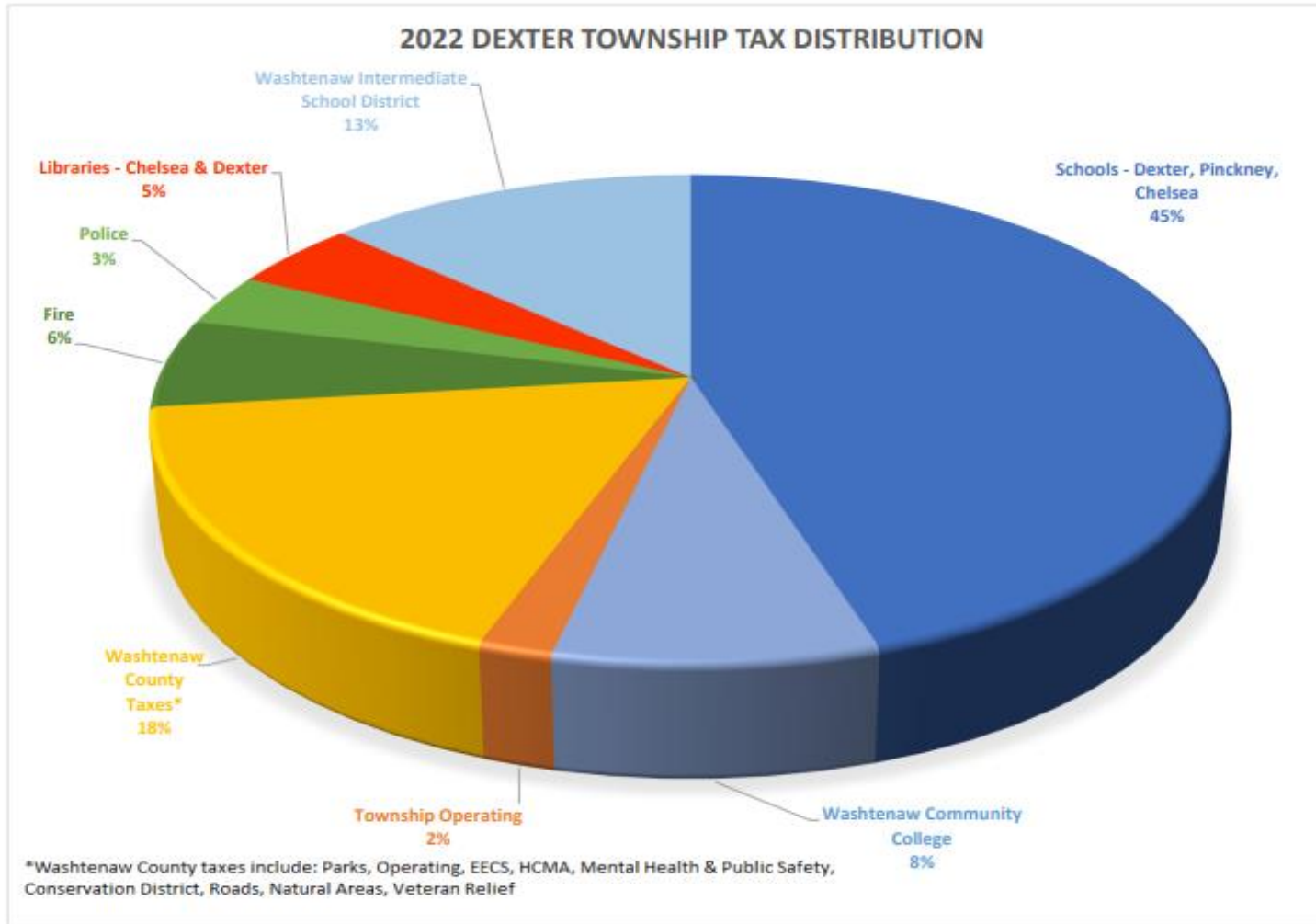


FINANCIAL UPDATE on DEXTER TOWNSHIP: (Budget calendar runs from April 1st to March 31st – we are reporting on the close of the 2022-23 budget)

- Dexter Township ended FY 2022 with \$4.2M in General Fund balances, of which just under \$2M is set aside for emergency and operating reserves, and \$2.3M is available for one-time strategic purposes. General Fund balances have increased every year for the past four years.
- With respect to revenues, all major sources have increased over the past several years. Property tax revenues are higher because of new development, and because property taxes on individual parcels typically increase when properties change hands. Sales tax revenues received from the State of Michigan is a major source of revenue for the Township; this revenue has grown faster than inflation some years. In FY23, we also sold a rental house, which yielded approximately \$285K. Township interest revenues have grown due to the investing its fund balances in higher yield investments. The township earned approximately \$15K in our 2021-22 budget and over \$46K in the 2022-23 budget calendar, a 34% increase. Primarily due to the change in investment policy and strategy by our Treasurers office. Greater returns are expected in the 2023-24 budget year as additional funds are invested, following the completion of our cash flow analysis.
- With respect to expenses, last year, we made capital investments to improve our local roads, and to improve the Multi Lakes Water and Sewer District’s infrastructure. We also invested in technology and security improvements for elections, and we invested in updating our master plan (a project which is still underway). In most budget line items, our actual expenses were equal to or less than the amount budgeted. Any expenditures above budget were offset by savings in other lines.

