

Solon Township

Solon Township Winter 2010 Newsletter

Supervisor: Robert Ellick

Clerk John Rideout

Treasurer

Heather Zenker

Trustees Fred Gunnell

Richard Straub

Building Adm.

Joel Austin

Zoning Adm.

Tony Kruithoff

Township Office Hours

*Supervisor Monday
through Thursday 9-5*

*Clerk Monday and
Tuesday 9-5 Wed &
Thurs 9-noon*

*Treasurer Monday
through Thursday 9-5*

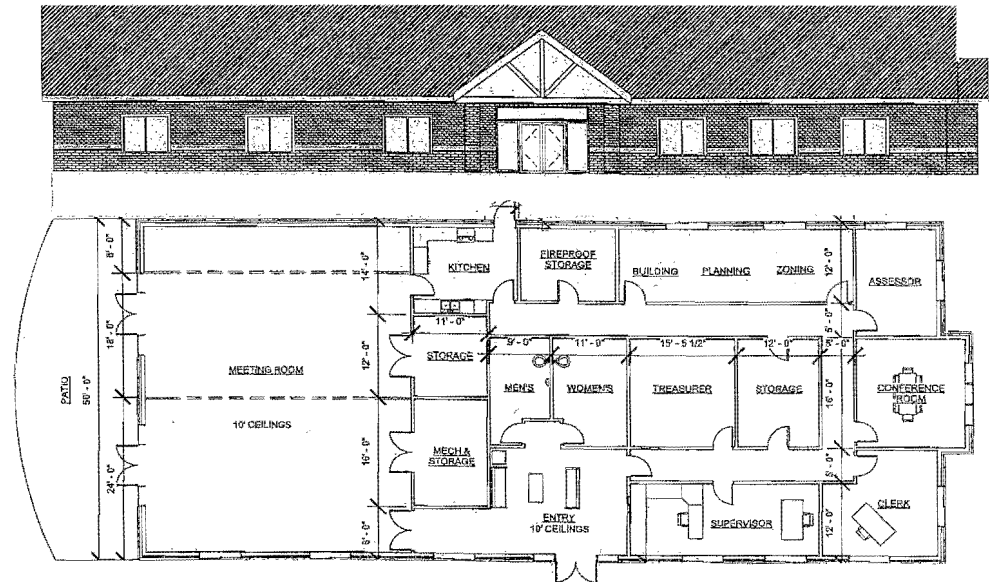
*Building Administrator 9-11 AM Mon-
day & Wed.*

*Zoning Monday and
Wednesday 9-noon*

*Assessing Monday
and Wednesday 9-5*

Phone 696-1718

COMING IN 2011 A NEW SOLON TOWNSHIP OFFICE AND COMMUNITY ROOM



The Solon Township Board recently approved preliminary plans for the construction of new offices including a 2,000 square foot community room. The Board has struggled for some time as to the design and location of the new building, but with the acquisition of 19 acres located on Algoma Ave. at Wiersma plans were developed by a committee of township residents.

Plans call for the construction of a 6,000 sq. ft. building, which will house township offices and a community room that will be available to township residents for family gatherings and receptions.

Funding for the building estimate to cost \$750,000.00 will come from funds currently in a township building fund as well as cash reserves held by the Township. It is anticipated that approximately \$200,000.00 will be financed through an installment purchase agreement. It should be emphasized that this will not result in any additional tax burden being placed on homeowners.

Construction is expected to start in the spring of 2011 and completed in the fall.

While future plans for the rest of the 19 acre site have not been developed some ideas call for the construction of a new fire barn on the site as funds become available and the rear of the property being developed for recreational use including baseball and soccer fields as well as a walking trail.

Property Values Continue to Decline, but Leveling Out

Assessor: Tom Doane

After two years of decreases it appears that things are starting to level out and this year's notices will see both increases and decreases. Most of the increases will be in areas that field inspections took place, but there will also be slight increases in other areas due to market data from the last 12 months. Another sign of recovery is the fact that building permits are up and that includes many new homes throughout the Township. We are not out of the woods, so to speak, but at least there are some positive signs.

On the taxable value side of things, the Consumers Price Index (CPI) for this year has been calculated at 1.7%. If you still have a gap between the Assessed and Taxable value you can expect to see your Taxable value increase 1.7% - note that taxable value cannot be higher than the assessed value.

A couple of examples:

| | | | | |
|---|--------|---------|--------|--------|
| 2010 AV | 80,000 | 2011 AV | 78,000 | -2,000 |
| 2010 TV | 68,456 | 2011 TV | 69,619 | +1,163 |
| $68,456 \times 1.017 \text{ (CPI)} = 69,619$ | | | | |
| 2010 AV | 65,000 | 2011 AV | 63,000 | -2,000 |
| 2010 TV | 64,189 | 2011 TV | 63,000 | -1,189 |
| $64,189 \times 1.017 \text{ (CPI)} = 65,280 \text{ (TV can not exceed AV of 63,000)}$ | | | | |

Goodwill Industries is coming:

Goodwill Industries of West Michigan is very excited about the upcoming opening of our 14th retail location in Cedar Springs. Located at 3595 17 Mile Road across from Meijers, this new, 7,000 square foot store, will offer a clean, well organized shopping experience to residents in the surrounding area. We are also providing a convenient donation drive through on the east side of the store. We hope to have the store ready for opening in early 2011.

The Goodwill store will be open Monday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. We will collect gently used donations from area residents, selling local donations of clothing, household goods and many other items at value added prices. The store will employ up to 15 people, providing employment/training opportunities for those interested in working for Goodwill.