



Public Safety Millage Is Due To Expire - Next Steps

We often say, where does the time go? We here, in the fire and police departments, are saying the same thing. It has been ten years since you last voted to support our public safety millage. That was 2012 and here we are ten (10) years later and it's expiring.

As you may recall, the Fire Department has a 0.25 Fire Apparatus Millage which funds the fire vehicles and fire equipment. This was first approved back in the early 1990's. This forward thinking, back then, has still benefitted us yet today. It is this millage that paid for our most recent ladder truck which cost us \$723,000. The fire gear we wear now costs just over \$3,300.00 a set per firefighter. The air packs we use to allow us to breathe in hazardous atmospheres, now cost \$8,500 a pack. As you can see, costs have really gone up. This fund allows us to equip our department with the tools we need to protect you and your property. We have managed the Fire Apparatus Millage very conservatively by following a 10 year plan and saving funds to make all purchases without borrowing. On the operation side of things, the past millage has also served us very well. The fire department has not seen an increase in the millage since 1995. The police department had a slight increase in 2012. We currently operate both departments with the public safety millage of 2.0 mills.

On August 2, the voters will be asked one question, which is to approve a 0.25 Fire Apparatus renewal and a 1.0 mill increase to the Public Safety Millage bringing it to a total 3.0 mills for Public Safety operations. It will be you the voters, who decide the path you would like to see for both the fire and police departments of Thomas Township.

The fire department uses these funds to support the 28 paid-on-call first responders which include both firefighters and medical responders. We have three full-time staff and one part-time administrative assistant. We operate out of two fire stations providing coverage with our paid-on-call responders. We respond to a multitude of calls from fires, vehicle crashes, and entrapments to medical emergencies. Many times our residents are having the worst day of their lives. We are proud of our department's relationship with our community.

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- Municipal Office.....781-0150
249 N. Miller Road
- Parks & Recreation..781-0151
249 N. Miller Road
- DPW Administration781-6438
251 Miller Court
- Police Department ..781-1300
8215 Shields Drive
- Fire Department781-4141
8215 Shields Drive
- Library781-3770
8207 Shields Drive

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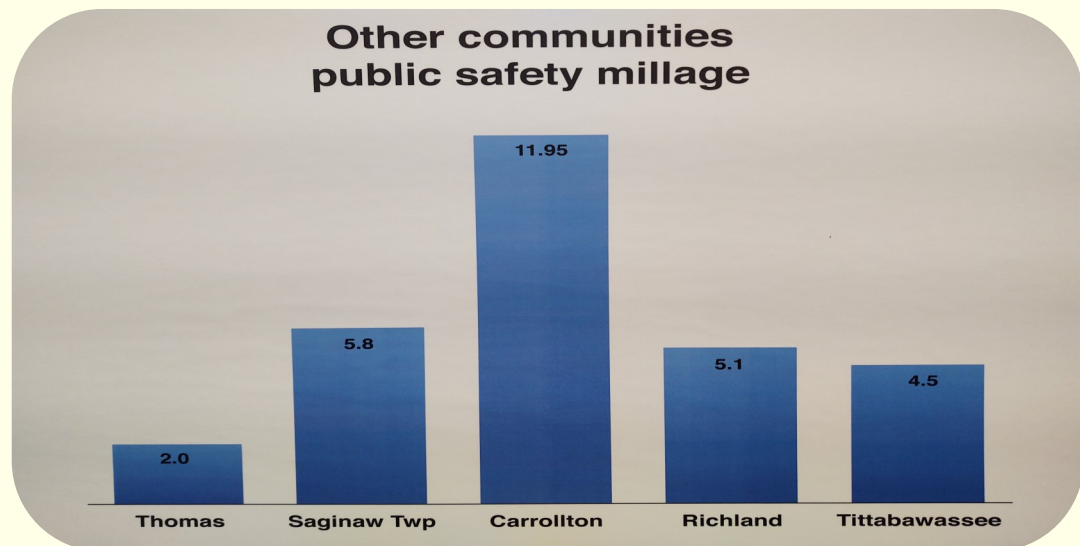
The support of this millage would allow the fire department to not only continue providing the services we currently do, but would allow us to hire two additional full-time responders to help ensure daytime coverage seven days a week. As most of us know, getting people to sign up is becoming an increasing challenge. Since we rely on paid-on-call “volunteers” to respond to calls, it becomes critical to have them available. With our increase in calls (specifically medical calls), it is becoming harder to ensure we have people to respond especially during the daytime hours which includes weekends. Our goal would be to provide seven days a week coverage for the daytime, with the paid-on-call members still covering our night calls. If this millage does not pass, we will likely be forced to discontinue responding to emergency medical calls as they represent two-thirds of our call volume. Clearly, we do not want to stop responding to medical calls, but the lack of manpower and funding would force us to give this option serious consideration.

