



DEXTER TOWNSHIP

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SUPERVISOR
MICHELLE
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CLERK
MARIS METZ
TREASURER
GRETCHEN DRISKELL
LAURA SANDERS
LONNIE SCOTT
KAREN NOLTE
TRUSTEES

Board of Trustees – Special Meeting Agenda December 1, 2023 12:00 PM

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Roll Call/Conflict of Interest Check
- 3) Call for Public Comment on Agenda Items
Please state your name and address
Limit comments to 3 minutes
Note that the public comment period is not a question-and-answer period; any questions from the public will be answered at a later date. If you would like a response, please include your contact information on the sign-in sheet.
- 4) Approval of Agenda
- 5) Action Items
 - a) Resolution to approve fire and police millage rates
- 6) Call for Public Comment: Non-Agenda Items
- 7) Adjournment



DEXTER TOWNSHIP

AGENDA ITEM REQUEST

MEETING OF: Township Board of Trustees December 1, 2023

Title: Discussion regarding Dexter Township approach to public safety funding.

Date (please submit agenda item requests 14 days prior to meeting date):

Purpose (Choose ONE):

- 1) This is a discussion item requiring no action by the board: ____
- 2) This is an action item requiring a:
 - Resolution X ;
 - Motion ;
 - Ordinance

Narrative (to be completed by requestor):

Overview

Dexter Township’s police and fire millages expire at the end of December, 2023. The Board of Trustees decided to pursue a millage renewal at the November 2023 meeting. At a special meeting on November 28, the Board considered ballot language and asked the Township attorney to clarify the ballot language and prepare an explanatory preamble to appear on the ballot.

Dexter Area Fire Department is forecasting significant cost increases: wages are expected to increase as a result of collective bargaining, and the DAFD board made a policy decision to increase staffing levels to two firefighters 24/7 at all three fire stations. The millage renewal is not sufficient to support the ongoing costs of fire services. At the November 28, 2023 meeting, the Supervisor committed to providing financial forecasts. I am forecasting that there will be sufficient funds to pay for fire services through the five year millage period:

Year	Taxable	Fire Millage Rate	Fire Millage Revenue \$	Fund Bal.	Dexter Twp Cost
2028	\$640,000,000	2.3020	\$1,463,371	\$748,948	\$1,751,534
2027	\$606,000,000	2.3150	\$1,396,331	\$1,037,111	\$1,611,347
2026	\$575,000,000	2.3280	\$1,330,932	\$1,252,126	\$1,482,380
2025	\$545,000,000	2.3411	\$1,277,032	\$1,403,574	\$1,363,735
2024	\$520,000,000	2.3543	\$1,217,444	\$1,490,276	\$1,254,586
2023	\$492,960,132		\$1,160,576	\$1,527,418	\$1,182,030

Cash flow may not be sufficient in year five: we collect taxes in January when ¼ of the fiscal year has elapsed (\$1.3M of FY28's \$1.75M cost will be due against FY27 fund balances of \$1.04K). However, I do plan to request that the BOT move the Township to a calendar year fiscal year in the coming months, which would solve this problem before it occurs. This and other possible solutions to the cash flow problem will be discussed at a future date.

The proposed police millage would fully support forecasted police services costs. The Sheriff's Department has not yet provided the FY25 contract value for police services. I used a 10% annual increase for forecasting purposes. Dexter Township contracts with the Sheriff's Department for shared 24/7 coverage (requiring eight deputies) with Webster Township and the City of Dexter. This is a contractual relationship, so we have more control over contract values than for fire services (where the annual cost is set by the DAFD board). The Sheriff's Department has experienced staffing shortages in recent years, which has resulted in increased fund balances for participating entities.