With the Treasurer's changes
in investment strategies—
interest revenue has grown
34%
2021-2022 = \$15,740
2022-2023 = \$46,287
Remainder of investment
changes will be completed
this year

- **Many ask where do our tax dollars go?** See the pie chart below for your 2022 taxes –The bulk of dollars are directed toward education: being local school districts, intermediate schools, and community college. Dexter Township receives approximately 2% (orange slice of the pie) as a source of revenue from tax collection.



Welcome – new Trustee Gretchen Driskell – At the June Board of Trustee meeting, the unanimous decision was made to appoint Gretchen Driskell into the open Trustee position. The Trustee position has been open since the appointment of Karen Sikkenga as Supervisor in May. We

had four candidates apply for the Trustee position, thank you to all. Gretchen moved in our township in 2022 and brings a long history of civil service: which includes Michigan House of Representatives (2012-2017), Mayor of Saline (1990-2004) and serving on Saline City Council (1984-1990) helping to ease the decision by the Board. Additionally, she has a BS in accounting and a Master of Business Administration and has been serving on the Townships Farmland Open Space Board. Supervisor Sikkenga said “Speaking for myself, I am greatly looking forward to the opportunity to serve with and learn from Gretchen Driskell. Her deep knowledge and extensive experience make her a trusted advisor. She is known for connecting people and for her great team skills, a great addition to our board. We are lucky to have her.” Please help us welcome Gretchen to Dexter Townships Board of Trustees.

Also, please welcome Samantha

Hello, my name is Samantha Edwards and I have a passion for helping people, learning new skills, and collaborating with others. I previously included assisting the public daily, replying to adoption inquiries in a timely manner, drafting and sending emails, coordinating meetings of 12 staff members, and performing social media upkeep and outreach. I previously attended Eastern Michigan University, where I graduated from College where I am enrolled in the Business Office Administration Program. I currently have a 3.98 GPA and love learning everything new about our residents in my role as Office Manager. On a more personal note, I enjoy crafts such as embroidery.

Please say Hi next

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:



- July - our cemetery project & headstone cleaning will start
- August 19th evening - Outdoor Movie Night - stay tune for additional upcoming details
- September 23rd -11am Coffee Chat hour – topic will be Elections, Elections, Elections – learn about Prop 2 – we hope you can join
- October 14th – Fall Clean Up Day at Townhall – we will be accepting electronic waste, scrap metal, documents for shredding, tires and styrofoam from 9:00 am til Noon – suggested donation of \$5 per vehicle

Washtenaw County Road Commission – plans safety improvements at North Territorial and Dexter Townhall Rd in 2024

This intersection has been identified as a problem intersection and will be undergoing major reconstruction in 2024, as noted by the Washtenaw County Road Commission. The initial plan is to cut down the hill at the intersection, remove trees and add a center left turn lanes and centerline rumble strips. Trees will most likely be removed in late 2023 and the Multi Lake Sewer Water Authority must alter the depth of pipes in that section of the road prior to WCRC starting work. The project is expected to take 8-10 weeks to complete, and that section of North Territorial and Dexter Townhall will be closed during construction, except for local homeowners only. Detours will be in place and the WCRC is gearing up to improve Madden and Quigley prior to starting construction, since those roads will handle most of the detoured traffic.

You may be interested in attending the virtual project information meeting Tuesday, July 25th at 11:30am You can join online at: <https://bit.ly/wcrcprojectmeeting> or by phone at 929-205-6099 Meeting ID # 879 2332 8754 -- if you have the Zoom app - simply enter the meeting ID to join. Questions and comments will be taken and answered during this meeting.

Township Board Member Openings:

Want to join and serve your community? We have various Board openings, as primary members and alternates. Many are as easy as one meeting per month. Interested? Please send a letter of interest to supervisor@dextertownship.org or info@dextertownship.org.



