## Bruce Township Newsletter

Watch township meetings on our You Tube Channel "Bruce Township"

Like us on our Facebook page "Bruce Township Macomb County" for important information.

Supervisor Mike Fillbrook



I hope that everyone is having a safe and enjoyable season and wish everyone a prosperous 2024.

We receive many inquiries regarding where our property tax dollars go, based on information I received from the Treasure's and Assessing offices, Bruce Township collects approximately \$20 Million annually, the following is a approximate breakdown on the distribution.

- Township Operating approximately: \$510,000.00
- Fire approximately: \$950,000.00
- Advance Life Support (ALS) approximately: \$1.4 Million

• Schools, County, Library, Zoo, Parks & Rec, Etc. <u>\$17.1 Million</u> The property taxes you pay are calculated based on the taxable value of your home. The terminology used for this is mills. 1 mill equals \$1.00 per \$1,000.00 per taxable value. Example: if the taxable value of your home is \$200,000.00 you pay \$200.00 per mill.

If you go to our website under the Treasure tab then click on <u>School</u> <u>District Millage Rates</u>, the number of mills you pay per category are on the right, times that by the Taxable Value of your home, that would tell you how much you pay for that category annually. The majority of these millage rates are voter approved and the Township has no control over these millage rates. Assessment notices will be mailed in mid -February if you want to appeal your assessment follow the instructions on the assessment notice to make an appointment with the board of reviews scheduled for March 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of 2024.

The current administration at the Township has not raised taxes and have no intentions to do so.

I would like to welcome the new businesses that have moved into Fiddlers Cove shopping center and wish them the best. Dollar Tree, Courtesy Driving School, The Violet Collection Hair salon, and soon to come Van Dyke Tobacco store.

Stay safe and warm this winter. Mike Fillbrook Supervisor 586-318-2823

Treasurer Frank DiGiorgio



Susan Kraft Beginning with the 2024 Presidential Primary, we will be implementing nine days of early voting in conjunction with Washington and Ray Townships. Our three communities have come together to provide one early voting location at the Washington Township Hall. Michigan's

With the passing of Proposal 2022-2, you can have your ballot automatically mailed to you by joining the Permanent Absentee Ballot List. This allows voters to complete an application once and receive an absentee ballot for all elections moving forward. In the past, voters were required to complete an absentee ballot application for each election in which they desired to receive an absentee ballot. You will no longer be required to fill out an Absentee Ballot Application. If you wish to be added to the Permanent ballot list complete, print, sign, and return the PERMANENT BALLOT LIST form to the Clerk's office either by email, regular mail, or by dropping it off in the secure election drop box. Forms are available on our website <u>www.brucetwp.org</u> or at the Clerk's office.

Presidential Primary will be held on February 27<sup>t</sup>

Water and sewer customers, please be advised that as of January 1, 2024, utility billing will change from a quarterly bill, to monthly billing.

If you have any questions regarding either of these issues, or any others, please feel free to contact the Clerk's Office at 586.752.4585.

Friendly reminder: Bruce Township offices will be closed beginning December 21<sup>st</sup> for the Christmas and New Year's holidays. We will reopen on January 3, 2024. Enjoy the holiday season!

Susan Kraft, Clerk 586.752.4585 Ext. 116 <u>skraft@brucetwp.org</u>

Clerk



If you are a veteran, please contact the Clerk's office with your service information. We value our veterans.



rank DiGiorgio

The Treasurer's office is committed and looks forward to, serving taxpayers with respect, professionalism and a commitment to customer service. Taxes are due and payable:

Summer: Mailed out July 1st and are due by September 14th, 2023 Winter: Mailed out December 1st and are due by February 29th, 2024

#### <u>Mailing Tax or Utility Payments</u>

In order for us to receive your payments in a timely manner, please give the US Postal Service an appropriate time limit for them to deliver the mail to us, or you can place it in the secured drop box behind the Bruce Township Hall located at 223 East Gates, Romeo, MI 48065.

#### Tax payments

Payments can be made in person at the following bank branches located in Romeo: Tri-County, PNC and People Driven Credit Union.

#### **Online Bill Pay**

Tax payments can be made on the Township website: www.brucetwp.org thru Invoice Cloud (the payment processing company) <u>they will</u> charge you 3.25% on your credit or debt card, you can also pay with an Electronic Check for a flat fee of \$3.95. You can also bill pay through your financial institution's online bill payment service. (Please allow enough time for processing) Delivered by your bank does <u>NOT</u> mean delivered to the township. Most financial institutions indicate it could take up to <u>2 weeks</u> for the payment to arrive and they do not guarantee that the payment is delivered timely.

