



The Villager

The Official Newsletter for Beverly Hills Residents

Millage Renewal November 3 Ballot

On the November 3, 2020 ballot, Village of Beverly Hills voters will be asked to vote on a millage rate renewal proposal.

Current millage rate 2010-2020: 12.9184

Requested millage rate 2021-2031: 12.9184

The renewal will include the following components specifically dedicated to the operation of the Village:

- a) 9.9 mills only to be used for public safety/police/fire operations
- b) 0.8184 mills only to be used for Baldwin Public Library services
- c) 1.88 mills for general administrative purposes
- d) 0.32 mills for capital park improvements/replacements for village wide parks

What is a mill?

Mill is derived from the Latin word *millesimum*, meaning thousandth. As used in property tax, 1 mill is equal to \$1.00 in property tax levied per \$1,000.00 of a property's assessed value.

How are these tax dollars used?

The Village taxes collected go toward the general operation of the Village. A large portion funds the Public Safety Department, which includes police and fire services. Another portion of the funding goes toward general administrative purposes, which pays for services such as local road repairs, tree chipping services, rubbish removal, Code Enforcement, park maintenance, invasive species eradication, island landscaping, Community Action Programs (such as Next, BYA, Friends of the Rouge, and BBCC), Village website hosting, the Village Calendar, and the Villager Newsletters.

What if the millage rate is not renewed?

If the 12.9184 millage rate is not renewed, it will revert back to the Charter mandated rate of 11.00 mills. That is a difference of 1.9184 mills.

Without the renewal, there will be a significant decrease in some public services over the next several years. Notably, without the renewed millage rate, the Village would not be able to maintain the same level of service in road repairs as it currently does.

Additionally, without a dedicated millage for Baldwin Public Library services, the

(continued on page 5)

Inside this issue:

Village Office Notes	2
Public Safety	3
Election Information	4
Millage Renewal 2020	5
Public Services	6
Around the Community	7



Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Office Closed

November 11, 2020
November 26, 2020
November 27, 2020

Administrative Staff

Chris Wilson, Village Manager

Kristin Rutkowski, Assistant
Village Manager/Clerk

Peggy Linkswiler, Treasurer

Sheila McCarthy, Finance
Director

Tom Meszler, Public Services
Director

Erin LaPere, Planning &
Zoning Administrator

Dan Gosselin, Code Officer

Matt Young, Code Officer

Chandá Simmons, Utility
Billing Clerk

Carissa Brown, Building Clerk

Village Office Notes

Happy Halloween!

While the annual Halloween Hoot has been canceled due to ongoing coronavirus concerns, the Village hopes everyone has a fun and safe Halloween this year. Please take the following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations into consideration if you plan on celebrating:

- Do not use a costume mask (such as for Halloween) as a substitute for cloth mask unless it is made of two or more layers of breathable fabric that covers your mouth and nose and doesn't leave gaps around your face.
- Celebrate virtually or with members of your own household as a low risk alternative.
- If you may have COVID-19 or you may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should not participate in in-person Halloween festivities and should not give out candy to trick-or-treaters.
- Remember, indoor gatherings generally pose more risk than outdoor gatherings.
- Maintain a distance of at least 6 feet or more from people you don't live with.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

Beverly Park Pavilion

We would like to extend our gratitude to the residents and guests who safely held events at the Beverly Park Pavilion this year and who helped make it a successful season - even during the COVID-19 pandemic. We thank you for your patience, flexibility, and cooperation as we all had to adjust to changing group gathering and social distancing guidelines.

Community Notifications

The Village uses GovDelivery to send out weekly informational emails and emergency alerts to those who subscribe. To subscribe to receive the weekly emails, please visit:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIOAKLVBH/subscriber/new>

Village Council Meetings

The Village Council meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month in Council Chambers. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the current maximum capacity inside of the Chambers is ten (10) persons. The meetings are broadcast live on local cable television and are streamed live from the Village website (www.tinyurl.com/streamvbh). The public may participate in the meetings via Zoom or by submitting a written comment to the Clerk's Office or via email (krutkowski@villagebeverlyhills.com) prior to the meeting. The meeting agendas and Zoom links are posted on the Village website the Friday prior to the scheduled meeting.

Public Safety

Beverly Hills Public Safety wants residents to be well informed when it comes to the internet

The internet, for all of its benefits, also gives criminals and predators an easy way to reach young people. The FBI most often sees crimes against children begin when an adult:

- Forges a relationship with a young victim online and then later arranges to meet and abuse the child; or
- Coerces a child into producing explicit images or videos through manipulation, gifts, or threats.

