

FACT SHEET
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR POLICE AND FIRE
August 7, 2018 Primary Election
2.95 mills for 12 years

As stated in the ballot proposal to be considered by the voters (see below), if fully levied in December 2018, it is estimated that this special assessment would generate approximately \$6,032,095 in new revenue for Police and Fire Department equipment, maintenance and operations in 2019, with at least \$869,031 of that amount only usable for the purchase of equipment.

This type of special assessment dedicated only for Police and Fire Department equipment, maintenance, and operations is specifically authorized by Michigan law, Public Act No. 33 of 1951. If approved, this special assessment will allow for longer range planning to meet the equipment and personnel needs of the Police and Fire Departments over the next 12 years. Currently, that planning is limited by the Township's budget process that determines on a year-to-year basis the amount of General Fund support that will be provided for those Departments.

If approved by the voters, the actual creation of the Township-wide special assessment district, amount to be levied in 2018, and a final estimate of the costs and expenses to be funded by that levy will not be determined until after a public hearing by the Township Board on Monday, August 27, 2018. However, possible uses of the special assessment and reasons for them include:

I. PERSONNEL

a. Hire up to 9 Police Officers

- i. The number of sworn police officers has been reduced by 27 since 2010

b. Hire up to 5 Fire Fighters/Paramedics

- i. The number of firefighters/paramedics has been reduced by 3 since 2010

II. VEHICLES

a. Replace police and fire vehicles on a scheduled basis

a. FIRE VEHICLES

- 1. Fire engines and special response vehicles average age is 16 ½ years
- 2. Ambulances average age is 6 years
- 3. Command and staff vehicles average age is 12 years

ii. POLICE VEHICLES

- 1. 42 vehicles, average age is 5 years with high mileage

III. Repair and maintenance of Police and Fire buildings

a. Police Headquarters

b. 5 Waterford Fire Stations

For a home with the average taxable value in Waterford of \$56,822, the special assessment would be
\$167.62/ annual; \$13.97/ month; \$3.23/week; \$0.46/day

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Should the Charter Township of Waterford raise money to equip, maintain, and operate the Township Police and Fire Departments by annual special assessment levies of up to 2.95 mills (\$2.95 per \$1,000.00 of taxable value) on all real property in the Township that is not exempt from property taxes, for a period of 12 years, with the levies to be from 2018 to 2029 to provide funding for the 2019 to 2030 calendar years, and the first 0.425 mills levied in any year dedicated and only usable for the purchase of equipment for the Police and/or Fire Departments? If approved and fully levied in December 2018, the estimated revenue from this special assessment collected in the first year would be \$6,032,095.00.