Non-Sufficient Funds Charge: Due to an increase in non-sufficient funds transactions there will be a <u>\$40.00 fee</u> applied.

<u>When writing checks PLEASE</u> ensure that the numeric and written portion of the check match and are legible, so that way the bank will not return them for non-payment. Also please read the back of your bill for important information.

Wishing you and your family a MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Frank DiGiorgio Treasurer 586-752-4585 Ext. 117 fdigiorgio@brucetwp.org

Robert Biluk Deputy Treasurer 586-752-4585 Ext. 119 rbiluk@brucetwp.org



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# **Fire Department**

The Fire Department has been busy since our last update! Chief Steve Nakis has been full steam ahead and there are great things in the works! We have welcomed new members to our staff to better serve the community. Thanks to a grant we were able to upgrade and replace our aged air packs with new Scott air packs. We were also able to replace our single Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) pack with 2 new packs, expanding our RIT capabilities to both stations. The RIT team is the team that rescues the rescuer if they get in trouble. We are hoping to add more equipment through grants as they become available. Currently we are waiting on new power stretchers with power loads for all our ambulances to safer patient transport. Also we are expecting a new ambulance sometime soon.

The Fire Department open house was held on October 21<sup>st</sup>, participants included were RWB Parks and Rec Monster Bash. Lions Club and their vision screening trailer. Jim Santilli provided a drone flying demonstration and coordinated Macomb County helicopter fly by.

Bruce Fire Local 4076 has taken the initiative to provide address signs that are compliant with our township ordinance 172, Orders have taken off and we appreciate you helping us help you having a clear address at the street. It makes it much easier and faster to find you when our services are needed. Residents can order address signs by calling 586-752-4585 Ext. 170 or online, at

www.brucetownshipfiredepartment.org There are also fundraising items available to purchase and support your local firefighters. Be sure to check out the T shirts and our own label coffee, provided locally by 5° North. Visit our FB page www.facebook.com/BTFDLocal4076

The Bruce Fire Department has free lending closet at Fire station 1 for your temporary needs, such as wheelchairs, walkers, and crutches. If you need assistance, please call 586-752-4585 Ext. 170

In closing we wish you the happiest and safest Holidays.

# **Assessing Department**

Mitchell Elrod, MMAO (4), MCPPE

Assessor

2024 Assessment Notices will be mailed out in February. If you feel that your assessed value is incorrect you have the opportunity to appeal your assessment at the March Board of Review. Instructions will be on the notice to schedule an appointment. If you are unavailable to attend the meeting a written protest can be submitted before the March Board of Review adjourns.

If you disagree with the decision of the Board of Review, further appeal may be made to the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

All assessing forms are available on our website at <u>www.brucetwp.org</u> or at the assessing department.

# **Community News**

# The Bruce Township Cemeteries Beautification Project

On Saturday November 4th the "Stewards of Bruce Township Cemeteries" board held a cemetery day with students who did an outstanding job from Romeo and Armada High Schools and volunteered their time to trim trees and cut unwanted vegetation along the fence line. Thank you to the "Stewards of Bruce Township Cemeteries" and the donors who support them, they recently purchased and installed benches on the memorial patios at the McAfferty and Bruce/Armada Cemeteries. Anyone that is interested in volunteering their time can contact Frank DiGiorgio Treasure office at 586-258-7052.

### **Cemeteries under Township control:**

Bruce/Armada Cemetery - Armada Center Road, east of Kanie MaCafferty Cemetery - Van Dyke north of 34 Mile Rd Goodrich Cemetery - North Kidder Rd. east of Van Dyke Price per grave - Bruce Township resident \$1,000, Non-resident \$2,000





# **Blood Drive**





# DONATE BLOOD

We will be having a blood drive on Thursday December 7th from 9am—3pm at the Bruce Twp. hall located at 223 E Gates St., Romeo, MI 48065. Anyone interested in donating blood can schedule their appointment online at www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?

## use local businesses for allowing us to place our newsletter in their establishment, please Shop at them....Shop Local!

Mains Treat Coffeehouse Van Dyke Liquor Beer Wine & Lottery Main Street Kitchen & Bar Golden Buddha Thai Cuisine Chili Peppers Tanning Courtesy Driving School

Sheena's Marketplace Times Square Restaurant Lafonda Mexican Kitchen Noir Salon/Spa Jordano Graphics Elite Martial Arts

4 Corners' Diner Fraser Optical The Violet Collection Fit Body Boot Camp Emmet's Energy

