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TRUSTEE  
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BEVERLY WALL  
TRUSTEE

## NEWS BRIEF - SUMMER 2016 -

### AUGUST 2ND ELECTION

The Primary Election will be the opportunity to select the Party Candidates for the November 8, 2016 General Election and consider a Grand Rapids Township Public Safety millage renewal.

Grand Rapids Charter Township will be asking for a renewal of the Public Safety Millage that funds the Grand Rapids Township Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services and the Kent County Sheriff's Department East Precinct. The .9613 mil 8 year renewal will generate \$766,000 of the \$1,337,700 Public Safety Budget, with the remainder paid from other General Fund revenues. Historically, Public Safety revenue averages 45% of annual expenditures with major capital expenses anticipated and budgeted for. The Fire Department will be replacing a pumper next year with an anticipated cost of \$450,000 and this year our EMS provider replaced the advanced life support ambulance.

### GRT PROPERTY TAX

The Board of Trustees is committed to efficient effective government; one with a balanced budget, a fund balance, no debt and no post retirement or healthcare obligations. You entrust your Township officials and trustees to spend every one of your tax dollars wisely, and we take that responsibility very seriously.

We have included the following information to enhance your understanding of your property tax bill. Grand Rapids Township is the property tax collector, as required by the Michigan Constitution, for all authorities that levy property taxes. Property tax bills are issued in July and December and the taxing authority determines on which tax bill they will collect all or a portion of their taxes and assessments. The July tax bill for residents in the East Grand Rapids School District is about 85% of the annual total; for residents in Forest Hills and Northview School Districts the percentage paid in July is about 70%.

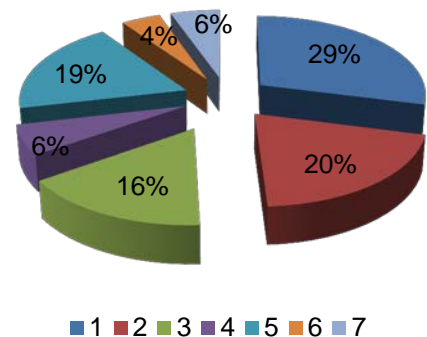
### WHO GETS MY TAX DOLLARS?

Your property taxes primarily support public education and the library. Local government; Kent County and Grand Rapids Township are also funded by the property tax. Although payments are collected by GRT, your Township retains only 6 cents of each tax dollar.

Example of an Annual Tax Bill of \$3,000.00

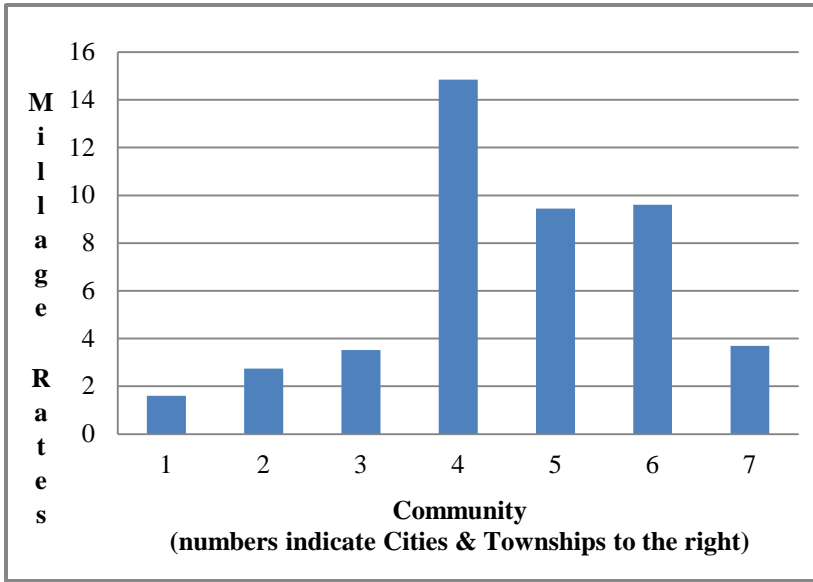
1	Forest Hills Public Schools	\$870
2	State Education Tax	\$606
3	Kent Intermediate School District	\$484
4	Grand Rapids Community College	\$181
5	Kent County	\$568
6	Kent District Library	\$129
7	Grand Rapids Township	\$162

Property Tax Allocation  
by Taxing Authority



## HOW DOES MY TAX RATE COMPARE?

Grand Rapids Township not only has a very low millage rate, but it's lower than the millage rates of our neighboring Townships and Cities.



	<i>% greater than GRT</i>	Millage Rate
1	GR Township	1.5995
2	Ada Township <b>71%</b>	2.7371
3	Cascade Township <b>120%</b>	3.5244
4	EGR City <b>828%</b>	14.8473
5	GR City <b>490%</b>	9.4415
6	Kentwood City <b>500%</b>	9.6066
7	Plainfield Twp <b>131%</b>	3.7000

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.

### **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)

Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm

P: (616) 361-7391

F: (616) 361-6620

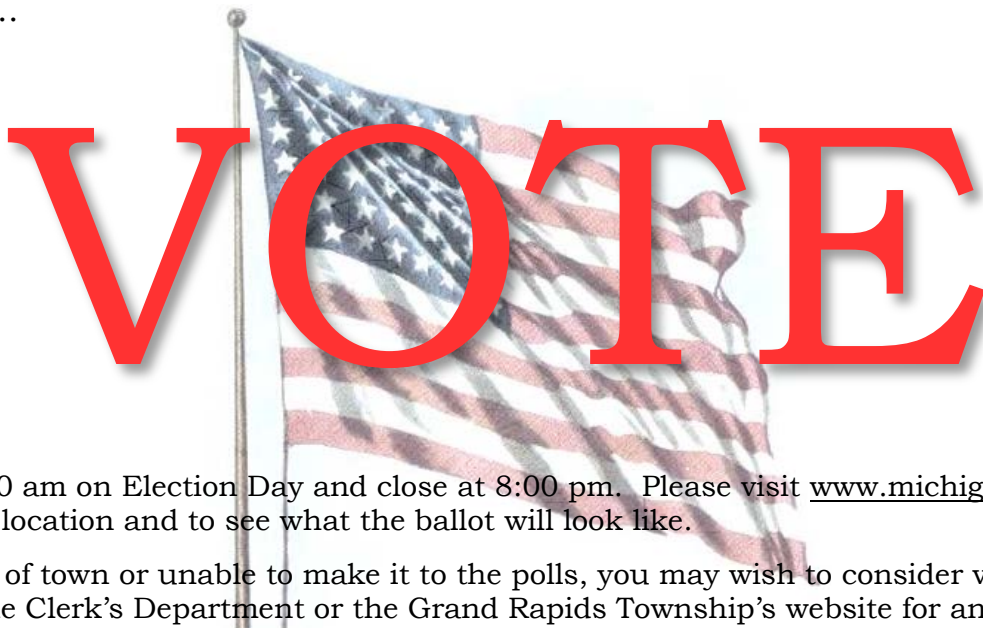
1836 East Beltline Ave NE  
Grand Rapids MI 49525

Best Regards,  
Michael J. DeVries

Supervisor

**GRAND RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

Don't forget to...



Polls open at 7:00 am on Election Day and close at 8:00 pm. Please visit [www.michigan.gov/vote](http://www.michigan.gov/vote) to find your polling location and to see what the ballot will look like.

If you will be out of town or unable to make it to the polls, you may wish to consider voting absentee. Please contact the Clerk's Department or the Grand Rapids Township's website for an application.

**GRAND RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP**