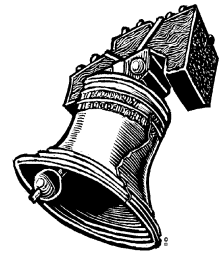
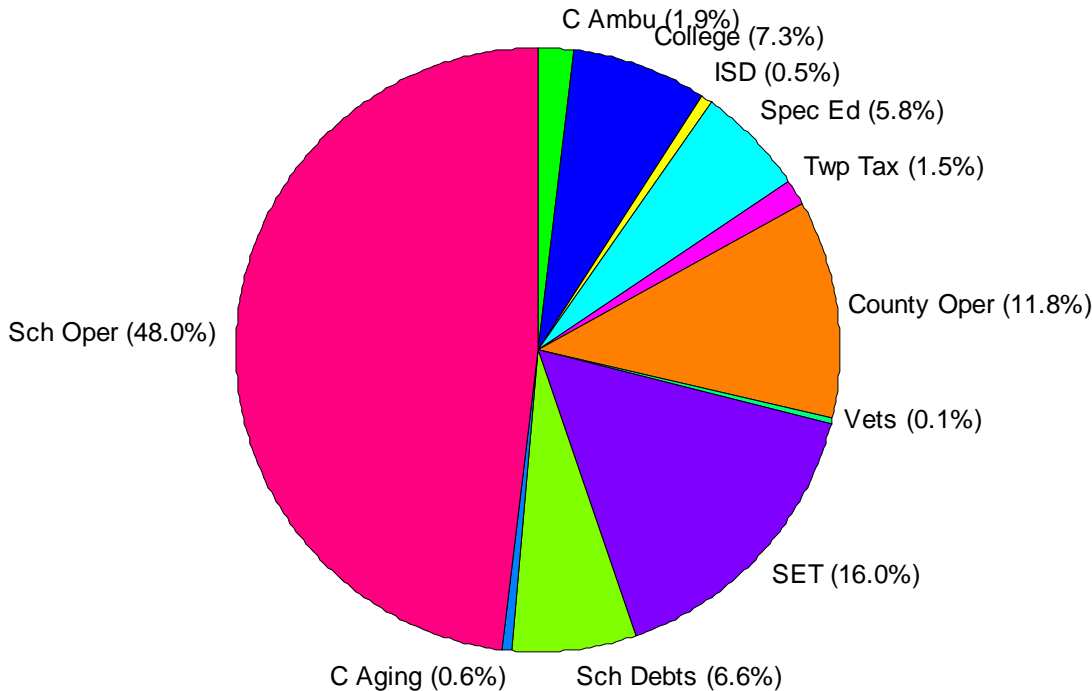


The Pierson Township News Winter 2009-2010



DISTRIBUTION OF 2009 PROPERTY TAXES



The Township is working to maintain and improve the roads in the township. Every year we pay for chloride for gravel roads and also try to improve several roads. The list of 2009 road projects are on the website @ www.pierson.org or call the office here 616-636-8570.

Since 2007-2009 the township & county have spent these amts :

Chloride spread on gravel roads	\$ 85,945
Preservation (gravel, resurfacing & paving)	\$251,752
Maintenance (salt stabilization, wedge and/or sealcoat)	<u>\$ 97,850</u>
Total cost: pd by twp & county	<u>\$435,547</u>

The Township Portion we paid 2007-2009: \$388,888

In 2009 the County had Federal Funds to pay for these projects:

- Remove/replace bridge on Federal Rd over Rice Creek \$483,623
- Pave Stanton Rd from W Countyline to Dagget Rd \$213,080

Did you know that the township provides for fire protection for the whole township? Since 2007 we have spent \$145,434.63 on fire protection. We contract with Howard City and Sand Lake for fire protection.

All meetings listed are held at the Pierson Township Hall at 7 P.M. unless noted. The Hall is located at 21156 Cannonsville Rd. just off the 131 expressway Pierson exit. The mailing address is P.O. Box 109, Pierson, MI 49339 www.piersonwp.org

Recycling Is Available at Howard City:

4th Saturday of the Month - 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Fire Station/Village Offices, (125 East Shaw)
<http://www.montcalm.org/recycling.asp>

**TOWNSHIP HALL
OFFICE HOURS**

TUE, WED. & THURS
10:00 A.M. – 3 P.M.
616-636-8570
FAX: 616-636-4911

clerk.piersonwp@charterinternet.com

ZONING HOURS

Brooke Scott
Tue & Thurs
10 A.M. – 3 P.M.
zoning.piersonwp@charterinternet.com

ASSESSOR HOURS

David Lee
Thursdays
10 A.M. – 5 P.M.
cas-llc@sbcglobal.net

TREASURER HOURS

J Scott Vukin
Tuesdays 10 A.M. - 3 P.M.
Also 12/29/09 & 3/1/2010
9 A.M.—5 P.M.
treasurer.piersonwp@charterinternet.com