The police department operates with five patrol vehicles and a department of eight full-time members and one administrative assistant. They currently provide 24/7/365 coverage with their team. They respond to many types of emergencies from high-level crimes to smaller crimes, to senior scams to neighboring troubles and domestic violence assaults. Some of these crimes are solved quickly while others can take days/ weeks/ months to investigate and solve. When an officer is investigating an offense, this means they are tied up and unable to respond to other in-progress type calls. Another great service our police provide is house checks, when residents are away on extended vacations, they can sign up and an officer spends extra time checking on the home to help ensure it remains “protected” from intruders. The department is often praised for the efforts our officers make to help protect residents property while they are relaxing on vacation.

The support of this millage would allow the police department to hire two additional officers. One would specialize in detective-type work and also serve on road patrol. The detective side would allow them more time to be spent on investigating crimes which would allow the regular patrol officer to focus their time on patrol. Investigating crimes takes a lot of time that our small department doesn’t have. This position would be able to focus their time on that specific task. The other officer hired, would have a focus on working on traffic issues i.e. speeders, running red lights and stop signs, passing stopped school buses, and similar traffic problems. The balance of their time would be dedicated to working on patrol officer duties. Extra attention would also be given to the schools between these positions. If the increased millage does not pass, the police department would continue to operate status quo. This is not the desired path, but would be forced due to budget restraints.

If you have any questions regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact either Chief Fong or Chief Cousins and we will be happy to help provide you with any factual information.

Thank you
Chief Fong – Thomas Twp. Police
Chief Cousins – Thomas Twp. Fire



Library Seeks Millage Renewal

The Thomas Township Library Board of Trustees is seeking the renewal of a 10 year .4000 mill operating millage which was approved by voters in 1992, 2002 and again in 2012. This is a renewal of current funding, not a request for increased support. The owner of a home with an SEV of \$75,000 will pay \$30.00 annually; the approximate cost of one hardcover fiction book.

The operation of the library has made great strides over the past 33 years. Since its official opening in May, 1989, the number of cataloged materials has increased from 16,000+ to over 80,000. On-site periodical subscriptions available for viewing number 130. In addition, the ability to inner loan materials through the Michigan Electronic Library (MelCat) is available to Thomas Township Library card holders. Downloadable eBooks, audio books and magazines can be accessed from either the Libby App or OverDrive® link both found on our website homepage by using your library card. The downloadable combined digital formats offer over 30,000 viewing or listening options. Programming includes story times and activities for children, an annual summer reading program for all ages, an adult book discussion group and the adult coloring club will resume on August 8th. The conference room is open for bookings for organizational meetings, based on availability.

We are open 49 hours weekly and continue to offer convenient curbside pickup for patrons that request that service. Due to circumstances beyond our control each year the cost of providing services to meet the diverse needs and interests of our patrons continues to increase; the purchase of a variety of circulating materials, technology, the participation in OverDrive®/Libby, the delivery of MelCat items to and from our library, programming, staffing, utilities, maintenance of the building, mechanical systems and grounds, just to name a few. The shingled and flat roof were both replaced in 2020 due to necessity. A portion of the south driveway was replaced, and the parking lot was sealed and striped in May of this year.

