



NEWSPAPERS

candgnews.com

SEPTEMBER 23, 2015

Vol. 24, No. 38

Shelby - Utica News



Shelby property tax millage stays the same for 10th year

BY SARAH WOJCIK

swojcik@candgnews.com

SHELBY TOWNSHIP — On Sept. 15, the Board of Trustees approved in a 6-1 vote the 2015 proposed property tax rate to support Shelby Township's 2016 budget fol-

lowing a public hearing. The rate will remain at 9.2999 mills for the 10th straight year.

The only change is that, of the 2.4113 mills historically slated for the township's general fund, 1.4113 will be allocated to the police fund. Last year, the portion allocated to the police fund was 1.4062 mills.

The actual rates that will be allocated will be 1 mill to the general fund, 4.0424 to the police operating fund, 3.2575 to the fire operating fund and 1 mill to fund obligations relating to the fire and fire pension, for a total of 9.2999 mills.

The total 9.2999-mill tax rate costs

taxpayers owning \$200,000 homes, which have a taxable value of \$100,000, \$929.99 per year.

"This allocation will not increase the overall millage rate for any resident or business located in Shelby Township," Township

See TAX on page 11A

Tax

from page 3A

Assessor Matt Schmidt said. "In fact, Shelby Township currently has the second-lowest millage rate of any of the 11 municipalities located in Macomb County that provide full-time police and fire protection services."

Schmidt said the transfer from the general fund to the police fund was an additional 0.0051 mills higher than last year to compensate for the maximum allowable millage levy for the police operating fund.

The police operating fund millage is at its limit as dictated by state law. The general fund millage is 1.1559 mills below its maximum, and the fire operating millage is 0.1734 mills below its maximum, according to a township press release.

Supervisor Rick Stathakis said the mills allocated to the Police Department will ensure that police officers have the equipment and

training they need to protect the township's residents.

Trustee Paul Viar objected to the tax rates staying the same. He said he was in favor of a symbolic decrease in property taxes.

"I have asked for a minor decrease of \$594,000 off the backs of the tough-paying taxpayers of this community," Viar said. "Govern-

ment will spend every dollar they can squeeze out of the taxpayer and ask for more."

Financial Director Allan McDonald said the township liabilities for police and fire pensions and retiree health care add up to approximately \$78 million. Annually, he said, the township puts in 60-75 percent of the recommend-

ed contribution per year.

"The reason we're not able to contribute the full amount is because it would be too much for the different funds to sustain," McDonald said. "Since 2008, we've had to keep track of the difference between what we put in and what needs to be put in. Since 2008, the difference is about \$10 million."

Schmidt said the purpose of the public hearing, followed by board action, was to fulfill requirements for the 2015 tax rate request form that is due to the county by the end of September, before the township conducts its actual budget sessions for 2016 in October.

Call Staff Writer Sarah Wojcik at (586) 498-1029.



ClearCorrect
Clear Braces
 \$1,000 Off Treatment

Expires 10-1-15



LUMINEERS
 BY CERINATE

Financing Available
 Interest-Free for 6 Months

Second Opinions & Consultations

51333 Mound Road • Shelby Twp. • 586.739.7474

IMPLANTS SOLUTIONS FOR LOOSE DENTURES & MISSING TEETH • MOST INSURANCES ACCEPTED

Where Beautiful Smiles Begin

Marc S. Cammarata D.D.S.

Cosmetic Family Dentistry Since 1988

New Patients Welcome: State of the Art Facility

- Mercury-Free Fillings since 1994
- Porcelain Veneers, Permanently Whitens & Straightens Your Teeth.
- Modern Sterilization Techniques • Digital X-Rays
- Intra-Oral Cameras • T.V.s in all rooms
- All crowns & bridgework made in the U.S.A.
- Laser Therapy

Gentle/Personal
 Dental Care

**COMPLIMENTARY
 FIRST VISIT**

Includes Exam
 and X-Rays

\$175 Value. New Patients Only.
 Expires 10-1-15