The most important advice for parents is to have open and ongoing conversations about safe and appropriate online behavior. Other advice to consider:

- Educate yourself about the websites, software, games, and apps that your child uses.
- Check their social media and gaming profiles and posts. Have conversations about what is appropriate to say or share.
- Explain to your kids that once images or comments are posted online they can be shared with anyone and never truly disappear.
- Make sure your kids use privacy settings to restrict access to their online profiles.
- Tell your children to be extremely wary when communicating with anyone online who they do not know in real life.
- Encourage kids to choose appropriate screen names and to create strong passwords.
- Make it a rule with your kids that they can't arrange to meet up with someone they met online without your knowledge and supervision.
- Stress to your children that making any kind of threat online—even if they think it's a joke—is a crime.

Report any inappropriate contact between an adult and your child to law enforcement immediately. Notify the site they were using, too. The Beverly Hills Public Safety Department is open 24/7 all year long. The number is 248-540-3400. No reports of these matters have been recorded here. This is an informational item for parents and families.

Address:
18600 W. 13 Mile Road
Beverly Hills, MI 48025

Non-emergency number:
248-540-3400

Emergency: 911

Website:
www.beverlyhillspolice.com

COVID-19 Resources

For more information on COVID-19 please visit any of the following websites.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov

State of Michigan
www.michigan.gov/coronavirus

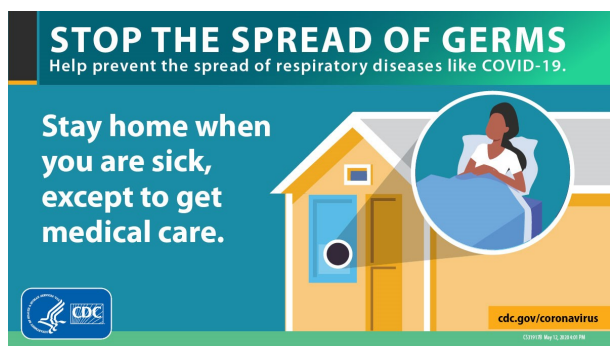
Oakland County
www.oakgov.com/covid

FEMA
www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus

Ready
www.ready.gov/pandemic

Coronavirus Testing

Oakland County residents who are 18 and older can schedule a *free* coronavirus drive-through test by calling the Oakland County Nurse on Call at 1-800-848-5533. No prescription required.



Election Section

Absentee Ballots Q & A

Who can apply for an absentee ballot?

All registered voters in Michigan have the right to vote by mail and can request an absentee ballot. It's a safe way to vote and protect your health, and the process is secure and accurate.

Can I apply for an absentee ballot online?

Yes! Visit <https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us/AVApplication/Index> by October 30, 2020 to request an absentee ballot online.

How else can I apply for an absentee ballot?

- Call the Township Clerk's office at 248-540-3420 and ask that an application be mailed to you.
- Download an application from the Secretary of State's website and return it by mail, in person, or via the dropbox at the Southfield Township office.
- Stop by the Clerk's office in person to fill out an application. The office is open Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and is located at 18550 W. 13 Mile Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025.

When is the deadline to apply for an absentee ballot?

Requests for an absent voter (AV) ballot must be received by your township clerk no later than 5 p.m. the Friday before the election. If you're already registered at your current address, you can request an absent voter ballot in person at your clerk's office anytime up to 4 p.m. on the day prior to the election.

If you're registering to vote or updating your address by appearing at your clerk's office on Election Day, you can request an absent voter ballot at the same time you register. If you request your AV ballot the day before the election or on Election Day, you must vote the ballot in the clerk's office.

When do I need to deliver my ballot?

Your completed absentee ballot must be received by the township clerk by 8 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

Begin the process early by mailing in your application for an absentee ballot as soon as possible. Your application for the November General Election can be submitted now.

More information can be found online at the Michigan Voter Information Center:

www.Michigan.gov/Vote

Voter Registration

Qualified electors of Beverly Hills may register to vote at the Township Clerk's office, County Clerk's office, or any Secretary of State branch office. Registration forms may also be mailed to the Township Clerk's office.

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the township clerk is **Monday, October 19, 2020.**

Anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency at the Southfield Township Clerk's office, located at 18550 W. 13 Mile Road at the following times:

- Monday-Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Saturday, October 31, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 3, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Polling Locations

All precinct polling locations will remain open in each jurisdiction on Nov. 3 for those who wish to cast their vote in person. The Michigan Bureau of Elections will provide all local jurisdictions with personal protective equipment and hygiene supplies to ensure that all polling places are sanitized.