We truly appreciate your interest, your support and especially your passion for our library and the services we offer. We are doing are very best to provide a great library experience for all. We want our facility to be the very best. We can do that with your continued support. Please vote on August 2, 2022. Thank you!!!

Tari Dusek
Library Director

Community-Wide Yard Sales, Thank You!

Thomas Township would like to thank everyone who participated in the 13th Annual Trash & Treasures Yard Sales and Business Sidewalk Sales. We had over 120 sales registered on the map, along with 11 Business Sidewalk Sales.

We hope everyone who participated had a successful sale and had the opportunity to shop a few themselves! The Township would also like to thank all of those who shopped the sales. Without the buyers, the sales wouldn't be possible.

The donation trucks provided by Oldtown Christian Outreach Center and Goodwill were such an amazing help and an important partner in making the event a big success. We would like to extend a sincere thanks to them for their participation.

THANK
YOU!

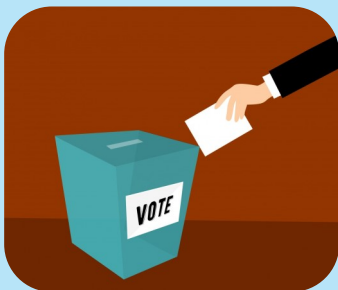
Election Reminders

The primary election will be held on August 2, 2022. Please be aware that due to redistricting, your precinct number may have changed. New Voter ID cards are being mailed out which lists this change (if any).

The polling place for those who vote in Precinct 1, will now be going to St. Mark Lutheran Church at 2565 North Miller Road to cast their ballots. **No voting will be done at Fire Station #2 on Dice Road.**

If you are interested in applying to be an Election Worker, please contact the Deputy Clerk at (989) 781-0150.

Connie Watt
Deputy Clerk



Police Department News

Drunk driving is a problem that just won't go away. No matter how many public service announcements are made, drivers are still taking the chance of driving while intoxicated. In addition to alcohol, legalized marijuana has made it even more difficult.

As a Police Department, we strictly enforce the intoxicated while driving laws. One particular officer within our department, Officer Smith, is trying to reduce the number of drunk/drugged drivers by enforcing those laws. In 2021, Officer Smith has made 53 Operating While Intoxicated arrests, this surpassed his total number of arrests in 2020 by seven. Officer Smith is not only enforcing the law, he's educating the public by making presentations to local businesses and to the Thomas Township Police Explorers.

Due to his diligent work and efforts to reduce drunk/drugged drivers, Officer Smith was nominated for the Exchange Club of Saginaw's Officer of the Year award. The nominating committee recognized his work and chose him to receive the award. He, along with other police officers from Saginaw County were presented their awards at the Exchange Club's luncheon on May 3, 2022 at the Saginaw Club. Congratulations to Officer Smith on receiving this distinguished award.



Officer Smith

Al Fong
Police Chief

VETERAN'S DISPLAY

Honoring all who have served.....



You have an opportunity to honor your Veteran with an engraved paver that will be placed within the Township's Veteran's Display. Anyone who has served in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States is welcomed to be honored. The cost is \$35.00 per paver. The price only represents the actual costs to purchase and engrave the brick. Simply visit the Township Offices located at 249 N Miller Road, or download a form at www.thomastwp.org.

2022– Department of Public Works



In conformance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, Thomas Township is required to provide all users of the water system with a Consumer Confidence Report each July. This report outlines the drinking water quality that is delivered to your home or business. The 2021 report can be located by visiting Thomas Township's DPW site at the following URL:

<https://www.thomastwp.org/departments-services/public-works-2/>

Please take time to read this important information regarding your drinking water quality. To request a paper copy of the Consumer Confidence Report, please contact us at 989-781-6438.

Beginning in late April, the DPW staff began its yearly maintenance work on both the water and sewer systems. For our water system, we will be completing preventive maintenance on all of our fire hydrants. This work will include flushing the water mains and testing the operation of each individual fire hydrant. The work is done to make sure that our hydrants operate properly in emergencies and to remove air, "old water" or mineral buildup that may have become trapped within the water mains. Overall, these activities will ensure the water that is delivered to your home or business is of the highest quality available. During the overall maintenance work, we will also be lubricating, painting and color coding each hydrant, while ensuring that the hydrants are unobscured. In some areas, we will measure water pressure and flow rates of a particular water main while flushing a hydrant. The work will be completed in phases ending in October.

