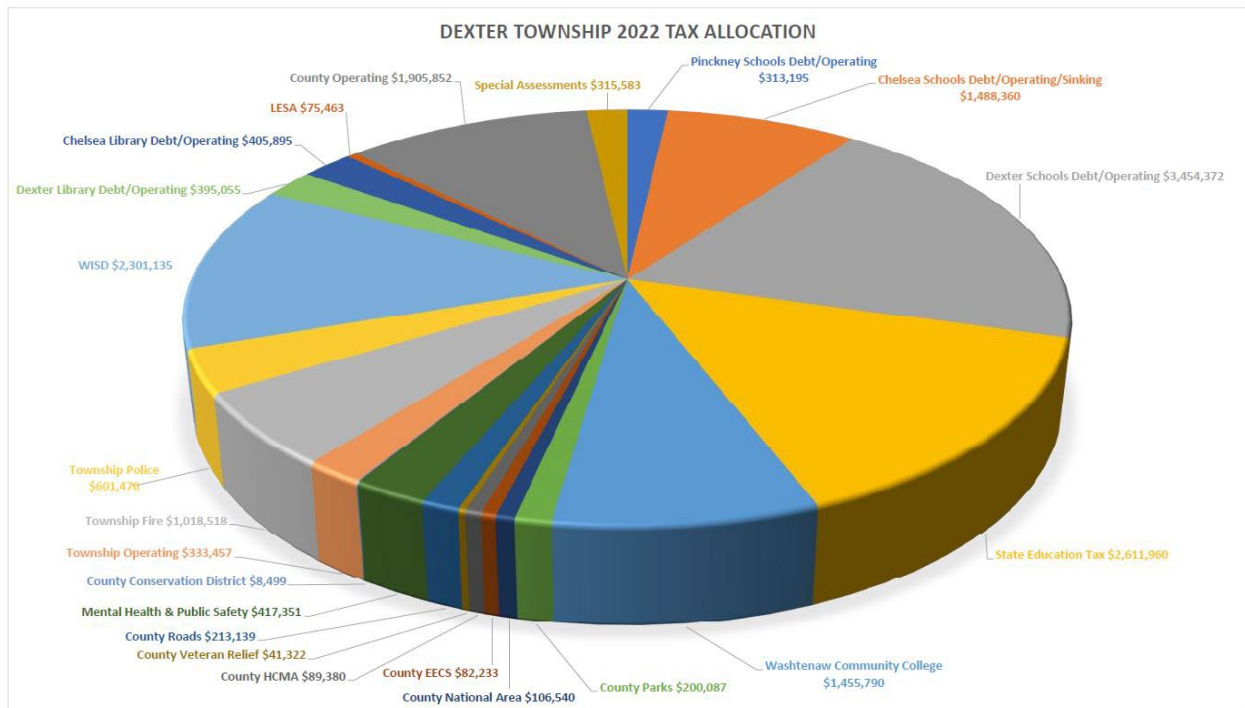


# Dexter Township “in the loop” January 2023

## Happy New Year Dexter Township Residents!

While the start of 2023 may seem in the distant past, we are only 3 ½ weeks into 2023. The Dexter Township Board of Trustees is working on the 2023-24 budget, projects are being lined for the year or two and we are off and running. So, for updates - here we go:

**First, we all know it's winter tax season** - so we thought we would share the pie chart below as a means to display where tax dollars are allocated. Thank you to the Treasurer office for supplying this information and should you have any questions, please reach out to us. You may note, only a fraction of your taxes actually come to the Township operating budget.



**A Note from Washtenaw County Water Resources on Battery Disposal:**

Batteries can be recycled, but NOT in your home recycling bin! Alkaline batteries are usually the batteries in remotes and household gadgets. Alkaline batteries are no longer manufactured with toxic metals and are safe to put in your trash- but can still be recycled.

Rechargeable lithium-ion batteries are commonly found in phones, laptops, and other rechargeable electronics. These must NOT be thrown away as they contain toxic materials. Car batteries, button cell batteries, lead-acid batteries, and many others also contain metals that are toxic to our environment. The Home Toxics Center accepts all these batteries!!

