NEWS BRIEF
- FEBRUARY 2017 -

**ASSESSMENT NOTICE**

Each year the Assessing Department determines the value of your property as of December 31. This year values increased *overall* by 3%, but many neighborhoods appreciated at a much higher rate. That increase is reflected on the attached form as the State Equalized Value (SEV), *double* the SEV to determine your homes *market value*.

You do not pay taxes on the SEV value. Taxes are calculated using the 2017 TAXABLE VALUE, which increased by .9%, reflecting the inflation rate for 2016. If you had an ownership change in 2016, the taxable value may have increased by more than .9%.

Annual property taxes for 2017 may be *estimated* by multiplying the taxable value by $31.00, then dividing by 1,000.

**NEW FIRE TRUCK**

The Grand Rapids Township Fire Department has ordered a new fire pumper truck. The fire staff worked through the design specifications based on a needs assessment which resulted in an expenditure of $485,000. Spencer Manufacturing, a Michigan Company, has begun assembly with delivery expected later this year. The Township maintains 3 first line firetrucks and rotates replacement every 6-8 years as scheduled in the Capital Improvement Plan. Assembly has begun with delivery expected later this year.

**FOREST HILL/CRAHEN/FULTON ROAD PROJECT**

The Forest Hill Avenue and Crahen Avenue alignment project at Fulton Street is in the final design phase with construction to begin later this year. Grand Rapids Township will then consider proposals for the sale of the office zoned property in order to recoup a portion of the property acquisition cost.

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.