

## **ATTENTION—BEWARE OF TELEPHONE SCAMS!**

IRS and other public utilities impersonation telephone scams are occurring throughout the country including Pennington Boro.

Aggressive and sophisticated telephone scams targeting taxpayers and customers of public utilities are occurring. Callers claim to be employees of the IRS or a public utility, but they are not. They may know personal information about their targets. They usually alter their “caller I.D.” to make it appear legitimate.

Victims are told that they owe money and it must be paid immediately usually through a pre-loaded debit card. If the victim refuses to cooperate they are threatened with arrest, cessation of services, etc.

Be aware that the IRS and most public utility companies will never call and demand immediate payment. Letter correspondence through the U.S. Mail is the desired method of notification. They will not ask for credit card information over the telephone unless you have initiated the call.

If you get a telephone call, hang up or if you desire to communicate with the individual state that you are immediately calling the police.

If you wish to follow up, call the IRS or the public utility company directly with a telephone number that YOU have acquired either through a past bill or other legitimate means. **DO NOT** call a number that the caller may have given you. It generally is false and is part of the scam.

For other than IRS scams contact the Pennington Police Department at (609) 737-2020.

FOR IRS only scams report the incident to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at 1-800-366-4484 or at [www.tigta.gov](http://www.tigta.gov).

You may also contact the Federal Trade Commission and use their FTC Complaint Assistant at [www.FTC.gov](http://www.FTC.gov).

If you have any questions contact the Pennington Police Department at (609) 737-2020 and ask to speak to a police officer.