Battery Recycling Locations: Home Toxics Center (734) 222-3950; make an appointment or find more information at <https://www.washtenaw.org/287/Home-Toxics-Paint-Oil-Pesticides-More> Recycle Ann Arbor Drop-off Station (734) 971-7400; [recycleannarbor.org](http://recycleannarbor.org) Best Buy (734) 741-1357; [bestbuy.com/recycle](http://bestbuy.com/recycle) (laptop batteries) Staples (734) 994-6437; [staples.com/recycle](http://staples.com/recycle) (rechargeable batteries) If you have another favorite battery recycling site, post it in the comments!

### **Chelsea High School Film Recycling Project:**

Chelsea High School has paused their film collection project for a short time (hopefully). They are experiencing a backlog of materials at the school and Meijer is experiencing equipment failures. Please be patient and do NOT leave any film in orange bin in the Township parking lot. We will inform everyone when the program is back up and running. Thank you for understanding.

### **Quick highlights from the Board of Trustee Meeting on January 17, 2023:**

- The 2023-24 calendar of board and committee meetings has been approved and posted on the [dextertownship.org](http://dextertownship.org) website.
- January 26<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> are two dates set for special meetings directly relating to the 2023-24 township budget - General Ledger issues will be discussed, and budget number developed.
- Cemetery Project - Approval was given to allocate monies from the Clean Up fund to continue work on our cemeteries.
  - Daisy Tree has donated services and offered great price reductions to complete tree trimming and clearing scrub brush in both locations, 4 Mile and Hudson cemeteries.
  - KB Services located 5 more headstones laying in the dirt and in the weeds - we look forward to returning these to their proper locations.
  - We have made contact with Past Preservation who has offered to educate us on proper materials to clean headstones and then restore them - restoration will not start until the Spring - cleaning of headstones is directly weather related (if you wish to join us, drop an email)
  - We are consulting with the County Road Commission to see if we are able to create a small parking location at 4 Mile Cemetery since currently you must park in the road to visit.
- Updates on correcting the General Ledger (GL) were given. The Maner Costerisan CPA firm continued to work on our GL and the Clerk feels confident work is happening in the proper

direction. Many questions remain to be voiced and this conversation will continue at the January 26<sup>th</sup> Special Budget Meeting. Along with discussion on the election costs, primary and general.

- **Silver Lake Association** had requested approval on a Special Assessment District (SAD) being created to address the weed control in Silver Lake. While the Association did collect the proper number of signatures to proceed, approximately 20 Silver Lake residents attended the meeting voicing concerns that they were not aware of this SAD, its financial impact or had any knowledge of the SAD. This is a difficult process to inform all residents. In good faith, the Trustees approved a 30-day delay to have the two sides communicate and become informed on what is occurring on their lake. This topic will be back on the February BOT agenda.
- **Farmland and Open Space Preservation Board** - as noted prior - Ordinance 27 calls for a 7-member board: 5 residents, 1 farmer and 1 Dexter Twp Board Member. The 5 residents appointed were: Kathy Bradbury, Mark Tiecher, Scott Josling, Guierin Wilkinson and Gretchen Driskell: Marty Ruhlig will represent the farmers and Trustee Sanders will be the Twp Board member. Membership term limits will be staggered, this action completes the FOSP board being established. Thank you to everyone for joining and becoming a part of this new Board. Now comes the hard work!
- Supervisor Ratkovich was reappointed to the WWRA Board for a term to expire in 2025. The WWRA will be giving a tour of the facility in the near future. Send an email of interest to [WWRAfacilitymanager@gmail.com](mailto:WWRAfacilitymanager@gmail.com) to express interest if you would like to be part of that tour by January 27th.
- The Clerk updated the BOT (Board of Trustees) on her search for a new deputy. Initially requesting a higher hourly rate and additional hours per week, based on incoming resume's she preferred. While general Board census was not to approve at this time due to the "trickle-down effect and costs", this topic was turned back to the executive committee to fully address and put forth a budget request for the new year if needed.

A large focus of the February and March will most likely be budget finalization. If you would like to attend one of the workshops, please do. Thursday January 26<sup>th</sup> will be the first special meeting.

For future "in the loops": any topic you would like to have an update on? Drop an email and we'll see what we can do.

Thank you, Happy New Year again, stay warm and take care.