



BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

Newsletter

Summer 2002

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Elected Officials

ADMINISTRATION

Dave Payne, Supervisor
Wilma S. Cotton, Clerk
Dan Devine, Treasurer

TRUSTEES

Janet M. Roncelli
Sherry Stefanos
Jerry J. Tobias
William R. Yaw, Jr.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Appointed Positions

Wilma S. Cotton
David J. Lubin
Richard D. Mintz
George R. Smith
John M. Swoboda
Robert L. Wittbold

BOARD OF APPEALS

Appointed Positions

Neal Jay Barnett
Wilma S. Cotton
Brian E. Kepes
Leo Savoie
Fred G. Wilkinson

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP OFFICES

4200 Telegraph Road
PO Box 489

Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303-0489

Police, Fire and EMS Millage Proposal Is Placed On Primary Election Ballot

Bloomfield Township has always prided itself on state-of-the-art public safety services. Highly trained police officers and firefighters using the latest in technology assure that our Township residents are protected and secure.

The need for the most effective possible protection has been even more a concern for all Americans in the wake of last September's terrorist attacks. In his State of the Union message last January, President Bush underscored this reality when he said, "Stronger police and fire departments will mean safer neighborhoods."

Our residents deserve the most appropriate personnel, training and equipment to be on guard to adequately respond to any possible disaster or catastrophe in our Township.

The cost of maintaining and enhancing the high level of protection which we find essential has grown in recent years as technology has become more sophisticated and expensive and training needs have grown more complex, particularly in the wake of last September 11. As these needs have caused the budgets of our police, fire and EMS to rise, they have increasingly exceeded the amount being raised by the Township's existing public safety millage.

For a number of years the Bloomfield Township Board of Trustees has been forced to approve subsidies from the Township General Fund to



Firefighters assist a victim of an auto accident

cover the shortfall in the millage currently earmarked for police, fire and EMS services. For the current year the resulting deficit is more than \$4 million.

In an effort to assure adequate funding for all public safety services in the Township, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to place on the Primary Election ballot a proposal seeking approval of an

Continued on page 2

Inside this Issue:

Police, Fire & EMS (con't.)	2
Attention Voters!	2
Public Act 222 - Sewers	2
Hazardous Material Drill	3
Township's Canine Unit	3

The Township's high level of public safety protection is typified by such facts as:

- The average response time for a call to the Fire Department is less than five minutes, one of the best anywhere.
- Patrol cars in every patrol district are equipped with an Automatic External Defibrillator to immediately assist individuals suffering from sudden cardiac arrest.
- Every Township firefighter is trained in Emergency Medicine and is licensed by the State of Michigan.
- Each of our four EMS units has advanced life support capability.
- Police officers must have a minimum of a four-year college degree to be hired, the highest level of training required anywhere in Michigan.
- Firefighters must have a Fire Science Certificate, State of Michigan Fire Fighter I and II certification, EMT licensure and at least 60 college credits to be hired, one of the highest levels of training required anywhere in Michigan.



Attention Voters!

In anticipation of the Primary Election scheduled for August 6, 2002, please be aware that if you are 18 years old, a U.S. citizen and currently not registered to vote you need to do so by July 8th, either at a Secretary of State office or the Township Clerk's office.

Absentee ballots may be obtained upon written request to the Clerk either by mail or fax. You must state the reason you need the absentee ballot, i.e., 60 years of age or older or out of the community on the day of the election. Advise where you want the ballot mailed if other than your registered address. *Each person requesting a ballot must personally sign the letter.*

The last day to request that an absentee ballot be mailed is Saturday, August 3rd at 2:00 p.m.; qualified voters may vote absentee in the Clerk's office until 4:00 p.m. on August 5th.

Remember, pursuant to state law, *you must sign the absentee ballot return envelope or your ballot cannot be counted.*

Polls are open on the day of election from 7:00 am until 8:00 pm

Please take the time to

VOTE!

Fax requests to: (248) 433-7714
mail to: Wilma S. Cotton
4200 Telegraph, PO Box 489
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303-0489

Police, Fire & EMS Millage Proposal *(continued from page 1)*

additional public safety millage for the Township. The 2.5 mill authorization being sought would cost the average Township household about \$1 a day if the entire 2.5 mills were levied.