Year	Taxable	Police Millage Rate	Police Millage \$	Fund Bal.
2028	\$640,000,000	1.3594	\$864,174	\$1,020,569
2027	\$606,000,000	1.3671	\$824,585	\$1,115,892
2026	\$575,000,000	1.3748	\$785,964	\$1,205,115
2025	\$545,000,000	1.3825	\$754,134	\$1,289,443
2024	\$520,000,000	1.3903	\$718,945	\$1,364,159
2023	\$492,960,132			\$1,398,714

Staff/Supervisor Comments

Submitted by: Karen Sikkenga

Suggested Action: Motion to approve the proposed resolution to renew the police millage and fire millage for a five year period.

**DEXTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BALLOT PROPOSAL FOR
FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES MILLAGE RENEWAL**

DATE: DECEMBER 1, 2023

Resolution adopted at a special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Dexter Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan, held at the Township Hall, 6880 Dexter-Pinckney Road, Dexter, MI 48130, on December 1, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

Resolution by Trustee: _____; supported by Trustee: _____.

R E C I T A L S

WHEREAS, in 2018 the voters in Dexter Township approved an increase in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, section 6 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 on all taxable property in the Township in an amount not to exceed 2.4 mill (\$2.40 on each \$1,000 of taxable value) for a period of five (5) years, 2019 through 2023 inclusive, to provide funds for the provision of all lawful fire and emergency services including personnel, equipment and facilities (“Fire and Emergency Services Millage”). This millage is set to expire on December 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Township is authorized by Public Act 33 of 1951 (MCL 41.801 et seq.)(“Act 33”) and other applicable laws to provide for Fire and Emergency Services and may impose and levy ad valorem taxes to finance lawful public services as authorized by the Michigan Constitution, the General Law Townships Act, MCL 41.1 et seq, Act 33, and other applicable laws; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board has determined that it is in the best interest of the Township to continue to provide fire and emergency services to its residents, and it is therefore in the best interest of the Township to submit to the Township’s electors at the election to be held on February 27, 2024 a ballot proposal for renewal of the previously authorized Fire and Emergency Services Millage in the amount not to exceed \$2.3543 mill (\$2.3543 per \$1,000 of taxable value) for a period of five (5) years, first to be levied in 2024; and

WHEREAS, the total Township millage rate in 2024 will be \$5.0154 mill less the Headlee rollback, and in the event the Township’s electors approve the proposed millage, the total Township millage rate will not increase in 2024 as the proposed Fire and Emergency Services millage is a renewal and the total Township millage will remain at a rate lower than surrounding cities in Washtenaw County.

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE, it is resolved that:

1. A ballot proposal for renewal of the previously authorized Fire and Emergency Services Millage for years 2024 through 2028 in substantially the following form shall be submitted to the Township's electors at the election to be held on February 27, 2024.

Proposal to Renew Dexter Township Fire and Emergency Services Millage

In 2018 the voters of Dexter Township approved a 5 year 2.4 mill Fire and Emergency Services millage to continue to provide fire and emergency services in Dexter Township. That millage expired on December 31, 2023. To continue to provide revenue for the provision of Fire and Emergency Services, the Township is permitted by law to seek a renewal of the expired millage. This renewal will not increase the millage rate that was imposed in 2023 for fire and emergency services.

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be imposed on taxable property in the Township of Dexter, Washtenaw County, Michigan, be increased by \$2.3543 per \$1000 of taxable value (2.3543 mill) for a period of five (5) years, 2024 through 2028 inclusive, as a renewal of a previously voter authorized millage that expired on December 31, 2023 to provide funds for all lawful fire and emergency services including personnel, equipment and facilities? It is estimated that 2.3543 mill would raise approximately \$1,160,576.04 when first levied in 2024.

Yes

No

2. The Supervisor, the Clerk, and the Deputy Clerk in the Clerk's statutory absence, each is authorized and directed to execute and deliver such documents and do such further acts as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the foregoing resolution.
3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution are rescinded.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED

I certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Dexter Township Board of Trustees, County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held on December 1, 2023 that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.

Karen Sikkenga, Township Supervisor

Michelle Stamboulellis, Township Clerk

Dated: December 1, 2023

**DEXTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BALLOT PROPOSAL FOR
POLICE SERVICES MILLAGE RENEWAL**

DATE: DECEMBER 1, 2023

Resolution adopted at a special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Dexter Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan, held at the Township Hall, 6880 Dexter-Pinckney Road, Dexter, MI 48130, on December 1, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

Resolution by Trustee: _____; supported by Trustee: _____.

