

MICHAEL J. DeVRIES  
SUPERVISOR

EDWARD J. ROBINETTE  
CLERK

DAVID A. VAN DYKE  
TREASURER



RUSTY MERCHANT  
TRUSTEE  
DAVID M. PIERANGELI  
TRUSTEE  
ROBERT W. ROTH  
TRUSTEE  
LEE VANPOPERING  
TRUSTEE

**NEWS BRIEF**  
**- FEBRUARY 2016 -**

Each February we send out property valuations for the real property that you own in Grand Rapids Township. Township Assessor Robin Rothley and Deputy Bryan Jager, worked throughout the year gathering information to determine, as accurately as possible, a value for your property as of December 31, 2015. Please carefully review the enclosed information and should you have questions please call (616) 361-7391.

**PRIMARY ELECTION**

The next election will be held on March 8, 2016. This Presidential Primary Election is funded by the political parties and therefore in order to receive a ballot you must declare a party and choose from the candidates of that party.

The Grand Rapids Township voters in the East Grand Rapids school district will also have a millage issue which will appear on each of the partisan ballots.

Sample ballots are available on the Township website and for information about absentee ballots call us at (616) 361-7391.

**\*\*Note\*\***  
**Precinct 3**  
has moved to;  
**3900 E Fulton**  
**Forest Hills**  
**Baptist Church**

**911 DISPATCH**

Kent County has historically funded fire dispatch for the 21 Townships with an allocation from the Sheriff's Department budget. The cost to operate the dispatch center has risen dramatically as calls to 911 for medical and rescue calls, in addition to policing calls, have increased.

The county requested a cost sharing program with the Townships to help with the increasing equipment and operational costs, similar to the arrangement that charges the cities in Kent County. The Townships understand that there is a need to help fund county wide dispatch, however the Townships do not have the resources within their budgets without having to raise property taxes to fund dispatch costs.

The Townships requested that the County consider a ballot proposal in 2016 to increase the telephone surcharge by an amount to provide sustainable funding for all dispatch services in Kent County. The proposal is under consideration.

Grand Rapids Township remains committed to our primary responsibilities: provide essential services of Police, Fire and EMS; perform our constitutional duties of election administration, assessment of property and property tax collection; ensure that we promote appropriate land use regulations; support regional economic development; and provide for parks, open space and recreational trails.

Should you ever have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm  
P: (616) 361-7391  
F: (616) 361-6620  
1836 East Beltline Ave NE  
Grand Rapids MI 49525

Best Regards,  
Michael J. DeVries  
Supervisor  
**GRAND RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

**QUICK NOTES...**  
STREET LIGHT NOT WORKING?  
POT HOLE IN THE STREET?  
Drainage Issues?  
Report them online from the  
**GRT website**  
[www.grandrapidstwp.org](http://www.grandrapidstwp.org)