Work on our sanitary sewers will begin in mid to late May and continue through the summer months as we clean major portions of the sewer pipelines of grease and "other" built up materials. Cleaning will consist of high-pressure and velocity water and is necessary to ensure that the sewers continue to flow unobstructed. This work is expected to be completed by October 1st.

If you have a hydrant located in your yard, please make sure that plants and shrubs are at least six (6) feet away from the centerline of the hydrant. This clear area is necessary so that the hydrant can be quickly located, hooked up to and operated in emergency conditions. Thank you for your help.

Trevor Schultz,
Assistant Director of Public Works

Fire Department - Pancakes Are Back

We have heard from many of you loud and clear about your love for pancakes. The Fire Department Pancake Breakfast will return this year along with the food trucks and activities.

Pancakes will be served in the morning and food trucks in the early afternoon. We'll continue to have a police car and many trucks on display. We'll have our spray hose, obstacle course, and a few more surprises. Please save the date of **September 25** and watch our website or Facebook for more information as we get closer.

Thank you and see you in the fall.

Mike Cousins
Fire Chief



Familiar/New Face, Deputy Clerk

As some of you may have already noticed, Connie Watt has made the move from Code Enforcer/Planning & Zoning Assistant to the Deputy Clerk. We wish her well and hope you stop by and congratulate her when you see her at the Deputy Clerk's desk!

We would also like to thank Darci Seamon for her dedication as the previous Deputy Clerk and wish her the best on her new endeavor! She has been a great part of our team! We will miss her and we wish her our best.



Fire Department Hosts Open House and Recruitment Days

Your fire department is in search of more help. We are needing to add to our paid-on-call ranks. We need residents who want to be part of the community by becoming a FIRST RESPONDER. We have a need for fire and medical people or just medical people. If you are not trained, NO WORRIES, we'll train you. We have set up an open house/recruitment day at both of our fire stations. Come meet some first responders and hear what it takes to be a member and what a great feeling it is giving back to a community. **Station #1** located on N. Miller Road will greet you on August 24 from 6-8 pm. **Station #2** on Dice at N. Thomas will greet you on July 28 from 5-8pm. If you have any interest in serving with your local fire department, please stop in and hear some more details. You can stop at either Station, no matter where you live. If neither of those dates work for you, please check out our website at www.thomastwp.org/departments-services/fire-department/about/employment/ Another option is to call us at 989-781-4141, Monday thru Friday from 8am-5pm. We would be more than happy to speak with you.

THANK YOU for considering helping others in their time of need.

Mike Cousins
Fire Chief

Honor your Hometown Hero

Thomas Township along with the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) are proud to honor the men and women who have served or are currently serving the United States of America by instituting the **HOMETOWN HEROES BANNER PROGRAM**. This program is a way for a service person and/or family member to honor and recognize their contribution. The Hometown Hero must be a current or previous resident of Thomas Township. The banners will be displayed on the light poles along Gratiot Road (M-46) for Veteran's Day and Memorial Day holidays. Times are approximate. The cost for the banner is \$110.00.

If you would like to honor and recognize someone, please contact the Thomas Township Community Development Department at (989) 781-0150, visit our website thomastwp.org, or stop in the main office at 249 Miller Rd. for more information.

Parks & Recreation Commission Members

Scott Branch, Chair

Craig Aimar, Secretary

Angela Alworden

Craig Blower

Anne Hoffman

Dean Rusch

DJ Sova

Parks & Recreation Staff Members

John Corriveau,
Director

Tyler Sutherlund,
Asst. Director

Susan Prevost,
Receptionist

The Parks & Recreation Office is open Monday through Friday for walk-ins from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm and can be reached at (989) 781-0151. If the office is closed for any reason, please stop into the main office for further assistance.