As quoted recently, "Public safety is the most important service provided by government," said Township Supervisor Dave Payne. "The people of Bloomfield Township are rightfully proud of our state-of-the-art public safety agencies that protect us all. The Board believes that at an average household cost of \$1 a day - about the same as a cup of coffee - this proposal is a

reasonable one that will assure that we continue to receive the best public safety protection to be found anywhere in southeast Michigan."

The Township also needs to purchase a new ladder truck costing almost \$1 million for the fire department to replace a 22-year-old piece of equipment. The new truck is a 100-foot aerial ladder truck that includes the very latest in firefighting and electronic technology. The truck features an articulating arm that can carry firefighters to the top of a building and make access to roofs much safer

than if the firefighters were forced to walk on the roof.

In addition to the new ladder truck, the fire department needs several new \$300,000 engines, a new \$200,000 rescue unit and must remodel two fire stations in the near future to accommodate the expanding needs in protecting our Township.



Ladder Fire Truck

Public Act 222: Sewer Back-up Legislation - What a Homeowner Needs To Know -

The State of Michigan passed a new law, Act 222 of Public Acts of 2001, which clarifies when municipalities are liable for sewer backups. The Act sets standards to determine the extent a municipality is liable for backups and establishes a process which affected persons must follow to seek compensation when a backup occurs.

Anyone making a claim for property damage or physical injury must prove that the public sewer had a defect. Further, that the governmental agency knew, or in the exercise of reasonable diligence, should have known about the defect, and that the governmental agency having the legal authority to do so, failed to take reasonable steps in a

reasonable amount of time to repair, correct, or remedy the defect. Finally, the defect must be 50% or more of the cause of the event and the property damage or physical injury.

If you experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system and intend to make a claim, you must file a written claim with the Charter Township of Bloomfield Clerk within 45 days after the overflow or backup is discovered. Claim forms are available at the Clerk's Office upon request.

Claims must be mailed to the Charter Township of Bloomfield Clerk:

Wilma S. Cotton, 4200
Telegraph, P.O. Box 489,
Bl'field Hills, MI 48303-0489.

Failure to provide the required written claim within the allotted time will prevent recovery of damages.

Upon discovery of an overflow or sanitary backup, immediately contact the Water and Sewer Department at (248) 433-7731 weekdays between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. After business hours, during weekends and on holidays, call the Emergency Water and Sewer line at (248) 433-7730.

If you would like additional information or have any questions concerning this new law, please contact the Superintendent of the Water and Sewer Department Wayne Domine at: (248) 433-7731.

Reminders!

- ✓ Help prevent Oak Wilt disease by not pruning your oak trees from April 1 through October 15.
- ✓ Property Maintenance and Open Storage Ordinances are monitored to assure the high standards of Bloomfield Township neighborhoods.

The Oak Wilt Resolution and the above ordinances are posted on the Township website, www.bloomfieldtpw.org. See Clerk's page under "Services" or "News" under "Current Events."

Fire Department Stages Hazardous Material Drill

Bloomfield Township firefighters, along with other members of the Oakway Hazardous Materials Response Team, staged a Weapons of Mass Destruction terrorist drill recently to test their response to a large-scale emergency incident. The vacant Showcase Cinema complex on Telegraph Road north of Square Lake Road was the site of a simulated scenario in which an unknown gas was released in the theatre and parking lot, affecting thirty victims.

Bloomfield Township has had an Emergency Management Plan since 1986. Drills are carried out periodically to test

the plan's effectiveness. Participants of this simulated chemical release included: Bloomfield Township Administration; Oakway Hazardous Material (HazMat) Team (Bloomfield Township; Birmingham, Ferndale, Madison Heights, Pontiac, Royal Oak, Southfield, Waterford, West Bloomfield Township) Bloomfield Township Police Department; Oakland County Sheriff's Department; Oakland County Emergency Management Division; Michigan State Police; Oakland County Medical

Control/Local Hospitals and American Medical Response.



Member of HazMat entry team goes through decontamination exercise.

Township's Canine Unit Undergoes Changes



Officer Godlewski and Brisco search a vehicle for narcotics during the recent K-9 certification test.

One of Bloomfield Township's most popular officers, Jazz, was retired recently from active K-9 duty because of her ongoing struggle with cancer. She is now resting at home with her handler, Police Officer Godlewski, and his family.

Officer Godlewski has begun an intensive training period for the new K-9, Brisco. Brisco is a one-year-old Dutch Shepherd and comes from a long line of police dogs. His training involves obedience training, aggression control, agility, tracking, building and article search, and narcotics

detection. Brisco displays high drive and motivation and performed very well during recent K-9 trials in Livonia. He received certification through the North

American Police Work Dog Association.

