



# Newsletter

## August 2014

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### Township Calendar

Primary Election.....	Aug 5 – 7:00 a.m.
Board of Trustees.....	Aug 6 – 7:00 p.m.
Planning Commission....	Aug 11 – 7:00 p.m.
DDA.....	Aug 12 – 7:00 p.m.
ZBA.....	Aug 18 – 7:30 p.m.
Parks and Rec Board.....	Aug 21 – 7:00 p.m.
Planning Commission....	Aug 25 – 7:00 p.m.
Labor Day	Sep 1 – Twp Closed
Board of Trustees.....	Sep 2 – 7:00 p.m.
Planning Commission....	Sep 8 – 7:00 p.m.
DDA.....	Sep 9 – 7:00 p.m.
ZBA.....	Sep 15 – 7:30 p.m.
Parks and Rec Board.....	Sep 18 – 7:00 p.m.
Planning Commission....	Sep 22 – 7:00 p.m.

**All meetings are held at:**

**Lyon Township**  
**58000 Grand River Avenue**  
**New Hudson, MI 48165**  
**Phone: 248-437-2240**  
**Fax: 248-437-2336**

<http://www.lyontwp.org>

Honoring Yesterday.  
 Building Tomorrow.



<http://www.facebook.com/lyontwp>



<http://www.twitter.com/lyontwp>

## August 5<sup>th</sup> Primary Election



The Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, August 5, 2014. Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Information, including sample ballots and precinct locations, can be found on our website at <http://www.lyontwp.org/vote>.

If you have any questions pertaining to the upcoming elections, please call the Clerk's Office at 248-437-2240.

## Kite Festival Extravaganza

The 2014 Annual Lyon Township Extravaganza was a huge success! This was the festival's sixth year but the first year that the festival was expanded to include so much fun that it had to last four days instead of just one. Aside from all the kites, there was a carnival by Wade Shows, tractor pulls, laser light shows, hot air balloons, a petting zoo, RC racing, Your Hometown Idol, and many more activities. A huge thank you goes out to all of our sponsors and volunteers and, of course, everyone who came out for a good time. We had a blast!

Check out pictures at <http://www.facebook.com/lyontwpkitefestival>



## Fire Millage Information



The August 5, 2014 Primary Election ballot contains a Fire Department Millage Proposal that reads as follows:

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be levied against all property in the Charter Township of Lyon, Oakland County, Michigan, be established in an amount up to 1.58 mill (\$1.58 on each \$1,000 of taxable value) for a period of ten years, 2015 through 2024 inclusive, commencing December 1, 2014, for the purpose of providing funds to be used for the continuation of fire protection services, equipment and apparatus. If approved and levied, this millage increase would raise an estimated \$1,205,037.00 in revenue in the year of 2015 of which a portion will be disbursed to the Charter Township of Lyon Downtown Development Authority.

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

### **What would a YES vote mean?**

- Improved response time
- Better-trained staff
- Modern Fire & Response trucks
- Improved coverage
- The ability of 24-hour staffing
- Equipment that meets State and Federal safety regulations
- An improved ISO rating, which can save residents money on homeowners' insurance
- Fire education programs for citizens and schools
- Stable funding for a 10-year span
- Having the ability to maintain proper servicing for the continued growth of the community

### **What would a NO vote mean?**

- Fewer firefighters and emergency medical technicians (EMTs)
- Increased fire and EMS response times
- No funds for replacement of aging equipment
- Inability to provide 24-hour staffing
- Insufficient funding to meet the demands of continued population growth

## Police Millage Information



The August 5, 2014 Primary Election ballot contains a Police Services Millage Proposal that reads as follows:

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be levied against all property in the Charter Township of Lyon, Oakland County, Michigan, be established in an amount of 0.8 mill (\$0.80 on each \$1,000 of taxable value) for a period of ten years, 2015 through 2024 inclusive, commencing December 1, 2014 for the purpose of providing police services. If approved and levied, this millage would raise an estimated \$610,919.00 in revenue in the year 2015 of which a portion will be disbursed to the Charter Township of Lyon Downtown Development Authority.

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

### **Information About the Millage and Police Services**

- Since 2009, Lyon Township has lost three deputies due to diminishing home values and taxes collected.
- The 0.8 millage would restore the deputies lost and bring one additional deputy to Lyon Township.
- Currently, there are 12 deputies assigned to Lyon Township, and the community has a population that is approaching 17,000. The staffing for the Township is 0.72, which is below the FBI standard.
- Lyon Township has not seen a financial increase since 1996.
- Lyon Township Deputies respond to over 7,000 calls for service each year with only 2.2 deputies on patrol at any given time. Those deputies must cover the entire 32 square miles of the community.
- If an arrest is being made, that leaves one deputy to cover all of Lyon Township while the arrest process is completed.
- This dedicated police millage is tax deductible.
- This millage would only cause a minimal increase of \$13.33 per month, or 44 cents a day per household (based on a home with a taxable value of \$200,000).

**Do you have questions about the portions of each millage that would be distributed to the DDA?  
Please see the next page for information.**

## Millages and the DDA

Do you own residential or commercial property in the DDA capture area (shaded green)? If not, then your taxes are not affected at all, and 100% of what is paid for each millage will go towards each respective millage. If you do own property in the DDA capture area, read on to learn more about what that means.



- The DDA is funded using Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and can only capture taxes on the increased value or “tax increment,” which is the difference between the 1999 base value and the current taxable value.
- Because Lyon Township has a DDA, tax dollars that would normally go to the County are kept in our community for worthwhile projects within the DDA District.
- The DDA could only use the portions from the millages for projects located within the DDA district. No monies can be spent outside of the district.
- Improvements made to the downtown area such as new roads, utilities, sidewalks, lighting, and landscaping all help to increase property values, which property owners in the district benefit from.
- If the DDA had not made utility and road improvements, most of the non-residential development would not have occurred, and the tax base would not have grown to the extent it has.
- The capture area is only within the DDA District, yet the entire Lyon Township community will eventually see the Vision Plan and Master Plan realized and start to enjoy a revitalized and vibrant downtown area.

**For more information on the Lyon Township DDA, please contact Christina Archer at 248-437-2240**

## Lyon Township Public Library Events

<http://www.lyon.lib.mi.us>

### Kid Programs

- 🎨 **Baffling Bill the Magician: Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m.**  
Summer reading finale. Please RSVP.

### Teen Programs

- 🎨 **College Admissions Essay Workshop: Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m.**  
Presented by Richard Grieves. Bring in essays you are working on.

### Adult Programs

- 🎨 **Book Club: Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.**  
This month's selection is *Orlando* by Virginia Woolf.  
Pick up your copy at the circulation desk. All are welcome!

### Genealogy Programs

- 🎨 **Road Trip! The Library of Michigan: Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 a.m.**  
Participants will be meeting at the library and then leaving at 9:00 a.m.  
Please RSVP.



## Lyon Township Board of Trustees



**Lannie Young**  
Supervisor



**Michele Cash**  
Clerk



**Patricia Carcone**  
Treasurer



**Steve Adams**  
Trustee



**John Dolan**  
Trustee



**John Hicks**  
Trustee



**Sean O'Neil**  
Trustee