Day Camps

Thomas Township has six remaining, exciting, week-long day camp sessions this summer for children ages 7-12. The Day Camp runs five days a week, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

This year each week will have a new theme for campers to explore, while still offering some of the activities that campers have come to love such as swimming, train rides, and crafts.

This year's remaining themes are:



July 11th - 15th	Mission Impossible
July 18th - 22nd	Game Show Mania (FULL)
July 25th - 29th	Superheroes
Aug. 1st - 5th	Tropical Paradise (FULL)
Aug. 8th - 12th	Off the Grid
Aug. 15th - 19th	Anything Goes

Registration Fees: Resident: \$120
Non-Resident \$130

*There is a reduced fee for a 2nd child of the same family registered in the same week. This also applies to mini camps.

Before & After Camp Care

Before and After camp care is for parents who need to drop off or pick up their children before or after the scheduled camp time. A counselor will stay with any children if they need to be dropped off early or stay late. Before and After Camp Care begins at 7:30 am and ends at 5:30 pm.

Fees:

\$30 per week per child

***All children must be registered and paid in advance for this service.**



ONLINE REGISTRATION is available for Parks and Recreation Programming. You can access the online registration at thomastwp.org. When using the online registration system to register for Parks and Recreation Programming, you MUST pay for the program you are registering for at the time you fill out the registration form or you will not be considered enrolled in that program. Registration is a two step process. Once you hit REGISTER NOW, you will register, agree to the terms and hit SEND. You will then be redirected to the payment options on the next screen. From there you should receive a confirmation email of payment. If you do not receive a confirmation, then your payment was not able to be processed and registration will not be able to be completed.

Not all programs are available for online registration. If you have any questions feel free to call the Parks and Recreation office at (989) 781-0151 or stop into the Parks and Rec office at 249 North Miller Road.

Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons are taught by certified instructors. Each session consists of eight lessons. Classes are Monday through Thursday with both morning and evening sessions.

Fees: Resident: \$50 Non-Resident: \$60

Level 1: Water Exploration (Ages 4-6) Introduction to aquatic skills & water safety.

Next Sessions: July 11th - July 21st July 25th - Aug. 4th
Aug. 8th - 18th

Morning Session: 10:00 am - 10:45 am

Evening Session: 6:15 pm - 7:00 pm 7:15pm - 8:00pm

Level 2: Primary Skills (Ages 5-9) Passed level 1 or a skill test. Working on basic strokes and aquatic safety.

Next Sessions: July 11th - July 21st July 25th - Aug. 4th Aug. 8th - 18th

Morning Session: 10:00 am - 10:45 am 11:00 am - 11:45 am

Evening Session: 6:15 pm - 7:00 pm 7:15 pm - 8:00 pm

Level 3: Stroke Readiness (Ages 6-10) Passed level 2 or a skill test. Continue working on strokes, water safety, and diving skills.

Next Sessions: July 11th - July 21st July 25th - Aug. 4th Aug. 8th - 18th

Morning Session: 11:00 am - 11:45 am

Evening Session: 7:15 pm - 8:00 pm



Pool Schedule

The pool is open for recreational swimming Monday through Sunday and will remain open through August 19th 2022. *Closing date subject to change

Open Swim Monday - Sunday: 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Fees:

Resident: \$5 Non-Resident: \$10

Family of 5:

Resident: \$10 Non-Resident: \$15

Season Passes:

Resident: \$60 Non-Resident: \$80

Family of 5:

Resident: \$85 Non-Resident: \$115

**There will be an additional \$25 fee on family passes for each additional family member over the limit of 5. Season passes are available at the Thomas Township Office, located at 249 N. Miller Road.*

Movies in the Park

The Thomas Township Parks and Recreation Department will be hosting FREE movies in the park this summer. The movies will be held at Roberts Park at 455 S. Miller Road. The movies will begin around 9:30 pm and the concession stand at the pavilion will be open to purchase snacks and drinks during the movie!