SUPERVISOR HOURS

Brian Longcore
Tuesdays 10A.M.-3P.M.
supervisor.piersonwp@charterinternet.com

**Updates from Connie Boon
Cemetery Administrator**

All Cemetery records will now be housed in the Pierson Township Hall offices versus my home. Any questions regarding lot purchases, genealogies, etc., call the twp office during regular office hours, where I work as deputy clerk. The phone number there is 616-636-8570. I will also take calls at my home anytime at 616-636-5461.



Winter News & Views, by J Scott Vukin, Pierson Township Treasurer

It is hard to believe that it was 20 years ago that we were preparing to send out our first set of taxes to property owners of Pierson Township. Back then, if memory serves me correct (which it doesn't always do nowadays)-there were about 1600 parcels in Pierson Township with a SEV of 25,794,098 million. Today we have 2471 active parcels with a SEV of 163,163,330 million. In 1989 the County Equalization Dept printed our taxes once a year, today we print our own taxes twice a year and assessment notices in March, and that saves the township over \$5000.00.

Have you ever wondered where your tax dollars go and what you get for your money? Please take time to check out the info on the first page showing the breakdown of taxes. As you can see the Twp portion is very small compared to the rest of the taxes. The township board are trying to be very conservative with expenditures and keeping a good balance for uncertain times ahead. All of our revenue sources have been reduced. Not only our millage which has gone down from the allocated 1mil to 0.6334 in 1998 to 0.5449 in 2009, but the Revenue Sharing we receive from the State and the host fees we receive from the Landfill have also gone down and are expected to continue to decrease. It is our commitment to continue to service the township as best as we can. We will keep working on our roads and providing fire protection and ask you to let us know if there are problem areas that need to be addressed.

On Nov.17,2009 we started working with our 6th assessor, David Lee since I became the treasurer. David is from Mason MI. Mr. Lee comes to us with years of experience as an assessor and an assessor trainer among other duties with the State Department of Treasury. We look forward to many fruitful years of association with Mr. Lee. His knowledge and experience will insure us of having one of the highest quality assessing departments in this area. One of his responsibilities is to review 20% of the parcels in the Township on a yearly basis so that all parcels will be visited once every 5 years. This has not been done since 2000-2001 when a reassessment of the entire township was done. **The assessor will be sending out post-cards notifying property owners of an impending visit** to check the accuracy of our current information. We would appreciate your cooperation with our assessor and his crew as we complete this state mandated update to our records.

When you receive your tax bill please take some time to look it over. Some things you will want to make sure is correct are: Do you have the PRE exemption if this is your principle residence? Is your property and mailing address correct? Does your assessment look correct? **The Dec Board of Review meets on Dec.15th** and if you have any errors in value or PRE exemptions that need to be corrected, this is the place to get it done. You do not have to attend this meeting. You DO need to contact the assessor to see about getting your record corrected. The assessor will be in the office on Thursdays from 10am to 5pm. You can call him at 616-636-8570 or email him at cas-llc@sbcglobal.net

As I do each year, I wish you and yours a very Blessed CHRISTMAS. Let's us not forget those who have served and continue to serve our country and protect our freedoms. *J Scott Vukin*



From The Office of The Supervisor:

I am coming to the end of my first year in office and I can tell you that I have learned a ton of things but it is not enough. Everyday is a learning experience. Some problems have been solved, some are being solved and new problems will be solved with the help of my board and various committees. The township is in good shape for the times we are in. We have hired a new zoning administrator and new assessor. This should help facilitate the service we give to the public. Please stop by or call if you have a question, complaint or comment. My office hours are Tuesdays from 10am to 3pm and by appointment. *Brian Longcore, Township Supervisor*



Sept. 12th was the second of 2 **FREE dump days!** It was very well attended. If you missed it, the 2010 FREE Dump Days for Pierson Townships land owners are 6/5/2010 and 9/11/2010. If you are new to the township call about your special rates for trash pickup. **FREE** rates are also available! Allied Waste 616-636-4096 Twp Hall 616-636-8570



Have you looked at the **Pierson Township Website** lately @ www.piersontwp.org? On our website you can find a myriad of information; meeting minutes, treasurer's reports, agendas and much more. There are links to many local websites; I.E. Big Whitefish Lake, Montcalm County, Tri-County Schools and many others. There also is information on the various committee, commissions and township officials. Check out the video of the 2009 Memorial Day Observance at the Pierson Township Cemetery, you might see yourself!