R E C I T A L S

WHEREAS in 2006, the voters in Dexter Township approved an increase in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 on all taxable property in the Township in an amount not to exceed 1.5 mill (\$1.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value) to fund police services, including but not limited to: Contracting for police services; hiring police officers and related staff; purchase and or lease of police vehicles and equipment; construction, purchase and or lease of facilities for police operations; contracting for dispatch services; and any and all other services related to police activities within Dexter Township (“Police Servies Millage”); and

WHEREAS in 2011 voters approved a renewal of the Police Services Millage of up to 1.4856 mill (\$1.4856 per \$1,000 of taxable value) on all taxable real and tangible personal property in the Township for a period of three (3) years, 2011 through 2013; and

WHEREAS, in 2014 voters approved a renewal of the Police Services Millage of up to 1.4586 mill (\$1.4586 per \$1,000 of taxable value) on all taxable real and tangible personal property in the Township for a period of five (5) years, 2014 through 2018; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 voters approved a renewal of the Police Services Millage of up to 1.4199 mill (\$1.4199 per \$1,000 of taxable value) on all taxable real and tangible personal property in the Township for a period of five (5) years, 2018 through 2023. This renewal millage is set to expire on December 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS the Township is authorized by Public Act 33 of 1951 (MCL 41.801 et seq.)(“Act 33”) and other applicable laws to provide for Police Services and may impose and levy ad valorem taxes to finance lawful public services as authorized by the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and other applicable laws; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board has determined that it is in the best interest of the Township to continue to provide police services to its residents, and it is therefore in the best interest of the Township to submit to the Township's electors at the election to be held on February 27, 2024 a ballot proposal for renewal of the previously authorized Police Services Millage in the amount not to exceed 1.3903 mill for a period of five (5) years, first to be levied in 2024; and

WHEREAS, the total Township millage rate in 2024 will be 5.0154 mill, less the Headlee rollback, and in the event the Township's electors approve the proposed millage, the total Township millage rate will not increase in 2024 as the proposed Police Services millage is a renewal, and the total Township millage will remain at a rate lower than surrounding cities in Washtenaw County.

R E S O L U T I O N

NOW, THEREFORE, it is resolved that:

1. A ballot proposal for renewal of the previously authorized Police Services Millage for years 2024 through 2028 in substantially the following form shall be submitted to the Township's electors at the election to be held on February 27, 2024.

Proposal to Renew Dexter Township Police Services Millage

In 2006, the voters of Dexter Township approved a 5 year, 1.5 mill Police Services Millage. In 2011, 2014 and 2018, the voters of Dexter Township approved renewals to that millage at lawful rates to continue to provide Police Services in Dexter Township. The 2018 millage renewal of 1.4199 mill expired on December 31, 2023. To continue to provide revenue for the provision of Police Services, the Township is permitted by law to seek a renewal of the expired millage. This renewal will not increase the millage rate that was imposed in 2023 for police services.

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be imposed on taxable property in the Township of Dexter, Washtenaw County, Michigan, be increased by \$1.3903 per \$1000 of taxable value (1.3903 mill) for a period of five (5) years, 2024 through 2028 inclusive, as a renewal of a previously voter authorized millage to provide funds for all lawful police services including personnel, equipment and facilities? It is estimated that 1.3903 mill would raise approximately \$685,362.47 when first levied in 2024.

Yes

No

2. The Supervisor, the Clerk, and the Deputy Clerk in the Clerk's statutory absence, each is authorized and directed to execute and deliver such documents and do such further acts as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the foregoing resolution.

3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution are rescinded.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED

I certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Dexter Township Board of Trustees, County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held on December 1, 2023 that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.

Karen Sikkenga, Township Supervisor

Michelle Stamboulellis, Township Clerk

Dated: December 1, 2023