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TRUSTEE

NEWS BRIEFS – WINTER 2012

WINTER TAX BILL

The enclosed Grand Rapids Charter Township tax bill includes the millages for the Kent County Jail, Senior Services and the Kent District Library. Included in your bill are also the school tax bills for Forest Hills and Northview school districts. Forest Hills and Northview pay one-half of their school tax in the winter and one-half in the summer. East Grand Rapids collects their entire school tax in the summer.

The percentage of the annual tax bill that is collected in the winter is as follows:

Forest Hills	Northview	East Grand Rapids
27.5%	27.5%	11.9%

Please note the last date to pay winter taxes to avoid penalty is February 14, 2013.

PARK RESERVATIONS

Mark your calendar, Grand Rapids Township begins taking 2013 reservations for the park facilities on March 1, 2013. Please visit our website for more information.

PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS

The Assessing Department wishes to thank all Grand Rapids Township property owners for their help over the last three years as we worked through an extensive reappraisal process. Property Assessment Notices will be sent out in mid-February that now more accurately reflect the effects of the “great recession”.

Please review the State Equalized Value carefully as this is the Township’s determination of one half of the market value of your property for 2013. The Township’s Assessing Department arrives at that value based on the property specifics and a sales analysis of other properties in your, and similar neighborhoods.

The Assessing Department only determines SEV (State Equalized Value). The TV (Taxable Value) on which your taxes are calculated will be equal to, or less than the SEV as is determined by the year each property was purchased and the CPI (Consumer Price Index), as long as it does not exceed the current years SEV. The CPI for 2013 will be 2.47% so that is the most your TV can increase unless there was a transfer of ownership.

When you receive the property value assessment notice in mid-February, contact us with any questions.

ELECTION YEAR 2012

Clerk, Ed Robinette, and Deputy Clerk, Jessica Marion, were recently recognized by their peers for a great job this past election year, and they shared credit with a wonderful team of election workers. Thanks to everyone that contributed to an efficiently run election.

Grand Rapids Township voters again lead Kent County in voter turnout at 85%. It is an honor to serve a community of informed and involved citizens.

Have a safe Winter!
Michael J. DeVries, Supervisor