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Precinct 1 | Queen of Martyrs Church
32340 Pierce Street |
| Precinct 2 | Greenfield Elementary School
31200 Fairfax Ave. |
| Precinct 3 | Queen of Martyrs Church
32340 Pierce Street |
| Precinct 4 | Beverly Elementary School
18305 Beverly Road |
| Precinct 5 | Southfield Township Hall
18550 W. 13 Mile Road |
| Precinct 6 | Groves High School
20500 W. 13 Mile Road |
| Precinct 7 | Berkshire Middle School
21707 W. 14 Mile Road |

Millage Renewal 2020

(Continued from front page) Village would be required to absorb that expense into the general fund.

How do I calculate how much my taxes would be at the proposed millage rate compared to the charter mandated rate?

The State Equalized Value (SEV) is the market value of your property as capped by Proposal A of 1994. Taxable value is one half of the SEV. The millage rate will only be applied to the *taxable value* of your property; not the State Equalized Value nor the market value. To find the estimated amount due, divide the taxable value by 1,000 and multiply that figure by the millage rate.

Here's an example:

Mrs. Beverly's property has a market value of \$500,000 and the millage rate is 12.9184.

$$(500,000/2) = 250,000 \quad (250,000/1,000) = 250 \quad (250 * 12.9184) = \$3,229.60$$

SEV	Taxable	Mills		Annual Difference	Monthly Difference
		Renewed 12.9184	Charter 11.0000		
\$ 300,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 1,938	\$ 1,650	\$ 288	\$ 24
\$ 350,000	\$ 175,000	\$ 2,261	\$ 1,925	\$ 336	\$ 28
\$ 400,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 2,584	\$ 2,200	\$ 384	\$ 32
\$ 450,000	\$ 225,000	\$ 2,907	\$ 2,475	\$ 432	\$ 36
\$ 500,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 3,230	\$ 2,750	\$ 480	\$ 40

VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS

MILLAGE RENEWAL 2020

HOW WILL THE MILLAGE RENEWAL AFFECT MY TAXES?



\$300,000 value

12.9184 mills = \$1,938

11.0 mills = \$1,650

That's a difference of \$288/year
or \$24/month

The 12.9184 millage rate renewal means that less than \$12.92 in tax would be levied on every \$1,000 of your assessed property value.

If the millage rate is not renewed, the rate will revert back to the Charter mandated amount of 11.0 mills. In this case, \$11 in tax would be levied on every \$1,000 of your assessed property value.

The examples to the left and right show how much the average property owner in Beverly Hills would pay in Village taxes in either scenario.



\$400,000 value

12.9184 mills = \$2,584

11.0 mills = \$2,200

That's a difference of \$384/year
or \$32/month

Public Services

Brine instead of Rock Salt to Protect Water Quality!

Salt keeps our communities safe by reducing the number of vehicle accidents, as well as slip and fall accidents. Unfortunately, salt doesn't just disappear when all the snow melts; it is washed into our lakes, rivers, and streams and has an almost immediate effect on water quality. As a homeowner, consider reducing salt use by applying brine, not rock salt, before a snow storm and shoveling frequently to keep snow from accumulating. This is the best way to save your back and your knees!

Brine, a mixture of salt and water, has become a great alternative to traditional rock salt. The transition to using brine for a homeowner has minimal costs. The brine can be pre-mixed in large quantities and stored in your basement or garage. By spraying brine, you have more control over your application, so you don't apply over the same area twice and it won't bounce off the driveway the way rock salt can. Brine starts working much faster than rock salt due to the increased contact area with the snow. The best method is to apply the brine before a snow storm begins. Not all communities have transitioned to the use of brine on roads because there is a significant startup cost for additional equipment and storage.

What you need:

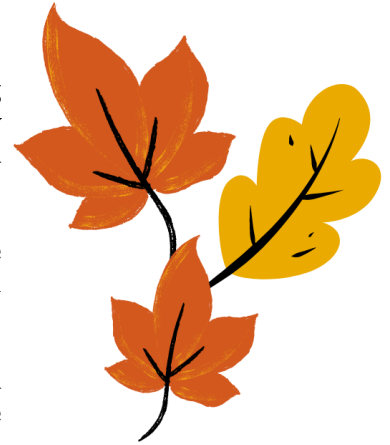
- 1 and a half gallons hot water
- 3-4 cups rock or table salt
- bucket
- sprayer

Directions:

Combine salt and hot water (which helps dissolve the salt) in a bucket until all salt is dissolved completely (so salt chunks don't clog the sprayer). Pour mixed brine into a sprayer and apply to sidewalk and driveway prior to a snow fall. Each gallon should cover 1,000 square feet of surface (about 200 feet of sidewalk).