July 22nd

Fall Soccer Leagues

Registration for fall soccer leagues for boys and girls in grades young 5's through 8th grade will begin in Mid July and will continue until August 9th, 2022.

The fall soccer season runs for six weeks beginning September 14th and ending October 14th, 2022. For more information please call the Parks and Recreation office at (989) 781-0151.

Registration Fee:

Resident: \$50

Non-Resident: \$55



Community Calendar 2022

- July 4th
Office closed in observance
of the holiday
- July 12th
Toppermost Beatles Trib-
ute; Roethke Park Concert
- July 19th
The Savior Machines;
Roethke Park Concert
- July 22nd
Movie in the Park at Robert's
Park: The Croods 2
- July 26th
The Jim and Tim Acoustic
Show; Roethke Park Concert
- August 2nd
Laurie & The Lefties;
Roethke Park Concert
- August 9th
The Rock Show; Roethke
Park Concert
- August 16th
Michele Spitz; Roethke Park
Concert
- August 19th
Roethke Pool closes
(Subject to change)

Concert Series at Roethke Park

Join us for a summer picnic and free concert at Roethke Park, located at 400 Leddy Road. Enjoy great music and many more special events on Tuesdays from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Rainouts will be rescheduled for August 23rd 2022.

The Roethke Mini Train will be ready to roll for the kids during the concert series for just \$1 per person! Come on over and have a nice family night out at Roethke Park.

The remaining concerts at the park are as follows:

July 12th: Toppermost Beatles Tribute	Aug. 2nd: Laurie & the Lefties
July 19th: The Savior Machines	Aug. 9th: The Rock Show
July 26th: The Jim & Tim Acoustic Show	Aug. 16th: Michele Spitz

Archery Classes 2023

Archery classes will begin Thursday, January 5th, 2023 and will continue through May 2023. There will be three, six week sessions with classes being held on Thursdays. Registrations will begin in November of 2022 and run through December of 2022. Call the Parks and Recreation Office for more information about the program at (989) 781-0151 or check our website for updates, www.thomastwp.org.

Classes for beginners work on safety, form, equipment and the fundamentals to become a good archer. Classes for advanced archers are based on using their equipment, if they have it, or using advanced set up bows. We have both fully set up compound bows or longbows available for use.

Sessions will be at the following times:

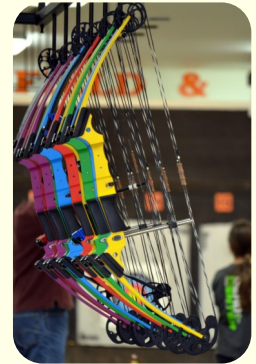
Beginner: 4:30 - 5:15 pm	5:15 - 6:00 pm	6:00 - 6:45 pm	6:45 - 7:30 pm
Advanced: 7:30 - 8:15 pm			

Ride the Roethke Mini Train



The Roethke Mini Train runs Tuesday evenings from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm and every Saturday and Sunday through August 19th from noon until 4:00 pm (schedule subject to change and weather permitting). If you are planning a family event or bringing a large group please call ahead to verify the availability of the train for your get together. For special group times please call (989) 781-0151.

Haunted Train: Don't miss out on the Haunted Train Ride happening October 11th - 12th and 18th - 19th. From dusk to midnight you can ride the fright train. The ever popular attraction returns for another year of screams. We are always looking for more ghouls and goblins to volunteer.



Upcoming Events!

Thomas Township

249 N. Miller Road
Saginaw, MI 48609-4896

PRSR MKT
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PAID
SAGINAW, MI
PERMIT NO. 273

2022 Brush Drop Off Dates

Brush may be taken by the homeowner to the Township brush drop off site located at the northwest corner of N. Gleaner & Frost Road. No stumps, leaves, grass or commercial brush of any kind will be accepted. The site will be open the entire weekend, Saturday and Sunday, and closed back up first thing Monday morning.

Drop Off Dates:

July 9/10 & 23/24

August 6/7 & 20/21

September 3/4 & 17/18

October 1/2, 8/9, 15/16, 22/23 & 29/30

Yard Waste Pick-up will end November 30th