property owners are responsible for keeping sidewalks in good repair and free from ice, snow, and other obstructions. Snow that accumulates overnight must be cleared by 6 pm the following day; snow that accumulates during the day must be cleared by noon the following day.





FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
ReportFraud.ftc.gov

Problems with any of these?

Report it.

ReportFraud.ftc.gov



FOOD WASTE

Forty percent of all food grown in America is wasted. Visit SavetheFood.com to find multiple ways you can reduce food waste in your own life, from recipes to food storage to buying the right amounts in the first place.

GFL DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE

If at least one person in the household is 65 years or older, or a disabled veteran, then the household is eligible for a 5% discount on services. Email GFLUSCustomerService@GFLenv.com to apply.



USEFUL CONTACT INFO

TOWNSHIP HALL AND CLERK'S OFFICE

827 North Zeeb Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
(734) 369-9400
Hours: Monday to Friday 8 am – 4 pm

info@sciotownship.org
clerk@sciotownship.org
newsletter@sciotownship.org
website: sciotownship.org

OFFICERS

Will Hathaway, Supervisor—
whathaway@sciotownship.org

Jessica Flintoft, Clerk—
jflintoft@sciotownship.org

Donna E. Palmer, Treasurer—
depalmer@sciotownship.org

Mark Brazeau, Trustee —
mbrazeau@sciotownship.org

Jillian Kerry, Trustee —
jkerry@sciotownship.org

Kathleen Knol, Trustee—
kknol@sciotownship.org

John Reiser, Trustee —
jreiser@sciotownship.org

TownshipBoard@sciotownship.org



THE SCIO TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY REPORT

Is published quarterly by the Scio Township Board of Trustees for the residents of Scio Township.

Editor Mary Gillis
Graphic Design Julie Tanguay
Printing and Mailing Print-Tech

SENIOR STAFF

Joyce Parker, Manager —
jparker@sciotownship.org

Andrew Houde, Fire Chief —
ahoude@sciotownship.org

Anna Cone, Parks Director—
acone@sciotownship.org

Andrea Garrett, Assessor —
algarrett@sciotownship.org

Brandon McNiel, Utilities Director —
bmcniel@sciotownship.org

Kristy Aiken, Office Coordinator —
kaiken@sciotownship.org

Sean McCormick, Ordinance Enforcement —
smccormick@sciotownship.org

UTILITIES

In Scio:

8 am – 4 pm (734) 369-9350
After hours (734) 651-4770

In Loch Alpine:

Water or sewer emergencies. . . (248) 433-8904
Non-emergencies (517) 673-8369
Account Management/Billing
(office hours M-F, 5-8 p.m) ... (734) 433-0835

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1055 North Zeeb Road
For emergencies 911
Business line (734) 665-6001
Fire@sciotownship.org

WASHTENAW COUNTY

County Water Resources

Commissioner (734) 222-6860
drains@ewashtenaw.org

County Road Commission (734) 761-1500
wcrcc@wccroads.org

County Commissioners

District 1 – Jason Maciejewski
maciejewskij@washtenaw.org

District 9 – Katie Scott
scottk@washtenaw.org

County Sheriff Scio Station

For emergencies 911
Business line (734) 994-2911

STATE OF MICHIGAN

State Representative

District 47 - Carrie Rheingans . . . (855) 627-5052
carrierheingans@house.mi.gov

District 33 - Felicia Brabec . . . (517) 373-2420
feliciabrabec@house.mi.gov

District 48 – Jennifer Conlin... (517) 373-7557
JenniferConlin@house.mi.gov

State Senator

District 14 – Sue Shink (517) 373-2426
SenSSHink@senate.michigan.gov

Governor

Gretchen Whitmer (517) 373-3400
gwhitmer@michigan.gov

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

U.S. Representative

District 6 – Debbie Dingell . . . (202) 225-4071
debbiedingell.house.gov

U.S. Senators

Debbie Stabenow. (202) 224-4822
stabenow.senate.gov

Gary Peters. (202) 224-6221
peters.senate.gov

President of the United States

Joe Biden. (202) 456-1111
whitehouse.gov

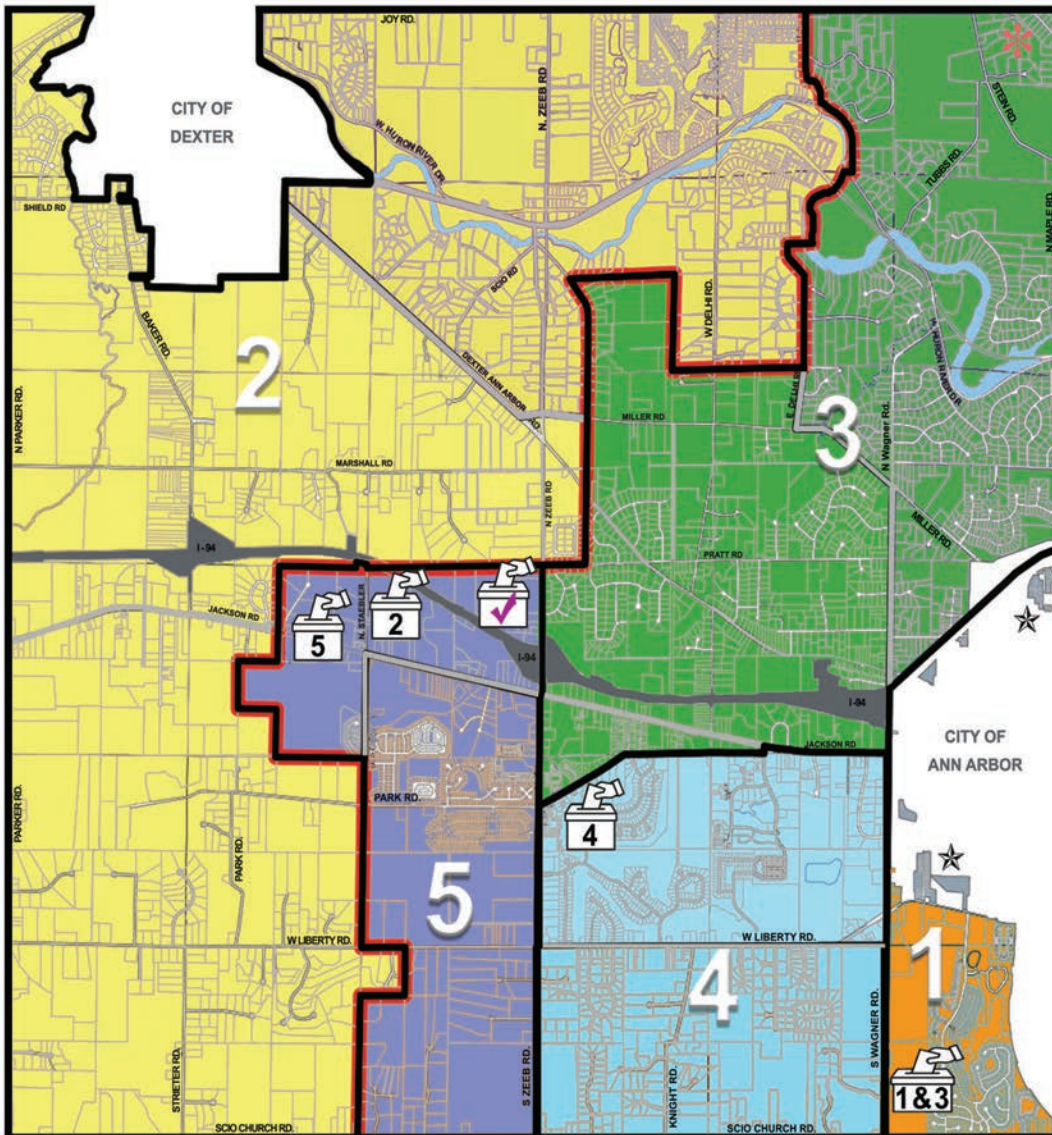


Scio Township Hall
827 North Zeeb Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48103




Postmaster: leave with current resident

To Scio Neighbor

NEW SCIO PRECINCTS AND POLLING PLACES



-  **PRECINCTS 1 & 3**
Washtenaw Inter. School District
1819 South Wagner Road
-  **PRECINCT 2**
Kiwanis Club
100 North Staebler Road
-  **PRECINCT 4**
Polo Fields Main Club House
5200 Polo Fields Drive
-  **PRECINCT 5**
Scio Farms Community Club House
6655 Jackson Road
-  **EARLY VOTING**
Scio Township Hall
827 North Zeeb Road
OR
Washtenaw County LRC
4135 Washtenaw Avenue

-  Polling Place
-  Precinct Boundaries
-  School District Boundary

Early Voting: Sat. February 17 - Sun. February 25, 2024, 9:00AM - 5:00PM

Election Day Voting: Tuesday February 27, 2024, 7:00AM - 8:00PM

Absentee Ballots due to Clerk's Office by 8:00PM on Election Day, February 27, 2024

Approved as of November 2023