Dexter Township joined the Dexter Memorial Day Parade

Trustee Sanders, Rich Rickman, Mark Teicher, Supervisor Sikkenga, Trustee Scott and Trustee Nolte – represented our Township

It was a great day to honor our veterans, meet residents and overall have a good time – hope

you can join us next year

Cemetery Project Update:

We have had email comments & questions about what is happening at the cemetery on Dexter Pinckney Rd (across from Townhall) – below is an answer written & previously posted on FB – (trying to keep everyone in the loop)

Hi Renee – I understand what you are saying – please allow me to give a brief update on what has happened over the last 12 months, obviously nothing was happening in the winter. Following that last storm, we did have someone clean up the cemetery, removing downed limbs and debris. Luckily, those



limbs did not damage any headstones, a true miracle. The sides of the cemetery were engulfed in overgrown brush and twigs and leaves. We knew there were headstones in there and they did uncover approximately about 10 when clearing that section. Some lying down, some partially buried in the dirt. Since we hired a new landscaper to mow the cemeteries, they have uncovered approximately 35 headstones, having been buried or found lying down in the overgrown brush. In fact, the landscaper brought our attention to poor condition our cemeteries were in and the work they needed. He refuses

to mow over a downed headstone. Then we created a budget to work on the cemeteries and I have been in touch with a restoration person who will teach us how to rebuild the headstones when we are ready.

Many of the headstones you see along the fence line, were placed there after finding them and we do not want them to accidentally get damaged or reburied. I was with the landscaper one time, and we were walking through the back fence line and found 6 headstones just leaning on the wire fence. We did move those forward last fall. We made sure no headstones were buried in the brush piles at the back, in fact that area was searched prior to moving brush.

Overall, we are at the beginning phase of this project. Trimming trees so more headstones are not broken, removing debris, constantly uncovering small headstones, large headstones and total concrete grave tops lying flat. We have been in touch with the historical society, obtained a list of people that are buried in our cemetery, but they do not have any locations. Our next step which will be to start cleaning the headstones. We recently purchased the cleaning solution and mold and mildew preventative; it appears to be a 2-step process with a lot of elbow grease. We hope to start cleaning in the next month and are seeking volunteers to assist. Our goal is once the headstones are cleaned, and we can match names to the master list.

Many of the headstones need to be repaired or moved (due to tree growth) to make them stable. All need cleaning. If you walk through the cemetery, you will find many small rectangle concrete sections in the grass, we believe those are the base for many of the small rectangle headstones found. We find one or two of these almost every time we are there. Additionally, I think you may be seeing some headstones leaning on others, because we have found or unburied tops of headstones, found their bases and they are now leaning on the bottom portion of the stones. Least those are identified for future rebuilding. Once headstones are cleaned, we need to work with the restoration person to learn how to piece the stones back together and secure stones that are standing but cracking. We thought we would utilize concrete, but from our initial conversations this is absolutely not the method to use. We cannot secure all the found headstones to their bases until we learn these processes and the restoration people believe cleaning of headstones need to be done first.

We started this project in respect of those that came and settled our community prior, and we believe the years of neglect was disrespectful to them. We are working to improve on those years of neglect and the project continues to evolve and grow with each stone uncovered. I appreciate you taking the time to share your feelings and I hope we meet your expectations and honor those before us as we move forward, that is our goal. Should you have any questions or additional comments, please feel free to reach back to me. – Karen Nolte, Trustee

(we are working on Hudson Mills Cemetery and 4 Mile Cemetery off Lima Center Rd. - if you wish to be involved, please send a note to info@dextertownship.org)

June Board of Trustee Meeting Summary:

- Approval for North Lakes and Portage Lake Fireworks was completed (July 2nd)

- Board appointments included: Karen Sikkenga to Dexter Area Fire Board, Lonnie Scott to SE Michigan Council of Governments, Karen Sikkenga to Washtenaw Area Transit Study and Michelle Stamboullelis to Western Washtenaw Recycling Authority
- The Farmland and Open Space Board had their proposed Bylaws accepted
- Approval was made for the Farmland Open Space Board to spend approximately \$2,800 for a property appraisal
- The Community Engagement calendar for 2023 was approved
- Approval to issue a RFQ for planning services was completed

Want to learn more about PFAS? – visit Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART) website - <https://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse> Michigan is taking a leading stance on studying PFAS it's effects and possible solutions

- ❖ ***The orange bin for film collection has been repaired and is back collecting film for Chelsea High School – please DO NOT leave clothes in this bin***
- ❖ ***Styrofoam is NOT collected in the Township parking lot – take advantage of the collection site every Sunday, noon-2pm, at the Dexter Mill in Dexter***
- ❖ ***Please do not leave large items outside of the large green recycling containers in the townhall parking lot – cardboard, glass and plastic needs to be put into the recycling bins – Help keep our parking lot tidy***
- ❖ ***Watch for your Dexter Township Summer Newsletter – due to hit your mailbox soon!***

THANK YOU FOR JOINING “in the loop” – please feel free to share comments/questions back to info@dextertownship.org
Want us to cover a specific topic ? – drop a line and keep us “in the loop”