



Newsletter Summer 2023

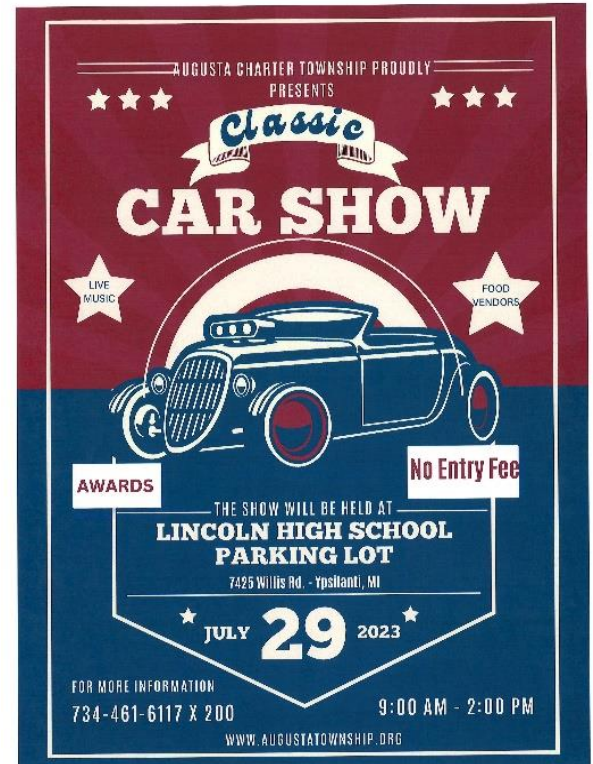
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Supervisor Brian Shelby
Clerk Kimberly Gonczy
Treasurer Susan Burek
Trustee Linda Adams
Trustee Deborah Fuqua-Frey
Trustee David Hall
Trustee Christopher Ortiz

From the Supervisor

- County Clean-Up Day is Saturday, July 22, 2023. More information is at www.washtenaw.org/cleanup.
- Our Car Show is Saturday, July 29, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. There is no cost to enter your classic car in the car show, but pre-registration is preferred. We have food trucks, craft vendors, and Fowling Warehouse is coming. Come out and join us for a fun day in the summer sun! You can sign up your car at this website, <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094BACA92AABF8C61-augusta> or stop in the Zoning Office at the Township Hall and ask Lori Little for a form.
- We are working on another grant from EGLE (Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy) so we can have another Tire Collection Day. We will keep you posted on our progress!

Brian Shelby, Supervisor
Allan Cassell, Deputy Supervisor
Lori Little, Zoning Administrator

<https://augustatownship.org/supervisor/>



Augusta Township Clerk's Corner

Elections Update

- The Presidential Primary Election will be held on February 27, 2024.
- The State Primary Election date is yet to be determined.
- The General Election will be November 5, 2024.

The polling place for all three elections is St. Joseph Catholic Church Family Center at 9425 Whittaker Rd., Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

Ballot Proposal 2 of 2022 Implementation in Progress

Proposal 2 requires several changes for upcoming elections as follows:

- Augusta Township will provide early voting, location to be determined.
- For the Presidential Primary Election, we will be mailing an Absent Voter (AV) Application to our permanent AV list of voters. You can check the box provided if you would like to receive a ballot for all future elections.

Note: This is a one-time AV application. We will no longer be sending applications to vote in future elections. If you opt in, you will be mailed a ballot for each election going forward.

- The State of Michigan is providing postage on the return envelopes for the Absentee Ballots.

Continuing Education

The Deputy Clerk and I attended the Michigan Township Association (MTA) Annual Conference in April. The Conference was very motivational and informational. With so much to manage in our current roles with the laws and policies that constantly change, we are grateful for this conference.

The State of Michigan Bureau of Elections is working hard to implement all the election changes from the passing of Proposal 2. We plan to attend the Clerk's Retreat in September, acknowledging that more information about the election changes will be available at that time. We will share any additional updates in the Winter newsletter.

The Election Manager, Deputy Clerk and I attend the Washtenaw County Clerk meetings quarterly. The County Clerk's Meetings keep us informed on new litigation, election updates, and any other changes affecting the Clerk's office.

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Augusta Township Clerk's Corner (continued)

Continuing Education (continued)

I'm currently enrolled, at my own expense, in the MTA Township Governance Academy (TGA) as well. The Academy offers new ideas, shares "best practices" in township government and provides a hands-on approach to help deal more effectively with everyday issues that our board faces.

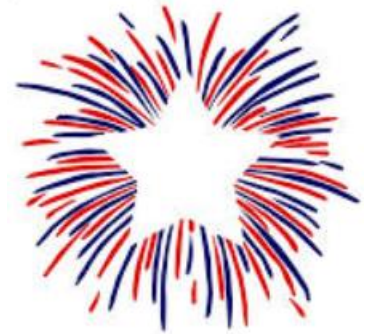
Contact Information

Please feel free to reach out to us anytime. The Board of Trustees meetings are currently being held at the Lincoln Golden Ages Senior Center located at 8970 Whittaker Road, Ypsilanti MI 48197. The meeting schedule can be found on our website at <https://augustatownship.org>. There is public comment at the beginning and end of each meeting. It would be nice to meet and see you at one of our meetings. The Board of Trustees meetings are taped, and the link to watch is posted on our website.

Respectfully,

Kimberly Gonczy, Clerk
Belynda Domas, Deputy Clerk
Michael Bartley, Election Manager

www.augustatownship.org/clerk/



From the Treasurer's Office

So who sets the amounts due on your summer tax bill and how does it change? You might be surprised to learn that it is only by 1) property values and 2) millages that you and your fellow residents in the township/county vote on. The township Board of Trustees has no part in directly affecting the values and tax amounts that are on the tax roll.

Property values in the tax detail box on your summer tax bill shows values and percentages like taxable value, state equalized value (SEV) and PRE/MBT%. These values are all determined by the township assessor in conjunction with the Washtenaw County Equalization Department. The assessor's office holds an annual board of review if residents want to dispute the assessment values.

The taxable value is the property value to which the millage rate is applied. Unless there have been improvements to the property or it changes hands, the taxable value can be increased only by the amount of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) or 5%, whichever is lower. The CPI is a measure of the average change in prices over time in fixed market basket of goods and services.

Washtenaw County has determined that due to inflation, this year's increase in taxable value will be 5%, the highest it has jumped in 30 years. Inflation is higher than 5%, but assessors can only levy 5% due to the cap.

The SEV is calculated yearly at 50% of true cash value that is determined by sales studies of properties selling in the prior 1-2 years.

A Principal Residence Exemption (PRE)/Michigan Business Tax (MBT) exempts a residence/business from the tax levied by local school district for school operating purpose up to 18 mills. The value of the exemption, if applicable, is listed on the tax bill at the bottom of the Tax Detail box.

Millages are introduced on voting ballots from the Washtenaw County and/or Augusta Township governments. All millages are voted on by the residents, except for the State Education Tax. That tax comes directly from the State of Michigan and is deposited to the School Aid Fund for distribution to Michigan public K-12 schools. The summer tax bill mainly collects for local school millages. A breakdown of the millage election, expiration dates and millage amounts are on the back of the summer tax bill.

The Administration Fee (1%) on the tax bill goes to the township for producing and sending the bills and collecting and remitting taxes.

I hope this helps everyone understand the summer tax bill better, and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call my office.

With best regards,

Susan Burek, Treasurer
Joanne Wade, Deputy Treasurer
Kathleen Venzke, Cashier
Marsha Zavitz, Utility Billing Coordinator

<https://augustatownship.org/treasurer/>

