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TRUSTEE

*News Brief*  
**- WINTER 2017 -**

**SAFE DRINKING WATER**

The health of all of us is dependent on having safe potable water. Public water systems have been providing safe water to our homes for over a century and are tested frequently. Should your home be supplied water by a private well, please be vigilant and have the water tested to ensure you have safe water to drink. The Kent County Health Department is a good resource to advise you what you should test for and testing procedures. Please visit their website at [www.accesskent.com](http://www.accesskent.com) for more information.

**2018 TOWNSHIP BUDGET**

The Township Board approved the 2018 Budget. Revenues are projected to be \$3,373,275 with expenditures budgeted at \$3,363,305, producing a surplus of \$9,970.

Public Safety services consisting of Police, Fire, and EMS will account for 38% of expenses (or \$1.278 million). Capital Improvement Projects including roads, trails and park improvements are 22% (or \$750,000.00), with Assessing, Planning, and Elections which are general government expenses that total 21% (or \$720,000.00) of total expenses. The remaining funds are expended on facility maintenance, an endowment fund contribution and contractual services.

Grand Rapids Township will continue to be debt free, maintain a fund balance, contingency fund and provide for future needs with endowment funds. The people of Grand Rapids Township expect nothing less.

**PROPERTY VALUES**

The Grand Rapids Township assessing team will complete their 2017 field reviews shortly. The values for most neighborhoods remain strong and growing, which is great news. The effect on taxable value is limited to a 2.1% increase for next year no matter how much your property increases in assessed value (that limit applies for properties that did not have improvements or were not purchased in 2017). Remember, you pay property taxes on the TAXABLE VALUE of your property. Notices of valuation will be sent out by mid-February of 2018.

**PARKS & RECREATION PLAN SURVEY & OPEN HOUSE**

The Grand Rapids Township Parks & Recreation Committee is working with the engineering firm of **Prein&Newhof** to update our 5 year Parks & Recreation Plan.

Please take the survey by visiting our website and mark your calendar to attend the Open House on January 25, 2018 from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm at the Township Hall, for an opportunity to review the draft plan.

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Grand Rapids Township remains committed to our primary responsibilities: provide essential services of Police, Fire and EMS; perform our constitutional duties of election administration, assessment of property and property tax collection; ensure that we promote appropriate land use regulations; support regional economic development; and provide for parks, open space and recreational trails.

Should you ever have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm  
P: (616) 361-7391  
F: (616) 361-6620  
1836 East Beltline Ave NE  
Grand Rapids MI 49525

Best Regards,  
Michael J. DeVries  
Supervisor

**GRAND RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

**QUICK NOTES...**

STREET LIGHT NOT  
WORKING?  
POT HOLE IN THE  
STREET?  
Drainage Issues?

Report them online  
from the  
**GRT website**

[www.grandrapidstwp.org](http://www.grandrapidstwp.org)