Yard Waste

The leaves are beginning to fall, so here are a few reminders about yard waste.



- Yard waste must be separate from trash and recyclables.
- Yard waste is collected once per week on the same day as trash and recycling. Place yard waste out to curb by 7:00 am on collection day.
- Acceptable containers: Trash cans with "yard waste" decals (decals available at the Village Office) or 30-gallon paper yard waste bags.
- Yard waste containers must weigh *less than 50 pounds* and yard waste must be small enough (*under 4 feet in length*) to fit in designated container.
- Brush (*less than 2 inches in diameter and under 4 feet in length*) can also be bundled with twine for collection.
- When one of the following holidays falls on a week-day, collection for the holiday and the remaining days of that week will be delayed by one day. The holidays are: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.
- Leaves can be included if your backyard composter, if you have one. Aim for 1/3 "green" materials (fruits, vegetables) and 2/3 "brown" materials (leaves, branches). Remember to turn the compost pile regularly.
- Visit www.socrra.org/waste-wizard if you are unsure whether items belong with trash, recycling, or yard waste.

Around the Community

Beverly Hills Lions Club

The Beverly Hills Lions are men and women who are dedicated to serving our community needs through community service by helping to fund events. We provide a college scholarship stipend for a Beverly Hills high school senior who demonstrates community service accomplishments and involvement. We help sponsor the Memorial Day Parade and Carnival, Fun Run, Halloween Hoot, and Adopt-a-Road Clean Up along Lahser. We also support a variety of causes and organizations such as Leader Dogs for the Blind, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, and other non-profit organizations that provide outstanding service to those in need.

Our motto is "TO SERVE," and we are looking for a few more Beverly Hills residents to join us in our efforts. We meet twice monthly for dinner with occasional guest speakers discussing topics of interest. For further information and a membership packet, please call Pat Wojas at 248-633-4606 or send an email to bhmi.lions.info@gmail.com.

The annual Candy Cane Collection will be held November 25 to December 24, 2020! Proceeds support charities that assist the blind and speech and hearing impaired in the immediate area. Any support will be greatly appreciated!

Next

Next is a non-profit organization enriching the lives of the 50+ population of Birmingham, Bingham Farms, Beverly Hills, Franklin and surrounding areas since 1978.

Under the strict guidance of the CDC, Next is reopening in phases and following best practices to guard your health and safety. Classes and programs will be offered with a hybrid approach of small groups, outdoors under the new tent, or on Zoom. Please keep in mind offerings may be altered at any time as we must be able to quickly adapt to changing circumstances. For your safety and the safety of your fellow Next members, thank you for patience and compliance. Please visit the Next website for program information at www.BirminghamNext.org or call (248) 203-5270.

Baldwin Public Library

For the latest information on Baldwin's response to COVID-19, please visit www.baldwinlib.org/reopening.

Visit www.baldwinlib.org/calendar to view our upcoming programs for all ages. All Library programs are being held virtually until further notice.

The Youth Room Expansion & Renovation is now complete. The project is funded by the Library's millage and generous donations from community members and Library sponsors.

Project highlights include:

- Expansion of Youth Room by 40%, or approx. 2,000 square feet
- Larger play area, discovery room, seating areas, and a separate room for strollers
- New furniture, carpeting, lighting, and aquarium ADA compliance
- Modernized restrooms with increased capacity
- Outdoor children's terrace and garden
- Exposure of brick on original 1927 building
- Energy-efficient, glare-reducing glass from floor to ceiling

Due to COVID-19, The Friends of the BPL is not accepting donations at this time. Upcoming Book Sales have been suspended until further notice.

Cable Board

The Birmingham Area Cable Board represents the communities of Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Birmingham, and Franklin and works with escalation teams established by the cable companies to resolve cable related issues. Your cable concerns may be submitted via the Cable Board website www.birminghamareacableboard.org or by calling the Executive Director Cathy White at 248-336-9445.

The BACB meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:45 AM. The public is welcome to attend via Zoom.

BACB meetings are also broadcast on Comcast channel 15, AT&T channel 99, and WOW! channel 10.



Prst Std
U.S. Postage
PAID
Beverly Hills
Permit No. 100

18500 West Thirteen Mile Road
Beverly Hills, MI 48025
248-646-6404
www.villagebeverlyhills.com

Council President
Lee Peddie

Council Members
Rock Abboud, President Pro-Tem
John George
Racheal Hrydziuszko
John Mooney
Phillip Mueller
Daniel Nunez



Printed on recycled paper

