
Citizens of District 4
Newsletter for July, 2014



Welcome from Councilman Randy Carter

In this month's newsletter I will discuss information regarding:

1. Letter from Councilman Carter
 2. Economic and Community Development
 3. Headlee Amendment
 4. Recreational Opportunities for Youth in Pontiac / Clarkston Independence Day Parade
 5. Pontiac Regional Chamber of Commerce Congratulations School Board Trustee Brenda Carter
 6. Election Dates
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COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

My wife and I continue to address head-on the concerns of our city, especially the reopening on the Phoenix Center being closed by an unknown authority. The Mayor or Council by state statute has the authority to issue an emergency that last 59 days. I wrote the emergency declaration ordinance that by Charter authorizing the Council (by a minimum of six votes) to declare an emergency for any issues that concerns the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Pontiac.



Providing the health, safety and welfare for our citizens is imperative. My wife and I understand the external economic forces that are preventing our city from recovering. We must promote legislation that encourages economic growth and community development in Pontiac. Pontiac must collaborate with other municipalities. My wife and I try to model District 4 after neighboring communities that are flourishing. We do this by keeping our district safe and clean for our residents. We also provide recreational opportunities for all youth in Pontiac. We want Pontiac to once again become the community of choice, a community that people want to live in. This is done by creating a sense of place.

I'd like to thank you for your continued support,

Respectfully, Randy

Providing Opportunities for our youth!

Speaking of providing recreational activities for our kids, the 4th of July Parade in Clarkston is a great example. This allows us to focus on the two key areas mentioned above which are municipal collaboration and the opportunity to mentor our youth! Our gratification comes from our residents. We recruit fellow neighbors to clean up various parks in our District. Children from the neighborhood feel comfortable sharing the needs of their families



with us all year around. As a result, we will anonymously help those families by providing resources. Last year our volunteers donated over four hundred turkey baskets and 3,500 stuffed animals to families from Thanksgiving through Christmas. During the Holiday Extravaganza Parade in downtown Pontiac, children from Pontiac gave stuffed animals to other kids that were watching the parade. My wife and I are proud of our community and the grass root efforts taken to erase graffiti and assist residents as needed.

This is a YEAR ROUND THING!

A special thanks to Phil Reid of Clarkston, Michigan for inviting us to parade!!!



Did You Know...

What is Headlee is, and did your City and County screw you over?

How would you have known about The Michigan Constitution Section 31, Art IX 1978?

The City of Pontiac Home rule charter, possesses "ALL" powers of the local resident and do not require a mother may I from the state to authorization special taxes or tax levy.

The state law requires the enactment of specific laws to authorize the levy of taxes by local governments.

The Michigan Constitution requires for many types of taxes, in addition to the authorization in State law, that voter within the local jurisdiction must approve the levy of the taxes at the ballot box.

Article IX, Section 31 of the Michigan Constitution (part of the Headlee Amendment of 1978) provides in relevant Part,

"Units of Local Government are hereby prohibited from levying any tax not authorized by law

Or charter when this section is ratified or from increasing the rate of an existing tax above that

Rate authorized by law or charter when this section is ratified, without the approval of a Majority of the qualified electors of that unit of Local Government voting thereon."

The key talking point says that the tax must be authorized. Be mindful your elected official

pet project might not have inform you of their intent, example let's build a new police station, It's won't cost you a dime in taxes! But in five year when I'm out of office and all the GM plants close and one thousand folks lose their jobs, only then will you realize your taxes will go up through the roof!!!

Local government taxes can be authorized in a couple of different ways. Those requiring voter approvals:

Charter millage. The city of pontiac charters does provide for the levy of property taxes and limit the rate at which the taxes can be levied. Can you trust your city governments to work within those limits without going back to you the voters every time, but voter approval is obtained when the residents approve. Did the blub light up, charter commission and Adoption of a revised charter. Maximum of fifteen (15) mills, Extra voted mileages can be levied for a wide range of activities and must be of limited duration. You need to know, what it's for, when did it start and when will it end!

There are some fee's another name for taxes, should be called trickery, some are your city and some are associated with the county. These and many other types of taxes that were not authorized to be levied by the city governments. Fee's donot requiring voter approvals.

The Headlee Amendment specifies that local governments are, prohibited from levying any tax not authorized by law or charter when this section was being ratified. These taxes were authorized by law when this section was ratified and therefore do not require voter approval to be levied.

Our cities, these include are the Maximum caps.

A tax of up to 3 mills (Pontiac 2.82) for garbage collection and disposal.

A tax of up to 1 mill (Pontiac .5) for library operations. Time limited

A tax of up to 1 mill (Pontiac .5) for senior services. Time limited

Trustee Brenda Carter Congratulated by Pontiac Regional Chamber of Commerce

The Pontiac Regional Chamber would like to Congratulate Brenda Carter, Pontiac School Board Trustee for her inspiration and drive to graduate from the following two esteemed programs this year: Michigan Political Leadership Program and Oakland University's Master's Public Administration.



Read more at http://pontiacrc.com/uploads/PRC_June_e-Mag_FINAL_USE_THIS.pdf

ELECTION INFORMATION

Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
On Tuesday, August 5, 2014, the Primary Election.
Offices to be elected:

- Oakland County Commissioners
- Any Proposals

*If you have any questions about the events listed above, please call myself
Councilman Randy Carter at 248-467-6845 or email me at
randy@randolphrcarter.com*

Contact: Randolph R. Carter - City Council District 4
248-467-6845
Email: Randy@RandolphRCarter.com
website
www.randolphrcarter.com



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Councilman Randy Carter | P.O. Box 430891 | Pontiac | MI | 48343