

To all Wales Township Residents:

On August 2, 2011, the Township of Wales will be holding a millage renewal election. This election is being held to continue the .5805 mil that was voted in three years ago. The millage is to support the Fire Service and Medical First Responder Service contracts that serve Wales Township residents.

The revenue generated by the millage has helped to pay for this service and has saved some money in the General Fund of the Township to spend on road maintenance and improvements.

Fire services include fire suppression, victim extrication, medical first response, storm damage, downed power lines, and other responses traditionally handled by fire departments. Township residents who have legitimate need will not be charged for these services if the millage is renewed. The money freed up in the General Fund by the fire millage, over the past three years, has enabled the Township to affect the following maintenance and repairs to the Township roads: the paved portion of Morris Rd. was capped and repairs were made, several cross-over tubes were installed, and one bridge was asphalted as an experiment (and has turned out quite well). Other spot repairs were made that might not otherwise have been made. In addition, because of the recession that began in 2007-08, the millage helped to offset inflated costs of operation for the Township.

There is a genuine sunset clause in the millage wording. It has to be renewed by the voters if it is to continue for another three years. It will at that time be brought up for renewal again, or if it is not doing the job it was intended to, it will not be placed on a ballot by the Board and the initiative will cease to exist. In addition, the Township Board will be presented with a resolution, if the millage passes, to the effect that any savings realized in the budget will go for road maintenance and improvements and to a much lesser degree, technology upgrades and maintenance if necessary. There is every indication that such a resolution will pass unanimously as it did three years ago.

The Board of Trustees of Wales Township hopes that each and every registered voter in Wales Township will vote on this important issue. Regardless, of the outcome, the Board of Trustees will continue to serve the people of Wales Township to the best of our ability.