The Bloomfield Township K-9 unit performs many duties critical to the law enforcement function, including searching for lost children, searching buildings on alarms or at the scenes of break-ins, recovery of stolen property, narcotics searches and seizures, and tracking felony suspects who have fled the scene of crimes. The K-9 unit can respond instantly to criminal complaints and calls for service. This department also has a cooperative agreement with

surrounding police agencies and our K-9 unit will travel outside our borders to assist these agencies.

Officer Godlewski and Brisco also conduct K-9 demonstrations at schools, civic organizations, and other community events.

Chief Jeffrey Werner commented that our K-9 unit has contributed a great deal to the overall effectiveness of the department for over 30 years. "While we are all very sorry to see Jazz retired, we are looking forward to getting Brisco out in the community."

If you are interested in finding out more about Brisco and the Police Canine unit, please call 248-433-7750.



Officer Godlewski and Brisco

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

Days / Times

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Time: 8:00 pm
Days: 2nd and 4th Monday of each month

Location: Township Auditorium

PLANNING COMMISSION

Time: 7:00 pm
Days: 1st and 3rd Monday of each month

Location: Township Auditorium

ZONING

BOARD OF APPEALS

Time: 7:30 pm
Days: 2nd Tuesday of each month

Location: Township Auditorium

Note: The Charter Township of Bloomfield will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services at all meetings to individuals with disabilities. All such requests must be made at least five days prior to said meeting. Please contact Bloomfield Township's Clerk's Office.

Clerk's Office
PO Box 489
Bloomfield Hills, MI
48303-0489
Telephone: 248.433.7702
Fax: 248.433.7714
email: clerk@bloomfieldtwp.org
www: Bloomfieldtwp.org



Safety Path 2002

The areas slated for safety path construction in 2002 are:

-  Inkster Rd. - Maple to Beacon Hill
-  Franklin Rd. - Walnut Lake Rd. to Long Lake Rd.
-  Quarton Road - Franklin Rd. to Wing Lake Rd.
-  Long Lake Rd. - Andover Rd. to Sunningdale Rd.
-  Gilbert Lake Rd. - Carriage Rd. to Maple Rd.
-  South Boulevard - Opdyke Rd. to Squirrel Rd.
-  Squirrel Rd. - South Blvd. to Square Lake Rd.
-  Squirrel Rd. - Hawthorne Rd. to Wattles Rd.
-  Telegraph Rd. - Quarton Rd. to Lone Pine Rd.
-  Lone Pine Rd. - Kingsgate Way to Timberlake Dr. (including path to existing library entrance.)



Bloomfield Township Board of Trustees



Front Row (L - R) Wilma Cotton - *Clerk*; Dave Payne - *Supervisor*; Dan Devine - *Treasurer*
 Back Row (L - R) *Trustees* - William Yaw Jr.; Janet Roncelli; Sherry Stefanos; Jerry Tobias

Dave Payne **Wilma S. Cotton** **Dan Devine**
 Supervisor Clerk Treasurer

TRUSTEES

Janet M. Roncelli
Sherry Stefanos
Jerry J. Tobias
William R. Yaw, Jr.

You may now email all Township departments. Use the "Contact Us" section of the Bloomfield Township website, www.bloomfieldtwp.org to find the address you need.

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

Police / Fire / Emergency
 911

Water / Sewer Emergency
 433.7730

Administration	433.7700
Fax	433.7714
Accounting	433.7712
Assessor's Office	433.7710
Building Dept.	433.7715
Clerk's Office	433.7702
Community Cable	433.7790
Fax	642.7624
Fire Department	
Non-Emergency ...	433.7745
Fax	433.7787
Police Department	
Administration	433.7750
Non-Emergency ...	433.7755
Fax	433.7784
Animal Welfare	433.7757
Investigations	433.7760
Alarm Info	433.7775
Property	433.7777
Records	433.7776
Road Department	433.7709
Fax	433.7786
Treasurer's Office	433.7705
Water & Sewer	433.7731

US POSTAGE
 PAID
 PRSRT STD
 BLOOMFIELD TWP
 PERMIT NO 40

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP
 4200 TELEGRAPH ROAD
 PO BOX 489
 BLOOMFIELD HILLS MI 48303-0489

